



# Interagency Collaboration Improving Youth and Family Access to Services

## Focus on Employment

[promisewi.com](http://promisewi.com)



- As of December 3<sup>rd</sup>: **1409** youth/families enrolled
- **700** assigned to Wisconsin Promise Services
  - Services include career exploration and planning, job development and placement, on the job supports, Work Incentives Benefits Counseling, financial training and coaching, social skills training, self- and family- advocacy training
  - Services are available to both the **youth** and their **family**
  - Provided by **Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)**
  - Inter-agency collaboration: DVR, schools, mental health programs, long term care programs, and child welfare programs work together to support youth and families.
- **[promisewi.com](http://promisewi.com)**



# Enrollment December 3, 2015

WDA	Promise Services	Usual Services	Total
1 - Southeast	69	78	147
2 - Milwaukee	313	290	603
3 - WOW	19	13	32
4 - Fox Valley	41	56	97
5 - Bay Area	53	52	105
6 - North Central	28	28	56
7 - Northwest	13	20	33
8 - West Central	40	34	74
9 - Western	24	20	44
10 - South Central	71	82	153
11 - Southwest	29	36	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>1409</b>

[https://promisewi.com/download/enroll/eligible-by-city\\_promisewi.pdf](https://promisewi.com/download/enroll/eligible-by-city_promisewi.pdf)

[https://promisewi.com/download/eligible-by-county\\_promisewi.pdf](https://promisewi.com/download/eligible-by-county_promisewi.pdf)



# Wisconsin Promise: Connecting to Services via Engagement

- Engaging youth/families at least every 30 days; at least 2 years
- Meet youth/families where they are at
- Increasing family engagement through
  - Trauma Informed Care
  - Rapid Engagement
  - Motivational Interviewing
- Requirements to engage with everyone enrolled (and by everyone we mean everyone)
  - No way to get “kicked” out of Wisconsin Promise
- **FOCUS ON**  
**EMPLOYMENT**



# Wisconsin Promise Resource Mapping: Career Exploration and Work Experience



- ***Interactive*** Resource Guide Available in SharePoint (see Promise Portal in Wisconsin Tools! Folder)
- ***Interagency collaboration*** bringing together resources from partnering agencies

# Focus on Employment

- **Promise case management:**  
Wisconsin Promise Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) Counselors and Coordinators
- **Individual Plans for Employment (IPEs) and Family Service Plans**
- **Career exploration:** Youth, family, community asset mapping, job shadows, discovery
- **Job development, job placement, job coaching, supported employment, trial work experiences (TWE), on the job training (OJT), youth summer work programs, Skills to the Bills, Self-Advocacy**
- **Business Services Consultants (BSCs)**
- **Project SEARCH**
- **Schools**
  - IEP Post Secondary Transition Plans (PTP)
  - Work-based learning programs/service learning
- **Job Center Resources**
  - Youth Apprenticeship
  - Youth work experience programs
  - Dislocated worker program
- **Other employment programs**
  - Wisconsin Works (W2)
  - Local Community jobs programs
  - Transform Milwaukee
  - Juvenile Justice



# Wisconsin Promise: Engagement Outcomes

- 98% of Wisconsin Promise youth have their DVR eligibility determination within 60 days of their enrollment
- 98% have had a Wisconsin Promise DVR activity or contact in the last 30 days
- 82% of Wisconsin Promise youth/families have had at least one face to face meeting with their Wisconsin Promise DVR Counselor
- 76% have their IPE completed within 90 days of enrollment
  - Once IPE is written, 90% of Wisconsin Promise youth/families are actively engaged with their Wisconsin Promise DVR Counselor (mostly consistent engagement)

# Wisconsin Promise Outcomes

- **190** Family members have/are working
  - Average 31 hours/ week
  - Average of \$11.74/hr
- **94** youth have/are working since enrolling in Promise
  - Average 16 hours/week
  - Average of \$8.60/hr
- Family members are obtaining educational training and degrees (including a Bachelor's degree)
- At least two families have already worked off of SSI.



# Wisconsin Promise Employment Stories

- **Youth (autism)**

- Due to mom's concerns: "moved slowly with the family, making sure not to push, reiterating informed choice and letting her know that this plan was hers and her son's and we would never do anything that she was not comfortable with."
- Supported employment assessment at local library
  - Vendor carefully chosen by family
  - Very positive experience
- Planning second supported employment assessment and TWE

## **Mom**

- At first wanted to be in Usual Services Group
  - Fearful of son working in community; doubted his ability to do so
- After supported employment assessment finding her son more capable than she imagined and is now excited for next steps for her son
- Starting to think of her own career
  - Going to technical college to complete accounting degree started 20 years ago (something she didn't think she would be able to do)

# Wisconsin Promise Employment Stories

- **Youth (15 with congenital heart disease)**
  - Interest in becoming a pastry chef
  - Job Developer: 8 week paid work experience as baker's assistant
    - Information gained about work tolerance (related to disability)
    - Exploring additional opportunities

## Brother (19)

- Had been job searching without success
- Pending criminal charges (robbery)
- Job Developer: hired at restaurant within a week of starting the service
  - Works 30 hours/week
  - Manager reports he is a great asset to team
  - Promise also provided support for work clothing and mileage reimbursement to help make this job possible
  - With support from Promise, completed GED

# Wisconsin Promise Employment Stories

## • Youth (17 with autism)

- Job goal: computer repair graphic design
- Educational goal: technical college (2 years) leading to 4 year college
- 3 work experiences in retail
  - Secured a permanent job at Saver's as a customer service person (stocking, directing customers, re-shelving)
- Benefits counseling and self-advocacy
- opening an IDA account for expenses related to living on her own

## Mom (mental health)

- Job goal: office assistant, data entry, light phones. wants to make \$50,000 and have benefits
- Educational goal: bachelor's degree in computer science
- Saw daughter doing well and got a job on her own at Bed Bath and Beyond
- Promise paying for her to do computer skills assessment, computer skills training classes, and job development
- Through MI counseling and spirit, she is now seeking treatment for mental health problems would help her reach her goals
- She and her child live with her mother and she wants to move out and not be on benefits

# Wisconsin Promise Employment Stories

- **Youth** (18 with learning disability)
  - Personable, polite, helpful, kind
  - Likes working with hands, learning new things, carpentry, mechanics
  - CATP program; successful doing retail stocking.
  - Work 1:1 with the school engineer small equipment repair, building cleaning and mail delivery.
  - **Job Development: TWE at Walgreens**
    - Performance exemplary (one of best ever seen)
      - Hired as permanent employment
    - Shy/soft-spoken
      - Job coach to help with customer service
    - Within walking distance of home
  - **Benefits Counseling and Self-Advocacy**



## Mom

- Full time security guard
- First time home buyer's class
- Caring and supportive

# Contact Information

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