



WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON FAMILY RELATIONS



IN THIS ISSUE

Connecting Professionals

The Wisconsin Council on Family Relations is pleased to present its first Quarterly Newsletter. Our goal is to engage and connect our members with meaningful articles and information to help thrive your professional path.

Who are we?

A statewide professional network for support, networking, collaboration, feedback, partnerships, professional development, sharing resources and expertise for the field of family science.

Become a member to start your professional career on the right path!

Member benefits include:

- Newsletters
- Career Spotlights
- Member's only Facebook page
- Discounts to annual conference
- Networking opportunities
- Highlights from NCFR

Essentially, WICFR is your perfect platform to stay connected with other family life professionals in the state of Wisconsin.

Visit our website to get started:
<http://wi.ncfr.org/>

WICFR's annual conference

Look into some sneak peaks from our upcoming annual conference at the Great Wolf Lodge! February 23rd – 25th 2017



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Paving your career path confidently

Hear from one of our own board members about the challenges, triumphs and winding paths that led them to where they are now. The end destination is sometimes hard to see, but it's important to enjoy the journey!

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Save The Date!

WICFR'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Mark your calendars for the Wisconsin Council on Family Relations Annual Conference! The conference will be hosted at the Great Wolf Lodge Resort in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. Take advantage of this opportunity to meet with other professionals across Wisconsin in the field of family science. Hear from fellow professionals about their career paths and connect with others to boost your networking profile!

Whether you're a professional seeking to reenergize, new professional in the workforce or a student looking for some direction... you are sure to enjoy this conference in its entirety!

Registration information to come soon!

Thursday, February 23rd –
Saturday, February 25th

GREAT WOLF LODGE RESORT
WISCONSIN DELLS, WISCONSIN

*Have an idea for a
conference speaker, topic,
or want to present
yourself?! We would love
have you!*

Please email lrineccius@comcast.net

Here are some highlights from last year's conference.

A key note from the President of NCFR Bill Allen, engaging activities, and of course delicious food!



Can't wait to see you all in February!



Paving your career path confidently

by Breanna Hintz

With graduation quickly approaching, I cannot even begin to count how many times I have been asked the question, "So what are you going to do when you graduate?" or "What are you going to be?" Fortunately, I am about to start a full-time job with the Marshfield Clinic AmeriCorps in the YouthNet After School Program. Except, the position is only a year and then I will be starting the job search all over again. If you've tried job searching in our field, you know how difficult it can be.

Backtracking just a little bit here, when I first entered into the Child, Youth, and Family Studies major and was looking at career options, I was alarmed by the amount of jobs that tacked on the phrase "Needs a minimum of two years with experience in the field" to the requirements. How was a college grad supposed to get any experience in the field if all the jobs required you to have experience before they hired you? I panicked a little bit. Then it all started falling into place. Last Fall, I landed a great job working as the assistant in an after school care program. I got this job because I knew someone from the student organization UCFR who posted the job opening on Facebook. Then this past summer, I had an amazing experience as the Family Living Intern for Waushara County UW-Extension (psst...they're hiring for this position now! If you're interested, let me know. I only have good things to say about them!) I heard about this internship through an email that was sent out to students in our major. Maybe you're wondering how I got the AmeriCorps job. It was another email that was sent out by one of our professors. So if you're not a student anymore, you aren't getting these awesome emails. But, you do have the ability to network within WICFR, your current jobs, friends, family, you name it. And if you are a student, read the emails!

Maybe you have tried networking and it seems like nothing is available or you can't find something that fits for you. Believe me, I've been there too. As someone who has a wide variety of interests, it can be hard to narrow it down to find a certain job. What I found out this past year is that I have the ability to work with all kinds of populations, but I have a passion for working with kids. So now when I look at jobs, I only look at the ones that involve kids. First, find your niche and then worry about finding the job or hopefully, career!

Back to the online job searching. I always got discouraged when looking for jobs because nothing would come up for "Family Life Educator" or something similar that is in our field. Instead of being so specific, try looking under topics like "Community and Social Services," "Health Educators," or "Human Services." Explore the job titles under the different categories. Most of them fit right into our field. A starter site that is good for this is careeronestop.org. If you find a couple jobs you like, search for openings at jobcenterofwisconsin.com or minnesotaworks.net. I actually found a job for a Family Life Educator through the Family Resource Center in Fond du Lac, WI.

My advice to you is this: find your passion(s), explore some careers, search for openings, and stay positive!

Oh, and in case I can't follow my own advice, I know someone retiring from CAP Services that wants to give me a job. See, networking really is important. Network, network, network!

AN ONGOING JOURNEY

Breanna's story's is just one of many students who are experiencing the job search. However, it is not just students who experience this journey. All professionals experience career changes and new opportunities. Never stop learning, keep networking, and stay engaged! (And use WICFR to help you)



Connection at the National level

The Wisconsin Council on Family Relations is an affiliate of the National Council on Family Relations. The NCFR Conference is one you won't want to miss!

A multiple day event full of the best of the best from around the Nation.

Come to hear the latest research and advancements within the field.

Attendees of this conference are truly the "movers and shakers" of the field.

Have the opportunity to network with scholars and leaders at the national level.

Go to ncfr.org for registration information

Student rates available!

National Council on Family Relations Annual Conference

November 2nd – November 5th
Minneapolis, Minnesota

