



WISCONSIN
PARTNERS IN
POLICYMAKING
A project of the Wisconsin Board for People
with Developmental Disabilities



Core Values

Participants agree to support core values that are in the federal Developmental Disabilities Act.
Please agree to support each value before applying for Partners.

- Disability is a natural part of the human experience and does not take away people's rights to live independently, have control over their lives and fully participate in and contribute to their communities.
- People with disabilities are people first and must be treated with dignity and respect. This includes the right to be free of abuse and neglect.
- People with disabilities have the right to free speech. The ability to communicate, with assistance as needed, must be available to everyone.
- People with disabilities have the right to advocate for themselves on every level of the system, from individual services to the state budget to federal laws that affect their lives.
- Self-determination is important to full citizenship. People with disabilities must have the freedom to make informed decisions about how they want to live their lives and receive supports.
- People with disabilities must be able to enjoy the full movement and accessibility to have active participation in community life.
- People with disabilities need real friendships with a variety of friends, not just paid service workers.
- Schools and communities are stronger when they are inclusive.
- Every person with a disability deserves the right to work in the community at competitive wages, with benefits and the supports necessary to be successful.