

2015 Review

Advocate • Connect • Inform



Advocate

Mental Health Reform Legislation

WAFCA worked with leaders on the Assembly Mental Health Reform Committee to draft four (4) bills to increase mental health access and reduce bureaucratic obstacles to care. Bills address: modifications to prior authorization in MA; recognizing the value of accreditation; requiring payments for QTTs; and dropping the school clinic certification requirement.



Expanding School Mental Health Services

In collaboration with the ESMHS Coalition, WAFCA took a leading role on a bill to increase financial sustainability of school mental health services.

Financial Stability of Nonprofit Human Services & Budget Initiatives

After successfully getting this statutory revision on rate-based contracts in the 2015-17 biennial budget, the provision was vetoed, but then WAFCA significantly advanced negotiations with state administration and counties on this critical issue. WAFCA partnered with members to secure approval for the first funding increase for post-adoption resource centers since 1999.

RCC HealthCheck Discontinuation Settlement and Release Agreement

WAFCA brought members together with a unified voice and secured \$445,200 in Medicaid back payments for RCCs' administrative support services in 2015.

Keeping Kids in Families – National Child Welfare Finance Reform

Through her active role with the National Organization of State Association's for Children, Linda Hall became a key player in efforts to advance the national discussion on reforming child welfare funding to enable state's to work with families prior to removing children from their homes and establishing that lengths of stay in residential treatment should be driven by the treatment-needs of the child, not arbitrary time limits.

Rules, rules, rules – Advisory Workgroup on Licensing Rules

As DCF embarked on a major overhaul of the out of home care licensing rules, WAFCA convened members from more than 15 member agencies to identify concerns with the current rules and make collective recommendations to DCF regarding changes.

Your Voice in Critical Conversations

- DCF/DOJ Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force
- Office of Children's Mental Health Collective Impact Executive Council
- Secretary's Council on Child Welfare
- WCHSA/WAFCA Leadership Meetings
- Post-Reunification Support Waiver Advisory Group
- DPI Safe Schools/Healthy Students and Project AWARE State Mgmt. Team Meetings

Senior Financial Leaders Benefit from Shared Expertise

Now in its third year, the Senior Financial Leaders Community of Practice continued to provide a forum for financial colleagues to share questions and provide guidance on policy to WAFCA staff. Topics included: retirement plans, reserves, federal policy changes in allowable costs and audits and impending changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act.



Spring Leadership Summit Gathers WAFCA with State Leaders

Once again members from across the state brought their leadership teams to Madison for this opportunity to engage face-to-face with state department secretaries, legislative leaders and WAFCA colleagues.

New Affiliates to Benefit You

Five great WAFCA supporters took the plunge and signed up for WAFCA's newest membership category - WAFCA Affiliates. Affiliate membership brings these valuable business partners closer to our work and enables us to further benefit from their expertise as they continue to support the missions of our members.

A Grand Party – WAFCA Celebrates 35th Anniversary

The Membership Meeting took on a party atmosphere as we celebrated 35 years of partnering to improve lives featuring “Partners on the Journey: what *Finding Nemo* can teach us about being better helpers” presented by John Franz and a new [WAFCA Testimonial Video](#) featuring WAFCA member agencies and friends.

Outcomes & Benchmarking

Formed after a spring WAFCA electronic health records vendor day with KaleidaCare and Procentive, this workgroup of 12 member agencies is exploring the possibility of a WAFCA benchmarking initiative that could create a Wisconsin baseline for agency performance with outpatient and child welfare clients



Webinars, Conference Calls and Emails...Oh, My

Once again, this year featured an array of opportunities to track developments in Madison and share knowledge and expertise on a range of topics including: rate regulation and cost reporting; new DCF Independent Living grant; Comprehensive Community Services; revisions to Medicaid autism benefit; adoption and foster parent training, and more.

WAFCA Institute – the 5 Cs of Leadership

Agency leaders convened to consider the 5 Cs of leadership for future human services leaders (Collaboration, Competence, Change, Courage and Consumers/Community). Under expert facilitation by Mindy Price of Leadership Transitions, sessions featured more opportunities for leaders to learn from leaders.

Thank you for 35 years of partnership – we look forward to the next 35!