



Milwaukee Visitation Center

JUSTICE FOR FAMILIES

Justice for Families

- ▶ In 2012, the City of Milwaukee, together with Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Community Services, Sojourner Family Peace Center, and the First Judicial District formed a partnership team in order to plan and implement the First Supervised Exchange and Visitation Program in Milwaukee. The collaboration included diverse players such as judges, attorneys, advocates, and social workers coming together to create a first-of-its kind service in the Milwaukee area to keep victims and survivors safe while preserving the opportunity for child visitation. The 2016 Justice for Families funding added Legal Action of Wisconsin as an important partner focusing on civil legal services.

Program Outcomes

Program Service Time	Supervised Visits	Supervised Exchanges	Families Served
2016 to 2019	1,545	1,897	274

Highlights

- ▶ The Milwaukee Health Department has been awarded the Justice for Families grant for continued services from 2019 – 2022.
- ▶ The program includes an on-site domestic violence advocate and a project attorney.
- ▶ The program implemented a transition room in 2018. The room is effective in helping children shift from one parent to another.
- ▶ The program has an on-site security guard, separate entrances, staggered arrival times, and camera monitoring to provide the safest environment possible.
- ▶ 94% of victim respondents reported an increased sense of safety when utilizing the center.