

Wellness Inclusion Nursing

Promoting Health Equity Through IDD-Informed Community Nursing



WIN Nurses

Assess

Advocate

Collaborate

Facilitate Understanding

Develop Workable Plans to Live Safely in the Community

Enhance Healthy Living

Reduce Risks

Consult

Teach

WIN

WELLNESS INCLUSION NURSING

Mission

Wellness Inclusion Nursing (WIN) Program nurses work with individuals with IDD and complex health care needs living in the community. WIN nurses partner with the person, their families, caregivers, and health care providers. WIN service focus on restoring, maintaining and promoting maximal health and independence.

History & Funding

Created in 2009 in partnership with Dane County Human Service as an ongoing community model program. Currently funded through Wisconsin's Medicaid waiver Long-Term Care programs for children and adults and contracts with service providers.

Barriers & Challenges

WIN Nurses work to help participants address:

- Difficulty scheduling appointments that are sufficient in length.
- No transportation, physical barriers, few accommodations for alternative communication or behavior health needs.
- Lack of plain language information/misconceptions about supported community life, diagnostic overshadowing.
- High caregiver turn over and few hands-on training opportunities for caregivers.
- Reluctance from funders, fears to duplicate services.

Common Health Care Needs

- Dehydration, constipation, diet and weight changes
- Aspiration, swallowing, feeding tubes
- Orthopedic issues and falls
- Seizures
- Pain
- GI issues
- Mental health needs
- End of life support

Past Training Tools

- Go With Your Gut
- Living with Diabetes: Learning, Coping, Helping...
- Is It Pain?
- Save My Skin
- Taking Charge of Your Own Health Care

WIN Participants & Program Evaluation

- 84 individuals served in FY 2022
 - 1-21: 21 (25%)
 - 21-55: 30 (36%)
 - 55 & older: 33 (39%)
- Ongoing evaluation of intermediate outcomes (6 months after start of services)
 - Started in early 2022
 - Focuses on ability to manage health conditions and overall quality of life