

What is Collective Impact?

Collective Impact is an innovative approach used to address complex social issues and is defined by five key characteristics:

- a common agenda
- shared measures
- mutually reinforcing activities
- continuous communication
- a backbone organization

Simply put, a consistent group of wide-ranging stakeholders use data to identify root causes of an issue; then the group implements joint solutions and monitors outcomes by using shared measures.

Backbone Organization

Collective Impact relies on an organization ("backbone") to coordinate and facilitate activities. The Wisconsin Office of Children's Mental Health assumes this role for the Wisconsin Children's Mental Health Collective Impact initiative.

Interested in Learning More?

If you are interested in becoming a Wisconsin Children's Mental Health Collective Impact Parent or Youth partner, or want to learn more about the work of the Wisconsin Children's Mental Health Collective Impact, please go to our web page at <http://children.wi.gov/Pages/Integrate/ParentandYouthPartners.aspx>

Or contact Joann at (608) 266-9336
or by email

Joann.Stephens@wisconsin.gov



For information about the Wisconsin Office of Children's Mental Health, please visit our website at children.wi.gov.

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Madison, Wisconsin 53707



Collective Impact Partners

*"Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so
much."*

- Helen Keller

Nothing About Us Without Us

The Wisconsin Office of Children's Mental Health believes that true and lasting improvement to child-serving systems such as mental health services, education, child welfare, and juvenile justice, will occur when policies and programs are driven by parents and youth who have experienced the ins and outs of these systems.

As partners in the Wisconsin Children's Mental Health Collective Impact initiative, parents and youth bring the wisdom of this "lived experience" to state agencies and other collaborating partners.

The powerful voices of parents and youth highlight service gaps, program deficits, and unhelpful or cumbersome policies and practices leading to more effective, efficient, and engaging solutions. They also highlight the services and supports that are most helpful in raising healthy, thriving children.

*"If you can dream it,
you can do it."*

- Walt Disney

The OCMH has big dreams for parents and youth committed to improving the lives of Wisconsin's children and families. We are realizing many of these by providing technical assistance to state agencies and other stakeholders interested in including parent and youth voice in policy and program development.



‘There is significant power in Wisconsin’s motto, “Forward.” This concept is reflected in the Office of Children’s Mental Health’s focus on innovation, integration, and improvement.

More specifically, the Children’s Mental Health Collective Impact process is the epitome of what it is to move “Forward.”

As the backbone of this collective impact initiative, the OCMH facilitates a diverse group of people who are creating a forward direction that will lead to a healthier and more prosperous state for all who call Wisconsin home.’

- Tina Buhrow Collective Impact Parent