

DHS, DCF, and DPI Join Together to Support Children with Special Health Care Needs



Our mission

The Wisconsin Departments of Health Services (DHS), Public Instruction (DPI), and Children and Families (DCF) are dedicated to improving access to supports, services, and resources for families of children with delays, disabilities, and special health care needs, and mental health conditions. By working together, we aim to create a network of trusted systems of care that families can rely on.

Our commitments

- **Ongoing communication:** Regularly sharing information and updates across departments.
- **Collaboration and learning:** Improving access for children with special health care needs across programs and services.
- **Enhanced understanding:** Promoting a deeper comprehension of the needs and challenges faced by families with children with special health care needs to access services and programs.
- **Staying informed:** Keeping all partners updated about program developments and resources.

How we started

This partnership grew from the ARPA No Wrong Door-Supporting Kids Together Project, which launched Wisconsin Wayfinder in October 2023. While [Wisconsin Wayfinder](#) is a direct service for families, our inter-agency collaboration focuses on strengthening our internal communication,

sharing expertise, and improving the overall support system for families statewide.

Connect with us!

- Share how your program helps children and families with special health care needs. We can help spread the word through partnership networks or assist in collaborating with other programs.
- Tell us if you participate in or lead meetings on programs or services for children with special health care needs, so we can share this info with others.
- Find resources for unique or complex cases involving children with special health care needs.

Email your department representative for more info!

DHS:

- [Michelle Lund](#)
- [Deborah Rathermel](#)

DCF:

- [Alexander Gagnon](#)
- [Jillian Clemens](#)
- [Jane Penner-Hoppe](#)

DPI:

- [Jennifer Bibler](#)
- [Daniel Parker](#)

