



# Innovation, Collaboration and Independence





# What Is PROMISE?

- Program to improve the education and career outcomes of low income children with disabilities receiving SSI
  - advances goal of fostering interagency collaboration at the Federal and State levels to improve services and drive innovation
- \$32.5 million grant for 5 year demonstration





## 6 Demonstration Sites

- California
- New York
- Maryland
- Arkansas
- Aspire Consortium (Utah, Arizona, Colorado, N. Dakota, S. Dakota and Montana)
- Wisconsin





# The Problem

A significant number of child SSI recipients do not become independent, self-sufficient tax paying members of the community.

Parents and families of many SSI recipients are not self-sufficient & face many challenges:

- Low educational attainment and employment rates
- Low postsecondary or vocational rehabilitation enrollment rates



# Partnerships



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH SERVICES



*ForwardHealth*  
Wisconsin serving you

- Medicaid/Long Term Care
- Mental Health
- Disabilities



WISCONSIN  
DWD  
Department of Workforce Development



JOB CENTER  
of WISCONSIN



EVR




Investing in  
Wisconsin's Future

- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Workforce Development
- Youth Programs



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (W-2)
- Child Protective Services



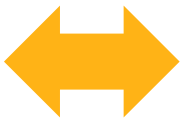
WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

- Special Education



**Facilitator:**  
Board of People  
w/ Developmental  
Disabilities

**Executive Committee:**  
Secretaries:  
DWD, DHS, DCF  
DPI Superintendent



**Steering Committee:**  
Workgroup Liaisons/Leads, Department Leads, Partnership  
Committee Members  
Variety of staff/partners: DPI, DHS, DWD, DCF, Parent Groups,  
UW Researcher/Evaluators, Disability Reps, Service Providers  
and Experts



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Recruit &  
Enroll

Case  
Management

Work Exp  
Careers

Data  
Sharing

Connections

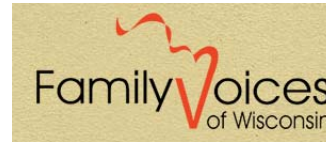
Financial  
Services

Evaluation



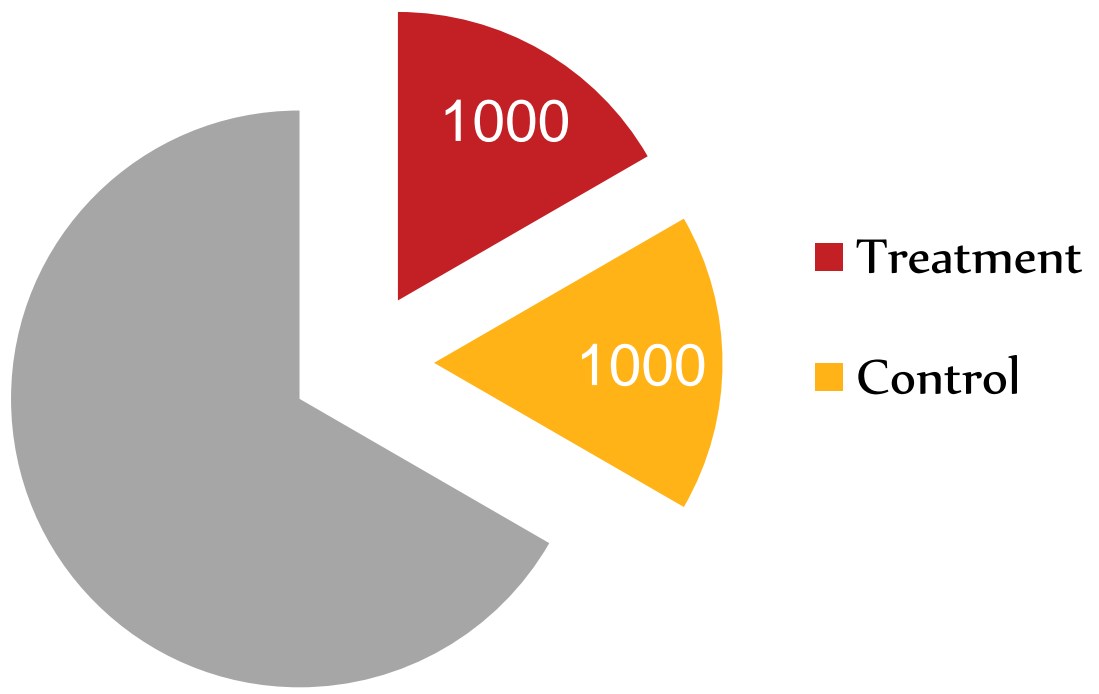
# Partnership Committee:

workgroup members...and the list goes on...





# Enrollment Targets



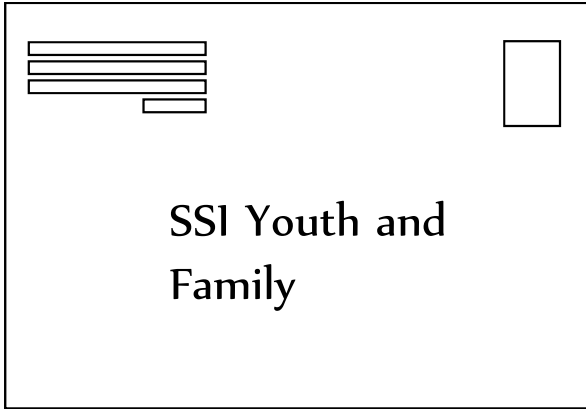
6000 WI Youth (14 to 16) Receiving SSI







# Recruitment



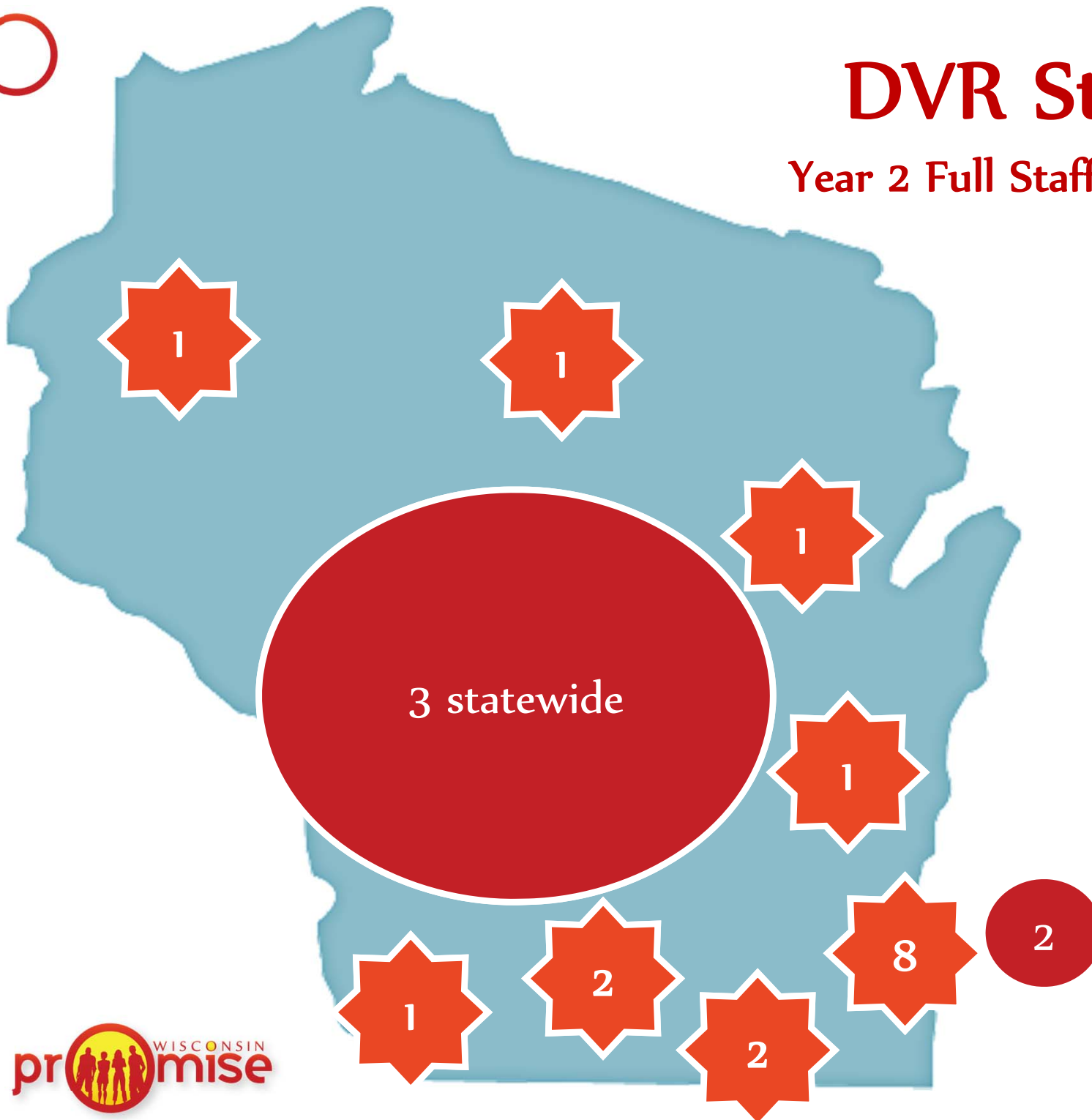


# Grant Population Targets

Region	Population %
Racine, Kenosha & Walworth Counties	10.1%
Milwaukee Co	41.7%
Waukesha, Ozaukee & Washington Counties	2.7%
Fox Valley	6.8%
Green Bay & NE WI	8.5%
Wausau & NC WI	4.4%
Superior & NW WI	1.5%
Eau Claire & West Central WI	4.5%
LaCrosse & Western WI	3.5 %
Madison & SC WI	9.5%
Janesville, Beloit & SW WI	5%

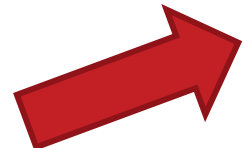
# DVR Staffing

Year 2 Full Staff Complement





# Enrollment



Periodic Survey  
Benchmark



Family and Youth  
Enrolled in DVR



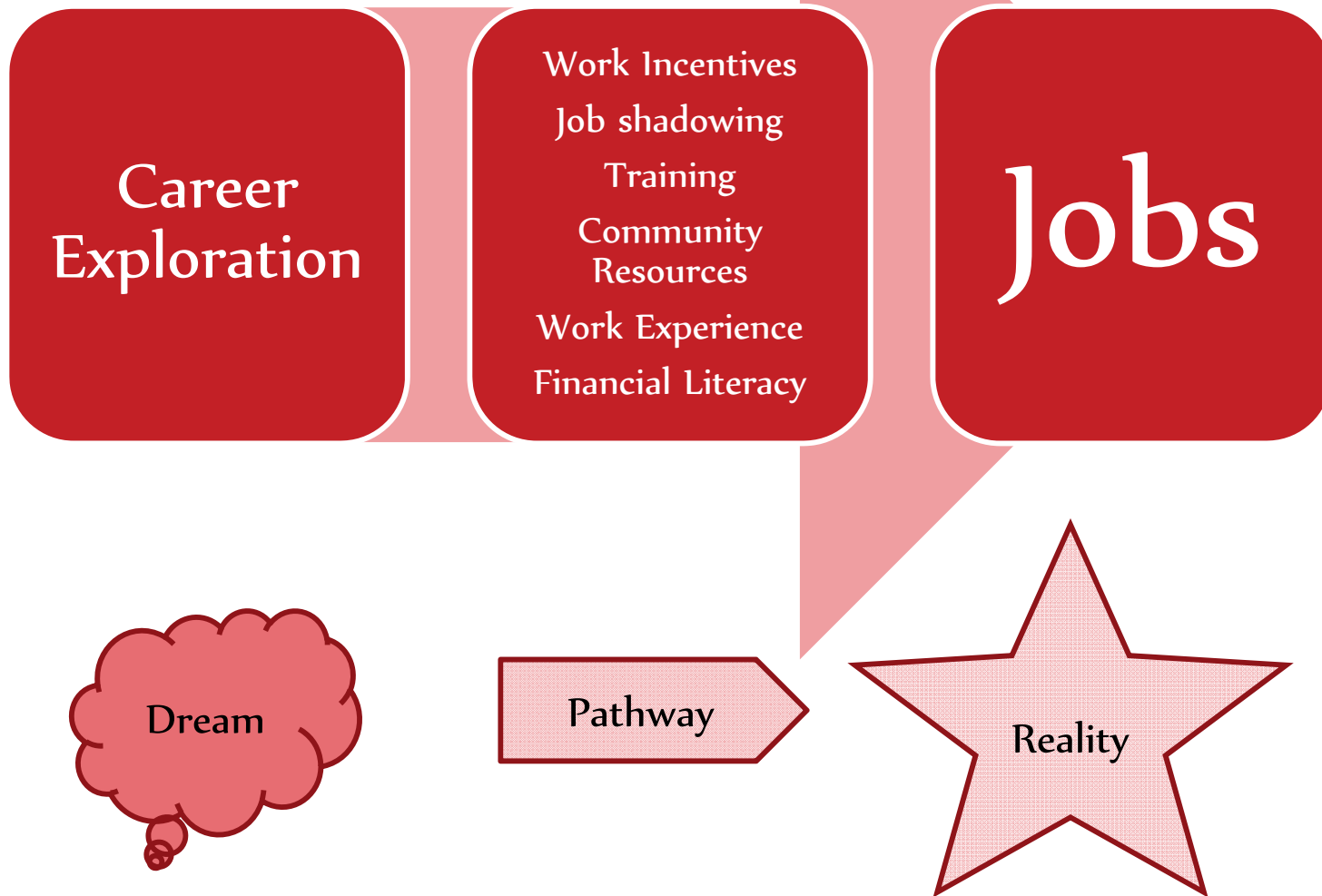
Program Services

- Parental Consent
- Baseline intake

- SSA Verification
- Random Selection



# Individual and Family





# Key Elements

- **Work Experience**
- **Incentives Benefits Counseling**
- **Asset Management**
- **Community Resources**
- **Labor Market/Business Connections**
- **Education and Training**
- **Coordination of services--alignment**





# Outcomes

- Increase Educational attainment and credentials
- Increase Employment
- Increase household income including family members older than 15
- Decrease reliance on SSA payments
- Decrease public benefits



# Outcome Measures

- **National Evaluation- Mathematica**
- **Formative Evaluation**
  - **UW-Stout**
    - Dr. John Lui and Dr. Cayte Anderson
  - **UW-Madison**
    - Dr. Fong Chan, Dr. Tim Tansey and Dr. Audrey Trainor



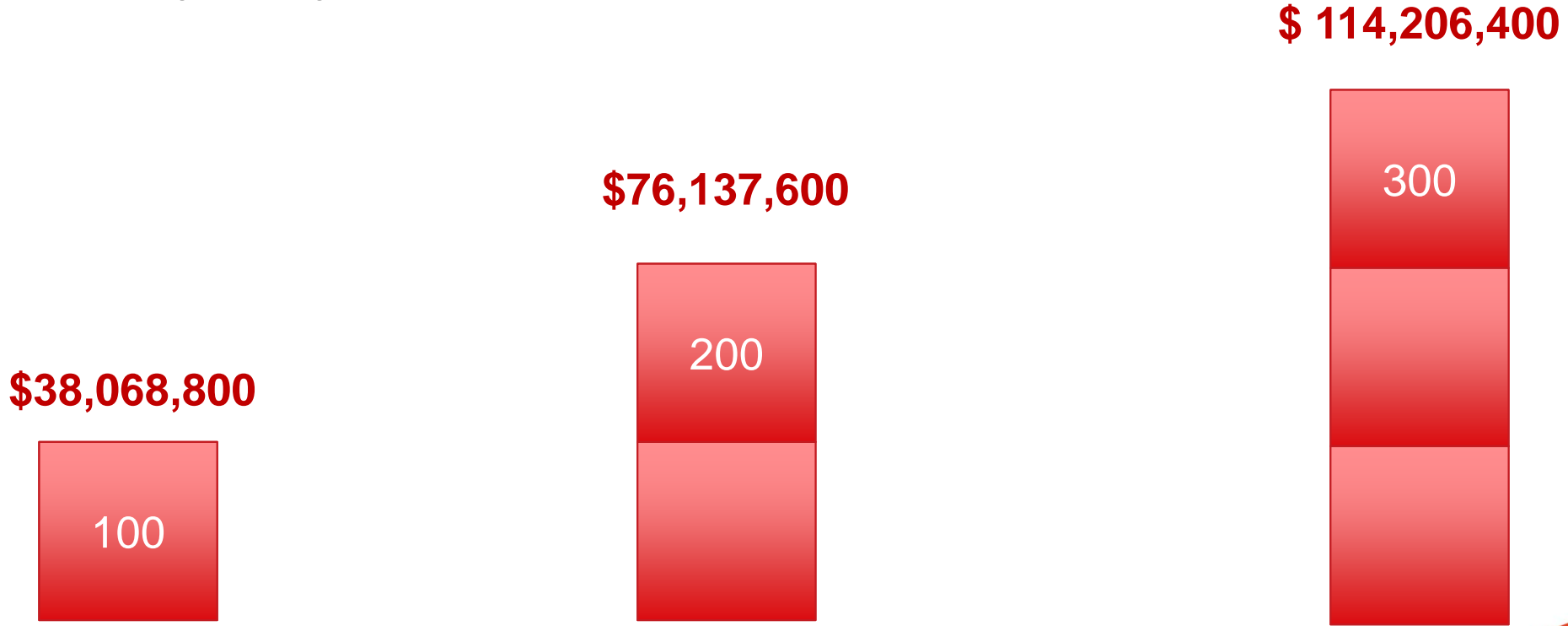


# Return on Investment

Avg monthly SSI payment = \$721

Yearly amount = \$8652

Working to Age 21- 65 = \$380,688





# Case Management

## Inputs or Activities

1. 17 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) case managers plus 5 case coordinators
2. Rapid engagement [start no more than 90 days after enrollment (averaging 30 days); assessment complete within 60 days]
3. Strength-based and Needs Assessments
4. At least monthly contact
5. Identifying, locating, arranging for needed services and supports
6. Coordinating grant services with other available services
7. Establish resource team or join in existing team (school, long term support, mental health, Wrap Around, juvenile justice, child/family welfare, etc...)
8. Person centered planning
9. Transition planning coordinated with school IEP and Academic Career Plan
10. Plan Development/Implementation
11. Plan Completion/Stabilization/Closure
12. Technical assistance from Statewide Transition Action and Resource Team (START)
13. Case manager learning community
14. Motivational Interviewing training

## Short/ Intermediate Term Outcomes

1. Good working alliance
2. Increased work motivation (readiness for work/school; increase belief in what is possible)
3. Complimentary and consistent IEP and IPE and Academic Career Plan
4. Connection to needed medical and behavioral health and independent living services and supports

# ○ Career Exploration/Work Experience

## Inputs or Activities

1. Educational and Drop Out Prevention Assessment and Engagement
2. Literacy training
3. Connect family members to complete high school or obtain GED
4. Connect with educational liaison to connect family members with financial aid, disability services (if needed), child care, transportation, and registration for post-secondary college, technical, or training school/programs
5. Soft Skills Training: Skills to Pay the Bills (adapt so can also be use with parents)
6. Online Youth Self-Advocacy Training (to be completed with family)
7. At least one (mandatory) or two (preferable) work experience(s)
  - a. On the Job Training (OJT)/ Youth OJT
  - b. Youth Apprenticeship Program
  - c. Transitional Jobs Program
  - d. Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Program
8. Connect to Adult Training through Job Centers for parents (use outcome based payments)
9. Job Development/Preparation
  - a. Business Services Consultants (DVR Dual Customer Approach)
  - b. Community Conversations
10. Youth Learning Communities
11. Family Learning Communities
12. Parent/Provider Training: What to expect after high school: Aim to increase expectations, knowledge, and participation in transition process

## Short/ Intermediate Term Outcomes

1. Graduate from high school/obtained GED
2. Post Secondary school/training certificate/credits/degree/other credentials
3. Attendance/ academics and behavior
4. Paid integrated, employment work (length in job)
5. Social skills
6. Self-advocacy knowledge and skills
7. Parent actively involved in supporting and advocating education and work goals
8. Literacy
9. Job readiness
10. Increase expectations, knowledge, and participation in transition process

# ○ Work Incentive Benefits Counseling/ Financial Capacity Building

## Inputs or Activities

1. Work Incentive Benefits Specialists (WIBS) to specialize in youth and family specific Work Incentive Benefits Counseling (WIBC)
2. Provide WIBC for all youth and their families
3. WIBC community of practice and technical assistance
4. Financial literacy classes: Make Your Money Talk
5. Ongoing Financial Coaching
6. Asset Development
  - a. Plans for Achieving Self-Support (PASS)
  - b. State Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) Provide incentives for saving by adding money directly to savings accounts (dollar to dollar match)

## Short/ Intermediate Term Outcomes

1. Financial self-efficacy
2. Use of work incentives
3. Amount in savings accounts
4. Asset accumulation
5. Decrease fear of loss of benefits
6. Stages of change: Increase readiness to work
7. Financial knowledge
8. Financial stability
9. Savings behaviors



# Family Training

## Inputs or Activities

1. Parent/Provider Training: What to expect after high school: Aim to increase expectations, knowledge, and participation in transition process
2. Family Learning Communities
3. Literacy training
4. Connect family members to complete high school or obtain GED
5. Connect with educational liaison to connect family members with financial aid, disability services (if needed), child care, transportation, and registration for post-secondary college, technical, or training school/programs
6. Adapt Skills to Pay the Bills so can also be use with parents
7. Online Youth Self-Advocacy Training to be completed with family
8. Connect to Adult Training through Job Centers for parents (use outcome based payments)
9. Family included in WIBC
10. Family included in financial training and IDAs
11. Family members with disabilities encouraged to apply to DVR

## Short/ Intermediate Term Outcomes

1. Graduate from high school/obtained GED
2. Post Secondary school/training certificate/credits/ degree/other credentials
3. Paid integrated, employment work (length in job)
4. Social skills
5. Self-advocacy knowledge and skills
6. Parent actively involved in supporting and advocating education and work goals
7. Literacy
8. Job readiness
9. Increase expectations, knowledge, and participation in transition process
10. Increased work motivation (readiness for work/school; increase belief in what is possible)
11. Financial literacy



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