

## DANE COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 22, 2013 MEETING

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Parisi, Esqueda, Bayrd (for Hendrick), Mahoney, Ozanne, Colas

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Anhalt, Rusk, Watson, Wray, Gaber

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Richardson, McNamara, Clark, Kostelic, Ney, Saterfield, Thurlow, Anday

Parisi called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

There was no public comment.

Consideration of the minutes of May 23rd meeting was before the council. Motion by Mahoney/Esqueda to approve the minutes. Motion carried, 4-0.

#### Evidence Based Decision Making:

A presentation on criminal justice system observations and efficiencies as gathered by the Dane County criminal justice mapping team was the first order of business. Becky Ney, principal of the Center for Effective Public Policy, addressed the council. She has completed work with the Dane County criminal justice mapping team, which included up to 60 participants. Stakeholder groups met from June through August reviewing decision making, strengths and challenges of the Dane County criminal justice system.

Ms. Ney reports many observations were made throughout the last months including:

- Racial disparities may occur at key decision points (arrest, diversion, disposition, etc.) and within the criminal justice system.
- Data collection and analysis is challenging: There are multiple data systems (CCAP, PROTECT, Jail, DOC) that are not integrated
- There are bottlenecks in the system resulting in an uneven/inconsistent flow of offenders through the system.
- The system is complex with many decision points.
- Decisions are largely uninformed by data and information.

The criminal justice mapping team was a diverse group of criminal justice stakeholders with specific goals to meet by the end of August 2013. The following is a list of objectives:

- Identify key issues to be addressed
- Discuss opportunities to realign system to be more evidence-based
- Identify the strengths of the current system
- Identify the barriers and challenges to more efficient and effective decision-making
- Develop strategies that could be implemented to address barriers and challenges

The Dane County criminal justice mapping group met on August 21 to review and prioritize recommendations for the CJC's considerations. The mapping group discussed, organized and multi-voted on over 50 recommendations (which will be included in her final report). The following is the top 5 recommendations for increased effectiveness (the first three recommendations listed drew the highest level of support in the multi-voting process):

- **Establish a pretrial release/services program**
  - Conduct risk assessments for pretrial release (risk of flight and rearrest)
  - Opportunity to conduct needs assessments earlier in the system
  - Opportunity to identify candidates for pre-charge diversion, treatment court
  - Establish coordinated "frontend" approach to diversion

Improve coordination of pretrial release/diversion for mentally ill  
Expand current bail monitoring programs  
Create pretrial supervision and services capacity  
Assure court appearances

- **Hire a criminal justice data analyst/training coordinator**

Improve the use of data and research to inform criminal justice decision-making  
Collect and analyze criminal justice data (dashboard, scorecard of key indicators, etc.)  
Conduct studies (recidivism, validations, trends over time, time studies, jail population, cost benefits, etc.)  
Identify training issues/topics  
Coordinate/facilitate cross-agency training  
Establish a "master" training calendar  
Keep stakeholders informed of current research and best practices

- **Establish an offender transition and reentry system**

Reentry begins at intake (assessments)  
Jail programming and case management directed by assessment(s)  
Stabilization issues (housing, employment, benefits)  
Inside programming tied to outside programming  
Reentry checklist (housing, medications, appointments, referrals)

- **Increase substance abuse treatment options (and funding) in the county**

Identify a continuum of services and programs (from detox to long term residential)  
Identify additional programs for specific types of users (heroin/meth)  
Fund additional services targeted at treatment gaps  
Identify gender responsive services and programs

- **Increase community alternatives to arrest**

Enhance communications/partnerships of law enforcement, HHS, providers and others  
Educate law enforcement about what is available in the community regarding programs and services, housing, etc.  
To the extent possible, compile and disseminate directory of resources

Parisi requested model examples of each of the top recommendations be included in the final report. Ney reports that she will include that in the final report. She also notes that more work will need to be done on each recommendation prior to implementation.

Discussion ensued around pre-trial services and assessment tools. Watson asked Ney where the pre-trial services department usually exists in other jurisdictions. Ney replied that it varies dependent on needs of county, it could be in the County Executive's Office, POS, Courts or in Sheriff's Department.

Ney reports that the criminal justice mapping group developed a list of recommendations that are best addressed by current subgroups to the CJC. Recommendations regarding racial disparities and technology will be forward to each subject specific subgroups for future work and study.

Mission Statement: Parisi asks each CJC member to review the mission statement and come to next month's meeting with comments/questions/edits.

Staffing Needs: Parisi states that the CJC may be at a point whereby we need a coordinator. Parisi thanks Saterfield, Thurlow-Peterson, Kostelic, and Clark for combined effort, but feels the CJC needs to move forward with a dedicated coordinator. Discussion ensues. Rusk, Ozanne, and Watson bring up the need for a data analyst specific to criminal justice activities and

initiatives. Watson states that it seems the Council needs both parts—coordination and data analysis—to be successful.

#### Budget Issues:

Community Court: Parisi asks if the group is ready with a proposal. Ozanne replies in the final stages and a report will be issued within the next weeks. Requested that the report is also given to the following Supervisors: Bayrd, Hendrick, and Rusk.

Space Needs Analysis (DCSO): report will be coming in the next weeks.

Racial Justice Improvement Project: Ozanne recaps the Fast Track position and RJIP. States that in 2011, 54% of child abuse offenders were African-American. The Fast Track model should increase healthy outcomes for family, and reduce youth involvement in delinquency in the long run. The RJIP team will have a meeting on September 18, 2013 which will include a conference call to the American Bar Association and Center for Court Innovation to discuss particulars of necessary data collection, analysis, and data templates.

#### Agency Updates

Ozanne—looking at DA's Office reorganization due to staffing and going paperless changes.  
Colas---Introduces himself to the CJC. Replaces William Foust on the CJC.  
Gaber—will be the Interim Chief of Police and representative to the CJC upon Chief Wray's retirement in late September.

#### Other news:

Clark briefs CJC on a grant that Journey Mental Health is applying for regarding for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Discretionary Grants: Culturally Specific Trauma Services for Families Impacted by Violence. The grant application focus is in meeting the needs of African American families residing in Dane County who are affected by domestic violence. Clark will update Council if Journey is awarded the grant.  
The council adjourned by unanimous consent.

These minutes are notes of the recorder and are subject to change at future council meetings.