

# La Crosse Area Family Policy Board

*“Systems and providers aligned for better outcomes”*



**Monthly Meeting  
January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020**



# State Level Policy Work in 2020: Activities & Timeline

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## I. Priority / Proposal Development

*(January – March)*

## II. Advocacy Activities

*(April - June)*

- Press Conference (?)
- Biennial Legislative Meeting
- Letters to Governor & Joint Finance



# Prioritization Criteria

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The budget items selected are those where:

- A. Our local voice can add to the discussion and be ***impactful in winning approval.***
- B. ***Fits within at least one FPB area of focus*** for children, youth and their families:
  - *Juvenile Justice & “At-Risk” Youth*
  - *Child Protection & Safe Environment*
  - *Mental Health & Substance Abuse*
  - *Income Supports & Basic Needs*
- C. We can articulate ***specific and significant benefits to FPB agencies*** and the community we serve.
- D. Includes a balance of items ***important to our diverse membership.***



# A. Preliminary Priorities from the Wisconsin Counties Association

Issue	Requested Action
1. Child Protective Services Subsidized Guardianships	Transfer payment responsibility for subsidized guardianships from counties to the state in a manner similar to the adoption assistance program.
2. Youth Justice Corrections Alternatives	Remove the cap on the number of youth who can be served by local correction alternative programs (365/180 day programs), like the program administered by La Crosse County.
3. Juvenile Court Jurisdiction for 17-Year Olds	Transfer jurisdiction over 17-year-old youth to the youth justice system and create a sum sufficient appropriation to fully cover the costs.
4. Birth to Three Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the increased funding provided in the 2019-21 state biennial budget.</li> <li>• Provide a \$4 million dollar increase in the Birth to 3 state GPR allocation in the first year of the budget.</li> <li>• Provide a three percent increase to the allocation in the second year of the biennium.</li> </ul>
5. Mental Health Crisis Services	Options to consider include: <i>Creation of regional crisis stabilization facilities; Additional funding for crisis services; Creation of regional emergency detention beds; Create access to a centralized log and inpatient bed tracking system; Allow individuals to maintain Medicaid while in county jails, and Develop crisis response coaches who can provide in-home crisis stabilization for youth and adults.</i>



## A. Preliminary WCA Priorities (continued)

Issue	Requested Action
6. Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Program	Eliminate the maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement for counties in the CLTS program that has an inequitable impact on counties like La Crosse for previous local investments in this program.
7. Income Maintenance Administration Allocation (IMAA)	Support the increases proposed by the Department of Health Services for FY22 (\$3.6 Mil) and FY23 (\$5.2 Mil). If caseloads rise higher than projected, adjustments should be made to the funding amounts.  Increase the IMAA to support the costs of Medicaid expansion.



## B. Other Notable Proposals from State Agencies

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The Department of Children and Families has a \$12 million proposal to create ***infrastructure to support evidence based services*** to keep children in the child welfare system with their families and ***prevent out of home placement***. Future support and expansion would come from Federal IV-E dollars. Components include:

- ***2.0 FTE State Staff*** to provide technical assistance and system support to counties and provider agencies.
- ***Resource Pool*** for direct family supports.



## C. Other Community Issues

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- Resources for *Home Visiting Services*
- Resources & Options for *Children & Youth Complex Needs*



## d. **Priorities for Consideration**

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### 1. Youth **Corrections Reform**

- a. Eliminating caps on local programs
- b. Supporting more local options due to failure of initial reform plan

### 2. Resources for **Home Visiting Services**





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# Discussion Questions

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1. Of the items you learned about today, which do you **feel most strongly about including as a priority** for Family Policy Board advocacy? Of these, is there **any information your agency has** (data, anecdotal, etc.) that could help make the case to our legislators?
  2. What **other issues** that were not discussed today would you like to see prioritized?
  3. Are there a slate of issues from an **advocacy organization you are connected** with that you would like to present during a future month's Family Policy Board meeting?

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*Please select a recorder for the discussion and email notes to Tiffany Cornell*

# Thank you!

