

## **Family Systems**

***Establishes a common language, facilitates and engages struggling families, and utilizes tools such as empowerment, community connections, and economic participation. It promotes and enhances integration of all children and family service providers to coordinate and mobilize their resources to strengthen our Wisconsin families.***

Our strategy is to build a broader based knowledge of Family Systems (General Systems theory) so this committee and the legislature will have an avenue to deal with issues they are currently unable to address. (e.g. The breaking up of the family, the conflict among and between subcultures, and the lack of consensus values around children and families). Attached are some materials about General Systems theory.

The power conflicts within systems inhibit moving forward with this approach because it involves everyone giving up some of their power to move our state forward with the support for families. The legislature, the governor, the state department and service providers and advocacy agents can give a little and buy into the building of a system that supports families. The legislature may have to give up some control to a board or entity that focuses on families and the other government entities can release some of their power to Family Systems values and training.

The next legislative step is to expand the entities to be trained in Family Systems (DPI, Law Enforcement, Judges, and the Medical community).

A vehicle to achieve this will be to create an emphasis on interdisciplinary services. Ultimately we may not be able to maintain all of the separate bureaucracies but in the interim the committee can facilitate the creation of a family Reconciliation Council composed of a Governors Representative, Mayors, State Departments, both houses of the legislature, university system and cultural and religious leaders to focus on family resources and development and Family Systems.