

Report to the Community



ISSUE 3

JUNE 2009

CJCC

PURPOSE:

- Enhance public safety
- Make suggestions to provide better outcomes for justice system users, their families, and the public at large
- Make suggestions for more efficient use of resources
- Increase communication
- Eliminate duplication
- Provide coordination across departments and budget areas
- Provide ongoing oversight for new or alternative programs

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The Rock County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) is pleased to present its third *Report to the Community* on the actions it has taken to bring stakeholders in the criminal justice system and members of the public together to address the needs of the County's criminal justice system. The *Report to the Community* is intended to keep community members informed of how the CJCC is working to meet its goals and to highlight important criminal justice initiatives in the County.



First Annual Offender Reentry Fair

CJCC will host its first annual Offender Reentry Resource Fair entitled *Promoting a Successful Transition: Supporting Formerly Incarcerated Individuals & Their Families* on Thursday, June 4th from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Job Center in Janesville. The Purpose of the event is twofold: to welcome returnees home and to provide information about resources available throughout Rock County. CJCC has found that many of the returnees are unaware of the services that are available.

Therefore, CJCC is bringing many of these service providers together in one location to share their information with this population. There will be service providers from all sectors, including the following: healthcare, education, housing, education, AODA, faith communities, mental health, governmental agencies, and various non-profit organizations. Service providers will each get a table to display materials for returnees and staff from these organizations will answer questions and in-

teract with the participants.

Event Highlights

- **Returnees Can Meet Representatives from Community Organizations & Government Agencies**
- **Returnees Can Obtain Information about Services Offered in Rock County**



51.15 Emergency Detentions

Mental health in the criminal justice system was identified as one of the main priorities for CJCC in 2008. Part of the problem, identified by law enforcement, regarded emergency mental health detentions under Wisconsin Statute 51.15. When performing these detentions, law enforcement was spend-

ing a great deal of time waiting in hospital ERs for medical clearance. CJCC worked with law enforcement all over the county, as well as the Human Services Department, to address this problem. In October 2008, CJCC hosted an event with psychiatrist Dr. Ron Diamond to facilitate the interaction

between law enforcement and Crisis Unit workers when dealing with individuals who may be detained under the statute. Also, in efforts to deal with this problem, mobility of the Crisis Unit has increased, the crisis stabilization facility has expanded, and telehealth is being explored.

*In 2009,
Workender
participants have
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Workender Program

The Workender Program is a collaborative endeavor between the Rock County Sheriff's Office, Rock County Courts, Rock County District Attorney's Office and the WI State Public Defender's Office as an alternative to housing inmates in Jail. It began in June 2008 and allows low-

risk inmates to serve their sentence on the weekends or during the week without disrupting their jobs, childcare, or school. Their sentence is served by participating in community service work. The program helps reduce jail overcrowding and the high cost of housing non-violent offenders who

do not have the means to pay off fines. Since January 1, 2009, the program has had 168 participants and saved 1,073 jail bed days. Additionally, participants in the program have performed 8,584 community service hours and worked off \$191,412.50 in fines. (through May 12, 2009)

Electronic Monitoring

The Sheriff's Office has continued to use its electronic monitoring program, thus reducing the resident jail population. Putting inmates on the bracelet helps alleviate jail crowding while maintaining community safety. Inmates on the GPS

bracelet pay \$16.88 per day, which covers the cost of the bracelet and other equipment. This is a savings of \$64/day (if the offender was in jail).

In 2009, through May 12th, there were 225 admissions to the electronic monitor-

ing program with a total of 13,161 jail bed days saved. In 2008, there were 602 admissions to the program for a total of 26,814 jail bed days saved for the year.



Drug Court & Community RECAP



The Drug Court just completed its second full year of operation and is in its third year of funding under TAD, a state-funded program providing substance abuse treatment and diversion to non-violent offenders with sub-

stance abuse disorders in the criminal justice system. The grant has been used to fund the program which provides alcohol and drug treatment services, anger management, group sessions to change patterns of criminal behavior and thought, and referrals to community resources such as education and employment services. Case managers also assist with housing and provide services to par-

ticipants' families to promote family reunification.

A Process Evaluation of the program was conducted in July 2008 by Dr. Paul Gregory, a UW-Whitewater professor and the Court's independent evaluator. Dr. Gregory concluded that the Drug Court was in compliance with the 10 Key Components established by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals.

“Drug Court started out as an idea to save money for the County, but has developed into a program that is saving lives and making positive changes in the lives of individuals.”

Drug Court Judge Richard Werner

National Drug Court Month

CJCC created a resolution to declare May 2009 Drug Court Month and recognize the Drug Court team. At its meeting on May 14th, the County Board passed the resolution and honored the team for their hard work and dedication to the program. Drug Court Judge Richard Werner spoke at the meeting and said “Drug Court started out as an idea to save money for the County but has developed into a program that is

saving lives...and making positive changes in the lives of individuals...not only clients in the program, but families and others significant to them, and in the long run, to all of our citizens in the community.” The Judge went on to note that since the Drug Court's inception, there have been 5 drug free babies born to participants and 48 successful graduations from the program.

Grant Applications

So far in 2009, CJCC has applied for three federal grants. Two were related to the County's Drug Court—one to fund operations and the other to enhance the services provided by the Drug Court, including residential AODA care for those that require it, access to a psychiatrist for participants with a co-occurring mental illness, and comprehensive training for the Drug Court team. The third grant would provide funding to look at the impacts of mental illness and co-occurring disorders (mental illness & substance abuse) on the criminal justice population and explore how the County can address these problems.





Rock County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

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CJCC INFORMATION ON-LINE AT:
[HTTP://WWW.CO.ROCK.WI.US/DEPT/
COUNTYBOARD/CRIMINALJUSTICE/
CRIMINAL_JUSTICE.HTM](http://www.co.rock.wi.us/DEPT/COUNTYBOARD/CRIMINALJUSTICE/CRIMINAL_JUSTICE.HTM)

Rock County Wisconsin Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

CJCC meetings are scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month, typically in the Courthouse Conference Center, located on the second floor of the Courthouse, East Wing. Meetings are open to the public and citizens are encouraged to attend.

For additional information, please contact Elizabeth Pohlman McQuillen, Criminal Justice System Planner/Analyst, at 608-757-5510.

CJCC Members & Alternates

Members

- Neil Deupree, Community Representative (Chair)
- Marv Wopat, Rock County Supervisor (Vice Chair)
- Ruth Bettin, Community Representative
- Jose Carrillo, Chair, UAW Local 95 Civil Rights Committee
- Honorable James Daley, Presiding Judge, Rock County Circuit Courts
- Jan Devore, Human Services Area Coordinator, Southern Regional Office, WI DHS
- Regina Dunkin, Executive Director, Merrill Community Center
- Rich Gruber, Vice President, Mercy Health System
- Lorenzo Henderson, Beloit Police Department
- Charmian Klyve, Rock County Human Services Director
- Sandra Kraft, Rock County Supervi-

sor (Board Vice Chair)

- David Moore, Chief, Janesville Police Department
- Eric Nelson, First Assistant State Public Defender
- David O'Leary, Rock County District Attorney
- Ed Pearson, Superintendent, Rock County Juvenile Detention Center
- Robert Spoden, Rock County Sheriff
- Art Thurmer, Regional Chief, Division of Community Corrections, WI DOC

Alternates

- Honorable R. Alan Bates, Judge, Rock County Circuit Courts
- Perry Folts, Rock County Deputy District Attorney
- Effie Garrett, Justice Overcoming Borders

- Commander Tom Gehl, Rock County Sheriff's Office
- Billy Bob Grahn, Rock County Supervisor
- Tom Gubbin, Corrections Field Supervisor, WI DOC
- Teresa Bacchi, WI DHS
- Dr. Robert Fizzell, Rock County Supervisor & Merrill Community Center
- Kelly Mattingly, Assistant State Public Defender
- Kenyata Wright, Detention Supervisor, Rock County Juvenile Detention Center
- Jason Witt, Deputy Director, Rock County Human Services

