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## Governor Evers Proclaims August Child Support Awareness Month in Wisconsin

Governor Evers has proclaimed August 2021 as Child Support Awareness Month in Wisconsin in recognition of the important role the program plays in creating economic security for families. County child support agencies provide services to about 365,000 Wisconsin children and collected roughly \$914 million in financial support for families in 2019.

"The child support program is one of the most effective anti-poverty programs in the country. We ensure that children receive the financial support necessary to put food on their tables, clothes in their closets and school supplies in their backpacks," said WCSEA President Pamela Pipkin.

County child support agencies provide a broad array of services that reduce childhood poverty rates, establish parental rights, ensure children have access to health care and promote the involvement of both parents in the lives of their children. Agencies across Wisconsin have found creative and innovative ways to support children and parents throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, including:

- Leveraging technology to provide greater flexibility and resources to parents, including text message updates and Zoom meetings.
- The Children First program, which connects non-custodial parents to employment, quickly transitioned to a virtual model in many counties and helped displaced workers return to the workforce promptly.

"We thank Governor Evers for acknowledging the important and positive role child support plays in the lives of children and families," said Pipkin.

Wisconsin's Child Support Program is one of the most cost-effective programs in the nation. For every dollar spent on the program, \$7.16 in support is collected.