



La Crosse Area Family Policy Board

"Systems and providers aligned for better outcomes"



**Legislative Meeting
June 3rd, 2019**



Purpose of the La Crosse Area Family Policy Board

Aligning the human services system and provider agencies for better outcomes

Purpose: **Agencies** servicing children, youth and families advising the Human Services Department and advancing “**4 Cs**” for a more aligned and effective community human services system.

Communication -

Sharing of information with agencies on current programming, new initiatives, concerns and issues involving families and children in the county.

Coordination -

*Finding ways to best compliment and **work in tandem** with other human services agencies in assisting individuals .*

Collaboration -

*Fostering **partnerships** to impact outcomes, advance service integration, and influence public policy*

Connectedness -

*Fostering **relationships** and understanding how agencies and initiatives fit into the broader community human services system and its challenges*

AREAS OF FOCUS

Juvenile Justice & "At-Risk" Youth

*Attic Correctional Services
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Boys & Girls Club
Essential Health Clinic
La Crosse County Human Services
La Crosse County Health Department
La Crosse Police Department
Neighborhood City Church
School District of La Crosse
YWCA*

*Great Rivers United Way
La Crosse Community Foundation*

Child Protection & Safe Environment

*Bikers Against Child Abuse
Gundersen Health System
La Crosse County Human Services
La Crosse County Health Department
The Parenting Place
YWCA*

*Great Rivers United Way
La Crosse Community Foundation*



Mental Health & Substance Abuse

*AMS of Wisconsin
Coulee Council on Addictions
Garrison Counseling
Great Rivers 2-1-1
Gundersen Health System
La Crosse County Human Services
La Crosse County Health Department
La Crosse Medical Health Science Consortium
Mayo Clinic Health System
YWCA*

*Great Rivers United Way
La Crosse Community Foundation*

Income Supports & Basic Needs

*Catholic Charities
Consumer Credit Counseling
Couleecap
Great Rivers 2-1-1
La Crosse County Human Services
La Crosse County Health Department
Neighborhood City Church
New Horizons
Workforce Connections
Workforce Development
YWCA*

*Great Rivers United Way
La Crosse Community Foundation*

4 "Cs"

- Communication
- Coordination
- Collaboration
- Connectedness

Strategic Priorities

1. Advocating on Policy Issues

5. Sharing
Knowledge

***A FORUM TO
CONNECT AND
SUPPORT***

2. Keeping Up to
Date on Local
Collaborations

4. Understanding
the Service
Continuum

3. Being Aware of
Data & Trends





La Crosse Area Family Policy Board

"Systems and providers aligned for better outcomes"

2019-21 State Budget: Priorities for Advocacy:

Support	Support Modified
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Home Visiting for Expecting Mothers 3. Homelessness 4. School Mental Health 5. Return of 17 Year-Olds to the Juvenile Justice System 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Children & Family Aids Increase <i>(Support Wisconsin Counties Association request of \$30 Mil., which is \$15 Mil. more than Governor's request.)</i>

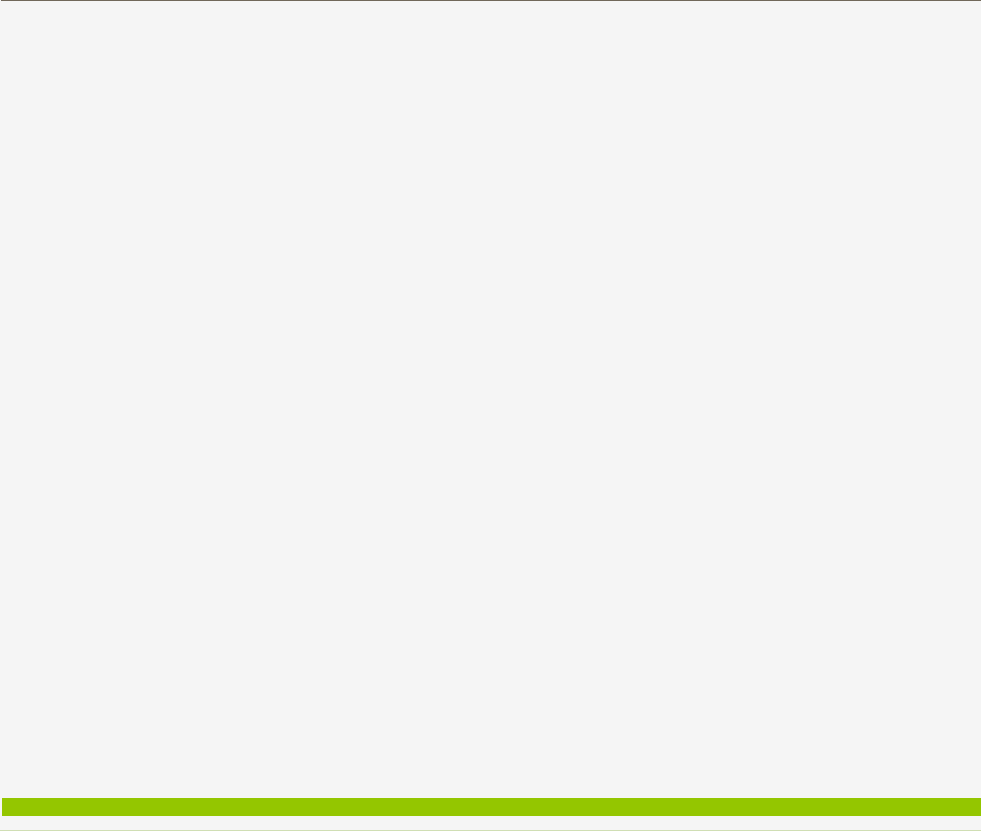
Other Budget Issues of Interest to Our Members

> Direct Care Workforce Funding

> Child Care Subsidy

1. Home Visiting for Expecting Mothers





Home Visiting In La Crosse County

- **6,148** children under the age of 5
(estimated for 2018, source, US Census)
- 16%, or **1,007** children are living in poverty
(estimated for 2016, source, Livestories)
- Our collective capacity = **520** children
(source, community assessment in 2017)

Support Increased Home Visiting Funding

Governor's Budget Proposal

\$1,012,500 from TANF in FY 2019-2020 \$2,175,000 from TANF
in FY 2020-2021

Note – it is unknown if any of this funding will come to La
Crosse County.

2. Children & Family Aids





WISCONSIN
LEGISLATIVE FISCAL BUREAU

Excerpts from LFB Budget Summary Paper #205 May 2019

- The federal Department of Health and Human Services recently determined that ***Wisconsin is not in substantial conformance with any of the seven outcome areas and only one of the seven systemic factors*** it accessed.
- State general purpose revenue provided for Children & Family Aids ***has declined by \$3.6 million*** since 2010-11.

Joint Finance Committee Hearing Testimony

River Falls

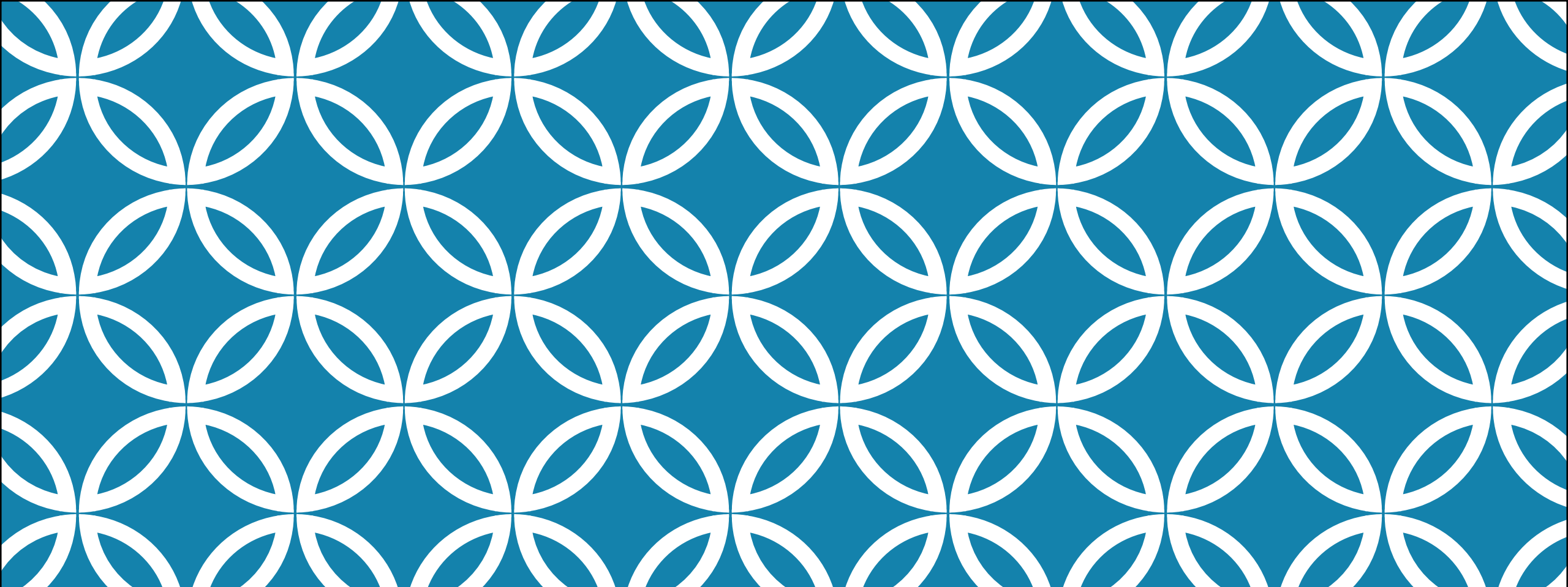
(April 2019)

<https://wiseeye.org/2019/04/15/joint-committee-on-finance-budget-2019-public-hearing-in-river-falls/>

04:48:12

3. Homelessness






A HAND FOR THE HOMELESS

**Addressing
Homelessness in the
State of Wisconsin**

THE PROBLEM: HOW TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS IN WISCONSIN

Urban or rural. Homelessness is a problem that affects families and individuals across Wisconsin. However, it often can be a difficult issue to quantify. In an effort to provide these statistics, service providers that receive state money submit their data to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), operated in Wisconsin by the Institute for Community Alliances. Their most recent report, published in July 2018 containing the data for 2017, tells the following story:

- **21,906 clients experiencing homelessness received services and shelter from HMIS agencies (does not include domestic violence agencies).**
- **17,905 clients stayed in an emergency shelter**
- **56% of those clients were outside of Milwaukee, Dane, and Racine Counties**
- **42% of persons experiencing homelessness were members of a family or household**
- **494 minors received services as unaccompanied homeless youth**



***A Hand for the Homeless* makes the case that these numbers do not tell the full picture, as they do not include those classified as homeless under a different federal definition, nor do they account for the possible undercounting of homeless during the challenging annual Point-in-Time Count.**

THE COURSE OF ACTION: ASSEMBLY REPUBLICANS BEGIN THE DISCUSSION IN 2017

In April of 2017, the Wisconsin Legislature released a series of bills in tandem with 2017-19 state budget priorities to address homelessness in a statewide, comprehensive way, the first major attention the issue had received in decades.

THE COURSE OF ACTION: ASSEMBLY REPUBLICANS BEGIN THE DISCUSSION IN 2017

One bill created a new statutory body, the Interagency Council on Homelessness. Chaired by the Governor's designee, Lieutenant Governor Kleefisch, the council contained secretaries or directors of eight state agencies and the four Continuum of Care organizations in Wisconsin – federally mandated collaborative zones of housing and service providers and homelessness advocates.

One year to the day of its authorizing bill becoming law, the council released its 2019-2022 action plan, *A Hand and a Home: Foundations for Success*, which was “perhaps the state’s most coordinated, deepest attempt to prevent and curtail homelessness.” The bills in this package were identified as legislative priorities in the plan.

They include new programming and \$3.75 million in new spending, more than doubling the state’s current commitment.

https://doa.wi.gov/Documents/A%20Hand%20and%20a%20Home_WICH%20Statewide%20Plan.pdf

2019 LEGISLATION – A HAND FOR THE HOMELESS

- **LRB-1854/1, Plumer, Strategy 1.1 (prevention), 1.2 (diversion): Adds \$500,000 annually to the Homeless Prevention Program to help avoid evictions, and creates a new program funded at \$300,000 to begin diversion. Diversion is short-term assistance to steer those who present as homeless into stable housing outside the traditional homelessness system.**
- **LRB-1227/1, Steineke, Strategy 1.3 (SSSG), 1.4 (performance metrics), 1.5 (admin code): Adds \$500,000 annually to the State Shelter Subsidy Grant program, a 50% increase to the fund and its first major increase since its creation in 1994. It also cleans up administrative code. Most significantly, it adds performance metrics to incentivize shelters to responsibly transition individuals into permanent housing.**

2019 LEGISLATION – A HAND FOR THE HOMELESS

- **LRB-1853/1, Snyder, Strategy 1.6: Adds \$900,000 annually (a 300% increase) to the Housing Assistance Program, the state's most flexible funder of Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-housing, and Transitional Housing.**
- **LRB-1316/1, James, Strategy 2.2: Adds \$500,000 annually (a 100% increase) to the Homeless Case Management Services Program to assist families in shelter with gaining employment or increasing their income.**
- **LRB-1331/1, Dittrich, Strategy 4.1: Creates a Housing Navigation Grant, funded at \$300,000 annually, to work with landlords to find available permanent housing units for individuals experiencing homelessness and to mediate any disputes that may arise.**

2019 LEGISLATION – A HAND FOR THE HOMELESS

- **LRB-1851/1, Pronschinske, Strategy 4.3: Creates an innovative forgivable loan program, funded at \$500,000 annually, to renovate existing units for use as affordable housing.**
- **LRB-1332/1, Rodriguez, Strategies 3.2 and 3.3: Directs the Department of Workforce Development to identify and create programs for homeless youth (age 18-24) and adults, catered to those populations' specific needs. It also mandates collaboration between local Workforce Development Boards and their corresponding homeless response systems.**
- **LRB-1852/1, Kurtz, Strategy 3.4: Adds \$250,000 annually (a 100% increase) to the Skills Enhancement Program to help low-income individuals receive job training and technical skills.**

4. School Mental Health



5. Return of 17 Year-Olds to the Juvenile Justice System





Other Budget Issues of Interest to Our Members



*Direct Care Workforce
Funding*

Child Care Subsidy



La Crosse Area

Family Policy Board

"Systems and providers aligned for better outcomes"

Thank You!