

Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners Southern Region

Vision

To build collaborative relationships in the southern region of Wisconsin, in order to enhance services for children birth through age 8 years and their families, through information sharing, program knowledge and integrated resource delivery.

Statement of Purpose

The Southern Region Networking Partners are an interested group of professionals who communicate and collaborate for the best interest of children and families in the counties of Adams, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Juneau, Lafayette, Richland, Rock and Sauk. This is accomplished by:

1. Action team members attend Southern Region Collaborating Partners meetings at least 3 times per year and plan the agendas for general meetings.
2. The southern region meetings focus on sharing information, agencies' activities, events & best practices for the benefit of children and families and are open to anyone.
3. We strive to keep current on research, initiatives and trends that affect children and families.
4. We will plan to collaborate on projects, initiatives and best practices to benefit children and families.
5. Annually we will review the southern region action plan and accomplishments of our region.

Representation Desired

Public Health, Child Care Licensing, Mental Health, Group Child Care, Family Child Care, Child Care Resource and Referral, CESA Agencies, Public Schools (4K & 5K), Special Education, Birth to Three, Head Start/Early Head Start, Foster Care, Family Resource Centers, Higher Education, Even Start, Child Protection, Home Visitation Programs, Accreditation systems and other professionals working with families and children.

Goals and Outcomes

- **A priority goal of the southern region is to address mental health and social/emotional issues for young children: partnerships, training and issues.**
 - We have contacted the WI Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Initiative (WIECMHA) to discuss how the southern region can collaborate with them. We would like to invite Therese Ahlers to attend our next meeting to talk about ways to collaborate. To learn more about WIECMHA visit: <http://www.wiimh.org/>
 - We may review social/emotional resources, curriculums & tools at our next meeting.
- **We will revise our action plan to form committees to address action plan items.** Possibilities include Early Learning (WMELS, Preschool Options/Transitions), Early Care and Education Initiatives/Programs, Professional Development, Parent Support/Education, Screening & Health Systems, State action team report, etc. These committees will report at each meeting on accomplishments and next steps.
- Our next meeting will be on May 10, 2007 after the WECCP videoconference.