

# family ties

Spring 2002

A Statewide Publication of Wisconsin Family Ties

Vol. 18, Issue 2

## What's the Value of Support Groups and Networking?

By Sarah Hebbe

Marathon County Family Advocate

Finding someone to talk to, someone who shares your concerns...can be compared to the first time you open the windows of your house in the spring, or the smell of fresh line-dried clothes. These wonderful sensations don't take problems away, but breathe new life into things and suggest options that may have been overlooked.

It is a wonderful thing for those who have a support network made up of family, friends, or an understanding spouse. But if you don't have that kind of network, or the people to whom you routinely turn deliver a message that says, "Don't air your dirty laundry," or "You are a bad parent", your confidence can be shaken to its core and these messages can bury deep into your mind. Often these messages are delivered by those closest. Self doubt breeds faster than the common cold.

Families that include a child with a serious emotional or behavioral disorder often prefer to remain silent about their child's disability. They become more and more isolated because of their feelings of blame and consequent feelings of guilt. They grieve the loss of their dreams for their child and are apprehensive about what the future may hold.

Where to turn? Participating in a support group or support activity with other family members gives an opportunity to share your commonality. A support group is a sharing haven, a place to find balance **without being judged**. It is a place to brainstorm, to laugh and cry and know that others know what you mean. The group may provide opportunities to get education about a child's disability, to help families learn to better work as partners with school personnel and therapists, and to get some parenting tips. You may smile as you step back and listen to others, and acknowledge that our children march to the beat of a different drummer. You can rejoice in all the opportunities and rewards we would have missed if they didn't share our lives.

### How We Got Started

Our Marathon County support group began to meet in 2000. At first, there was much discussion about what we need as families. Many hours of brainstorming and community outreach helped put it together. The families felt strongly that child care needed to be provided during meetings. We wanted to

*"In addition to the 'formal' opportunities for support, families connect in other ways, ranging from personal telephone calls to chance encounters as members meet around town."*

offer the opportunity to a wide range of ages and include siblings. Twelve enrolled Northwoods Alliance families gave of their time to create our support group objectives.

The local YMCA was chosen as the meeting location because of the community services they offer. Don Schult, the youth Director at Trinity Lutheran Church, was outstanding in matching students to a program of child supervision, and the girls do a great job.

**Turn to page 6 for a list of locations and times of WFT support groups throughout the state.**

### About Our Group

Our support group normally meets in the evening on a monthly basis. However, we also meet occasionally on a Saturday, where more time can be allowed for developing an issue in more depth. We might gather for a bite to eat afterward at a local restaurant. Those arrangements encourage family members to attend who find it difficult to come on a weeknight.

The support group is frequently attended by both spouses. Often the parents decide in advance (probably in the car) who will attend the group and who will swim with the kids. This is truly a family experience!

Outside speakers have provided us with a non-threatening explanation of a subject that may not have been appropriate to include in a therapy session or in an I.E.P. Afterwards, parents tend to see the speaker in a different light.

In addition to the "formal" opportunities for support, families connect in other ways, ranging from personal telephone calls to chance encounters as members meet around town. Families receive our monthly newsletter, *Northwoods Family Voices Connects*. It provides a way to let folks know what is coming up.

We also offer occasional "family fun day" opportunities. These give families the chance to get out of the house and share a special time together that may not have happened otherwise. The planned activities always mirror what families want. When we come together, we are supporting the ideas of all. A few parents do the legwork to put the ideas in motion. Putting the events together is a lot of fun. We connect well because we share the experience of raising children who have emotional, behavioral and mental disorders.

Some families cannot participate in all of our activities because of extenuating circumstances, but they are a still vital part of our group. They are affectionately referred to as our "volunteer consultant staff". They lend support in any way they can, including being

**Continued on page 6**

# From the Executive Director

By Maggie Mezera

From the November 1987 issue of *family ties*: "Much has happened since June 6 when 40 parents and advocates met during the AMI (Alliance for the Mentally Ill) of Wisconsin's Convention in Wisconsin Rapids, and launched a statewide support and advocacy network for parents of children having emotional and behavioral disturbances." How true! I am proud to say that I was there 15 years ago. So was Joanne Griesbach, wife of a present Board member, Bill Griesbach. Joanne was elected the first WFT President. The ties to the past are strong and the vision remains clear.

I recently reread the Organizational Goals that the steering committee developed over the next year as our organization took shape. I am amazed at the foresight of those founding members. The Goals are worth repeating, because they continue to strongly spell out what we believe and what we want to accomplish to this day.

Wisconsin Family Ties adopted the following organizational goals:

- To assist parents in forming community-based support groups in which they can share problems, exchange ideas and receive information.
- To advocate in the public forum for comprehensive, coordinated, community-based, family-centered services.
- To exchange information on medical and research findings, available social services, education, legal and public policy issues.
- To foster a collaborative working relationship between parents and the professionals working with children and their families.
- To increase awareness of our children's special problems and needs.

*Happy 15th Birthday, Wisconsin Family Ties!*

**Wisconsin Family Ties**  
announces

**Family Fun Day**  
**2002**

**Tuesday, July 16, 2002**

*For more details,  
see page 7!*

## Conferences and Workshops

### June 17-20

"An Educational Mystery Tour: Live & In Concert-Down by the River," La Crosse Center/Radisson Hotel, La Crosse. For information, call Marathon County Special Education at **715/848-5440**

### June 20-22

"A Focus on Youth & Families," 4th Biennial National Violence Intervention & Prevention Institute, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. For information, call **608/785-6500, ext. 4**

### July 16

Wisconsin Family Ties 7th Annual Family Fun Day at Family Land Waterpark in Wisconsin Dells. For details, **see p. 7.**

### August 1-2

37th Annual Wisconsin Council for Exceptional Children Conference, Marriott West, Middleton, WI. For information, call **414/773-2664**

### August 1-4

"Winds of Change-New Directions for Families & Children," Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Chicago, IL. For information, call the North American Council on Adoptable Children at **651/644-3036**

### October 25-26

2002 Statewide Consumer Conference, Park Plaza Inn, Oshkosh. For information call **414/773-2664**

### November 14-15

26th Annual WI Association for Children with Behavior Disorders Conference, Marriott West, Middleton, WI. For information, call **414/773-2664**

### November 22-24

14th Annual Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health Conference, Washington D.C. For information: **www.bcfamily.com**

### February 12-13, 2003

13th Annual Children Come First Conference, Mead Hotel, Wisconsin Rapids. For information call **608/284-0580**

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We would appreciate knowing what kinds of articles you would like to see included in future issues. Please feel free to send your comments or suggestion about this newsletter to:

*family ties* newsletter, Editor  
Wisconsin Family Ties  
16 N. Carroll St., Suite 640  
Madison, WI 53703

# What Parents Need to Know About Children with Disabilities and the Delinquency System

*This information is not intended as legal advice. It is always best to consult with correctional teachers and administrators about your child's needs for special education while he or she is incarcerated. You may also want to consult an attorney about your incarcerated child's legal rights to special education.*

## **Prepared by Lili Garfinkel**

Associate Director, EDJJ (The National Center on Education, Disability and Juvenile Justice)

### **What are the most common disabilities identified among court involved youth?**

- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Learning Disabilities (LD)
- Conduct Disorder and other behavioral disorders
- Depression
- Anxiety Disorders
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Development Disabilities
- Many youth have more than one disability classification

### **Why are youth with disabilities over-represented in the delinquency system?**

- As compared with their non-disabled peers, youth with disabilities may be at increased risk for involvement with the police and the courts, and for incarceration. There are many reasons why youth with disabilities may be at increased risk for involvement with the delinquency system.
- Behaviors that are common to many youth with disabilities may contribute to their increased risk for involvement with the delinquency system, including poorly developed social skills, impulsive behaviors, risk taking behaviors, susceptibility to negative peer pressure, and greater difficulty learning in school.
- The ways that schools respond to youth with disabilities may also contribute to their increased risk for involvement with the courts. For example, youth with disabilities may be frequently suspended and expelled, or referred to police for infractions of school rules.

- While problems in school do not directly cause delinquent behavior, delinquency is associated with poor academic skills and school dropout.
- African American youth are over-represented in special education programs in the public schools and in the delinquency system. African American youth are incarcerated at five times the rate for white youth, and are less likely to have an attorney representing them in juvenile court proceedings. They are more likely to be incarcerated than white youth charged with the same offense and with the same offense history.

### **What should parents know about school policies on discipline and violent behavior?**

- Both you and your child should obtain a copy of your school's discipline policy. Read it over very carefully, and if you don't understand something, ask a teacher or school counselor to explain it.
- If you believe your child needs assistance to meet the school's behavioral expectations, discuss with a teacher or school counselor how the school can help to meet these needs.
- Find out what your school identifies as a weapon and a threatening statement. Be aware and discuss with your child what types of behaviors can result in school suspension or expulsion.

### **What should parents tell their child with a disability if he or she is arrested?**

- If you are worried the police may stop your child, develop a "game plan" and act it out with him or her before that happens. Repeat the game plan from time to time.
- Explain to your child that if the police stop him or her, they should tell the police their name, address, and phone number. They should ask the police to call you, and a lawyer.
- Tell them to always be polite and cooperative with a police officer if they are stopped.
- Anything your child tells the police may be used against them later on in court.
- The best advice is to tell your child not to respond to specific questions about the alleged offense until you are there to help them.

### **What can parents do if their child is arrested?**

- Go to the police station as soon as you find out your child is being questioned or detained.
- Get as much information as you can about the charges, as soon as possible.
- Find out if there were any witnesses.
- Provide information about your child's disability to the police, to your child's attorney and to the court as soon as possible. Explain how your child's disability affects his or her behaviors, their understanding of the alleged offense, and their ability to answer questions.

### **Should a parent share information about their child's disability with justice system officials?**

- It is essential that information about your child's disability be given to court professionals, especially his or her lawyer, probation officer and judge.
- Ask the court to address the contribution of the disability to the youth's behavior and alleged offense.
- If your child is placed under the supervision of the court or is incarcerated, you want to be certain that he or she receives the mental health services and the special education services to which they are entitled.
- When possible, ask people who know and like your child to write a letter to the court or to come to court to speak on his or her behalf.

### **What special education services are youth entitled to in the delinquency system?**

- Children with disabilities who are eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) have the right to a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) including special education and related services, wherever they live or attend school. This includes juvenile correctional placements and with certain exceptions, adult correctional facilities.
- The involvement of parents in special education decision-making is a fundamental principle of the IDEA, and this does

*Continued on page 4*

## Support *Continued from page 3*

not change when a child is incarcerated. Parents / guardians of incarcerated youth should be involved in the development of their child's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

- If the parents / guardians are not able to attend IEP meetings in a correctional facility, they can participate through telephone conferencing. If parents / guardians are not available to participate in the IEP process, surrogate parents can be appointed by the agency funding the youth's education. A surrogate parent assumes the rights with respect to special education that parents normally have. The surrogate parent cannot be an employee of any agency that might have a conflict of interest with the provision of special education services.
- Children with disabilities may also be entitled to services under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- If your child has never been identified as having a disability, but you have reason to believe he or she may be disabled and in need of special education, you can ask in writing for an evaluation. The correctional facility is obligated to consider your request and to determine if your child has special needs.
- Services can be provided through an IEP if your child receives special education services under the IDEA, or a "504 plan" if your child receives special help under Section 504, even if that plan has expired.
- When a child is transferred to a correctional facility, an IEP or 504 plan must be developed that specifies the services your child needs in the correctional facility.
- Licensed personnel including special education teachers, psychologists, social workers or mental health professionals, should provide special education services.
- Whenever possible, it is advisable that the IEP meeting include representation from your child's IEP team in your home school district. If a representative of the home school cannot come to the IEP meeting, they can provide input by phone, mail, or fax.
- If the home school district has not sent your child's educational records including the IEP or 504 plans to the correctional facility, you may obtain a copy and send it

to the facility. These records are very important.

- If you feel your child in a correctional facility is not receiving appropriate special education and related services, you have the same rights under the IDEA to mediation and due process that are afforded to parents whose children attend school in the community.
- Each state has regulations that pertain to transfer of rights for youth over the age of 18 in the IEP process. If your child cannot advocate for his or her own rights because of a disability, he or she can transfer the authority to you or to a surrogate parent to act as an advocate in the IEP process.
- If your child uses any psychotropic medication ask your physician or the physician in the correctional facility, to provide a list of the medications, the dosage, the time the medication should be given and any possible side effects, to the education program.

### What transition services should be provided for youth in the delinquency system?

- If your child is over age 14 and eligible for special education services, a Transition Plan must be included as part of their IEP. Transition plans include the skills and services your child will need once they leave public school. Transition services can include instruction in life skills, social skills, assistance in returning to high school, job seeking skills, pre-vocational and vocational training and supports in the community from the educational agency or from adult service agencies.
- When your child leaves a correctional facility, he or she will need an aftercare plan. Ideally, planning for release back into the community should begin when a child enters the facility.
- An aftercare plan includes what your child must do to stay out of trouble, including academic goals and school attendance, ongoing mental health services, substance abuse classes and meetings with a probation officer. The aftercare plan should be similar to and may be coordinated with the Transition Plan.
- To seek additional information prepared by EDJJ about Transition planning and services for youth and disabilities in the delinquency system, you may go to web site: <http://www.edjj.org/TransitionAfterCare>

### What should parents do if their child with a disability is sent to an adult correctional setting?

- Understand your child's disability needs and their rights to education and special education in adult correctional facilities.
- Remain involved and persistent as advocates for your child.
- Contact the staff in the correctional facility to let them know that you are willing to cooperate and work with them, and that your child is entitled to special education and related services.
- Tell the correctional staff what has worked and not worked for your child in the past.
- Do not be intimidated by the corrections setting.
- Most youth with disabilities under the age of 22 and incarcerated in adult correctional facilities are entitled to special services under the IDEA if they were identified as eligible and were receiving special education services through an IEP prior to their incarceration.
- Collect information about your child's education including transcripts, IEP, 504 plan and medical needs and provide copies for the correctional education staff.
- Youth with disabilities in adult correctional facilities may also be entitled to services under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- Review the information provided in the previous section of the Parent Fact Sheet.

### For more information:

- Using your internet, search for: <http://www.flabar.org/newflabar/consumerservices/general/consumer.pam/24pamph.htm>. Click to read "If your child is Arrested" prepared by the Florida Bar Association.
- To access parent training centers and disability groups in your state or to download Helping You Help Your Child or the Just Children's parent manual on-line, search for: [www.people.virginia.edu/~sxj3z/trick/parentmanual](http://www.people.virginia.edu/~sxj3z/trick/parentmanual)
- Contact the Juvenile Justice project of the PACER Center, [www.pacer.org](http://www.pacer.org) or 1-800-537-2237

# Thanks Judi

## for the memories

Judi started at Wisconsin Family Ties in October, 1997, working out of the Madison office as Information & Referral Coordinator. She left WFT to work for FACETS in mid-April. During her 4 1/2 years at WFT, Judi responded to calls from family members from all over the state with requests for support, information and referral. Her intelligent and compas-

sionate response to these requests was greatly appreciated. She served on many statewide planning committees and headed up a highly successful marketing campaign and our public relations efforts. She was our newsletter editor. We will miss her and wish her much success in her new endeavors. Joan Maynard has been hired to fill the position.



Judi Bradshaw-Rouse and Tyrel Rouse.

## Transition to Adulthood

In the transition to adulthood, paying for health care shifts from the youth's family to the young adult. Prior to a child turning 18, parents need to carefully review their health insurance policies to determine the provisions for continuing coverage for their child. Some policies will allow you to keep a child with a disability (one who is found to be disabled by the Social Security Administration's definition of disability) for a longer period of time. Another provision will cover full-time students; however, this provision may vary greatly by age. You must read your policy carefully!

### COBRA Continuation

Your child can continue receiving coverage as an individual through your plan for a maximum period of 36 months. You will have to pay the full premium for this coverage, but this option allows your family time to find the best long-term solution for your child's coverage. This is called COBRA continuation. Parents can elect COBRA coverage for their child who is about to lose coverage due to age.

### Timing Counts!

If you elect COBRA or get other coverage within 63 days after the old insurance ends, it can prevent the young adult from having future coverage excluded due to preexisting conditions. Be sure not to let coverage lapse for more than 63 days.

### BadgerCare

Another option is that at the child's 18th birthday, the young adult can apply for Badgercare that can be effective coverage until the date of their 19th birthday. After that, they can seek private coverage, or Medicaid coverage, if the young adult meets the disability determination as set forth by the Social Security Administration.

### Disability Evaluation

If the child was eligible for Medicaid because of a disability, he or she will receive a notice from the Social Security Administration letting them know they will need to be reevaluated for disability eligibility as an adult. This is considered a new application for disability and the child will now be tested under the adult standards of the Social Security Disability Program. Even if your child didn't meet the criteria for Katie Beckett, he or she may be found eligible for Medicaid coverage as an adult with disabilities. When in doubt, always apply for coverage. For more information, visit <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/11000.html>.

### Working While Disabled

There are several options that allow a disabled adult to work and not lose Medicaid coverage. The Medicaid Purchase Plan allows individuals over 18 who are working or are interested in working to purchase Medicaid coverage. For more information call 800.362.3002 or visit [www.dhfs.state.wi.us/mapp/consumer/eligibility.htm](http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/mapp/consumer/eligibility.htm). Another option is the Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS). PASS allows

SSI recipients, including young adults to set aside income or resources to reach a goal to become financially self-supporting. The income and resources set aside may later be used to obtain occupational training or education, purchase occupational equipment, establish a business, etc. For more information, visit <http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/10095.html>.

### Healthy and Ready to Work

The Wisconsin Healthy and Ready to Work (HRTW) is a demonstration project developed to support youth with special health care needs who are transitioning into the adult world. Healthy and Ready to Work focuses on working with the Wisconsin CSHN Program and selected communities to support young people with disabilities in transition from pediatric to adult health care services, employment and independence. The project engages key players within the community to identify local strengths and ways to build on those strengths. For more information contact Amy Whitehead from the Waisman Center at 608.263.5762.

## Prescription medicines provided free of charge

The research-based pharmaceutical industry has had a long-standing tradition of providing prescription medicines free of charge to physicians whose patients might not otherwise have access to necessary medicines.

To make it easier for physicians to identify the growing number of programs available for needy patients, member companies of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) created

a directory. It lists company programs that provide drugs to physicians whose patients could not otherwise afford them. The programs are listed alphabetically by company. Under the entry for each program is information about how to make a request for assistance, what prescription medicines are covered, and basic eligibility criteria. For copies of this directory, please call 800/762-4636.



## Donate to WFT When You Shop for Groceries!

Thanks to Sarah Hebbe, Wisconsin Family Ties has been selected to participate in Pick 'n Save's electronic "We Care" donation program. WFT benefits if you list our account number on your Advantage® Savers Club card. Our account number is 941085. Each time you present your Pick 'n Save

Advantage card at the check out, a donation from your grocery purchase is added to our account. If you already have a Savers Club card, simply complete a change form and designate Wisconsin Family Ties' number on the form. THANK YOU for supporting WFT!

## Support *Continued from page 1*

involved in fundraising activities or making meeting reminder phone calls. In all, we have forged a nucleus of 30 truly caring individuals.

What keeps us coming back, besides making new friends and keeping in touch with the old ones, is the hope that our children will continue to develop their social

skills and the tools for life that other families can take for granted. We hope to provide a secure environment without judgement which will let our kids blossom. We hope to offer a break for a weary parent for an hour or so. I extend the invitation to embrace the idea of support networking. Come and join

us or begin a group in your area. Open the window and let springtime in.

*As this issue of family ties was going to the printer, we received word from John Kohlhoven that the activities described in this article will no longer be funded after August 31, 2002.*

## WFT Support Groups throughout the State

*If a WFT Support Group is not listed for your area, call the Family Advocate in your region to help you find one or to help you start one. Call to confirm all meetings.*

### Northern Region

Oneida	Jackie Baldwin	715-542-3535	Pelican Grade School, Rhinelander	3rd Monday, Sept-May; 6:30-8:30 PM
Vilas	Jackie Baldwin	715-542-3535	Northland Pines Middle School, Eagle River	2nd Tuesday, Sept-May; 6:00-8:00 PM
Lincoln	Louise Doescher	715-536-3094	Lincoln Industries Building, 912 Memorial Drive, Merrill	2nd Wednesday; 6:30 PM
Langlade	Alberta Hatmaker	715-478-5965	Call for location	Call for date and time
Marathon	Sarah Hebbe	715-675-2860	Wausau YMCA	2nd Monday; 6:00 – 8:00 PM

### Western Region

La Crosse	Ann Hager	608-787-0685	Perkins Restaurant Private Dining Room, Onalaska	2nd Saturday, 2 PM
Monroe/Vernon	Ann Hager	608-787-0685	Country Kitchen, Sparta	3rd Saturday; 2 PM
Trempealeau	Ann Hager	608-787-0685	call for location	1st Monday; 7 PM
Eau Claire/ Chippewa	Ann Hager	608-787-0685	call for location	3rd Saturday; 2 PM

### Southern Region

Lafayette/Grant	Ann Hager	608-787-0685	call for location	2nd Tuesday; 7 PM
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### Southeastern/Milwaukee Region

Kenosha	Ginger Fobart	262-652-3031	St. Mary's Lutheran, Kenosha	2nd Saturday, 10:00 AM - Noon
Waukesha	Kathryn J alas Franke	262-646-4455	YWCA Waukesha	4th Wednesday; 6:30 – 8 PM

### Northeastern Region

Waushara	Don Sittig	920-787-0018	Family Resources Conference Room at CAP Services, Wautoma	even numbered Wednesdays; 7 PM
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# My Angel from Family Ties

By Jodi Bellile

*My first born son is Jordan.  
I had him when I was fifteen.  
He was the cutest baby  
That I had ever seen.*

*But as my son got older,  
Something wasn't right.  
He was so aggressive.  
He'd yell and kick and fight.*

*I couldn't let him play outside  
With other girls and boys.  
He'd push them down and make them cry  
And smash apart their toys.*

*His teachers couldn't take it.  
He talked non-stop in school.  
He'd bother other kids in class  
And thought that it was cool.*

*I took all of the classes  
And I practiced all my skills,  
But discipline was useless  
And so we gave him pills.*

*The pills helped Jordan focus  
And they helped him to sit still,  
But being nice to others  
Was not his greatest skill.*

*And then one day an Angel  
Appeared before my eyes.  
She said, "My name is Jackie from  
Wisconsin Family Ties."*

*She said, "I know you're hurting.  
My son has problems, too.  
If you need a crying shoulder  
I am always here for you."*

*She took my hand and showed me  
That I was not alone.  
She introduced me to a world  
That I had never known.*

*I've since met countless people  
Who have somehow helped us through.  
My son is doing wonderfully  
And making new friends, too.*

*I look back now, we've come so far,  
Tears come to my eyes.  
I owe so much to Jackie  
From Wisconsin Family Ties.*

*And so I make this promise  
That I will find a way  
To try and help save families  
Like Jackie did that day.*

Wisconsin Family Ties  
announces

# Family Fun Day 2002

Seventh Annual Family Fun Day at Family Land Waterpark  
1701 Wisconsin Dells Parkway – Wisconsin Dells, WI

**Tuesday, July 16, 2002**

Outdoor Park: 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Indoor Park: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 per person includes a picnic lunch  
(children under 3 are free)

Registration deadline is Friday, July 7th. Space is limited.  
Call to reserve your tickets Today!

**Wisconsin Family Ties, Inc.,**

16 N. Carroll St., Suite 640, Madison, WI 53703  
608/267-6834 or 800/422-7145 (parents only outside Madison calling area)

**Bonus—For Family Fun Day only, WFT will be selling red T-shirts with our logo.  
The cost per shirt is \$10.00 and they are available in adult sizes XL, L, M and S.**

## family ties newsletter

Please complete and mail or FAX this form to:

Wisconsin Family Ties	608/267-6888
16 N. Carroll St., Suite 640	800/422-7145 (Parents only)
Madison, WI 53703	FAX 608/267-6801

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/caregiver  Professional

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ — \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to receive *family ties*, WFT's quarterly newsletter

Please accept my tax-deductible contribution. Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

# family ties

Wisconsin Family Ties, Inc.  
16 N. Carroll Street, Suite 640  
Madison, WI 53703

608/267-6888  
(Madison office)

800/422-7145  
(Parents outside the Madison calling area)

FAX: 608/267-6801  
www.wifamilyties.org

Maggie Mezera  
*Executive Director*

Christine Pavelko  
*Graphic Designer*

*Wisconsin Family Ties (WFT) is a statewide organization run by families for families that include children and adolescents with emotional, behavioral, and mental disorders. An Equal Opportunity Employer, WFT is funded by individuals, corporations, foundations and grants from the Center for Mental Health Services and the State of Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services. Contributions to WFT are tax deductible.*

## Wisconsin Family Ties Board of Directors

Karen Robison, *President, Shorewood*  
John Grace, *Vice President, Madison*  
Ginny Stuesser, *Secretary, Waukesha*

Angela Choban, *Waukesha*  
Bill Griesbach, *Green Bay*  
Pat Patterson, *Milwaukee*

Don Rosin, *Lac du Flambeau*  
Bonnie Howe, *Waunakee*  
Cindy Schultz, *Madison*

## Wisconsin Family Ties Madison Office Staff

■ Maggie Mezera, *Executive Director*    ■ Suzanne Martin, *Office Manager*    ■ Joan Maynard, *Information & Referral Coordinator*

## Wisconsin Family Ties Family Advocates

### *Dane County:*

Kechia Mlatawou, **608/245-0926**  
Bonnie Schoeneman-Lubet, **608/831-0556**

### *Mendota Mental Health Institute:*

Beryl Gribbon Fago, **608/301-1190**

### *Forest County:*

Alberta Hatmaker, **715/478-5965**

### *Kenosha County:*

Ginger Fobart, **262/652-3031**

### *La Crosse County:*

Ann Hager, **608/787-0685**

### *Lincoln County Support Group Leader:*

Louise Doescher, **715/536-3094**

### *Marathon County:*

Sarah Hebbe, **715/675-2860**

### *Marinette County:*

Jill Brohmer, **715/732-0951**

### *Vilas County:*

Jackie Baldwin, **715/542-3535**

### *Waukesha County:*

Kathryn Jalas Franke, **262/646-4455**

### *Waushara County:*

Donald Sittig, **920/787-0018**