

# Family Support Program

The Family Support Program recognizes that meeting the needs of children who have severe disabilities may cause families emotional, physical and financial hardship. The Program provides goods and services to help families meet the extraordinary care needs of severely disabled children.

## ELIGIBILITY

### **Is My Child Eligible?**

Your child is eligible for the Support Program if he or she is under the age of 21, lives at home and has a severe disability. A "severe disability" is a physical, mental or emotional limitation that seriously restricts the child's ability to carry out basic daily living activities such as self-care, learning, communication, mobility and self-direction. Because of limited funding, there may be a waiting list. The Program encourages families to apply despite the waiting list.

### **What If My Family Has Insurance?**

The Family Support Program serves as funding of last resort. The family must first explore all private insurance, Medical Assistance and other program options. Some families may have a cost share based on their annual income.

## BENEFITS

### **What Support Services Can My Family Receive?**

The Program offers information and help in finding programs and resources, limited funding to buy needed goods and services, and help in linking families with other families to strengthen natural supports. Examples of purchases include but are not limited to:

- Specialized equipment;
- Specialized day care and camps;
- Architectural or vehicle modifications;
- Parent education; and
- Respite care.

## APPLICATION

To get more information, contact the Family Support Coordinator at Unified Community Services at 608-935-2776 or visit in person at 1112 Professional Drive, Dodgeville, WI 53533. Hours are Mon 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Tues, Wed, Thurs 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Fri 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.