

# JUSTICE CONNECTIONS

## Inside This Issue:

CJCC Strategic Planning Session	2
Waukesha County to Host Judicial Training Session	2
Legislative Update	3
CJCC Awarded State Crisis Intervention Grant	3
State-Level CJCC Recommended	3
WCS Client Success Story	4
CJCC Contact Information	4

## Message from the CJCC Chairman



Chief Judge J. Mac Davis

Welcome to the Fall 2011 issue of Justice Connections! We are nearing the end of another successful year for the Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council (CJCC). In this issue you will find several articles about recent funding

of our Alcohol Treatment Court Program by implementing a drug court in Waukesha County. The program, made possible through a federal grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, will address drug dependence as an underlying cause of criminality for many offenders, with the overall goals of reducing recidivism, lowering costs of incarceration, rehabilitating citizens, and making our communities safer.

awarded to the CJCC, which was made possible through a collaborative effort by our justice system partners. You will also see another client success story in this issue. I really appreciate learning about the people who are helped by our programming, like the Day Report Center.

Opportunities like these cannot become reality without commitment and dedication from members of the CJCC, as well as support from our community partners. Thank you for your continued support of our mission and I look forward to another successful year!

In 2012, the CJCC will be building on the success

## CJCC Wins Federal Drug Court Grant Award!

Waukesha County was recently notified by the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) that the application submitted by the CJCC in June 2011 to implement a drug court program was funded for \$350,000 over three years! The project period will begin October 1, 2011 and last through September 30, 2014.



Honorable William J. Domina

The program will serve 75 non-violent adult offenders who have a history of drug abuse which is a leading contributor to their criminality. The program design features a deferred prosecution model where defendants will enter into a plea agreement whereby successful completion of the

program will result in lesser charges.

Participants will be required to attend substance abuse treatment, submit to frequent drug testing, attend weekly or biweekly judicial status hearings, and meet regularly with case managers for at least one year.

The application for funding was prompted by a recommendation from the CJCC Drug Abuse Trends Committee, led by District Attorney Brad Schimel, which analyzed the rising opiate abuse trend in Waukesha County.

The Drug Court Program will address this emerging problem by getting drug addicted offenders into a rigorous treatment and supervision regimen to address the underlying cause of criminal behaviour in hopes of reducing recidivism.



### CJCC Mission

The Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council (CJCC) was established in 2002. The mission of the CJCC is to enhance public safety and the effective and efficient administration of the criminal justice system in Waukesha County through community collaboration by ensuring offender accountability and providing rehabilitative services, while supporting the rights and needs of victims.

## CJCC Strategic Planning Session Sets Two-Year Goals

Waukesha County's CJCC held a strategic planning session on May 25, 2011 attended by 21 people and facilitated by Rob Henken, president of the Public Policy Forum. The group aimed to identify the most critical issues facing the CJCC and ways the Council would address these challenges and needs.

The invited participants were given a brief overview of the CJCC history and programming. The majority of the session was spent discussing major environmental challenges, internal obstacles and possible changes to CJCC programs and objectives for the next two years. Results of a participant, pre-planning session survey were also discussed at the meeting.

The group identified five, two-year objectives:

- Explore the availability of private foundation funding to sustain or expand existing programs and/or additional CJCC staffing.
- Determine how to best collect relevant CJCC performance data so that it can be reported in a concise fashion and used to revise and evaluate program outcomes on an ongoing basis. Effort should be taken to understand whether appropriate data is being collected and/or is collectible.
- Discuss succession planning biannually at Executive Committee meetings.
- Expand the Day Report Center.
- Create a drug treatment court.

"I was very pleased with the



attendance and discussion that took place at the strategic planning session," said County Executive Dan Vrakas. "I think the work group did an outstanding job identifying important and achievable goals that will allow the CJCC to be successful in the years to come."

The CJCC Executive Committee will prioritize goals and establish action steps and accountabilities linked to achieving these objectives over the next two years.

## Waukesha County to Host Upcoming Smarter Sentencing Training

*"I am looking forward to participating in the upcoming training session. By utilizing available alternatives to incarceration that hold offenders accountable, Wisconsin can enhance public safety while reducing future costs for the criminal justice system."*

Chief Judge  
J. Mac Davis

Waukesha County will be hosting a training session sponsored by the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) entitled "Research-Based Smarter Sentencing" that is designed to apply the latest evidence-based research to the practices of plea negotiation, sentencing and revocation in the local jurisdictional criminal justice system. The training is scheduled for January 19-20, 2012 for teams of justice system professionals from counties who submitted letters of interest to OJA.

The goal of this one-and-a half-day training session is to reduce reliance on the expensive sanction of incapacitation through incarceration in jail and prison; enhance the ability of persons released from jail and prison to lead law abiding lives; improve the capacity of the local criminal justice system to change offender behavior and reduce recidivism; and create and institutionalize a process of "smarter" sentencing that will increase the capacity of the local criminal justice stakeholders to protect public safety.

"I am looking forward to participating in the upcoming training session," said Chief Judge J. Mac Davis, Chairman of the CJCC. "By utilizing available alternatives to incarceration that hold offenders accountable, Wisconsin can enhance public safety while reducing future costs for the criminal justice system."

The training session will be presented by the Carey Group, Inc. and the Justice Management Institute (JMI), and OJA will cover all expenses for the training. Waukesha County will be sending a team of nine people to the training, including representatives from the judiciary, District Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections.

## Legislative Update: Intoxicated Driver Intervention Program

Wisconsin Community Services (WCS) received good news earlier this month when the Department of Transportation restored and increased funding for the Intoxicated Driver Intervention Program (IDIP) by 12.5%. This program provides pretrial supervision for persons arrested for a second or subsequent Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) offense in an effort to get them into treatment as soon as possible after arrest. The goal of the program is to reduce the rate of recidivism for repeat drunk drivers and incorporates the use of SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring) bracelets to continuously monitor alcohol use.

"The IDIP is a very successful program," said Sara Carpenter, WCS Multi-County Administrator for the Division of Court Services and Community Alternatives. "This program offers the state and county a substantial return on investment. In 2009, 91% of participants discharged from the Waukesha County IDIP followed through with treatment, saving Waukesha County more than 15,600 jail days."

IDIPs have been implemented in many counties including Iowa, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Marathon, Portage, Price, Racine, Sawyer, Sheboygan, Washburn and Waukesha.

*"The Intoxicated Driver Program is a very successful program. This program offers the state and county a substantial return on investment."*

Sara Carpenter  
WCS Multi-County  
Court Services  
Administrator

## CJCC Awarded State Crisis Intervention Training Incentives Grant

Funding Provided by:



The CJCC was awarded a grant from the Wisconsin OJA for \$100,000 to provide incentives to local law enforcement agencies within Waukesha County to attend a comprehensive five-day, 40-hour Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training offered in partnership with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of Greater Milwaukee and Waukesha.

The project offers stipends for up to 66 officers to attend the training, which will be held several times from April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012.

The training provides education to law enforcement officers on the availability of mental health resources within the community, how to identify individuals who have mental illness,

and teaches officers valuable de-escalation techniques that can be used in crisis situations.

The goal of the project is to reduce arrests, when appropriate, of mentally ill individuals, refer them to more appropriate mental health services in the community and reduce the mentally ill population in the Waukesha County Jail.

Thus far, two training sessions have provided training and crisis intervention certification to 30 local law enforcement officers from ten different police departments in Waukesha County.

In Partnership with:



## State-Level CJCC Recommended

At the July 2011 state-wide CJCC Coordinator's meeting in Madison, the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) announced its preliminary recommendations for the creation of a state-level CJCC to coordinate and improve the quality of criminal justice services and initiatives across Wisconsin.

The report, scheduled to be released in December 2011, will include recommendations from a two-year study of three specific focus areas identified by the Effective Justice Strategies Subcommittee, a subgroup of the Wisconsin Supreme Court's Planning and Policy Advisory Committee (PPAC). The first focus area examined the AIM (Assess, Inform, & Measure) pilot program, which provided risk, needs, and responsibility assessment information to judges to use in making informed sentencing decisions. The second focus area examined evidence-based problem-solving courts and the last area researched CJCCs throughout the state to eventually develop a best-practice set of standards for all CJCCs.

## Client Success Story: Day Report Center Program

Recently a Day Report Center Program (DRC) participant talked about his experiences at the DRC.

The client explained that he has benefitted in many ways from his participation in the DRC. The program gave him a bigger sense of responsibility. It made him think about his actions and realize there are other things in life to look forward to, other than alcohol.

He liked being able to talk to a case manager and receive feedback. He said, "It was nice having someone listen to me and help me work through my issues rather than trying to figure things out on my own."

The client also said, "I have learned so much from the program. When I made a mistake, I learned to get back up and start over. It was nice knowing the case managers were there to help me when I messed up and not just there to send me to jail. I learned that there are consequences for my actions in both the program and in life. I worked hard in the program because I didn't want to let myself or my case manager down."

The client shared some of his experiences in jail and talked about how much he appreciated his freedom when he was released. He said, "When I was sent to jail, I did not want to change. I wanted to do whatever I wanted to do and did not care about any consequences." As he sat in jail, he discovered he had hit a low point in his life and that many of the people he thought were his friends were not looking out for his best interests.

He said the DRC turned his life around. He is thankful for his experiences at the DRC and the support he got from the case managers. He learned to depend on himself and be thankful for his family and close friends who love and support him. As positive as his DRC experiences were, he is happy to no longer be involved with the criminal justice system.

The client said, "The program helped me realize there are so many things I want to do with my life. I want to work, save money to buy a home and live a normal life. I want to live my life for me. I am thankful for the many things the program did for me."

## Criminal Justice Collaborating Council

### CJCC Membership

Chief Judge  
 Waukesha County Executive  
 Waukesha County Board Chair  
 Waukesha County District Attorney  
 Waukesha County Sheriff  
 Waukesha County Clerk of Circuit Court  
 City of Waukesha Mayor  
 First Assistant State Public Defender  
 DOC - Division of Community Corrections  
 Health & Human Services Director  
 Police Chiefs' Association Member  
 UW-Extension Director  
 Citizen Member



*From left to right: County Board Chair Jim Dwyer, City of Muskego Police Chief Paul Geiszler, Chief Judge J. Mac Davis, Citizen Joanne Huelsman, Sheriff Dan Trawicki, Clerk of Courts Kathy Madden, HHS Director Peter Schuler, District Attorney Brad Schimel, First Assistant State Public Defender Sam Benedict, County Executive Dan Vrakas. Not pictured: City of Waukesha Mayor Jeff Scrima, DOC-Community Corrections Supervisor Karl Held, UW-Extension Director.*

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