

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE AND CHILD NEGLECT



Warhawk Football Camp, UW-Whitewater

UPDATE ON EFFORTS TO SAFEGUARD MINORS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM

October 11, 2012

Jessica Tormey
La Vonne Cornell-Swanson
Elizabeth Dionne
Erin Kastberg



ABER Suzuki Center

UW-Stevens Point,
College of Fine Arts and
Communication

Inspire, Create, Achieve

UW- La Crosse Continuing Studies and Extension Programs

“Kids Culinary Academy
Hones Future Chefs”



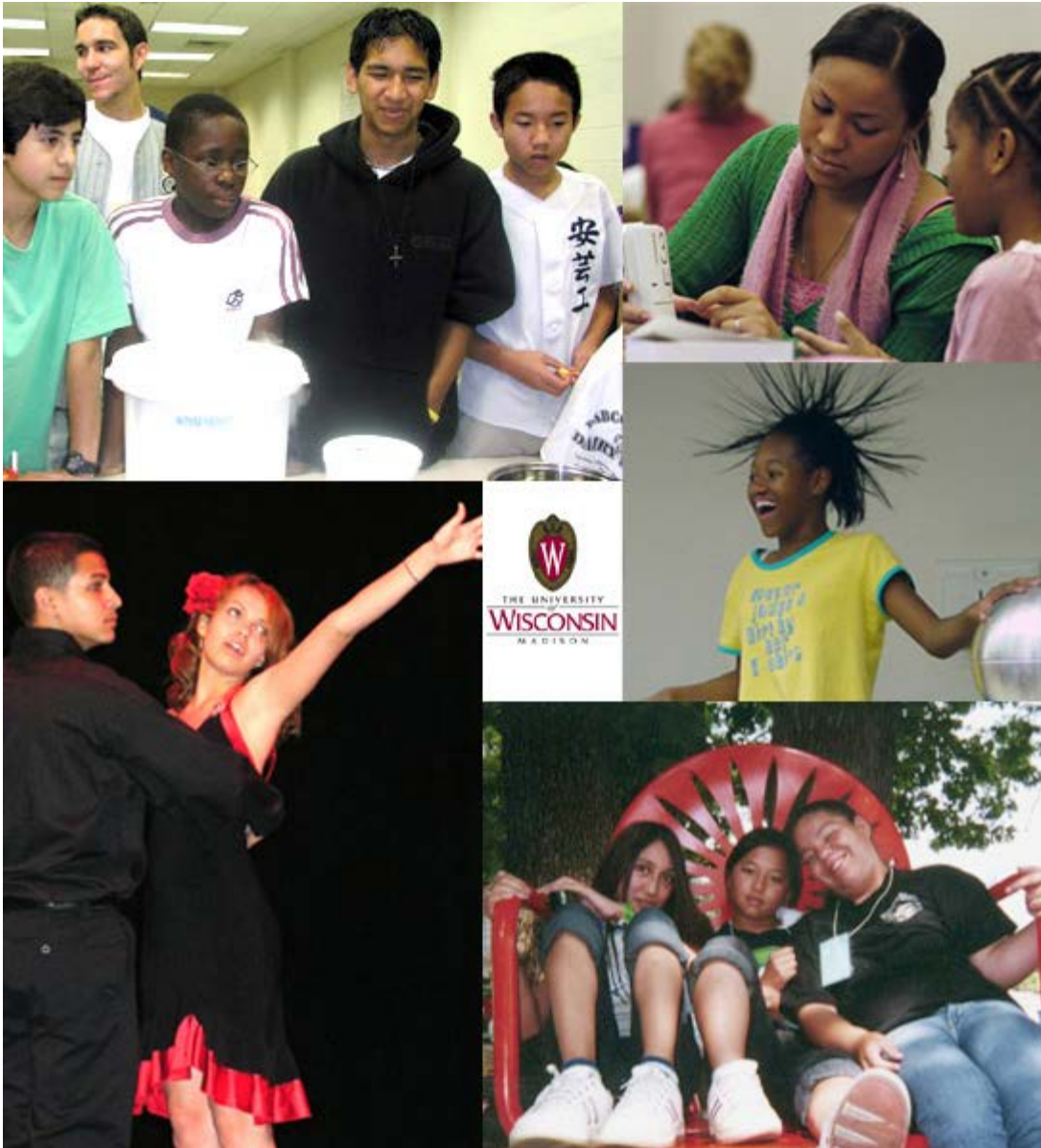


UW-Eau Claire Human Development Center

- Clinical services for children
- Assessment, intervention and tutoring
 - Interdisciplinary training
- Clinical practice and research



UW-Oshkosh Children's Learning & Care Center



UW-Madison People Program

Youth efforts to better
prepare future graduates
from underrepresented
communities

Audit Results

- ❑ Rapidly evolving landscape
- ❑ Acknowledgement of responsibility to ensure the welfare of children
- ❑ Significant diversity exists in institution and program-specific policies and practices
- ❑ Consistency in policies would further mitigate risk
- ❑ Review identified eight comments falling into three categories:
 - ❑ Risk identification
 - ❑ Education/awareness
 - ❑ Clarification of policies and procedures

Risk Identification

- ❑ Identifying the multiple programs involving children
- ❑ Assessing knowledge of child abuse, neglect, and reporting obligations
- ❑ Reviewing protocol and procedures for those working directly with children
- ❑ Revising criminal background check policy
- ❑ Incorporating language into contracts regarding criminal background checks of contractors and third parties
- ❑ Enhancing volunteer screening mechanisms

Education/Awareness

- ❑ Summarized Executive Order #54
- ❑ Prepared and issued Frequently Asked Questions
- ❑ Met with UW System and Institutional Leaders
- ❑ Published child safety guidance on a dedicated UW System Child Safety Website (<http://www.uwsa.edu/gc-off/child-safety/index.htm>)
- ❑ Hosted regional educate the trainer sessions for institutions on mandatory reporter obligations
- ❑ Developed brochure templates to provide basic awareness on child abuse and neglect
- ❑ Providing ongoing training programs for institutions

Clarification of Policies and Procedures

- ❑ *Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect* policy implementation underway at all UW institutions
 - ❑ Provides definitions
 - ❑ Establishes reporting requirements applicable to employees, volunteers, and contractors
 - ❑ Requires institutions to provide training or education
 - ❑ Affirms criminal background check policy requirements
 - ❑ Includes protections for good faith reporters
- ❑ *Children in the Workplace* policy under development
- ❑ Revising criminal background check policy
 - ❑ Position of trust definition
 - ❑ Repeat criminal background checks
 - ❑ Self-disclosure