

## **Conference Scholarships and Financial Aid**

A very limited number of scholarships are available for the Children Come First Conference. We wish we could offer more conference funding because we know how much families and others interested in children's mental health value the knowledge they gain and the connections they make at the conference.

If you need financial assistance to attend the Children Come First Conference, please check into other sources **before** submitting a scholarship application to Wisconsin Family Ties. Here are some suggestions of where you might find funding.

- If your child receives services through a Wisconsin children's waiver (i.e., Autism Waiver, SED Waiver), some of your waiver funding should be able to be used for "client education and training," including training for parents. Contact your child's service coordinator for details.
- If you or your child receives services through the Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) program, the cost of the Children Come First Conference should be able to be covered under CCS. Contact your service coordinator.
- If your child receives services through a children's wraparound program under the Coordinated Services Team (CST) or Integrated Services Program (ISP) initiatives, there is "flex funding" available that may be able to support your family's attendance at the conference. These programs operate under different names in each county; a listing of counties that have a children's wraparound program can be found at <http://www.wicollaborative.org/downloads/map.pdf>. Contact your child's service coordinator for details.
- Try local civic organizations such as the Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, or American Legion. Many of these groups are involved in children's causes. These organizations are often more willing to give if you offer to report back on your experience – which opens up an opportunity to spread awareness about children's emotional and behavioral health. A listing of some civic and fraternal organizations is available below.
- Many employers offer Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs) which may be able to cover the cost of attending the conference. EAPs are benefit programs intended to help employees with personal or family problems that might adversely impact their work performance, health and wellbeing. Contact your employer's human resources department for information.
- Many corporations have community support programs. Try calling your local Walmart, Target, Sentry, Piggly Wiggly, etc. Ask to speak to a manager, who should be able to tell you about their giving program.
- Contact your church, synagogue, mosque, or other religious organization. Many have benevolence funds to help families get needed resources.
- Request funding from your local Parent-Teacher Association (PTA). Ask the Special Education Director in your school district about any funds set aside for parent training.
- Check with professional associations or social organizations in which you're a member.

### Civic and Fraternal Organizations in Wisconsin\*

American Legion	<a href="http://www.wilegion.org/post_locator/">http://www.wilegion.org/post_locator/</a>
Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks	<a href="http://www.elks.org/lodges/default.cfm">http://www.elks.org/lodges/default.cfm</a>
General Federation of Women's Clubs	<a href="http://www.gfwc-wi.org/Documents/Aug2008%20Update/Clubs%20by%20new%20districts%20August%202008%20revised%20for%20website.pdf">http://www.gfwc-wi.org/Documents/Aug2008%20Update/Clubs%20by%20new%20districts%20August%202008%20revised%20for%20website.pdf</a> ; <a href="http://www.gfwc.org/content_1422.cfm">http://www.gfwc.org/content_1422.cfm</a>
Independent Order of Odd Fellows	<a href="http://www.ioof.org/jurisdictions/wisconsin.html">http://www.ioof.org/jurisdictions/wisconsin.html</a>
Jaycees	<a href="http://www.usjaycees.org/index.php?option=com_mtree&amp;task=listcats&amp;cat_id=93&amp;Itemid=177">http://www.usjaycees.org/index.php?option=com_mtree&amp;task=listcats&amp;cat_id=93&amp;Itemid=177</a>
Kiwanis	<a href="http://www.kiwanis.org/FindaClub/tabid/84/Default.aspx">http://www.kiwanis.org/FindaClub/tabid/84/Default.aspx</a>
Knights of Columbus	<a href="http://www.kofc.org/un/officers/findcouncil/index.cfm?country=USA&amp;state=WI">http://www.kofc.org/un/officers/findcouncil/index.cfm?country=USA&amp;state=WI</a>
Lions Club	<a href="http://www.lionsclubs.org/locator/lions/search_form_state_results.php">http://www.lionsclubs.org/locator/lions/search_form_state_results.php</a>
Loyal Order of Moose	<a href="http://www.moosintl.org/public/Moosesearch.aspx">http://www.moosintl.org/public/Moosesearch.aspx</a>
Optimist International	<a href="http://www.optimist.org/default.cfm?content=citydirectory.cfm&amp;country=US&amp;state=WI">http://www.optimist.org/default.cfm?content=citydirectory.cfm&amp;country=US&amp;state=WI</a>
Rebekahs	<a href="http://www.ioof.org/jurisdictions/wisconsin.html">http://www.ioof.org/jurisdictions/wisconsin.html</a>
Rotary International	<a href="http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/SiteTools/ClubLocator/Pages/clublocatoradvanced.aspx?k=ClobCountry%3a%22100%22%20ClubState%3a%22WI%22&amp;speCountries=100&amp;speState=WI">http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/SiteTools/ClubLocator/Pages/clublocatoradvanced.aspx?k=ClobCountry%3a%22100%22%20ClubState%3a%22WI%22&amp;speCountries=100&amp;speState=WI</a>
Shriners of North America	<a href="http://www.shrinershq.org/files/maps/states/wisconsin.aspx">http://www.shrinershq.org/files/maps/states/wisconsin.aspx</a>
VFW	<a href="http://emem.vfw.org/findpost.aspx">http://emem.vfw.org/findpost.aspx</a>

\* This is not intended to be a comprehensive listing of organizations.