



National Drug Endangered Children Conference

August 29-31, 2023

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Background

Undergraduate:

Graduated from University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in May of 2020 with a Bachelors in Social Work and a Bachelors in Sociology.

Worked at the Boys and Girls Club in Wausau for 5 years and Interned at the Marathon County District Attorney's Office-Victim Witness Unit for 1 year.

Graduate:

Graduated from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in May of 2022 with a Masters in Social Work and a Masters in Criminal Justice.

Worked at Outreach Community Health Center in Milwaukee for 2 years, providing case management and health services to the homeless population.

Licensed as an Advanced Practice Social Worker



Child Protective Services

1. Access receives, analyzes and documents reports of alleged maltreatment. Access will make a screening recommendation and then it will be sent to the supervisor for a final screening decision.
2. Screen In: if the report rises to the statutory level to investigate, the supervisor will screen the report in.
 - a. Same day
 - b. 24-48 hours
 - c. 2-5 days
 - d. Child Welfare (voluntary services)
3. Screen Out: non-caregiver, does not rise to the statutory level, case is already open, etc.



Child Protective Services

4. Initial Assessment: once a report is screened in, it is assigned to a social worker for investigation. This is called the initial assessment period, which can last up to 60 days. The primary purpose of the CPS initial assessment is to respond and plan for child safety and determine whether the child and family are in need of any services to help keep the child safe. If children are removed from the parental home due to safety and health concerns they are taken into temporary physical custody which engages the court process.

TPC Hearing

Plea Hearing

Disposition Hearing

Child Protective Services

5. Ongoing Services: when services are needed to ensure child safety, the family will be transitioned to ongoing services. Ongoing services can be on a voluntary basis or court ordered. The ongoing social worker will help the family find supports, make referrals to services the family may need, and continue assessing for child safety.

Permanency Plan Hearings

Reunification

Guardianship

Termination of Parental Rights

Adoption

Drug Endangered Children in Lincoln County

There are 35 ongoing cases between two ongoing case workers.

-Of the 35 ongoing cases, 24 of them are neglect-caregiver drug abuse cases.

There are 30 initial assessment cases between three initial assessment workers.

-Of the 30 initial assessment cases, 10 of them are neglect-caregiver drug abuse cases.

***Over half of the current cases are drug related.



National Alliance For Drug Endangered Children

National DEC Mission: "The National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children teaches early identification, response, and appropriate intervention services for children and families affected by parental or caregiver substance misuse. We equip comprehensive, multidisciplinary alliances, communities, organizations, and individuals with access to our national resource center, training and technical assistance".

DEC Definition: "The National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children defines drug endangered children as children who are at risk of suffering physical or emotional harm as a result of legal and/or illegal drug use, possession, manufacturing, cultivation, or distribution. They may also be children whose caretaker's legal and/or illegal substance misuse interferes with the caretaker's ability to parent and provide a safe and nurturing environment".

<https://nationaldec.org>



National DEC Conference

Sessions:

Peeling Back the Layers: A Deep Dive into the Intersectionality of Drug Endangered Children and Human Trafficking with Survivor Stories

Developing a Statewide Drug Endangered Children Handle with Care Collaborative

Fentanyl: Facts Versus Fiction

Fetal/Neonatal Marijuana Exposure

Turtle Shelter Service Project

Safe Kids, Strong Communities: Unveiling Hidden Risks and Strengthening Community Safety

DEC Investigations A Case Study

Fentanyl: Facts Versus Fiction



-Only takes 2 milligrams of fentanyl to be lethal.

-One sweetener packet (1,000 milligrams)=500 people

-6 out of 10 pills tested by the Drug Enforcement Administration contained a lethal dose of fentanyl

Safety:

-Hand Sanitizer is primarily made of alcohol. Alcohol is a solvent, anything that gets on the skin becomes soluble with the use of hand sanitizer. The alcohol allows particles to enter through the skin.

Best practice: Wash hands with soap and water, use dust masks, nitrile gloves and carry narcan.

DEC Investigations



-Multidisciplinary Team

-COP House

-Space used for community engagement and programming

-Fosters positive relationship between law enforcement and the public

-Partnering with CPS

<https://www.cityofracine.org/Police/VillaCOP>

Turtle Shelter Project

-Foam Clothing

-Open-cell polyurethane foam as the insulation layer

-The insulation layer foam clothing provides is so effective that even if a person gets wet it will keep them warm. Wearing synthetic fabrics is an important layer to include with the foam clothing. If a person is not wearing any cotton with the foam clothing, and they happen to get wet, they will still be able to maintain their core body temperature.

-The shell and lining fabrics and the foam are all synthetic and breathable providing moisture wicking properties and allowing perspiration and other moisture to evaporate.

<https://turtleshelterproject.org>



Importance of Trainings

- Networking
- Exposure to new ideas and information
- Collaborate with other professionals
- Extend knowledge
- Find your area of interest (expertise)
- Leave feeling inspired



"If you think you're too small to have an impact, try going to bed with a mosquito".



“Anyone who does anything to help a child is a hero to me”.

“Kids at risk-> not high risk kids”.

“Find your why”.

