

**Core Team Key Action Areas Priority Strategies and Key Partners
Based on Report out Recommendations from May 4-5, 2009 Summit
Based on June 4, 2009 Core Team Meeting**

Overarching principle – Families have access to services that provide for their basic needs including housing, health care services, food and supports that ensure their basic needs are met.

Action Area/Overall Goals	Key Strategies	Key Partners
Birth to Twelve Education		
Need to better prepare children for success: Access to affordable, quality child care	Quality rating as a tool for parents to make better choices	Governor’s Early Care and Education Council Department of Children and Families (DCF), Department of Public Instruction (DPI) DPI, Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA), Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA), Head Start and Early Head Start, WI Alliance for Infant Mental Health (WAIMH), CESA- Early Childhood Program Support, WFCCA, Disability Rights, WI Tech. Colleges, CTFDCF, DPI, SFTA, Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA), Head Start and Early Head Start, WI Alliance for Infant Mental Health (WAIMH), CESA- Early Childhood Program Support, Wisconsin Family Child Care Association (WFCCA), Disability Rights, WI Tech. Colleges, Children’s Trust Fund (CTF) CTF, Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, Wisconsin Association of Family and Children Agencies (WAFCA)
	Maximize collaboration of early care and partners	Same as above
	Access for families to quality health care, especially assistance with identification and attention to developmental delays	Head Start American Academy of Pediatrics Neighborhood Health Clinics Organizations that have low-income families and consumers utilizing services
Support for students with significant challenges	Concern about rates of homeless among high school students; addressing special concerns for children aging out of foster care.	Families, public schools, faith-based organizations, local businesses, WAFCA
Improve high school graduation rates and better prepare students with skills/knowledge that provides option for post high school opportunities	Provide greater access to information about models that emphasize career skill building, including school to work, the Career Academy model, internships, offer more curricula in schools geared towards the world of work.	Families, public schools, faith-based organizations, local businesses Wisconsin Association of School Boards, Wisconsin Association of School Principals

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Supporting Families		
Home visiting	Consider targeted home visiting; Use Shonkoff/Olds research about what effective models there are.	DCF, Children's Trust Fund C. Department of Health Services (DHS), hospitals, health care systems, Child Abuse Prevention Fund, UW Extension, ,Parents Plus, Children's Outing Association Home visiting programs using any of the four evidence-based models, Home Visiting Outcomes Project, Home Visiting Leadership Team K. Parents and extended family members
Helping families who are reintegrating with mother or father returning from the correctional system	Need to understand and address issues that are barriers for parents (mothers and fathers) returning to the community to assist them in meeting needs.	DOC Law Enforcement, DCF Family Support agencies mental health, alcohol and drug abuse services and providers
Families have access to basic needs and comprehensive support to access services for multiple challenges	Ensuring access to services to meet basic needs as well as access to support and case management that meets other family needs.	Counties Community Based Organizations Mental health, alcohol and drug abuse services and providers
Involving fathers and assisting families with child support	Help engage fathers in more meaningful ways in their children's lives. Work to assist fathers and families better understand and utilize the child support program.	Department of Workforce Development, Department of Children and Families, Department of Veterans Affairs, local agencies
Building Family Income		
Better utilize and publicize availability of existing resources on Financial Literacy	Group wanted to make better use of existing resources, training and support related to family literacy; recommended establishing a clearinghouse. It has been established that one exists but clearly could be better utilized.	Department of Children and Families, Department of Financial Institutions, Private Financial Institutions, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Ensure better access and utilization of tax and other benefits	Explore expansion of successful state Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) models that have been effective in boosting participation in the EITC Program and new tax credits recently passed.	Department of Revenue, Department of Children and Families, Non-profit organizations that operate sites, e.g., Social Development Commission, Private funders of VITA sites, Family Resources Centers, Annie Casey Foundation supporting multiple initiatives in this area across the country, Counties, child care programs W-2 agencies
	Develop efforts to meet families where they are at, in homeless shelters, community centers, faith based organizations or other venues.	Department of Commerce, Continuum of Care organizations, VITA sites, Neighborhood organizations, Faith based community

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Credit and financial education beginning in schools	Establishing spending, saving and strong credit patterns earlier will better prepare young adults for the responsibilities of renting and associated costs for financial independence and housing stability.	Department of Financial Institutions. Department of Children and Families Department of Financial Institutions Private Financial Institutions South Division High School in Milwaukee has a program to consider
Housing		
Government systems serving those in need of housing need to be coordinated to maximize resources and provide flexibility to successful communities/organizations responding to the needs of the people.	Resource Navigators with “wrap around services” at the community level may help.	Commerce Department of Children and Families, Department of Health Services, Community Agencies
	Establish and support state and local Housing Trust Funds to help assure a supply of affordable housing. Trust funds created now with long term/dedicated funding will have the ability to secure matching Federal Housing Trust Funds.	Commerce Lenders Bankers
	Support the Continuum of Care - a collaboration of multiple organizations that serve the continuum of needs for families who are struggling, those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless	Department of Commerce Department of Children and families Community agencies
Find effective ways of preventing eviction and foreclosure and supporting healthy housing	<p>Work to prevent hardening of the rental market, where higher income companies buy up properties and charge higher rent.</p> <p>It is important to consider renters being forced-out by foreclosure, and consider how to transfer home owners to renters.</p> <p>Support eviction prevention initiatives such as the Housing Cost Reduction Initiative, CAP agency eviction prevention programs</p> <p>Expand rent assistance</p> <p>Support access to weatherization services, lead abatement and</p>	<p>Community based organizations</p> <p>WHEDA</p> <p>Landlord and tenant organizations</p> <p>Affordable housing organizations</p> <p>Housing and Urban Development (HUD)</p> <p>Counties/Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Low-income weatherization</p> <p>Housing Repair</p>

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	affordable housing repair to keep renters in healthier and safer housing	
Need for access to supported transitional housing for vulnerable populations	<p>Support transitional housing programs</p> <p>Ensure vulnerable populations have access to supported transitional housing and key services</p> <p>Provide more tenant education on “how to apply for an apartment”, soft skills that will help the tenant leave a more favorable impression</p>	<p>Department of Corrections BMCW DCF</p>
Adult Education		
Provide access to a range of adult education and short term training that prepares individuals for work.	Access to ABE, ESL, GED/HSED and specific short term training opportunities, new competency certifications (right language), Bridge programs, Apprenticeships	Wisconsin Technical College System, Department of Workforce Development, Schools, Workforce Development Boards
	Explore policy changes that would help Wisconsin discourage the use of GED/HSED training programs that are not recognized by Wisconsin’s technical college systems or institutions of higher learning.	Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Technical College System, GED Certification Programs
Better prepare individual for higher skill jobs and for job sectors that are predicted to grow	Utilize RISE work and supporting organizations to streamline transition of adult learners from basic skills to post-secondary steps that include career pathways advancement, consider career academies approaches that begin in high school	Wisconsin Technical College System, Department of Workforce Development, Schools, Workforce Development Boards
	Identification of high growth occupations and necessary skills for that work.	Wisconsin Technical College System, Department of Workforce Development, Schools, Workforce Development Boards
	Communication with employers about their needs	Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce, Wisconsin Economic Development Authority, Workforce Development Boards
Family Support for individuals working on education	Identify ways to support families that have challenges in accessing education to work, and pursue education that will expand	DWD Rise Grant Technical College System Community Based Organizations

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	options for success, e.g., CAP Skills Enhancement	CAP Agencies
Importance of focusing on a paradigm shift that moves from just getting a job to getting a job that will move individuals toward self sufficiency; support.	Must ensure that W-2 supports education and skill development while providing support or linkages to support for family needs.	DWD Workforce Development Boards Department of Children and Families Department of Health Services
Job Creation		
Take full advantage of stimulus job creation efforts, including preparing workers for jobs that will be created	Identify and prepare opportunities to hire and train workers	DCF Commerce Workforce Development Boards Job Centers Community Action Agencies
Better connection between job seekers with available opportunities	<p>Ensure alignment and support of key Wisconsin job creation initiatives such as Grow Wisconsin and DWD Job Center and Workforce Development Strategies</p> <p>Better connect unemployed workers to job vacancies</p> <p>Need to better understand employer's current and future skills needs and prepare individuals for those employment opportunities</p> <p>Use evidence to adjust policies so that they best support job creation</p> <p>Ensure support of workers who need support (initial or ongoing) through creation of transitional jobs, jobs for individuals with disabilities or other supported needs</p>	Department of Workforce Development Technical Colleges Department of Children and Families Businesses UW System WMC
Fully utilize incentives available to ensure that jobs are available in higher need areas	Provide information about tax incentives and wage subsidies that will encourage job creation in high need areas	Commerce Workforce Development Boards Economic Development Authorities Businesses

In addition to the partner agencies identified at the summit, the core team desired that in all focus areas, we should be coordinating with the following additional partner agencies - philanthropy, law enforcement, and the Department of Corrections. : Initial overlapping themes emerging across the groups included:

- Better coordination of services and benefits for families, helping families in multiple systems (whether they are families in crisis or individuals in employment, education and W-2 programs).
- The importance of education in school being more closely aligned with potential employer needs beyond high school and college.
- Need for services to be universally accessible regardless of where people live.
- Need for cultural and linguistic relevance in services provided
- Persistent concerns of racism as an underlying challenge in many of the areas discussed.

- Importance of education at all stages of engaging individuals and helping them improve, starting at birth – the importance of lifelong learning