



## WISCONSIN

*Wisconsin received \$1,790,852 in federal funding for abstinence-only-until-marriage programs in Fiscal Year 2004.<sup>1</sup>*

### Wisconsin Sexuality Education Law

Wisconsin state law encourages, but does not require, school boards to provide classes in sexuality education. These classes can occur in kindergarten through twelfth grade and must be age-appropriate.

This instruction may include:

1. Self-esteem, responsible decision making and personal responsibility
2. Interpersonal relationships
3. Discouragement of adolescent sexual activity
4. Family life and skills required of a parent
5. Human sexuality; reproduction; family planning, as defined in [state law] s.243.07  
(1) (a) including natural family planning; human immunodeficiency virus and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome; prenatal development; childbirth; adoption; available prenatal and postnatal support; and male and female responsibility.
6. Sex stereotypes and protective behavior

If a school board provides instruction in any of these areas, they must “also provide instruction in marriage and parental responsibility.”

Parents and guardians must be given the opportunity to review all materials related to sexuality education classes. If such classes are offered, school boards must also form advisory councils consisting of “parents, teachers, school administrators, pupils, health care professionals, members of the clergy, and other residents of the school district” to review the sexuality education curricula at least every three years.

Parents or guardians can exempt their children from sexuality education classes. This is referred to as an “opt-out” policy.

See Wisconsin Statutes 115.35 and 118.019.

### Recent Legislation

SIECUS is not aware of any recent legislation related to sexuality education in Wisconsin.

**Events of Note***Coalition's Activities Include Abstinence Corsages and AIDS Speakers  
March 2003; Manitowoc County, WI*

The Manitowoc County Abstinence Coalition, an association of churches that works with community organizations and schools to promote abstinence, teamed up with area florists in 2002 to distribute True Love Waits abstinence pledge cards with corsages and boutonnieres sold to students attending local high school proms. Each card states "Prom...a night to remember not to regret."

According to one participating florist, "all the card is is (sic) a little, subtle reminder; there are consequences to your actions." The florist recognizes that "some parents may think it's their responsibility alone to influence their teens' behavior," but she agrees with the basic message and does not believe that her business will suffer any negative financial impact due to her participation.<sup>2</sup>

In 2003, the Manitowoc County Abstinence Coalition sponsored an appearance by a speaker with AIDS at a number of local junior and high schools. The speaker talked about the disease and promoted abstinence. He also talked about faith and said, "if AIDS was sent here by God, we didn't pass the test. We had a chance to stand up as Christians and say to gays, 'we don't like your lifestyle,' but no one in this society suffers in shame."<sup>2</sup>

**Wisconsin's Youth: Statistical Information of Note<sup>3</sup>**

- In 2003, 38% of female high school students and 36% of male high school students in Wisconsin reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 45% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 2% of female high school students and 4% of male high school students in Wisconsin reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 8% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students in Wisconsin reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 11% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 30% of female high school students and 24% of male high school students in Wisconsin reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of females and 34% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 22% of females and 30% of males in Wisconsin reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 30% of males nationwide.

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- In 2003, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 61% of females and 71% of males in Wisconsin reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 57% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 29% of females and 19% of males in Wisconsin reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, 4% of female high school students and 2% of male high school students in Wisconsin reported ever having been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant compared to 5% of female high school students and 4% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2000, Wisconsin's abortion rate was 12 per 1,000 women ages 15-19 compared to a teen abortion rate of 24 per 1,000 nationwide.<sup>4</sup>
- In 2002, Wisconsin's birth rate was 32 per 1000 women ages 15-19 compared to a teen birth rate of 43 per 1,000 nationwide.<sup>5</sup>

### *Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

- In 2003, 55% of female high school students and 65% of male high school students in Milwaukee reported ever having had sexual intercourse compared to 45% of female high school students and 48% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 5% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students in Milwaukee reported having had sexual intercourse before age 13 compared to 4% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 14% of female high school students and 10% of male high school students in Milwaukee reported having had four or more lifetime sexual partners compared to 11% of female high school students and 18% of male high school students nationwide.
- In 2003, 37% of female high school students and 43% of male high school students in Milwaukee reported being currently sexually active (defined as having had sexual intercourse in the three months prior to the survey) compared to 35% of females and 34% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 9% of females and 24% of males in Milwaukee reported having used alcohol or drugs the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 30% of males nationwide.

- In 2003, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 63% of females and 78% of males in Milwaukee reported having used condoms the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 57% of females and 69% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, among those high school students who reported being currently sexually active, 12% of females and 7% of males in Milwaukee reported having used birth control pills the last time they had sexual intercourse compared to 21% of females and 13% of males nationwide.
- In 2003, 10% of female high school students and 6% of male high school students in Milwaukee reported ever having been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant compared to 5% of female high school students and 4% of male high school students nationwide.

**Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Funding**

Wisconsin received \$615,852 in federal Title V funding in Fiscal Year 2004. The Title V abstinence-only-until-marriage grant requires states to provide three state-raised dollars or the equivalent in services for every four federal dollars received. The state match can be provided in part or in full by local groups. Wisconsin does an in-kind match using tobacco control funds.

The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (DHFS), Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS), and the Bureau of Community and Family Development (BCFD) coordinate the Wisconsin Abstinence Education Project (WAEP). Approximately \$375,000 of the funding is used by the WAEP for media information and material production. The remainder of the funding is given to sub-grantees across the state.

**Special Projects of Regional and National Significance–Community Based Abstinence Education (SPRANS–CBAE)<sup>6</sup> and Adolescent Family Life Act (AFLA) Grantees**

There is one SPRANS–CBAE grantee in Wisconsin: Rosalie Manor. There are two AFLA grantees in Wisconsin: Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians and the Wise Women Gathering Place.

Rosalie Manor will be using curricula and programs from the Best Friends Foundation, a Washington DC based abstinence-only-until-marriage organization.

Wise Women Gathering Place also works with a variety of populations including lesbians, bisexual women, immigrants, and HIV-positive women. It uses the AFLA funds for “Discovery Dating,” a program for eighth grade girls that focuses on assertiveness training, decision making choices, and mentoring.

**Federal and State Funding for Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Programs in FY 2004**

<b>Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee</b>	<b>Amount of Grant</b>	<b>Type of Grant (includes SPRANS–CBAE, Title V, and AFLA)</b>
<b>Length of Grant</b>		
Wisconsin Abstinence Education Project	\$615,852 federal \$795,859 state	Title V
<a href="http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov">http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov</a>		

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<b>Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee</b>	<b>Amount of Grant</b>	<b>Type of Grant (includes SPRANS-CBAE, Title V, and AFLA)</b>
<b>Length of Grant</b> Bethany Christian Services <a href="http://www.bethany.org">www.bethany.org</a>	\$40,000	Title V sub-grantee
Center for Self-Sufficiency	\$50,000	Title V sub-grantee
Community Enterprises of Greater Milwaukee	\$75,000	Title V sub-grantee
Family Resource Center <a href="http://www.frc-sc.org">www.frc-sc.org</a>	\$37,500	Title V sub-grantee
Family Support Center	\$40,000	Title V sub-grantee
Jefferson Co. Human Services	\$73,244	Title V sub-grantee
Lincoln Country Social Services	\$20,000	Title V sub-grantee
Medical College of Wisconsin <a href="http://www.mcw.edu">www.mcw.edu</a>	\$60,000	Title V sub-grantee
Rosalie Manor DUAL GRANTEE 2004-2007 <a href="http://www.rosaliemanor.org">www.rosaliemanor.org</a>	\$50,000 \$798,000	Title V sub-grantee SPRANS-CBAE (Implementation Grant)
Shalom Zone	\$46,580	Title V sub-grantee
Up Connection	\$50,000	Title V sub-grantee
WI Coulee Community Action Program	\$20,000	Title V sub-grantee
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians	\$152,000	AFLA

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<b>Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Grantee</b>	<b>Amount of Grant</b>	<b>Type of Grant (includes SPRANS-CBAE, Title V, and AFLA)</b>
<b>Length of Grant</b> Wise Women Gathering Place 2004-2005	\$225,000	AFLA

**Title V Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Coordinator**

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**Wisconsin Organizations that Support Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

ACLU of Wisconsin  
 207 E. Buffalo St., Suite 325  
 Milwaukee, WI 53202  
 Phone: (414) 272-4032  
[www.aclu-wi.org](http://www.aclu-wi.org)

Action Wisconsin  
 122 State St.  
 Madison, WI 53703  
 Phone: (608) 441-0143  
[www.actionwisconsin.org](http://www.actionwisconsin.org)

NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin  
 122 State St., Suite 201  
 Madison, WI 53703  
 Phone: (608) 287-0016  
[www.naralwi.org](http://www.naralwi.org)

Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin  
 302 N. Jackson St.  
 Milwaukee, WI 53202  
 Phone: (414) 271-8045  
[www.plannedparenthoodwi.org](http://www.plannedparenthoodwi.org)

**Wisconsin Organizations that Oppose Comprehensive Sexuality Education**

Family Research Institute of Wisconsin  
 PO Box 2075  
 Madison, WI 53701  
 Phone: (608) 256-3228  
[www.fri-wi.org](http://www.fri-wi.org)

Pro-Life Wisconsin  
 19270 North Hills Dr.  
 PO Box 221  
 Brookfield, WI 53045  
 Phone: (262) 796-1111  
[www.prolifewisconsin.org](http://www.prolifewisconsin.org)

**Newspapers in Wisconsin**

*The Capital Times*  
Judy Ettenhofer  
Editorial Page Writer  
PO Box 8060  
Madison, WI 53708  
Phone: (608) 252-6463

*Green Bay Press-Gazette*  
Terry Anderson  
Community News Reporter  
435 E. Walnut St.  
Green Bay, WI 54301  
Phone: (920) 431-8214

*The Janesville Gazette*  
Tracy Ndlovu  
Medical/Health Editor  
1 S. Parker Dr.  
Janesville, WI 53545  
Phone: (608) 754-3311

*The Journal Times*  
Lee Roberts  
Medical/Health Reporter  
212 4th St.  
Racine, WI 53403  
Phone: (262) 631-1721

*Kenosha News*  
Liza Berger  
Community News Reporter  
5800 7th Ave.  
Kenosha, WI 53140  
Phone: (262) 656-6289

*La Crosse Tribune*  
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Community News Staff Writer  
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*Wisconsin State Journal*  
Beth Williams  
Health & Medicine Reporter  
PO Box 8058  
Madison, WI 53708  
(608)252-6125

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<sup>1</sup> This refers to the fiscal year for the Federal Government which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. The fiscal year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends; for example, Fiscal Year 2004 begins on October 1, 2003 and ends on September 30, 2004.

<sup>2</sup> Charlie Mathews, "AIDS speaker urges responsible, informed choices," *Herald Times Reporter* (WI), 8 March 2003, 2A.

<sup>3</sup> Unless otherwise cited, all statistical information comes from: Jo Anne Grunbaum, et. al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance—United States, 2003," *Surveillance Summaries, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 53.SS-2 (21 May 2004): 1-95, accessed 28 January 2005, <<http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrbs/>>.

<sup>4</sup> *U.S. Teenage Pregnancy Statistics: Overall Trends, Trends by Race and Ethnicity and State-by-State Information* (New York: Alan Guttmacher Institute, February, 2004), accessed 28 January 2005, <[www.guttmacher.org](http://www.guttmacher.org)>.

<sup>5</sup> *National Vital Statistics Reports 52.10* (Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics, 2003), 48, accessed 4 February 2005, <<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/births.htm#stat%20tables>>.

<sup>6</sup> In FY 2004 SPRANS–CBAE was administered within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau. In FY 2005 this funding stream was moved to HHS' Administration for Children and Families and is now referred to simply as Community Based Abstinence Education (CBAE).