

JUSTICE CONNECTIONS

A Newsletter of the Waukesha County CJCC

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Message from the CJCC Chairman



Presiding Judge Lloyd V. Carter

Welcome to the spring 2013 edition of Justice Connections! The CJCC has been continuing to work hard to enhance the effective administration of the local criminal justice system, and there are several articles in this edition that highlight recent successes. Those of noteworthy importance include another grant award from the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance for Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) and Crisis Intervention Partner (CIP) training; celebration of the first graduates of Waukesha County's Drug Treatment Court Program; and a feature about the drug court program on the Trinity Broadcasting Network's Public Report.

In our continuing effort to pursue the CJCC's goals of increasing public safety, reducing recidivism, saving taxpayer dollars and reducing jail overcrowding, the CJCC will be holding its biennial strategic planning session on May 22, 2013. This event, to be facilitated by the [Public Policy Forum](#), will include all 13 CJCC members and a select number of justice system partners. The group will review the progress of the CJCC over the past two years, as well as set strategic objectives for the council for the next two years.

The makeup of CJCC membership will once again be changing soon, as Peter Schuler, Director of the Department of Health & Human Services, is set to retire on June 18, 2013 after 29 years of service to Waukesha County. Peter has been a member of the CJCC since its inception in 2002, and was significantly involved in its development and evolution over the years. Peter has remained one of the CJCC's strongest supporters and will be missed by all. We thank Peter for his 11 years of commitment to the CJCC and congratulate him on his retirement!



Director of HHS Peter Schuler & County Executive Vrakas

CJCC Creates New Subcommittees

At the direction of the CJCC Executive Committee, led by the Honorable Lloyd Carter and comprised of six members from the full council, two new CJCC subcommittees were created in early 2013. First, the **Drug Treatment Court Subcommittee** was created to provide oversight of program operations and the goals set forth in the federal grant awarded to

Waukesha County to start the program, which became operational in March 2012. This committee, chaired by the Honorable William Domina, is comprised of 10 members and will meet approximately once a month. The committee's first meeting was held at the end of March.

Second, the **Veterans Court**

Subcommittee was created to explore the need for and feasibility of a Third Judicial District Veterans Court. This committee will be chaired by District Attorney Brad Schimel and membership will be comprised of key stakeholders within Waukesha County. Once the committee membership has been finalized, a date will be set for the first meeting.

www.waukeshacounty.gov/cjcc



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's Drug Treatment Court Program's First Graduation

The CJCC's Drug Treatment Court (DTC) Program celebrated its first graduation in May 2013. The program gives drug dependent offenders an opportunity to break the cycle of addiction and increases their chances of leading sober, crime-free, healthy lives through intensive, integrated, evidence-based court supervision and comprehensive treatment services. Participants are also offered the opportunity to amend pending criminal charges with the courts to a lesser charge based on successful completion of the program.

Case management is one of the most important elements of the program. A dedicated case manager from [Wisconsin Community Services \(WCS\)](#) meets with participants two to three times per week to provide supervision and develop aftercare plans.

To graduate from the program, participants must be enrolled in the program a minimum of 12 months and successfully complete four chal-



lenging phases requiring frequent drug and alcohol testing, substance abuse treatment, regular status hearings in front of a drug court judge, attendance at self-help meetings, etc.

The DTC treatment team meets weekly to evaluate each participant's progress, make treatment recommendations and promote participants to the next phase. The DTC treatment team consists of a judge and representatives from the District Attorney's Office, Public Defender, staff from the contract agency WCS, the Sheriff's Department, Department of Health &

Human Services, and Probation & Parole.

Waukesha County's DTC is a post plea, pre-predisposition program made possible through a three-year, \$350,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The grant will allow the CJCC to serve a minimum of 75 non-violent, high-risk, drug dependent offenders while advancing public safety, reducing crime and community costs and improving the health of individuals and the community.

CJCC in the News!



Rebecca Luczaj, Coordinator of the CJCC, and Sara Carpenter, Multi-County Administrator for Wisconsin Community Services (WCS), were recently interviewed by Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) about the Waukesha County Drug Treatment Court program in a Public Report segment that first aired on March 15, 2013. The interview focused on the relationship between substance abuse and criminal activity, and how drug court is used as an intervention tool to address substance abuse addiction, while holding offenders accountable and preventing future criminal activity. A link to the segment can be found on the CJCC website at www.waukeshacounty.gov/cjcc.

CIT Training Excellent Example of Intergovernmental Cooperation

Waukesha County received its third grant from the Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) to provide training to help law enforcement officers and crisis service workers recognize and appropriately manage people with mental illness.

The third grant allowed for Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for up to 25 local law enforcement officers, Crisis Intervention Partners (CIP) Training for up to 80 crisis services workers (correctional officers, probation agents, social workers) and advanced CIT training to up to 25 officers who have completed a previous CIT training.



Additionally, OJA provided Waukesha County with increased funding to work in partnership with the City of Cudahy Police Department who was eager to receive CIT training but unable to secure funding within their county. The grant al-

lowed the City of Cudahy to send up to 10 law enforcement officers to training.

Like previous grants, each officer's department qualified for a \$1,500 stipend to help defray the cost of law enforcement coverage while officers completed the 40 hour, week-long training session. The CIT training sessions took place April 15-19 and CIP training took place May 7-8.

All of Menomonee Falls law enforcement officers have been trained and certified in crisis intervention. Police Chief Anna Ruzinski is extremely impressed with the CIT training and has noticed immediate results with her officers.

Evolution of the State CJCC

The state Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC), formed by Governor Walker in Executive Order # 65 in April 2012, has been meeting on approximately a bi-monthly basis since its creation. The mission and vision statements were developed during the first few meetings of the CJCC.

The mission of the state CJCC is to “promote and facilitate the implementation of effective criminal justice policies and practices that maximize justice and the safety of the public.”

The vision of the state CJCC is “to make the criminal justice system a better investment toward improving the quality of life in Wisconsin.”

The Council has formed 5 standing subcommittees: Benchmarks, Data-Sharing, Problem-Solving Courts, Evidence-Based Practices, and Communications and Outreach. Each committee has been meeting on a monthly basis to address the charge that has been given to them by the CJCC. The next meeting of the CJCC is on July 30, 2013 in Madison and is open to the public.



The vision of the state CJCC is “to make the criminal justice system a better investment toward improving the quality of life in Wisconsin.”

Client Success Story: Drug Treatment Court Program

Congratulations to Aaron, the CJCC's first DTC graduate. When 24-year-old Aaron entered the program in March 2012, he was assessed as a high-risk, high-needs client. Aaron reported a long history of addiction starting with marijuana use at age 17 and eventually abuse of prescription medications and pill snorting. Aaron turned to heroin when he could no longer afford prescription medications. Aaron reported injecting \$50 of heroin every day to prevent withdrawal symptoms and up to \$100 when he could find the cash. On April 29, 2011 Aaron's parents called the police after he overdosed for the third time and Aaron was faced with felony drug charges.

Program agreeing to the program's strict guidelines and a deferred prosecution agreement with the courts for felony possession of narcotics and drug paraphernalia.

During the past year, Aaron completed the four phases of DTC and was ready to graduate. After Aaron's May graduation, the state prosecutor will recommend reducing Aaron's charges to possession of a controlled substance and suspending his 30 day jail sentence if he successfully completes one year of probation. The courts will make the final determination of his fate.

Currently, Aaron is working, enrolled in school pursuing a career in accounting and living a drug-free life. He has been marijuana free since January 22, 2012 and heroin free since April 29, 2011.

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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