

# Eau Claire County Poverty Summit



Kids First - Eau Claire  
Action Team

## TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

April 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalized Charter Statement and Action Plan.</li> <li>Presented power point at Clear Vision Poverty Summit Celebration.</li> </ul>
May 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed questions for focus groups, key informant interviews, and surveys to learn about community's parent support needs.</li> </ul>
June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted parent focus groups at Early Head Start, Fairchild Parent Café and UWEC Nature Center.</li> <li>Planned and implemented relationship-building one-to-one meetings.</li> <li>Prepared Fact Sheet as a communication tool.</li> <li>Developed survey questions for further parent input on barriers to participation in current programs, gaps and vision of the ideal support opportunity.</li> </ul>
July 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Researched existing parent support programs.</li> <li>Selected Parent-2-Parent national program and statewide based in Rhinelander, WI as model to replicate in Eau Claire County.</li> <li>Made contacts with state and national program directors for feasibility check, relationship-building and support.</li> <li>Created program title, <i>Parent Partners - Chippewa Valley</i>.</li> <li>Began program planning.</li> </ul>
August 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalized program planning through team work session</li> <li>Established program partnerships and Memorandums of Agreement with key community organizations –             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EC Area School District</li> <li>EC City-Co Health Department</li> <li>Western Dairyland Community Action Agency</li> <li>Children's Hospital of WI</li> </ul> </li> <li>Prepared United Way grant proposal.</li> </ul>
September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submitted United Way grant proposal.</li> </ul>
October 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explored potential partnerships with organizations to administer the Parent Partners-Chippewa Valley program.</li> <li>Selected next priority community issue to address: Lack of access to quality, affordable child care.</li> <li>Planned response to request that the Kids First Action Team provide leadership for the Eau Claire Coalition for Youth.</li> </ul>

November 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement reached to assume leadership for Eau Claire Coalition for Youth.</li> <li>• Designed Eau Claire Coalition for Youth collaborative website and application forms.</li> </ul>
December 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launched Eau Claire Coalition for Youth website and began receiving applications <a href="https://eccoalition4youth.weebly.com">https://eccoalition4youth.weebly.com</a></li> <li>• Began information gathering on child care issues and action planning for 2018.</li> <li>• Celebrated a successful first year!</li> </ul>
January 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signed 26 organizations on to the Coalition for Youth.</li> </ul>
February 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalized agreement with Western Dairyland to serve as lead agency for Parent Partners-Chippewa Valley.</li> </ul>
March 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Began creating an action plan to address affordable child care in Eau Claire County.</li> </ul>
June 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified <i>The Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood</i> as potential grantor to fund program manager position for Parent Partners-Eau Claire peer support program.</li> <li>• Requested Poverty Summit funding to hire a grant writer to gather information and write grant proposal.</li> </ul>
October 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PARENT PARTNERS PROGRAM: This peer support program is being implemented by Western Dairyland. The action team and Western Dairyland are working together to apply for <i>The Caplan Foundation for Early Childhood</i> grant to launch the program.</li> <li>• EAU CLAIRE COALITION FOR YOUTH: The team has implemented a web-based communication plan to inform Coalition members and coordinate activities through a website and social media. About 30 organizations have signed on. Team has applied for service learning students at UW-Eau Claire to help create and launch a monthly email newsletter this Fall.</li> <li>• CHILD CARE: Lack of quality, affordable and accessible child care in our community is a serious problem with implications for our children's growth, development, safety and lifelong potential. The team is conducting a Community Readiness Assessment to help plan effective measures to address the issue. The team is also finalizing a community survey that will come out this Fall to begin understanding the needs and the community's capacity to address them. From this assessment will flow an implementation action plan.</li> </ul>

## PROJECT CHARTER STATEMENT

### Action Team: Kids First-Eau Claire

April 6, 2017

We, the **KIDS FIRST-EAU CLAIRE** Action Team, believe that lack of positive parental role models and support systems for families of low income is a serious problem that contributes to families struggling with meeting the day-to-day needs of children and impairs their reaching their full, life-long potential.

We care about this problem because families are the foundation of our community and children are our future. Without adequate support, adverse childhood experiences negatively impact children for a lifetime. Additional burdensome costs to families and the community include needs related to health, human services support, education, and criminal justice system intervention.

We propose to empower community members to support and nurture families in need by establishing an evidence-informed Parent-to-Parent Mentoring Program. This will help address the challenges families are facing by reaching out without the barrier of stigma and empowering parents and caregivers to provide the best possible environment for children. **ACTION PLAN**

March 8, 2018; updated April 12, 2018, August 23, 2018, September 7, 2018

We, the **KIDS FIRST-EAU CLAIRE** Action Team, believe that lack of access to quality, affordable childcare for Eau Claire County families is a serious problem that contributes to families struggling to meet the day to day needs of children and impairs their reaching their full, life-long potential.

We care about this problem because families are the foundation of our community and children are our future. We believe that all children deserve equal access to quality, affordable childcare for their health, safety, growth, development, and well-being, and for the well-being of the community as a whole. Without adequate support, adverse childhood experiences negatively impact children for a lifetime.

In partnership with the public and private sectors, we propose to advance a childcare system that efficiently and effectively serves all families, through a strong and unified network of community support.