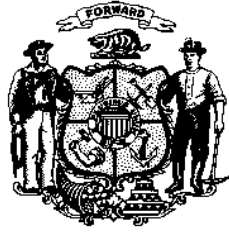


Tony Evers
Governor



State of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Council on Offender Reentry
Meeting Minutes for the Wisconsin Council on Offender Reentry
June 14, 2023 | 1:30pm – 3:30pm
Conducted Remotely via Zoom

Council Members Present:

Ray Woodruff, Beth Dodsworth, Hon. Ashley Carl, Michele Carter, Corey Kleist, Shannon Pierce, Mary Davies, Jeanne Geraci, Elizabeth Lucas, Nicole Miller, Eric Boulanger, Emily Hynek, Sharlene Lopez

Council Members Not Present: Melissa Roberts, Marguerite Burns, Robert Koebele, Winn Collins, Jerome Dillard, and Paul Manriquez

Vacant Seats: Department of Children & Family Services and State Public Defender

Minutes:

Kellie Blechinger, Department of Corrections

Chairperson's Welcome & Approval of Minutes

Ray Woodruff called to order the quarterly meeting of the Council on Offender Reentry at 1:30 PM, on June 14, 2023.

Ray introduced himself to the Council as the new Director of the DOC Reentry Unit and Chair of this Council.

There were no requests to amend the minutes from the December 14, 2022 Council. Mary Davies made a motion to approve the minutes, and seconded by Beth Dodsworth. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

Council Reappointment:

Ray shared Nicole Miller, Elizabeth Lucas, Sharlene Lopez, and Emily Hynek were approved for re-appointed. Unfortunately, we have two individuals who have served their max appointment times and are not eligible for re-appointment. Mary Davies representing WI

Technical College System and Robert Koebele representing a Faith Based Organization. Ray thanked them both for serving.

Representation Report-Outs

Ray asked for each individual report out on their agency projects/initiatives that support a reduction in recidivism and improved outcomes for our justice involved persons.

Department and/or agency representatives should be prepared to provide updates on initiatives and/or projects designed to reduce recidivism and/or improve outcomes for a justice-involved population

<p>Ray Woodruff, Department of Corrections</p>	<p>DOC Public Page has a multitude of resources available to the public. One of which data on those we serve. Under Resources > Data and Research there are interactive dashboards. The interactive dashboards have data representing prison populations, community supervision, recidivism, programs and much more. The dashboards provide a point-in-time of enrollment and completion for adult education, anger management, career technical education, cognitive behavioral, domestic violence, sex offender treatment, and substance use disorder.</p> <p>Significant impact on the reentry of PIOC is our institution-based job centers. This is a great partnership between our Department of Workforce Development, Workforce Development Boards and other entities to provide services to that population. The institution-based job centers provide PIOC with a job service account where they can then apply for jobs, interview for jobs, accept jobs, etc. all prior to their release.</p> <p>Another area that assists with stabilization of our PIOC is in the field of education and vocational training. DOC has contracted with technical colleges across the state. PIOC in our work release centers are able to attend campus instruction. Between January and the end of May 2023, 119 PIOC completed vocational educational programs.</p>
<p>Emily Hynek, District Attorney's Office</p>	<p>Jackson County District Attorney</p> <p>Jackson County has two DOC facilities. There is the Jackson Correctional Institution (Medium) and the Black River Correctional Center. Her office and staff look at sentences that allow for a person to enroll in the Earned Release Program to assist in their reentry.</p>

<p>Shannon Pierce, Parole Commission</p>	<p>Commissioner</p> <p>There is proposed legislation that all of the commissioner’s decisions to be made public. This could include deferrals, next hearing date, parole dates, etc.).</p>
<p>Sharlene Lopez, County Human Services</p>	<p>St. Croix County Health and Human Services Behavioral Health Administrator.</p> <p>County Board provided funding to hire two co-responders that work directly with the crisis program. They work in tandem with law enforcement. Their role allows for law enforcement to disengage when the situation does not arise to a level of emergency detention. The MH person can facilitate the meeting with the individual to de-escalate.</p> <p>There is one case manager who is designated for justice involved persons within the government center. The case manager assists the person connecting with community services.</p> <p>They have two community case managers to assist with connecting clients to housing, food assistance, and other basic life services.</p> <p>Behavioral health jail social worker. This allows for continuity for those individuals in the jail and a transition for services and support in the community upon their release.</p> <p>MAT program in the jail.</p> <p>CJCC has been working on diversion and deflection programming</p>
<p>Mary Davies</p>	<p>WI Technical College System, Associate Dean of Economic Workforce Development, Moraine Park Technical College</p> <p>There are 16 technical colleges 8 of them see programming in the prison system across the state. Moraine Park oversees all of the vocational and technical training programs at Fox Lake, Kettle Moraine, Waupun, Oshkosh and Taycheedah Correctional Institutions.</p> <p>Statewide, between all of the colleges, there are over 20 programs offered. Programs include, Barber, Cosmetology, Culinary, Auto Repair, and Welding, etc. We have vocational mobile lab for welding certification at Taycheedah Correctional. Kettle Moraine Correctional has a CNC mobile lab.</p> <p>Work release sites allow individuals (PIOC) to attend on-site campus. Burke center PIOC came to the Beaver Damn Campus to complete their certification in welding.</p>

	<p>2nd Chance Pell Campus include Milwaukee Area Technical College working with Kettle Moraine Correctional in which two associate degree programs are offered through the Pell funding. Madison Area Technical College and Moraine Parke are newly 2nd Chance Pell providers.</p>
<p>Beth Dodsworth</p>	<p>Department of Health Services, Bureau Director for Community Forensic Services</p> <p>The bureau oversees several community release programs, including supervised release for Ch. 980, conditional release for individuals committed under Ch 971.17 (NGI), two competency programs-competency evaluations and treatment to competency, and court liaison program. Also, we are partnered with DOC for individuals released from prison and are a part of the Opening Avenues to Reentry Success Program.</p> <p>DHS has expanded the 988 suicide and crisis line.</p> <p>WI partnered with National Center for START Services, Institute on Disability. The initiative is to strengthen efficiencies and service outcomes for people with intellectual and development disabilities.</p> <p>DHS continues to experience a wait list at the Mendota and Winnebago Mental Health facilities. Currently have about 158 on the waitlist. This is a statistic that has tripled since before COVID. Competency examinations have increased as well. This year they will complete 2200 evals and this is 900 more than before COVID. Approximately, 50% of the individuals are being found not competent. DHS has added 110 beds in the last 5 years.</p> <p>Beth announced she is retiring end of August.</p>
<p>Michele Carter</p>	<p>Department of Workforce Development, Administrator of the Division of Employment and Training</p> <p>The division includes, Bureau Job Service, Office of Veteran Employment Services, and Bureau of Apprenticeship. We cover Fast Forward Grants and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act with the 11 workforce development boards.</p> <p>Partner with DOC on the job labs in the correctional facilities (job centers). Currently working with Community Corrections by placing Job Net Computers in a few of the DCC office. Working with WI Resource Center to put the job net computers there.</p>

	<p>Very focused on the infrastructure bills across the state, broad band, transportation, clean energy and how we can continue to partner with DOC</p>
Cory Kleist,	<p>Department of Transportation, Director of Bureau of Driver Services</p> <p>DMVs interaction is with the PIOC ID Program to ensure they have ID's prior to the release from the DOC site.</p>
Judge Carl Ashley	<p>Milwaukee County, Circuit Court Branch 33</p> <p>Spoke of the need for resources need for MH, in addition to the bed space How do we get better outcomes with the funding we have? Redirect where we are sending our money Resources in lieu of incarceration</p>
Nicole Miller	<p>UW La Crosse Patrol Sergeant</p> <p>Happy about the positive efforts shared by the council members to set clients up for success.</p>
Elizabeth Lucas	<p>Department of Corrections, Office of Victim Services Director</p> <p>Work is focused on victim services and victim experience. In the long run the goal is for PIOC's to be successful, and she believes most victims would want that of the PIOC.</p> <p>She has 8 staff on her team and they serve approximately 25,000 victims who are enrolled in victim services program. Her office provides victim notification regarding the status of the person(s) who committed the crime against them, provided technical assistance to the jails for the VINE system, have a Victim Offender Dialogue Program, offer information and advocacy support to community partners.</p> <p>She serves on the Governor's Council on Domestic Violence (DV) and a subcommittee is working on statewide DV standards (programming). The Council is also working on creating a DV fatality review commission.</p> <p>Looking at senate bill 230 – if passed will impact on victim rights. Such as others being allowed in the room during a parole hearing. This brings concern to victim privacy. Public notification to Law Enforcement of release, with the victims being notified prior to Law Enforcement to maintain respect and dignity for victims.</p>
Jeanne Geraci	<p>Executive Director, Benedict Center</p>

	<p>Benedict Center is located in Milwaukee and they work with women at all points of the CJ system, including reentry. They have a licensed outpatient mental health clinic. Provide community support for the women as they have data which shows that as these women have committed crimes they are very much victims as well (sex trafficking, domestic violence, etc.)</p> <p>Working on a pre-arrest diversion program with Milwaukee Police Department for women in the Street Based Sex Trade. The leadership group consists of women impacted by sex trafficking. One of the major concerns identified is homelessness and needing a safe place to sleep. The majority of women are trading sex for a place to sleep. Created a partnership with the Milwaukee County Housing System. HUD-now recognizing sex trafficking as one of the risks to assist women who are fleeing violence. In a year they will reach up to 500 women in the sex trade.</p>
Eric Boulanger	<p>Chief of Police, Oneida Nation</p> <p>Working with DOC in the implementation of a Wellness Court</p>

Next Council Meeting

September 20, 2023

1:30 - 3:30 PM

Meeting adjourned at 2:54PM