

State of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Council on Offender Reentry Meeting Minutes for the Wisconsin Council on Offender Reentry March 20, 2024 | 1:30pm – 3:30pm Conducted Remotely via Microsoft Teams

Council Members Present:

Ray Woodruff, Winn Collins, Emily Propson, Carl Ashley, Melissa Roberts, Michele Carter, Jo Ann Hall, Jeannie Geraci, Marguerite Burns, Andrew Murphy, Nicole Miller, and Eric Boulanger,

Council Members Not Present: Corey Kleist, Emily Hynek, Elizabeth Lucas, Shannon Pierce, Paul Manriquez, Jerome Dillard, and Sharlene Lopez

Guests: Linda Palmer

Minutes:

Cawley Hubner, Department of Corrections

I. Chairperson's Welcome & Approval of Minutes

Ray Woodruff called to order the quarterly meeting of the Council on Offender Reentry at 1:33 PM, on March 20, 2024.

There were no requests to amend the minutes from the December 13, 2023 Council. Melissa Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes, and seconded by Marguerite Burns. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

Ray Woodruff provided a few updates to the Council. In the last meeting, the Council discussed data sharing and integration of systems between the DOC and other agencies. The DOC remains interested in continuing to explore data integration opportunities when we can with Council Partners (for Persons in our care at the institutions and clients in the community).

Ray discussed a meeting with the Department of Transportation and Council Member Corey Kleist for exploratory discussions for data sharing opportunities between the DOT and the DOC to assist and track individuals under DOC's supervision gaining State IDs, drivers licenses, and other vital documents. The Reentry Unit at the DOC does pay for people to receive IDs prior to release from incarceration and institution staff are also assisting persons in our care with vital documents. This data sharing could allow the DOC to better understand the number of individuals earning vital documents, as well as understanding barriers or what is preventing someone from gaining an ID. With data

integration, this could provide real-time discussions to assist DOC staff working with clients to gather these vital documents.

Additionally, Ray shared the DOC can provide support for Grants Solicitations, letters of support, and/or data points to assist partners with grant solicitations. DOC recently hired a grants coordinator position to assist the DOC (and partners) navigate the grant process. Ray recommended to the council to reach out as soon as able to help assist the DOC meet those requests.

II. Presentation – Client-Provider Information Sharing Application

Cawley Hubner, Reentry Budget Analyst, Department of Corrections

The DOC introduced to the council a client-provider information sharing application called Wisconsin Reentry Access Portal (WRAP).

Ray discussed that the DOC has been working on an application that would allow for information sharing between clients on DOC supervision, community-based providers, and the DOC. This application can act as a reentry planning tool and resource for clients to assist reintegration upon release from incarceration. This application can assist clients to take ownership of their reentry and working with the provider network.

Cawley Hubner provided an overview of the application and a demo of its uses from the Provider Perspective.

The DOC asked the Council to consider what suggestions and thoughts this group would have for the application. The DOC also shared some enhancements already in mind for this application for a Phase 2 development of the application.

- Council Member Jeanne Geraci mentioned potential issues with Healthcare providers and issues of HIPAA and how that may restrict what information can be shared via the application.
- Jeanne also mentioned the Benedict Center's interest in testing out the application and issues of potentially out-of-date information that may appear within the application. Referenced 211 and how that resource could be utilized with the application.
- Council Member Dr. Marguerite Burns asked how the decision of providing the COMPAS Risk and Needs Bar Chart for a client to a provider via the application (with Clients permission) was chosen.
 - Ray Woodruff mentioned discussions with providers during development of the application and how many providers do not have their own risk and needs assessment for clients, which is a critical evidence-based-practice to ensure case managers are targeting potential criminogenic areas that could cause the client to recidivate. Additionally, providers have finite resources, and can assist providers to consider their service delivery to clients based on their risk level to recidivate.
- Council Member Andrew Murphy noted the application and the reentry process for a client can be an overwhelming experience for clients, so to ensure that the DOC is aiding clients navigate the application and a checklist to consider for reentry resources to consider when nearing their release from incarceration.

The DOC thanked the Council for the suggestions and hope to have continued conversations with the council about the Wisconsin Reentry Access Portal and its continued development.

III. Agency Report-Outs

Ray asked the Council to share any updates from the Council members regarding their work with the justice involved population.

Council Member JoAnn Hall mentioned how Moraine Park Technical College (MPTC) and the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) are navigating 2nd Chance Pell and expanding opportunities for the justice involved. JoAnn also noted a few graduations over the next few months and seeking speakers from the DOC and the Reentry Unit to speak at these graduations.

Council Member Judge Carl Ashley noted a grant application made in conjunction with the Department of Housing to provide opportunities for individuals to reintegrate into the community.

Jeanne Geraci noted Assembly Bill 940 that was passed with unanimous bipartisan support in the Assembly and Senate for the Governor's signature. The funding bill will assist providers offering crime victim services offset the reduction of funding from the Federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) to Wisconsin crime victim service providers. This bill will assist this gap in funding for Fiscal Year 2025.

Ray closed the meeting and noted the next meeting will be in June. Ray hopes to have someone from the DOC speak on the MOUD Grant at MSDF to share with the council.

IV. Next Council Meeting

June 25, 2024, Meeting rescheduled to July 30, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 2:36 PM.