Wisconsin Promise Services

Services for both youth and their families.

Provided by the Wisconsin Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) in collaboration with schools, mental health programs, long-term care programs, and child welfare programs working together to support youth and families.

Services included:

- Career exploration and planning
- Job development and placement
- Financial Coaching
- On-the-job supports
- Work Incentives Benefits Counseling (how to increase overall income through work and maintain access to needed supports including healthcare)
- Self/family advocacy training

Services were available for at least 2.5 years to both youth and their families.

Promise Enrollment

Between 2014 and 2016, Wisconsin Promise enrolled 2,024 youth ages 14-16 who received Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and their families:

- 1,006 youth randomly assigned received services as usual.
- 1,018 youth randomly assigned received access to Wisconsin Promise Services.
Youth Employment

1,011 youth participated in Promise

17 (2%) of youth worked 18 jobs before enrollment.

681 (67%) of youth worked 1,092 jobs at or after enrollment.**

Hours Worked

13 hrs weekly before enrollment.

22 hrs per week after enrollment.

Earnings

$92 median weekly before enrollment.

$150 median weekly after enrollment.

Substantial Gainful Activity*

Youth achieved 0 SGA before enrollment.

Youth achieved 53 SGA after enrollment.

*SGA = $1,180/month in 2018.

Youth Earning SGA

19% have not met with a benefits specialist.

81% met with a benefits specialist.

Benefits Counseling

Since meeting with a benefits specialist:

Youth had 3 times (3.4) as many jobs as youth who haven’t met with a benefits specialist.

55% of 746 youth have not yet met with a benefits specialist have worked.

78% of 535 youth met with a benefits specialist have worked since enrollment.

Families Employment

306 family members worked 320 jobs before enrollment.

729 (68%) family members worked 828 jobs after enrollment.**

**Retrieved from UI wage data
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial Coaching</th>
<th>Individual Development Accounts (IDAs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Since meeting with a financial coach: Youth had 5 times the total weekly earnings as youth who haven’t met with a financial coach.</td>
<td>Of the 377 youth with an IDA account 83% worked since enrollment as compared to 58% of the 634 youth who worked but do not have an IDA account.</td>
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<tr>
<td>52% of the 435 youth who have not met with a financial coach have worked since enrollment.</td>
<td>18% of youth who did not have an IDA account were actively working.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth Earning SGA</td>
<td>Youth Earning SGA</td>
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<td>13% of youth have not met with a financial coach.</td>
<td>25% of youth did not participate in a Savings Account.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Youth that met with a financial coach had almost 5 times as many jobs as youth who haven’t met with a financial coach.</td>
<td>75% of youth participated in a Savings Account.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>62% of the 417 youth who have not met with a family advocate have worked.</td>
<td>77% of the 422 youth with families who completed the family advocacy training who had a job while enrolled in Promise.</td>
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<tr>
<td>71% of the 594 youth who met with a family advocate have worked.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Youth that met with a family advocate had twice (2.4) the amount of jobs since enrollment as youth who haven’t met with a family advocate. | Youth that met with a family advocate at least once had twice (2.4) the weekly earning amount as youth who haven’t met with a family advocate.
Self-Advocacy

57% of 535 youth who have not completed training have worked since enrollment.
79% of 476 youth who completed training have worked since enrollment.

Youth that completed self-advocacy training are **40% more likely to have at least 1 job since enrollment** than those who did not complete the self-advocacy training.

Youth that completed self-advocacy training are **18% more likely to have active employment** compared to youth who did not complete the self-advocacy training.

Collaboration with Schools

63% of 397 youth who didn’t have a school person on their Resource Team have worked since enrollment.

70% of 614 youth who had a school person on their Resource Team have worked since enrollment.

Youth that had a school person on their Resource Team had **2.5 as many jobs** as youth who didn’t have a school person on their Resource Team.

DVR Employment Services and Outcomes ...

For the most part, youth who used DVR employment services had overwhelming more jobs, as well as a higher percentage of youth worked since enrollment and are actively working compared to youth who didn’t utilize employment services.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Percent Employed when Youth Did Not Use Service</th>
<th>Percent Employed when Youth Used Service</th>
<th>Percent Employed after Using this Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment Assessment Services</td>
<td>372</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Skills to Pay the Bills</td>
<td>532</td>
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<tr>
<td>Job Exploration Counseling</td>
<td>137</td>
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<tr>
<td>Job Search Assistance Services</td>
<td>308</td>
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<td>Trail Work Experience</td>
<td>308</td>
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<td>Short-Term Job Supports</td>
<td>285</td>
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<td>Work Based Learning Experience</td>
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<td>On the Job Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supported Employment Services</td>
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