



of Wisconsin Disability Organizations

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## **NEW REPORT SHOWS IMPACT OF BUDGET ON STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

442 Families Surveyed: 40 Percent of Families Surveyed Are Concerned for Their Child's Future

The Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations calls on the state's education policymakers to restore public education funding to adequate levels and to take steps to address school safety concerns in response to survey results showing children with disabilities are feeling effects of recent public education funding changes.

Today, the Survival Coalition released its analysis of results from a statewide survey of parents with children with disabilities conducted by Disability Rights Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities, and Wisconsin FACETS, all agencies with a statutory charge to protect and promote the educational rights of students with disabilities. The survey received 442 responses from parents of children with disabilities across the state over a two-month period.

The survey revealed that 46% of the respondents indicated their child's educational programming was worse when compared to the last 1-2 years.

"It is unacceptable," says Survival Coalition co-chair, Tom Masseau. "We should not have this number of families of children with disabilities saying their child's education has deteriorated. Survival Coalition looks forward to working with the state to address these problematic results."

Forty-percent of all families surveyed said they were concerned for their child's future due to the changes in educational programming.

The Survival Coalition concludes that public school funding in the state is not adequate to address the health, safety, and academic progress of students with disabilities. To read the complete survey results and the Coalition's recommendations for policymakers link here:

<http://www.disabilityrightswi.org/archives/2087>

### **Survival Coalition Co-Chairs**

Maureen Ryan, Wisconsin Coalition of Independent Living Centers, Inc;  
Beth Swedeen, WI Board for People with Developmental Disabilities;  
Tom Masseau, Disability Rights Wisconsin

*The Survival Coalition of Wisconsin Disability Organizations is a cross-disability coalition of more than 40 state and local organizations and groups. For more than 20 years, Survival has been focused on changing and improving policies and practices that support people with disabilities of all ages to be full participants in community life.*