

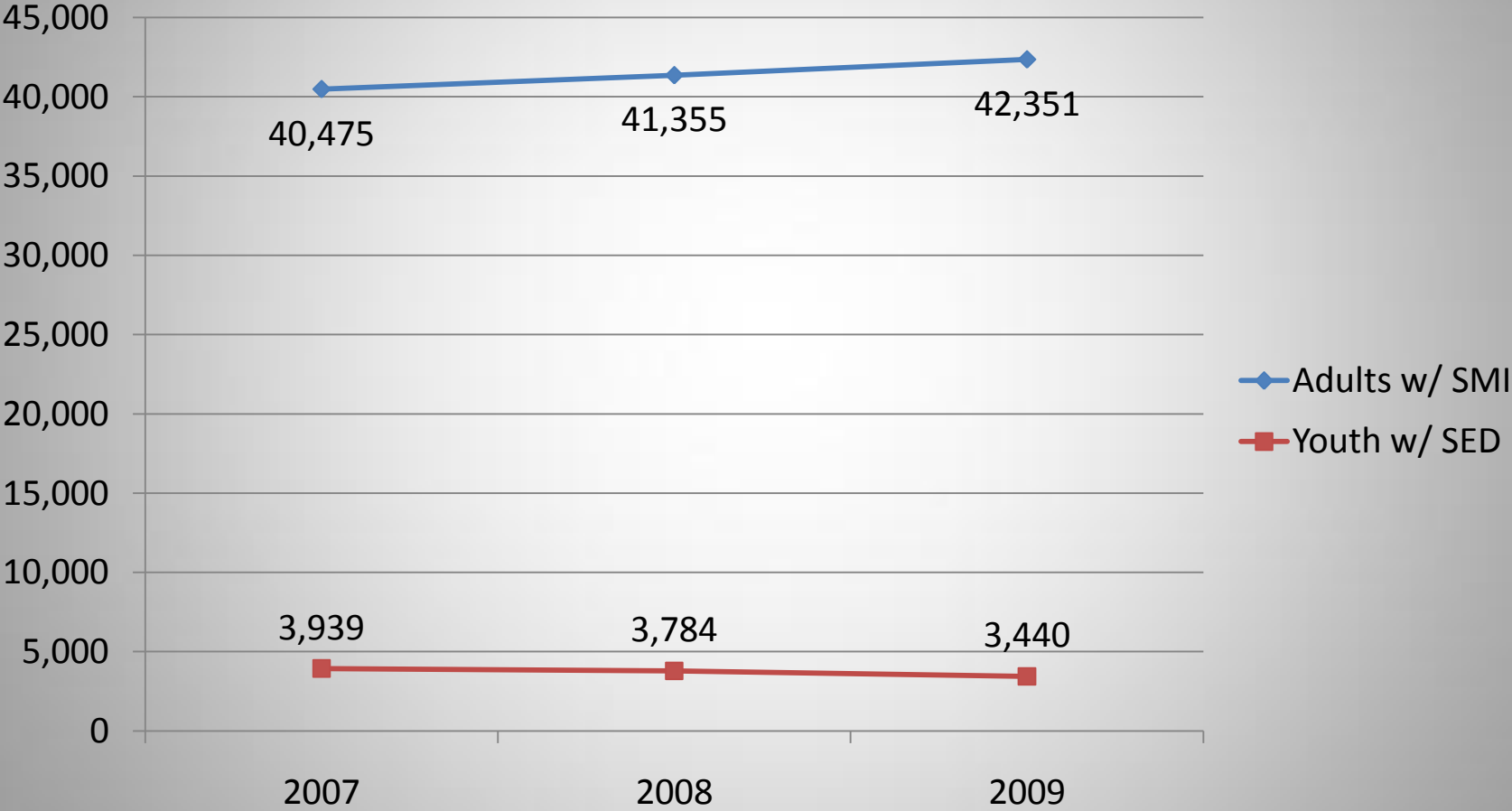
Wisconsin Family Ties

Wisconsin's Family Voice for
Children's Mental Health

Wisconsin's Child & Adolescent Mental Health System

- A new vision needed
 - In 2009, 18.2% of adults with a serious mental illness (SMI) received public mental health services in Wisconsin. In the same time frame, only 3.2% of kids with a serious emotional disorder (SED) received public mental health services. (Source: HSRS)

Individuals Served by Public MH System

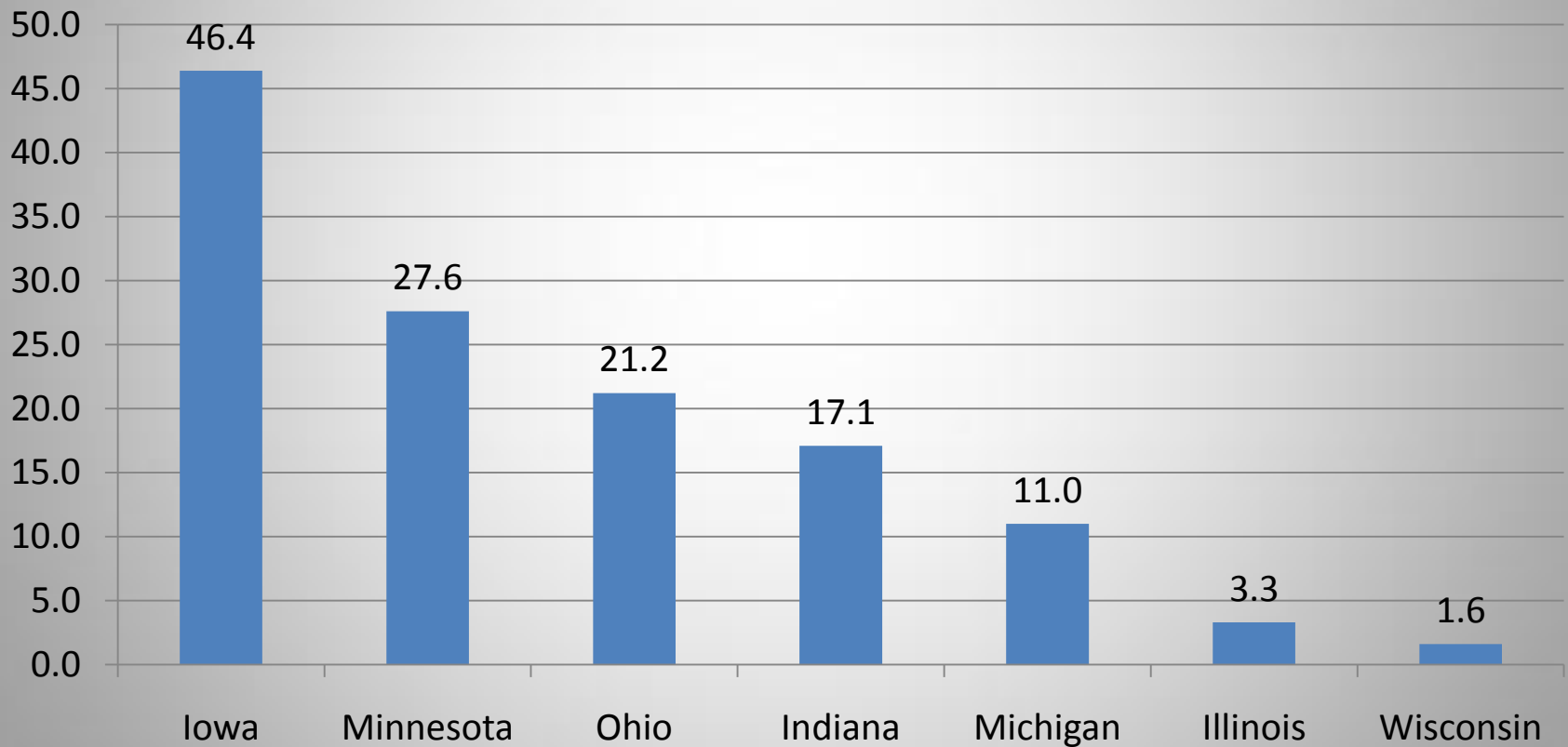


2008-09 Suspension Data by Primary Disability

	# Students Suspended	# Students Enrolled	% Suspended
Autism	341	6,901	4.94%
Cognitive Disability	1,285	9,995	12.86%
Deaf/Blind	0	9	0.00%
Emotional Behavioral Disability	5,503	14,062	39.13%
Hearing Impairment	90	1,581	5.69%
Specific Learning Disability	5,184	38,313	13.53%
Other Health Impairment	4,499	15,998	28.12%
Orthopedic Impairment	26	1,090	2.39%
Significant Developmental Delay	38	2,948	1.29%
Speech/Language Impairment	1,081	31,366	3.45%
Traumatic Brain Injury	54	397	13.60%
Visual Impairment	14	448	3.13%
Total	18,115	123,108	14.71%

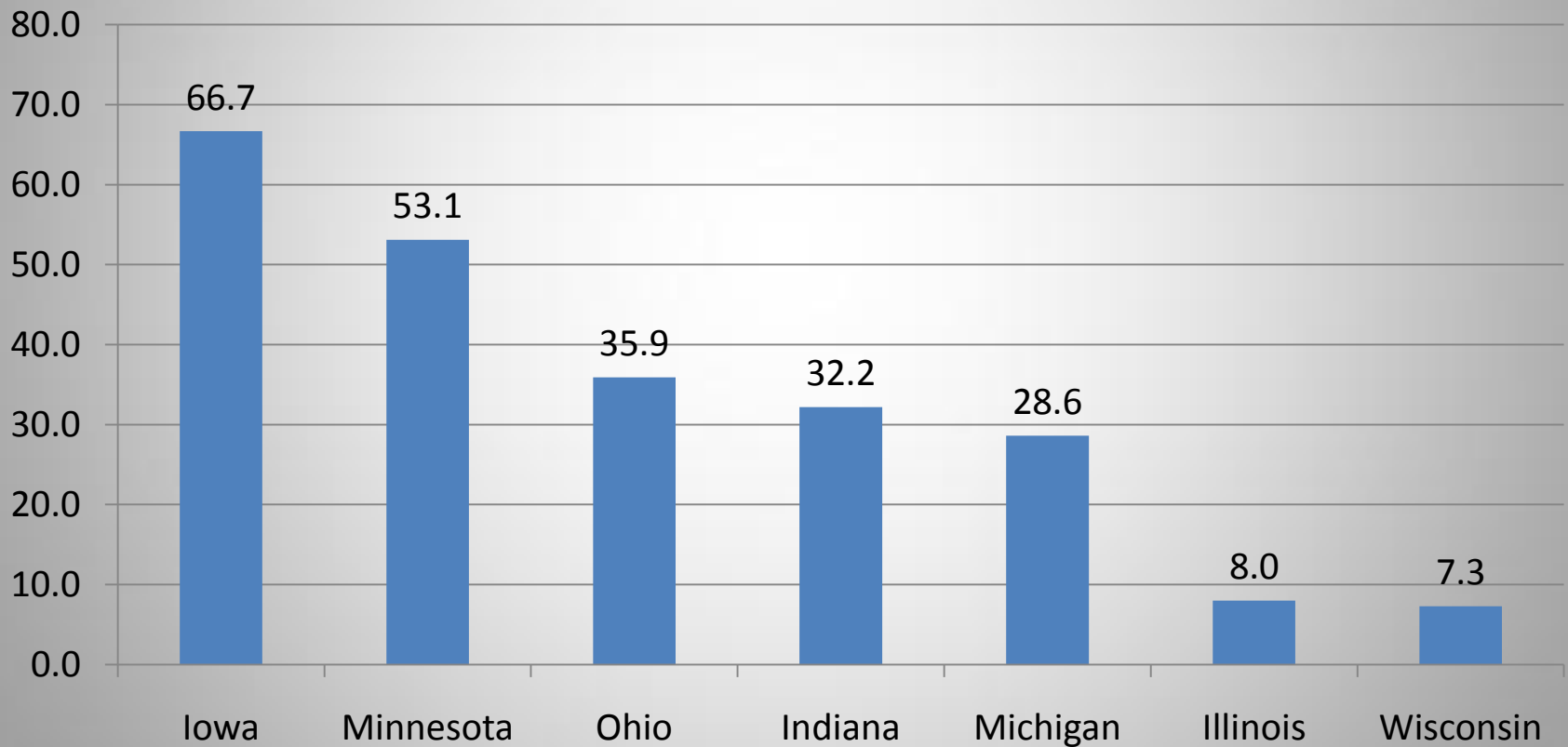
Children with SED Receiving Public MH Services

Children 0-12 Served per 1,000 Population



Youth with SED Receiving Public MH Services

Youth 13-17 Served per 1,000 Population



Wisconsin Mental Health Care HPSAs

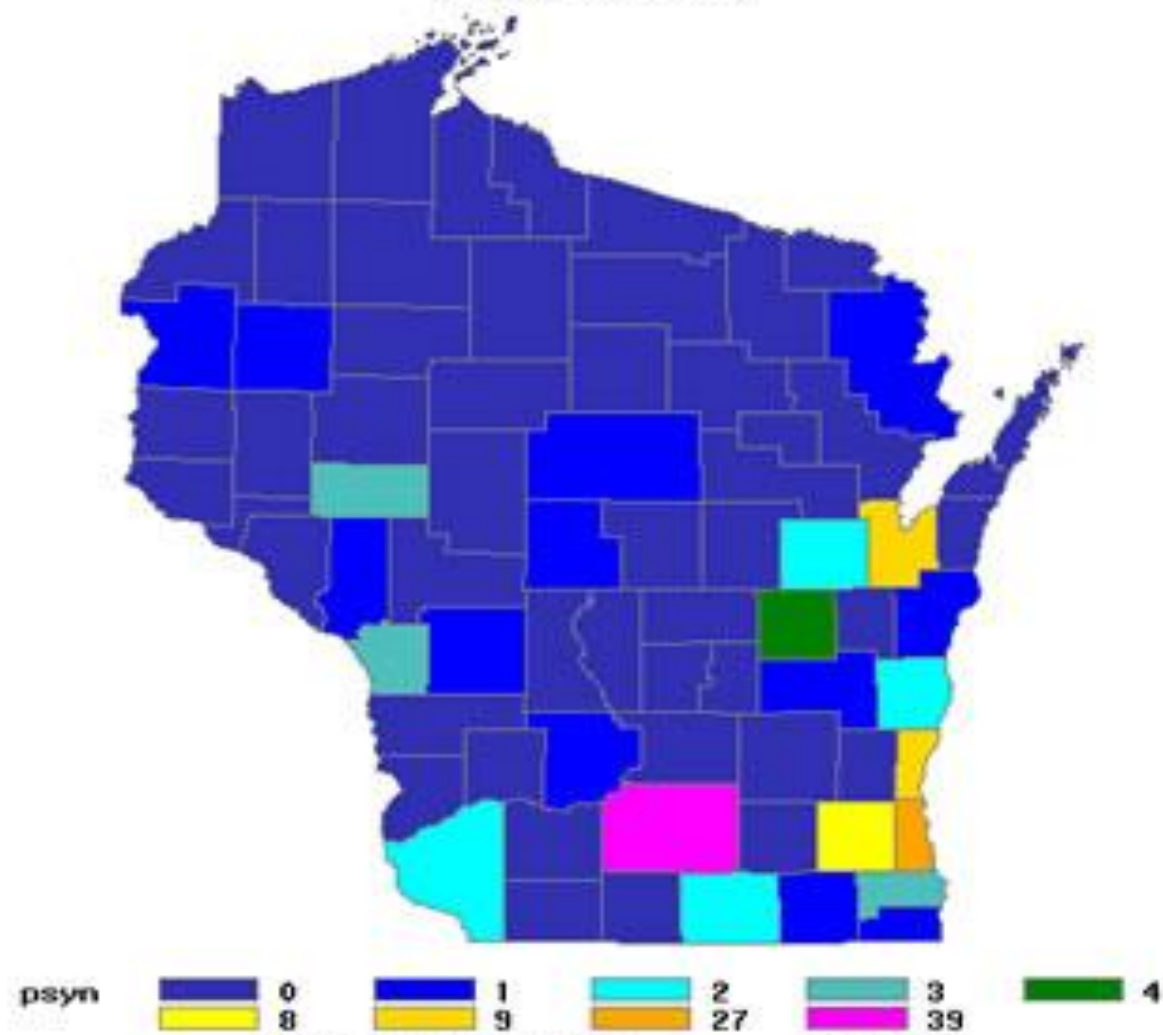


Federally Designated Health Professional Shortage Areas

● Designated Mental Health HPSAs

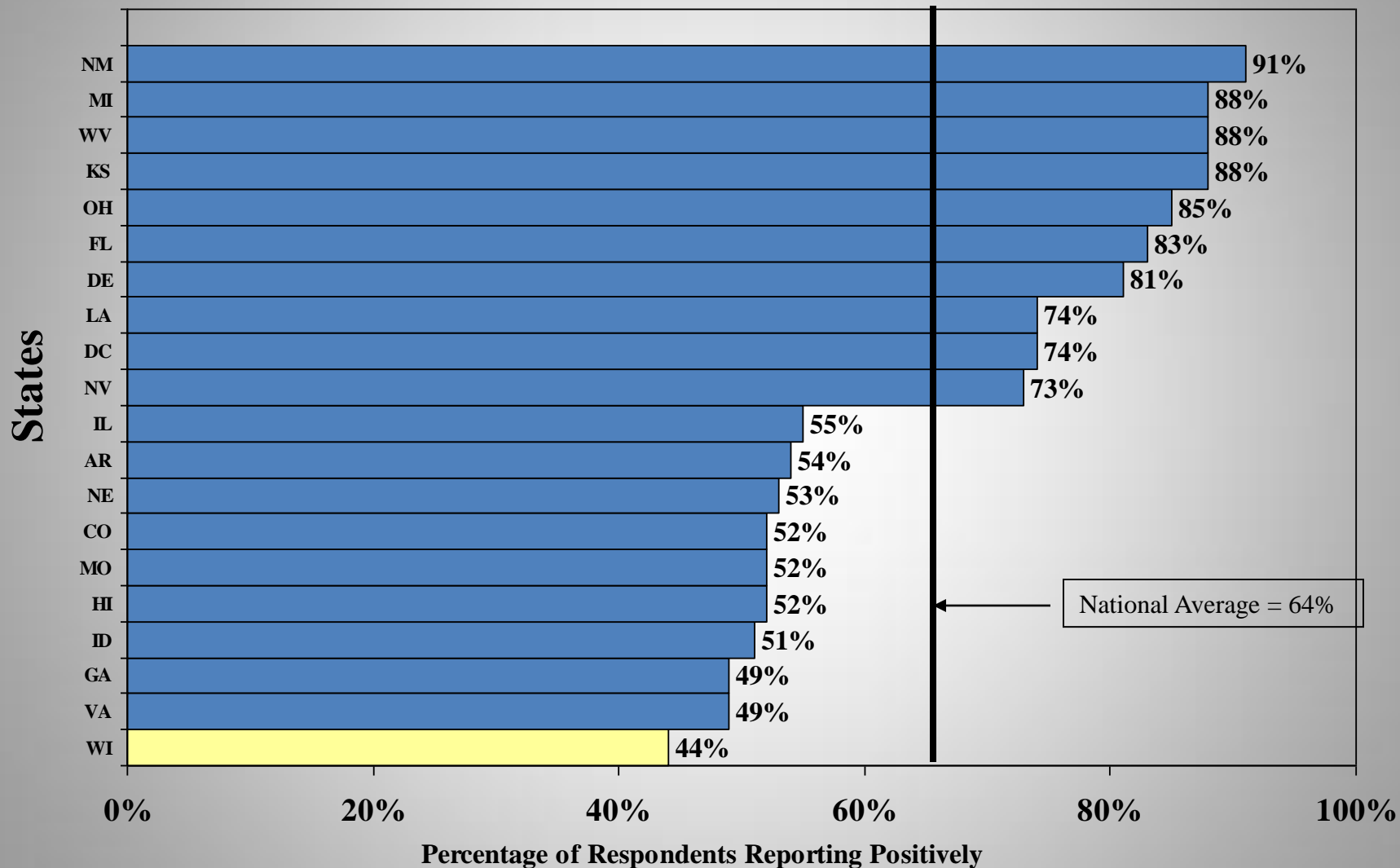
Wisconsin: Practicing Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists

Number per county



(c) AACAP by C.E. Holzer psyn 30APR09

Parent Satisfaction with Functional Outcomes – Top Ten and Bottom Ten States (2007)



Systems Families Encounter

- Schools
- Mental Health
- Child Welfare
- Long-term Care
- Law Enforcement
- Courts
- Juvenile Corrections

What Do Families Experience?

- The “new normal”
- Lack of public understanding
- Blame and shame
- Fear
- Confusion
- Isolation
- Loss of employment / impact to family capacity
- Prejudice

Many
families feel
like they are
living in a
“parallel
universe”



Wisconsin Family Ties

Wisconsin Family Ties works to create greater understanding, acceptance and support in the community for families that include children with mental, emotional or behavioral disorders.

We promote access to care and support that help achieve the following goals:

- Families remain together
- Children succeed in school, both academically and socially
- Children stay within the bounds of the law
- Children and their families thrive

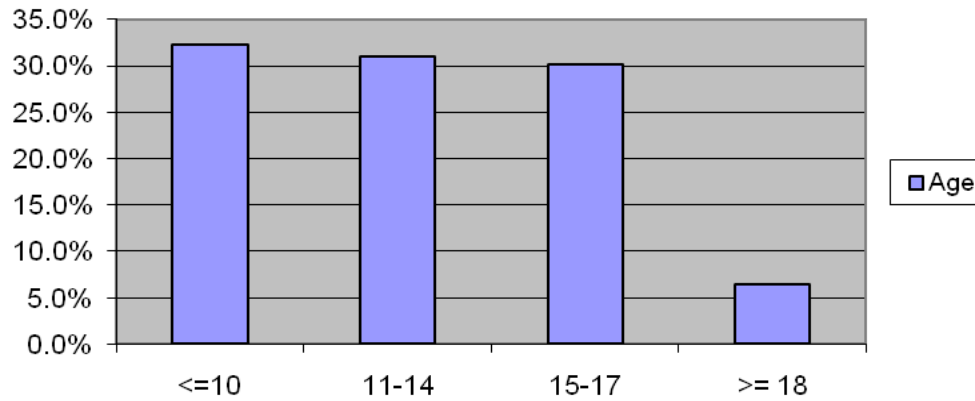
WFT Snapshot

2010 Service Statistics

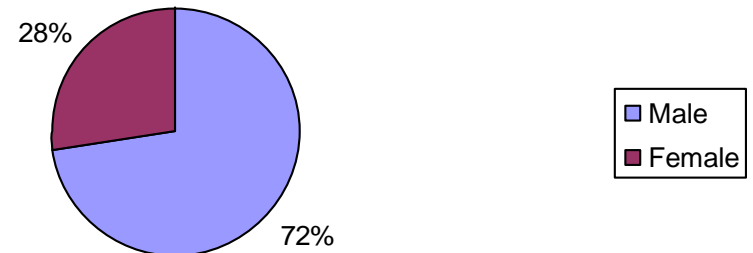
Service	Number Served
Individual Assistance	797
Educational Support Services (IEPs)	122
Support Groups	423
Trainings / Presentations	2,705
Celebration / Recreational Events	2,419

Service Demographics

Age Range, Identified Child(ren)



Gender, Identified Child(ren)



Service Demographics

Ethnicity Reported by Families	Families Served
Caucasian	49.9%
African American	17.1%
Native American	1.3%
Hispanic (of any race)	2.4%
Asian / Pacific Islander	1.0%
Other	0.0%
Ethnicity not reported	28.3%

Milwaukee Service Statistics

Activity	Participants
Received information	341
Attended event	57
Individual assistance	21

Wisconsin Family Ties Services

- Information & Assistance
 - Information on a variety of topics, including disorders, treatment options, service programs, providers, child and parental rights, mental health system and special education
- Education & Training
 - Conducting courses and workshops, presenting at conferences, providing scholarships for families to attend training events, and individual parent coaching / mentoring
- Advocacy
 - Helping families develop healthy working relationships with the systems that serve their children
- Support
 - Providing emotional support to help families rekindle hope by finding steps they can take to receive the help they need

WFT Activities: Prevention

- Promote
 - Positive behavioral approaches & trusting relationships
 - Understanding of impact of trauma
 - Connections that enhance the social & emotional wellbeing of young children
- Prevent
 - More severe, intractable mental illnesses
 - Out of home placements
 - Suspensions & expulsions
 - Abuse & neglect

Protective Factors that Prevent Abuse & Neglect

1. Parental Resilience
2. Social Connections
3. Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development
4. Concrete Support in Times of Need
5. Social and Emotional Competence of Children

WFT Activities: Awareness

- [Children's Mental Health Awareness Week](#)
- Produce Public Service Announcements
- Community presentations
- Respond appropriately to [current events](#)
- Work with journalists to cover CMH stories
- Op-ed pieces and letters to the editor
- Is Anyone Listening? campaign

WFT Activities: Advocacy

- Individual
 - Schools
 - Courts
 - Treatment settings
- Policy
 - Committees & workgroups
 - Collaboration with other MH advocates
 - Informing policymakers

WFT Activities: Social / Recreational

- [Family Fun Day](#)
- Breakfast with Santa
- Community picnics
- Holiday Soiree (La Crosse)
- Northwoods Family Fun Days

WFT Activities: Training Catalog

- In Our Shoes: Families Speak About the Challenges of Raising a Child with MH Needs
- What Kids with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders Really Need
- Partnering with Families
- Managing Threatening Confrontations
- Sensory Strategies to Reduce Maladaptive Behavior
- We Can Work It Out (collaboration)
- *Participating on Committees*
- *Family Guide to Wraparound*

Children Come First Conference

- 98.9% of respondents said the conference was effective in raising awareness of key children's mental health issues
- 90.4% said their knowledge of treatment options and available programs increased
- 96.8% considered the conference a valuable personal / professional development experience
- 91.5% said the conference facilitated knowledge sharing among participants
- 84% discovered new opportunities for future collaboration
- 95.7% learned information that will be helpful in better performing their job or parenting responsibilities



A new way of doing business...

Evolution of the Role of Families

Family as service recipient



Family as Guest



Family as Participant



Family as Full Partner

Parent Peer Specialists

- A parent or caregiver of a child with emotional or behavioral disorders or other special needs
- Specifically trained for an information, support and advocacy role
- Genuinely understand and appreciate the culture of a family living with a child with special needs, because it is also their culture
- Typically employed by an organization other than service-providing agencies

A Critical Difference

- Family Support
 - Delivered by anyone within the system
 - All services within a well balanced system should be supportive
 - Therapeutic or professional distance maintained
- Peer Specialist Support
 - Delivered by trained individual with first-person experience
 - Must have direct system experience as a family member of someone receiving services
 - Use of self and self disclosure as a means to help

The Power of Parent-to-Parent Support

- Parent-to-parent support provides help in seeing hope for the future, feeling less alone, seeing positives in the situation, acceptance of the child's diagnosis, seeing family strengths, and dealing with stress (Santelli et al., 1997).
- Peer support was found to be helpful by over 80% of parents utilizing the services; it increased parents' sense of being able to cope and their acceptance of their situation (Kerr & McIntosh, 2000)
- Parent-to-parent support is a means for helping parents feel less isolated, for providing empathy by those who truly understand, and for providing hope in what may seem a hopeless situation (Shelton et al., 1987).

Partnering with Parent Peer Specialists

- Parent Peer Specialists should:
 - ✓ Break loneliness & isolation
 - ✓ Help the team understand the parent perspective
 - ✓ Help the family participate fully in the team process
 - ✓ Teach and model skills
 - ✓ Identify, access and use resources
 - ✓ Identify, access and use relationships



Benefits of Peer Specialist Services

- For families:
 - Feel less isolated
 - Relieve stressors
 - Learn from shared experience
- For service providers / schools:
 - Help avoid crises
 - Facilitate better communication / understanding
 - Stronger understanding of typical family challenges and dynamics
 - Training resource for providers who want to improve their connection with families



**Parent Peer Specialists
help to build bridges!**

Outcomes

- 97% feel they now have somewhere to turn when they need information & support
- 84% believe WFT helped them become better advocates for their children
- 88% reported they now know the steps to take when they are concerned about the services their children are or are not receiving
- 100% felt more capable of dealing with the various systems serving their child
- 84% felt more able to cope with their family situation
- 97% reported having more information regarding their child's diagnosis, treatment options and available community programs
- 86% felt more hopeful about the future