



Isthmus Montessori Academy

**DANE COUNTY COMMUNITY
RESOURCE PACKET**

Isthmus Montessori Academy (Public)

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CHILD CARE RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The following list outlines resources that foster partnerships and collaboration between families and agencies/organizations to meet child and family needs.

[**ACCESS**](#) - Wisconsin's easy-to-use online application tool for FoodShare, Health Care, Family Planning, and Child Care assistance. It takes about an hour to apply for child care assistance online.

[**Administration for Children & Families**](#) - Promotes the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals, and communities with partnerships, funding, guidance, training and technical assistance.

[**Black Child Development Institute \(BCDI\)**](#) - Milwaukee Affiliate. BCDI's mission is to improve and protect the quality of life of African American children and families.

[**Center for Law and Social Policy \(CLASP\)**](#) - A national nonprofit organization that conducts research, policy analysis, technical assistance and advocacy on issues related to economic security for low-income families with children.

[**Center on Budget and Policy Priorities \(CBPP\)**](#) - Printable outreach materials help working parents claim the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit and file their taxes for free.

[**Child Care Resource and Referral \(CCR&R\) Agencies**](#) - Help for parents to sort through child care options and assist them in selecting quality child care.

[**Division of Early Care and Education \(DECE\)**](#) - This Division of the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) aims to provide access to affordable, high-quality child care and early education experiences, to enhance our children's development and to support their families in work and parenting roles.

[**Foster Parent Guide**](#) - The [**Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy**](#) helps eligible families with the cost of quality child care while parents – or persons taking the place of parents – work, go to school and work, or engage in a job training activity. The Foster Parent Guide tells how to apply and maintain eligibility for the subsidy.

[**Kids Forward**](#) (formerly Wisconsin Council on Children and Families) - A nonprofit, multi-issue child and family advocacy agency.

[**Office of Child Care**](#) - Part of the Administration for Children & Families, the OCC supports low-income working families through child care financial assistance and promotes children's learning by improving the quality of early care and education and afterschool programs.

[**Quality Child Care Initiatives**](#) - Help parents find and select child care, develop new child care services where needed, support and help sustain existing child care services, identify local child care needs and resources, and provide public information about child care.

UMOS Migrant Child Care Program - A DCF-funded program that collaborates with Migrant and Seasonal Head Start to serve migrant children throughout Wisconsin.

W-2 (Wisconsin Works) Employment Services for Parents - W-2 helps parents prepare for work. Find information about Job Access Loans, Transitional Jobs, and Transform Milwaukee Jobs.

W-2 (Wisconsin Works) Supportive Services for Parents - Read about the many supportive services available to low-income parents, and low-income individuals without children, across Wisconsin.

Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners - Represents many public and private agencies, associations, and individuals that care about our state's young children and their families.

Wisconsin Shares Parent Information - Wisconsin Shares is Wisconsin's child care subsidy program that helps working families pay for child care.

YoungStar for Parents - In-depth information on each program YoungStar rates – including their hours, location, accreditation, evaluation history, and any regulatory violations they've received – plus helpful resources about early childhood education, nutrition, healthy brain development, and much more.

This list was adapted from the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. For further information, please visit <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/resources>. You may also contact Kara Anderson at kara.anderson@isthmusmontessoriacademy.org or at (608) 661-8200. Some resources are outlined in more detail in later pages of the Community Outreach Binder.

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR LEARNERS AND FAMILIES

The following list includes mental health practitioners in the Madison area that are accepting new patients. All of the providers on the list accept public and private assistance, including Medicaid and Medicare*.

Elizabeth C Armstrong - Madison, WI (855-300-9893)

Specializes in Autism Spectrum Disorder, trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, depression, anxiety, ADHD, and mood disorders. LGBTQ+ and BIPOC allied.

Renee St. Clair - Madison, WI (608-208-6847)

Specializes in Family Care, ADHD, peer relationships, parenting, trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, grief, and dual diagnosis. LGBTQ+ allied.

Briana Thomas - Madison, WI (608-471-7658)

Specializes in Family Care, family conflict, parenting, peer relationships, self-esteem, and depression.

David C. Lee - Madison, WI (608-291-5003)

Specializes in relationship issues, depression, racial identity, and anxiety. LGBTQ+ allied, Spanish and Cantonese-speaking.

Rachel Sanabria - Madison, WI (608-719-3511)

Specializes in anxiety, trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, and depression. LGBTQ+ allied, Spanish-speaking.

For assistance in applying for Medicaid or Medicare, please visit [ACCESS Wisconsin](#), or call Kara Anderson at 608-661-8200.

OTHER COMMUNITY-BASED RESOURCES FOR LEARNERS AND FAMILIES

Black Child Development Institute (Milwaukee, Wisconsin)

The Black Child Development Institute (BCDI) was officially recognized in 1997.

According to their mission and goal statement, "Our specific goals for Black children and their families were to: implement and provide services to enhance their quality of life, assess public policies impacting them, and develop/ strengthen/recommend policy changes for their betterment."

Within this community organization is the Family Empowerment Program - aimed at building parent capacity. By participating in this program, families are empowered to build the capacity of their children, and advocate for their children from birth through college. The BCDI takes pride in being culturally responsive and relevant, trauma sensitive, developmentally appropriate and two-generational, while also being aligned with current research and practices, and action oriented.

This community organization takes pride in developing programs related to policy, early child care and education, health, family engagement, literacy, and child welfare.

The BCDI hosts many community events throughout the year, and a calendar can be found on their website.

For more information, please visit <https://www.bcdi-milwaukee.org/>. You may also contact Kara Anderson at kara.anderson@isthmusmontessoriacademy.org or at (608) 661-8200.

Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program

The Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program supports low-income families with financial aid to cover a portion of child care costs while parents or other caregivers are working/participating in another approved activity.

Low income families who have children under the age of 13 may be eligible for services. If the family has a child who has special needs, the child may be eligible for services until their 19th birthday.

Parents or caregivers must be working or participating in other approved activities in order to qualify for assistance. If there are multiple caregivers in the home, care will only be covered if there is overlap in caregiver schedules.

It is important to note that there are certain eligibility requirements in order to qualify for the Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program. Further information on the eligibility requirements can be found on the Department of Children and Families website.

For more information, please visit <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/wishares>. You may also contact Kara Anderson at kara.anderson@isthmusmontessoriacademy.org or at (608) 661-8200.

UMOS Child Care Services

UMOS is a non profit organization provides programs and services which improve the employment, educational, health, and housing opportunities of underserved populations. UMOS has locations across the nation that focus specifically on child development, workforce development, and social services.

According to UMOS, their Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Program “... is designed to meet the needs of migrant and seasonal farmworker families by providing comprehensive and holistic services with a focus on “school readiness” through Early Learning Standards. The programs within the division are individualized for each child’s needs, are age-appropriate and encourage best practices in programming. MSHS utilizes a Management Systems approach to services, which ensures program effectiveness and accountability to stakeholders. UMOS stakeholders include parents, policy groups, community representatives, board of directors and program and administrative staff at all levels of program operations.”

UMOS utilizes parent engagement to support the child’s educational readiness and the holistic development of the child. Parent meetings are bilingual, and UMOS is working to increase the engagement of positive, male role models.

UMOS also offers workforce development and job center resources for parents and caregivers. This includes Adult Education, Employee Services, and much more!

UMOS holds many community events throughout the year, and the community calendar can be found on their website.

For more information, please visit <https://www.umos.org/index.html>. You may also contact Kara Anderson at kara.anderson@isthmusmontessoriacademy.org or at (608) 661-8200.

Wisconsin Works (W-2)

Wisconsin Works is Wisconsin's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). It is a temporary program that provides cash assistance and case management to low-income families and pregnant women. Both parents may benefit from W-2, regardless if the child lives with said parent. The purpose of W-2 is to provide families with job skills and comfortability during times of hardship.

W-2 provides: case management services, vocational education and training, assistance with searching for housing, child care, and employment, assistance in applying for Social Security or Disability Insurance, and work experience through supervised worksites.

With this program, you are required to work or participate in activities that help prepare you for work. You can apply at your local W-2 Agency. The ACCESS website has an interactive interview to help you determine your eligibility.

For more information, please visit <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/w2/parents/w2>. You may also contact Kara Anderson at kara.anderson@isthmusmontessoriacademy.org or at (608) 661-8200.

Rise - Wisconsin

Rise is a community based organization that provides home visiting services, early childhood education, care coordination, stabilization and support, mental health assessment and evaluation, and respite care.

Rise is also home to The Respite Center. The Respite Center is an emergency child care and parent support service that provides respite, child care, and resources for children ages 0-14. Some services provided through this facility are: planned child care while parents attend appointments, search for housing, or look for employment, emergency child care and support when a crisis occurs, and information/referral to community services.

Through Care Coordination and Mental Health Services is a program titled Children Come First. Children Come First is an intensive care unit for children with mental health concerns wanting to remain in their homes and communities. Their Comprehensive Community Services is a recovery-oriented program for youth and adults living with mental health needs. Rise also provides Court Ordered Evaluations - particularly for outpatient mental health assessments ordered under statutes.

Rise provides Early Childhood and Home Visiting Programs. The Early Childhood Initiative is a voluntary home visiting program that provides support for pregnant women and families with children ages 0-4. The Parent-Child Program is an early literacy and school readiness program for

children ages 2-4 that equips parents with the skills to foster development in their children. For specific to expecting families, there is the Welcome Baby & Beyond. Welcome Baby & Beyond offers education and support for families with children ages 0-5. This program helps to promote safe, healthy, and positive environments for families and children.

Rise is located in Madison, Wisconsin and hosts many community events throughout the year. The calendar can be found on their website.

For more information, please visit <http://risewisconsin.org/>. You may also contact Kara Anderson at kara.anderson@isthmusmontessoriacademy.org or at (608) 661-8200.

The Canopy Center

The Canopy Center is dedicated to children, teens, and families affected by trauma and adversity. The Canopy Center is a child abuse treatment and prevention program founded in 1977. While most child abuse is addressed by removing the child(ren) from the home - the Canopy Center uses methods to strengthen family units and address the long term affects of child abuse.

The Oasis Program serves as part of the Canopy Center and focuses specifically on the children and families who have been subject to incest and sexual abuse. The Oasis Program offers individual therapy, group therapy, and family therapy. Oasis provides therapy services to children and non-offending parents and caregivers in order to reduce and understand the short and long term effects of sexual abuse.

CASA - or Court Appointed Special Advocates - are also provided through the Canopy Center to children and teens who are currently under protection from Dane County. The purpose of this program is to be a voice for individuals who have been abused or neglected within the court systems. In order to make this program function most effectively, it requires cooperation between Dane County Juvenile Courts, and Dane County Department of Human Services.

The Parent to Child (P2C) is a home visiting service associated with the Canopy Center. The Canopy Center provides staff and volunteer Family Interaction Specialists supervise visits while acting like mentors and resources. Family visits may take place in the home, in the community, or at a previously determined visitation site.

Referrals are needed for most programs through the Canopy Center. If you need assistance with the referral process, please contact Kara Anderson kara.anderson@isthmusmontessoriacademy.org or at (608) 661-8200.

United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) of Greater Dane County

United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Dane County offers Birth to Three Services, respite care, and other youth services for children with disabilities around the Madison area.

UCP of Greater Dane County is committed to supporting children and adults with developmental disabilities or delays and their families. To fulfill this commitment, they adhere to the following core values: full community membership, collaborative partnerships, informal and natural support, community connections, and quality relationships.

Some programs with UCP require a referral, such as Birth to Three Services and some of the youth programming. If you need assistance with the referral process, please contact Kara Anderson kara.anderson@isthmusmontessoriacademy.org or at (608) 661-8200. The [UCP website](#) has additional information on the history of the programs and how to become involved with this community.