



The Dane County Criminal Justice Council (CJC)

History and current work

Colleen Clark Bernhardt, CJC Coordinator

Presented to Public Protection and Judiciary, June 2022

National, State and local best practice—coordinating councils

- ▶ Criminal justice coordinating councils (CJCCs) emerged as early as the 1970s as a means to create systemic responses to specific problems facing local jurisdictions such as jail crowding and domestic violence but waned over time. The concept of the CJCC has begun to emerge again as an effective means for improving public safety, creating system-based approaches to justice issues, reducing duplication of effort and conflicting practices, and improving how local jurisdictions allocate limited justice system resources. The National Network of Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (NNCJCC) is a formal network of staff and leadership of local CJCCs that provides a forum for peer-to-peer learning among Network members and information sharing nationally to build capacity for CJCCs around the country

Justice Management Inc (JMI)

- ▶ NACO CJCC
 - ▶ <https://www.naco.org/blog/resources-criminal-justice-coordinating-councils-cjccs>
- ▶ State of Wisconsin CJCC
- ▶ <https://cjcc.doj.wi.gov>
- ▶ Dane County CJC
- ▶ <https://cjc.countyofdane.com>



The Dane
County CJC
was formed in
2006 via
County
Ordinance.
Chapter 15

- ▶ ***“The Dane County Criminal Justice Council shall: (a) provide an on-going forum for collaboration and coordinated leadership among criminal justice agencies, (b) Facilitate the implementation of effective, efficient, data-driven criminal justice policies and practices that maximize justice, equity, and the safety of the public, (c) Monitor and ensure accountability of the criminal justice system, (d) Provide program oversight for criminal justice initiatives.” (Dane County Ordinance 15.46)***



Justice. Equity. Safety.

- ▶ Focused on maximizing justice, equity, and the safety of the public, the Criminal Justice Council of Dane County is committed to progress and innovation in all aspects of the criminal justice realm. Composed of major criminal justice leaders and stakeholders, the CJC strives to make equitable and evidence-based improvements for the county through initiatives and long-term projects.
- ▶ The CJC encourages community involvement through monthly public meetings where members of the community are invited to make public comment.

Communicating,
Collaborating,
and Connecting
the dots.





Brief History

- Criminal Justice Council :
 - Members: Falk, Foust, Blanchard, Esqueda, Mahoney, McDonell 2008
 - Members: Esqueda, Ozanne, Parisi, Miles, Barrett, Bailey-Rihn, Rhodes-Conway, Patterson, Dorl, Andrae, Meuer, Enger, Chapin 2022
- Three Subcommittees: Racial Disparities, Pretrial Improvements, Behavioral Health
- CJC-RD Members: White, Ozanne, Pellebon, Bauman, Chance, Tye, Triggs, Dorl, Sparkman,
- CJC-PT Members: McNamara, Esqueda, Ozanne, Dorl, Kostelic, Porter, Clark-Bernhardt, Enger
- CJC-BH Members: Mbanai, Tessman, Shimko, Bixler, Hyatt, Dorl, Ozanne, Triggs, Chapin, Enger

CJC
2006

RD
2009

PT
2015

BH
2020

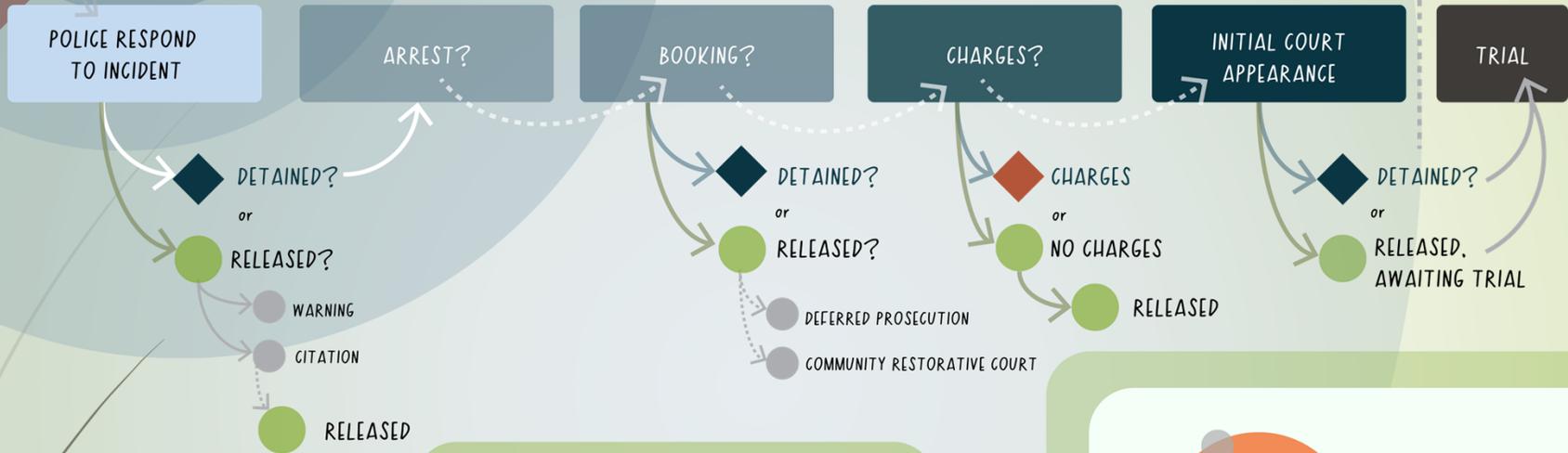
CRC
Community Justice
Center
Data with racial equity
lens

Legacy Site-PSA
Pretrial improvement
Planning new PT dept
Harvard A2J Lab—PSA
Randomize Control Trial

SIM
Familiar Faces
BH Innovations
Crisis Triage Center

police are dispatched from distinct municipal departments, data across the county remains "siloed."

criminal justice system in Dane County, Wisconsin?



Who is arrested? Why?
 What proportion of people arrested...
 ...have committed misdemeanors?
 ...have a prior record?
 ...are people of color?

KEY QUESTIONS

How does a person move through the system? What patterns do we see across groups, places, or time?

Who is released? Who is detained?
 How long do people wait before they are released from jail?

Who is charged? What violations are people most frequently charged with? Could some people charged with the most frequent state statute violations be eligible for...
 ...pre-arrest diversion?
 ...Community Restorative Court?



Early analysis using data from distinct "silos" across the system is beginning to reveal informative patterns.

NEW INSIGHTS are guiding the Dane County Criminal Justice Council and community partners as they shape policies and procedures to support SAFER, FAIRER, FRONT-END JUSTICE.



Local and National Partners with the Dane County CJC

- MacArthur Foundation: Safety and Justice Challenge
- Harvard University: Access to Justice Lab
- Policy Research Inc (PRI)
- NACO
- Vera Institute of Justice
- JFA Institute
- UW Justice Lab
- (More information is available at the CJC website: cjc.countyofdane.com)



Questions?

➤ Colleen Clark-Bernhardt

➤ Clark.colleen@countyofdane.com

➤ 6082663022

➤ CJC WEBSITE: cjc.countyofdane.com