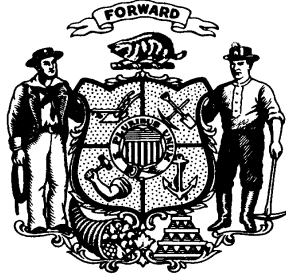


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November 5, 2007

**DRAFT**

Ms. Roberta Gassmann, Secretary  
Department of Workforce Development  
P.O. Box 7946  
Madison, WI 53707-7946

Dear Secretary Gassman:

On behalf of the Joint Legislative Council's Special Committee on Strengthening Wisconsin Families, I respectfully request that the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) provide comprehensive family systems theory training for staff providing W-2 services. The Special Committee approved this request at its final meeting which was held on Monday, November 5, 2007.

As described by Jon Angeli, a public member of the committee, family systems theory 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.

The Special Committee believes family systems theory would be an effective means to promote a unified approach to families across state agencies. In addition to a recent meeting with selected staff members of DWD and the Legislative Council, Mr. Angeli recently met with Department of Health and Family Services' staff to discuss the inclusion of family systems theory as part of its child welfare training curricula.

Since the Special Committee has concluded its deliberations, arrangements may be made directly with Mr. Angeli for additional information on the manner in which family systems theory could be emphasized in the staff training curricula. Mr. Angeli recently retired as director of the Grant County Department of Social Services. His contact information is as follows:

Mr. Jon Angeli  
253 So. Harrison Street  
Lancaster, WI 53813  
608-723-6686  
[jrangeli@tds.net](mailto:jrangeli@tds.net)

Thank you for your cooperation with this request.

Sincerely,

Representative Steve Kestell,  
Chair, Special Committee on  
Strengthening Wisconsin Families

SK:ty

cc: Jane Penner-Hoppe, Office of the Secretary, DWD