

Mandatory Reporting by Clergy

What the New Wisconsin Law Means for You and Your Congregation

Third Edition
Revised August 2013



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**Questions?
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Wisconsin Council of Churches (608) 837-3108
or
Prevent Child Abuse-Wisconsin (800) CHILDREN**



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November 2008

Dear Wisconsin Clergy,

On April 19, 2004, Governor Jim Doyle signed Senate Bill 207 which impacts the ministry of every clergyperson and congregation in the State of Wisconsin.

This legislation aims at protecting God's most precious creation: the children of Wisconsin. The bill requires clergy to report suspected cases of child sexual abuse, extends the statute of limitations for filing criminal and civil charges of alleged child sexual abuse, and clarifies the conditions under which religious organizations can be sued for actions of offending clergy.

The Wisconsin Council of Churches is committed to the task of continuing to educate the entire religious community about the meaning of this law, and equipping the clergy of this state to fulfill their new responsibilities as mandatory reporters.

While the law limits mandatory reporting to suspected cases of sexual abuse, the Wisconsin Council of Churches believes that clergy should voluntarily hold themselves to a higher standard by reporting all forms of abuse: physical abuse, emotional abuse, child neglect, as well as sexual abuse.

This advisory booklet is an introduction to the new law and the responsibilities of mandatory reporting. It will probably not answer all of your questions. As the new law is clarified over time, we will revise and redistribute this important resource with more specific and detailed information.

Thank you for taking seriously your new responsibilities as a mandatory reporter in Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Scott D. Anderson
Executive Director

P.S. This third edition includes updated contact information for Child Protective Services in every county of the state. See pages 17-21.

*We pray and work together for the unity and renewal
of the church and the healing and reconciliation of the world*

GETTING STARTED: INITIAL STEPS TO BECOMING A MANDATORY REPORTER

1. Educate yourself

First, read this booklet carefully. Second, attend mandatory reporting training seminars that are being offered on a regional basis by the Wisconsin Council of Churches beginning in September, 2004. Check out the “Resources” section (pg. 23) for other agencies with information on mandatory reporting. The Wisconsin Council of Churches website www.wichurches.org will contain a new section on mandatory reporting where it will post the latest information and developments concerning the new law.

2. Reflect theologically about your new role

The Wisconsin Council of Churches believes that mandatory reporting is more than a legal responsibility; it is a moral imperative. Indeed, mandatory reporting is an act of faith which bears witness to God’s concern for the health and well being of children. As you consider your new responsibilities as a mandatory reporter in the State of Wisconsin, consider this role as an extension of your pastoral ministry.

3. Be smart about “confessional communication”

Under the provisions of the new law, pastoral communication that is confessional is exempt from the mandatory reporting provisions. While “confession” is a clearly understood practice in the Roman Catholic tradition, its practice varies widely among Protestant communions. Make sure you are aware of how your denomination understands “confessional communication” in the practice of ministry.

4. Educate your congregation

Your congregation needs to know about your new responsibilities as a mandatory reporter and to understand the theological underpinnings of this role. Preach a sermon on the topic. Write a pastoral letter in your church newsletter about it. Talk to your church council and personnel committee about your new responsibilities. For general background on child abuse prevention in Wisconsin, check out www.preventchildabusewi.org

5. Identify your Child Protective Services contacts

Clergy as mandatory reporters are required by law to report suspected cases of child sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities or local Child Protective Services immediately. A county-by-county list of contacts begins on page. 16.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
ABOUT THE NEW MANDATORY REPORTING AND
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE LAW
FOR WISCONSIN CLERGY**
(courtesy of the Wisconsin Catholic Conference)

MANDATORY REPORTING

What is a mandatory reporter?

Wisconsin law, like that in most states, requires members of certain professions to report instances where they believe a child has been abused or neglected or when a child might be at risk of such injuries. Anyone in these professions is a “mandatory reporter.”

How does the new law define “clergy” for the purpose of mandatory reporting?

The law defines clergy as those included in 765.002 (1) of the statutes, the section that defines who may officiate at a marriage. The definition also includes anyone who is “a member of a religious order and includes brothers, ministers, monks, nuns, priest, rabbis and sisters. The term “member of a religious order is defined as a person who 1) has taken vows devoting himself or herself to religious or spiritual principles and 2) who is authorized to provide spiritual religious advise or service.”

What are clergy obligated to report?

Clergy are required to report in two ways.

First, persons who are defined as clergy must report actual or suspected sexual abuse of a child seen in the course of their professional duties [regardless of who is the suspected abuser].

Second, clergy are required to report in cases where they have reasonable cause to believe, based either on observation or information received, that a member of the clergy has abused a child or threatened to abuse a child.

What about clergy who function as teachers, nurses, counselors or in other professions?

If a member of the clergy also functions as a member of other professions whose members are mandatory reporters they must report any actual or suspected abuse or neglect of a child they see in the course of those professional duties. The new law applies only to information they learn in the course of their duties as clergy.

Does this new reporting requirement apply to information received in the confessional?

No. The bill explicitly exempts information obtained in the confessional. [Note: In Protestant traditions, “confessional communication” is defined by each denomination].

STATUTES OF LIMITATIONS

What is a statute of limitation?

A statute of limitation provides that a criminal prosecution or civil lawsuit must occur within a specified time after the crime is committed or the injury caused. Most crimes must be prosecuted within six years of the offense. Most civil lawsuits must be brought within 2 or 3 years from the time the injured party becomes aware of the injury.

Why do such statutes exist?

Statutes of limitations exist to insure that prosecution of criminals and civil litigation occur in a timely way to improve the chances that justice is done.

Does the bill affect the statute of limitations for civil lawsuits brought by victims of sexual abuse?

Under current law, a child may bring a suit against his or her abuser up to 2 years after becoming an adult or age 20. The bill extends the statute by permitting children who suffered abuse as a minor to bring lawsuit up to age 35, thus giving such children fifteen additional years to hold the person or persons who injured them accountable.

What about criminal prosecutions?

Under current law, abuse of a child may be prosecuted until the child turns 26 or 31 years of age, depending on the severity of the crime. The new law allows prosecutions until the child turns 45 years of age.

CREATING A CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS GROUPS

What does the law say about suing clergy for actions of clergy who abuse children?

The law creates a specific cause of action that allows a person injured as a result of sexual contact with a member of the clergy while under the age of 18 to sue that member of the clergy for all damages caused by that sexual contact.

What does the new law say about suing a church for sexual misconduct of its clergy?

A person victimized by a clergyperson while the victim is under age 18 may bring an action against the religious organization that employed the offending member of the clergy for damages caused by the member of the clergy if another employee whose duties included supervising that member of the clergy knew or should have known that the offender had previously had sexual contact with a child and: 1) failed to report the previous contact as per

the reporting requirement; and 2) failed to exercise ordinary care to prevent similar incidents from occurring.

Thus in order to be liable four elements must exist:

- a. Someone in the religious organization must know or should have known of the abuse.
- b. That person must be a supervisor of the offending clergy.
- c. That person must fail to report the previous abuse.
- d. That person must fail to prevent a repeat of that abuse.

Why was this provision necessary?

The Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled in 1995 that churches could not be sued on the basis of religious doctrines and internal decisions pertaining to the training and supervision of a priest [or minister]. While the Supreme Court has never said churches can't be sued for negligence if someone knowingly put someone who abused a child back in a position where abuse could occur again, some have argued the issue is so ambiguous that victims have not come forward.

What about suits against churches for actions of other employees?

The court decisions mentioned above applied only to supervision of clergy. There is no dispute that churches may be sued for failing to supervise non-clergy under standard tort law.

CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES IN WISCONSIN CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Wisconsin statutes require that reports of alleged child abuse and neglect and threatened child abuse and neglect be made to county social/human services departments and the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (hereinafter referred to as “agencies”) or to law enforcement agencies. Any report received by a law enforcement office must subsequently be referred to the local agency. Reports of sexual abuse or threatened sexual abuse received by the local agency must subsequently be referred to law enforcement officials.

Child maltreatment is divided into four basic types: 1) physical neglect; 2) physical abuse; 3) sexual abuse; and 4) emotional abuse. Threats of child abuse and neglect must be reported to and investigated by the agencies. These cases are categorized as maltreatment that is likely to occur.

PHYSICAL NEGLECT is defined in the statute as “failure, refusal, or inability on the part of a parent, guardian, legal custodian or other person exercising temporary or permanent control over a child, for reasons other than poverty, to provide necessary care, food, clothing, medical or dental care or shelter so as to seriously endanger the physical health of the child.” [Ref.s.48.981 (1)(d), Stats.]

PHYSICAL ABUSE is defined as “physical injury inflicted on a child by other than accidental means.” [Ref.s.48.02 (1)(a), Stats.] This includes non-accidental injury inflicted by any other person. “Physical injury” includes but is not limited to lacerations, fractured bones, burns, internal injuries, severe or frequent bruising or great bodily harm, as defined in s.939 (14).” [Ref.s.48.02 (14g), Stats.]

SEXUAL ABUSE is defined by cross-referencing several crimes in other sections of the statutes. Briefly, sexual abuse includes the following:

- any person having sexual intercourse or sexual contact with a child 15 years of age or less; any person having sexual intercourse or sexual contact with a 16 or 17 year old child without his or her consent;
- any person inducing a child to engage in sexually explicit conduct in order to videotape, photograph, etc., that child or videotaping, photographing, etc., a child for such purposes, or producing, distributing selling or otherwise profiting from such a videotape, photograph, etc.;
- a person responsible for a child’s welfare encouraging or permitting the child to engage in sexually explicit conduct for the purpose of videotaping, photographing, etc.;
- any person causing a child to view or listen to sexual activity;
- any person exposing genitals to a child; and/or
- any person permitting or encouraging a child to engage in prostitution.

EMOTIONAL ABUSE is defined as “emotional damage for which the child’s parent, guardian or legal custodian has neglected, refused or been unable for reasons other than poverty to obtain the necessary treatment or to take steps to ameliorate the symptoms.”

The definitions of child neglect and emotional abuse involve failure on the part of parents or other persons responsible for a child to provide necessary care for a child. In most cases, the parties involved are family members and solutions involved interventions with the family. In some of these cases, court intervention is required to assure safety and order services for the family.

The definitions of physical abuse and sexual abuse include harm to a child by any other person. Therefore, physical or sexual abuse of a child by a parent is included, as are assaults by strangers, persons unrelated to a child’s family, and peers. In cases where the child is harmed by someone outside of the family, interventions with the family do not provide all of the solutions. In many of these cases, law enforcement involvement through the criminal system is necessary to intervene with the person who harmed the child.

Individuals whose employment brings them into contact with children are required by law to report any suspected abuse or neglect or threatened abuse or neglect to a child seen in the course of their professional duties. Anyone who suspects a child is being maltreated may make such a referral. Persons making reports in good faith are immune from criminal or civil liability. Reports are made to the county in which the child or the child’s family resides.

Upon receiving a report, the agency must first determine if the information constitutes an allegation of child maltreatment or threatened harm as defined by the statutes. If the report is screened in as an appropriate concern of child maltreatment, the Child Protective Services (CPS) worker in the agency must initiate an investigation assessment within 24 hours after the receipt of the report and complete it within 60 days. Reports that suggest a child is in current or imminent danger receive an immediate response.

The focus of the CPS assessment is not to establish legal culpability (cases are referred to law enforcement and then possibly to court for that purpose), but to assure the child’s safety and to determine whether the child and family are in need of any services. The investigation assessment must be conducted in accordance with standards established by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services. Established in September 1994, the Child Protective Services Investigation Standards recognize that the CPS role must differ in cases of familial and nonfamilial maltreatment.

From: Prevent Child Abuse-Wisconsin
214 North Hamilton Street
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: (608) 256.3374
Web site: www.preventchildabusewi.org

RECOGNIZING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Following are the major signs of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse and neglect. One of these, or even several in combination, may not indicate that abuse has occurred. They may indicate accidents or that other medical conditions, emotional illness, or problems exist. It is important to realize that you do not have to make that determination. If you have any reason to suspect child abuse or neglect, it is best to report it to the appropriate agency so that they can provide whatever assistance is needed by the child and family.

PHYSICAL ABUSE

SIGNS OF PHYSICAL ABUSE

- bruises, welts on face, neck, chest, back
- injuries in the shape of an object-belt, cord, iron
- unexplained burns on palms, soles, back
- fractures that do not fit story of injury
- delay in seeking medical help
- extremes in child's behavior-very aggressive or withdrawn and shy (unlike the child's typical behavior)
- afraid to go home
- frightened of parents/caregivers
- fearful of other adults

CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF PHYSICAL ABUSE IF THE CHILD:

- has unexplained burns, bites, bruises, broken bones, or black eyes
- has fading bruises or other marks noticeable after being absent from school
- seems frightened of parents, afraid to go home
- shrinks at the approach of adults
- reports injury by a parent or other adult caregiver

CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF PHYSICAL ABUSE IF THE PARENT:

- has conflicting, unconvincing, or no explanation for the child's injury
- describes the child in a negative way
- uses harsh physical discipline with the child
- has a history of abuse as a child

EMOTIONAL ABUSE

SIGNS OF EMOTIONAL ABUSE

- low self-esteem
- self-denigration
- severe depression

- aggression
- withdrawal
- severe anxiety
- failure to learn

CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF EMOTIONAL ABUSE IF THE CHILD:

- Shows extremes in behavior, either overly compliant or demanding, extreme passivity or aggression
- acts either inappropriately like an adult or inappropriately like a baby/younger child
- is delayed in physical or emotional development
- has attempted suicide
- reports a lack of attachment to the parent

CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF EMOTIONAL ABUSE IF THE PARENT OR CAREGIVER:

- constantly blames, belittles, or berates the child
- is unconcerned about the child and refuses to consider offers to help for the child's school problems
- overtly rejects the child

SEXUAL ABUSE

SIGNS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

- pain, swelling, or itching in genital area
- bruises, bleeding, discharge in genital area
- difficulty walking or sitting, frequent urination
- stained or bloody underclothing
- sexually transmitted infections
- refusal to take part in gym or other exercises
- poor peer relationships
- unusual interest in sex for age, unusual knowledge of sex terminology
- drastic change in school achievement
- runaway or delinquent
- regressive or childlike behavior

CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF SEXUAL ABUSE IF THE CHILD:

- has difficulty walking or sitting
- suddenly refuses to change for gym or to participate in physical activities
- demonstrates bizarre, sophisticated, or unusual sexual knowledge or behavior
- becomes pregnant or contracts a sexually transmitted infection
- runs away
- reports sexual abuse

CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF SEXUAL ABUSE IF THE PARENT:

- is overly protective of the child or severely limits the child's contact with other children, especially of the opposite sex
- is secretive and isolated
- describes marital difficulties involving family power struggles or sexual relations
- behaves in a sexual manner toward the child

NEGLECT

SIGNS OF NEGLECT:

- poor hygiene, body odor
- inappropriately dressed for weather
- needs medical or dental care
- left alone, unsupervised, for long periods of time (depending on child's age)
- failure to thrive, malnutrition
- constant hunger, begs or steals food
- extreme willingness to please
- frequent absence from school
- arrives early and stays late at school or play areas or other people's home

CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF NEGLECT IF THE CHILD:

- is frequently absent from school
- begs or steals food or money from classmates
- lacks needed medical or dental care, immunizations or glasses
- is consistently dirty and has severe body odor
- lacks appropriate clothing for weather
- abuses alcohol or other drugs
- states there is no one at home to take care of them

CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF NEGLECT IF THE PARENT:

- appears to be indifferent to the child
- seems apathetic or depressed
- behaves irrationally or in a bizarre manner
- abuses alcohol or drugs

From: Prevent Child Abuse-Wisconsin
www.preventchildabusewi.org

RESPONDING TO CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

IF YOU SUSPECT ABUSE:

- Be aware of both physical and behavioral signs
- Be approachable -- let the child know that you are available to talk; build a relationship with the child that will allow him/her to feel comfortable sharing such difficult information with you
- Evaluate the situation -- contact local law enforcement if you think there is immediate danger to the child or get medical help immediately if you think the child has been injured
- Make a report - remember, you only need to have “reasonable cause to believe” that a child is being abused or neglected for you to make a report - you don’t need proof. If you think a child is being hurt in any way, you have a legal (in some cases) and moral responsibility to report it. You can report suspected abuse even if the child doesn’t tell you about it.

IF A CHILD TELLS YOU ABOUT ABUSE OR NEGLECT

- Listen to and believe the child – show through your words and actions that you are listening to the child and that you believe what the child is telling you. Encourage the child to talk but don’t push him/her to do so. Use open-ended questions (such as, “What happened?”) rather than leading questions (such as, “When did she hit you?”)
- Don’t overreact – try to stay clam; this will help keep the child from becoming more frightened and may encourage him/her to tell you more. Do not talk negatively about the suspected abuser in front of the child; simply reassure the child that it is not the child’s fault.
- Write down what the child says and report it- write down as much of the child’s actual words as possible so that you can share those words with the appropriate agency. Describe in writing any signs of abuse/neglect you observe.
- Anyone can make a report – while some people are legally mandated to report, you can report suspected abuse regardless of your profession or relationship to the child.
- Don’t delay – never assume that somebody else will make a report, and don’t put off reporting because you’re not sure if you should. It is better to make a report and let trained professionals decide what action needs to be taken than to risk further harm to the child. The sooner you report, the sooner the child and family can get help.
- Identify the appropriate reporting agency – if you’re not sure what agency to call to make a report, look in the front of your phone book for listings under child abuse, Department of Social Services, Department of Human Services, or Child, Youth and Family Service. You can also call your local law enforcement agency to get the correct number or if you think the child is in immediate danger.
- While you should not delay in making a report, at some point you may be asked the following information:
 - * Child’s name, or if you don’t know the child’s name, a description of the child

- * The name or description of the suspected abuser, including the relationship to the child if known (get license plate number if possible if you are in a public place and don't know the suspected abuser)
- * What you observed – a description of the suspected abuse/neglect, when it occurred, any concerns for the child's immediate safety
- * Any knowledge you have of suspected or known past abuse/neglect
- * Your relationship to the child (friend, teacher, neighbor, stranger)
- * AGAIN, don't delay making a report just because you don't have all of this information – it is important to make the report as soon as possible

COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT MANDATORY REPORTING

Do I need to have proof of abuse/neglect in order to make a report?

You need reasonable cause to believe abuse/neglect has occurred.

What happens after I make a report?

The child protection agency will investigate the case and determine whether abuse/neglect has occurred and determine what actions to take.

How do I know if anything is being done after I make the report?

In Wisconsin mandated reporters usually receive information within 60 days of filing a report as to what action, if any, was taken to protect the child who was the subject of the report. Other reporters who are relatives of the child, but are not the parent, may make a written request for information from the agency. These reporters may be able to receive notice of what actions, if any were taken to protect the child, unless there is a court order prohibiting disclosure.

Will I have to testify in Court?

Not in most cases, but it is a possibility.

Will my report be confidential?

In most cases, yes. However, your identity may be revealed if you're called to testify in court. If you're concerned about being identified you can make a report without giving your name.

Can I be sued if I report abuse/neglect and it turns out I was wrong?

Wisconsin has a law protecting people who report "in good faith," meaning that the reporter had reasonable cause to believe abuse/neglect had occurred.

Will the child be removed from his/her home if I make a report?

In most cases, child protective services tries to keep the child and family together and provide the needed intervention to prevent the maltreatment from occurring. If the child is in immediate danger, he/she may be removed and placed in protective custody.

HOW TO REPORT SUSPECTED CASE OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Mandated reporters are required to report known or suspected abuse or neglect of a child under the age of 18 immediately to either child protective services or law enforcement. Law enforcement is required to report abuse or neglect to child protective services within 12 hours. Adults who were abused under the age of 18 and wish to report their abuse may file a report with law enforcement.

WHERE TO REPORT SUSPECTED CASES OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Listed below are the County Departments of Health and Human Services or Social Services that receive and investigate child abuse and neglect reports. Such reports may also be made to law enforcement agencies.

Adams County Department of Health & Social Services
108 E. North Street
Friendship WI 53934-9443
Office Hours: 608-339-4505
After Hours: 608-339-3304

Ashland County Department of Human Services
630 Sanborn Avenue
Ashland WI 54806-3537
Office Hours: 715-682-7004 / 877-862-7004
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-682-7023

Barron County Department of Health & Human Services
330 East LaSalle Avenue
Barron WI 54812-1584
Office Hours: 715-537-5691
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-537-3106

Bayfield County Department of Human Services
117 East Fifth Street, PO Box 100
Washburn WI 54891-0100
Office Hours: 715-373-6144
After Hours: 715-373-6120

Brown County Department of Human Services
111 N. Jefferson Street
Green Bay WI 54305-5005
Office Hours: 920-448-6035
After Hours: Local Police Department

Buffalo County Department of Health & Human Services
407 S Second Street, PO Box 517
Alma WI 54610-0517
Office Hours: 608-685-4412
After Hours: 608-685-4433

Burnett County Department of Health & Human Services
County Government Center
7410 County Road K #280
Siren WI 54872
Office Hours: 715-349-7600
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-349-2128

Calumet County Department of Human Services
206 Court Street
Chilton WI 53014-1127
Office Hours: 920-849-1400
After Hours: 920-832-4646

Chippewa County Department of Human Services
711 N. Bridge Street, Room 306
Chippewa Falls WI 54729
Office Hours: 715-726-7788
After Hours: 715-726-7830

Clark County Department of Social Services
517 Court Street, Room 502
Neillsville WI 54456-1976
Office Hours: 715-743-5233
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-743-3157

Columbia County Department of Health & Human Services
2652 Murphy Road, PO Box 136
Portage WI 53901-0136
Office Hours: 608-742-9227
After Hours: 911

Crawford County Department of Human Services
111 W. Dunn Street
Prairie du Chien WI 53821
Office Hours: 608-326-0248
After Hours: (Sheriff) 608-326-0241

Dane County Department of Human Services
Children, Youth & Family Intake
1202 Northport DR/4th FL
Madison WI 53704-2020
Office Hours: 608-261-5437
After Hours: 608-255-6067

Dodge County Department of Human Services
County Office Building
143 E. Center Street
Juneau WI 53039-1330
Office Hours: 920-386-3750
After Hours: (Sheriff) 920-386-3726

Door County Department of Social Services
421 Nebraska Street
Sturgeon Bay WI 54235-2225
Office Hours: 920-746-2300
After Hours: (Sheriff) 920-746-2400

Douglas County Department of Health & Human Services
Government Center
1316 North 14th Street
Superior WI 54880-1773
Office Hours: 715-395-1304
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-395-1371

Dunn County Department of Human Services
808 Main Street, PO Box 470
Menomonie WI 54751-0470
Office Hours: 715-232-1116
After Hours: (Sheriff) 800-459-2939

Eau Claire County Department of Human Services
721 Oxford Avenue. Ste R-1
Eau Claire WI 54702-5409
Office Hours: 715-839-7118
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-839-4972

Florence County Department of Human Services
501 Lake Avenue, PO Box 170
Florence WI 54121-0170
Office Hours: 715-528-3296 or 888-452-3296
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-528-3346

Fond du Lac County Department of Social Services
87 Vincent Street
Fond du Lac WI 54936-4510
Office Hours: 920-929-3400 / 800-525-3187
After Hours: 911

Forest County Department of Social Services
Forest County Courthouse
200 E. Madison Street
Crandon WI 54520-1415
Office Hours: 715-478-3351
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-478-3331

Grant County Department of Social Services
8820 Hwy. 35 & 61 South , PO Box 447
Lancaster WI 53813-0447
Office Hours: 608-723-2136
After Hours: 608-723-2157

Green County Department of Human Services
N3152 Highway 81
Monroe WI 53566-9397
Office Hours: 608-328-9399
After Hours: 608-328-9393

Green Lake County Department of Health & Human Services
500 Lake Steel Street, PO Box 588
Green Lake WI 54941-0588
Office Hours: 920-294-4070 or 800-664-3588
After Hours: (Sheriff) 920-294-4000

Iowa County Department of Social Services
303 W Chapel Street
Dodgeville WI 53533-1679
Office Hours: 608-930-9801
After Hours: (Sheriff) 608-935-3314

Iron County Department of Human Services
Courthouse
300 Taconite Street
Hurley WI 54534-1545
Office Hours: 715-561-3636 or 715-561-3637 or 715-561-4168
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-561-3800

Jackson County Department of Health and Human Services
420 Highway 54 West , PO Box 457
Black River Falls WI 54615
Office Hours: 715-284-4301
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-284-5357

Jefferson County Human Services Department
N3995 Annex Road
Jefferson WI 53549-9803
Office/After Hours: 920-674-3105

Juneau County Department of Human Services
220 E. LaCrosse Street,
Courthouse Annex Room 23
Mauston WI 53948-2101
Office Hours: 608-847-2400
After Hours: (Sheriff) 608-847-5649

Kenosha County Department of Human Services
8600 Sheridan Road, Suite 200
Kenosha WI 53140-6512
Office Hours: 262-605-6582
After Hours: 262-657-7188

Kewaunee County Department of Human Services
810 Lincoln Street
Kewaunee WI 54216-1344
Office Hours: 920-388-3777
After Hours: (Sheriff) 920-388-3100

LaCrosse County Human Services Department
300 North 4th Street
LaCrosse WI 54602-3228
Office/After Hours: 608-784-4357

Lafayette County Department of Human Services
627 Main Street, PO Box 206
Darlington WI 53530-0206
Office Hours: 608-776-4800
After Hours: 608-776-4848

Langlade County Department of Social Services
1225 Langlade Road
Antigo WI 54409
Office Hours: 715-627-6500
After Hours: 715-623-4111

Lincoln County Department of Social Services
607 N. Sales Street, PO Box 547
Merrill WI 54452-0547
Office Hours: 715-536-6200
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-536-6272

Manitowoc County Human Services Department
926 South 8th Street, PO Box 1177
Manitowoc WI 54220-1177
Office Hours: 920-683-4230
After Hours: 920-323-2448

Marathon County Department of Social Services
400 E. Thomas Street
Wausau WI 54403-6435
Office Hours: 715-261-7500
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-261-1200

Marinette County Department of Health & Human Services
2500 Hall , Suite B
Marinette WI 54143-1656
Office Hours: 715-732-7700
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-732-7600

Marquette County Department of Human Services
428 Underwood , PO Box 405
Montello WI 53949-0405
Office Hours: 608-297-3124
After Hours: (Sheriff) 608-297-2115

Menominee County Department of Human Services
W3272 Wolf River Road, PO Box 280
Keshena WI 54135-0280
Office Hours: 715-799-3861
After Hours: 715-799-3881

Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare
1555 N. River Center Drive, Suite 220
Milwaukee WI 53212-3958
Office/After Hours: 414-220-SAFE (7233)

Monroe County Department of Human Services
Community Services Center, A-19
14301 County Highway B
Sparta WI 54656-4509
Office Hours: 608-269-8600
After Hours: 911

Oconto County Department of Human Services
501 Park Avenue
Oconto WI 54153-1612
Office Hours: 920-834-7000
After Hours: (Sheriff) 920-834-6900

Oneida County Department of Social Services
Courthouse - One Oneida Avenue, PO Box 400
Rhinelander WI 54501-0400
Office Hours: 715-362-5695
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-361-5100

Outagamie County Department of Health and Human Services
401 South Elm Street
Appleton, WI 54911-5900
Office Hours: 920-832-5161
After Hours: 920-832-4646

Ozaukee County Department of Social Services
121 W. Main Street, PO Box 994
Port Washington WI 53074-0994
Office Hours: 262-284-8200
After Hours: 262-238-8436

Pepin County Department of Human Services
740 7th Avenue West
Durand WI 54736-1628
Office Hours: 715-672-8941
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-672-5944

Pierce County Department of Health & Human Services
412 West Kinne Street, PO Box 670
Ellsworth WI 54011-0670
Office Hours: 715-273-6766
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-273-5051

Polk County Department of Human Services
300 Polk County Plaza, Suite 50
Balsam Lake WI 54810-0219
Office Hours: 715-485-8400
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-485-8300

Portage County Department of Health & Human Services
817 Whiting
Stevens Point WI 54481-5246
Office/After Hours: 715-345-5350
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-346-140

Price County Human Services Department
104 South Eyder Avenue
Phillips WI 54555-0088
Office Hours: 715-339-2158
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-339-3011

Racine County Human Services Department
1717 Taylor Avenue
Racine WI 53403-2405
Office/After Hours: 262-638-7720
or 800-924-5137

Richland County Department of Health & Human Services
221 West Seminary
Richland Center WI 53581-2358
Office Hours: 608-647-8821
After Hours: (Sheriff) 608-647-2106

Rock County Human Services Department
3530 N. County Trunk F, PO Box 1649
Janesville WI 53547-1649
Office Hours: 608-757-5401
After Hours: (Sheriff) 608- 757-7997

Rusk County Department of Health & Human Services
311 East Miner Avenue, Suite C-240
Ladysmith WI 54848-1890
Office Hours: 715-532-2299
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-532-2200

Sauk County Department of Human Services
505 Broadway, 4th Floor, PO Box 29
Baraboo WI 53913-0029
Office Hours: 608-355-4200
After Hours: 800-533-5692

Sawyer County Department of Health & Human Services
10610 Main Street, PO Box 730
Hayward WI 54843-0730
Office Hours: 715-634-4806 ro 800-569-4162
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-634-4858

Shawano County Department of Social Services
607 Elizabeth Street
Shawano WI 54166-3105
Office Hours: 715-526-4700
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-526-3111

Sheboygan County Health & Human Services Department
1011 North 8th Street
Sheboygan WI 53081-4006
Office Hours: 920-459-6418
After Hours: (Sheriff) 414-459-3111

St. Croix County Department of Health & Human Services
1445 North 4th Street
New Richmond WI 54017-1063
Office Hours: 715-246-6991
After Hours: 715-386-4711

Taylor County Human Services Department
340 East College Street
Medford WI 54451-2027
Office Hours: 715-748-3332
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-748-2200

Trempealeau County Department of Social Services

Government Center, 36245 Main Street
PO Box 67
Whitehall WI 54773-0067
Office Hours: 715-538-2311 ext. 290
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-538-4351

Vernon County Department of Human Services

318 Fairlane Drive, Suite 100
Viroqua WI 54665-6140
Office Hours: 608-637-5210
After Hours: (Sheriff) 608-637-2124

Vilas County Department of Social Services

330 Court Street
Eagle River WI 54521-8362
Office Hours: 715-479-3668
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-479-4441

Walworth County Department of Health & Human Services

W3955 Hwy NN, Box 1005
Elkhorn WI 53121-1005
Office Hours: 262-741-3200 / 800-365-1587
After Hours: (Sheriff) 262-741-4400

Washburn County Department of Health & Human Services

110 4th Avenue West , PO Box 250
Shell Lake WI 54871-0250
Office Hours: 715-468-4747
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-468-2721

Washington County Department of Social Services

333 E. Washington Street Suite 3100
PO Box 2003
West Bend WI 53095-2003
Office Hours: 262-335-4888
After Hours: 262-335-4670

Waukesha County Department of Health & Human Services

500 Riverview Avenue
Waukesha WI 53188
Office Hours: 262-548-7212
After Hours: (Sheriff) 262-548-7122

Waupaca County Department of Health & Human Services

811 Harding Street
Waupaca WI 54981-2087
Office Hours: 715-258-6300
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-258-4466

Waushara County Department of Social Services

230 West Park Street , PO Box 1230
Wautoma WI 54982-1230
Office Hours: 920-787-3303 / 888-250-4331
After Hours: (Sheriff) 920-787-3321

Winnebago County Department of Human Services

220 Washington, PO Box 2187
Oshkosh WI 54903-2187
Office Hours: 920-236-4615
After Hours: 920-233-7707

Wood County Department of Social Services (South Wood County Office)

Courthouse, 400 Market Street, PO Box 8095
Wisconsin Rapids WI 54495-8095
Office Hours: 715-421-8600
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-421-8700

Wood County Department of Social Services (North Wood County Office)

630 Central Avenue, Suite 404
Marshfield, WI 54449
Office Hours: 715-387-6374
After Hours: (Sheriff) 715-421-8700

WISCONSIN CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION RESOURCES

Child Abuse Prevention Fund	www.capfund.org
Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin	www.chawisconsin.org
Children's Service Society of Wisconsin	www.cssw.org
Collaborating Partners	www.collaboratingpartners.com
National Association of Social Workers-Wisconsin Chapter	www.naswwi.org
Parenting in the First Year	www.uwex.edu/ces/flp/parenting/
Respite Care Association of Wisconsin	www.respitecarewi.org
Wisconsin Association for Perinatal Care	www.perinatalweb.org
Wisconsin Bureau of Child Support	http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/bcs/
Wisconsin CASA	http://www.wisconsincasa.org/
Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund	wctf.state.wi.us
Wisconsin Clearinghouse for Prevention Resources	www.wiclearinghouse.org/
Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence	www.wcadv.org
Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault	www.wcasa.org
Wisconsin Council on Children and Families	www.wccf.org
Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services	http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/
Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners	www.collaboratingpartners.com/
Wisconsin Prevention Network	www.wisprevnet.org/
Wisconsin School Counselor Association	www.wscaweb.com