

N.E.W. (Northeast Wisconsin) Partnership for Children and Families By Laws

ARTICLE 1 *Vision & Mission*

The **vision** of the N.E.W. (Northeast Wisconsin) Partnership for Children and Families is to create a comprehensive system of child welfare professional development, in order to achieve positive outcomes in the lives of children and families.

The **mission** of the N.E.W. (Northeast Wisconsin) Partnership for Children and Families is to collaboratively develop and deliver a comprehensive, competency-based training system for public child welfare professionals.

ARTICLE 2 *Membership*

Membership of the N.E.W. (Northeast Wisconsin) Partnership for Children and Families (hereafter referred to as NEW Partnership) is comprised of the child welfare staff and licensed foster parents of Brown, Calumet, Door, Florence, Fond du Lac, Forest, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Langlade, Lincoln, Manitowoc, Marathon, Marinette, Marquette, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, Outagamie, Portage, Shawano, Sheboygan, Vilas, Waupaca, Waushara, Winnebago, and Wood county departments of social/human services; and the Social Work Professional Program at UW-Green Bay and the Collaborative MSW Program at UW-Green Bay and UW-Oshkosh. The Northern and Northeastern Regional Offices of DCF are nonvoting members. The Director and other staff from the NEW Partnership are nonvoting members.

Membership shall be defined by the following activities:

1. Documented contribution of fiscal and in-kind resources to NEW Partnership, as determined appropriate by the NEW Partnership.
2. Participation in and support of the activities of NEW Partnership.
3. Active participation in functions of NEW Partnership, as defined herein.

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ARTICLE 3 *Governance Structure & Committees*

Article 3 a - Governance

1. Administrators' Committee: This committee is comprised of a representative of each of the members of the NEW Partnership. This body plans for functions of the Steering Committee, provides input and direction to the work of the NEW Partnership, and holds the authority for endorsing the general and strategic functions of the NEW Partnership. The chair of the Steering Committee, along with the NEW Partnership Director, shall co-chair the Administrators' Committee meetings.
2. Steering Committee: This committee is appointed from the full membership of the Administrators' Committee at either of the bi-annual Administrators' Committee meetings. Membership expectation shall be for at least a two (2) year term, with the opportunity to serve additional terms. Membership shall be staggered to assure continuity. Eight (8) members shall be from the counties, three (3) from NEW Partnership staff, one (1) chair from the BSW Program at UW-Green Bay or the Collaborative MSW Program from UW-Green Bay and UW-Oshkosh, and two (2) representatives from the Northern and Northeastern regions of DCF. This body provides leadership and direction in developing policies and strategies related to training, fiscal and operational aspects of the NEW Partnership, and shall, from time to time, form and charge subcommittees to perform specific tasks for the NEW Partnership. The Steering Committee shall elect their chair for a two year term.
3. NEW Partnership Director: Shall be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the NEW Partnership, working within the policies and procedures of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, the requirements of the annual Title IV-E contract with the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, and the general and strategic direction set by the Administrators' Committee. The director or designee shall represent the NEW Partnership on the BSW and Collaborative MSW Social Work Professional Program committees as identified in the "Memorandum of Understanding" between the NEW Partnership, the UW-Green Bay BSW Program, and the UW-Green Bay & UW-Oshkosh Collaborative MSW Program.

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Article 3 b - Advisory Committees

Professional Development Advisory Committee: This committee is comprised of public child welfare supervisors and advanced practice workers. Twelve (12) members shall be from the counties. Three (3) members shall be from the NEW Partnership staff. Two (2) members shall be the Regional Child Welfare Coordinators from the Northern and Northeastern regions of DCF. One (1) member shall be the Child Welfare Coordinator for the BSW/MSW Child Welfare Stipend Program at UW-Green Bay. One (1) member shall be the Training Director from DCF. This committee is co-chaired by the NEW Partnership Training Manager and Foster Parent Training Manager.

This body serves to link current child welfare practice, the NEW Partnership, the BSW Social Work Professional Program, and the Collaborative MSW Program, and to advise on the child welfare training curriculum and the BSW and Collaborative MSW child welfare curriculum by providing advice and recommendations for the successful delivery of practical, relevant and effective child welfare training. Up to two agency members of this committee will serve on the Social Work Professional Program's BSW Advisory Committee.

ARTICLE 4 *Meetings*

Administrators' Committee - Shall meet at least two times per year in Spring and Fall.

Steering Committee - Shall meet at least four times a year on dates set by the Steering Committee.

Professional Development Advisory Committee - Shall meet at least four times a year on dates set by the committee.

Other Advisory Committees – Shall meet as defined necessary by each committee to achieve the purpose of the committee, on dates set by the committees.

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ARTICLE 5
Documentation and Recording

Each committee defined herein is responsible for the documentation of their formal activities in the form of approved minutes. These shall be recorded and distributed by staff of the NEW Partnership.

ARTICLE 6
Endorsement of & Amendments to the Bylaws

These Bylaws shall be ratified by the NEW Partnership Administrators and may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Administrators present at either of the properly noticed Administrators' Committee meetings.

ARTICLE 7
Quorum Requirements

All NEW Partnership meetings must meet a quorum requirement, with a quorum being one-third of that designated group's total membership. A written designation of Proxy can be used to meet quorum requirements, and a proxy form for written proxy assignment will be mailed with notices to bi-annual Administrators' Committee Meetings.

ARTICLE 8
Meeting Rules

Roberts Rules of Order will provide the basis for all meeting conduct.

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**ARTICLE 9
Fees and Charges**

NEW Partnership county members shall each be assessed an annual capitated fee. Such fee shall be based on county population and evaluated on a regular basis.

Training offered by the NEW Partnership shall be provided to its members at a low or nominal fee.

Training sponsored by the NEW Partnership may be accessed by non-members, on a space available basis, at a fee covering the full per participant cost of that training.

Reciprocity for other Wisconsin Child Welfare Training Partnerships shall be honored, using NEW Partnership policies and rates.

MSW Child Welfare Education Program (CWEP) students from the Collaborative UW-Green Bay / UW-Oshkosh MSW Stipend Program who are in their Advanced-Year Field Placements may access NEW Partnership Training at the member rate according to the requirements outlined in the “Memorandum of Understanding” between the NEW Partnership, the UW-Green Bay BSW Program, and the UW-Green Bay & UW-Oshkosh Collaborative MSW Program.