



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Criminal Justice Council - Racial Disparities Sub Committee

Tuesday, March 29, 2016

12:00 PM

City County Building Room 351

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A. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 by Judge McNamara.

Present 9 - ISMAEL OZANNE, SHELIA STUBBS, JOHN BAUMAN, RON CHANCE, NICK MCNAMARA, DOROTHEA WATSON, RICHELLE ANHALT, JUNE GROEHLER, and WESLEY SPARKMAN

Others present: Andre Johnson, Ron Johnson, Stephanie Munoz, Colleen Clark-Bernhardt, Erica Nelson, Theresa Owens, and Karin Peterson Thurlow.

B. Consideration of Minutes

1. [2015 MIN-699](#) Minutes of the February 23, 2016 CJC RD Meeting

Attachments: [2015 MIN-699](#)

The minutes were approved as amended to correct the spelling of Julie Ahnen's name.

C. Action Items

D. Presentations

E. Reports to Committee

1. Roadmap to Equity - Wisconsin Council on Children and Families (WCCF)

Erica Nelson of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families was a co-author of Race to Equity. She spoke regarding the Roadmap to Equity. It will be a flexible and growing document to reflect that it is a long process to address equity.

Since the release of the report, a lot of progress has been made. WCCF has suggested starting points for further progress. Goals are enhancing employment and earnings, supporting working parents, and assuring success in schools. There are specific recommended actions, many of which are already taking place but need to be scaled up. Nelson reviewed specific indicators for success to reach a 2020 goal.

Nelson expressed an interest in updating figures regarding referrals to child protective services and arrest rate. Discussion ensued regarding whether some measures are appropriate reflections. Andre Johnson pointed out that we do not want people not making referrals to child protective services. Nelson said there are a multitude of indicators, and the feedback on the nature of the measurement and the data is important.

Ozanne questioned the number of arrests as a measure, making sure that it is not that arrests that go down but that crime goes down. Nelson concurred that the meaning is that an improvement in well-being leads to changes in behavior, and decrease in arrest. Discussion continued regarding the need to clarify that arrest rate decrease as a result of improved well-being. It is important to track data over time and recognize how the indicators interact.

Chance talked about the same families across agencies that are engaged with county systems, and about how we can meet their needs.

The WCCF Roadmap to Equity is a starting point to get feedback and build indicators to measure progress. It cuts across government, schools, and not-for-profits. The data helps to hold the community accountable. Discussion ensued regarding how the focus has been on the criminal justice system, and needs to address the well-being of the community. Nelson says it is not just the criminal justice system, but there is also focus in employment and education. All areas interact with one-another. Disparities in data in education and child welfare are a reflection of what is happening further down the pipeline.

Chance says we should get the voice of the consumer when they come in harm way. Sometimes families come in who need help in six or seven areas. There are finite resources. One could target intergenerational participation in child protection services, and that should be the target of the Early Childhood Initiative.

WCCF is meeting with the United Way, Justified Anger, members of the private sector, the Urban League and human resources groups. This helps them know how to anticipate job training for different sectors. Nelson said it is a coordinated conversation.

Chance spoke to the importance of making sure families are not isolated. People with legal concerns do not reach out to human services.

Andre Johnson indicated that the county must ask what the goal is; is it realistic; and do we have the resources to get there?

Watson suggests a goal: reduce number of 17-25 year olds who get on CCAP. If we can divert people out of that system, that would be positive. Clark says alternatives to

arrest and alternatives to incarceration are also indicators.

2. CRC Update

Ron Johnson provided an update on program participation. He is working with 10 cases in various stages. Judge Sonny Smart will come to speak in May, and Judge Calabrese will come speak in June.

Bauman asked about potential of expansion of eligibility. Ron Johnson spoke of the expansion to the town of Madison and to Fitchburg.

3. Measures for Justice discussion

Measures for Justice are going live with their data in June. They have access to CCAP and have compared county data throughout Wisconsin. They are supported by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and private funding. At the end of April, Clark and Ozanne will attend a meeting to see the initial data presentation.

Clark distributed a draft MOU which is an approach to partnering with Measures for Justice. A question was asked regarding whether we are able to craft a relationship with them to use their data analysis expertise.

4. Center for Court Innovation Conference

Clark provided information about the conference in April. A team from Dane County will be at the conference. There is a grant application pending with CCI. It would add Human Service and District Attorney resources.

5. Research Analyst position update

There will be an interview panel including members of the Criminal Justice Council. The National Council on Crime and Delinquency will be providing technical support to the CJC data team in developing intergovernmental agreements for data sharing and a work plan for the research analyst.

6. Honoring Tamara D. Grigsby

Clark distributed a resolution honoring Tamara Grigsby by naming the Office for Equity and Inclusion in her honor. Sparkman spoke of the Celebration of Life at 10 AM at First Methodist Church.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

The next meeting is Tuesday, April 26, 2016.

Judge Calabrese and Brett Taylor will be in Dane County June 2nd and 3rd; Judge Smart will be here May 12th.

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

There were no public comments.

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

Theresa Owens, the new District Court Administrator, introduced herself.

I. Adjourn

This meeting was adjourned by a voice vote at 1:20 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Janice L. Lee, subject to subcommittee approval.