



Criminal Justice Initiatives Overview

May 2018

Public Protection and Judiciary Committee



**DANE COUNTY CRIMINAL
JUSTICE COUNCIL**



2017 Wins

- 2017—A year of Innovation, Expansion and Collaboration
 - MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge
 - Criminal Justice Council website developed
 - Pretrial Initiative
 - Data Driven Justice –Applied Data Analytics
 - National League of Cities
 - Community Conversation –Implicit Bias in criminal justice

MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge

- Rethinking America's Jails
 - The Safety and Justice Challenge is providing support to local leaders from across the country who are determined to tackle one of the greatest drivers of over-incarceration in America—the misuse and overuse of jails
 - <http://www.safetyandjusticechallenge.org/>



Supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

The Challenge Network

40 National Sites—adding more implementation and innovation sites in 2018-2019

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Safety and Justice Challenge website. The browser address bar displays 'http://www.safetyandjusticechallenge.org/'. The page features the organization's logo, a navigation menu with links for 'About Jails', 'About the Challenge', 'The Challenge Network', 'Blog', 'News', 'Resources', and 'SJC Exchange', and a 'SIGN UP' button. A map of the United States is displayed with 40 location pins, representing the national sites. The map includes labels for major cities like Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York, and states like California, Texas, and Florida. The map is credited to Mapbox and OpenStreetMap.

All Sites

Ada County, ID
Adams County, CO
Allegheny County, PA
Broward County, FL
Buncombe County, NC
Campbell County, TN
Charleston County, SC
City of Atlanta, GA
City and County of San Francisco, CA

Cook County, IL
Dane County, WI
Deschutes County, OR
Durham County, NC
East Baton Rouge Parish, LA
Harris County, TX
Lake County, IL
Los Angeles County, CA
Lucas County, OH

Mesa County, CO
Milwaukee County, WI
Minnehaha County, SD
Missoula County, MT
Multnomah County, OR
New Orleans, LA
New York, NY
Palm Beach County, FL
Pennington County, SD

Pima County, AZ
Polk County, IA
St. Louis County, MO
Santa Clara County, CA
Shelby County, TN
Spokane County, WA
The State of Connecticut
State of Delaware
Summit County, OH

Dane County, Wisconsin

Summary

Dane County, located in the southern part of the state, is the second-most-populous county in Wisconsin and encompasses the city of Madison and the surrounding region. In 2017, the Community Restorative Court will be expanded countywide. The Community Restorative Court, with its mission “Repair Harm, Reduce Risk, and Rebuild the Community”, uses restorative justice principles to divert youth ages 17-25 from the traditional criminal justice system. The program reduces recidivism and builds communities using a restorative justice model. Participation in the program provides a young person who has committed a low-level offense the opportunity to work with community members to ensure accountability, determine restitution, and repair the harm done. One key outcome of the CRC is to address racial disparities within the criminal justice system.

Lead Agency

Dane County Department of Human Services

Partners

The Dane County Criminal Justice Council, the District Attorney’s Office, the Madison Police Department, the University of Wisconsin Law School, the Dane County Chief’s Association, and the CRC Advisory Board.

Population Size

509,939

Jail Capacity

1,013

Dane County, WI

Dane County Department of Human Services

INNOVATION

The Community Restorative Court (CRC) will utilize restorative justice principles to divert young adults (17-25), who have committed a low-level offense, from the traditional criminal justice system.



County Population: 509,939

Jail Capacity: 1,013

ACHIEVEMENTS

Expanded the CRC and trained 41 new peacemakers.

--94% successfully completed their repair harm agreement.

--Held Community Service Project fundraising event for restitution fund.

--Conducted community engagement activities to build knowledge on restorative justice efforts and the CRC.

--With Code for America, implemented a text messaging reminder system.

--Conducted Innovation Competition for Tech - Heroes and selected TimeBank to produce informational videos on restorative justice and the CRC.

Criminal Justice Council Website

- General Info
 - Meetings
 - Initiatives
 - Dashboards
 - In the News
- <http://cjc.countyofdane.com>



Pretrial and the PSA

The Public Safety Assessment (PSA)

Following a person's arrest, a judge must decide whether that person should:

be released
to await trial.



be detained
in jail to
await trial.



A judge considers many factors in making this decision. One tool that judges may use to help make this decision is the PSA.



PSA Details

- Publicly available tool.
- National research and validation

Dane County, WI

- Two Pretrial Assessors
- Partnership with Harvard University— Access to Justice Lab
- Randomized Control Test (RCT)

The PSA produces a score that represents the likelihood that a defendant who is released before trial will commit a new crime or will fail to appear for a future court appearance.

The PSA also flags the small number of defendants who pose an elevated risk of committing a crime of violence if released before trial.

The PSA score is calculated based on nine factors.

Current violent offense	Pending charge at the time of the offense	Prior misdemeanor conviction
Prior felony conviction	Prior violent conviction	Prior failure to appear pretrial in past 2 years
Prior failure to appear pretrial older than 2 years	Prior sentence to incarceration	Age at current arrest

The PSA does NOT look at any of the following factors:

The PSA provides information that is race- and gender-neutral. It helps guide pretrial decision making in an effort to increase safety, reduce taxpayer costs, and enhance fairness and efficiency in the system.

The PSA was developed from research using data from across the United States.

The PSA score is not the only information that a judge considers, and the final decision will always be made by a judge.

Data Driven Justice (DDJ)

Counties are developing strategies to address two key populations that drive jail populations:

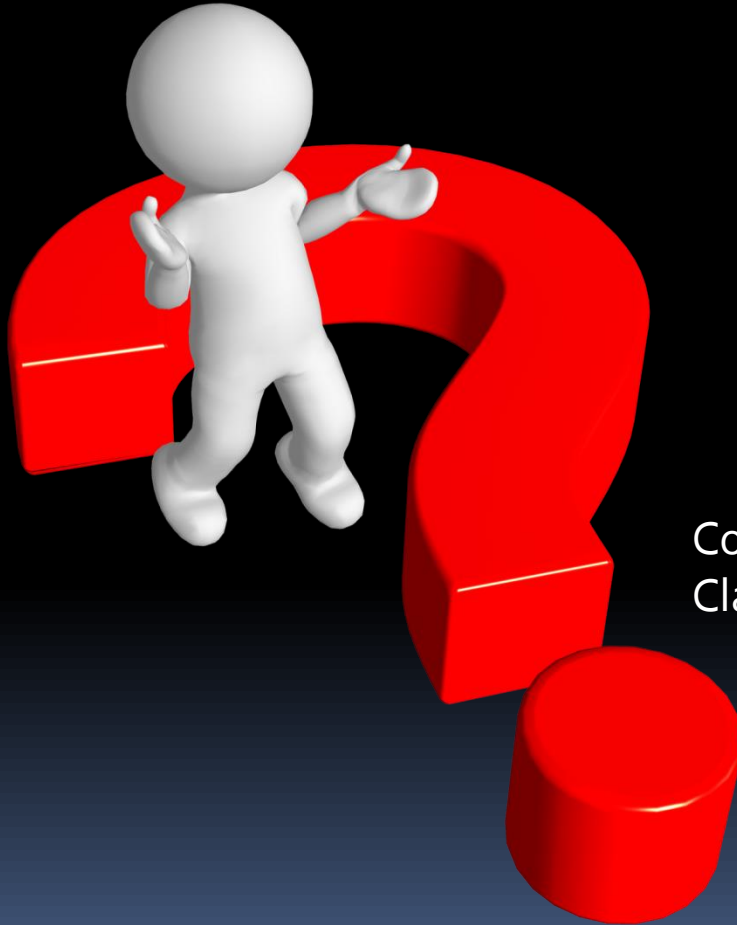
“Frequent utilizers” who are often chronically homeless individuals with mental illness, substance abuse and health problems who repeatedly cycle through multiple systems, including jails, hospital emergency rooms, shelters and other services; and

People held in jail before trial because they cannot afford to bond out, not because they are a risk to the community or a risk of flight.



Data-Driven Justice: Disrupting the Cycle of Incarceration

Questions?



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