

# We Build Community Capacity

**COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING MEANS HELPING COMMUNITIES BECOME BETTER AT SOLVING THEIR OWN PROBLEMS.** It's about giving them the tools to shape and control their environment. To increase community capacity, the Human Development & Relationships Institute builds strong relationships with partners to work together toward common goals. We also help organizations make better plans to tackle complex issues.



## Wisconsin Department of Children and Families Dream Up! Grants

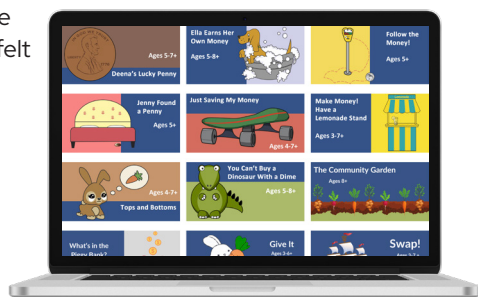
County-based educators are working collaboratively with communities to boost childcare availability. They provide essential information to new and aspiring childcare professionals, enabling them to establish successful childcare businesses. Additionally, they offer grants to existing providers, supporting them in expanding their childcare services.



*“The Dream Up! Grant allowed us to provide more age appropriate learning tools for our 2 and 3 year old children. The grant allowed us to get an updated computer and interactive whiteboard to enjoy interactive learning activities and brain breaks for our kids.”*  
[School administrator/grant recipient]

## Money As You Grow

All participants reported feeling capable of giving children access to concepts aimed at enhancing financial well-being. This is a significant improvement compared to the 51 percent who felt similarly before undergoing the training.



*Percentage of participants who felt capable of giving children access to concepts aimed at enhancing financial well-being*

**PARTICIPANTS BEFORE**  
Money As You Grow Training

**51%**



**PARTICIPANTS AFTER**  
Money As You Grow Training

**100%**



## Encouraging Financial Conversations

**Encouraging Financial Conversations** is a program designed for case managers.

The goal is to empower clients to achieve their financial objectives and manage their money effectively. Over two-thirds of respondents reported using the financial information during discussions with clients. About half of the participants stated that they now initiate more frequent conversations about financial concerns with their clients compared to before the program. In 2023, 92 percent of participants who completed a post-program survey expressed feeling more comfortable working with clients on financial matters.

*“I feel more confident in supporting my client’s financial struggles.”*  
[Financial Coaching]

### Encouraging Financial Conversations follow-up survey



**92%** expressed feeling more comfortable working with clients on financial matters.

*“Everyone is in a different spot in their financial journey. It can be uncomfortable to talk about money. [It is] important not to be judgmental, but focus on customers’ goals.”*  
[Financial Coaching]



Financial conversations



Setting goals



Maximizing income



Spending



Saving



Borrowing



Protecting your money



## Just in Time Parenting

**Just in Time Parenting (JITP)** is a national online newsletter series for parents promoted in 59 Wisconsin counties. It is delivered through community partners, including hospitals, birth centers, public health agencies, libraries, and childcare centers. These partnerships leverage the resources of the university to support

parents in the transition to parenthood. Parents receive the newsletter via email from birth to age five. Depending on their child’s age, subscribers get six to 12 e-newsletters annually.

Despite being a mid-sized state, Wisconsin boasts the highest subscription rates to JITP in the country. In 2023, 1,543 Wisconsin subscribers represented 42 percent of the national subscriptions. Impressively, 776 of these subscribers have joined since January 2023.

The program’s impact extends beyond the subscribers themselves. Seventy-two percent of parent subscribers share the newsletter with their spouse, and 29 percent share it with grandparents. Parents find the information in JITP more valuable than the support provided by doctors or family and friends.



*Extension educators in 59 Wisconsin counties promote JITP through partnerships with hospitals, birth centers, public health agencies, libraries, and childcare centers. 776 subscribers have joined JITP since January 2023 alone.*



**Human Development & Relationships Institute**  
DIVISION OF EXTENSION  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



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