

# HealthWatch Wisconsin: 2020 Advisory Council Ballot

**It's time to VOTE for New Members of the HealthWatch Wisconsin Council!**

Each year, the membership of HealthWatch Wisconsin elects a new class of health professionals to serve a 3-year term on the HealthWatch Wisconsin Council.

The Council is the advisory committee for the HealthWatch Wisconsin Organization and helps guide project activities.

These leaders **direct** and **amplify** the powerful voice of the membership.

**You can vote for up to 3 people.**

<b>Vote for Your HealthWatch Wisconsin Council Members:</b>	<b>Vote</b>
<b>Tashai "TJ" Atkins, <i>The Community Table</i></b>	
<b>Kate Ihus, <i>Kinnic Falls ADA Services</i></b>	
<b>Lisa Kilawee, <i>Family Health La Clinica</i></b>	
<b>Debbie Stein, <i>Retired (Brown Co. Health Dept.)</i></b>	
<b>Maia Stitt, <i>WI Department of Health Services</i></b>	
<b>Write in nominee:</b>	
<b>Write in nominee:</b>	
<b>Write in nominee:</b>	

## **About the HealthWatch Wisconsin Council**

The **HealthWatch Wisconsin Council** serves as the advisory committee for the HealthWatch Wisconsin (HWW) Organization and helps inform project goals and activities.

The Council is comprised of diverse individuals, bringing unique perspectives from their work in health care & coverage, public health, advocacy, and more. Input from the Council is vital to HWW and helps guide the agency's shared goals of increasing access to health care and coverage for ALL people. Reports from the Council are shared with the HWW Board of Directors.

These leaders **direct** and **amplify** the powerful voice of the HWW membership!

***Read a brief biography on each of our nominees on the reverse.***  
**Please return your completed ballot to the Conference Registration Table**  
**Thank you for voting!**

## ***HWW Council Nominee Biographies:***

**Tashai “TJ” Atkins, The Community Table.** TJ Atkins is the Executive Director of The Community Table in Eau Claire Wisconsin. She is a health care and health care insurance advocate, the facilitator of the HealthWatch Eau Claire Coalition, and serves on a number of Eau Claire Healthy Communities action teams. Her resume includes employment with Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, Eau Claire City County Health Department, Inclusa formerly ContinuUs, and Community Health Partnership. She is a dependable servant leader driven and dedicated to the communities she serves. Fun fact: She was a Senate page in High School in South Dakota her senior year.

**Kate Ihus, Kinnic Falls ADA Services.** Kate has been in the field of mental health and drug and alcohol counseling since 1985 in a variety of settings, both in Minnesota and Wisconsin. She has a master’s degree in Psychology from St. Mary’s University of Minnesota. Her credentials consist of being a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC), a Substance Abuse Counselor (SAC), and an Independent Clinical Supervisor (ICS) through the State of Wisconsin. Kate has spent many years providing direct counseling services to individuals seeking help for their drug and alcohol issues as well as their mental health concerns. She has specialty training in co-occurring disorders, grief and loss issues, family counseling and mediation skills. Kate has held numerous leadership roles throughout her multi-faceted career of 35 years. Currently, she is the Executive Director at Kinnic Falls ADA Services, Inc. Kate believes that each client who is served at Kinnic Falls deserves to feel safe and valued while they work toward their goal of life-long growth and recovery. Her greatest passion is her belief that there is always “hope” that change can & will occur if individuals are guided and supported through the process.

**Lisa Kilawee, Family Health La Clinica.** Lisa Kilawee is the Director of Strategic Community Engagement for Family Health La Clinica (FHLC), a Federally Qualified Community Health Center based in rural Wautoma. Lisa is a past President of the National Rural Health Association and continues to serve on the NRHA Rural Health Policy Congress. Lisa leads policy initiatives for FHLC. Prior to joining FHLC Lisa worked for Caravan Health, a national policy leader in value-based care.

**Debbie Stein, Retired (formerly at Brown Co. Health Dept.).** Debbie has worked in Public Health for 32 years, primarily providing case management for families with a special needs child. Her role was to offer education, support, advocacy and assist in accessing and navigating medical and financial resources. The families she worked with came from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds as well as diverse cultural heritages (including Hispanic, Hmong, Somali, Vietnamese, African-American and Russian). The children’s medical needs ranged from diabetes, seizures, and genetic disorders to cancer. She was fortunate to have this opportunity and learned more from these families than she can ever say. It was a humbling experience. She also served on many community coalitions representing this population. Debbie retired from Public Health at the end of 2019. Currently she serves on the Board of Directors at Casa ALBA, a Hispanic Resource Center in Brown County. Her role there is outreach to the CYSHCN Latino families to provide information and referral to resources. She also supports the CYSHCN family support group, ANGELES, at Casa ALBA. Another project she is working on is to provide developmental screenings for all children age 0-5 years. The group offers screenings at events that the Hispanic population attends (such as baptism classes, festivals etc.). The hope is to identify children with a delay early and get intervention to help them reach optimal development. They also provide growth and development education to parents. Debbie is excited to continue to work with the CYSHCN population in this next chapter of her life.

**Maia Stitt, Disabilities Program and Policy Analyst, WI Department of Health Services.** Maia Stitt, M.S., is the Disability Program and Policy Coordinator for the Office on Disability and Independent Living in the Bureau on Aging and Disability Resource (BADR) within the Department of Public Health. She supports two Governor-appointed councils and OPDIL focusing on legislation and policies in Wisconsin with consideration toward accessibility and ensuring people with disabilities live independent and fulfilling lives within their community. She works with state organizations to ensure meaningful engagement and participation. She has a Bachelor degree from UW-Whitewater, and a Master of Science from UW-Madison’s School of Medicine and Public Health. Prior to joining DHS, Maia was the Coordinator for the Wisconsin Health Transition Hub, a statewide initiative through the Waisman Center, assisting youth, families, and health professionals with the transition from pediatric to adult health care. She assists in empowering individuals with and without disabilities and special health care needs as they navigate the resources, programs and supports available in Wisconsin. She takes an active interest and passion in advancing and improving the rights, awareness, and services available towards independent living management. She lives in the Madison area with her husband and her dog Daisy.