

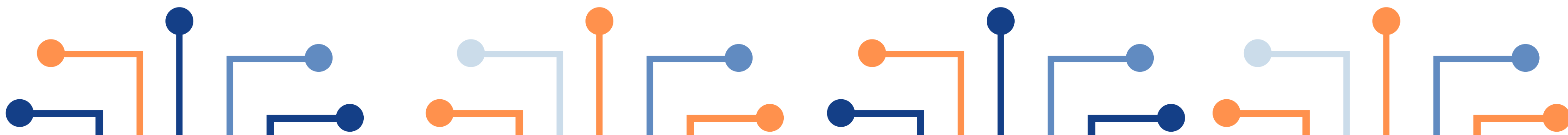
2026 BUDGET

Office of Justice Reform

September 9,
2025

Office of Justice Reform

2025 Total Number of Employees:	6
LTE CJC RESEARCH ASSIST:	1
Total 2025 Department Spending:	\$1.855 million
Total 2025 GPR Spending:	\$1.431 million
Total GPR reduction to meet 4%:	\$42,772
Other revenue sources funding department programming:	federal grants



What we do



System Collaboration: Strengthening partnerships across justice, health, and community organizations.



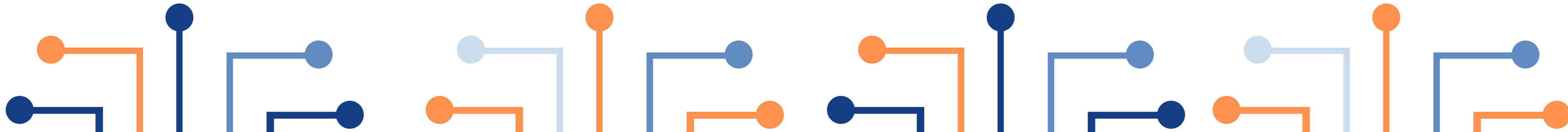
A Catalyst for Innovation: Shaping future-focused solutions that deliver impact.



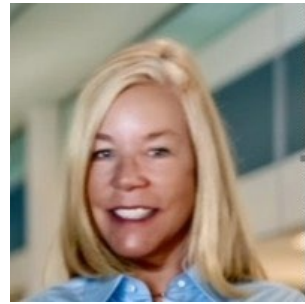
Program Design and Development: Advancing initiatives grounded in data and guided by community voice, with a focus on equity and fairness.



Data-Driven Decisions: Addressing local needs, leading with research and accurate data.



Who we are



Colleen Clark-Bernhardt
Director



Shar-Ron Buie
Data and Evaluation Coordinator



Jael Currie
Community Court Coordinator



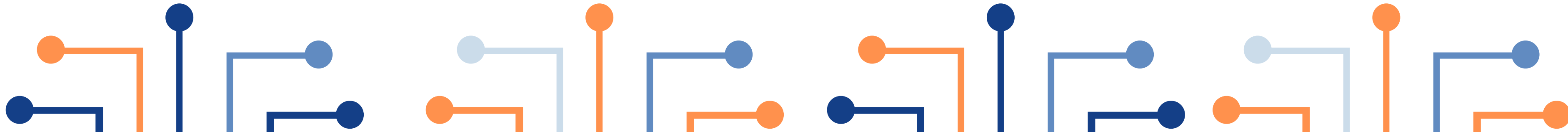
Tamarine Cornelius
Research Analyst



Delia Young
Clerk I-II



Chee Yang
Research Assistant



CJC and Subcommittees Work



OJR serves as the staff for all CJC and Subcommittees. This includes extensive policy research, data expertise with local data, data analysis, and community engagement.

Community Justice Council—EXECUTIVE

Community Justice Council-Racial Disparities subcommittee

Community Justice Council-Pretrial subcommittee

Community Justice Council-Behavioral Health subcommittee

www.cjc.countyofdane.com

Catalyst for Innovation



Since the OJR department started in August of 2024, we have been AWARDED:

MacArthur Foundation—Sequential Intercept Model

Mapping. Over 60 Dane County stakeholders, researchers and advocates gathered to map the intersections of justice and behavioral health.

Housing Justice Peer Network—Peer learning network connecting national experts to localities to develop effective housing frameworks for justice involved individuals.

BIG STEP CONTRACT EXECUTED—What is Big Step??

- BIG STEP IS AN Employment Program in the construction sector (in custody and out of custody programs.)
- BIG STEP IS a nonprofit dedicated to helping people start careers in construction and manufacturing
- BIG STEP PROVIDES training programs are based on employer demand and partnerships with quality employers that pay family-supporting wages and provide strong benefits





Data, Analysis, and Evaluation

Accurate, easy to use, DATA DASHBOARDS

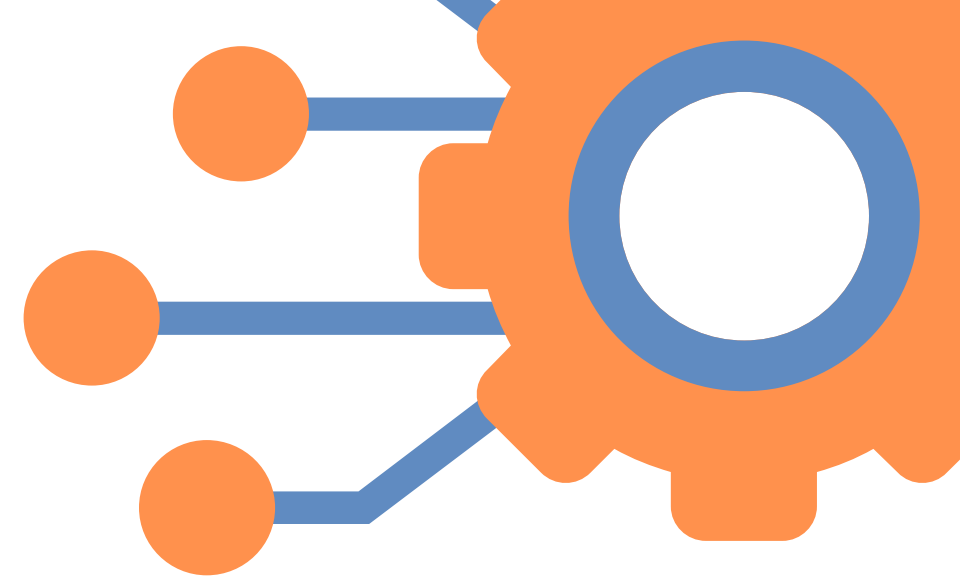
Deep analysis into understanding “familiar faces”—or frequent utilizers of Dane County Jail.

Analysis of Disorderly Conducts

Process Evaluation of the Community Court

Evaluation Framework development for future evaluations.

Community Court



Long term planning efforts are moving into action.

Judge Nia Trammell will be Dane County's first Community Court Judge.

Moving into implementation and launch in late fall 2025.

Holistic supports designed to address root cause(s) of offense in a timely fashion.

Decision Items

<input type="checkbox"/> JUSTICE MICRO GRANTS -	Reduction of line- \$15,000
<input type="checkbox"/> CJC Research Asst-LTE	Reduction of line--\$9143
<input type="checkbox"/> BIG STEP CONTRACT	Reduce overall --\$3400
<input type="checkbox"/> Supplies/Training	Reduce overall---\$6072
<input type="checkbox"/> CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM EXP	Reduce by -----\$5200.
<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone	Reduce by -----\$1700
<input type="checkbox"/> Software Maintenance	Reduce by----- \$1500

TOTAL REDUCTION IN BUDGET \$42,772.00





IMPACT

LESS STAFF SUPPORT

The CJC Research Assistant provides critical staff support in policy and data research, as well as meeting coordination and departmental visibility.

NO MICRO GRANT OPTION

15K was originally put in the Office of Justice Reform for Micro Grants. The program had no guidelines and has not been developed.

LESS STAFF DEVELOPMENT

OJR is a new department with over 50 percent new staff.



Future Considerations

Community Court

Incentives and gift cards. Currently OJR has a very limited budget to provide any incentive to program participants.

CASE MANAGEMENT needs—in order to fully grow the community court the case management resource will need to grow.

Partnerships and Evaluations

Evaluation Framework is being developed. Future partnerships with local and national researchers a necessary part of life cycle analysis for programs.

Internal partnerships to better understand the connections between systems required.

Community

In order to tell the story behind the data, and glean critical insights—community engagement and partnership must be expanded. Currently very limited resources in this area.

Thank you!

Colleen Clark Bernhardt,
Director

**Office of
Justice
Reform**



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