

# All in for Kids

*Empowering Families Through the Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Program*

All in for Kids Bulletin is a newsletter created to keep you and your family informed about the supports and services available through the CLTS Waiver Program. The newsletter is published by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.



## **New online directory helps families find providers**

The online Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Waiver Provider Directory is a new and easy way for families to find providers and services. It contains information about current providers, and new providers are always being added. The directory has a simple search tool that allows families to quickly find the provider information they need, and can be used by anyone, including families, participants, and county waiver agencies.

The online directory helps families find providers who offer CLTS Waiver services including:

- Respite care (short-term breaks for families)
- Child care
- Counseling and therapeutic services
- Home modifications

The information provided in this All in for Kids newsletter is published in accordance with Social Security Act § 1915(c) and 42 C.F.R. § 440.180.

To use the online provider directory, go to [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/clts/find-service.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/clts/find-service.htm).

When a family finds a provider they want to work with, they should contact the county support and service coordinator. The support and service coordinator will help them arrange for the provider's services.

### **Online provider directory features and functions**

The online provider directory makes it easy to find providers. Families can search for providers by name, county, or type of service needed. Searching by both county and type of service at the same time gives more targeted results.

**Note:** A search for providers in a certain county may show results for providers with addresses in another county or state. This is because some providers have a main office in one county but also deliver services in other counties.

Searching the online provider directory will help families find the services and providers they need.

### **Children's Long-Term Support Waiver renewal initiative**

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is planning for the renewal of the CLTS Waiver Program. The CLTS Waiver Program is renewed every five years. Input from participants and families will help shape how services are delivered for children with disabilities and their families for the next CLTS Waiver cycle, which will start in 2022 and run through 2027. DHS is gathering feedback from participants and families to build this vision together. For more details about the CLTS Waiver Program renewal go to [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/clts/waiver/renewal.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/clts/waiver/renewal.htm).

### **Families can give feedback on the Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Program**

DHS wants to hear ideas from participants and families about improving the CLTS Waiver Program for the waiver renewal. DHS is interested in feedback and ideas that include:

- Ways to increase families' access to program services
- How to keep the CLTS Waiver family focused
- Suggestions for new services or improvements

---

The information provided in this All in for Kids newsletter is published in accordance with Social Security Act § 1915(c) and 42 C.F.R. § 440.180.

Be creative! DHS welcomes fresh, new ideas of what will best help children and families. The following are three ways to share ideas about new or better supports or services.

### ***Send an email***

Email ideas to [DHSCLTSWaiverRenewal@dhs.wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHSCLTSWaiverRenewal@dhs.wisconsin.gov) by October 16, 2020.

### ***Attend an online input session***

DHS will host three online input sessions to gather suggestions for improvements to the CLTS Waiver Program. These sessions are open to current and past participants, their families, and advocates.

To register for an online input session:

- Click the link below for the session date(s) you want to participate in or type [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/clts/waiver/renewal.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/clts/waiver/renewal.htm) into your browser:
  - [Wednesday, October 7, 2020, from 6–7:15 p.m.](#)
  - [Thursday, October 8, 2020, from 2–3:15 p.m.](#)
  - [Friday, October 9, 2020, from 10:30–11:45 a.m.](#)
- Enter your name and email address and check the box that shows how you are connected to the CLTS waiver program. Then click “Register.”
- A separate confirmation email will be sent with both a Zoom link (for online participation) and a phone number (for dial-in participation). Use the option that works best for you.

### ***Fill out an online survey***

Families can provide feedback about the CLTS Waiver Program by taking an anonymous online survey. This survey should take about 7–10 minutes to complete. Do **not** include any information that could identify a person, such as a family member or child. The survey is intended to collect anonymous responses.

To take the survey, go to [www.surveygizmo.com/s3/5801521/clts-family-input](http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/5801521/clts-family-input). Complete the survey by October 16, 2020.

### **Feelings Thermometer helps families manage emotions**

Everyone needs ways to deal with stress, anger, or other feelings. The beginning of a new school year often adds to a family’s stress. The Feelings Thermometer is a tool, created by the Office of Children’s Mental Health,

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

Sign language interpreters and captioning will be provided for the online input sessions and the presentation slides will be available in English, Spanish, and Hmong. If you need any other type of accommodation to participate, you can request it when registering.

## **DETAILS ON LINKS**

Know someone else who would be interested in attending an input session?

Share the registration link.

**The Zoom link received by email can be used by only one participant.**

---

The information provided in this All in for Kids newsletter is published in accordance with Social Security Act § 1915(c) and 42 C.F.R. § 440.180.

that can be hung where kids and adults can easily see it to help them name the emotions they are feeling at that moment. It gives steps they can take to shift their mood when things are getting tough.

### How to use the Feelings Thermometer

The Feelings Thermometer starts at blue (the calm zone) and goes to red (the furious zone). By naming someone’s current feelings, it shows when their emotional “temperature” is getting warmer and then hotter. The thermometer lists quick, simple actions to take right away to feel less angry, frustrated, anxious, or sad. Use it to:

- Check in with a family member to see how they are feeling.
- Take note of your own emotions and handle them in a positive way.
- Remind others of ways they can improve their mood.

Research shows that just naming a calming activity can reduce anxiety. Being aware of feelings is the first step!

## RESOURCES

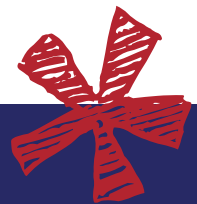
For a printable version of the Feelings Thermometer in English or Spanish, go to [www.children.wi.gov/Pages/FeelingsThermometer.aspx](http://www.children.wi.gov/Pages/FeelingsThermometer.aspx).

The Feelings Thermometer is a visual tool to post on the wall or the refrigerator that helps everyone—from kids to adults—measure how they are doing emotionally and gives tips on how to shift their mood from angry to calm.

## FEELINGS THERMOMETER



The information provided in this All in for Kids newsletter is published in accordance with Social Security Act § 1915(c) and 42 C.F.R. § 440.180.



Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Program Family Bulletin is a newsletter published by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for children and families in the CLTS Waiver Program.

The CLTS Waiver Program makes Medicaid funding available to support children with substantial limitations due to developmental, physical, or severe emotional disabilities who are living at home or in the community. Funding may be used to support a range of services based on an assessment of your child's and family's specific needs and identified goals or outcomes.

For more information, visit the [Services for Children With Delays or Disabilities](#) webpage. For help with translation of this Bulletin, call the Bureau of Children's Services at 608-266-8650.