



Welcome to the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System

A career in public child welfare involves some of the most important, challenging and rewarding work anyone can do. We are here to support your efforts to provide exceptional services to the families with whom you work.

As a public child welfare professional in Wisconsin, you have access to an array of professional development opportunities through the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System. The WCWPDS is truly a partnership. We work collaboratively with the Wisconsin County Human Service Association (WCHSA), Tribal Child Welfare programs, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison in order to make training opportunities available to you across your whole career in child welfare — from new professional to maybe even director someday.

Public child welfare agencies have diverse operations to reflect the needs of their communities. Many Foster Care Coordinators have other child welfare responsibilities in addition to licensing and supporting foster parents. If this is your situation, you will have training requirements in those practice areas to build your skills. See the sections of the WCWPDS website related to those practice areas for information about the training available to you. In addition to those required trainings, you will also attend foster care coordinator role specific trainings. Each Foster Care Coordinator in the state is required to complete the standardized home study tool training; other role specific training topics are also available. For those with only Foster Care Coordinator responsibilities, consider attending other child welfare training courses to increase your practice knowledge and support your agency's collaborative work with families.

This Foster Care Coordinator section of the WCWPDS website is intended to give you an introduction to the WCWPDS and the Wisconsin Child Welfare Model for Practice, help you begin charting your professional development, and provide instructions on how to use the PDS Online training registration system. We hope you will find the information useful.

Your supervisor is familiar with the WCWPDS and will probably be able to answer many questions we haven't covered in this packet. If there is anything else you need to know, don't hesitate to contact our office at office@wcwpds.wisc.edu or by phone (608) 890-3965. We will be happy to assist you.

Again, welcome. We look forward to meeting you at training!