

DCDHS PARTNERSHIPS WITH MMSD
December 2012

BUDGET	PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS
	<p><u>ADULT COMMUNITY SERVICES (ACS)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ AAA funds RSVP's volunteer program. RSVP has several initiatives in which older adults volunteer in schools around the county. 10-15% of their volunteers work in programs in schools and slightly more than half are in MMSD schools. ➤ DCDHS funds the HOPES program which gives presentations on suicide prevention strategies to high schools classes, including presentations during 2012 at West and Memorial High Schools. ➤ DCDHS funds the Program of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT) which provides intensive case management and support to individuals with serious and persistent mental illness. One component of PACT, nicknamed PACT Jr., serves teenagers with serious mental illness, some of whom are MMSD students. ➤ Birth to Three Program is required to work with school districts to transition children turning age 3 to Early Childhood programs in public schools. Transition expense is an estimated 7% of total costs for the Bridges Birth to Three Program which serves the MMSD area. ➤ DCDHS and MMSD are two of the many community partners that regularly participate on the Homeless Services Consortium which shares information and discusses strategies for addressing the needs of homeless individuals of all ages. ➤ The Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) of Dane County, which opened on November 28, 2012, expects to work closely with MMSD and school districts across Dane County in providing information regarding services and supports available in our community for people with disabilities. Transition services for high school students age 17.5 years and older are an important element of the ADRC's mission. ➤ A representative from DCDHS DD system serves on the Special Education Advisory Council of MMSD. This includes helping to coordinate parent transition meetings (2-3/year) to get needed information out to parents regarding the transition process and resources and adult services. ➤ Partner with MMSD to serve Developmentally Disabled High School grads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ DCDHS funds two positions to facilitate transition of eligible graduates with developmental disabilities county-wide. Roughly 50% of grads are from MMSD. These positions provide support to teachers and families as they plan for vocational services after students graduate from high school (typically in June of their 21st year). Given availability of funds, DCDHS works to assure continuity of services for eligible graduates with developmental disabilities who exit high school with paid community employment. ○ DCDHS is jointly supporting (with MMSD and DVR) Project SEARCH at the UW and VA hospitals in Madison. This high school transition initiative provides training and identifies employment opportunities in hospital and other settings for MMSD graduates who have developmental or other disabilities. By placing multiple students in jobs in a single setting, the project creates jobs that can be supported at low cost. ○ DCDHS has a Local Cooperative Agreement with MMSD that addresses the transition from school to work and independent living for students with disabilities.

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	<p>This cooperative agreement outlines the responsibilities of DCDHS and MMSD and provides guidance to resolve any differences that may arise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (2012) DCHS and MMSD are jointly collaborating on an initiative to enhance grad transition outcomes. Utilizing DHS COP Admin. Funds, Dane County has utilized the services of a consultant (Kim Kessler) to mentor/train MMSD staff on job development approaches that incorporate excellent clinical practice while emphasizing cost effective outcomes. ○ (2012) DCDHS and MMSD are also collaboratively piloting new employment approaches such as self-employment for transition age youth and Family Led Job Development. ○ DCDHS staff meet with MMSD administrative and teaching staff on a regular basis to assess student eligibility for long-term support and act as a resource around the individual educational and community employment goals of students. <i>Estimated 4 – 6 hours/month of Doug Hunt's time during the year.</i>

Piloting an “Early Childhood Zone” for the Leopold Elementary School catchment area

Goal

Expand home visitation services to families of children 0 through 3 in the Leopold Elementary School catchment area to support the stability of target families and ensure their children are developmentally ready for school.

Background

1. **County Executive Parisi, the United Way Board, and the MMSD Board have jointly prioritized early childhood** as the area in which we must begin our approach to eliminating the achievement gap (Conversations initiated May, 2012).
2. **This approach coordinates three successful early childhood models** that teach parents how to nurture their children to achieve age appropriate milestones so they arrive at school ready to learn and live in working families that have the stability and resources necessary to support their path to successful adulthood. It targets families in an elementary school service catchment area to link them with their home school. The pilot will test this approach and determine whether it can impact young families and prepare their children for a successful school experience.
3. **Boosting enrollment in four-year-old kindergarten:** Four-year-old kindergarten has proven to be an effective tool that helps children keep up with their peers, and establishes a strong educational foundation children can carry with them for a lifetime.
4. **Student attendance issues:** This approach includes an emphasis on effective parenting, family stability, educational training and employment. It promotes behavioral values and a family regimen that results in consistent and regular school attendance by their children all providing a springboard for school success including graduation.
5. **Student mobility issues:** High mobility in families with school-age children increases the achievement gap. Children who experience frequent household instability or homelessness have higher rates of truancy and lower academic achievement than their peers who do not encounter these barriers to successful learning.

Target Population: Families residing in the Leopold Elementary School catchment area with priority given to underserved families of color.

Evaluation Tools: Ages and Stages, 4K and Kindergarten assessments, survey of program participants and stakeholders

Targeted Outcomes:

- Families stable in housing, healthy, workforce ready and employed
- Children ready to learn at kindergarten entry
- Families enroll their children in 4K with consistent attendance for the year

Core Partners:

Dane County
United Way of Dane County
MMSD
Madison - Dane County Public Health
Group Health Cooperative
Forward Service Corporation
Center for Families
Children's Service Society of Wisconsin
Dane County Parent Council Inc.
Workforce Development Board
Community Action Coalition of South Central Wisconsin
City of Fitchburg

Program Strategies and Activities

1. Expand capacity of home visitation in target area through two different programs, the Dane County Early Childhood Initiative, and Parent-Child Home—serving over 40 new families.
2. Match appropriate home visitation program with the early childhood needs of each family.
3. Create a new Play and Learn in area and connect families to this resource.
4. Provide accessible, ongoing home visitation services and develop family expectations for consistent and regular attendance in school.
5. Stabilize families with pre-eviction and housing services to minimize or eliminate household instability and negative family mobility.
6. Link uninsured children to healthcare through Group Health Cooperative.
7. Utilize an Economic Support Specialist to help families access and maintain safety net benefits.
8. Assist parents to access adult education skill building opportunities and employment.
9. Collaborate with the local Joining Forces For Families office across the street from Leopold Elementary School to access other resources as necessary.
10. Connect families to 4K through early parent and family engagement.

Timeline

Begins January, 2013

Financial Commitments

- **Dane County** - \$93,750 (2 FTE for ECI (\$73,750 - \$78,750) and \$15,000 for employment and training)
- **United Way of Dane County** - \$60,000 for early childhood (1 FTE for Parent-Child Home Program for a home visitor (\$40,000 - \$45,000) and \$15,000 for employment and training; \$30,000 for housing stability)

Employment and training investments will leverage another \$30,000 in federal dollars.