

**2017 Community Outreach & Diversity
Committee Minutes**

January - December

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
January 18, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.
County Attorney's Office**

Present: Kalene Engel, Kate Hansen, Fatima Said, Bridget Klinger, Claire Exley, Marie Kovecsi, Timothy Hall, Stephanie Nuttall, Lynn Theurer

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:05 a.m.

Elected Officials' Forum:

- **Date/Location:** The Forum is scheduled for January 21, 2017 from 9 to 11 am at the Winona History Center.
- **Setup:** COD member should arrive between 8:30 and 8:45 a.m. for setup. Same setup for room as last year. Lynn will bring placards for the speakers.
- **Advertisements:** Invites have been sent out. The Daily News said it would publish something; not sure about Winona Post. Kalene sent the invite out to all CJCC members. The invite has also been posted on the Winona County Attorney's and ASAP's Facebook page. Bridget will post it on the Winona Police Department's Facebook page.
- **Refreshments:** Mugby Junction will delivery coffee and tea at approximately 8:30 a.m.. Stephanie will pick up the breakfast treats from Winona Bread and Bagel.
- **Check-in:** Lori Ortega of League of Women Voters will check people in.
- **Format:** Stephanie will moderate, starting at 9:15 and allowing each speaker approximately 3 minutes. There will be approximately an hour left for questions. Questions can be submitted on notecards or taken directly from the audience.
- **Post-event presentation:** John Goodman of Avumedia will be doing a demo on the Vidyo secure teleconferencing system directly after the event. The demo should only take about 5-10 minutes; all are invited to attend.
- **White papers/handouts:**
 - Kate and Tim prepared a handout on safe campuses, which is a broader overview of the "sanctuary campus" idea that was mentioned at the December meeting. The group made suggestions, including adding author/source and contact information
 - Kalene will make copies of the MN NAMI Legislative Priorities handout for distribution.
 - Julie Hanson of HVMHC will be bringing a handout on Hiawatha Bluffs.
 - Phil Huerta will be bringing copies of the ASAP Annual Report; he would also like to have conversation on the Sunday liquor sales issue.
 - Fatima hopes that someone has an update on the status of immigrant drivers' licenses.

Law Day:

- Law Day is scheduled for May 4th/5th.
- Kalene will compile the information on the participating schools and provide it to Bridget for pre-Law Day activities.
- The Programs & Activities Team of ASAP has offered to prepare the mock trial script as part of its workplan. This will allow ASAP to better integrate the trial into its strategic plan and other activities. Bridget, who serves on the Programs & Activities Team, stated

that the group would like to do a mock crash at the high school prior to Law Day and tie it into the Law Day scenario.

- Since Law Day falls on the same day as WSU's graduation, we will not have any interns available to help as tour guides. Lynn mentioned getting some high school students to help as a community service activity. Post-meeting, Kalene spoke with Bridget about possibly having some ASAP student members serve as tour guides.

Jail Public Relations: The Jail and Jail Alternatives Committee is working on preparing a justice system and data overview for the County Board. The JJA committee would like to collaborate with this committee on a public relations effort to inform and seek input from the public regarding the jail. Since neither Karin, nor Justin were present, this issue was deferred and will be discussed at a future meeting.

Adjournment: 8:48 a.m.

Next Meeting: February 15, 2017 at 8 a.m. at County Attorneys Office (Karin's Office)

Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Community Outreach and Diversity Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. at Winona County Attorney's Office

Present: Karin Sonneman, Stephanie Nuttall, Rebecca Church, Bridget Klinger, Marie Kovcesi, Phil Huerta, Fatima Said, Helen Newell, Claire Exley, Lynn Thuerer, Nick Guy, Alexis Salem, Tim Hall

Minutes by: Stephanie Nuttall

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:05 a.m.

Law Day: Rebecca is working with the ASAP committee on the Law Day script. The theme is Parents Who Host, with a parent on trial after providing alcohol to minors. One component will be that one of the kids drove away after drinking and got into a crash. They hoped to coordinate with the High School's mock rash, but that will be held later in the year.

Law Day is scheduled for May 4 and 5 this year. Karin will check with Kalene regarding school invitations – Bridget indicated that Kalene had already supplied a list of schools with contact information and anticipated number of students. Bridget will be doing the pre-Law Day presentation at the schools, with Deputy Kane doing some of the schools she is familiar with through DARE. At this point it looks like we already have 5 tour guides for both days.

Some discussion regarding having a video of a parent being "arrested", transported to the jail, and going through the booking process to play at the schools during the pre-Law Day presentation. Phil will talk to WSU about this possibly being a student project, with Stephanie available to assist with L3 video or video editing if WSU not able to do this.

Elected Officials Forum: There were 55 in attendance at the event on January 21 and good discussion. Some disappointment that three officials who had said they would be there did not show. Two did send apologies—one had something come up and another had a mix up.

The committee discussed the format, with having oral versus written audience questions. We received good feedback on the blended format. There was some disappointment from committee members as well as public members that their questions had not been asked, but acknowledgment that there had not been time to get to all questions/topics. The committee discussed options such as allowing questions to be submitted in advance and starting the question period off with 3 or 4 questions from the CJCC/LWV sponsors to ensure that those questions are asked. The committee also discussed having a time limit on official responses to questions, to allow for more questions to be asked.

The committee decided that the third Saturday of January worked well, and set the 2018 event for January 20, 2018.

2017 Events:

County Fair. Reminder that the County Fair will be held July 12-16, 2017. The committee usually joins the Sheriff's Office booth, which has worked well in the past. Plan to do this activity again.

Courthouse Open House. Karin suggested that the committee plan a Courthouse Open House this year, possibly in September, to recognize the 10th anniversary of the CJCC and the 5th anniversary of Drug Court. Discussion about what could be included, such as information about the criminal justice system and how it works (with a possible focus of why a justice center may be needed). The committee will plan this event and further discuss ideas at the March committee meeting. Consensus was that Karin should sing at the event.

Summit. Some discussion about planning a summit for October, possibly building on themes or topics related to the open house. This will be explored further at future committee meetings.

Open Discussion: Karin and Marie advised the committee of the upcoming County Board working session, to be held February 28, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. (before the evening Board meeting). At this meeting the County Board will be receiving a presentation from the CJCC's Jail and Jail Alternatives Committee including an overview of the criminal justice system, statistics, and programs available.

Adjournment: 8:52 a.m.

Next Meeting: March 15, 2017, at 8:00 a.m. at the County Attorney's Office

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
March 15, 2017 at 8 a.m.
County Attorney's Office**

Present: Kalene Engel, Claire Exley, Marie Kovecsi, Stephanie Nuttall, Lynn Theurer, Helen Newell, Nick Guy, Phil Huerta, Alexis Salem

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:05 a.m. (Note that all announcements of other events are included at the end of the minutes)

Approval of February 2017 Minutes: No changes.

Upcoming Events:

- **Law Day (May 4th and 5th)**

- **Participating Schools:** School invites were sent out in November. Eight area schools are participating, as follows:

School	Number of Students	Time Slot:
St. John's Lewiston	21	Thursday a.m.
Lewiston-Altura	46	Thursday a.m.
Immanuel Lutheran	7	Thursday a.m.
St. Stan's	36	Thursday p.m.
Riverway	8	Thursday p.m.
St. Matthews	23	Thursday p.m.
St. Martins	19	Thursday p.m.
Winona Middle School Group 1	120	Friday a.m.
Winona Middle School Group 2	120	Friday a.m.

- **Times:** Kalene is working with the schools to specify the exact times for the program. The Winona Middle School has requested 10:10 a.m. to 12:10 a.m. and 1:10 p.m. to 3:10 p.m. for Friday.
- **Pre-Law Day School Presentations:** Bridget Klinger and Kate Rusher are handling the presentations.
- **Mock Trial Script:** The committee working on the mock trial script will have a draft completed by Friday
- **Volunteers:** Lynn has solicited volunteers from the League of Women Voters. Phil has asked for volunteers from ASAP and there is a signup link on Livewell Winona's web page. Helen Bagshaw, Marie Kovecsi, Lynn Theurer and Phil Huerta have volunteered all day for both days. Lori Ortega has volunteered for the morning shift both days. Nick will help in the courtroom. Other volunteers are welcomed.
- **Mock Crash:** ASAP is working with Winona High School to coordinate a mock crash but progress has been delayed to Winona High School's involvement in the Minnesota State Basketball Tournament.
- **Other:** Phil will be meeting with a Winona State student who is interested in doing a documentary on some of the upcoming ASAP-related events. Committee

members discussed the need for gathering appropriate permissions from individuals being filmed.

- **County Fair: July 12-16 2017**
 - ASAP would like to bring the “Hidden in Plain Sight” exhibit to the County Fair. Discussion was had on the type of location that would be appropriate for a fair setting.
 - Kalene suggested possibly having justice/public safety related groups join together to secure space and share resources., which could also better illustrate the big picture and how the groups work together.
 - Marie will talk with a member of the fair board to discuss available space. Stephanie will speak with Sheriff Ganrude about the idea of shared space.
- **Open House Anniversary Celebration: 10th for CJCC in June; 5th for Drug Court in October:** Karin planned to work on this project while she was recuperating at home.
- **Community Collaboration Summit Theme:** Ideas mentioned included housing, re-entry and a continuation of whatever theme was done for the Open House. Discussion was deferred pending further action on the Open House.
- **Announcements/Events:**
 - **WSU (Alexis):**
 - Wells Fargo Divestment: There may be an event at WSU regarding the divestment of Wells Fargo from the Dakota Access Pipeline.
 - Trump Travel Ban: The travel ban is set to go into effect on March 16th and could affect international students. There may be a demonstration or other event over this issue.
 - **NAMI/Community Education (Helen):**
 - There are multiple events coming up this spring, including Mental Health Day on the Hill (March 16th); a Family to Family Mental Illness Education Course starting on April 10th and a Suicide Prevention seminar on April 20th. See the attached excerpt from the Winona Community Education flyer for more details.
 - **Other (Marie):**
 - Presentation on Compassionate Schools- Monday, March 20, 4:15-5:30 Media Center, Winona Sr. High School
 - John Hyde will be presenting on Border Issues at Bethany House on March 23rd
 - Sarah Johnson from La Crosse Youth Center will be presenting at Bethany House on April 9th at 4pm.
 - The Winona Warming House has had 168 different individuals use its facility since opening in January
 - The National Institute of Corrections is bring the Planning of New Institutions (jail) training to Winona; dates TBA.
 - **ASAP (Phil):** ASAP is looking at sponsoring a Cultural Humility Training to Winona sometime in mid-May.

Adjournment: 9:00 a.m.

Next Meeting: April 19, 2017 at 8 a.m. at location TBA (County Attorney’s Office v. Karin’s home)

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
April 19, 2017 at 8 a.m.
County Attorney's Office**

Present: Kalene Engel, Marie Kovecsi, Stephanie Nuttall, Helen Newell, Tim Hall, Bridget Klinger

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:03 a.m.

Approval of March 2017 Minutes: No changes.

Upcoming Events:

- **Law Day (May 4th and 5th)**
 - **Pre-Law Day Visits:** Bridget has made arrangements with all but three schools for her pre-Law Day presentation. She will give an overview of the criminal justice system, briefly discuss the circumstances of mock trial scenario, hand out the brochures and bracelets and possibly do a mock arrest of an adult.
 - **Mock Trial Script:** Stephanie will do a final review of the script and send it out to the teachers along with the jury instructions. She plans to get that done this afternoon and will copy Bridget and Kalene on the e-mail.
 - **Volunteers:** At least one tour guide has already been assigned to each shift. Kalene will check with Deb McClellan at Livewell Winona and ask her to assign the volunteers who signed up through the Livewell website to a shift.
 - **Brochure:** Kalene will check with Phil to see whether he planned to print the brochures. Otherwise, the County Attorney's Office could print them.
- **County Fair: July 12-16, 2017**
 - Marie spoke with a member of the fair board (Cindy) to discuss available space, but needs to know what space is needed. Kalene suggested that she speak with Sheriff Ganrude about his plans for the Sheriff and DARE. Due to increased costs for Law Day, Kalene doesn't plan to do the CJCC sucker pull this year. If the Sheriff already has plans, Phil will have to make his own arrangements for ASAP.
- **Open House Anniversary Celebration: 10th for CJCC in June; 5th for Drug Court in October:** Karin planned to work on this project while she was recuperating at home so the committee will wait to find out what she has in mind once she returns to work.
- **Community Collaboration Summit Theme:** Kalene suggested that the group commit to a theme soon, so that planning could begin. She suggested "Housing for Justice-Involved Individuals" as a possible topic, including juvenile housing.
- **Announcements/Events:**
 - **NAMI/Community Education (Helen):**
 - Kay King of NAMI will be presenting at two events on April 20th: (a) What NAMI Can Do For You at Peer Support Network from 1-3pm and Suicide Prevention at WSU Stark Hall, Room 103 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Adjournment: 8:36 a.m.

Next Meeting: May 17, 2017 at 8 a.m. at County Attorney's Office

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
May 17, 2017 at 8 a.m.
County Attorney's Office**

Present: Kalene Engel, Marie Kovecsi, Stephanie Nuttall, Helen Newell, Tim Hall, Bridget Klinger, Karin Sonneman, Lynn Theurer, Chong Sur Vong, Claire Exley, Rebecca Church, Nick Guy, Phil Huerta, Tim Hall, Alexis Salem

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:05 a.m.

Approval of April 2017 Minutes: No changes.

Debrief on Law Day (May 4th and 5th): The event went very well. Unlike last year, we did not send a formal survey to participants, but Kalene did reach out to the teachers to get some informal feedback. One suggestion received was to allow more time at the end of the trial to allow for debriefing. The underground tunnel, while interesting, significantly cut into the time available for the Court Administration block. Stephanie has requested that one time slot be inserted between the two mock trials, so that they are not back to back. This would allow for more time to get the students into and out of the courtrooms before and after the trial. As Kalene hears back from more teachers, she will bring those comments back to the committee.

Upcoming Events:

- **County Fair: July 12-16, 2017:** CJCC will not be doing the sucker pull this year. Instead, volunteers will be asked to assist with the ASAP booth, which is also hosting a Hidden in Plain Sight exhibit. Phil will create a signup sheet.
- **Open House Anniversary Celebration: 10th for CJCC in June; 5th for Drug Court in October:** Committee members discussed ideas for an open house celebration to be held in September. Karin suggested doing something similar to what was done in 2009. Lynn suggested using the same mock trial as was done during Law Day. Kalene suggested possibly doing a drug court hearing that day. Karin, Rebecca, Claire and Phil volunteered for the Open House workgroup. Karin will also speak to the Drug Court to solicit volunteers.
- **Community Collaboration Summit Theme:** The group agreed to use transitional housing or "Housing for Justice-Involved Individuals" as a possible topic. The City of Winona recently concluded a study on housing issues and there has been a lot of press lately about the issue. Alexis will start researching local housing information. Kalene suggested researching the housing forums that have been done in La Crosse County. Ideas for keynote speakers were discussed, including a NAMI Speaker, a state expert on housing and Ben Carson. Karin will follow up on the speaker issue. The date for the forum will be October 26th at the Winona Middle School; Helen will confirm with the school.
- **Announcements/Events:**
 - Jail PONI Training is next week Monday through Wed
 - The Law Enforcement Memorial is today at noon.

Next Meeting: June 21, 2017 at 8 a.m. at County Attorney's Office

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
June 21, 2017 at 8 a.m.
County Attorney's Office**

Present: Kalene Engel, Marie Kovecsi, Stephanie Nuttall, Helen Newell, Bridget Klinger, Karin Sonneman, Lynn Theurer, Chong Sur Vong, Claire Exley, Rebecca Church, Nick Guy, Phil Huerta, Carin Hyter

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:05 a.m.

Upcoming Events:

- **County Fair: July 12-16, 2017:** CJCC will not be having a booth this year. Instead, CJCC volunteers will be asked to assist with the ASAP booth, which is also hosting a Hidden in Plain Sight exhibit. Phil will circulate a Google docs sign-up sheet. The times when volunteers are most needed is noon to 2 p.m. and 4-8 p.m. Onsite training will be provided.
- **Open House Anniversary Celebration: 10th for CJCC in June; 5th for Drug Court in October:** An initial planning session for the Open House Celebration is scheduled for July 10th at 8:30 a.m. in Karin's office. Phil, Judge Buytendorp, Carin, Claire, Marie, Wendy and Lynn have volunteered to plan the event. Drug Court would like to do a graduation ceremony. There has also been discussion of performing the Law Day mock trial in a courtroom and having learning stations, as was done in the 2009 open house.
- **Community Collaboration Summit:** Prior to the meeting, Karin had e-mailed the City of Winona-commissioned "Maxwell Reports" to committee members. She received these reports from Justin Green, who has significant experience in running homeless shelters and is interested in serving on the workgroup. He is also involved in the Poverty Roundtable, which met on June 20th to discuss homelessness. Lynn has received information regarding how to request Ben Carson or one of his directors for a speaker; however, she feels it might be more appropriate to get a speaker who can provide Minnesota-specific information. Nick, Marie, Helen and Claire volunteered to be on the workgroup. Other suggestions for workgroup members included Cynthia Dosier, Brian Voerding. The date for the forum will be October 26th at the Winona Middle School; Helen will work with Karin to get a brief description for the Community Education Flyer. The meeting for this workgroup was set for July 18 at 8 a.m. at Karin's office.
- **Announcements/Events:**
 - The date for the next Legislative Outreach Event was tentatively scheduled for January 20, 2018.
 - Marie noted that the County Board will take up the issue of the new jail at its July 11th meeting

Next Meeting: August 16, 2017 at 8 a.m. at County Attorney's Office. (Karin will compile workgroup updates from the Open House and Community Collaboration Summit workgroups and e-mail them out to committee members in lieu of a July committee meeting).

Winona Post 2/26/7

Winona seeks fixes for housing shortage

by CHRIS ROGERS

This month, Winona Mayor Mark Peterson appointed a new committee to give the City Council advice about how it can help meet the city's housing needs. The new Winona Housing Task Force — a mix of realtors, bankers, developers, landlords, business leaders, government officials, and nonprofit leaders — met for the first time last Thursday. In the coming months to two years, they will prioritize Winona's diverse housing needs — from the dearth of affordable housing to a lack of independent senior living — and recommend action items to the City Council, such as going after state and federal funding sources or providing city-funded subsidies.

The task force was created in response to a new study of Winona's housing needs that was released last month. The study

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found that Winona has virtually no available affordable housing — a term used to refer to subsidized housing for low-income residents. There are lots of low-wage Winonans who qualify, said Winona Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Executive Director Linda Bedtka, but the HRA's waiting list is three years long. The study also found a lack of housing tailored toward independent seniors and aging Baby Boomers, as well as a lack of affordable starter homes for young families and a dearth of apartments for rent.

The study also illustrated a point Winona Area Chamber of Commerce President Della Schmidt has made for months: local businesses cannot find upper-end rental housing for new, professional-class workers moving to the Winona area, and consequently, many those professionals and their families are choosing to live in Holmen and Onalaska. "An increasing number of folks chose to work here, but they're not all living here," she said. That means their children are not going to Winona schools and they are doing most of their shopping somewhere else, Schmidt stated. "That's a problem for us from an economic standpoint," she said.

These are not problems the market will solve on its own,

Winona City Manager Steve Sarvi said in an interview. The high cost of construction prevents developers from meeting these needs without government action, he said. The city hopes these experts in the field will be able to help prioritize which of these many different types of housing the city should focus on and what the city can do to help. At its first meeting, the group talked about potential local tax breaks and other subsidies. They also discussed state and federal funding programs. Another thing the city can help with, said newly elected task force chairman Jim Vrchota, a vice president at Merchants Bank, is marketing the city of Winona and its housing needs to developers. "We need to be proactive about it," he said.

There are some federal funding sources for low-income housing, but it may be up to the city to come up with local funding tools to facilitate the development of market-rate (full-price) housing and single family homes, Winona Economic Development Director Lucy McMartin said.

On the other hand, Schmidt also pointed to the city of Goodview and the high number of new apartments built there in recent years as a success story Winona could learn from. "Something is happening in Goodview, and as I understand, as fast as they're building them, they're filling them," she said of the Goodview apartments.

Affording housing in Winona

by CHRIS ROGERS

Winona Post 5/17/17

At the end of April, Winonan Aleta Papenfuss moved into her own apartment after nearly three months of searching. She was beaming. "I just tried to keep having faith because it's easy to lose hope when you keep trying to find something," she said.

Papenfuss found an apartment that will cost her less than 30 percent of her monthly income, a widely used benchmark for affordability. For many local residents, rent takes up a larger portion of their monthly budget. A recent Minnesota Housing Partnership study reported that 25 percent of Winona County households pay more than 30 percent of their monthly income toward rent. Another Winona woman said she has consistently spent around 40 percent of monthly income on rent. "I don't think I'm going to find something cheaper than what I'm paying where I feel safe and comfortable," she stated.

Housing: the talk of the town

This spring, the city of Winona launched a new housing task force made up of local business leaders. Its task: take the city's 2016 housing study — which highlights needs for affordable housing, affordable entry-level homes,

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Housing

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and senior housing, among other needs — and develop action steps for the city and the private sector to meet those needs.

Last month, the group focused on affordable housing and “workforce housing” (more or less, working-class housing), and city staff announced they just won a state grant to fund more planning work on affordable housing.

Upper-class housing has been a big topic of discussions among local leaders, too. For

newly hired doctors, professors, engineers, and business administrators looking to rent, Winona’s dearth of higher-end apartments lead many Winona professionals to take their tax dollars, spending money, and children and live in cities like Onalaska and La Crosse, Winona Area Chamber of Commerce President Della Schmidt said at a task force meeting earlier this spring. A desire to fill that need spurred city of Winona Port Authority Commission members this month to support a proposal to build a hotel and upscale apartments at the city-owned 60 Main Street site. While it’s subject to further negotiation, planning, and approvals, the city could grant tax breaks or give developers a reduced price on the land to enable the development of what would be among Winona’s most expensive apartments: a projected \$1,200 per month for a one-bedroom.

The city of Winona does not currently use local tax dollars to subsidize affordable housing. That is common for city governments, Winona Community Development Specialist Nick Larson stated. The city funnels state and federal funds to privately owned apartments subsidized on a sliding scale — such as some of the units at Bluff View Flats and Washington Crossings — and to programs that offer qualifying homeowners interest-free loans on home repairs. The city also offers some low-interest or interest-free loans for emergency home repairs. Outside of city government, Southeast Minnesota Community Action Agency (SEMCAAC) and Winona-Fillmore Habitat for Humanity offer similar rehab and repair assistance, plus SEMCAAC offers utility bill assistance and one-time funding to prevent or escape homelessness. The Winona Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) uses federal and state funds to operate public housing projects — such as Belleview East, Valley View Tower, and the Maplewood Townhomes — and offer Section 8 funding in the city — government vouchers that low-income Winonans can use to help pay rent. The city of Winona does not help fund the HRA.

This winter, Winona HRA Executive Director Linda Bedtka reported that HRA housing projects had a waiting list of 179 families for public housing apartments. The HRA stopped accepting Section 8 applications all together because its waiting list is so long.

What can Winonans afford?

According to the Winona housing study, the median rent in Winona is \$572 per month. To afford that — based on the 30-percent-of-monthly-income benchmark — a Winonan working 40 hours per week for 50 weeks out of the

year. Thirty-two percent of Winona households earn less than \$25,000 per year, according to the study.

The report gaged the median list price for Winona houses at \$135,000. To afford that, “a household would need an income of about \$24,100, assuming a 10 percent down payment, 3.75-percent 30-year fixed-rate mortgage,” consultants wrote. Around 70 percent of Winonans earn enough to afford that, the study concluded. The housing study consultants also recommended as a rule of thumb that homeowners can afford to purchase three to 3.5 times their annual income, which would suggest a higher salary is needed to afford median home prices in Winona: around \$38,500. They also noted that many Winona homes are old and in need of improvements.

In the past, some local officials have suggested that Winona’s college student population causes local income statistics to skew low. Of the 32 percent of Winona households earning less than \$25,000 per year, 26 percent are under the age of 25. Sixty-five-plus-year-old seniors make up another big chunk — 30 percent — of that income bracket, while several hundred Winonans in between those ages earn less than \$25,000 per year, according to the housing study.

Housing study consultants also analyzed Winonans net worth (their total assets minus debt). While income levels were relatively evenly spread out, a graph of local residents’ net worth was U-shaped, with a lot of households clustered near the bottom rung, a lot at the topmost bracket, and comparatively few in the middle. Thirty-nine percent of Winona households are worth less than \$15,000; 32 percent are worth more than \$150,000, according to the study.

Leaders throw out strategies

In its first few meetings, the Winona Housing Task Force has had wide-ranging discussions, from senior housing to annexation, but at its last meeting the group focused on the importance of working-class housing to the local economy.

It is doable for the private developers to meet the needs for executive-level housing without outside funding, but it is more difficult to finance workforce housing, Winona City Manager Steve Sarvi said at the task force’s last meeting. “I don’t think we need to spend a whole lot of time [on market-rate housing] as opposed to workforce housing,” he stated. Dan Weis of Bremer Bank and Jack Richter of Winona National Bank agreed.

Task force members threw out a variety of strategies for tackling that problem. Doubling down on home rehabilitation projects could help with the

it would be worthwhile for the city to spend some of its own money incentivizing homeowners to improve the aging housing stock, he added.

City leaders have also discussed starting a land trust, a program in which a government or nonprofit owns and pays for the land under a house and homeowners just own and pay for the house itself. Other cities have used land trusts to make new home construction more affordable. At the late April meeting, Sarvi suggested perhaps a land trust could be used to rehab existing homes, too. One major challenge would be getting funding to start a land trust, task members noted.

“If you rehab it, that’s great, but it doesn’t add any housing to the overall [picture],” local developer Jon Krofchak stated. He advocated for the city annexing new land and supporting new construction. Referring to the high cost construction, Richter responded, “Building [new homes] would be great, but that’s not entry-level housing.”

Krofchak threw out two other ideas. Mobile homes are the least expensive way to afford a home; maybe mobile homes could help provide workforce housing, he suggested. Increasing the density of residential developments in the existing city limits by converting single-family homes to duplexes would be another way to affordably increase the housing stock, he argued. Schmidt supported that idea, too.

Major local employers need to pitch in to fund workforce housing because this is their workforce, Sarvi argued. If the city comes to them with a clear plan and a request, they will, Schmidt responded.

Advice for now: ask around

College rentals drive the Winona apartment market, and it is tough to find a place outside of the June-to-May student rental cycle, several Winonans said. Dan Murphy found an affordable place that he likes, but it is a little smaller than he would have preferred. He can walk across it in two-and-a-half strides. “We need a mid-tier option for people to be able to save money to buy a house but to be able to stay in this community,” he stated.

Being a landlord is not easy either, one Winonan said. “We have spent so much money over the years just trying to keep our places nice, only to walk in after a year of someone living there to a total dump, yet again,” she stated.

For Papenfuss and other Winona renters, word of mouth saved the day. After weeks of searching, a friend suggested that Papenfuss put a note up on the bulletin board at her church. “Within a week I had a place I can probably afford,” she stated.

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for city panel

GLEN OLSON
Daily News

Winona's Housing Task Force has decided to concentrate on promoting workforce housing as its first priority.

The task force will focus on affordable housing — both multi-family and single-family — as well as the potential for rehabilitation of existing homes.



Schmidt "It's at the point that we know what we want as a community," Nick Larson, community development specialist said. "Now we will be reaching out to developers."

However, there is not a clear definition of what is meant by "affordable" or "workforce" housing.

It has been defined as housing that requires spending no more than 30 percent of income on rent or a mortgage for households that earn 80 percent or less of the area median income.

Anecdotally, several members of the task force suggested the homes — which could be targeted toward younger or first time homebuyers — would cost between \$80,000 to \$225,000.

Chamber of commerce president Della Schmidt said they should determine the actual market potential of people living in Winona.

"One of the voices I don't hear in all of that is the person who's going to pay the rent," Schmidt said. "What will individuals who are currently in Winona comfortably afford or pay?"

Both the city's recent housing study and other state data point to a need for lower priced housing in the area.

Please see **HOUSING**, Page A4

DISCOVER DIGITAL



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DAILY RECORD

WINONA DAILY NEWS

Housing

From A1

The housing study showed that subsidized housing of all kinds is in high demand in the city — currently with zero to 1 percent vacancy rates; and that the highest demand for owner-occupied housing is for entry level homes priced under \$220,000.

This spring, the Minnesota Housing Project's State of the Housing report also highlighted a widespread need for assistance in paying for housing and finding opportunities for more affordable options.

The Housing Project is made up of people from groups, cities and communities throughout the state and is funded by a number of public and private organizations, including the U.S.

Department of Housing and Urban Development, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Housing, the Otto Bremer Trust and others. Winona County and southeastern Minnesota have pervasive housing deficiencies, according to the report. They ranked Winona County among the highest in the state for the burden on renters — with 30 percent of renter households paying more than half their income for rent. The southern part of the state also had the largest recorded gap between income and rent, with the gross rent increasing 14 percent from 2000 to 2015, while the median renter's income fell by the same amount. According to the study, in the southern region of the state, a median-income

two bedroom apartments and found tenants — a mix of students, younger professionals and 55 and older tenants — prior to being opened. Likewise, the projected development at 60 Main Street has proposed higher end rents. The Minneapolis-based Sherman Associates has said their prices could be around \$1,200 for a one-bedroom to \$1,600 for a two-bedroom in the 94 apartments they put in their proposal to the city, along with a smaller hotel area.

Workforce housing does offer some government funding opportunities, and there are various city funding options as well, but the lesser return on investments is a harder sell, Larson said. "Affordable housing is one of the hardest to get developed," Larson said.

Several task force members felt that while there is work being done to assist in developing higher-end homes, duplexes and apartments, those developers do not necessarily need the assistance to complete and sell those projects to customers. As an example, the Island City Properties development, at Third and Huff streets, the former Timbers Restaurant location, has rents hovering around \$1,000 for one or

around \$592 in Winona County to \$872 in Dodge County. Which means median-income people could afford to rent a modest, two-bedroom apartment in fewer than half of the southern counties.

That gap between rent and income is a primary reason for focusing on affordable housing options.

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As an example, the Island City Properties development, at Third and Huff streets, the former Timbers Restaurant location, has rents hovering around \$1,000 for one or

HOMELESSNESS IN MINNESOTA

Housing stability: An urgent need, a critical investment

Star Tribune 5/18/2017

Despite progress, homelessness here is still widespread. Housing stability is a necessary condition for almost every goal for our state.

By CATHY TEN BROEKE

Every night in Minnesota, thousands of people are homeless. Most of them are children.

We should not forget that we did not have widespread homelessness until the early 1980s, when federal housing and economic assistance programs were dismantled. By 1983, the federal budget for affordable housing was 77 percent less than in 1978. Mass homelessness that followed was a direct consequence of those policy decisions.

Today, the typical face of homelessness is a child's: a girl living with her family in a car behind a suburban shopping mall, a third-grader falling asleep on her desk because she did not sleep well in a shelter, a young gay man rejected by his family, a young woman on the street who is no longer eligible for foster care and has nowhere else to go. The developmental and social impacts of homelessness on children, families and communities are profound and long-lasting.

Housing stability is a necessary condition — a platform — for nearly every goal we have for our state: building a stronger workforce, closing disparities, improving health, reducing unnecessary crises and their associated costs, and protecting the dignity and choice of people living with disabilities. Housing stability, we have learned, is a wise public investment.

In recent memory, housing stability has been, and it should continue to be, a goal with strong bipartisan support. The Pawlenty administration and the Bush administration invested in housing and services for people who had been homeless the longest and who had disabilities. In Minnesota, these investments created 4,000 new supportive housing opportunities and helped cut chronic homelessness in half.

In 2014, with the support of Gov. Mark Dayton,

the Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness launched Heading Home: Minnesota's Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. With the targeted investments made in the plan's strategies, today we have fewer people experiencing homelessness than we did three years ago, including a 20 percent reduction among families with children and the near elimination of veteran homelessness. Our progress on veteran homelessness came because leaders in Washington and St. Paul invested resources to ensure that veterans have housing they can afford and the support they need to keep it. This same resolve and bipartisan commitment can and must be made for children, families and youth.

Several of Dayton's budget priorities this year build on previous results. The governor proposed \$8 million in rental assistance for families with school-age children at risk of being homeless. It continues and expands a successful pilot program that has shown housing stability can have a positive impact on school attendance and success. Because of this progress, partners from several philanthropic organizations have stepped up to work with the state on this effort. However, the Legislature's housing budget bill vetoed by the governor this week did not include funds to continue this important program.

In his bonding proposal, the governor proposed \$70 million in housing infrastructure bonds for the preservation and development of affordable and supportive housing. As rents rise and vacancy rates stay exceedingly tight, affordable housing development is critical for the increasing number of Minnesotans who need it. The House and Senate bonding bills include only \$35 million for this important need.

Homelessness is not just an urban issue. Nearly 40 percent of all people experiencing homelessness live in towns and cities in Greater Minnesota. Homelessness touches miners losing jobs in St. Louis County, youth being sex-trafficked along the I-94 corridor in St. Cloud, workers in the meatpacking industry in southeastern and southwestern Minnesota, and schoolchildren in 77 of our 87 counties. Housing instability affects the vitality of every region of our state.

With housing so out of reach for so many Minnesotans, the urgency to increase housing options that are affordable is clearer than ever. While negotiations between the governor and legislators are underway, I remind all of us that the cost of inaction is high. If we do not invest in housing stability for Minnesotans now, we will pay the price for years to come.

Cathy Ten Broeke is state director to Prevent and End Homelessness with the Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee Meeting

The Community Outreach & Diversity Committee did not meet in July of 2017.

The next meeting of the committee is on August 16, 2017 at 8:00 a.m. in the County Attorney's Office.

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
Community Collaboration Summit Meeting
August 16, 2017 at 8 a.m.
County Attorney's Office**

Present: Karin Sonneman, Latrisha Green, Helen Newell, Kalene Engel, Nick Guy, Phil Huerta, Justin Green, Fatima Said, Jennifer Timm (WSU)

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:15 a.m.

Confirmation of date/time place: October 26, 2017 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Winona Middle School

Proposed Agenda:

- **Living in Poverty Simulation:** Jennifer provided information on a “Living in Poverty Simulation” based upon specific curriculum developed by the Missouri Community Action Network: <http://www.communityaction.org/povertysimulations/>. The simulation is intended to expose the participant to broad, general common issues facing those in poverty and to enhance or increase empathy among participants towards the challenges faced by those living in poverty. In the simulation, the participants experience a “month” of living in poverty, where every 15 minutes equals a week. The participant’s goal is to “survive” the month. The simulation can be conducted with up to 88 participants and also requires 20 volunteers, to man the pods (i.e. agencies such as social services, jail, housing, etc). Jennifer has conducted the simulation many times and will be holding a simulation for WSU nursing students in September. She is excited about taking the existing curriculum and developing it with an emphasis on housing challenges. The simulation takes 1.5 hours total, 1 hour for the actual simulation and ½ hour to debrief. A large space is required for the simulation; Jennifer has exact details on what is required and how it should be arranged. The only cost of the simulation would be the cost to feed the volunteers during a 1 hour volunteer orientation, which would likely take place on a different day, prior to the Summit. Due to other commitments, Jennifer is not able to start the simulation until 7pm that evening. After hearing Jennifer’s presentation, committee members agreed that the simulation would be an excellent replacement for our traditional “keynote speaker.” In light of the time constraints, the agenda for the evening would be as follows:

6:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.	Social Time
6:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Table Talk; Info Sharing by Housing Resource Reps
6:30 p.m. to 6: 45 p.m.	Break
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Living in Poverty Simulation
8:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Debrief

Housing Resources in the Community – Info Tables: Committee members generated the following list of housing resources:

- SEMCAC
- NAMI – for legislative efforts re: housing

- HRA – Linda Bedtka
- Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center RE: housing – Mike Fahey
- Volunteer Services
- Home and Community Options
- Habitat for Humanity
- Veteran’s Services – Jerry Obieglo
- Winona Housing Association; www.winonaha.com
- SEMMCHRA
- Poverty Roundtable
- City of Winona – Nick Larson; Steve Sarvi
- Warming Shelter – Catholic Charities
- Dan Corcoran/Bethany House – Catholic Workers, Mary Ferrell

Other Details:

- Master of Ceremonies: Justin
- Press Release: Karin
- Social Media: Claire
- Site Setup: Jennifer will work with Helen
- Other – refreshments; welcome table: Deferred until next meeting

Announcements/Events:

- The City of Winona recently joined Welcoming America. The City and Project FINE are joining forces to host a Welcoming Week on from September 15-24th, with lots of activities which will celebrate the contributions of immigrants and refugees to the community. Please see the attached flyer.

Adjourn: 9:27 a.m.

Next Meeting: September 20, 2017 at 8:15 a.m.

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
Community Collaboration Summit Meeting
September 20, 2017 at 8 a.m.
County Attorney's Office**

Present: Karin Sonneman, Latrisha Green, Helen Newell, Kalene Engel, Claire Exley, Chong Sur Vang

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:20 a.m.

Confirmation of date/time place: October 26, 2017 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at Winona Middle School

Proposed Agenda:

- **Speaker from Minnesota Dept of Human Services:** Lynn Theurer received a response from the Minnesota Dept of Human Services and Tom Balsley, State Program Administrator, is interested in attending and saying a few words. The schedule was revised (below) to accommodate:
- **Living in Poverty Simulation:** No details were available regarding the number of volunteers still needed to staff the event. The participants will sign up that day; however, we may be able to get some sense of number of attendees with a Facebook invite.

- **Revised Schedule:**

6:00 p.m. to 6:10 p.m.	Social Time
6:10 p.m. to 6:25 p.m.	Table Talk; Info Sharing by Housing Resource Reps
6:25 p.m. to 6:35 p.m.	Talk by Tom Balsley
6:35 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.	Break
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Living in Poverty Simulation
8:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Debrief

- **Setup:** Professor Timm sent the information regarding room setup to Helen and also viewed the site. Helen will coordinate room setup with Winona Middle School staff and Professor Timm.
- **Invites/RSVPs to Housing Resources in the Community:** Claire and Karin will work together to get the invitations out as soon as possible. Claire will keep track of responses and compile information for the handout.
- **Refreshments:** We will do the same refreshments as last year. Kalene will order the veggie and meat trays from Midtown and Karin will pick them up. Karin will also supply coffee and lemonade.
- **Publicity/Press Release:** Justin is working on writing a press release. Once completed, in addition to being distributed to the media outlets, the press release will be shared with the following groups to solicit participants:

- College social work departments: Latrisha will handle.
- Guardian Ad Litem; Children's Justice Initiative; CHIPS Parent Attorneys: Kalene
- All County Users: Karin

Announcements/Events:

- Welcoming Week is occurring this week. The Courthouse Open House is on Sunday.
- Helen provided a list of upcoming mental health trainings (attached).

Adjourn: 8:58 a.m.

Next Meeting: E-mail update in two weeks, started by Karin. Next in-person meeting is October 18, 2017 at 8:15 a.m.

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
Community Collaboration Summit Meeting
October 18, 2017 at 8 a.m.
County Attorney's Office**

Present: Karin Sonneman, Helen Newell, Kalene Engel, Claire Exley, Rebecca Church, Fatima Said

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:20 a.m.

- **Attendee Update:** Thus far, 13 people have RSVP'd and 4 service providers have responded. Claire sent e-mails to service providers yesterday and will be following up by phone later this week. Committee members discussed how to increase the number of RSVPs.
- **Speaker:** Tom Balsly of the Office of Economic Opportunity has confirmed his participation. Karin will work with him on determining appropriate content for his speech.
- **Setup:** Jennifer Timm has a team of 7 experienced people to set-up the simulation site from 5-6pm. Otherwise, Helen has the room set-up under control and just needs to know the number of tables needed. Her two interns can sit at a signup table.
- **Simulation Timeline:** Setup will occur from 5-6. The Simulation Team will arrive at 6:15 p.m. and will assign people to "families" at 6:45 p.m. The simulation will occur from 7-8pm, followed by a half-hour debrief.
- **Refreshments:** Kalene ordered the veggie, fruit and meat trays from Midtown and compiled a list of other needed supplies. Claire and Rebecca will coordinate the purchase, delivery and setup of refreshments.
- **Publicity/Press Release:** No information was available about the press release. Karin will speak to Justina about the publicity efforts. Otherwise, the invitation was circulated to different groups as set forth in the September minutes.

Adjourn: 9:08 a.m.

Next Meeting: November 15, 2017 at 8:15 a.m. in County Attorney's Office

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
Community Collaboration Summit Meeting
November 15, 2017 at 8 a.m.
County Attorney's Office**

Present: Karin Sonneman, Kalene Engel, Claire Exley, Rebecca Church, Fatima Said, Bridge Klinger, Nick Guy, Phil Huerta

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:15 a.m.

- **Debrief on October 26th Community Collaboration Summit:** The event was very well attended, with estimates ranging from 80 to 100 attendees. The Poverty Simulation was eye-opening and thought provoking and gave participants an opportunity to look at “the system” through a completely different viewpoint. Even the guest speaker, Tom Balsley, seemed affected by the simulation. Committee members discussed generational poverty and how that impacts people. During the event, a local resident spoke with Justin Green about a possible transitional housing option.
- **Elected Officials Forum:** The forum will take place on Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 9 to 11 am at the History Center. Karin will make arrangements with Laurie Lucas to rent the meeting location. Setup will occur around 8:30 a.m. Claire will create an event on Facebook. Lynn (who was not at the meeting) typically handles the invites. Committee members brainstormed on possible topics of interest for the forum and generated the following list:
 - Immigration Reform (Karin will reach out to the Immigrant Law Center);
 - Hands Free Law (Texting & Driving)
 - Housing, especially transitional housing
 - Recreational Marijuana Law
- **CJCC Strategic Planning:** The 2016 Strategic Planning Session was deferred due to the receipt of the JMHC Grant and the anticipated impending work on the jail issue. Since jail discussions have stalled out, the committees need to forge ahead with their goal-setting and work. Kalene suggested possibly bringing in speaker to discuss the benefits of and need for being “willing to change” the way business is done in order to achieve efficiencies and better outcomes. At the next CJCC meeting, Karin will request that committees discuss strategic planning and generate goals/points of focus for the upcoming year. Judge Thompson will be attending the January CJCC meeting to discuss CJCCs.
- **Meeting Time:** For the months of December through March, the COD Committee will begin its meetings at noon instead of 8:15 a.m.

Adjourn: 8:45 a.m.

Next Meeting: December 20, 2017 at noon in County Attorney's Office

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
Community Collaboration Summit Meeting
November 15, 2017 at 8 a.m.
County Attorney's Office**

Present: Karin Sonneman, Kalene Engel, Claire Exley, Fatima Said, Bridget Klinger, Nick Guy, Phil Huerta

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome & Call to Order: 8:15 a.m.

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- **Meeting Time:** For the months of December through March, the COD Committee will begin its meetings at noon instead of 8:15 a.m.

Adjourn: 8:45 a.m.

Next Meeting: December 20, 2017 at noon in County Attorney's Office

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
Community Outreach & Diversity Committee
December 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes
Winona County Attorney's Office at Noon**

Persons Present: Stephanie Nuttall, Bridget Klinger, Lynn Theurer, Kalene Engel, Phil Huerta, Claire Exley, Chong Sur Vong, Rebecca Church, Karin Sonneman

Call to order: 12:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the November 15, 2017 meeting were approved without changes.

Meeting time: The meeting time will remain at noon through March.

Elected Officials Outreach Event: Details of the Elected Officials Outreach Event were reviewed, as follows:

- **Date/Time/Place:** Saturday, January 20, 2018 from 9 to 11 am at Winona History Center
- **Invite:** Lynn has already sent out e-mail invites; Kalene will update the formal invite and send to Karin for distribution to committee members and to Claire for posting on Facebook.
- **Format:** We will follow the same format as in past years. Stephanie will moderate. Written questions will be taken. Lori Ortega will handle the sign in area.
- **Refreshments:** Karin will order coffee and pastries. She and Lynn will coordinate fruit and other breakfast items.
- **Setup:** The History Center should be open at 8 am for setup. Karin, Lynn and Stephanie will be there to set up.
- **Continued Planning:** Continued planning and coordination can occur by e-mail.

COD Goals/Objectives/Event Planning:

- **Review of yearly events:** Karin reviewed the schedule of yearly events sponsored by COD and committee members expressed interest in continuing those events.
- **Jail Advisory Committee Work:** When the Jail Advisory Committee starts its work, it will be important to keep the community informed. Bridget suggested that the 2018 Community Collaboration Summit focus on the jail.
- **Law Day:** The 2018 Law Day events will take place at the end of April. Possible topics for the mock trial were discussed. Stephanie will reach out to the area 6th grade teachers to get input regarding the trial topic.
- **CJCC Speakers:** Kalene will continue to invite area groups to speak at monthly CJCC meetings. Solomon's Song and Engage Winona were mentioned as possible speakers. Anyone who has suggestions for speakers should contact Kalene.

Meeting adjourned: 12:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 21, 2018 at noon at Karin Sonneman's Office (NOTE: No January meeting due to the Elected Officials Outreach Event).