



Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Governor Tony Evers | Secretary Kevin A. Carr

October 28, 2020

Jeffrey Renk
Office of the Senate Chief Clerk
PO Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Patrick Fuller
Assembly Chief Clerk
17 West Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, WI 53703

Dear Mr. Renk and Mr. Fuller:

In accordance with section 301.095(11), enclosed is a copy of the Council on Offender Reentry's Annual Report for fiscal year 2020.

The report highlights efforts of statewide organizations in the following areas impacting offender reentry:

- Reentry initiatives with a victim perspective
- Wisconsin's Women's Correctional System gender-responsive programming, educational and vocational opportunities
- Continuum of care and healthcare for individuals returning to the community

The summaries provided in the report bring attention to a number of interagency initiatives taking place in Wisconsin. The Council continues to promote statewide collaboration as they work together to assist offenders in their successful transition from incarceration to becoming productive and lawful citizens in the community.

Thank you for your interest in the Council on Offender Reentry.

Sincerely,

Kevin A. Carr
Secretary

Enclosure: Council on Offender Reentry 2020 Annual Report
Cc: Silvia Jackson, Ph.D., Council Chairperson, Department of Corrections Reentry Director
Council on Offender Reentry Members



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Council On Offender Reentry 2020 Annual Report

Message from the Council Chairperson Silvia R. Jackson, Ph.D., Wisconsin

The Council on Offender Reentry was formed in 2009 to bring together diverse perspectives from throughout the state to promote successful offender reentry and recidivism reduction initiatives. Collaborative efforts are facilitated by appointing leaders representing key criminal justice stakeholders and relevant state agencies.

The Council's activities for Fiscal Year 2020 focused on the collaborative efforts with state agencies around the Department's reentry programs with the goal to assist those persons under the Department's care with a successful return to our communities.

During the first quarter the Council heard from multiple speakers on reentry initiatives from a victim centered perspective.

The second quarter meeting focused on the Wisconsin's Women's Correctional System which includes, Taycheedah Correctional Institution, Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center, and Milwaukee Women's Correctional Center. The Council concentrated on gender-responsive programming, educational services and expanded vocational training opportunities to meet the needs of women in our care.

The last two quarterly meetings focused on collaborative efforts to ensure a continuum of care and improve healthcare for individuals returning to the community. These meetings addressed issues related to Medicaid services, Substance Use Disorder and Medication Assisted Treatment.



On behalf of the Council on Offender Reentry and the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, I am pleased to bring you the 2020 annual report highlighting the past year's accomplishments.



Statutory Authority for Council on Offender Reentry

The Council on Offender Reentry is dedicated to coordinating reentry initiatives across the State of Wisconsin and providing a public forum for the various stakeholders of the Criminal Justice System. The Council was created by 2009 Wisconsin Act 28. The statute articulates the purpose of the Council, as well as its membership. It also illustrates the meaning and content of the Annual Report, which is distributed to the legislature.

Creation of Council on Offender Reentry:
Wis. Stats. 15.145 (5)

Purpose of Council on Offender Reentry:
Wis. Stats. 301.095

Membership to the Council on Offender Reentry:
Wis. Stats. 15.145(5)

Statutory Authority for Council on Offender Reentry

Wis. Stats. 301.095, "Council on Offender Reentry," delineates the Council's purpose as follows:

1. Inform the public as to the time and place of council meetings and, for at least one meeting per year, encourage public participation and receive public input in a means determined by the chairperson.
2. Coordinate reentry initiatives across the state and research federal grant opportunities to ensure initiatives comply with eligibility requirements for federal grants.
3. Identify methods to improve collaboration and coordination of offender transition services, including training across agencies and sharing information that will improve the lives of the offenders and the families of offenders.
4. Establish a means to share data, research, and measurement resources that relate to reentry initiatives.
5. Identify funding opportunities that should be coordinated across agencies to maximize the use of state and community-based services as the services relate to reentry.
6. Identify areas in which improved collaboration and coordination of activities and programs would increase effectiveness or efficiency of services.
7. Promote research and program evaluation that can be coordinated across agencies with an emphasis on research and evaluation practices that are based on evidence of success in treatment and intervention programs.
8. Identify and review existing reentry policies, programs, and procedures to ensure that each policy, program, and procedure is based on evidence of success in allowing an offender to reenter the community, improves the chances of successful offender reentry into the community, promotes public safety, and reduces recidivism.
9. Promote collaboration and communication between the department and community organizations that work in offender reentry.
10. Work to include victims in the reentry process and promote services for victims, including payments of any restitution and fines by the offenders, safety training, and support and counseling, while the offenders are incarcerated and after the offenders are released.
11. Annually submit a report to the governor, any relevant state agencies, as identified by the council, and to the chief clerk of each house of the legislature for distribution to the legislature under s. 13.172 (2) that provides information on all of the following:
 - a. The progress of the council's work.
 - b. Any impact the council's work has had on recidivism.
 - c. The effectiveness of agency coordination and communication.
 - d. The implementation of a reentry strategic plan.
 - e. Recommendations on legislative initiatives and policy initiatives that are consistent with the duties of the council.



Above: Council Meeting on March 11, 2020

FY20 Meeting Dates

The Council is directed to hold meetings at least four times a year. All meeting notices are posted via the DOC public website and members of the public are encouraged to attend meetings. In FY20, the Council met on the following dates:

- September 11, 2019
- December 11, 2019
- March 11, 2020
- June 24, 2020

Membership: Wis. Stats. 15.145(5)

The Council shall consist of 21 members, and the appointed members shall serve for 2-year terms and may be appointed for a maximum of two consecutive terms. The Chairperson of the council shall be the Secretary of Corrections or the Reentry Director, as decided by the Secretary of Corrections. The Chairperson may appoint subcommittees and the Council shall meet no less frequently than four times per year at a date and location to be determined by the Chairperson. Members of the Council shall include the Secretary of Corrections, or his or her designee; the Secretary of Workforce Development, or his or her designee; the Secretary of Health Services, or his or her designee; the Secretary of Children and Families, or his or her designee; the Secretary of Transportation, or his or her Designee; the Attorney General, or his or her designee; the Chairperson of the Parole Commission, or his or her designee; the State Superintendent of Public Instruction; the Reentry Director as appointed by the Secretary of Corrections; current or former judge, as appointed by the Director of State Courts; an individual who has been previously convicted of, and incarcerated for, a crime in Wisconsin, as appointed by the Secretary of Corrections; and the following persons, as appointed by the governor:

- (a) A law enforcement officer.
- (b) A representative of a crime victim rights or crime victim services organization.
- (c) A representative of a faith-based organization that is involved with the reintegration of offenders into the community.
- (d) A representative of a county department of human services.
- (e) A representative of a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in this state.
- (f) A representative of a nonprofit organization that is involved with the reintegration of offenders into the community and that is not a faith-based organization.
- (g) A district attorney.
- (h) A representative of the office of the state public defender.
- (i) An academic professional in the field of criminal justice.
- (j) A representative of the Wisconsin Technical College System.

Council Members during Fiscal Year 2020

Chairperson	Silvia Jackson, Reentry Director, DOC	Law Enforcement Officer	Jon Nejedlo, Police Officer, City of Green Bay
Department of Corrections*	Shannon Carpenter, Assistant Deputy Secretary	Victims Services	Angela Mancuso, Executive Director, The Women's Center
Department of Workforce Development *	Chytania Brown, Administrator, Division of Employment and Training	Faith-Based Organization	Robert Koebele, Wisconsin Inmate Education Association
Department of Health Services	Beth Dodsworth, Director, Bureau of Community Forensic Services	County Department of Human Services	Antwayne Robertson, Director, Waukesha County
Department of Children and Families	Bianca Shaw, Director, Office of Urban Development	American Indian Tribe / Band	<i>(Pending Appointment)</i>
Department of Transportation	Ann Perry, Director, Bureau of Driver Services	Non-profit Organization *	Karen Cumblad, Professional Counselor, Family Service of Waukesha
Attorney General	Winn Collins, Assistant Attorney General	District Attorney	<i>(Pending Appointment)</i>
Parole Commission	John Tate II, Parole Chairperson	State Public Defender *	Paul Rifelj, Deputy State Public Defender
Department of Public Instruction	Barbara Van Haren, Assistant State Superintendent	Academic Professional, Criminal Justice	Michael Knetzger, Instructor, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College
Judge	Honorable Stephanie Rothstein, Branch 25, Milwaukee County	Wisconsin Technical College System	Mary Davies, Associate Dean of Economic Workforce Development, Moraine Park Technical College
Formerly Incarcerated Ex-Offender	Jerome Dillard, Lead Organizer, Expo (Ex-Prisoners Organizing)		

*Transition of Appointed Council Members: DWD's appointment, Chytania Brown, served her term and Bruce Palzkill began serving in the 3rd quarter of FY20. DOC's appointment, Shannon Carpenter, left DOC and Jared Hoy was appointed in the 4th quarter of FY20. Non-Profit Organization appointment, Karen Cumblad, served her term and Angela Eggers of Rock Valley Community Program's began her appointment in the 4th quarter of FY20. State Public Defender's appointment Paul Rifelj served his term and John Padgham began his appointment in the 4th quarter of FY20

Meeting 1— September 11, 2019

REENTRY INITIATIVES WITH A VICTIM PERSPECTIVE

The Council's first meeting focused on the victim-centered initiatives and the WI Coalitions Against Abuse

Victim-Offender Dialogue: CBS's 60 Minute Segment, "Crime Victims Get Chance to Confront Perpetrators through Special Program"

Deborah Mejchar, Chaplain at Fox Lake Correctional Institution

The Restorative Justice Project, a program at the University of Wisconsin Law School, arranges meetings that can change the lives of both victim and perpetrator. Deborah Mejchar introduced the 60-Minute video segment featuring a story on Victim-Offender Dialogue. The segment included interviews with four incarcerated individuals in the Wisconsin State Prison System, and their respective victims. Each individual shared their experience with the restorative justice process, and the impact that process has had on their lives.

Victim-Centered Initiatives

Angela Mancuso, Executive Director of The Women's Center
 Diara Parker, Director of Policy and Systems Change, End Abuse Wisconsin Coalition
 Kelly Moe Litke, Associate Director, Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault
 Sue Sippel, Executive Director, Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse
 Carmen Pitre, CEO, Sojourner Family Peace Center

The Council focused on Wisconsin Statewide Coalitions to End Domestic Abuse.

- WI Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- WI Coalition Against Sexual Abuse
- Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse
- Sojourner Family Peace Center
- Dept. of Children & Families—Domestic Abuse Program.



The WI Coalition Against Domestic Violence provides various programs and technical assistance to the direct service providers and other multidisciplinary teams. Their programs are: Education and Membership Services, Legal Advocacy Support, Youth and Prevention, Community Outreach, Public Policy Advocacy, Homicide Prevention, and Coordinated Community Response. The Homicide Prevention Program, Training and Technical Assistance – Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) provides an opportunity for victims to be more quickly linked to domestic violence services upon contact with law enforcement. Currently, 33 counties and 141 law enforcement agencies are trained in LAP in WI.

The WI Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA) has a membership of sixty (60) Sexual Assault Service Providers, who provide services such as 24-hour crisis response, personal advocacy, system advocacy, information & referral, support groups, accessible services, and community outreach and prevention. WCASA's priorities include best practices in advocacy, prevention, organizational development, reproductive & sexual health, systematically and historically oppressed communities/individuals and their role in addressing oppression. The Anti-Oppression Framework was developed in collaboration with the National Women of Color Network, who provided technical assistance to WCASA, both internally and externally. The framework helps direct WCASA's policy development, hiring practices, and best practices, as well as their engagement with various external Women of Color networks and consortiums.

The Council on Domestic Abuse consists of *three committees* and advises the Governor, Dept. of Children and Families, and the Legislature on matters of domestic abuse policy and funding.

- 1) **Legislative Committee's** has worked in collaboration with the Dept. of Corrections (DOC) to better understand the Revocation process in an effort to inform and assist the victims throughout the revocation process. The committee is creating a roadmap for all involved and will identify gaps so we can improve upon them. The committee spent two years creating the Guardian ad Litem Handbook, which is now considered best practice throughout the State. The committee has an ongoing interest in certification and standards for Abuser's Treatment as well as gun surrender.
- 2) **Access Committee** is working on the Anti-Oppression Manual and Trainings. Their focal point is to recruit, retain, support bi-lingual, bi-cultural advocates and advocates of color.
- 3) **Budget Committee** is tasked with developing a funding formula in the following areas: a) The "Fair Minimum" Calculation – Fair Minimum document is a tool to inform the boards, communities, and legislators, on staffing patterns needed for core services to carry out the mission, as well as fair pay for individuals working in the field of domestic abuse to maintain staff.

Meeting 2 — December 11, 2019

WISCONSIN WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM (WCCS)

The Council's second meeting concentrated on the Women's System, Gender-Responsiveness, Educational Services and Vocational Programs to meet the needs of the female population

Wisconsin Women's Correctional System (WWCS)

Sarah Cooper, Warden, WWCS

Kalen Ruck, Deputy Warden, WWCS

Audra Sulewski, Corrections Program Supervisor, TCI

The WWCS has three female institutions: Taycheedah Correctional Institution (TCI), Robert E. Ellsworth Correctional Center (REECC), and Milwaukee Women's Correctional Center (MWCS). WWCS also has females housed at Wisconsin Women's Resource Center (WWRC). WWCS provides female persons under our care a safe and secure confinement in an environment which is gender-responsive, and which utilizes gender-specific guiding principles to assist in positive growth through treatment, education, and appropriate supervision, thereby fostering a successful transition for their return to their families and communities. The costs of housing a female versus a male person in our care are higher due to mental health needs. Additionally, most of the female population has experienced trauma. To better serve the female population's needs, WWCS consulted with Ashley Bauman, a researcher and national expert in the field of female offenders, to develop the 2020-2021 WWCS Strategic Plan. The plan addresses the following five goals:

- ◆ *Goal 1: Incorporate trauma-responsive, gender-responsive principles in all correctional practices.* The objectives are to revise disciplinary procedures and customize the classification system to reflect the needs of justice-involved women.
- ◆ *Goal 2: Create an environment through facility and cultural improvement that enhances opportunities for a positive outcome.* The objectives are to foster a trauma-responsive environment, evaluate for shame-based or deficit-based practices, create a better client experience, and enhance wellness opportunities for correctional staff.
- ◆ *Goal 3: Support healthy connections in the lives of justice-involved women.* The objectives are to foster supportive community connections, reunification, and reintegration; and teaching, modeling, and reinforcing healthy relationships within the facility.
- ◆ *Goal 4: Provide comprehensive, gender-responsive programs and services for justice-involved women.* The objectives include establishing a unified approach to the WWCS, incorporating more gender-responsive programming for women, and utilizing community stakeholders and volunteers in programs and services.
- ◆ *Goal 5: Increase opportunities for justice-involved women to improve their socio-economic status.* The objectives are connecting women with resources in the community for educational and vocational improvement, focusing on competitive industries in the current job market, and connecting women to community-based resources that provide temporary support for reentry and ongoing services.



Above: Council members during the WWCS presentation

WWCS has expanded programming to meet the needs of the female population. These programs include:

- ◆ *Parenting Inside Out program* – This program focuses on parenting as an incarcerated person. It teaches women how to hold their children accountable during their incarceration, and how to talk with their children, their schools, family, foster parents, etc., once they release from prison.
- ◆ *Expansion of Work Assignments* – There are fifteen different work assignments, such as gardeners, maintenance, tutors, library aids, mobility assistants, and personal care workers at the female institutions.
- ◆ *Educational Services/Vocational Programs* – TCI collaborates with Moraine Park Technical College (MPTC) for the Cosmetology program and the Office Software Applications program.
- ◆ *Mobile Welding Lab* – MPTC provides the curriculum and instruction to persons under our care at TCI. There are currently nine females enrolled in the curriculum. TCI will graduate two cohorts from the Welding program this year.
- ◆ *Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Program* - REECC persons in our care attend Gateway Technical College to complete the CNC diploma program. To date, four groups graduated from the CNC Program.
- ◆ *Camp Reunite* – Camp Reunite is a partnership between TCI and Camp Hometown Heroes. Camp Hometown Heroes approached TCI to discuss how their organization could help children of incarcerated parents. Using the same model for children of fallen US Service Members, they created Camp Reunite for children of incarcerated parents. Camp Reunite creates an opportunity for mothers' under WI DOC's care and their children, youth ages 8-17, to spend time together in a child-friendly setting that incorporates a trauma-informed approach, assisting the children to find healthy ways to cope with separation from their mother and maintain a strong relationships.

DOT ID Project

Michele Krueger, Reentry Project Manager, Department of Corrections

The DOC and DOT have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to provide all persons under our care with a renewal or duplicate Identification (ID) card before their release. The DOC sets aside \$27,000 of Becky Young funds each year to pay for identification costs. During the past fiscal year, the Council convened a workgroup to examine whether Driver's License (DL) renewal could be included in the MOU, and whether the DOT ID/DL card could reflect the person's proposed release address in lieu of the institution address. Because the DL renewal requires an eye examination, which the DOC is not equipped or staffed to address, it appears that legislative changes, an increase in the biennial budget, and involvement of the Department of Health Services would be required to proceed further. Additionally, because the DOT's ID card issuance system connects the institution name to the billing report, and is locked down, DOT is unable to use the proposed release address on the ID card. However, once DOT IT department can update their system to allow the addition of the individual's approved residence on the ID card, they will notify the DOC.

Post-Secondary Education Consortium

Benjamin Jones, OPS Education Coordinator, Department of Corrections

A written proposal and oral presentation were provided to the Council members to create the first permanent Council Sub-Committee on creating a Post-Secondary Education Consortium. In February 2019, the Vera Institute of Justice convened a group of stakeholders, which included leadership from DOC, Technical Colleges, Department of Workforce Development, the Wisconsin Technical College System, the University of Wisconsin System and local workforce boards. The goals for this group are:

1. Convene partnerships with the Department of Corrections, Higher Education Institutions, Workforce Development agencies, community service providers and other supporters
2. Identify the top three goals for enhancing, expanding, and improving the college-prison partnership over the next several years, including at least one reentry-related goal
3. Develop an action plan with the partnership to begin working on the following:
 - a. create a consortium of postsecondary education institutions
 - b. create a comprehensive educational orientation process for persons in our care
 - c. support students with regional career and educational navigators.

The sub-committee shall be called Pathways to Prosperity (P2P) initiative. The sub-committee will meet regularly to conduct the directed work of the collaborative efforts. The sub-committee shall serve to advance the work of P2P and other collaborative ventures as assigned by the Council and P2P. The Council was asked to review the presented information and be prepared to vote on the Post-Secondary Education Consortium in during the March 11, 2020 Council Meeting.



Council on Offender Reentry Members:

(Front Row L-R): Robert Koebele, Honorable Stephanie Rothstein, Michael Knetzger, Silvia Jackson, Mary Davies

(Back Row L-R): John Tate II, Winn Collins, Shannon Carpenter, Reginald Paradowski, Antwayne Robertson, Barbara Van Haren, Jerome Dillard, John Nejedlo

Council Members not present in this photo: Chytania Brown, Beth Dodsworth, Bianca Shaw, Angela Mancuso, Karen Cumblad, Paul Rifelj, Ann Perry

Meeting 3 — March 11, 2020

COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE HEALTHCARE FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED INDIVIDUALS RETURNING TO THE COMMUNITY

The Council's third meeting focused on the case management and competent care for the justice-involved individuals returning to our communities

UW Madison & Department of Corrections: Medicaid Research, Outcomes and Case Management

Marguerite Burns, Ph.D., UW Department of Pop. Health Sciences, Institute for Research on Poverty

Dr. Marguerite Burn presented to the council on two studies regarding improving healthcare and outcomes, particularly for those released from prison with substance use disorders (Opioid), Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). Dr. Burns' research evaluates three years of Medicaid eligibility data for individuals releasing from prison. The study focuses on the consequences of extending Medicaid eligibility and the introduction of pre-release enrollment assistance established by the DOC in 2015. The second project is a five year study that was just launched the end of 2019. This study is focused on developing a case management intervention and testing the ability to more quickly link individuals at post-release to primary care and outpatient care .

There are four (4) Aims for the Medicaid Research.

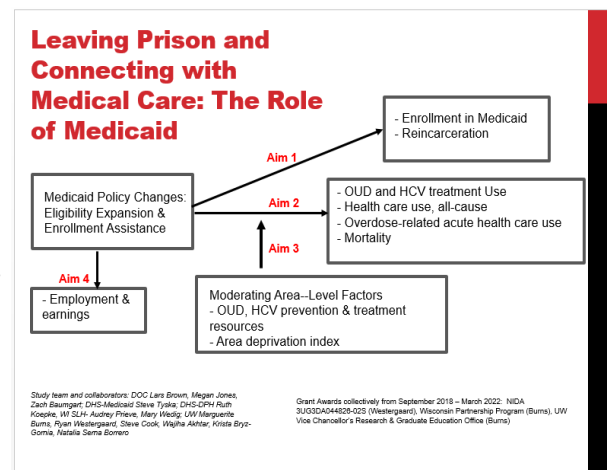
Aim 1: Enrollment in Medicaid

Aim 2: The degree to which coverage improves access post-release and care use in a variety of domains

Aim 3: How county area resources related to substance use prevention may moderate those effects

Aim 4: Employment and earnings

Dr. Burns reviewed Aim 3 due to the relevance for the Council. Aim 3 is to adapt and evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of a low cost, evidence-based transitional care program for increasing the use of outpatient medical care for incarcerated people with HIV, HCV and/or opioid use disorder (OUD). The Coordinated, Transitional Care (C-TraC) intervention is telephone-based and protocol-driven. The project goal is to enroll 220 individuals per year during implementation phase, 18-24 months, and if the program is successful, the intent is to implement the intervention more broadly. The study will first focus on the adaptation of C-TraC for the corrections population using a model the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends for replicating effective programs.



Culturally Competent Care for Justice-Involved: Cross Sector Collaboration

Dr. Sarah Reimer, Advocate Aurora Radiologist, Center for Urban Pop. Health affiliate

Dr. Reimer is a physician investigator with the Aurora Research Institute, an Affiliate with the Center for Urban Population Health, and a Radiologist and Nuclear Medicine physician with Advocate Aurora's Division of Imaging. She has also been instrumental in bringing the Transitions Clinic Network model to Milwaukee, WI. Dr. Reimer presented on Advocate Aurora Health (AAH) and Progressive Community Health Centers (PCHC) and why their organizations care about the justice-involved population.

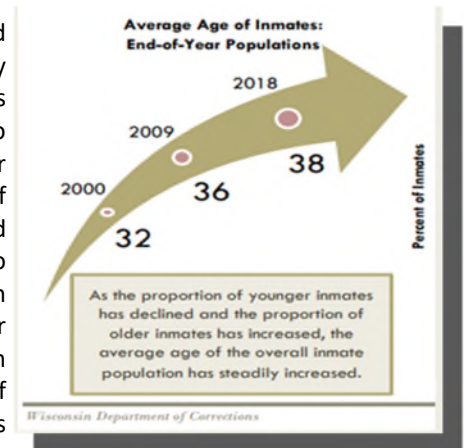
Dr. Reimer reviewed 10 years of DOC data and 10 years of data from Milwaukee County Jail and the DOC Milwaukee House of Corrections, and overlapped that with AAH electronic medical records to look at health care utilizations. The data showed 167,000 justice-involved individuals over the past 10 years and 109,000 are AAH patients, which is 65% of those involved with DOC. Dr. Reimer covered the justice-involved barriers to care, including: under insurance, criminal record discrimination by medical caregivers (40% reported discrimination), poverty (child care, transportation, etc.) and poor health literacy.

The Transitions Clinic Model focuses on the justice-involved and assists them with successful, healthy re-integration into their lives and neighborhoods. There are challenges for the Transition Clinics. The high demand for services may exceed capacity, there are shortages of substance abuse treatment and behavioral health care, and Community Health Workers (CHW) are not funded by state Medicaid which is necessary for sustainability. For all of these reasons, data integration is critical. Data integration includes health metrics and utilization, justice involvement, neighborhood socioeconomic, and housing instability. By breaking down data silos among agencies that serve vulnerable populations we can begin to address the root cause of behavior and prevent individuals from cycling through multiple systems.

Justice-Involved Long Term Care

Lars Brown, Reentry Disabilities Treatment Director, Department of Corrections
Kim Marheine, Ombudsman Services Supervisor, WI Board on Aging and Long Term Care

Lars Brown and Kim Marheine presented to the Council the efforts of the justice-involved long-term care workgroup to improve release planning for DOC's aging population as they prepare for prison release. From December of 2000 to 2018, the proportion of all persons under the care of WI DOC who are aged 45 or older increased by 125.8% (from 12.8% to 28.9%). During that same time, the proportion of persons under DOC care aged 24 or younger decreased by 53.5% (from 25.4% to 11.8%). Approximately 95 percent of incarcerated individuals will return to their communities at some point in their lives, and they will be older and frailer when they do. Long Term Care is another important way to connect a portion of the returning population to needed medical and support services. An area of concern is the lack of access to nursing homes and assisted living facilities for those with a history of justice-involvement. There is provider reluctance to admit them regardless of identified needs. The Ombudsman program speaks to the rights of individuals and this includes those with involvement in the justice system. Individuals releasing from a DOC facility in need of long term care require DOC staff to identify potential qualifying conditions, which includes frail older adults, people with disabilities, or people with intellectual/developmental disabilities. When an individual is identified by the DOC staff, they are referred to the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) to set up the functional screen. Each County has ADRC staff, and based on statute, are the only ones who can conduct the functional screen that identifies the level of need.



Above shows DOC has an Aging Incarcerated Population

Post-Secondary Education Consortium Sub-Committee of the Council of Offender Reentry

Benjamin Jones, Office of Programs & Services Education Coordinator, Department of Corrections

Ben Jones presented to the committee as a follow up to the December 11, 2019 council meeting. The proposed Post-Secondary Education Consortium Sub-Committee of the Council was approved by the Council. The committee will look at the collaboration across academic institutions that will serve our population and how can we create a collaborative approach between the technical colleges and universities to offer expanded post-secondary education opportunities.

Meeting 4 — June 24, 2020

MEDICAID SERVICES PROGRAM CHANGES AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER PROGRAMMING FOR INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE CARE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

The Council's fourth meeting focused on the Medicaid Eligibility Project, Food Share, and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Programming

Department of Health Services (DHS), Division of Medicaid Services (DMS) Program Changes

Rebecca McAtee, Director of Enrollment Policy and Systems, Department of Human Services
Autumn Arnold, Healthcare and Policy Section Chief, Division of Medicaid Services, Department of Health Services

Rebecca McAtee along with Autumn Arnold presented on the Medicaid process for incarcerated individuals. DHS is developing a process to suspend rather than terminate Medicaid eligibility when an individual becomes incarcerated. Under federal law, Medicaid is not currently able to pay for healthcare for individuals who are currently incarcerated. Historically, individuals are terminated from eligibility when they become incarcerated, therefore causing these individuals to reapply for coverage when they are released. Previously, DHS and DOC have worked together to streamline these processes and have effectively created a pre-release application process to help individuals reentering the community. Rebecca McAtee detailed the shift from termination to suspension and walked through the provisions to the Federal Support Act and explained the existing requirements to suspend instead of terminating medical eligibility for juveniles. DHS will be implementing this policy for all Medicaid eligible individuals, regardless of age.

The new policy will be effective October 2020 and currently there is no limit for how long a person's benefits can be suspended. Rebecca McAtee reported DHS deemed that as long as an individual is continuing to meet program rules their benefits will remain on hold indefinitely, and eligibility can be automatically reinstated, eliminating the need to reapply for benefits. DOC and DHS will work collaboratively through a data exchange system to assist in an eligibility evaluation and approval process of Medicaid prior to

Department of Health Services (DHS), Division of Medicaid Services (DMS) Program Changes Continued

an individuals release from a DOC facility. In regards to those housed in the county jail and their benefits have been suspended, DHS will be looking at how to streamline the process to assist with the automatic reinstatement of benefits upon release from a county jail.

FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET)

Rebecca McAtee, Director of Enrollment Policy and Systems, Department of Human Services

Courtney Harris, Foodshare Policy Section Chief, Division of Medicaid Services, Department of Health Services

Rebecca McAtee presented on the objectives of the FSET. FSET is Wisconsin's free and voluntary program that provides FoodShare members with educational courses, vocational training, and other support to build their job skills and to assist in career advancement or to obtain employment. The objective of FSET is to draw upon the strengths, needs and preferences of individual job seekers to provide services that will result in successful employment.

FSET participants may face barriers that make it difficult to participate in FSET and/or maintain employment.

- All FSET agencies provide supportive services that help facilitate a participant's ability to enroll and participate in FSET activities, and to retain employment gained as a result of participation in the program.
- Support services include but are not limited to bus passes or gas cards, child care, clothing for interview or for a job, class registration fees, safety items required for employment, and background checks.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Assessment, Treatment and Programming Activities

Alisha Krause, Treatment Director, Division of Adult Institutions, Department of Corrections

Alisha Krause, provided a general overview of the DOC's processes for SUD assessment, treatment and programming activities for individuals in our care. She compared the similarities and differences between male and female facilities. These differences are largely due to the implementation of gender-responsive programming to ensure that the agency is providing evidence based curriculum and programs for all persons in our care. Research indicates that there are substantial differences in an individual's risk and needs based on gender. Alisha Krause shared the agency's commitment to create gender-responsive programming and to provide programming that will be beneficial to both men and women.

Release planning is a large part of ensuring a releasing individual's reintegration is successful. Alisha Krause provided an overview of the release planning process which occurs during incarceration and continues till the individual is released into the community. Division of Adult Institutions (DAI) and Division of Community Corrections (DCC) work collaboratively with persons in our care to determine the best route for aftercare and/or ongoing treatment in the community. Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) options are reviewed and referrals are made. Vivitrol injections are offered pre-release at several DAI sites if the person voluntarily enrolls in the program. Some sites not offering Vivitrol are offering the tablet form of Naltrexone to persons in our care until they are able to be seen in the community.

As of May 29, 2020, DAI had 21,788 individuals in our care

⇒ 10,421 individuals in our care have an identified SUD need

⇒ 1,007 individuals in our care are currently enrolled in SUD programming

⇒ 924 individuals in our care have completed SUD programming during their current incarceration term

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for Individuals with Co-Occurring Disorders at Release from Prison

Lars Brown, Reentry Disabilities Treatment Director, Department of Corrections

The Reentry Unit supports the adult divisions' efforts to provide Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to individuals releasing from prison. The Reentry Unit funds the Opening Avenues to Reentry Success (OARS) program, which identifies and enrolls persons in our care with mental health treatment needs prior to their release from prison. The program provides housing, case management, psychiatric services including addiction treatment, as well as meeting many other individualized needs. Many OARS participants have an Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and benefit from the MAT they can receive prior to release from prison. Lars Brown, the Reentry Disabilities Treatment Director also oversees the Department's efforts to connect individuals to Medicaid programs prior to release from prison, which can provide Substance Use Disorder (SUD) treatment, including MAT once those individuals have returned to the community. Reentry Unit programs and initiatives provide a bridge for participants between DAI and DCC, and augment release planning and intake activities in those respective divisions.



Mission

- **Protect** the public, our staff, and those in our charge.
- **Provide** opportunities for positive change and success.
- **Promote**, inform, and educate others about our programs and successes.
- **Partner** and collaborate with community service providers and other criminal justice entities.

Core Values

We are accountable to each other and the citizens of Wisconsin.

- We manage our resources in an efficient, effective, sustainable, and innovative manner.
- We demonstrate competence and proficiency in the work necessary to accomplish our mission.
- We take individual responsibility for how we plan, perform, and manage our work.

We do what's right – legally and morally – as demonstrated by our actions.

- We value courage, candor, and conviction of purpose.
- We expect ethical behavior and integrity in all we do.
- We require honesty, adherence to the law, and the fair and equitable treatment of others.

We recognize employees as the department's most important resource.

- We work towards building a workforce of diverse individuals who achieve great things together.
- We recognize exemplary performance.
- We advocate in the best interest of our workforce.

We value safety for our employees, the people in our charge, and the citizens we serve.

- We provide the resources and training necessary for employees to safely accomplish our mission.
- We operate safe and secure facilities.
- We offer opportunities for offenders to become productive members of their communities.

We expect competence and professionalism in our communications, demeanor, and appearance.

- We demonstrate knowledge and skills within our areas of responsibility.
- We respond effectively and appropriately in our interactions and communications.
- We treat all people with dignity and respect.
- We recognize that we have one opportunity to make a positive first impression.

EVERY PERSON, EVERY FAMILY, EVERY COMMUNITY MATTERS

