



Dane County, WI
210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Madison, WI 53703



DATE: December 5, 2022

MEMO TO: CJC-Racial Disparities Subcommittee Co-Chairs

MEMO FROM: Colleen Clark Bernhardt, CJC Coordinator

SUBJECT: Community Justice Center Initiative/Community Court Initiative

Dane County Criminal Justice Council, now renamed the Dane County Community Justice Council, received a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) grant for planning and implementation of the community court/community justice initiative. The grant is a four year grant with approximately \$600,000 federal funds, and a 25 percent Dane County in-kind match requirement.

The BJA budget is currently under review upon finalization of the 2023 Dane County operating budget. In the 2023 budget, a community court coordinator was proposed by the County Executive and approved by the Board of Supervisors. The personnel change (grant funded versus general purpose revenue) is reflected in the recently resubmitted grant budget.

Upon BJA approval of the updated budget, operationalizing the new community court initiative subcommittee can begin with an invitation from Chair of the CJC, Carlo Esqueda to current CJC-Racial Disparities Subcommittee members with an additional community representatives as envisioned in the motion this body recommended at the last meeting. Thank you for the ongoing commitment to effectively and collaboratively addressing change in our criminal justice system. I will be honored to update the subcommittee on approvals and next steps at a future meeting.