Fall 2013

Justice Connections

A Newsletter of the Waukesha County CJCC

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WAUKESHA COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COLLABORATING COUNCIL

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.

Message from the CJCC Chairman

Presiding Judge Lloyd V. Carter

Welcome to the fall 2013 edition of Justice Connections! As we approach the end of 2013, we look back at the many CJCC accomplishments throughout the year, several of which are highlighted in this newsletter edition. Those of significance include our biennial strategic planning session held in May; two federal and state grant extensions; and the County Executive's inclusion of fourth quarter funding for the Alcohol and Drug Treatment Court programs in his 2014 budget.

Karl Held

In December 2013, the CJCC will be losing one of its original members, as Karl Held, Department of Corrections (DOC) Field Supervisor, is retiring after 37 years with the State of Wisconsin. Karl was involved in the creation of the CJCC through his participation on two committees preceding its formation: the Jail Alternatives Committee and the Population Control Panel. We thank Karl for his 11 years of commitment to the CJCC and its committees, and congratulate him on his much deserved retirement!

County Executive Budget Funds CJCC Programs

As part of the 2014 executive proposed budget, County Executive Dan Vrakas included funding for both Waukesha County's Alcohol Treatment Court and Drug Treatment Court programs.

The highly successful Alcohol Treatment Court, started in 2006, has had more than 250 graduates. In his proposed budget presented to the Waukesha County Board on September 24, 2013, Vrakas included funding for 4th offense drunk drivers for the fourth quarter of the year. Additionally, funding for 3rd offense drunk drivers will be fully funded as in past years.

The CJCC's Drug Treatment Court launched last year, was formed to respond to Waukesha County and State of Wisconsin's growing opiate abuse epidemic. In 2013, Waukesha County had over 40 deaths caused by heroin use. This is more than twice the number of motor vehicle fatalities.

"I am very proud of the CJCC's Alcohol and Drug Treatment Courts in Waukesha County," said County Executive Dan Vrakas. **"I believe that we are addressing these serious and pressing issues in an innovative manner. Through these programs we are helping people turn their lives around and become productive and successful members of our community."**

The county board will review Vrakas' proposed 2014 budget in November with expected passage by the end of the month.

Strategic Planning Helps Guide CJCC

In May 2013 the CJCC conducted a strategic planning effort that included 24 professionals with a passion for Waukesha County's criminal justice system. The CJCC's strengths and weaknesses and internal and external environments affecting the organization were identified through an electronic survey of criminal justice stakeholders and used to develop updated strategic objectives for 2013-2015.

2013-2015 CJCC Strategic Objectives

Seek a Solution for Data Interface Issues

- Determine who has the capacity, resources and responsibility to develop and manage Waukesha County's data warehouse, data interfaces and reporting system to better analyze and report criminal justice data.

Develop a Mechanism for Producing Meaningful Quarterly Data Reports

- Investigate the possibility of developing a data dashboard, which would allow stakeholders to query statistics regularly and have a pulse on key metrics.

Identify Options and CJCC Priorities in the Event that Resources Cannot be Identified to Sustain Existing Programs

- Evaluate cost benefits, savings and outcomes for all CJCC programs and prioritize services and funding to help the CJCC design future plans in the event resources cannot be identified to sustain existing programs.

Identify Resources or Cost Avoidance to Sustain Expanded Alcohol Treatment Court and Drug Treatment Court Until the County Decides Whether to Provide Sufficient Levy Commitment or the Programs Can Sustain Themselves

- This objective has been achieved. See the article on page one for more details.

Expand and Implement Internal County Government and External Communications Plans

- The CJCC Education and Public Relations Committee would explore and carryout methods to promote the CJCC.

CJCC Quantifies Program Results

The Waukesha County Audit Division recently contracted with CNA Institute for Public Research to evaluate the cost effectiveness of CJCC jail alternative programming versus the cost of jail sentences. **The audit will provide clear calculations of daily jail bed costs and savings produced by CJCC jail alternatives programs which will be used to justify program expenses.** Methodology will be developed to determine the average programming costs per CJCC program participant and the cost savings generated from jail beds saved. The cost and use of municipal holds and electronic monitoring will also be evaluated.

Public officials agree the county needs a solid definition and calculation for the cost of jail beds and jail bed days saved to evaluate and promote the effectiveness of CJCC programs. The calculations will be helpful for future funding decisions and providing factual information for grant opportunities and to constituents. **Unfortunately, not all jail alternative programming benefits, such as reduced crime rates and safer communities, can be quantified.**

New Funding for Treatment Alternatives & Diversion Programs

The 2013-15 state budget provided an additional $1 million in funding to the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) Program and $500,000 in new state funding for the creation of new county drug courts. The budget also continues funding for the nine existing TAD sites at just over $1 million. Evaluated project results show TAD programs to be cost effective - for every $1 spent on a variety of treatment alternatives to incarceration, the return on investment is $1.93.

Waukesha County has submitted a grant application that would fund a second case manager for the Drug Court Program to serve an additional 25 participants, which would eliminate the existing program wait list and bring the capacity to 50 participants. Waukesha County's drug court is currently funded with a federal grant that is expected to end on September 30, 2014. If Waukesha County receives the state TAD grant, the capacity of the Drug Court Program would reduce to 25 when the federal money expires.

If the grant application is approved, the funding would start January 1, 2014. Funding would be for one year, with two additional years of funding available on a non-competitive basis, assuming project goals are met.

CJCC Receives Two Grant Extensions

The CJCC was recently awarded two extensions of federal and state grant awards. The first extension is for the Alcohol Treatment Court program, which serves 4th OWI offenders. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) approved a one-year extension of this $939,097 grant through September 30, 2014. Waukesha County has served 100 Alcohol Treatment Court participants since the inception of the grant project in October 2010.

The second grant extension the CJCC received is for medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for drug court participants through the use of Naltrexone, an opioid receptor blocker that reduces cravings and prevents relapse. Medication, used in conjunction with traditional substance abuse treatment and the rigorous structure of the drug court program, has been proven to be a successful tool in the treatment of individuals with opioid dependence. The Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) approved a 6-month extension of this $49,740 grant through February 28, 2014. Waukesha County has referred 23 drug court participants, on a voluntary basis, to be screened for MAT since the inception of the grant project in September 2012.

Medication, used in conjunction with traditional substance abuse treatment and the rigorous structure of the drug court program, has been proven to be a successful tool in the treatment of individuals with opioid dependence.

Client Success Story: Day Report Center

In 2012, "Steve" was sentenced to the **Waukesha County Day Reporting Center (DRC)** for 90 days for shoplifting. In addition to issues with alcohol, drugs and mental health, "Steve" struggled with being homeless, unemployed, having no transportation or positive leisure activities and his friends were negative influences.

Shortly after being referred to the DRC, "Steve" stopped reporting to the Center because of difficulties dealing with his mother's terminal illness and eventual death and his fear of failure. "Steve" eventually turned himself in and was referred back to the DRC early in 2013. "Steve" battled with sobriety in the beginning but the Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring (SCRAM) bracelet helped him through the first several weeks of the program.

The DRC worked with "Steve" to attend regular AA meetings, employment counseling at DRC and grief counseling at Genesis House. The DRC helped "Steve" find the fortitude to complete an AODA and mental health assessment, follow through with treatment and identify positive leisure activities. Eventually "Steve" was accepted into the Hope Street Ministry Program.

Today "Steve" continues to live clean and sober, has not had any further contact with law enforcement, resides at the Hope Street Ministry House, is employed by a landscape company and has aspirations to start his own business. **"Steve" attributes his success to the accountability and support of the DRC, pointing out his strength in sobriety and the SCRAM bracelet for helping him along.** "Steve" continues to contact DRC staff to report on his positive progress and accomplishments and is grateful for the help he received.

Criminal Justice Collaborating Council

CJCC Membership

Presiding 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: UW Cooperative Extension Co-Director Melinda Stuart, HHS Director Peter Schuler, City of Waukesha Mayor Jeff Scrima, DOC Community Corrections Supervisor Karl Held, District Attorney Brad Schimel, Citizen Member Joanne Huelsman, First Assistant State Public Defender Sam Benedict, County Executive Dan Vrakas, County Board Chairman Paul Decker, Presiding Judge Lloyd Carter and Sheriff Dan Trawicki. Not pictured: Clerk of Courts Kathleen Madden and City of Waukesha Police Chief Russell Jack.

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WAUKESHA COUNTY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COLLABORATING COUNCIL

Justice Connections is a bi-annual newsletter produced by the Education & Public Relations Committee of the CJCC