



## 2021 Wisconsin Citizen Review Panel Annual Report

Due By:  
**March 1, 2022**

### Submission Information

Please submit the completed report to the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families by emailing the completed document to Sarah Hanson at [sarah.hanson1@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sarah.hanson1@wisconsin.gov) by March 1, 2022.

### Notes:

If you wish to review any portion of the State CAPTA Plan and its most recent updates in formulating your response, a copy of the Plan was included in the email along with this report and the 2021 updates are available through the following link:

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/cqi-cfsr/pdf/report/apsr21.pdf>

The 2021 CAPTA Requirements and updates can be found in Section D (pg. 3) of the Annual Progress and Services Report (APSR).

If you wish to access any of the Wisconsin Child Welfare Standards in formulating your response, they are available through the following link:

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy?accactive=0>

<b>Citizen Review Panel Information</b>	
<b>Citizen Review Panel Name</b>	
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### **Section 1: Report of 2021 Activities**

1. Please describe the panel's 2021 meeting schedule, including the frequency and type of panel meetings, and the frequency and type of any subcommittee and workgroup meetings.

The Milwaukee Child Welfare Partnership Council (MCWPC) conducted quarterly public meetings in 2021. There were meetings on 3/26/2021, 6/11/2021, 9/24/2021, and 11/12/2021. The MCWPC currently has three subcommittees which met in 2021. The Critical Incident Committee met three times on 1/19/2021, 5/26/2021 and 9/8/2021; the 9/8/2021 meeting was a closed meeting so that case reviews could be completed. The Out-of-Home Care Committee met five times on 1/7/2021, 2/4/2021, 5/6/2021, 8/5/2021, and 10/7/2021. The Health and Education Committee met once on 9/16/2021.

2. Please describe how the panel provided for public outreach and comment in order to assess the impact of current procedures and practices upon children and families in the community.

The MCWPC conducted the majority of its 2021 meetings in a public forum to allow for community participation. The MCWPC has one closed session meeting in 2021. The MCWPC complied with all open meetings laws. This included posting information about the meetings and materials on the DCF and DOA websites in advance of the meetings, publishing the meeting notice in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, sending the meeting notice to the Madison State Journal, and posting the agenda at the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS) building located at 635 N. 26th St. Milwaukee WI 53233. Additionally, email invitations for the meeting were sent to an email mailing list of community members who have requested to receive notice of the MCWPC meetings. During each open meeting, time was left on the agenda for community input where community members could voice questions or concerns that would then be addressed by the council.

3. Please describe any case reviews conducted by the panel in 2021.

The Critical Incident Committee completed two case reviews on September 8, 2021. The Critical Incident Committee chose to only review cases that had been through the System Change Review Case Mapping Process completed by the Bureau of Safety and Well-Being (BSWB) within the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF).

4. Please summarize any other panel activities or panel events that took place in 2021.

The MCWPC continued to monitor DMCPS progress on the Jeanine B. Settlement Agreement and receive updates regarding exiting the Settlement Agreement. The progress was viewed at the 3/24/2021, 6/11/2021, and 9/24/2021 meetings. DMCPS was released from the Jeanine B. Settlement Agreement on 9/29/2021, but the MCWPC will continue to monitor the performance of DMCPS. The MCWPC received presentations on the DCF Budget, the Family First Prevention Services Act, "The Centrality of Housing: What do we know? How can we integrate what we know?" The MCWPC appointed a new chairperson, Christine Holmes, who was previously a Council member. The MCWPC had 2 new members appointed, Representative David Bowen and Santana Lee. The MCWPC had 2 members leave the Council, including Dr. Michelle Bria whose term as Chairperson ended and Mark Mertens who chose to resign. The MCWPC currently has two Wisconsin Resident vacancies.

**Section 2: State Evaluation**

In completing the evaluation portion of this report, please examine, to the best of your ability, the policies, procedures, and practices of State and local agencies, and where appropriate, specific cases.

1. Please provide an evaluation of the following:

a) The extent to which the Department of Children and Families (DCF) is effectively carrying out **at least one and up to three of the below listed\*** child protection responsibilities assigned to it under the State CAPTA Plan, and the Wisconsin Child Welfare Standards (Child Protective Services Safety Intervention Standards, Access and Initial Assessment Standards, and Ongoing Services Standards).

**\*Choose at least one and up to three of the following CPS Responsibilities:**

- CPS & Law Enforcement Agencies
- CPS & Domestic Abuse Programs
- CPS & Health Care Professionals
- CPS & Tribal CW Agencies
- CPS & the Judicial System
- CRP Support
- Integration of the CW Practice Model into the Ongoing Services Standards and Integrated Case Planning; Training
- Integration of Family Participation in Case Planning into the Ongoing Services Standards & Integrated Case Planning
- Safety & Stability of Children Placed in Relative or Foster Care
- Predictive Risk Model
- WI Act 78 & Systems Change Review
- CPS & Child Abuse Prevention

Chosen CPS Responsibility #1	Integration of the CW Practice Model into the
	<p>The Wisconsin Child Welfare Model for Practice principles are incorporated in Child Protective State Standards, policies, and procedures. DCF continued to partner with Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System to implement the Child Welfare Model for Practice within the trainings provided to private and public child welfare staff.</p>

Chosen CPS Responsibility #2	Integration of Family Participation in Case Planning
<p>DCF recognizes the importance of family connections and participation in case planning. DCF and the contracted case management agencies of DMCPs continued to implement strategies to promote family participation in the case planning process. Formal training related to case planning was provided by the state's Child Welfare Professional Development System to enhance child welfare staffs' skills in engaging families in the case planning process. The Ongoing Standards provide guidance related to engagement of families including, but not limited to, family teaming.</p>	

b) The extent to which DCF is effectively complying with any other criteria that the panel considers important to ensure the protection of children (e.g. the extent to which the State CPS system is coordinated with foster care and adoption programs; a review of child fatalities and near fatalities):

### **Section 3: Local Evaluation**

In completing the evaluation portion of this report, please examine, to the best of your ability, the policies, procedures, and practices of State and local agencies, and where appropriate, specific cases.

1. Please provide an evaluation of the following:

a) The extent to which local child protection agencies are effectively carrying out **at least one, and up to three of the below listed\*** child protection responsibilities assigned to them under the State CAPTA Plan and the Wisconsin Child Welfare Standards, referenced above.

**\*Choose at least one and up to three of the following CPS Responsibilities:**

- CPS & Law Enforcement Agencies
- CPS & Domestic Abuse Programs
- CPS & Health Care Professionals
- CPS & Tribal CW Agencies
- CPS & the Judicial System
- CRP Support
- Integration of the CW Practice Model into the Ongoing Services Standards and Integrated Case Planning; Training
- Integration of Family Participation in Case Planning into the Ongoing Services Standards & Integrated Case Planning
- Safety & Stability of Children Placed in Relative or Foster Care
- CPS & Child Abuse Prevention



<b>Chosen CPS Responsibility #1</b>	Integration of the CW Practice Model into the
Under the supervision of DCF, DMCPs has implemented the Wisconsin Model for Practice and continues to follow all CPS State Standards which direct and guide DMCPs' work and the work of its contractor agencies with children and families.	
<b>Chosen CPS Responsibility #2</b>	Integration of Family Participation in Case Planning
DMCPs works with families to ensure the safety and well-being of children. DMCPs recognizes the importance of the family voice and familial connections and requires family teaming for all DMCPs families. Each ongoing case management agency has developed and implemented strategies to promote family participation in the case plan.	

b) The extent to which local child protection agencies are effectively complying with any other criteria that the panel considers important to ensure the protection of children (e.g., the extent to which the State child protective services system is coordinated with foster care and adoption programs; a review of child fatalities and near fatalities).

**Section 4: Recommendations**

1. Please list any panel recommendations to improve child protection services at the **State level**.

<b>Recommendation 1</b>	The MCWPC did not make any recommendations at the state level in 2021.
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2. Please list any panel recommendations to improve child protection services at the **local level**.

<b>Recommendation 1</b>	The MCWPC did not make any recommendations at the local level in 2021.
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3. Please list any additional information or comments that the panel wishes to share.

None at this time.

**Section 5: Planning for 2022**

In this section, please outline between one and three of the above mentioned CPS Responsibilities to focus the panel's efforts on for the year of 2022. This does not mean the panel cannot change their focus and/or activities throughout the year. The purpose of this section is simply to plan ahead for the panel's efforts and activities in the coming year.

<b>Anticipated CPS Responsibility #1</b>	CPS & Law Enforcement
<b>Anticipated CPS Responsibility #2</b>	CPS & Child Abuse Prevention
<b>Anticipated CPS Responsibility #3</b>	

**Anticipated Efforts and Activities Related to CPS Responsibilities in 2022:**  
 The MCWPC has expressed an interest in learning about the sex trafficking prevention efforts that are occurring in Milwaukee County and in which DMCPD is involved. These prevention efforts include ongoing collaboration with local law enforcement. It is anticipated that a presentation regarding this subject will be completed during the November 2022 meeting of the MCWPC. The MCWPC has been receiving regular updates from DMCPD regarding the ongoing efforts to implement the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). It is anticipated during each meeting in 2022, time will be dedicated for DMCPD to provide FFPSA updates to MCWPC.

**Other Anticipated Efforts and Activities in 2022 (Not related to chosen CPS)**  
 It is anticipated that the MCWPC will continue to receive updates regarding DMCPD performance as DMCPD moves past reporting on performance in relation to the Jeanine B. Settlement presentations and on overall DMCPD child welfare outcomes and performance. Additionally, it is expected that information on programs such as Wendy's Wonderful Kids, will be provided to the council.