**Wisconsin Department of Health Services**

**Programs for Children with Delays or Disabilities**

Wisconsin has multiple programs available for children with delays or disabilities. The programs assist families in caring for their child at home and in the community. Families may be eligible for one or more programs based on their assessed need.

**The Birth to 3 Program** is for children ages birth to three years old. Eligibility is based on a diagnosed disability or significant developmental delay in how a child plays, learns, speaks, and acts. The program values the family’s primary relationship with their child and works in partnership with the family.

**The Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Program** provides services for children and young adults under the age of 22 with significant developmental, physical, or emotional disabilities. Supports and services are available to help waiver participants and their families to remain in their home or community.

This [Home and Community-Based Service (HCBS)](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/waivermanual/index.htm) Waiver program provides Medicaid funding for children who have substantial limitations in their daily activities and need support to remain in their home or community.

* CLTS is administered at the county level through a county waiver agency.
* Eligible children include those with developmental disabilities, severe emotional disturbances, and physical disabilities.
* Funding can be used to support a range of different services based on an assessment of the needs of the child and his or her family.
* A broad range of formal and informal services are offered through the CLTS Waiver Program to help meet the goals of children and families.
* These services may help children:
  + Perform activities of daily living.
  + Participate in home and community activities.
  + Control their environment.
  + Have enriched surroundings.

Examples of CLTS Waiver Services:

* Support and service coordination
* Respite care
* Adaptive aids
* Child care services
* Daily living skills training
* Mentoring
* Natural supports training
* Home modifications

**The Katie Beckett Program** is for children under 19 years old with long-term disabilities or complex medical needs. Children who are not eligible for other Medicaid programs because their parents' income or assets are too high may be eligible for Medicaid through the Katie Beckett Program.

**Children's Community Options Program** provides a coordinated approach to supporting families who have a child with a disability. The intention is to better support, nurture, and facilitate self-determination, interdependence, and inclusion in all facets of community life for the child and family.

**The Care4Kids Program** ensures that children in foster care receive individualized treatment plans in order to address their specific health care needs, including trauma-related care. As a result, children in community settings are expected to have improved physical and mental health, improved resiliency, and shorter stays in out-of-home care.