

1.How have you (agency) helped keep Dane County residents safer during the COVID-19 crisis?

2.What challenges do you currently face--and/or foresee in the future?



Questions from Community



The Dane County criminal justice system partners and parts of the community have worked cooperatively and diligently to reduce the jail population to minimize the impact of COVID-19. What lessons have you learned from the various efforts and strategies that have been employed? Which of these can be safely continued after the end of the pandemic so that the Dane County jail population can remain at a lower level than it was prior to the pandemic?

Paul Saeman and Jeanie Verschay

MOSES Members

Co-leads of the MOSES Justice System Reform Initiative



I am concerned that incarcerated people are still being moved around the state. I know one individual personally who has been moved between county jails during the pandemic and I've heard stories about movement between prisons. The reports we get from Dane County Sheriff's Office and WI Department of Corrections don't reconcile with what we are hearing from incarcerated people and families across the state. When and how can we get a conversation going with members of the CJC and advocacy groups? We are having two completely separate conversations that are counterproductive to the public safety goals we all share.

Karen Reece, PhD



What is the status of the James Austin follow-up study on the racial disparity impact of recommendations found in the 2019 JFA Stress Test Report to the CJC? Will Dr. Austin give an update to the CJC in a publicly available setting?

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Background: At the January 23, 2020 CJC meeting, Jeff Reichman, January Advisors recommended [expanding] "eligibility for existing programs, such as the Community Restorative Court (CRC) and various drug programs, to include more offenses, broaden the qualified age range, and make it available for second-time offenders." In a February 4, 2020 correspondence with MOSES immediate past president, Dr. Jonathan Scharrer, UW Law School Project Director for Restorative Justice indicated that the Community Restorative Court is capable of handling more complex cases and individuals than currently in practice, including increasing the age range beyond 25 and expanding beyond a first offender's program.

Question: In view of the CJC's retraction of the BJA funding request for a community court study and their suggestion to consider redirecting funds toward CRC expansion, is the CJC willing to consider CRC expansion opportunities "to include more offenses, broaden the qualified age range, and make it available for second-time offenders"?

Barbie Jackson

Member of MOSES Diversion Focus Group

