

2019 Year In Review



2019 Criminal Justice Council Members: Joe Parisi, *County Executive*; Ismael R. Ozanne, *District Attorney*; Sharon Corrigan, *Chair of Board of Supervisors*; Dave Mahoney, *Sheriff*; Carlo Esqueda, *Clerk of Courts*; Honorable Valerie Bailey-Rihn, *Presiding Circuit Court Judge*. **Advisory Members:** Aaron Chapin, *Chief of Shorewood Hills Police*; Catherine Dorl, *Public Defender*; Troy Enger, *Department of Corrections Regional Chief*; John Patterson, *Assistant Chief of Madison Police Department*; Todd Meurer, *Municipal Judge*; Cameron McLay, *Deputy Mayor of City of Madison*; Maureen McCarville, *Chair of Public Protection and Judiciary Committee*

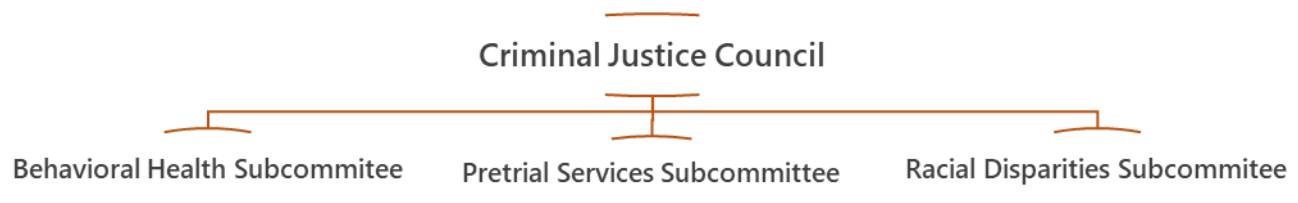


Working harder.

The Hard Work Continues

The road to criminal justice improvement is long and mired with potholes and challenging intersections—but in Dane County, the Criminal Justice Council (CJC) is making headway. Developing unique partnerships with national experts, local leaders, and other stakeholders, the work of 2019 has focused on behavioral health, racial equity, accurate data, and community engagement. As the first county in the State of Wisconsin to move intensively into data sharing agreements, data integration and analysis, Dane County is headed in the right direction. Focusing our efforts on data, in a racial equity framework, has led to analysis that may yield benefits to not only county stakeholders, but also the families and communities of those individuals most impacted by the criminal justice system. Use of accurate data is not enough to make improvements—we need the story behind the data. This year, the CJC has engaged in multiple community events, conversations, and hopefully, new powerful partnerships.

The intersection between criminal justice and behavioral health is a common—and sometimes—deadly one. In 2019, the CJC moved to create a subcommittee dedicated to finding effective solutions to this intersection. The CJC-Behavioral Health Subcommittee builds on past efforts, brings together advocates and stakeholders, and develops recommendations moving forward. Each report, analysis, policy or program is reviewed with a racial equity frame. As we look to a new decade, racial equity, data, and evidence based practices, will help guide the work. The CJC looks forward to 2020—new partnerships, new champions for change, and more equitable results.



Safer, Fairer Front—End Justice

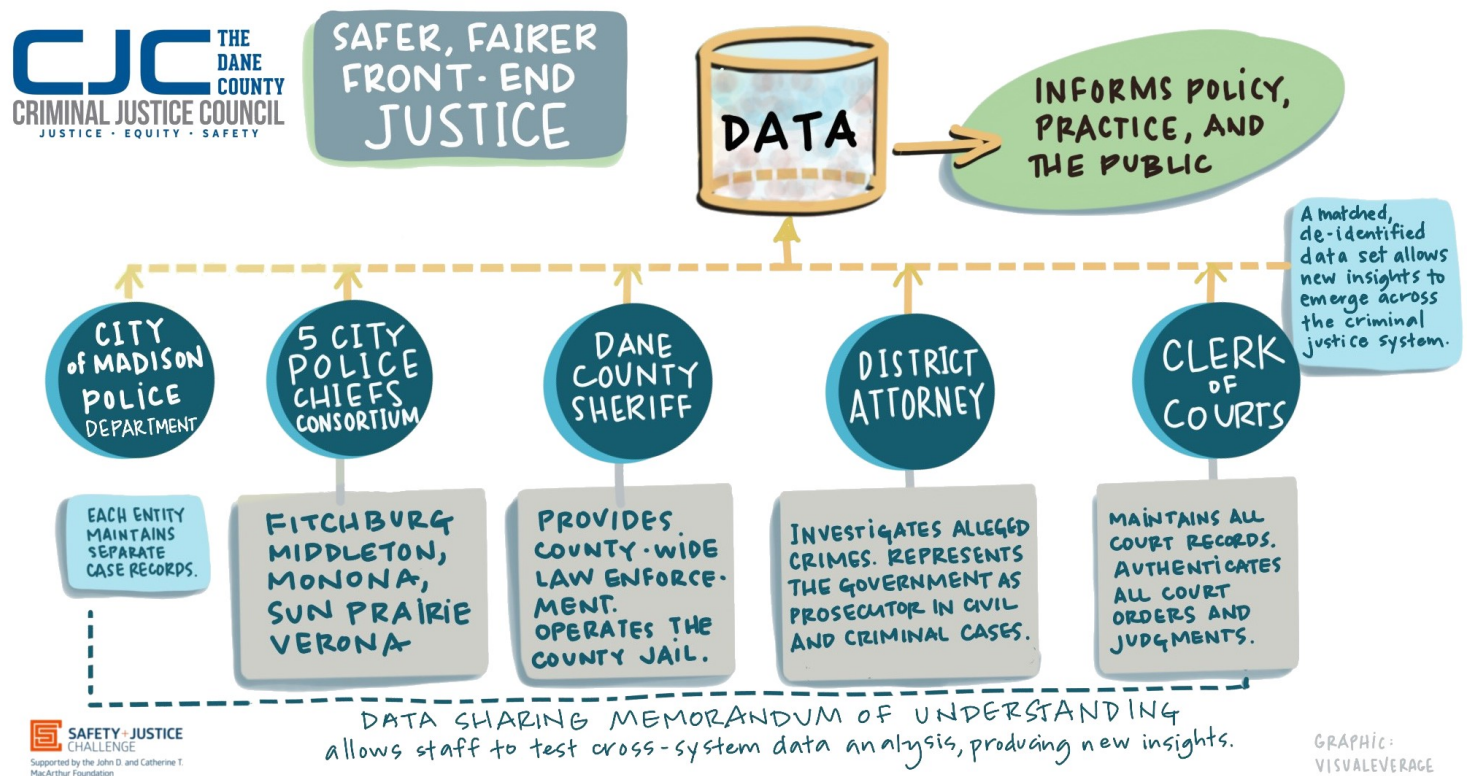
The Dane County Criminal Justice Council was awarded a grant to focus specifically on the early stages of the criminal justice system: law enforcement contact, booking, and initial court appearance. With this information, the CJC focused on engaging community members as key to understanding the stories behind the numbers.

The CJC Research and Innovation Team collaborated with the specific county agencies, as well as national experts to create a data model. Once completed, the data model allows people who work in the criminal justice system to see how individual people move through the system and who is released or detained while awaiting trial. This analysis emphasizes racial equity, as researchers can see who is incarcerated pretrial compared to who is released by race, sex, and age.

Through the Capstone Project, the CJC hosted three large community events about the pretrial process. In June, the CJC hosted a community conversation on pretrial justice in Dane County featuring the CEO of Pretrial Justice Institute, Cherise Fanno Burdeen, Wisconsin State Public Defender Kelli Thompson, Dane County Circuit Court Judge Nicholas McNamara, and Dane County Clerk of Courts Carlo Esqueda. About 70 community members attended and asked the local and national experts questions about pretrial justice.

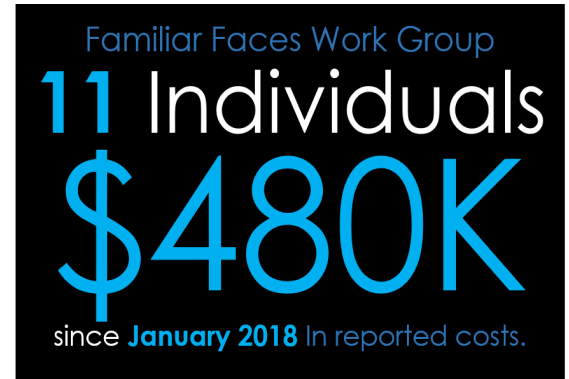
The CJC also hosted two community dinners in September to discuss more about the different parts of the pretrial process. Captain Matt Tye from Madison Police Department, Dane County District Attorney Ismael Ozanne, and Clerk of Courts Carlo Esqueda summarized their roles in the pretrial process and answered public questions in small groups. Moving forward, the CJC will continue this commitment to community engagement and collaboration. The CJC welcomes and encourages collaboration with advocacy organizations, non-profits, and other community partners.

This project was made possible by a data-sharing agreement between Madison, Fitchburg, Middleton, Monona, Sun Prairie, and Verona Police Departments, the Dane County Sheriff's Office, the Dane County District Attorney, Dane County Clerk of Courts, and Dane County Circuit Court Judges. The Capstone Project was funded and supported by the Urban Institute and the MacArthur Foundation.



Familiar Faces: Determining High Utilizers of Multiple Systems and Developing Change

The Familiar Faces project aims to reduce the revolving door of criminal justice and serious mental illness and substance use. The project uses data to drive evidence-based practices through ongoing, intentional discussion among key stakeholders. The goal of this effort is to provide better services and break the cycle of incarceration for those experiencing serious mental illness and substance use issues. The collaborative team includes staff from the Dane County Sheriff's Office, Madison Police Department, Dane County Human Services, Wellpath (medical provider within the jail), Wisconsin Department of Corrections, and the CJC Research and Innovation team. The Data-Driven Justice Familiar Faces workgroup met for over six months to complete a deep analysis—on a case by case basis—of the top individuals with serious mental illness and frequent utilization of multiple systems. This report and analysis provides an opportunity to strategize around better paths to health for these residents utilizing different agencies, partners, or programs.



Recommendations include: develop an alert system to quickly identify jail booking of a familiar face and provide wrap around services to the individual; convene local private and public entities that share a commitment to reducing the cycle of frequent utilization; review financial models for shared and improved outcomes; and to learn more about data sharing across criminal justice and behavioral health systems. The full report is available on the CJC website under “Reports.”

New Subcommittee: CJC-Behavioral Health!

The Criminal Justice Council created the Behavioral Health Subcommittee in May of 2019, and it began meeting two months later on July 18th. There are 11 members collaborating from a range of criminal justice and mental health agencies to address the important issues the subcommittee faces. The subcommittee aims to use evidence-based practices, such as the Sequential Intercept Model to 1) defer and deflect individuals with behavioral health challenges from the criminal justice system; 2) improve individual- and system-level services for those in the target population at each point of the criminal justice system; and 3) support individuals returning to the community to reduce recidivism and establish greater opportunities for improving public safety and public health outcomes for people with mental and behavioral health disorders.

Subcommittee meetings are the third Friday of every month at noon, and they are open to the public. See our web site for information on our meetings and events.

Identifying the Drivers of the Dane County Jail Population

The Dane County Criminal Justice Council contracted the JFA Institute, a national expert in criminal justice policy analysis, to examine the external and internal factors driving the Dane County jail population. Through this study, the CJC can use data to move to a safer, smaller jail. The JFA Institute determined the top causes of jail time to be in pretrial status (with 29 percent with Holds), sentenced population and those waiting to be transferred out to another criminal justice agency. Safely reducing the jail population will take ongoing work by all the stakeholders in the CJC. A secondary analysis featuring data on race, ethnicity, gender, and age will be available in the Spring of 2020.

The full report is available on the CJC website under “Reports.”

Examining the Use of Risk Assessment in Dane County

2019 marked the third year that the CJC engaged in an intensive research project around the pretrial process. The CJC Research and Innovation Team and the Access to Justice (A2J) Lab at Harvard Law School collaborated on a randomized control trial of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA). The PSA is a pretrial release tool to calculate the potential risk of recidivism and non-appearance to court dates. Over the two year study period, half of pretrial detainees were randomly selected to be assessed using the PSA and half were not, based upon the last digit of their case number. Researchers will examine how pretrial release decisions are made (with and without the recommendations from a PSA), the impact the release decision has on future court appearances, as well as impact on jail population. This project was funded by Arnold Ventures. The quarterly reports are available on the CJC website under “Reports.”

A First Look at Police Enforcement Data in Six Dane County Jurisdictions

The CJC Research and Innovation Team examined police enforcement data from the police departments of the cities of Fitchburg, Madison, Middleton, Monona, Sun Prairie, and Verona from 2016. Police enforcement contacts refer to an interaction ending with legal action, which could be either a citation, an arrest without booking, or an arrest with booking. This analysis looked at the individual person level so researchers can determine what happens to each person rather than looking at aggregate demographics. This allows stakeholders to see the number of police enforcement contacts, charges, and different agencies involved with individuals. The full report is available on the CJC website under “Reports.”

CJC on video?

Due to budget constraints, the CJC cannot film every meeting. However, key meetings are recorded. Below is a listing and clickable links to the recorded meetings:

- ☛ CJC RD—December 2019: [Burns Institute for Racial Justice](#)
- ☛ CJC—August 2019: [JFA Institute –Jail Stress Test](#)
- ☛ Community Event —June 2019: [Pretrial Justice—What is it and why does it matter?](#)

Links are also available on the CJC website at <http://cjc.countyofdane.com/> in the Meetings and Events section.

Upcoming Initiatives

County Justice Peer Learning Network

In a nod to their long-term commitment to look at the intersection of behavioral health and criminal justice, the Dane County CJC has been awarded a grant from National Association of Counties (NACo). The grant will provide Dane County with technical assistance on ways to provide support for individuals with mental illness who also are involved with the criminal justice system. Approaches will focus on a racial and ethnic disparities framework. The grant is funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation as a part of the Safety and Justice Challenge. The County Justice Peer Learning Network will run from January 2020 to June 2021.

Community Justice Center Study

The Dane County Board of Supervisors authorized \$100,000 to complete a feasibility study assessing the potential impact of a community justice center. Community Justice Center models vary, but procedural fairness, restorative justice, access to services, and effective alternatives to incarceration are common themes. The CJC-Racial Disparities subcommittee will be identifying scope, timeline, and critical elements of a community justice center in the Spring of 2020.