



**JoAnna Richard, DVR Deputy Administrator  
Promise Grant Project Director**

**The future is so bright and holds tremendous  
PROMISE**



# What Is PROMISE?

- Program to improve the education and career outcomes of low income children with disabilities receiving SSI
  - advances goal of fostering interagency collaboration at the Federal and State levels to improve services and drive innovation
- \$32.5 million grant for 5 year demonstration





# Overview

- Design development
- Deliverables
- Recruitment and Enrollment
- Case Management and IPE/Family Plans
- Key Partners and Learning Communities
- Monitoring Progress





# 6 Demonstration Sites

- California
- New York
- Maryland
- Arkansas
- Aspire Consortium (Utah, Arizona, Colorado, N. Dakota, S. Dakota and Montana)
- Wisconsin





# The Problem

A significant number of child SSI recipients do not become independent, self-sufficient tax paying members of the community.

Parents and families of many SSI recipients are not self-sufficient & face many problems:

- Low educational attainment and employment rates
- Low postsecondary and/or vocational rehabilitation enrollment rates





# Problem

Parents and family members of child SSI recipients also face many challenges, and are in need of support services:

- 1/3 of the parents have less than a HS education
  - 50% live in household with at least one other person with a disability
- Families lack information on how to become self-sufficient





# Wisconsin's Challenge

- 60% of child SSI recipients receive SSI as adult
- Those leaving program
  - 25% return within 4 years
- 39 % do not have HS diploma
- 22 % employed
- 6% enrolled in post-secondary
- 20% have been arrested





# Grant Requirements

- **All projects must provide or arrange for:**
  - **Case Management**
  - **Benefits Counseling**
  - **Career and work-based learning experiences**
  - **Parent training and information**



# Wisconsin's Innovation Building Blocks

**Business Services**

**Social Security  
Reimbursement**

**Youth OJT**

**Let's Get to Work**

**OJT**

**MIG**

**W-2 Collaboration**



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH SERVICES



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



# Partnerships



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH SERVICES



*ForwardHealth*  
Wisconsin serving you

- Medicaid/Long Term Care
- Mental Health
- Disabilities



WISCONSIN  
DWD  
Department of Workforce Development



JOB CENTER  
of WISCONSIN



EVR



Investing in  
Wisconsin's Future

- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Workforce Development
- Youth Programs



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

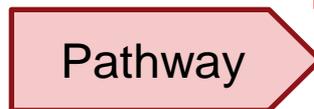
- Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (W-2)
- Child Protective Services



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Special Education

# Individual and Family





# Case Management

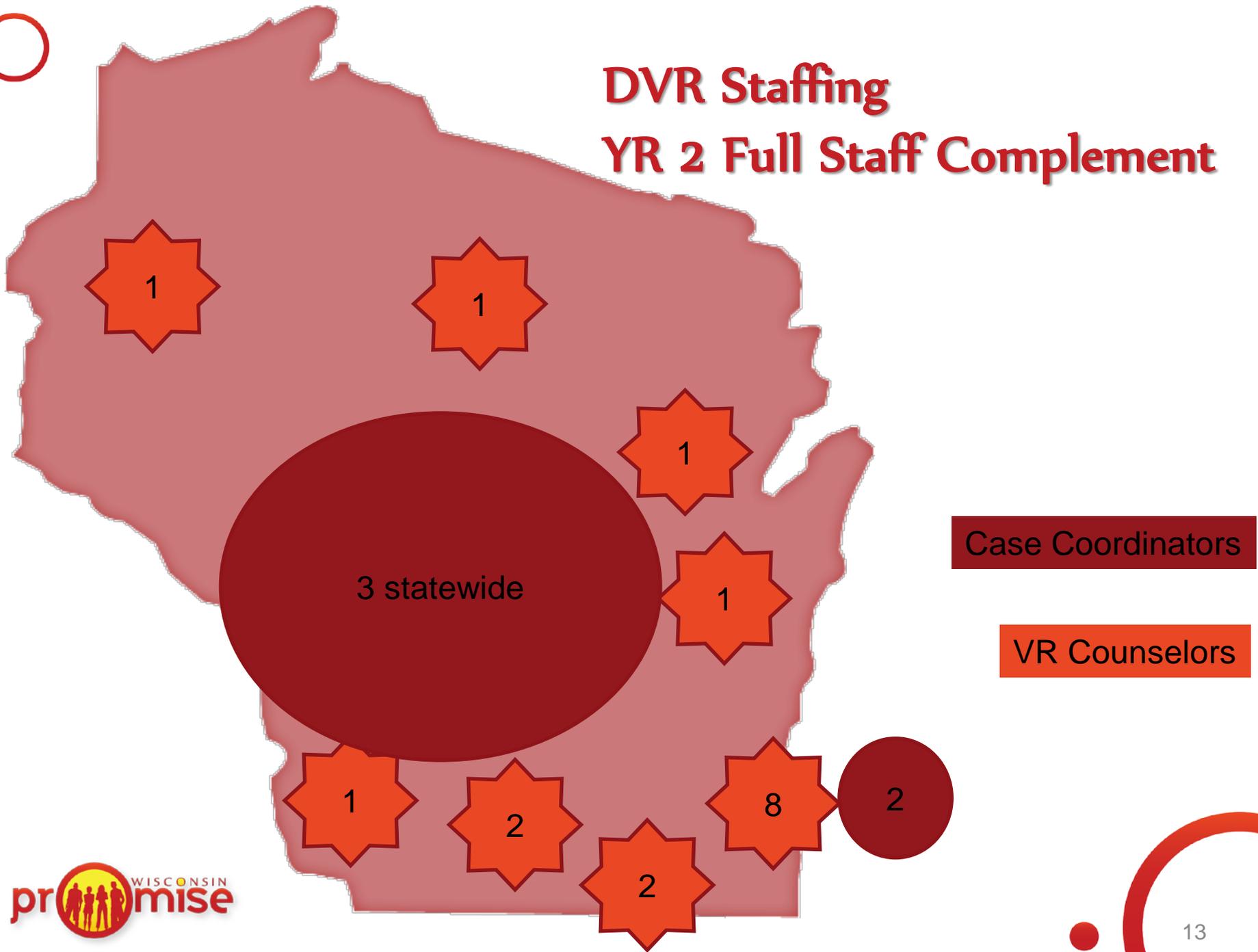
## Inputs or Activities

1. 17 Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) case managers plus 5 case coordinators
2. Rapid engagement [start no more than 90 days after enrollment (averaging 30 days); assessment complete within 60 days]
3. Strength-based and Needs Assessments
4. At least monthly contact
5. Identifying, locating, arranging for needed services and supports
6. Coordinating grant services with other available services
7. Establish resource team or join in existing team (school, long term support, mental health, Wrap Around, juvenile justice, child/family welfare, etc...)
8. Person centered planning
9. Transition planning coordinated with school IEP and Academic Career Plan
10. Plan Development/Implementation
11. Plan Completion/Stabilization/Closure
12. Technical assistance from Statewide Transition Action and Resource Team (START)
13. Case manager learning community
14. Motivational Interviewing training

## Short/ Intermediate Term Outcomes

1. Good working alliance
2. Increased work motivation (readiness for work/school; increase belief in what is possible)
3. Complimentary and consistent IEP and IPE and Academic Career Plan
4. Connection to needed medical and behavioral health and independent living services and supports

# DVR Staffing YR 2 Full Staff Complement



# Career Exploration/Work Experience

## Inputs or Activities

1. Educational and Drop Out Prevention Assessment and Engagement
2. Literacy training
3. Connect family members to complete high school or obtain GED
4. Connect with educational liaison to connect family members with financial aid, disability services (if needed), child care, transportation, and registration for post-secondary college, technical, or training school/programs
5. Soft Skills Training: Skills to Pay the Bills (adapt so can also be use with parents)
6. Online Youth Self-Advocacy Training (to be completed with family)
7. At least one (mandatory) or two (preferable) work experience(s)
  - a. On the Job Training (OJT)/ Youth OJT
  - b. Youth Apprenticeship Program
  - c. Transitional Jobs Program
  - d. Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth Program
8. Connect to Adult Training through Job Centers for parents (use outcome based payments)
9. Job Development/Preparation
  - a. Business Services Consultants (DVR Dual Customer Approach)
  - b. Community Conversations
10. Youth Learning Communities
11. Family Learning Communities
12. Parent/Provider Training: What to expect after high school: Aim to increase expectations, knowledge, and participation in transition process

## Short/ Intermediate Term Outcomes

1. Graduate from high school/obtained GED
2. Post Secondary school/training certificate/credits/degree/other credentials
3. Attendance/ academics and behavior
4. Paid integrated, employment work (length in job)
5. Social skills
6. Self-advocacy knowledge and skills
7. Parent actively involved in supporting and advocating education and work goals
8. Literacy
9. Job readiness
10. Increase expectations, knowledge, and participation in transition process



# Connecting to Employment and Training

- **Family Plans to include:**
  - Education and Training for adult family members
  - Referrals and purchase of services from workforce partners
    - \$1-2 million budgeted
  - Financial literacy and asset development





# Work Incentive Benefits Counseling/ Financial Capacity Building

## Inputs or Activities

1. Work Incentive Benefits Specialists (WIBS) to specialize in youth and family specific Work Incentive Benefits Counseling (WIBC)
  2. Provide WIBC for all youth and their families
  3. WIBC community of practice and technical assistance
  4. Financial literacy classes: Make Your Money Talk
  5. Ongoing Financial Coaching
  6. Asset Development
    - a. Plans for Achieving Self-Support (PASS)
    - b. State Individual Development Accounts (IDAs)
- Provide incentives for saving by adding money directly to savings accounts (dollar to dollar match)

## Short/ Intermediate Term Outcomes

1. Financial self-efficacy
2. Use of work incentives
3. Amount in savings accounts
4. Asset accumulation
5. Decrease fear of loss of benefits
6. Stages of change: Increase readiness to work
7. Financial knowledge
8. Financial stability
9. Savings behaviors



# Family Training

## Inputs or Activities

1. Parent/Provider Training: What to expect after high school: Aim to increase expectations, knowledge, and participation in transition process
2. Family Learning Communities
3. Literacy training
4. Connect family members to complete high school or obtain GED
5. Connect with educational liaison to connect family members with financial aid, disability services (if needed), child care, transportation, and registration for post-secondary college, technical, or training school/programs
6. Adapt Skills to Pay the Bills so can also be use with parents
7. Online Youth Self-Advocacy Training to be completed with family
8. Connect to Adult Training through Job Centers for parents (use outcome based payments)
9. Family included in WIBC
10. Family included in financial training and IDAs
11. Family members with disabilities encouraged to apply to DVR

## Short/ Intermediate Term Outcomes

1. Graduate from high school/obtained GED
2. Post Secondary school/training certificate/credits/ degree/other credentials
3. Paid integrated, employment work (length in job)
4. Social skills
5. Self-advocacy knowledge and skills
6. Parent actively involved in supporting and advocating education and work goals
7. Literacy
8. Job readiness
9. increase expectations, knowledge, and participation in transition process
10. Increased work motivation (readiness for work/school; increase belief in what is possible)
11. Financial literacy



# Outcomes

- ❖ Increase Educational attainment and credentials
- ❖ Increase Employment
- ❖ Increase household income including family members older than 15
- ❖ Decrease reliance on SSA payments
- ❖ Decrease public benefits



# Evaluation

- **National Evaluation- Mathematica**
- **Formative Evaluation**
  - **UW-Stout**
    - **Dr. John Lui and Dr. Cayte Anderson**
  - **UW-Madison**
    - **Dr. Fong Chan, Dr. Tim Tansey and Dr. Audrey Trainor**

# Promise Grant 5 YR Budget

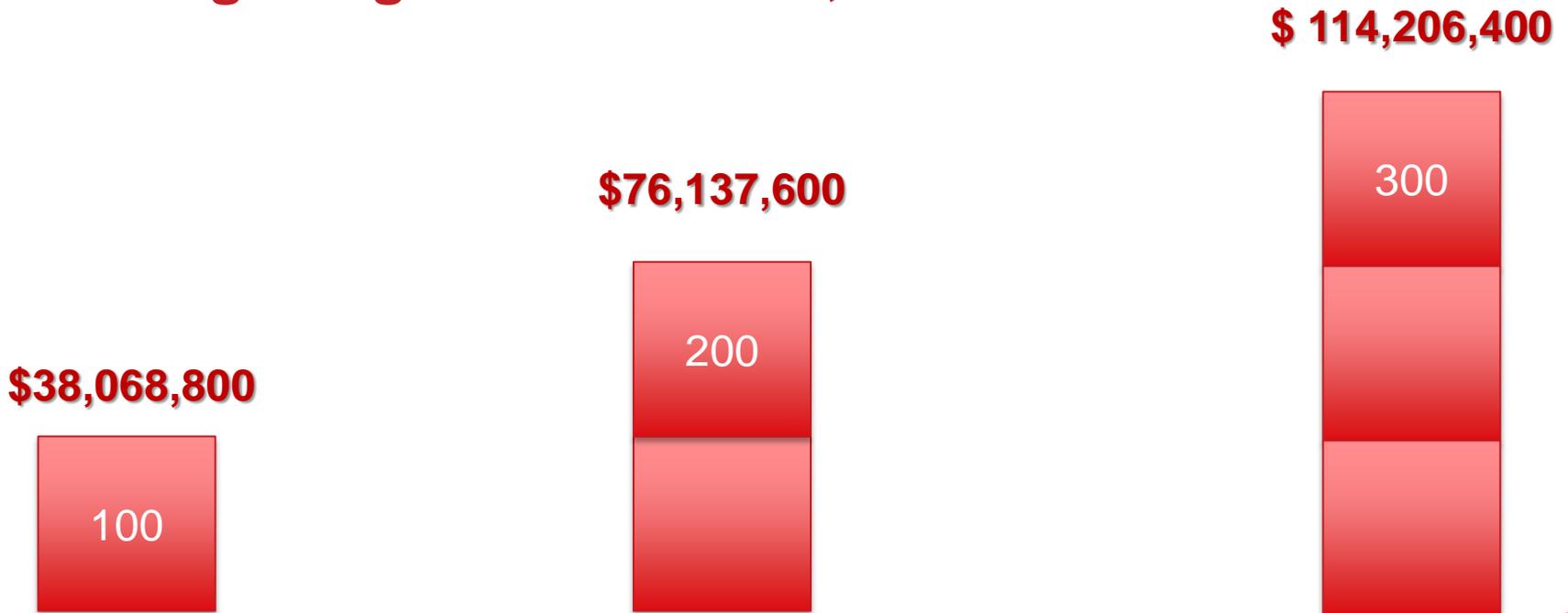
Rec & Enrollment	\$ 663,105
Case Mngt	\$ 6,024,500
Work Exp.	\$ 5,311,494
Fin. Services	\$ 4,250,000
IT	\$ 2,750,000
Eval	\$ 3,590,980
Infrastructure	\$ 1,770,000
Personnel	\$ 8,137,102
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 32,497,181</b>

# Return on Investment

Avg monthly SSI payment = \$721

Yearly amount = \$8652

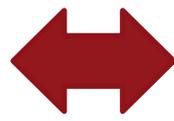
Working to Age 21- 65 = \$380,688



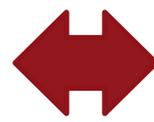


**Facilitator:** Bd of People w/ Developmental Disabilities

**Executive Committee:**  
Secretaries:  
DWD, DHS, DCF  
DPI Superintendent



**Steering Committee:** Workgroup Liaisons/Leads, Dept Leads,  
**Partnership Committee Members-** Variety of staff/partners: DPI, DHS, DWD, DCF, Parent Groups, UW Researcher/Evaluators, Disability Reps, Service Providers and Experts



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Recruit & Enroll

Case Mngt

Work Exp Careers

Data Sharing

Connections

Financial Services

Evaluation



# Partnership Committee : workgroup members...

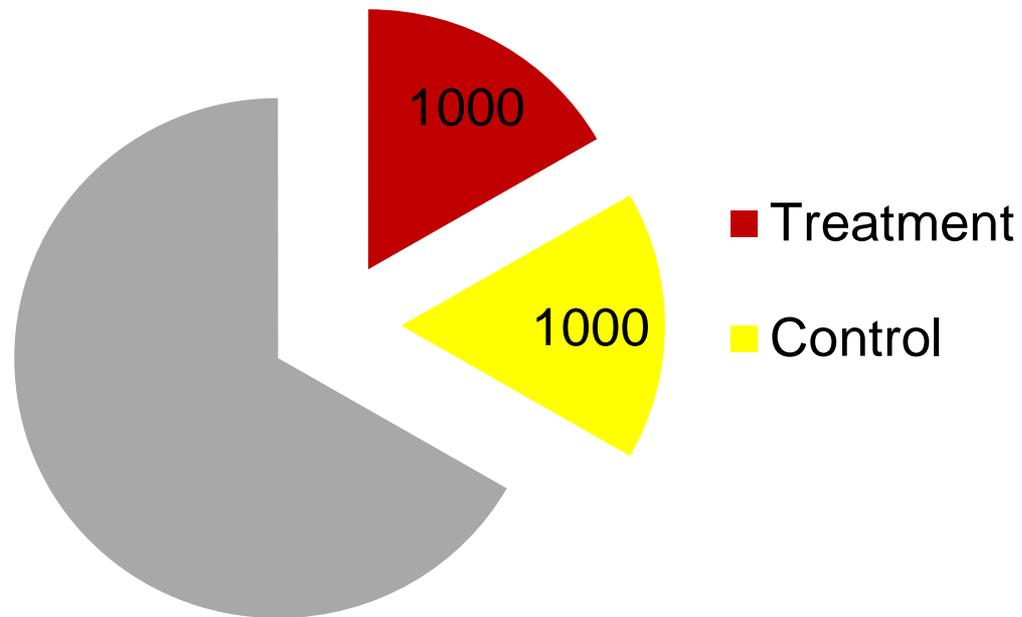
## And the list goes on....



# Grant Population Targets

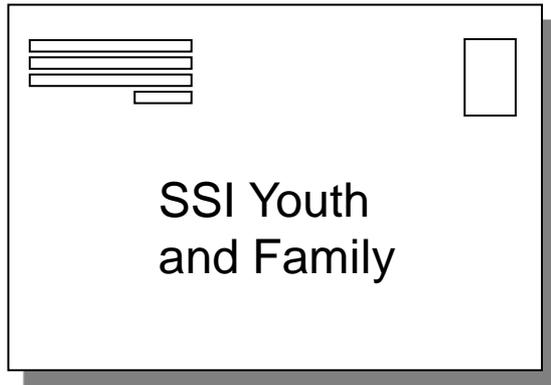
Region	Population %
Racine, Kenosha & Walworth Counties	10.1%
Milwaukee Co	41.7%
Waukesha, Ozaukee & Washington Counties	2.7%
Fox Valley	6.8%
Green Bay & NE WI	8.5%
Wausau & NC WI	4.4%
Superior & NW WI	1.5%
Eau Claire & West Central WI	4.5%
LaCrosse & Western WI	3.5 %
Madison & SC WI	9.5%
Janesville, Beloit & SW WI	5%

# Enrollment Targets



6000 WI Youth (14 to 16)

# Recruitment



# Enrollment



- Parental Consent
- Baseline intake



- SSA Verification
- Random Selection



Periodic Survey  
Benchmark



Family and Youth  
Enrolled in DVR  
Program services





# Upcoming Activities

- **October 1-February 14, 2014:**
  - Establish Contracts with Personnel, Evaluation, Data Sharing, Recruitment Entities, & State Agencies
- **February 1-March 1, 2014**
  - Establish Recruitment protocols
  - Test Enrollment
  - Train recruitment and enrollment providers
- **March 10-January 31, 2016**
  - Recruit 2000 youth for grant project

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- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J9aHT-syZxs>





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# Enrollment Starting Soon!



[Find Out More!](#)





# Roll Up Your Sleeves

- Join a workgroup and lend your expertise
- Share information for enrollment
  - [Promise-Grant@cesal2.org](mailto:Promise-Grant@cesal2.org)
  - 1-855-480-5618
- Learn with us
  - Learning communities for professionals and families
- Join our list serve
  - [Joanna.richard@dwd.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Joanna.richard@dwd.wisconsin.gov)
- Hold us accountable
  - [www.promisewi.com](http://www.promisewi.com)





# Innovation, Collaboration and Independence