



Become a partner with

BRIDGE TO BENEFITS

Is your clinic interested in helping families find resources that can improve their economic stability? Are your staff and volunteers already spending considerable time trying to identify family resources that address health, food insecurity, and economic needs? If so, we invite you to become a Bridge to Benefits (B2B) partner. Being a partner is easy, **free**, and it provides important benefits to your clinic and patients.

As a partner, you can:

SCREEN

families to determine potential eligibility for public work support programs that can help them become financially stable, including Minnesota Health Care Programs, SNAP and WIC.

CONNECT

families to organizations that can help one-on-one in completing applications and ensuring successful enrollment in the programs for which they may be eligible.

NAVIGATE

the website as a one-stop shop for learning about public programs. The site is constantly updated to reflect program changes.

GENERATE

data reports that show how many families you screen and how many appear eligible for each of the work support programs. These reports can be used for grant reports, demographic information and other purposes.

RECEIVE

a username and password that allows all of this functionality and more. You can receive free training on how to use the website to meet family needs.

Interested? It's simple to become a partner!

Call or email Stephanie Hogenson at (651) 855-1175 or email shogenson@childrensdefense.org. We will establish a username and password for you to use when screening families so your data can be tracked and you can access the e-mail referral option. We will also arrange training for you, your staff, and volunteers so you can see all the functions of the Bridge to Benefits website. And it's all FREE!

Integrating Bridge to Benefits in Clinics

Bridge to Benefits can be utilized within a clinic setting in many ways. Different levels of involvement include 1) integrating screening into one or more regular clinic activity(s), 2) developing a “direct” referral process for getting clients to the Minnesota Food Helpline for help with food access and a Bridge to Benefits screening, and 3) providing a place, computer or tablet, printer and instructions (with someone available to troubleshoot) so patients can screen themselves. Utilizing B2B at these levels may look different in different clinics. Below are examples of how B2B could be used in your clinic.

Bridge to Benefits screening could be done within the business office.

For those who are uninsured, screenings can be completed and referrals can be made to a health care navigator when families are arranging payment schedules in the business office.

Screenings could be done over the phone. When new patients make appointments, screenings can be done as part of the intake process. Patients can be given results when they arrive for their appointment.

B2B screenings could be integrated into the clinic’s own screening process. B2B screenings could be aligned with standard interviews regarding developmental issues, safety, nutrition, etc.

If available, clinics could offer a computer or tablet station so families can screen themselves. Have information and staff available at these computer stations that instruct families on how to screen themselves and make an e-mail referral if they need additional assistance.

Clinic social workers or other support staff could use the screening tool as part of their regular interview with patients when patients indicate a need for resources.

Screenings could be emphasized during special projects or events. Screenings could be integrated into Clinic hosted events around nutrition or dental month or during health care open enrollment and other special events.