



INSTITUTE FOR WISCONSIN'S FUTURE

IWF works with partners in labor, communities, congregations and other nonprofit advocacy groups for state policies that support good schools, safe streets, quality services and a strong economy in Wisconsin.

2011 Annual Report



During this explosive year, IWF worked with partners to counteract the destructive policies of the new state administration. For example, as pictured left in February, officials from the state alliance IWF organized brought a petition signed by 415 elected and appointed local leaders opposing the bill to restrict bargaining with public employees.

IWF Investigates the Facts

- Act 10 constrained bargaining rights and took \$700 million a year from families of public workers. The economic fallout will destroy 7,000 private sector jobs a year.
- The 2011-13 state budget and administrative policies cut \$1 billion from education, local governments and critical programs such as health care, where 65,000 people lost coverage. Over 11,000 public sector jobs were lost. Indirect effects are eliminating another 16,000 private sector jobs.
- The drastic cuts to vital services were not necessary. IWF research showed that tax reforms—such as increasing contributions from corporations and wealthy households—would generate the revenue needed to protect schools, communities and families in crisis.
- IWF also monitors corporations avoiding state taxes through the monthly series, *Who Does Not Pay Taxes?*



IWF Gets the Facts Out

In 2011, IWF staff:

- Presented 60 workshops to 5,500 people
- Gave 74 radio, TV and newspaper interviews
- Issued email newsletters to 6,700

IWF staff travels across the state to meet in church basements, union halls, university classrooms, hotel ball-rooms and civic luncheons with diverse people concerned about Wisconsin. With PowerPoints, handouts and

discussion, IWF works with thousands of people. IWF provides tools to build broad based popular support for policies that make lives better, communities stronger and the economy ready for full employment.

Too Many Loopholes
How to Turn Property Tax Exemptions Into Revenue for Local Governments
Issue for Wisconsin Future
January 2011

Fair and Adequate
How to Turn Property Tax Exemptions Into Revenue for Local Governments
Issue for Wisconsin Future
January 2011

Who Does Not Pay Taxes?
Executive pay, profits soar; taxes paid, job growth stalls on zero
County, Clark, Boscawen, District Administrators and Clerks

State Budget Overview
for 2011
Same as budget cuts
\$122 million
IWF and colleges \$280 million
Local government \$280 million
Technical colleges \$22 million
Corrections \$42 million
Law enforcement \$40 million
Medicaid \$466 million

School District Cuts
2011-2012 Year-over
Adams Township -\$1,400,000

Cuts to Cities and County - \$536,663
Adams County -\$536,663
City of Adams -\$12,000
Village of Friendship -\$12,000
Town of Adams -\$12,000
Town of Big Horn -\$12,000
Town of Jackson -\$12,000
Town of Lincoln -\$12,000
Town of Madison -\$12,000
Town of New Chester -\$12,000
Town of New Haven -\$12,000
Town of Princeton -\$12,000
Town of Rockwell -\$12,000
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IWF: Close-up on Schools and Communities

The decisions made in Madison are important because they impact every man, woman and child in the state. From working parents looking for day care to elderly people who want to stay in their homes, state laws determine what resources are in place to meet our daily needs.

K-12 Education



OTL leaders role play during organizer training

What do young people need to learn and succeed? IWF is working with parents, teachers, school officials and community organizations to fight for the resources that give all children the Opportunity to Learn.

In 2011, IWF welcomed the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent School (WAES) back into the IWF organizational structure and renewed IWF's focus on school funding. Thanks to this reunion, Wisconsin is now part of the Opportunity to Learn (OTL) national initiative to secure early childhood education, highly skilled teachers, broad curriculum and extended learning time for all students.

Wisconsin OTL work includes:

- Examining how the state budget affects local schools
- Building local, regional, state and Midwestern teams to advance OTL goals
- Working with Midwestern and national partners to build strategies
- Training citizens to organize in their own communities

Strong Communities



IWF brought economic expert Dean Baker to meet with groups in Milwaukee, La Crosse and Eau Claire about the need for federal investment to end the recession.

Drama may take place in the state Capitol but real life happens in Eau Claire, Beloit, Kewaunee, Superior, La Crosse and hundreds of communities throughout Wisconsin. Local officials, public employees, citizens and religious groups commit time and energy to creating a healthy, stable and secure environment for their residents. IWF helps in this work by sharing information, networking leaders and finding ways to make the local voice heard in Madison decision-making.

IWF has helped build local alliances in Eau Claire, Oshkosh, Racine, and LaCrosse as well as a state alliance of leaders from local government and public sector unions. Local alliance groups hold community meetings, workshops, candidate forums and budget hearings. The state group meets quarterly and is committed to reform tax policies to increase revenue for vital services.

IWF 2011 Budget

Revenue

Foundations	\$402,000	(81%)
Organizations	\$ 62,000	(12%)
Individuals/other	\$ 34,000	(7%)
Total	\$498,000	(100%)

Expenses

Staffing	\$318,000	(64%)
Programs and Operations	\$180,000	(36%)
Total	\$498,000	(100%)



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policy research in the public interest

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