

PRESENTED BY COLLEEN CLARK BERNHARDT, CJC COORDINATOR

APRIL 2023

STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF PAST WORK

 FOR DECADES RESIDENTS OF COLOR WERE DISCUSSING AND DOCUMENTING THE RACIAL DISPARITIES OF THE MADISON AREA REGION—FROM HOUSING, EDUCATION, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS—AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

- IN 2007, GOV. JIM DOYLE COMMISSIONED A TASK FORCE ON REDUCING RACIAL DISPARITIES
 IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE. CO-CHAIRS SPENCER COGGS AND NOBLE WRAY
- IN 2008, DANE COUNTY CREATED THE TASK FORCE ON RACIAL DISPARITIES WITH COMMUNITY ADVOCATES, SYSTEM ACTORS, AGENCY DIRECTORS, AND RESEARCHERS.

OVER 80 RECOMMENDATIONS, STARTING WITH A "CALL TO ACTION" FOR ALL

COLLABORATIVE BODY THAT MET FOR OVER A YEAR

STAFFED BY THE DANE COUNTY OFFICE OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

USED AS A LAUNCH PAD FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE CHANGES IN POLICY, PRACTICE AND PROCEDURAL SHIFTS

GALVANIZED GRANT FUNDING AND LOCAL INVESTMENT TO
INCREASE RACIAL EQUITY



Dane County Office of Equal Opportunity

DANE COUNTY TASK FORCE ON RACIAL DISPARITIES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Final Report

September 2009

Celia M. Jackson and Laurie Mlatawou

Co-Chairs



CJC of Dane County

Evolution

BUILDING FOUNDATIONS

- Formalize collaboration towards the shared goals of racial equity and public safety.
- Build trust between stakeholders, which ultimately contributes to greater coordination and data-sharing.
- Work on recommendations of the 2009 Task Force on Racial Disparities.
- Begin work in evidence-based decision-making.
- Begin racial equity and social justice initiative (RESJ).
- Quarterly meetings; no formal subcommittees.

LEARNING COLLECTIVELY

- Strengthen partnership with regular meetings, reports, and recommendations from local and national experts.
- Begin partnership with Center for Court Innovation (CCI).
- A group of Dane
 County CJC
 representatives,
 including a judge,
 attend the Pretrial
 Justice Policy Forum
 in Washington D.C.
 and share a report
 with pretrial
 recommendations to
 the CJC.
- The Racial Disparities subcommittee becomes a permanent subcommittee.
- Monthly meetings.

CREATING CHANGE

- Launch of the Community
 Restorative Court (CRC). The program has been highlighted as a national promising practice by the Bureau of Justice Assistance.
- Hire a full-time
 Research Analyst in
 accordance with top
 recommendation of
 RES-556.
- Implement the Public Safety Assessment (PSA), a standardized risk assessment in pretrial and developed a research partnership with Harvard University.
- Receive a grant to provide implicit bias training.
- The Pretrial
 subcommittee
 becomes a permanent
 subcommittee.

INCREASING CAPACITY

- Member agencies sign a Memorandum of Understanding for data-sharing, allowing CJC to use data and gains a national reputation as a strong research partner.
- Begin "Familiar Faces" initiative to identify people who were cycling in and out of the jail.
- Continue to work with national leaders around racial equity, lower jail populations, and pretrial reform.
- The Behavioral Health subcommittee becomes a permanent subcommittee.

MAINTAINING AND EVOLVING

- Member agencies coordinate during the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic to decarcerate.
- Support ongoing work to create of a crisis triage center.
- Focus community engagement in the community justice center initiative.
- Receive a \$600,000 grant to create and pilot a community court.
- The CJC's name was officially changed to "Community Justice Council" and membership of CJC and subcommittees was expanded to include three community members.
- The Community Court Advisory Committee becomes a temporary subcommittee.



2010-2014

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE



PRETRIAL REFORMS

Report to the Dane County Criminal Justice Council

Pre-trial Services Subcommittee August 22, 2014

Pre-trial Services Subcommittee Members

Todd Meurer, Chair, Circuit Court Commissioner
Michelle Viste, Deputy District Attorney
John Tradewell, SPD Local Attorney Manager
Jeff Kostelic, Executive Assistant to County Executive
Lt Gordon Bahler, Dane County Sheriff's Office
Colleen Clark-Bernhardt, Equity Coordinator / CJC Coordinator

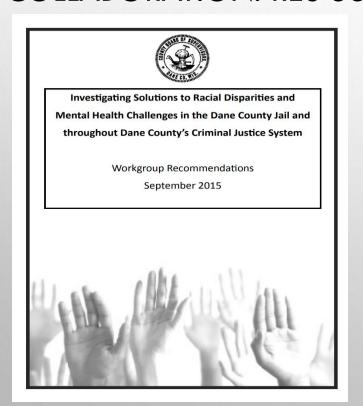
Assisted by

Julie Beyler, Lead Social Worker, Alternatives to Incarceration Program
Lance Wiersma, Chief, Region 1, Department of Corrections
Hon. Nicholas McNamara, Circuit Judge Branch 5
Gail Richardson, District Court Administrator



2014-2016

INCREASING LOCAL COLLABORATION: RES 556



ADDING RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

CENTER

F O R

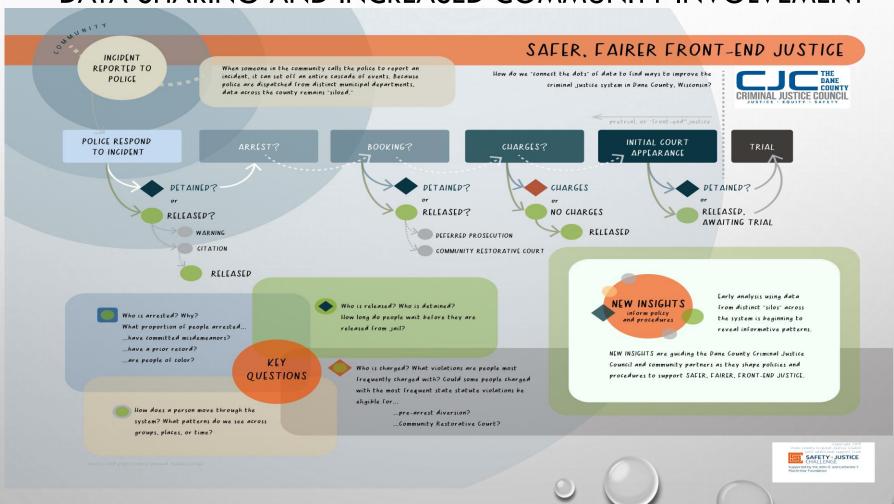
COURT

INNOVATION

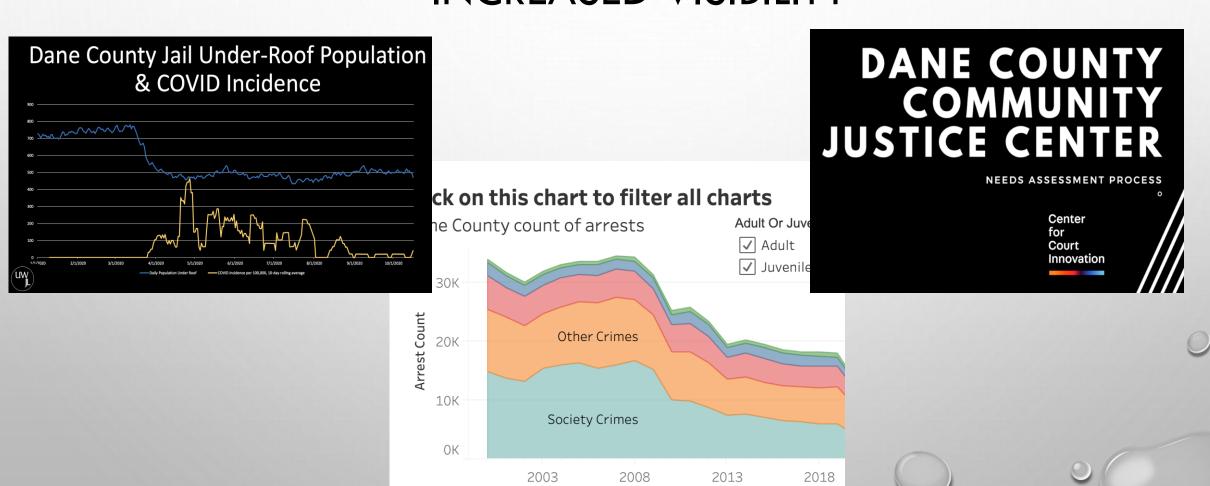


Bureau of Justice Assistance, Center for Effective Public Policy, The Perception Institute, Arnold Ventures, Vera Institute of Justice, MacArthur Foundation SJC

2017-2019 DATA SHARING AND INCREASED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



2019-PRESENT DATA PARTNERSHIPS, COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTER, INCREASED VISIBILITY



Year



QUESTIONS?

• COLLEEN CLARK BERNHARDT, CJC COORDINATOR

CLARK.COLLEEN@COUNTYOFDANE.COM