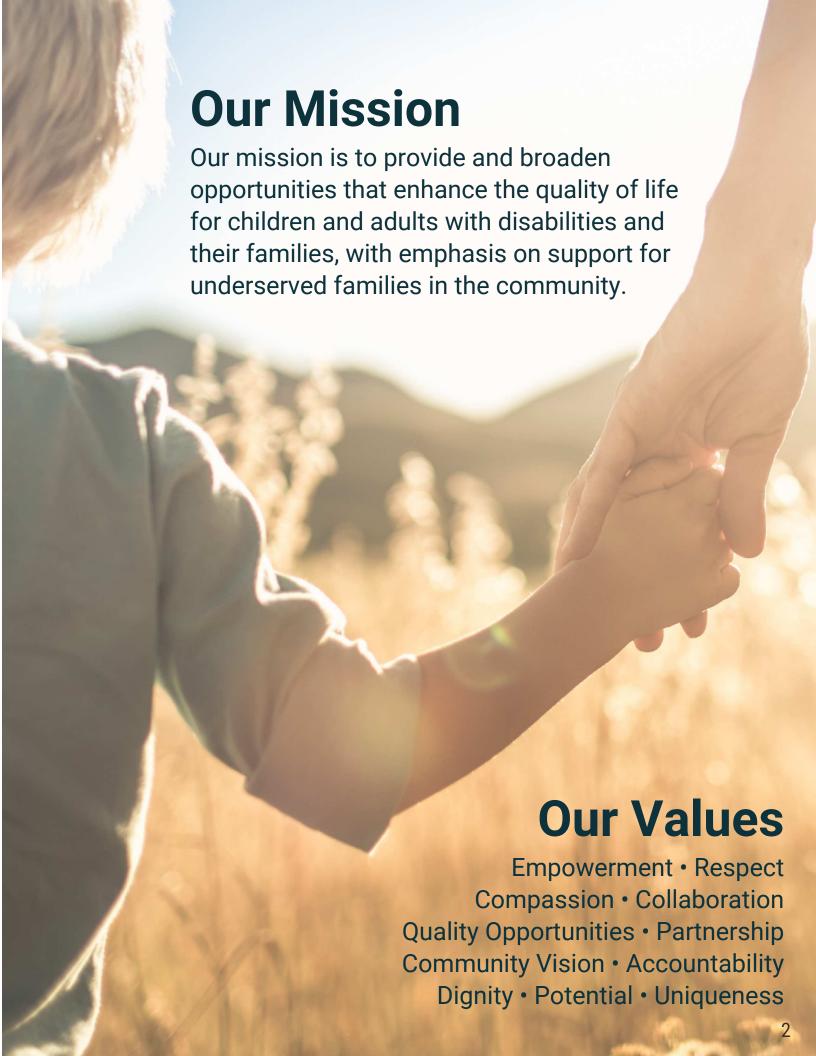


# 2022 Annual Impact Report









Courtney Salzer, Executive Director



Stephanie Mauck, Board President

### A Note From WI FACETS Leadership

The past 3 years have been almost unprecedented in the challenges they have posed for WI FACETS and the children, youth, young adults, families, professionals, and family organizations we serve. The pandemic and resultant economic and emotional stress placed on our organization, our staff, and our communities have required an unparalleled commitment and dedication on the part of our staff and volunteers. In the darkest hours of the pandemic, we remained a place where families could go for support, and assistance navigating a never before experienced special education landscape. And, while we did not always have all of the answers, we were a kind and gentle support during a very scary and lonely time. In future years, we will look back on this time and ask, "How did we do it? How did we not only survive, but thrive?"

The fact is, a small team of dedicated people with a deep commitment to families got things done at WI FACETS. Over the past few years, we have persevered through the most difficult challenges in our 27-year history. But our values and steadfast belief in the courage and resilience of children has sustained us. Our commitment to supporting parents so they are knowledgeable, skilled and empowered has only strengthened over the past few years. And our optimism and hope for a brighter future is greater than ever.

Whether you are new to WI FACETS or a long-time friend, we invite you to support our efforts. We are always looking for dedicated, passionate new board members. We welcome you to send families in need of assistance our way. And of course, any size financial contribution is always appreciated so that we may continue to ensure that every child has the chance to shine!

**Courtney Salzer** 

**Executive Director, WI FACETS** 

Stephanie Mauck
Board President, WI FACETS

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## **HOW WE HELP FAMILIES**

The primary goal of WI FACETS is to empower Wisconsin families, so they feel knowledgeable, skilled and confident to advocate for their children with disabilities. Many of our services are not only open to families but also the professionals who support children with disabilities. Currently, we provide the following range of services to families in Wisconsin without a fee:

### **Training**

WI FACETS provides over 85 workshops annually for families of children with disabilities and those who support them. All trainings are easy to access and free of charge.

### **Help Desk Toll Free Line**

We know that when a parent needs help, the last thing they need is to have to navigate a complicated phone menu or use a chat bot on a website. When families call our toll-free help desk line with questions and concerns, they will be able to speak to one of our staff members who understands and is committed to helping them.

### **Individual Assistance**

Some families are experiencing very complex situations. For those families, WI FACETS offers intensive support (including IEP reviews and meeting preparation), as well as a limited amount of in person support for families at school meetings, mediations, and facilitated IEPs.

### **Leadership Development**

WI FACETS provides parents and young adults with disabilities with leadership training and mentoring so they may feel empowered to represent the parent and youth voice in important conversations and decisions. Having skilled parent and youth leaders is critical in shaping the direction of programs and services.

# WI FACETS IN ACTION

WI FACETS had

5,509 contacts



with families, professionals, and youth with disabilities in 2021-2022

### **Results?**



Here's what parents said about the services they received from WI FACETS.

100% Understood the information they received

Felt comfortable putting into practice the information provided in their upcoming IEP team meeting

96% Learned more about taking care of their child's needs

96% Have participated more actively in their child's IEP or IFSP

96% Thought the information WI FACETS provided was helpful

96% Would recommend WI FACETS to their family and friends

94% Feel the information they received improved their knowledge

WI FACETS empowers and trains families of children with disabilities to be effective advocates for their children

1,112

1,860

Parents attended TRAININGS

Professionals attended TRAININGS

110

Students attended TRAININGS



WI FACETS provides one-to-one support through phone calls, letters, emails and in-person meetings

2,331

Parents, youth and professionals reached



WI FACETS reaches people through newsletters, social media posts, exhibits, website and media events

629,990

People reached

WI FACETS provides support to Spanish speaking families

398

Received services from WI FACETS

WI FACETS provides support to parents at school related meetings

96

Number of MEETINGS attended

Leadership and Self-Advocacy Training

348

Parent Leadership training

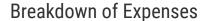
112

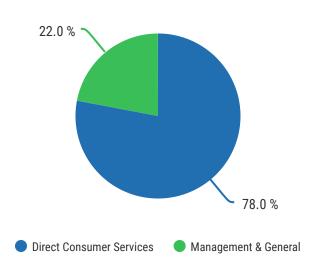
Self-advocacy training



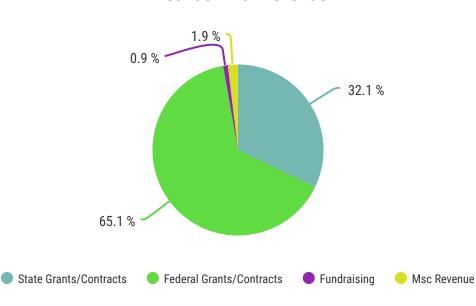
### **Finances**

WI FACETS is primarily funded via state and federal government grants. This has been the case for many years and while it is a testament to our ability to deliver successful program outcomes year after year, such money may be restricted and can limit our ability to be as flexible as we need to be in order to meet the quickly changing needs of our families and professional partners. A higher percentage of donations from individuals and organizations will allow us to broaden our services and more quickly pivot to meet the evolving needs of the communities we impact.





### Breakdown of Revenue





### Make a Donation

WI FACETS welcomes contributions in a variety of ways, and any amount is appreciated. Your tax-deductible financial support is the most direct and effective way to help provide support to our mission. To donate, please visit <a href="https://wifacets.org/about-us/fundraising/">https://wifacets.org/about-us/fundraising/</a>

### **Become a Volunteer Board Member**

Join the WI FACETS Board of Directors which consists of volunteers who are parents and professionals working together to govern the organization on behalf of all the families impacted by disability in Wisconsin. WI FACETS' board members are ambassadors of the organization. They also establish and update bylaws, craft agency mission and vision, monitor the agency's financial health, and raise funds for the agency.

### **Help Us Expand Our Reach**

If you know a family who has a child with a disability, let them know about us, we are here to help. Help us spread the word by sharing information about our <u>website</u> and <u>Facebook</u> page with your family and friends!



#### **Board Members**

Stephanie Mauck – Current Board President
Laura Martin – Past Board President
Shannon Stuart, P.h.D.
Dawn Rost
Ediquelson Camara
Zeudi Fuentes
Dr. Mike Merkt
Jessie Greenwald
Cindy Anderson

### **Staff Members**

Ann Zielke – Trainer

Courtney Salzer, J.D. – Executive Director
Nelsinia Ramos – Associate Director
Lori Karcher – DPI Grant Director
Cheryl Peterson – Accounting Director
Jaimee Cannon – Help Desk Specialist
Nicole Grudzielanek – Marketing & Communicators Coordinator
Alejandra Loeza – Bilingual Specialist
Wendy Overturf, E.d.D – Intensive Support Specialist
Madelyn Paar – Front Office Operations

Madelyn Paar – Front Office Operations
Nathaly Silva – Bilingual Help Desk Specialist
Chris Stagge – Program Assistant/Events Coordinator
Lisa Stewart – Lead Help Desk Specialist
Bonnie VanderMeulen – Training Coordinator
Melissa Voegeli – Electronic Communications Coordinator

WI FACETS is located at: 600 W. Virginia Street, Suite 501 Milwaukee, WI 53204 877-374-0511 www.wifacets.org







