

Disability Resource Center for Children and Families (DRCCF)

THE NEED

56,000 children in Wisconsin have a disability that could result in a need for long-term services.

Families struggle daily to navigate complex systems of supports and services such as health care, long-term supports, education, community resources and Medicaid.

Lack of access to information and assistance can lead to lost jobs, lost opportunities for child development, lost income for families and missed opportunities for future employment and community participation.

With access to information, assistance and advocacy families and children are more likely to succeed.



KEY FEATURES

- Comprehensive Information and assistance,
- Family navigators to assist families with navigating multiple systems,
- Advocacy and benefits counseling for appeals and denials of services,
- Family support to strengthen family capacity for self-determination,
- Seamless access to eligibility determination for disability supports and services.



OUTCOMES FOR FAMILIES

- Wisconsin families who have a child with disabilities will:
- Know where to go for help,
- Get the help they need (not always a service),
- Feel more capable and effective,
- Have access to help no matter where they live



ADMINISTRATION

DHS will administer a competitive contract to coordinate a statewide network of resource and benefits specialists to serve families in different regions of the state with at least two DRCCFs focused on serving culturally, ethnically, or underserved groups. The coordinating entity will:

- Coordinate marketing and outreach,
- Negotiate contracts for co-location with like partners such as the Regional CYSHCN centers, Independent Living Centers, or County Waiver Agencies,
- Negotiate contracts for legal assistance and advocacy services,
- Hire and provide ongoing training to staff,
- Ongoing implementation and quality improvement will include stakeholders.



COST EFFECTIVE

- Timely help prevents crisis,
- Not every family wants a service, DRCCF offers options.,
- Viewed as supportive and family friendly,
- Address health disparities with statewide access to information and assistance,
- Mission dedicated to helping families.

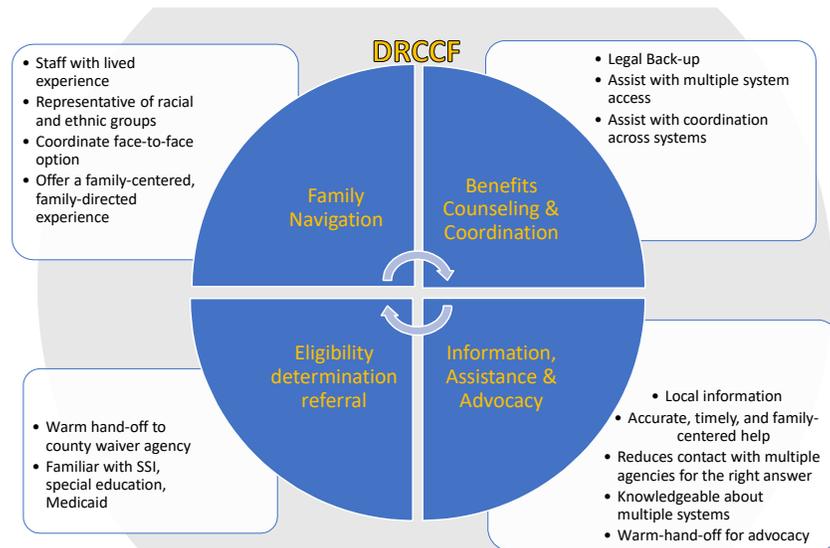


FAMILIES FEEL MORE CAPABLE AND EFFECTIVE

- Connected to condition specific organizations,
- Connected to advocacy organizations,
- Connected to learning and skill-building opportunities,
- Family-centered, family-directed experience,
- Connected to family and parent-to-parent organizations.

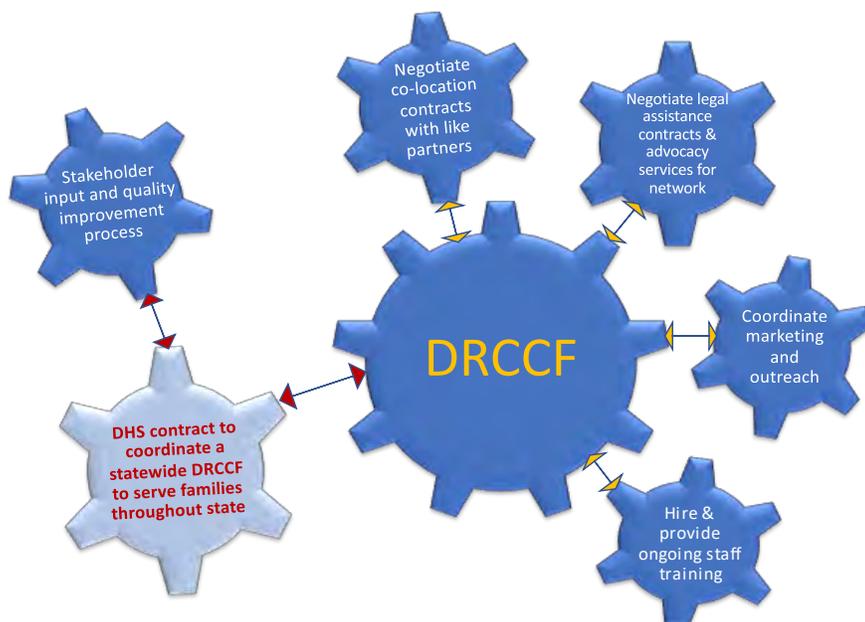
FAMILIES KNOW WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

- Message: Every family deserves support
- DRCCF offer family friendly assistance,
- Statewide outreach materials,
- Funding for marketing and outreach,
- Ongoing and continuous outreach to key partners and local organizations,
- Focused outreach to primary care, tribal health, pediatricians, Federally Qualified Health Centers, schools,
- Plain language.



FAMILIES GET THE HELP THEY NEED (NOT ALWAYS A SERVICE)

- Comprehensive and accessible “roadmap” to resources for children with disabilities,
- Navigators with expertise in children and families,
- Warm handoff to eligibility determination,
- Access to advocacy and legal expertise,
- Accessible to all families using a wide variety of technology,
- Option to meet face-to-face with families,
- One number: Technology to manage and funnel calls,
- Data tracking for quality improvement.



FAMILIES HAVE A SIMILAR EXPERIENCE WITH INFORMATION ACCESS NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE

DHS will administer one contract to coordinate access to a statewide network of resource and benefits specialists to serve families throughout the state.

This proposal was developed by members from: Wisconsin Counties Human Service Association, the DHS Children's Long-Term Supports Council, the Wisconsin Governor's Council on Autism, Disability Rights Wisconsin, Family Voices of Wisconsin, Survival Coalition, and families of children with disabilities.

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