# 2022 Year In Review



http://cjc.countyofdane.com

**2022 Criminal Justice Council Members:** Carlo Esqueda, *Clerk of Courts, Chair of CJC;* Ismael Ozanne, *District Attorney, Vice Chair of CJC;* Kalvin Barrett, *Sheriff;* Judge John Hyland, *Courts;* Patrick Miles, *County Board of Supervisors;* Joseph Parisi, *County Executive.* 

Advisory Members: Richelle Andrae, Public Protection and Judiciary Committee; Catherine Dorl, Public Defender; Troy Enger, Department of Corrections Regional Chief; Todd Meurer, Municipal Judge; John Patterson, Assistant Chief of Madison Police Department; Brent Plisch, Chiefs of Police Associations; Satya Rhodes-Conway, Mayor of Madison

Since codification in 2008 in Dane County Ordinance 15.46, the Criminal Justice Council (CJC) of Dane County has evolved through a number of different stages, from a fairly inactive 6-person committee with two meetings per year to an active 13-person committee with three standing subcommittees. In 2023, the CJC continues to evolve in name and membership— the new Community Justice Council —adds three community members and a representative from the Health & Human Needs committee to the Executive CJC. OA 28 also adds community members to the subcommittees.

2009-2011 → 2011-2014 → 2014-2016 → 2016-2019 → 2020-2023

## 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.

# Long-term Commitment to Community Justice

The Dane County CJC received a \$600,000 grant to establish its **Community Court Initiative.** This grant will allow Dane County to implement an alternative to traditional criminal court for non-violent offenders with the goal of increasing public safety and decreasing racial disparities. It will include social service supports, such as mental health and substance use treatment, and center the community voice and procedural fairness.

The community court will expand upon the existing Community Restorative Court (CRC); it will not duplicate or replace its services. The CJC and its racial disparities subcommittee will work with community members and national



experts to help ensure positive outcomes. The initiative will have a planning phase, led by the **newly created Community Court Advisory subcommittee**.

Planning for the community court initiative has already begun through pre-engagement sessions led by local BIPOC-led community organizations that were contracted to identify community member needs. These organizations will continue to share their insight throughout the community court planning process, and representatives will serve on oversight and advisory committees to ensure that the community voice is centered throughout the process.

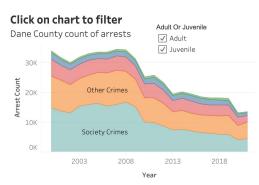
#### The Dane County Community Restorative Court (CRC)

continues to use restorative justice to support young adults and reduce racial disparities as an alternative to the traditional criminal justice system process. Restorative justice centers repairing harm to the community, supporting the victim, and meeting the needs of the respondent to prevent future justice system involvement. The CRC continues to grow in caseload and complexity. Its partnership with the UW-Madison Law School is providing technical assistance and in implementing additional ways to center the victim's needs throughout the process.

# Data Transparency and Dashboards

The CJC is in the process of releasing expanded data dashboards with new visualizations to increase transparency on criminal justice issues. They will enable members of the community to interactively view data on many components of the criminal justice system and disaggregate by race, gender, and age over time and, in some cases, by agency. The dashboards will be released in three phases. Phase One will include interactive dashboards on crime and arrest data. Phase One of dashboards was approved by the CJC in its December meeting and will be available on the CJC website in early 2023. The next phase of the dashboards will include information on calls for service (i.e. 911 calls), jail, district attorney, and pretrial justice processes. All dashboards will be available on the CJC website.





Breakdown of Adult & Juvenile arrests 2021 Society Crimes

			Year
Category	Offense	F	2021
Society Crimes	Disorderly Conduct		2,123
	Driving Under the Influence		1,232
	Liquor Laws		720
	Weapons		186

# Reducing Overrepresentation of People with Behavioral Health Needs

The CJC and the CJC-Behavioral Health subcommittee continue to work to decrease the overrepresentation of people with behavioral health conditions in the criminal justice system.

The **Familiar Faces Initiative** is one way that Dane County aims to do so. Familiar Faces are people who experience behavioral health challenges that lead them to cycle through multiple systems and agencies, including the jail, homeless

shelters, emergency departments, and other public social services without the opportunity to gain full stability. Dane County was accepted to a national cohort of counties committed to support Familiar Faces and keep them out of the jail through innovative practices. Through this initiative run by the National Association of Counties (NACo), CJC members have had the opportunity to meet with national technical assistance providers and connect with other counties that are approaching this same issue. The initiative also emphasizes the importance of data-sharing across agencies, particularly so



that the criminal justice system can share data directly with social services provider (without violating HIPAA or requiring service providers to share data back to the criminal justice system).

Dane County is in the process of piloting a **Booking Alert** to share this information with providers. Through this initiative, Department of Human Services (DHS) receives automated email alerts to notify them that an "emerging familiar face up to a super familiar face" has been booked into the Dane County Jail. The Booking Alert should help providers

with more—and timely—information on clients who may need services. The pilot of this program began in August 2022, and it plans to expand to additional service providers in the future. Thank you to all stakeholder, including Dept. of Information Management, for your partnership in this effort.

Dane County also continues its work to establish and open the **Crisis Triage Center**, a no-wrong door alternative to jail for people experiencing severe behavioral health crises requiring law enforcement response. CJC and DHS representatives visited a peer learning site, Douglas County in Law-



rence, KS and its Recovery Campus, to learn about how to successfully launch a center and what elements may be incorporated into a center. The Dane County Crisis Triage Center is in its planning phase at this time and looks to the future issuance of a Request for Proposals.

# Pretrial and Front-End Justice Research

The Dane County CJC continues to be a leader in Wisconsin for innovative pretrial practices. The CJC was selected by

Advancing Pretrial Policy and Research (APPR), a national expert on pretrial justice, as one of the sites to receive targeted training and technical assistance on pretrial justice initiatives. APPR will assist Dane County to evaluate its use of the Public Safety Assessment (PSA), a pretrial release risk



assessment tool. APPR will also co-host a community conversation and town hall on pretrial justice. This event was held on January 31st (for more information, please subscribe to the CJC calendar or visit our website).

In addition to the CJC's work, in 2022 Dane County established its Office of Pretrial Services (OPS). The Office of Pretrial Services is its own, independent department (whereas previously, pretrial services was part of the Office of the Clerk of Courts). It balances two objectives: providing services that minimize unnecessary pretrial detention and ensuring public protection while awaiting trial.

Additionally, the inaugural Director, Rhonda Frank-Loron, is a new voting member of the CJC-Pretrial Services subcommittee. For more information, please visit: https://courts.countyofdane.com/Alternatives/Pretrial-Services.

# **Attend Meetings**

All CJC and subcommittee members are open to the public. The CJC has four regular meetings:

Executive-Level CJC: Fourth Thursday of every month at 12:15pm

Behavioral Health Subcommittee: Third Friday of every month at 12:15pm

Pretrial Services Subcommittee: Second Wednesday of every other month at 12:15pm

Racial Disparities Subcommittee: Fourth Tuesday of every month at 12:15pm

Beginning in early 2023, the meetings will be held in a hybrid format with in-person and Zoom options. In-person meetings are held in the City-County Building.

Meeting times may be adjusted as the CJC adds new community members as voting members, based upon scheduling accessibility. Meetings are held on different dates on holidays or conflicting

county meeting dates. Please subscribe to the CJC Google calendar or check the CJC website to confirm meeting dates.

### 2023 Upcoming CJC **Discussion Topics**

Community Court Initiative - Planning and Pilot

Appointment of Community Members with Lived Experience to CJC

Interactive Data Dashboards

Set, Measure, Achieve and Familiar Faces Initiatives to Reduce Incarceration of People with Severe Mental Health Conditions

Peer Support in Pretrial Services

Crisis Triage Center

Cash Bail and Pretrial Justice

...and more! See CJC agendas prior to meetings to learn more about each month's discussion topics.

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