



## **Welcome to the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System**

The entire staff of the Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System (WCWPDS) and the School of Social Work at the University of Wisconsin – Madison wants to welcome you!

A career in public child welfare involves some of the most important, challenging, and rewarding work anyone can do. We are here to support your efforts to provide exceptional services to the families you work with.

As a county public child welfare worker in Wisconsin, you have access to an array of professional development opportunities. The WCWPDS is your resource for child welfare training. It is our responsibility to provide you with training opportunities across your whole career in child welfare— from new worker to maybe even director someday. You will begin with a web-based pre-service, after which you will attend foundation training sessions designed to build your practice skills. After that, you will have many opportunities to attend a variety of training topics designed to meet your specific needs, whether you are doing Access, Initial Assessment, Ongoing Services, Foster Care Coordination, Supervision — or some combination of those.

The WCWPDS is truly a partnership. We work collaboratively with the Wisconsin County Human Service Association (WCHSA), Tribal Child Welfare programs, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System provides training for over 3,000 child welfare workers throughout the state of Wisconsin.

This New Worker section of the WCWPDS website is intended to give you an introduction to the WCWPDS and the Wisconsin Child Welfare Model for Practice, help you begin charting your professional development, and provide instructions on how to use the PDS Online training registration system. We hope you will find the information useful.

Your supervisor is familiar with the WCWPDS and will probably be able to answer many questions we haven't covered in this packet. If there is anything else you need to know, don't hesitate to contact our office at [office@wcpds.wisc.edu](mailto:office@wcpds.wisc.edu) or by phone (608) 890-3965. We will be happy to assist you.

Again, welcome. We look forward to meeting you at training!