



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF MEMORANDUM

Memo No. 5

TO: MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON STRENGTHENING WISCONSIN FAMILIES

FROM: Jessica L. Karls, Staff Attorney

RE: Coordinated Services Teams Initiative and the Coordinating Committee Under WLC: 0125/2

DATE: November 25, 2008

This Memo describes the structure of a coordinated services teams (CST) initiative and the coordinating committee under WLC: 0125/2, relating to children who are involved in multiple systems of care and their families, and making an appropriation.

STRUCTURE OF CST INITIATIVE

A CST initiative is comprised of a county or tribe, coordinating committee, administering agency, service coordination agency, service coordinator, coordinated services team, and initiative coordinator.

A **coordinating committee** is a committee appointed by a county or tribe to administer a CST initiative.

An **administering agency** is a department designated by a county or tribe to administer a CST initiative.

A **service coordination agency** is a county department, tribe, agency, school district, cooperative educational service agency (CESA), or county children with disabilities education board designated in an interagency agreement by a coordinating committee to provide intake and service coordination for one or more target groups of children and their families.

A **service coordinator** is an individual who is qualified by specialized training and experience with children and their families and who is appointed by the service coordination agency to provide coordination of treatment, education, and other family resources for eligible children and their families.

A **coordinated services team** is a group of individuals, including family members, service providers, and informal resource persons, who work together to respond to service needs faced by a child and his or her family.

An **initiative coordinator** is an individual who promotes collaborative relationships in the systems of care and is selected through a selection process developed by a county or tribe.

The enclosed chart outlines how each of these entities or individuals fit into the structure of a CST initiative.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

A coordinating committee is appointed by a county or tribe to administer a CST initiative. A coordinating committee must include representatives from all of the following:

1. The county department (or tribal agency) responsible for child welfare and protection services.
2. The county department (or tribal agency) responsible for mental health and alcohol and drug abuse services for children and families.
3. The county department (or tribal agency) responsible for providing services for children who have developmental disabilities.
4. The family support program if the county or tribe has a family support program.
5. The juvenile court administrator or another representative appointed by the judge responsible for juvenile cases (or a representative of the tribal court).
6. The largest school district in the county and any CESA, if it provides special education in the county, or any county children with disabilities education board in the county, and any other school district in the county that is willing to participate in the CST initiative, at the discretion of the administering agency. (For an initiative established by a tribe, the coordinating committee must include a representative of the school district serving the majority of pupils who reside on the reservation of the tribe or on trust lands held for the tribe and any CESA providing special education services to these pupils.)
7. At least two parents of children, or the number of parents of children that equals 25% of the coordinating committee's membership, whichever is greater.
8. The agency responsible for economic support programs.

In addition, a county or tribe may appoint any of the following to the coordinating committee of a CST initiative:

1. Representatives of the vocational rehabilitation office that provides services to the county (or tribe).

2. Representatives of a technical college district that is located in the county (or that serves members of the tribe).
3. Physicians specializing in care for children.
4. Representatives of health maintenance organizations that are operating in the county (or are serving members of the tribe).
5. Representatives of law enforcement agencies that are located in the county (or representatives of a tribal law enforcement agency).
6. Representatives of the county health department or city-county health department.
7. Representatives of agencies that are located in the county (or are serving members of the tribe).
8. Local elected officials.
9. Representatives of a vocational and technical school.
10. Local business representatives.
11. Community organizations serving children and families.
12. Representatives of the county board (or representatives of the elected governing body of the tribe).
13. Representatives of the regional offices of the Department of Children and Families.
14. Representatives of the local faith-based community.
15. Representatives of probation and parole agencies.
16. Representatives of economic support agencies and the Wisconsin Works agency, if a different agency.
17. Representatives of vocational rehabilitation programs.

JK:jal

Enclosure