Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development Systems'

Applied Learning Communities (ALCs)

Collaborative Family Case Planning and Teaming

An enhancement in how CPS and Youth Justice supervisors lead people, shape practice, and change outcomes

This year's Applied Learning Communities (ALCs) will help supervisors enhance the skills needed to support workers in doing strong, family-centered case planning and teaming in CPS and Youth Justice (YJ). Supervisors and lead workers will have the opportunity to develop these skills alongside peers across the state, learning from each other's experiences.

Why Participate?

Supervisors and lead workers will take a deeper look at the practice behaviors, policies, and research that contribute to high-quality teaming. Participants will refine their coaching and supervisory skills to help staff:

- **Build trust with families** by showing up in a way that supports listening to understand, clarifying purpose, and creating a safe space for families to share.
- Learn clear structures to **give families the "mic"** in ways that support them in articulating their priorities and actively shaping the planning process.
- Use **engagement strategies** that reflect an awareness of stress, trauma, culture, and lived experience, so conversations feel predictable, respectful, and collaborative.
- Support **effective teaming** and shared decision-making to co-create clear, realistic family case plans.

We will send a few short surveys to learn what issues matter most to you and the staff you supervise. Your responses will help us shape the curriculum.

Join colleagues from around the state in this learning opportunity! Participating agencies may team of up to five people who support Initial Assessment, Ongoing Services, and YJ professionals.

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

WCWPDS
Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System

Applied Learning Communities (ALCs)
Timeline 2026 Cohort 1

Date & Time	Duration	Meeting/Module
December 8, 2025 - January 26, 2026		Applications Open
KICK-OFF MEETING COHORT 1 February 5		
Thursday, February 5 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	120 min.	Kick-Off Meeting
MODULE 1: Supervising for Engagement and Trust-Building		
Thursday, February 19 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	120 min.	Community Huddle
MODULE 2: Creating Psychological Safety		
Thursday, March 5 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	120 min.	Community Huddle
MODULE 3: (Staff can join) Building Family-Centered Flexibility		
Thursday, March 19 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	120 min.	Community Huddle
MODULE 4: Supervising Transition Through Change		
Thursday, April 2 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	120 min.	Community Huddle
MODULE 5: Using Solutions in Collaborative Family Case Planning		
Thursday, April 16 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	120 min.	Community Huddle
MODULE 6: (Staff can join) Sustaining Change		
Thursday, April 23 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	120 min.	Community Huddle

The ALC will be offered in two cohorts. Your team needs only attend one of the cohorts. The activities involve asynchronous work to prepare for the Community Huddle discussions, which are held synchronously on Zoom. ALC participants will earn 30 training hours total, spread across nine months. Please use the link below to apply.

Apply now at:
ALC Application

Questions? Email us at:
keithun@wisc.edu

Learning Objectives

Build trust with families by showing up in a way that supports listening to understand, clarifying purpose, and creating a safe space for families to share

Enrich structures to give families the "mic" in a way that supports families to articulate their priorities and actively shape the planning process

Use engagement strategies that reflect an awareness of stress, trauma, culture, and lived experience so conversations feel predictable, respectful, and collaborative

Enhance how teaming is used to create family case plans that give families and teams a clear path forward

Applied Learning Communities (ALCs)
Timeline 2025 Cohort 2

Date & Time	Duration	Meeting/Module
KICK-OFF MEETING	**COHORT 2**	**June 11 - July 23**
Thursday, June 11 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 a.m.	180 min.	Kick-Off Meeting
MODULE 1:	**Supervising Engagement and Trust-Building**	
Thursday, June 25 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	180 min.	Community Huddle
MODULE 2:	**(Staff can join) Building Family-Centered Flexibility**	
Thursday, July 9 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	180 min.	Community Huddle
MODULE 3:	**Supervising Through Transition and Sustaining Change**	
Thursday, July 23 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	180 min.	Community Huddle

BOTH COHORTS	**October 8**	
Date & Time	**Duration**	**Meeting/Module**
WRAP UP:	**Recommendations to Move Forward**	
Thursday, October 8 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.	120 min.	Community Huddle

The ALC will be offered in two cohorts. Your team needs only attend one of the cohorts. The activities involve asynchronous work in PDS Online to prepare for the Community Huddle discussions which are held synchronously on Zoom. ALC participants will earn 30 training hours total spread across nine months. Please use the link below to apply.

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ALC Application

Questions? Email us at:
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Learning Objectives

Build trust with families by showing up in a way that supports listening to understand, clarifying purpose, and creating a safe space for families to share

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Enhance how teaming is used to create family case plans that give families and teams a clear path forward