



Waukesha County
Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
Evidence-Based Decision Making Victim Issues Workgroup
Friday, January 29, 2016

Team Members Present:

DOC Community Corrections Field Supervisor Marla Bell Clerk of Circuit Court Kathy Madden
Victim Witness Coordinator Jen Dunn Public Defender Kelsey Morin
Judge Michael Aprahamian

Team Members Absent:

DOC Victim Services Director Stephanie Hove

Also Present: Rebecca Luczaj, Alison Ries

Bell and Dunn called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Approve Minutes from January 15, 2016 Meeting

Motion: Aprahamian moved, second by Madden to approve the minutes of January 15, 2016. Motion carried 5-0.

Review & Discuss Workgroup Guidance from NIC Consultant

Bell distributed a synopsis of the work plan including a step by step work plan guide, logic model development template and a work plan template. Discussion was held regarding the accuracy of the target dates for completion of each component. Luczaj stated dates are accurate targets but they are flexible as well. She also stated that each workgroup's logic model and action plan will need to be submitted with the Phase VI application in June.

Review & Discuss Revised Workgroup Goal Statement

Dunn distributed a tentative goal statement and said the mission statement needed to include goals. After much discussion, the workgroup identified the following as their Mission Statement, Goals and Objectives:

Mission Statement

Waukesha County treats victims with respect and ensures that victims' rights are satisfied.

- Goal 1: The Victim Issues Workgroup will increase the collection of restitution for victims of crime in Waukesha County.
 - Objective 1: The Victim Issues Workgroup will improve coordination of restitution collection efforts among justice system partners.
 - Objective 2: The Victim Issues Workgroup will reduce the effort and expense of victims to recover restitution.

- Goal 2: The Victim Issues workgroup will increase the opportunity for victims' meaningful participation in the criminal justice system.

Continue to Discuss Workgroup Change Targets & Data Availability

Pre-charging:

- Victim's Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)
- Increase use of Mobile Victim Assistance Unit
- Increase officer training
- Notification of charge given to victim
- Victim Impact Statement: Statement the victim makes to the court either in writing or orally about the impact of the crime emotionally, physically and financially. VIS's are important to a victim's healing, as well as acknowledgement from the judge that he/she has read the VIS. It is most effective to get a statement from the victim at the time of the crime because the incident is fresh in their minds
- Victims are informed of the charging decision: misdemeanor versus felony
- Victim witness staff stay connected to victims from the beginning through case disposition

Pretrial:

- Notify victims of adjournment requests
- Calling cases early may be harmful if victims were planning to attend

Plea and sentencing/disposition:

- Notification and approval
- Attendance
- Restitution hearing

Post-conviction/restitution:

- VOICE: an automated and web based system providing victims with inmate release information, location, escape, sentence information, victim resources, DOC contact information, etc. Victims need to sign up for the service in order to access VOICE information. Dunn will provide the workgroup with pamphlets/brochures on both the VINE and VOICE systems.

Set Date for Next Meeting

Luczaj will coordinate the next meeting date with the workgroup.

The meeting adjourned at 1:33 p.m.