

2023 WiFLI: Foundations Agenda Summary

This series provides the building blocks to successfully extend the advocacy you are already doing to reach beyond your own family, affecting the systems, programs, and services you interact with daily. From telling your story to understanding how boards and committees work, we'll get you started on your family leadership journey.

Session 1 is focused on the skills and knowledge needed to be ready for a leadership role. All topics are covered in a format of learn / practice.

Planned session topics include:

- ✓ Systems, laws, and terminology
- ✓ Identifying partners and allies
- ✓ Targeting your advocacy to those with the power to make change
- ✓ Public speaking skill building
- ✓ Recognizing good data (and using that data to support your advocacy and messaging)

Session 2 is participation in Family Voices of Wisconsin's Advocacy for Change, where participants will learn about emerging policy issues and join others in visiting their legislators to discuss the impact of policy on their families.

Advocacy for Change learning session includes:

- ✓ Families as agents of change in history
- ✓ The state budget and legislative process
- ✓ Current policy priorities
- ✓ How to develop your message to share your family story with policymakers
- ✓ Message coaching
- ✓ Legislative visits

Session 3 is focused on essential elements of working as part of a group. We will cover where and how to find leadership opportunities, standard application procedures, and some of the challenges that can come up when participating as a group member.

Planned session 3 topics include:

- ✓ Finding leadership opportunities and how to apply
- ✓ Meeting tools: agendas, key roles, and minutes
- ✓ Active listening and paraphrasing
- ✓ The value of different opinions
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Handling group conflict
- ✓ Building agreements in groups