Community TIES mission is to address behavioral, psychological, and emotional needs using therapeutic approaches that assure continued participation in supported community life. These needs – if not addressed – are often expressed through “challenging behaviors” – which might include aggression, self-injurious behavior, or property destruction. Many individuals served by TIES often have co-occurring mental health conditions. TIES activities are a creative blend of various positive practices that have proven effective in meeting complex behavioral and mental health challenges within supported community life.

https://cow.waisman.wisc.edu/ties/
The 2022 CLTS Waiver renewal reorganized and redefined existing services which required some changes how Dane County Human Services contracts with Community TIES for services offered to Dane County children and their families.

Starting October 1, 2022, Community TIES will be using the following service definitions to provide CLTS services:

**Safety Planning and Prevention (609.4)**
Includes services needed to reduce risk or danger and help a participant remain safe in their home and community. Services are related to the participant’s disability, support their unique needs, and increase the family’s capacity to care for the participant in their home and community.

Services are usually requested because a child’s dangerous, challenging behaviors create a health and safety risk for the child or others. Examples of TIES consultants’ activities in this service category are the development of a police safety and/or crisis plan, but also prevention and response strategies listed in the Behavior Support Plan regarding elopement, aggression, self-injury, property destruction or other unsafe, potentially dangerous behaviors.

**Family/Unpaid Caregiver Supports and Services (113.2)**
Includes services to help caregivers learn methods for coping and managing challenges and achieving inclusive, interdependent, self-empowered lives. TIES consultants’ activities focus on techniques for supporting children with and without disabilities, keeping family balance and harmony, communicating effectively, promoting inclusion, supporting independence, and fostering growth for both the children or youth and their families.

Examples of TIES consultants’ activities in this service category are working with a child and their caregivers on developing and practicing self-regulation or effective communication skills needed to participate in family or community activities. This may include, but is not limited to, creation of a support plan based on proactive strategies and mitigating known stress triggers; training and consultation/problem-solving with parents and other non-paid caregivers; creation of additional support documents such as video models, social stories, visual schedules, or basic communication pages.

Although there will be variation based on the participant’s individual needs, it is anticipated that in general approximately 30% of a TIES consultant’s time and effort will be devoted to Safety Planning and Prevention activities, while approximately 70% will be spent on pro-active, positive Family/Unpaid Caregiver Supports and Services activities. Services authorized in the respective category need to be reflected in different outcomes in the child’s service plan. TIES consultants are happy to collaborate with families and case managers in establishing and creating outcomes.

Updated authorizations for Community TIES services need to be made prior to 10/01/2022.

For any questions, please reach out to your Community TIES Behavior Consultant: https://cow.waisman.wisc.edu/contact/