

# WAFCA 2023-25 State Budget Request

## Prevention & Early Intervention Programs

WAFCA is a membership association comprised of for-profit and nonprofit behavioral health and human services agencies. Our members provide services ranging from prevention to residential treatment, across the lifespan, and throughout the state. The depth and breadth of services delivered gives us a unique perspective - one that allows us to see where struggles have taken root and identify targeted solutions. ***It is from this vantage point that we recommend inclusion of key prevention and early intervention programs in the 2023-25 Biennial Budget.***


### Evidence-Based Home Visiting

*Investing \$5 million in the 2023-25 state budget will greatly increase the number of families served by Wisconsin's evidence-based Family Foundations Home Visiting Program (FFHV).*

**WHAT IS HOME VISITING?** The FFHV program is a comprehensive wraparound service that provides parental education, employment support, linkages to community services, mental health, and physical health resources, and more. "These services are for parents who really want their children to have a life better than theirs." ~ Home visiting specialist

★ **Home visiting programs are evidence-based.** The program models must meet a national standard of performance and systems outcomes and proven research. This built-in programmatic high bar ensures families receive supportive services and outcomes are met.

**WHO RECEIVES SERVICES?** These programs are **voluntary** for families. Everyone in the household benefits - parents and children alike. The FFHV program is currently only available to 2,165 families in 40 counties & 6 tribes.

**ARE THERE COST SAVINGS?** Outcomes research has shown that **each dollar invested in evidence-based home visiting programs can yield up to \$5.70 in savings** in the long run. Long term cost savings include: reduced health services use (including emergency department visits), reduced costs of child protection services, decreased special education placements and grade repetition, which results in higher educational attainment and economic success later in life. (Source: [NCSL](#), 3/22) 

**HOW DOES WISCONSIN CURRENTLY FUND HOME VISITING?** Our state currently invests \$16.8 million dollars annually in home visiting services. [\$6.2 million TANF; \$1.9 million GPR; \$8.7 MIECHV federal block grant]

#### HOW DO OTHER STATES COMPARE?

<p><b>Indiana's investment is growing*</b> \$15 million (2023) - \$5 million tobacco settlement funds (enacted 2021); \$10 million in general funds (enacted 2022)</p>	<p><b>Minnesota's investment is more than 2x greater per capita</b> \$37.1 million (2023) - \$20 million state general funds; \$8.5 million TANF; \$8.6 million MIECHV</p>	<p><b>Illinois' investment is nearly 4x greater per capita</b> \$144 million (2020) - \$10 million state; \$9.4 million MIECHV; \$68 million IL State BOE; \$47 million Early Head Start; other public funding</p>
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\*An additional \$15 million in tobacco settlement funds are included in the Indiana Governor's 2024-25 budget proposal and the House majority budget proposal.



**Provide an additional \$5 million GPR to expand home visiting services to counties and tribes throughout Wisconsin.**