

CCS Service Arrays

ISDE

Psychoeducation

Wellness and Recovery

CLTS Service Arrays

Parent/Unpaid Caregiver Support

Empowerment and Self-Determination

Counties Served

Polk, Burnett, St. Croix, Barron, Washburn

Dunn, and Rusk

Speciality Areas

Parent Coaching

Child Development

Life Skills Instruction and Organization

Outdoor Integration

Melinda Kiefat,

Provider (Bachelor)

"When we support families, we build communities. When we believe in a child, we shape the future." – Unknown

Melinda is a passionate leader, advocate, and lifelong learner whose career has been devoted to walking alongside families and children. With more than 25 years of experience in early childhood and family services, Melinda brings a unique blend of lived experience, professional expertise, and heartfelt dedication to everything she does.

Raised just outside of St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, Melinda became a mom at a young age—an experience that inspired her to pursue higher education and a career rooted in creating brighter futures for others. Today, she's a proud mother of three children and a beloved bonus daughter, and she uses the strength, resilience, and empathy she's gained through motherhood to uplift the families she serves.

Melinda holds a Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Family Studies from UW–Stout, along with a diploma in Child Care Services from Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College. Her ongoing commitment to professional growth is reflected in her certifications in areas such as Reflective Practices, Conscious Discipline, Infant/Toddler Development, and Mental Health Advocacy.

Throughout her career, she has provided direct support as a Home Visitor, led teams with compassion and clarity, and advocated for equitable access to resources at the local, state, and national levels. Whether she's mentoring, championing inclusive education, or strengthening family engagement, Melinda brings integrity, heart, and an unshakable belief in every family's potential.

Outside of work, Melinda finds joy in cheering on her kids in all their adventures. She has led Girl Scout troops, explored the world of 4-H, and actively contributed to community initiatives that build connection and growth. In her free time, she loves camping, fishing, hiking, gardening, scrapbooking, cooking, and is currently learning the art of grilling and journaling her feelings.