

Promise Newsletter November 2018

Community Conversation

On October 25th Wisconsin Promise hosted a community forum, Employing Young Adults with Barriers: Finding Workforce Solutions. This forum was held in Minong, WI. at Jack Links Aquatic & Activity Center and was organized by North Country Independent Living using a Promise Next Steps Funding award.

There were 45 people in attendance with a panel that included business representatives from AAA Sports Shop, Economart, and Marketplace. There was also two Promise youth and one adult on the panel sharing their experiences with employment. It was a good evening of networking among local school districts, service providers, ADRCs, families, and businesses.

Youth with Promise

October was National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Another great reason to watch our [Youth with Promise](#) videos.

As Promise kids and families accessed Promise services and began to experience success in employment, education, and financial self-sufficiency, we had to capture some of these life changing stories on video.

Were you able to pick up your Wisconsin Transition Guide?

Get to Where you Want to Go...

Navigating the path to finish high school and become an adult is exciting. There are many possibilities, and changes too. The [Wisconsin Transition Guide](#) provides tips and resources to help plan for adulthood and life after high school. Get ready to consider choices, explore options, and take actions to prepare for your future.

[Order your print version.](#)

[Beforeage18.org](#)

If you are a teen with a disability or someone close to a teen with a disability, [this site](#) can help you explore and prepare for the future.

Turning 18 is a big deal and taking some actions now will help you get ready. Get ready to consider choices, explore the possibilities, and take action now to prepare for age 18.

[Explore-work.com](#)

Start Mapping Your Future!

If you are a teen who has a disability, you have choices and things to do to prepare for life after high school and becoming an adult. Just like every teen, this is a time of transition. You are preparing to be an adult, get a job, and become more independent.

Want to find out more about who you are and what you're good at? [This training](#) will help you explore your talents and create a plan for your future.

Ellie's Updates

Initial Promise findings:

A foundation of wraparound supports for a family, including Medicaid healthcare, is essential to helping an SSI recipient youth and their family move off of public benefits and break the cycle of poverty.

Promise families are starting to work and earn more, leading to less reliance on SSI payments for income. For some families who are no longer dependent on SSI for Medicaid eligibility, Katie Beckett may be an option for them to access healthcare for their child. The Katie Beckett Program is a special eligibility process that allows certain children with long-term disabilities, mental illness, or complex medical needs, living at home with their families, to obtain a Wisconsin ForwardHealth Medicaid card. Families can also explore other options with a Work Incentives Benefits Specialist.

FoodShare benefits can be common for Promise families. Since Promise enrollment, project participants have decreased FoodShare use at a faster rate (\$39,316 decrease in benefits compared to \$17,520 decrease in benefits over 21 months.)

[Take a look at the Wisconsin Promise Services Impact Summary](#)

Promise Follow-Up Survey

If you have completed the Follow-Up Survey, THANK YOU! If you haven't, there is still time to complete this.

As part of the Wisconsin Promise study, we are asking all Promise youth and one family member to each complete a Follow-Up Survey to collect information about your time in the Promise program. This information will help us improve future services for youth and families.

All youth who complete the survey by January 31st will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a \$30 Walmart or Target gift card.

[Find the survey here](#)

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