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CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT
Prevention Board

Newsletter

ISSUE SEPT 7 2022

WI Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board Updates

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



Welcome to the first Prevention Board Quarterly Newsletter. Our goal is to keep you updated on recent happenings, changes, funding, research and programs.*

* You're receiving this update either because your agency is currently receiving funding from the Prevention Board or you signed up on the website for updates.

Extending Our Reach

Expanding Grant Opportunities

This year the Prevention Board has doubled the number of grants it awards to local community-based agencies. The American Rescue Plan Act provided increased funding for the Child Care Development Block Grant and the Community-based Child Abuse Prevention Grant, meaning the Prevention Board received additional dollars that allowed it to support local child maltreatment prevention efforts. In addition, the Prevention Board received funding from the Preschool Development Grant that was used to support local family resource centers. Link to current list of SFY23 grants:

<https://preventionboard.wi.gov/Documents/SFY23Grantees.pdf>

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and needs of parents/caregivers and community-based agencies. We also hosted listening sessions for family-serving professionals to gather their input into funding and service needs.

Foundation Provides Resources to Support: Parenting “On the Go”

Last year the Celebrate Children Foundation (Foundation) supported the Prevention Board’s partnership with local community-based organizations to distribute 3,500 Parenting “On the Go” bags. The bags contained carefully selected, developmentally appropriate toys and activities for children, as well as resources for parents, to use as parents find themselves needing to entertain their children when they are out and about.

The Foundation is a nonprofit organization operated by the Prevention Board to assist with fundraising. The Foundation receives most of its funding from the Celebrate Children license plate.

<https://celebrate-children.org/support/license-plate-campaign/>

From the Field

What We’ve Learned From Parents

We learned that parents overwhelmed by the stresses, unexpected scarcities and isolation exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. They clearly indicated their needs for more concrete, tangible supports and for more opportunities to foster and expand their social connections and friendships with others. One unexpected finding is that families are often unaware of the existence of family resource centers (FRC), even if they have one in their community. And, if they do know an FRC is available, they assume the services are for select families--those with significant needs or problems--rather than being open to all families in the community. Even families that know FRCs offer services to everyone sometimes presumed their family does not fit the criteria for services so they don’t feel welcome or comfortable getting involved with the FRC. We used this information in developing our strategic and community investment plans, including developing the Room to Grow public awareness campaign.

Taking Action with Room to Grow

The Room to Grow campaign was developed to help support local FRCs in their mission to provide services, education and resources that help build family strengths. In partnership with Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA), the Prevention Board awarded mini grants to nine FRCs so they could build community awareness about the role of FRCs in their community and how FRCs serve all families. We are looking forward to seeing the campaign on social media, billboards and other creative products soon. If you are interested in learning more contact Lamia Kosovic at lamia.kosovic@wisconsin.gov

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Launching a Family Resource Center Professional Development System

As part of our comprehensive approach to family support, the Prevention Board, in partnership with SFTA and the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System, is launching a Family Resource Center Professional Development system this fall. This system will provide trainings and other professional development offerings for family serving professionals. It will include a streamlined registration process, a wide array of trainings targeting varied levels of experience and a system for FRCs and individual staff to archive their professional development portfolio.

<https://uwm.edu/wcwpds/family-resource-center-professional-development-system/>



Contact us

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