

Wisconsin Council on Children's Long-Term Support

Recommendations for Allocation of New Funding in the 2007-2009 Biennial Budget to Meet the Needs of Children with Disabilities Currently Waiting for Supports

Background

The Wisconsin legislature allocated \$4 million in state GPR to be used to support children with disabilities and their families currently on waiting lists for long-term supports in Wisconsin. Further, the legislature expects that this funding will maximize federal match by being used as a source of match in the Children's waivers increasing the funding to \$9,482,400. All counties are expected to serve new children currently on waiting lists for long-term supports in all target groups.

The Council on Children's Long-Term Support (CCLTS) created the CLTS Waiver Allocation Subcommittee to make recommendations regarding how the funding will be allocated to Wisconsin counties.

Recommendations

1. All counties should receive a minimum allocation regardless of past effort, use of waivers, or waiting lists with the following criteria:
 - Use new funding as an incentive to get counties to fully utilize the CLTS waivers. If a county is not currently using the CLTS waivers they will be asked to develop a plan for utilizing the waiver and offered technical assistance as needed.
 - Insure non-supplanting requirements are in place for counties so the full amount of new funding is used to serve new children. This non supplanting expectation includes county mental health, child protection and juvenile justice commitments as well as human service effort.
 - The county can not swap out a local source of funding
 - The county can not spend less in local match (does not include match spent for one time funding) in years 2007-2009 than was spent in previous years.
 - For counties that do not report a waiting list, require a plan that outlines how they will identify new eligible families and document an increase in the number of children served.
2. Use some funding for pilots of concepts of redesign in the 2nd year of the biennium. If pilots do not proceed in this biennium, this funding should be rolled back into the county distribution to serve families on waiting lists.
3. The funding allocated to each county should be use to serve multiple children on waiting lists and should be based on the cost of individual support plans developed with families. Specifically funding should not be allocated using a "slot" methodology, but rather should give flexibility to counties to allow for funding to meet needs developed through an individual planning process. The allocation to each county should consider:
 1. percentage of children with disabilities in each county

2. census for each county
3. percentage of population using Medicaid
4. urban/rural weighting
5. property tax revenue
6. children served as a percentage of the waiting list
7. average cost of FSP/Waiver plan
8. compare waiting list data to Birth-3 data

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