



“FULL INCLUSION, FULL LIVES”

What is Evidenced- based Practice?

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Continuing with my theme of *change* from the March 2009 newsletter, I chose to write about **evidenced- based practice (EBP)**. When you are making new service requests of the social workers, you will be hearing more about **evidenced based practice**. All of La Crosse County’s funding sources are requiring the social workers to make decisions based on **EBP**.

According to *Wikipedia*, **EBP** “refers to a decision-making process which integrates the best available research, clinician expertise, and client characteristics. It also promotes the collection, interpretation, and integration of valid, important and applicable consumer-reported, clinician-observed, and research-derived evidence. The best available evidence, moderated by the consumer’s circumstances and preferences, is applied to improve the quality of clinical judgments and facilitate cost-effective care.”

Proposed treatments must meet the standard of having been **independent, peer-reviewed** research and found to be effective. The definition of **independent** is that research authors and protocols have not been subject to control by others and are not affiliated with a larger controlling unit that provides guidance on how the research is conducted. The published research and protocols must be free of any affiliation with the creator and/or originator of the treatment method or product. The definition of **peer- reviewed** is the process of subjecting the work to the scrutiny of the experts in the same field.

EBT is NOT

- Anecdotal reports
- Testimonials and personal accounts
- Studies using indirect, subjective methods.
- Uncontrolled, descriptive studies
- Studies conducted by developers of the promoters of a treatment with no independent replications
- Untested theories, interpretations and opinions

Reports that have not been peer- reviewed.

When making a request for a new therapy, intervention, or procedure, the social worker will work with you on answering the following questions (source: *State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services Children’s Services Section*):

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Literature review

- Does this particular treatment approach have empirical support in peer-reviewed literature?
- What percent of individuals receiving this treatment make objectives and meaningful progress?
- How does this particular treatment work? What does it involve?
- Are there risks associated with this particular treatment? Are there potentially negative side effects?
- What are the criticisms and limitations of the particular treatment? How do the proponents of the treatments respond to the criticism?

Treatment Providers

- How is the treatment individualized by the provider?
- What training, credentials, and experiences are necessary to carry out the treatment?
- What are the treatment providers' credentials and experiences?
- Are there oversight mechanisms in place (licensing and certification board, etc.)?
- What are the costs associated with the treatment?
- Are parents and other family members encouraged to participate in the treatment? What are their roles? What about school personnel?

Treatment implementation and efficacy

- How will progress (or lack of) be determined? Are treatment goals stated in measurable terms?
- Do assessment results link logically to the treatment protocols? Are intervention strategies thoroughly detailed? Are family questions answered thoroughly and competently?
- How are treatment gains generalized to other settings and people?
- How will you know when to change strategies? Is the adequately explained?
- How often will the family and treatment communicate? Is communication encouraged?

My outcome for offering this information is to help you as parents understand the parameters of the programs and funding sources that La Crosse County uses. Answering these questions will help you and the workers make good solid decisions about the services that La Crosse County has for your child. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Keith Keller at 789-4819 or me at 785-6225.

Partner Picture

ActivStyle

ActivStyle is a company that specializes in providing incontinence products to Medicaid recipients. We have a large product line that includes Pampers, Huggies, Curity, etc. We are committed to helping the underserved Medicaid-eligible patients and their families. ActivStyle understands incontinence products and will gladly send free samples. If you are on Medicaid, most of our products can be provided and shipped to your door at no cost.

ActivStyle has a fully stocked warehouse and maintains a highly trained staff of incontinence specialists to ensure that you can find the products that best suit your level of incontinence. If you qualify, we will do all the billing, obtain the prescriptions from your physician, and complete any other Medicaid paperwork for you. Additionally, we do not charge for shipping the products directly to your home.

For more information or samples, please contact Jason Mattox at 1-800-866-6223 extension 3257. You can also visit their website at <http://www.activstyle.com>.



Monday, June 22, 2009
 The Golf Club at Cedar Creek

Shotgun Start at 12pm
 Casual Dinner/Awards at 6pm

Only \$75 per Golfer

Pin Events on Every Hole—Gift Bags for Everyone—Great Prizes...An Even Better Cause!

- Yes, I will be golfing and I have a team of four. My team members are listed below. Enclosed is a check for \$300.
- Yes, I would like to golf. Please assign me to a foursome. Enclosed is my check for \$75.
- Sorry, I cannot attend, but I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$_____ to support Family Resources.
- I will be donating an item for the raffle and/or gift bags.

Contact Information: (please print clearly)

Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____
 Home Phone _(____) _____ Cell Phone _(____) _____
 E-Mail Address _____

Team Members:

1. _____ 3. _____
 2. _____ 4. _____

Hole Sponsorships—I would like to be a sponsor at the following level:

- Platinum*** Includes signage at tee, golf and dinner for 4—\$1,000
- Titanium*** Includes signage at tee, golf and dinner for 2—\$750
- Gold*** Includes signage at tee and dinner for 4—\$500
- Silver*** Includes signage at tee and dinner for 2—\$250
- Bronze** Includes name in event brochures and Family Resources' annual report—\$100

*In addition to the golf benefits, your name will be prominently listed by one of the holes and listed in event brochures and Family Resources' annual report.

Raffle Item Donations

Provide a brief description of the item and its value: _____

Gift Bag Donations

We need small items to put in each golfer's gift bag (144 bags). *Examples include: key chains, water bottles, magnets, pens, etc.*

Items donated: _____

PLEASE NOTE: If sponsorship information is different from above please include: _____

For more information call (608) 784-8125. Make checks payable to Family Resources.
 Send payment and registration to: Family Resources | 1500 Green Bay Street | La Crosse, WI 54601
 Visit Us Online at LaxFamilyResources.org

Awesome Activities

Buddy Baseball and Happy Bats Program

Buddy Baseball (ages 7-16) Tuesday June 23 – Thursday August 6. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:15-7:15pm.
Happy Bats (ages 4-6) Thursday June 18 – Thursday August 6. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:15-6:00pm.
Hogan Administration Building Fields, intersection of East Avenue and Market Street, La Crosse
The programs will focus on catching, hitting, running and throwing skills. Kids with special needs and their nondisabled peers and siblings will participate in games to use skills, increase social interaction with friends and have fun. Cost of Buddy Baseball is \$25 for YMCA family members and \$34 for youth members. Cost for Happy Bats is \$10 for YMCA members and \$34 for youth members. Scholarships are available. Registration is June 8-12 at the La Crosse Area YMCA or by phone 782-9622. For more information contact Brandon Corcoran at (608) 782-9622 ext. 285.

Summer 2009 UW-L Physical Activity Mentoring Program

There will be an 8-week Summer session from June 22 to August 14, 2009. The primary goal of the program is to increase physical activity time and opportunities for children and adults with disabilities through a unique mentoring relationship with a college student. Physical activities are planned to meet the needs, interests, and abilities of mentees. For more information contact Heidii Wara at (608) 785-8695, wara.heid@students.uwlax.edu or Garth Tymeson at (608) 785-5415; tymeson.gart@uwlax.edu.

Family Fun Day 2009

Tuesday, July 7th

Mount Olympus Water and Theme Park

1701 Wisconsin Dells Parkway, Wisconsin Dells, WI

Outdoor Water Park: 10 am—7 pm Indoor Water Park: 10 am—10 pm

Cost is \$11.00 per person including a picnic lunch and access to the entire water and theme park. Children two years and younger get in free. The registration deadline is July 2, 2009. Contact Wisconsin Family Ties at 1-800-422-7145 to reserve your tickets today. Email info@wifamilyties.org or visit the website www.wifamilyties.org for more information.

Camp Shriver

July 20-24

8 am—5 pm

Green Island Park, 2312 South 7th St, La Crosse

Kids ages 5-12 with and without Special Needs

Camp Fee: \$25 for the week

Each child will be paired with a buddy. Each pair will have one camper with special needs and one without.

The pairs will then be put into age groups that they will stay with throughout the week. The days will start at

Green Island Park. The activities will include Basketball, Soccer, Kickball, Ultimate Frisbee and Arts and

Crafts. All activities will be adapted to different skill levels so everyone can have fun! For more information or to register please contact Sarah Burch at (608) 789-7596 or burchs@cityoflacrosse.org.

Kids Rule Kids Summer Film Series

Beginning June 17, every Wednesday and Thursday

Marcus Theatres, 2032 Ward Avenue, La Crosse

All seats are \$3, includes a free popcorn. All films start at 10:00 AM

June 17-18: Paul Blart: Mall Cop

June 24-25: Bee Movie

July 8-9: Monsters vs. Aliens

July 15-16: Surf's Up

July 22-23: Marley & Me

July 29-30: Kung Fu Panda

August 5-6: Hotel for Dogs

August 12-13: Tales of Despereaux

** All dates and titles are subject to change **

Contact the theatre manager at (608) 788-1285 for more information.

Awesome Activities Continued

Summer Breakfast and Lunch Program

The La Crosse School District will again be offering a free breakfast and lunch program this summer for children 18 and under. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. each week-day. For specific dates and locations, please contact the La Crosse School District Nutrition office at (608) 789-7625.

Camp Curiosity

The Children's Museum of La Crosse is offering half-day camps for ages 4-7 and Freaky Friday sessions for ages 7-11. For specific dates and activities, please call (608) 784-2652 or visit their website at <http://www.funmuseum.org>

Sand on the Riverfront

August 14-15, Riverside Park. This year's theme is "At the Movies." For more information call (608) 784-9450.

Children's Summer Festival

July 18, 9am - 12 noon. Enjoy train rides, snow cones, games, crafts and more. Buttons are \$4 in advance or \$10 for 3, \$5 the day of the event and children under 2 are free. For more information call (608) 784-8125.

Trainings

Supporting Foster Care and Adoption Through Secure Attachments

Presented by William Whelan, Psy.D.

Friday, July 31st, 9:00am—4:00pm

Midway Motor Lodge, 1835 Rose Street, La Crosse, WI

Cost: \$25 for foster and adoptive parents

\$60 for county and state employees

\$75 for all other professionals

This training will cover attachment and caregiving and how it applies to foster and adoptive families. Topics discussed will include patterns of attachment, how to help children heal from the effects of prior maltreatment and losses, coaching caregivers on how to read patterns of cues and miscues and more. Lunch will be provided on site. To register, go to <http://www.uwrf.edu/wwpartnership/onlineregform.htm>.

Career Planning for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders

September 29-30, 2009

Crowne Plaza Chicago North Shore

510 E. Rt. 83

Mundelein, Illinois 60060

This two day conference will cover 5 specific topics: career planning, career assessment, workplace supports, social communication in the workplace and implementing the career plan. Career counselors, teachers, parents, caregivers and young adults with ASDs (16+) are encouraged to attend.

Cost: Two Day Professional: Early Bird (through August 31) - \$175 After August 31 - \$205

One Day Professional: Early Bird (through August 31) - \$125 After August 31 - \$140

Two Day Parent or Young Adult - \$120 One Day Parent or Young Adult - \$80

For more information or to register visit www.spectrumtrainingsystemsinc.com/Conferences.html or call (920) 749-0332.

Trainings Continued

Recognizing and Managing Seizures Within the School Setting

August 11; 7:-00 - 9:30 ET

This online seminar will discuss what educators, school administrators, nurses and families need to know about seizures. Focus is on the need for a seizure readiness plan within the school setting, including tips on medication administration in this setting and information on the efficacy and safety of medications. There is no cost. To register, visit the website at http://www.epliveonline.org/ep_20090811.html

Did You Know? Now You Know!

A Training on Health Care and Community Supports for
Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Tuesday, October 13 and Wednesday, November 11
8:30am—1:30pm, Registration at 8:00 am
Gundersen Lutheran Onalaska Clinic
Education Center/Basement
3111 Gundersen Drive, Onalaska

Did you ever say “I wish I’d had that information for my child when I needed it?” If you answered “Yes,” then take a crash course. Come meet other families and professionals to learn about health care, community and state resources. Parents, Grandparents, Caregivers, Teachers, Aids, Health Care and Human Services Staff are encouraged to attend. There is no cost. For information and registration, contact Lynn Parker at lparker@gundluth.org or (608) 775-5586 or 1-800-642-7837. Registration deadline is Friday, October 2.

Parents in Partnership

Stoney Creek Inn

3060 S. Kinney Coulee Rd, Onalaska

Are you a parent, foster parent, grandparent or guardian of a child age 6 - 14 who has a developmental delay, disability or chronic illness and would like to get together with other families from around your area/region to share information, support and resources. If so, Parents in Partnership is for you. Parents in Partnership is a group of parents and other caregivers who meet together five times during the year to

- Share family stories, challenges, joys and triumphs
- Learn about community and statewide resources for children with special needs
- Develop further communication, leadership, advocacy and collaboration skills
- Increase knowledge, skills and support to be open to dream and plan ahead for their child and family
- And More!

As a Parents in Partnership participant, you choose an aspect of your community where you would like to see change - a school, your place or worship or an organization. The dates of the gatherings are: October 16-17, 2009, December 4-5, 2009, January 22-23, 2010, March 5-6, 2010 and April 23-24, 2010. The registration deadline is October 2, 2009 and space is limited. For more information contact John Shaw at (608) 266-7707. To register, contact Phyllis Voelker at 1-877-844-4925 or phyllis@banbury.com.

Save the Date!

Children Come First 20th Annual Conference

November 15 - 17, 2009

Kalahari Resort and Convention Center

Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin

This year's theme is “Ready, Set, Relationship!”

Radical Resources

Need Dental Care? Check out Mission of Mercy

Coming to La Crosse June 26-27, 2009

Where? La Crosse Center Arena

MOM (Mission of Mercy) is a **FREE** dental care program. The purpose is to address the patients' most pressing dental problems and relieve them of their pain.

Eligibility: MOM will provide care to anyone that shows up that does not have any medical compromising condition that would prohibit them from receiving care. Children and adults are welcome. Un-insured, under-insured, or those who otherwise have difficulty getting to a dentist are all welcome on a first-come, first-served basis. No appointments accepted.

Types of services offer: Fillings, extractions, cleanings and limited treatment partials are offered. All work done is **FREE!**

Volunteers over the age of 16 will be needed to help.
You can also make a donation.

For more information visit: <http://www.wda.org/categories/46-mission-of-mercy>

Zot Artz Arts for All

Gives Mobility a Whole New Look

Arts For All art tools are one-of-a-kind products that offer individuals of all abilities an opportunity for creative expression through arts and mobility. Art tools are designed so individuals with limited movement or lack of fine motor skills can be successful in using what mobility that have to create, paint, draw print and more. For more information visit the website at www.zotartz.com or call (715) 779-9525.

Bridges4kids

Bridges4kids is a non-profit organization which provides a comprehensive system of information and referral for parents and professionals seeking help for children from birth through the transition to adult life. Their website contains extensive information on legal issues relating to special education, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and more. For more information visit <http://www.bridges4kids.org/Legal.html>.



Do you have any questions about your child's development?

A great deal of learning takes place in a child's first three years. Families who have children with developmental delays or disabilities may need extra support to help their children reach their developmental milestones. The Birth to 3 Program offers free evaluations for children ages 0-3 years old. If you would like to speak to someone about the program please call Kristi, Susan or Bethany at 781-1035.

Don't Forget about the Family Advocate:

If you are a parent of a child with special needs and would like some extra support, have any questions about the special education process or IEPs, please contact:

Vicky Shanley 608-783-4009
shanley5@charter.net
WI Family Ties

FAMILY MATTERS
ATTN: SUSAN BECKER

La Crosse County Human Services
300 4th St N
La Crosse, WI 54601

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Announcements

Competition for Young Artists with Disabilities

VSA Arts and Volkswagen

Deadline: June 19, 2009 by midnight

Number of awards: 3

1st prize: \$20,000, 2nd prize: \$10,000, and 3rd prize: \$6, 000

Visit their website at: <http://www.vsarts.org/PreBuilt/showcase/gallery/exhibits/vw/current/>

The program is open to artists between the ages of 16 and 25 who are living in the United States and who have a physical, cognitive, mental, or sensory disability. A disability is defined as an impairment that substantially limits a major life activity. For more information about disabilities that apply, please review the VSA arts Disability Awareness Guide, located under Resources at www.vsarts.org.

Previous award recipients are not eligible to apply.

Submissions must be original work completed within the last three years and after the onset of disability. Eligibility media include, but are not limited to, paintings and drawings (oil, watercolor, acrylic, pencil, or charcoal), fine art prints, photography, computer-generated prints, digital art, and time-based media (video, film). Work must have visual component. Both representational and abstract work are welcomed.