



Wisconsin PROMISE: Building Lessons Learned into Wisconsin Workforce Programs and Partnerships

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Wisconsin PROMISE

- 2,024 youth receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and their families
 - Half received services as usual
 - Half received **Wisconsin Promise Services** for through DWD's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (**DVR**) and interagency resource teams
 - Employment services
 - Work incentives benefits counseling
 - Financial coaching
 - On the job social skills training
 - Family and self-advocacy training
 - Health promotion
 - Interagency resource teams included youth, family, DVR, school, long term care, mental health, foster care, juvenile justice, etc.



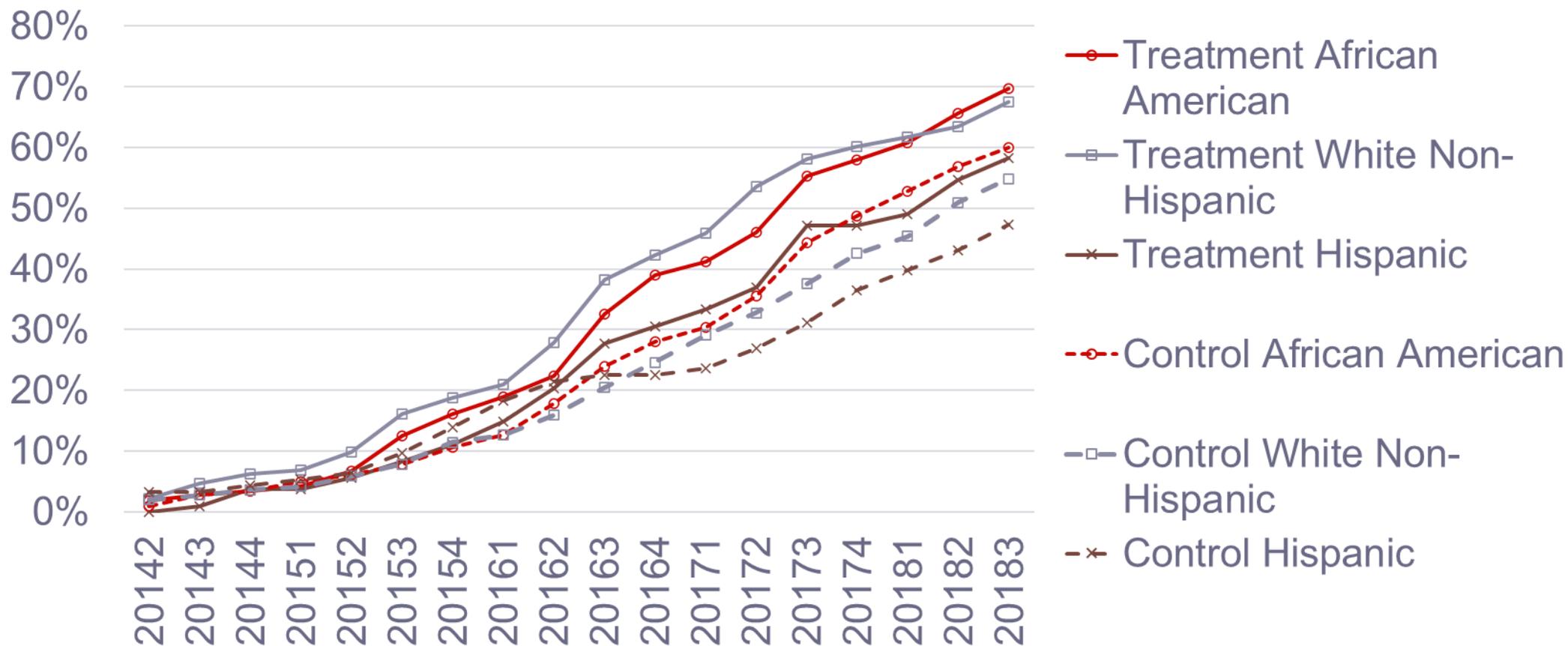
Demographics of Wisconsin PROMISE Youth

- Race/ethnicity:
 - African American - 49%
 - White - 36%
 - Hispanic - 10%
 - Other/Not Reported - 5%
- Gender:
 - Male - 67%
- Annual household income at or below \$25,000 - 70%
- Primary disability:
 - Mental health/behavioral - 34%
 - Intellectual/developmental - 30%
 - Other (e.g., learning, speech, ADHD, etc.) - 25%
 - Long-term illness, physical/mobility, sensory, head injury, not report - 11%
- Single parent/guardian household - 66%



Employment Rates by Race/Ethnicity

Cumulative Employment Rates by Quarter



Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services

- PROMISE Youth – 100% received VR services
 - Compared to 33% of youth in the control group
- Connecting teenagers receiving SSI to VR services
 - Partnerships with SSA, state Medicaid, schools, FoodShare, Wisconsin Works (W2), Foster Care, and Juvenile Justice
 - Co-enrollment with Job Centers, WIOA Title I, and Apprenticeship
- Youth SSI Solutions
 - Targeted outreach
 - Service and support navigation
 - Integrated resource teams



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Beyond PROMISE:

Using PROMISE lessons learned to advance employment opportunities in Wisconsin



The Worker Connection Program

Facilitate connections across the workforce system and local communities to:

Amplify

Expand

Activate

Engage 2500 people and navigate to services to meet career goals. Training funds for 500.

Piloting: outreach strategies, service delivery professional development, local “informed choice” and navigational assistance tools.

Goal of Data Project: evaluate what worked, use information to determine whether to expand.



WDA 5:
Bay Area

WDA 2:
Milwaukee



Worker Connection Service Delivery

Human-centered rapid engagement

Targeted outreach to community-based organizations



Developing a positive profile, identifying conditions of work

Integrated resource teams - wrap around support

Navigating training, employment, resources



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Match to Good Jobs

WorkAdvance: an evidence-based, sectoral-focused advancement program, designed to find and fill good jobs, serving workers and employers alike.

- Combines elements of sector-based initiatives with postemployment retention and advancement support
- Higher wages and employment levels for participants appear to be the result of providers' success in delivering the following:

Training in a sector with strong local demand



High rates of completion and receipt of credential



Placements in jobs that provide better wages and benefits than individuals could obtain on their own



Career Pathways Advancement Initiative

- Rehabilitation Services Administration Disability Initiative Fund – Career Advancement Initiative Model Demonstration Project.
- Create capacity for career pathways, career advancement, and improved employment outcomes for people with disabilities.



Partner Tool: Career Pathways Website

Career Pathways websites:

<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/career-pathways/>

<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dvr/career-pathways/>



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Connecting the Dots for Opportunity Youth

Find and visualize the Opportunity Youth and connect them to education, training, and careers

Potential Targets:

- School dropout or at risk
- Justice-involved
- Child welfare (foster care youth)
- Medicaid
- Foodshare



Connect to
Career
Pathways



Increase
education and
training
employment
outcomes



Youth with Promise



The world ... is like a big canvas and all you need are your tools or your brush. And you can paint it into whatever you want it to be.
- Daviantae, Promise participant



Promisewi.com/success

Thank you!

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