

All in for Kids

A CLTS Program Family Newsletter

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



Free and Fun Things to Do With Kids This Fall

As summer turns to fall you may be looking for different things to do with kids. The cooler weather makes it nicer to be outside, but the start of school means some families have less free time. Read on for some activities to try when you have some “together time:”

- **Make a leaf pile.** Nothing beats the crisp fall air on your face and working in the yard as a family. Okay, this one involves work, but it pays off in fun! Rake leaves into a pile, then play in it or bury each other. Repeat until everyone tires out.
- **Explore nature.** There are lots of changes to notice outside as the seasons shift. You can even make a game of it with a nature bingo sheet that includes things like acorns, leaves that have changed color, birds, and

squirrels. You can find bingo sheets online or make your own. Whoever gets bingo first wins!

- **Make and decorate a poster** that shows in words or pictures some things your family is thankful for. Working together, use crayons, markers, glitter, stickers, or pictures cut from magazines to create a unique piece.
- **Roast marshmallows.** There is something about this time of year that makes this a special treat. Next time you are at the store, get some marshmallows (and chocolate bars and graham crackers if you want to make s'mores). Then gather round the fire pit or grill and cook up these gooey treats—yum! ❖



**FALL FAMILY
FUN**

The CLTS Program Wants Your Family Stories and Photos!

The All in for Kids newsletter is for families, and we want to feature your photos and experiences for other readers to enjoy! You can share things like:

- A positive interaction with the Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Program or an example of how it has helped your family or child.
- A photo or story of an activity you did with your child.
- A photo of artwork or something else your child has made.

Email your family story or photo to dhsclts@dhs.wisconsin.gov with "All in For Kids" in the subject line. You can also send ideas for stories you would like to see in the newsletter. We look forward to hearing from you! ❖

New Resources to Help Prepare Children for Future Success

The transition from childhood to adulthood can be both exciting and challenging. Children are best prepared for adult life when families are supportive and have clear goals. This is especially true for kids with disabilities. Even if your child is very young, the little things you do now can make a big difference!

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), along with other state agencies and organizations, has created two new online resources to help parents and caregivers prepare their child for future success:

- Before Age 18 website

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

- Transition Action Guide

Before Age 18 Website

Visit the Before Age 18 website at beforeage18.org/action-steps/#families for ideas, broken down by age group, to prepare kids for their future. Whether you have a toddler or a teenager, you will find tips on helping your child make decisions, explore their interests, and take on responsibilities.

Transition Action Guide

It is an exciting time as your teenager becomes an adult and transitions from school to work. As a team, your family will work with school staff, health care providers, and program staff to get through this transition. You can use the Transition Action Guide (TAG) at <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/policy-guidance/toolkits-guides-manuals/tag/default.htm> to help. The TAG gives each person on the team a to-do list based on their role. You can use the TAG to track actions that you can take and to know what to expect from other team members.

The things you do now can make a big difference in how well your child does in school and as an adult. We hope these new resources help! ❖

CLTS Program Information: What Is Available and Where to Find It

The CLTS Program supports children and families all over Wisconsin. DHS wants you to be able to easily find and understand information about its long-term support programs. Here is a list of what materials are available and where to find them:

- For families starting to look into programs:
 - **Children's Services Programs: Cross Comparison (P-02991)**, explains three of the programs DHS offers: the CLTS Program, Katie Beckett Medicaid, and the Children's Community Options Program (CCOP). It includes how to apply, a little about eligibility, and what services are available. Find it at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/p-02991.htm.
 - **Medicaid and Children's Services Program Benefits Overview (P-02996)**, lists the specific types of services provided by

FAMILIES CAN APPEAL

It is natural for people to have differences of opinion from time to time. People, doing the best they can, may still disagree. Every family has the right to formally appeal a decision about supports and services with the Division of Hearings and Appeals. You can request a hearing using the form at doa.wi.gov/Pages/LicensesHearings/DHAWorkandFamilyServicesUnit.aspx or by letter. Mail your form or letter to: DHA, P.O. Box 7875, Madison, WI 53707-7875. Filing an appeal is not seen as a negative action. It is simply one way to work through differences.

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Medicaid, CCOP, and the CLTS program. Find it at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/p-02996.htm.

- For families who want more details about enrolling in the CLTS Program, Katie Beckett Medicaid, or CCOP:
 - **Children’s Programs Eligibility and Functional Screen** (P-03061), explains the process for finding out if a child has needs that make them eligible to get program supports and services. It explains the screening process, what happens after the screening, and what “level of care” means. Find it at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/p-03061.htm.
- For families who are enrolled in the CLTS Program:
 - **Welcome to the Children’s Long-Term Support Waiver Program** (P-03010), is a welcome packet with information for new families after they enroll in the CLTS Program. Find it at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/p-03010.htm.
 - **Contacts for the Children’s Long-Term Support Program** (P-03037), tells who to contact if you need help, have questions, or disagree with a program decision. Find it at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/p-03037.htm.
 - **Helpful Resources for Families in Children’s Services Programs** (P-03036), tells you where to find web pages with general DHS program information for families and gives an overview of its children’s programs. It also gives links and phone numbers to contact community partners and resources. Find it at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/p-03036.htm. ❖

Helpful Resources for Families

Latest information about COVID-19, including information about vaccinations for children, vaccine booster doses, and testing: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm

New! COVID-19 vaccines have been approved for younger children.

Now everyone age **6 months and older** can get a free COVID-19 vaccination from their health care provider, community-based vaccination clinic, local or tribal health department, or pharmacy. Find out how at:

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-get.htm

New! COVID-19 vaccine booster doses have been approved for younger children. Information about COVID-19 booster doses for fully vaccinated people age **5 and older**:

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-booster.htm

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST

For faster delivery, sign up to receive the electronic version of this newsletter and other emails about the CLTS Program. Go to public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=WIDHS_554.

You can also sign up for other DHS long-term care program emails at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dms/ltc-email-signup.htm.

Feel free to spread the word if you have friends or family who might be interested in the newsletter or the CLTS Program.

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Children 2 years and older can protect against COVID-19 by wearing a mask. Learn more at:

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/parents.htm

Tips for talking about COVID-19 vaccinations with family and friends:

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/vaccine-talk.htm

Information about the transition from childhood to adulthood:
familyvoiceswi.org/resource-library (Scroll down to the Transition to Adult Life section.)

Videos about youth-to-adult health care transition:

healthtransitionwi.org

Previous issues of All in for Kids: CLTS Program:

www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/clts/family.htm (Scroll down to the Family Newsletter section.)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

COVID-19 is still around. Vaccination is the most effective way to prevent it. You can also help stop its spread by:

- Wearing a mask on public transportation or at crowded gatherings. You can wear a mask even if it is not required.
- Staying home when feeling sick.
- Getting tested if you have symptoms or after close contact with someone who has COVID-19.

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All in for Kids: CLTS Program is a newsletter published by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services for children and families in the CLTS Program.

The CLTS 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 the child's and family's specific needs and identified goals or outcomes. For more information, visit www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/children/index.htm.

Para leer este boletín en español, visite www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/akids22.htm.

Xav nyeem tsab ntawv xov xwm no ua Lus Hmoob, mus xyuas www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/akids22.htm.

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