

State Budget Leaves Many People with Disabilities Behind

Family Caregiver Relief



| Survival Position | Governor's Budget Proposal | Joint Finance Committee did |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ensure all Direct Service Professionals (DSP) workers are compensated equally across long term care programs (Family Care, IRIS, CLTS). | Not included | Not included |
| Adopt all Caregiver Task Force Recommendations | | |
| Expand the ability of Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) to support family caregivers under age 59 | Included | Not included |
| Require each ADRC to designate a caregiver coordinator | Included | Not included |
| Expand caregiver resources through the tribes | Included | Not included |
| Create a Caregiver Tax Credit | Included | Not included |
| Create and fund a one-year family caregiver assessment pilot. | Included | Not included |
| Create statewide rate bands to make sure workers are paid sufficiently for providing home and community based long term supports no matter where they work in the state. | Included | Not included |
| Creates positions to conduct entity background checks, screen misconduct reports and conduct field investigations into misconduct allegations in regulated healthcare settings and programs. | Included | Not included |

Many important low-cost, critically needed investments are missing from the currently-proposed budget—including removing lead pipes and paint that are a 100% preventable cause of intellectual and developmental disabilities in babies and toddlers and funding to guarantee poisoned children can get help. Family caregivers are leaving the workforce, sacrificing family income, and burning out trying to fill the gaps left by the caregiver crisis. This budget does not help those struggling daily to meet care needs. Students receiving special education services have lost ground both academically and socially because of the pandemic and may need years to rebuild and recover skills. Cuts to Wisconsin's largest transit systems will make it more difficult for low-income people with disabilities and the caregiver workforce that rely on it to commute to client homes to return to work and live independently.

| Establishes a pilot to create a home care provider registry that can be used by provider agencies and individuals seeking workers. | Included | Not included |
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| A pilot program to develop standardized training for direct support professionals | Included | Not included |
| Hospital Services to Caregivers | Included | Not included |
| Increase direct care workforce funding | \$30 M GPR increase direct care services in Family Care | \$40 M GPR |
| Increase Personal Care reimbursement | \$30 M GPR increase funding for personal care services to support workers employed by personal care agencies. | \$32 M GPR |

Help all Babies and Toddlers Exposed to Lead



| Survival Position | Governor's Budget Proposal | Joint Finance Committee did |
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| Support eliminating lead pipes and lead paint as a 100% preventable cause of I/DD | \$10M increase Expand Access to the Birth to 3 Program for eligible children who have a positive blood lead test above 5 micrograms per deciliter. | No expansion of eligibility to cover additional children with lead poisoning, maintenance of effort funding for Birth to 3 included (\$2.2 M) |
| | \$2M for Windows Plus Program, which provides lead- safe renovation to high-risk areas in homes built before 1950 that are occupied by low-income families. | Not Included |
| | \$40 M increase in Safe Drinking Water Loan program for replacement of lead service lines | Not Included |
| | \$100K for Lead Screening and Outreach Grant | \$100 K |

Special Education



| Survival Position | Governor's Budget Proposal | Joint Finance Committee did |
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| Increase special education categorical aid with ultimate goal of 60% reimbursement | Increase special education categorical aid to 45 percent in FY22 and 50 percent in FY23 | Increase to 30% reimbursement rate in second year of budget |
| | Change allocation to sum sufficient to ensure school districts receive the percent reimbursement promised by the state. | Not included |
| | Increase High-Cost Special Education aid reimbursement rate to 40 percent in FY22 and to 60 percent in FY23 | Increase to 40% reimbursement rate each year |
| Increase funding for school-based mental health | Increase of \$46.5 million for student mental health and wellness funding across all categories of pupil services (social workers, counselors, psychologists, and nurses), for all school districts that have pupil services expenditures. | \$6 M increase, only for school social workers |
| | An increase of \$7 million to increase the number and size of school based mental health services grants. | \$3.5M increase |
| Increase the transition readiness grant | Special Education Transition Readiness grant increase to help students with disabilities transition into the workforce and postsecondary education. | Not Included |

Non-Driver Transportation



| Survival Position | Governor's Budget Proposal | Joint Finance Committee did |
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| 2.5% increase for Public Transit systems | Increase mass transit operating aids 2.5% | Cut mass transit operating aids by 50% in year one of the budget for Tier A systems (Milwaukee and Madison transit systems) |
| | \$20 M for transit capital improvement | Not Included |
| 2.5% increase for paratransit | Increases paratransit 2.5% per year | 2.5% increase |
| 20% increase for Specialized Transit (\$183K) | Increase Specialized Transit 2.5% per year | 2.5% increase |

