



## **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 would like 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 quality and professional services to the families you will be serving.

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 child welfare professional development system provides training for over 3,000 child welfare workers throughout the state of Wisconsin.

Public child welfare agencies have diverse operations to reflect the needs of their communities. Many Foster Care Coordinators have other child welfare duties in addition to licensing and supporting foster parents. If this is your situation, you will begin with a web-based Pre-Service training, after which you will attend Foundation training session to build your skills, as well as the foster care coordinator role specific trainings. For those with only Foster Care Coordinator responsibilities, you are not required to complete Pre-service or Foundation. However, you are welcome to access these training resources to increase your practice knowledge.

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. Each Foster Care Coordinator in the state is required to take the standardized home study tool and is recommended to take role specific trainings.

This Foster Care Coordinator section of the WCWPDS website introduces our training collaborative and the Wisconsin Child Welfare Model for Practice. This will help you begin charting your professional development, and provide instructions on how to use the PDS Online registration system. We hope you will find the information useful.

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

Welcome. We look forward to meeting you at training!