



2024

**ANNUAL
IMPACT
REPORT**

**Wisconsin Family Assistance Center For Education,
Training and Support**



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INTRODUCTION



Courtney Salzer
Executive
Director

As we reflect on this year, we celebrate the progress we've made and the meaningful connections we've built. Supporting children, families, professionals, and family organizations remains central to our mission at WI FACETS. Our steadfast commitment to empowering families and ensuring every child has the opportunity to thrive continues to inspire our work.

WI FACETS serves as a trusted source of support, knowledge, and empowerment for families across Wisconsin. Through education, training, and advocacy, we've fostered positive and lasting outcomes for countless children and families. These accomplishments are made possible by the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and partners, whose collective efforts strengthen our communities.



Stephanie Mauck

Board
President

Whether you're new to WI FACETS or have been part of our journey for years, we welcome your involvement. From joining our board, referring families in need, to making financial contributions, your support allows us to expand and sustain our impact. Together, we're ensuring every child has the opportunity to reach their fullest potential.

As we prepare to celebrate our 30th anniversary in 2025, we are extremely proud of our history and eagerly look toward an exciting future. Thank you for being an integral part of our story.



GET TO KNOW US

Our Mission:

Our mission is to provide and broaden opportunities that enhance the quality of life for children and adults with disabilities and their families, with emphasis on support for underserved families in the community.

Core Values:

Empowerment, Respect, Compassion, Collaboration, Quality Opportunities, Partnership, Community Vision, Accountability, Dignity, Potential, and Uniqueness

Our History:

Since beginning in 1995, WI FACETS has had a vision that all children receive the education they need to be successful. Founded by a small group of committed parents who had a strong desire to help other families –when our doors opened, we had 2 part time staff, a tiny office, and served just one community. Since then, WI FACETS has grown greatly. We now have a much larger, diverse staff who serve the entire state through a wide variety of programs designed to assist individuals, families and professionals.



HOW WE HELP FAMILIES

WI FACETS is committed to empowering Wisconsin families and young adults with disabilities by helping them gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to advocate for themselves. Many of our services are open not only to families but also to professionals who work with children with disabilities. We currently offer a variety of free services to families across Wisconsin, including:

Training

WI FACETS provides over 100 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.

What Parents We Serve Have to Say:

"Thank you, WI FACETS, I appreciate you. It's so frustrating that it had to go the way it did, but in the end, he got what he needed. I am very grateful to have had you there. Truly...thank you! You made a huge difference for us."

"Thank you so much for your help. I would have been lost without you. I can't express how stressed I feel. Thank you for your guidance and for listening."



FEATURED PROJECT

TRAININGS

We offer free trainings each year for families and youth with disabilities. Professionals who support children with disabilities are always welcome to attend as well. Our trainings cover a wide range of matters that are relevant to the disability and special education communities and range from the basics of the IEP process to more specialized and emerging needs topics. Our trainings aim to provide practical, credible, and up-to-date information.

By offering these trainings at no cost, we aim to build a more informed and inclusive community. Whether you are a parent, young adult with a disability, caregiver, educator, or service provider, our trainings may be beneficial.

Each year, our team cultivates a year-long lineup of workshops and speakers that is unique and reflective of the current special education and disability landscape. Additionally, WI FACETS offers a robust line up of trainings provided in Spanish and with translated and culturally appropriate materials.



Average # of PARENTS TRAINED:
1,925



Average # of PROFESSIONALS TRAINED: **2,559**

Average # of YOUTH TRAINED: **75**

[VIEW OUR TRAINING CALENDAR](#)

[VIEW ARCHIVED TRAININGS](#)

What Training Participants have to say:

"Thank you for all that you do!! This presentation was incredibly helpful- a digestible amount of content with ample time for questions. I have also had several interactions with the Help Desk over the years. Each call was a tremendous help, both for the details that were hard to figure out alone and for my own well-being in navigating an unfamiliar system where the stakes often feel high. Thank you!"

"Thank you for putting these together. As a parent with a child with special needs, we do get overwhelmed, so being introduced to these topics is critical, and gives us a starting point to continue providing the best life possible."





FEATURED PROJECT

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

The goal of the WI FACETS monthly newsletter is to have a resource for families, schools, and agencies to go to for timely and relevant information on different special education related topics, at-home learning strategies, online resources, recent research and statewide events. The newsletter is provided by the Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training and Support (WI FACETS) through a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI).

Inside you'll find:

- An article highlighting a specific Special Education related topic
- Online resources related to the featured topic
- At-Home Learning Strategies for Literacy and Math
- Upcoming statewide events, conferences and trainings
- Recent research of interest

Each month, the newsletter is disseminated in English and Spanish. Our Spanish newsletter is NEW in 2024. This newsletter pays special attention to researching and replacing any resources that are only available in English with comparable resources in Spanish.

ENGLISH NEWSLETTER
SIGN UP

SPANISH
NEWSLETTER SIGN UP



Distributed 39,323 times to families and professionals in 2024



WI FACETS IN ACTION

2024

WI FACETS HAD

6,665

contacts with families, professionals, and youth with disabilities in 2024

WI FACETS PROVIDES ONE-TO-ONE SUPPORT THROUGH PHONE CALLS, LETTERS, EMAILS, AND IN-PERSON MEETINGS

2,158

Parents, youth and professionals served

Results

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

100% Understood the info. they received

96% Felt comfortable putting into practice the info. provided in their upcoming IEP meeting.

88% Learned more about taking care of their child's needs

83% Have participated more actively in their child's IEP or IFSP

97% Thought the info. WI FACETS provided was helpful

100% Felt confident in their ability to work with their child's school

85% Feel the info. they received improved their knowledge

WI FACETS PROVIDES SUPPORT TO SPANISH SPEAKING FAMILIES

461

Received services in Spanish from WI FACETS

WI FACETS PROVIDES SUPPORT TO PARENTS AT SCHOOL RELATED MEETINGS

72

Number of MEETINGS attended

WI FACETS EMPOWERS AND TRAIN FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES TO BE EFFECTIVE ADVOCATES FOR THEIR CHILDREN

1,925

PARENTS attended trainings

2,559

PROFESSIONALS attended trainings

30,552

Materials disseminated

LEADERSHIP AND SELF-ADVOCACY TRAINING

560

Parents who received Leadership training

38

Systems Change Activities

WI FACETS REACHES PEOPLE THROUGH NEWSLETTERS, SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS, EXHIBITS, OUR WEBSITE, AND MEDIA EVENTS

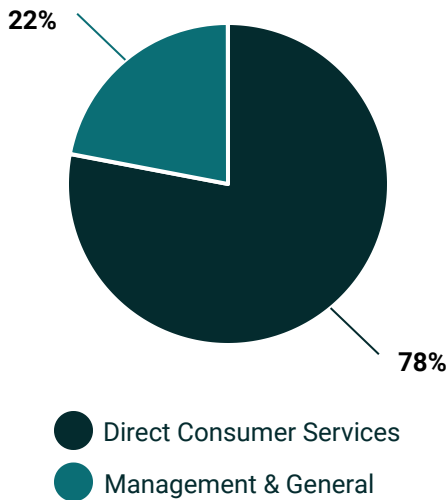
174,783

People reached



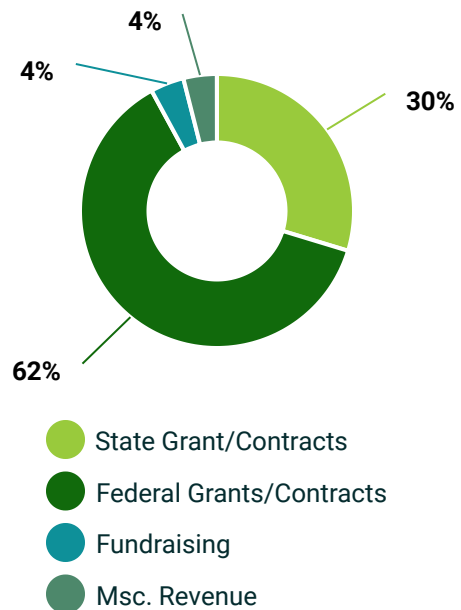
2024 FINANCES

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 Expenses

Breakdown of Revenue



HOW TO SUPPORT

WI FACETS

WE APPRECIATE AND WELCOME YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND VOLUNTEERSHIP!



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 [website](#) and [Facebook](#) page with your family and friends!



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. They also establish and update bylaws, craft agency mission and vision, monitor the agency's financial health, and raise funds for the agency.



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 <https://wifacets.org/about-us/fundraising/>



WI FACETS

LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Board Members

- Stephanie Mauck- Board President
- Jennifer Nicholson- Vice President
- Shannon Stuart, P.h.D- Secretary
- Cindy Anderson- Treasurer
- Ediquelson Camara
- Zeudi Fuentes, RN
- Jessie Greenwald
- Nan Upright-Sexton
- Andi Minster

**Interested in serving on
our board?**

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Staff Members

- Courtney Salzer, J.D- *Executive Director*
- Nelsinia Ramos- *Associate Director*
- Lori Karcher- *DPI Grant Director*
- Jaimee Cannon- *Help Desk Specialist*
- Christine Hyndman- *Help Desk Specialist*
- Alejandra Loeza- *Bilingual Outreach Specialist*
- Wendy Overturf, E.d.D- *Intensive Support Specialist*
- Maddie Paar- *Front Office Operations*
- Nathaly Silva- *Bilingual Help Desk Specialist*
- Chris Stagge- *Program Assistant/Event Coordinator*
- Lisa Stewart- *Lead Help Desk Specialist*
- Melissa Voegeli- *Electronic Communications Coordinator*
- Ann Zielke- *Training Coordinator*



CONNECT WITH US

WI FACETS
600 W Virginia Street
Suite 501
Milwaukee WI 53204



877-374-0511

Reach us here!



<https://wifacets.org>

View resources, see trainings, and much more!



<https://www.facebook.com/wifacets>

Keep up with us on Social Media!



<https://www.youtube.com/@wifacets>

View all previously held webinars here!



WI FACETS

