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CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT
Prevention Board

Newsletter

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WI Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board Updates

Providing you with the latest news and updates from the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board



As part of celebrating 40 years, former state representative Jeannette Bell and Mary Kay Flynn attended the May quarterly Board meeting to discuss how and why they created the Prevention Board. Funding Family Resource Centers was a part of their initial goal for the Board. So, it's fitting that the Joint Committee on Finance approved increasing the Board's budget by \$500,000 to fund Family Resource Centers.

Image: Governor Tony Earl signing the legislation to create the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board in July 1983.

Research Update

time to explore the factors that are integral to FRC functioning.

It has been a time of tremendous knowledge building and growth for the ten FRCs and for the Prevention Board and Supporting Families Together association who partnered to guide them through this process.

The Population Health Institute has served as evaluators and recently completed a [report](#) comparing the first and second year FRC Action plans that guided their progress. Areas of change included:

- Commitment to include continued training, assessment, and incorporation of the Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening and Support into their daily work and planning.
- Improvement in action plan for each year. Analysis revealed that their action items and verification strategies became more specific and measurable over the two years.
- Integration of the Protective Factors Framework into programming, staff training, interactions with parents, staff meetings, and community outreach.
- Incorporation of parent leadership in feedback opportunities, caregiver advisory committees, program facilitation, fundraising, and improvement of service.
- Attention to diversity, equity and inclusion by review and translation of materials, images, toys and publicity. Staff training and ongoing discussion.

The second year of the grant was focused on collaborating with FRCs to expand the [Wisconsin Family Resource Center Best Practice Model](#), identifying the attributes that define FRCs and the categories of core services for meeting the needs of families most effectively.

While there is variation in the specific programs and services offered by individual FRCs, there is uniformity in the five core categories of services offered. These core services support child and family well-being, strengthen protective factors, and mitigate known risk factors for child maltreatment. FRCs in Wisconsin provide programs and services that fall within these five categories: parenting supports, child development activities, resource and navigation support, parent leadership development and community engagement. FRCs seek to ensure that a spectrum of offerings from all five core service areas are available to parents within their own service array and in collaboration with other partners.

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Celebrate Children Foundation License Plate

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The Celebrate Children Foundation works with the Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board toward the shared vision of ensuring every child in Wisconsin grows up in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment.

In part, the work to realize this vision is carried out by Family Resource Centers through grants from the Prevention Board to strengthen children, families, and communities through education, resources, and support.

Through the Foundation, you can make a positive, lasting difference in the lives of children and families.

By purchasing Celebrate Children license plate or making a one-time donation, you are funding vital research and helping the Prevention Board educate others, shape public policy, and promote and develop effective community programs. We're all working together to better Wisconsin, and you can be a part of it.

Every Celebrate Children license plate purchase and renewal includes a \$25 tax-deductible donation that helps support programs and services for families in communities across Wisconsin.

For more information and to purchase your plate today visit: <http://celebrate-children.org/support/purchase-your-plate/>

From the Field

Beginning in the second half of fiscal year 2022 the Prevention Board began working with the Child Welfare Professional Development System to design and incorporate a Family Resource Center Professional Development System (FRC PDS) (<https://uwm.edu/wcwpds/family-resource-center-professional-development-system/>) into their site.

The Prevention Board had worked with partners to update the Wisconsin Core Competencies for Family Serving Professionals (<https://preventionboard.wi.gov/Pages/OurWork/CoreCompetencies.aspx>) and had come to the realization that it was very challenging for family resource centers and other family serving organizations to implement these core competencies without a professional development system.

Early childhood systems, home visitors and child care providers all have professional development systems that provide training resources to their

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competencies and builds the capacity of family support professionals, supervisors, and leaders through those training opportunities.

FRC PDS trainings officially became available in the beginning of fiscal year 2023 and were offered to Prevention Board grantees at no charge for the first year. Between July 2022 and March 2023 course attendance totaled 168. Participants consisted of family resource center and family support staff throughout the state. The response from participants and administrators has been very positive and we look forward to the onset of our second year in July.



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Looking Ahead:

Father's Day is coming up. We know that fathers can play an important part in their child's development. To celebrate all kinds of fatherhood – stepdads, blended families, mothers who take on both roles, grandfathers, uncles who step up and two father households, we have a series “embrace the power of dads” videos on [YouTube](#). These highlight how dads parent differently.

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