

Shared Statement of Advocacy

A future of possibilities...

The ultimate goal of these collaborating Wisconsin agencies is to realize a future filled with possibilities for children and young adults who have disabilities and their families.

As independent statewide agencies, each addresses the needs of children and families in many and varied ways.

These agencies believe that families who have children with disabilities must be recognized as partners in the decision-making process. By working together, we can better assist families in promoting their children's education and health care in an integrated system that provides information and support where and when it is needed. Our collaboration makes better use of limited resources and reaches more individuals with disabilities and their families.

This brochure provides a brief summary of each agency. Please contact the individual agencies to learn more about how they can support you.

Primary funding: All of the agencies cited in this brochure receive the majority of their funding from federal sources. The federal funds that support each agency's work also determines the focus of that agency. These federal sources include the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Administration on Developmental Disabilities and Center for Mental Health Services.

Fast Facts for Families

**Statewide Agencies
Supporting
Wisconsin Families
Who Have a Child
with a Disability**

**A collaborative effort
of the Federally Funded
Statewide Agencies
appearing in this brochure.**



**Wisconsin Statewide
Parent-Educator Initiative**
(WSPEI)

Purpose: WSPEI functions as part of a statewide network that supports all families and schools in building positive partnerships that enhance student learning. It promotes parent participation on IEP teams for children with disabilities as well as in school advisory functions.

Population served: Families of students with disabilities 3-21 years old, educators, and other partners serving individuals with disabilities and their families.

Services available: Training and materials for parents and educators on issues related to special education, links to special education parent liaisons, information and referral related to disabilities.

Contact information: 1-877-844-4925
www.dpi.state.wi.us/een



**Wisconsin Family Assistance
Center for Education,
Training & Support** (WI FACETS)

Purpose: As one of two state Parent Training and Information Centers (PTIC), WI FACETS is dedicated to providing opportunities to enhance the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities and their families.

Population served: Children and youth, birth to 21 years of age, who have special needs, their families and those who support them.

Services available: Information and referral, workshops, individual assistance, and support groups.

Contact information: 1-877-374-4677
www.wifacets.org



**Children with Special
Health Care Needs** (CSHCN)

Purpose: The regional CSHCN Centers are part of a Statewide Network that provides free and confidential assistance to parents of children with special health care needs.

Population served: Individuals Birth-21 years of age with special health care needs and their families. A special health care need is an illness or condition that requires specialized healthcare, education or behavioral supports.

Services available: Information, resources and referrals, parent support through trainings and connections to other parents, and service coordination through linkages to local public health departments.

Contact information: Wisconsin First Step Hotline (24 hours/day) 1-800-642-7837. WI First Step can identify the regional center nearest you.



Wisconsin First Step

Purpose: The purpose is two-fold. WI First Step is the Central Directory for Wisconsin's Birth to Three Program. Secondly, it is the information and referral

service to assist Wisconsin families who have children with special needs.

Population served: Families who have children with special needs, birth to 21 years of age.

Services available: Information and referral to the agencies included in this brochure and other programs that do not have federal funding as the primary funding source.

Contact information: 1-800-642-STEP(7837)
www.mch-hotlines.org



**Native American Family
Empowerment Center** (GLITC, Inc.)

Purpose: As one of two state Parent Training and Information Centers in Wisconsin (PTIC), this center is dedicated to providing opportunities to enhance the quality of life for Native American children and adults with disabilities and their families.

Population served: Children and youth, birth to 21 years of age, their families who reside on tribal lands or other rural/urban communities.

Services available: Direct advocacy to students, birth to 21, and their families, trainings on special education issues, equity, diversity, and general overview of the law.

Contact information: 1-800-472-7207
<http://glitc.bfm.org>
drosin@glitc.org



**Wisconsin Coalition
for Advocacy** (WCA)

Purpose: All persons with disabilities and their families shall be empowered to exercise and enjoy the full extent of their rights to pursue the greatest possible quality of life.

Population served: Individuals with disabilities through the lifespan and their families.

Services available: Direct advocacy assistance to individuals and their families, training and technical assistance to consumers, parents, and professionals on a wide variety of disability related topics.

Contact information:
Madison 1-800-928-8778
Milwaukee 1-800-708-3034
www.w-c-a.org