



Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners

Working Together to Transform Early Childhood Services

<http://www.collaboratingpartners.com>

Brief Description: The WECCP is a network of state, regional, and community, public and private, state departments, agencies, associations, and individuals working together to positively impact the lives of young children and their families encompassing the areas of early care and education, health, mental health, parent education and family support.

The Vision: All children in Wisconsin will receive the services and family supports they need in order to attain their optimal developmental potential during the critical years from birth through age five

The Mission: Wisconsin communities, agencies, associations, and state government will work together as a system of high quality comprehensive early childhood services for every child and family who wants to access them.

The Structure: The WECCP operates within a structure that includes:

- **State level:** action team, steering committee, and overall state wide network;
- **Regional level:** action teams, team facilitators, and regional networks.
- **Communication and networking systems** include: state and regional action team meetings, networking conferences (video conferences/web casts), a website, state and region specific list serves and collaborative conferences; and a work plan with goals, objectives, and action steps.

Participation Levels:

- **Endorsing Partners:** State, regional, and local state departments, agencies, associations, or groups that have formally endorsed the WECCP vision and mission.
- **Participating Partners:** State, regional, and local state departments, agencies, associations, groups, and individuals that are committed to membership on WECCP state or regional teams, participate in events, and actively work toward the vision and mission.
- **Interested Partners:** State and local agencies, associations, groups and individuals that are not able to commit to endorsement or participation but are interested in the efforts and want to receive information through the state or regional list serves.

More Information: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com>

Details of the WECCP State Level Structure

The WECCP is a network of state, regional, and community, public and private, state departments, agencies, associations, and individuals working together to positively impact the lives of young children and their families encompassing the areas of early care and education, health, mental health, parent education and family support.

The WECCP network includes anyone in the state participating in state and regional level action team meetings, on committees addressing work plan activities, attending network events and/or receiving information through list serves.

WECCP State Action Team

Membership: The State Action Team is comprised of representatives from the areas of early care and education, health, mental health, parent education and family support. New representatives may be added as appropriate. The State Action Team currently includes representatives from the following agencies:

Child Health Alliance of Wisconsin	WI Education Association Council
Child Care Resource and Referral Network	WI Head Start State Collaboration Office
Child Care Information Center	WI Head Start Association
Children's Service Society of Wisconsin	WI Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Association
Children's Trust Fund	WI Technical College System
Community Action Program (CAP)	WI Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Association
Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC)	WI Dept. of Health and Family Services: Birth to 3 Program
Parents Plus of Wisconsin	WI Dept. of Health and Family Services: Child Care Licensing
Regional Action Teams	WI Dept. of Health and Family Services: Maternal Child Health
The Registry	WI Dept. of Health and Family Services: Maternal Child Health
UW Extension	WI Dept. of Health and Family Services: Maternal Child Health
UW System	WI Dept. of Health and Family Services: Children with Special Health Care Needs State Programs
Waisman Center Professional Development Project	WI Dept. of Public Instruction: Early Childhood
WI Association of Nonpublic Schools	WI Dept. of Public Instruction: Early Childhood Special Education
WI Child Care Improvement Project	Dept. of Workforce Development: Child Care Section
WI Council on Children and Families	
WI Early Childhood Association	

Roles of the State Action Team include:

- Bringing state and local information, evidence-based research and best practices, and federal expectations/trends including mandates and priorities to participants of WECCP.
- Bringing information, experience and identification of statewide trends and issues to the Department Secretaries, State Superintendent, the Governors Office, Federal Partner Agencies and Statewide Organizations.
- Synthesizing local information, best practices, and recommendations from regional teams to inform state level priorities, policy and evidence-based practices.
- Supporting and promoting communities in the development of a collaborative approach to service delivery for young children and their families.
- Working in collaboration to align efforts, initiatives, grant programs and consistent child and family-centered policies across systems.
- Identifying and promoting evidence-based practice and new research literature that supports state and local programming.
- Sharing information with their organizations and constituencies.

The State Action Team utilizes a steering committee to guide direction, priorities, and work plans and is comprised of representatives of the state departments of Health and Family Service, Public Instruction, and Workforce Development and each of the early childhood components of mental health, parent education, family support, medical home, as well as care and education.

Roles of the Steering Committee are to:

- Act as identified “leaders” for the State Action Team
- Develop agendas for State Action Team meetings
- Oversee implementation of State level support mechanisms
- Share information within WECCP and among the State Action Team
- Assure communication and networking within the defined structure
- Oversee development and use of supporting materials
- Monitor and promote implementation of work plan
- Promote mechanism to enhance the effectiveness of the regional teams

Steering Committee members demonstrate state level commit to the structure by committing state staff time and designating programmatic responsibility for participation, direct funding, resource allocation, and other means to support implementation of work plans including:

- Maintaining communication and network structures
- Funding Community Collaboration Coaches to facilitate and support regional teams and networks
- Providing Mini-grants to each region to assist in the implementation of their efforts

The State Action Team working committees include:

- Professional Development Initiative
- Supporting Families
- Early Learning Committee
- Policy Committee
- Data and Research Committee
- WECCP Ad Hoc Work Group(s) - are created by the WECCP State Action Team to address specific tasks and currently includes:
 - Developmental Screening Infrastructure Work Group

Details of the WECCP Regional Level Structure

The WECCP is a network of state, regional, and community, public and private, state departments, agencies, associations, and individuals working together to positively impact the lives of young children and their families encompassing the areas of early care and education, health, mental health, parent education and family support.

The WECCP Regional networks include anyone in the specific regions participating in regional level action team meetings, on committees addressing regional work plan activities, attending network events and/or receiving information through list serves.

WECCP Regional Action Teams

Membership: The Regional Action Teams are comprised of representatives from the areas of early care and education, health, mental health, parent education and family support and include representatives from the following agencies:

- Birth to 3 RESource Training and Technical Assistance
- CESA Early Childhood Coordinator/Program Support Teacher
- Child Care Resource and Referral
- Children's Trust Fund Family Resource Centers
- Regional Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Center
- DHFS Regional Day Care Licensing
- DHFS Regional Public Health Offices
- Head Start Programs

Based on regional networks, representatives from other agencies, programs, or efforts may be part of the Regional Team including:

- Local Early Childhood Councils
- Higher Education (UW and Technical Colleges; Private Colleges/Universities)
- PI 34 Licensing Resource and Support Centers
- WI Native American Tribes
- University Extension Agents
- WI State Parent and Educator Initiative (WSPEI)
- WECA Affiliates

Roles of the Regional Teams include:

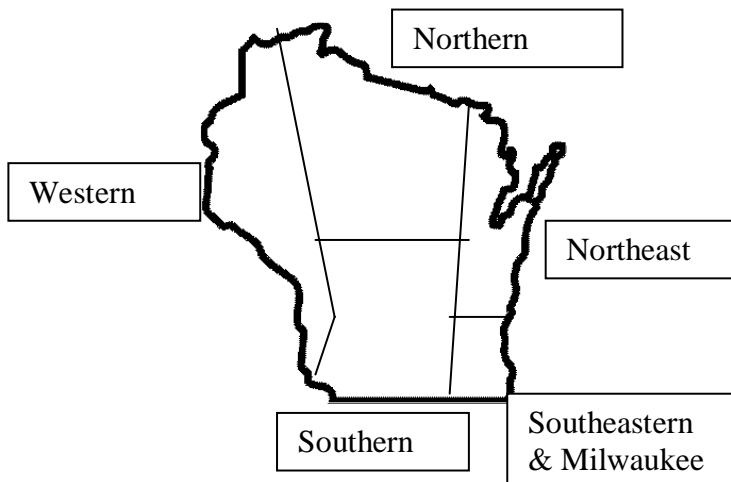
- (1) Bringing State Action Team information and support to represented programs, stakeholders, constituencies, and networks.
- (2) Bringing information, best practices, and recommendations to State Action Team.
- (3) Identifying tasks and implementing actions in conjunction with State Action Team
- (4) Planning and implementing Mini-grant priorities.
- (5) Providing a forum for regional communication.

The Regional Action Teams utilize Regional Action Team Facilitators to provide facilitation for the regional action team and network, guide direction, priorities, and work plans and is comprised of a Community Collaboration Coach and CESA Early Childhood Coordinator in each region.

Roles of the Regional Action Team Facilitators are to:

- assure representative of component areas
- convene Regional Action Team meetings and develop agendas
- host and/or facilitate network meetings/conferences (video/web cast)
- guide direction and priorities through work plans
- oversee mini-grant implementation
- assure regional representation at State Action Team meetings
- The designated facilitators will be supported by state level commitment for providing financial support to activities in the region and will be the direct line of communication with the State Level Steering Committee.

Regional Committees: Each Regional Network Team determines the committees needed based on self-identification and strategic planning processes.



Details of the WECCP Networking and Communication Structures

Regular State and Regional Action Team Meetings provide for communication among state and regional teams and represented partners:

- The State Action Team meets quarterly.
- State Action Team Committees meet as necessary. Some committees are scheduled on the same days as the State Action Team.
- Regional Teams meet quarterly and as determined.
- A representative of the Regional Action Team attends the State Action Team meeting
- Video conferences, conference calls, or web casts occur between the State and Regional Action Teams

Communication among state and regional networks occur through the use of video conferences, web casts, or a state wide meeting.

- Video conferences occur 2-4 times per year. They are designed to communicate cross cutting information to state and region teams and among the network. The technology could vary to include web-casting.
- The topics chosen link to the outcomes, priority areas and suggestions from the region networks.
- Participation is clarified for each event based on the type of communication and/or topic. If the target is communication among the state and regional teams, one site is used in each Region. If the communication is broad for the networks, more than one site may be used.

WECCP Listservs:

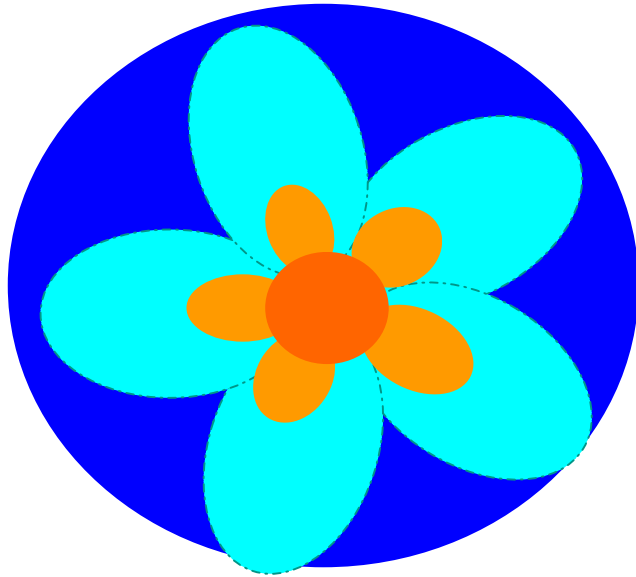
- Statewide Listserv: DPI hosts the WECCP listserv which is open to anyone from State, Regional, and/or local levels that are interested in WECCP. Steering Committee members post related information on the listserv.
- Regional Listserv: Each region has a regional listserv and does not duplicate the WECCP state listserv.

Website: www.collaboratingpartners is the main website for WECCP and collaborative efforts.

- Information from each component area is included.
- Each Regional Action Team has a home page.
- Each WECCP State Action Team Committee has a page.

Email Distribution List of State Action Team Members: A common distribution list includes all State Action Team participants. It will be used by all Steering Committee members for State Action Team and WECCP-related email.

State wide collaborative conferences will be supported as another mechanism for communication. The PDI committee will designate these specific conferences, including: Strongest Link, WECA/WDEC, PEC, and Intersecting Interests.



- State Network
- State Action Team
- Regional Networks
- Regional Action Teams

2007 Calendar of WECCP State Meetings

MONTH	COMMITTEE MEETING Note ad hoc work groups meet as necessary
February 8, Thursday	Video Conference/State and Regional Action Teams
March 9, Friday	Early Learning Committee/PDI
April 12, Thursday	State Action Team
May 10, Thursday	Video Conference
June 8, Friday	Early Learning Committee//PDI
July 12, Thursday	Strengthening Families Committee
August 9, Thursday	State Action Team
September 6, Thursday	Early Learning Committee//PDI
October 11, Thursday	Strengthening Families Committee
November 15, Thursday	Video Conference
December 7, Friday	Early Learning Committee//PDI
January 10, Thursday	State Action Team

2007 Calendar of WECCP Regional Meetings

Northern Region:

MONTH	COMMITTEE MEETING Note ad hoc work groups meet as necessary
February 8, Thursday	Video Conference/Region Action Team
March	
April 12, Thursday	State Action Team
May 10, Thursday	Video Conference
June	
July	
August 9, Thursday	State Action Team
September	
October	
November 15, Thursday	Video Conference
December	
January 10, Thursday	State Action Team

Western Region:

MONTH	COMMITTEE MEETING Note ad hoc work groups meet as necessary
February 8, Thursday	Video Conference/Region Action Team
March	
April 12, Thursday	State Action Team
May 10, Thursday	Video Conference
June	
July	
August 9, Thursday	State Action Team
September	
October	
November 15, Thursday	Video Conference
December	
January 10, Thursday	State Action Team

Northeast Region:

MONTH	COMMITTEE MEETING Note ad hoc work groups meet as necessary
February 8, Thursday	Video Conference/Region Action Team
March	
April 12, Thursday	State Action Team
May 10, Thursday	Video Conference
June	
July	
August 9, Thursday	State Action Team
September	
October	
November 15, Thursday	Video Conference
December	
January 10, Thursday	State Action Team

Southern Region:

MONTH	COMMITTEE MEETING Note ad hoc work groups meet as necessary
February 8, Thursday	Video Conference/Region Action Team
March	
April 12, Thursday	State Action Team
May 10, Thursday	Video Conference
June	
July	
August 9, Thursday	State Action Team
September	
October	
November 15, Thursday	Video Conference
December	
January 10, Thursday	State Action Team

Milwaukee:

MONTH	COMMITTEE MEETING Note ad hoc work groups meet as necessary
February 8, Thursday	Video Conference/Region Action Team
March	
April 12, Thursday	State Action Team
May 10, Thursday	Video Conference
June	
July	
August 9, Thursday	State Action Team
September	
October	
November 15, Thursday	Video Conference
December	
January 10, Thursday	State Action Team

Southeast Region:

MONTH	MEETING Note ad hoc work groups meet as necessary
February 8, Thursday	Video Conference/Region Action Team
March	
April 12, Thursday	State Action Team
May 10, Thursday	Video Conference
June	
July	
August 9, Thursday	State Action Team
September	
October	
November 15, Thursday	Video Conference
December	
January 10, Thursday	State Action Team