

**MINUTES**  
**CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL**  
**SEPTEMBER 7, 2022**  
**VIA ZOOM MEETING**

Members (Attendance shown by X, Proxy shown by P)					
Brandt, Becky Court Administrator	X	Gilow, Judy Public Member	X	Patterson, Rená DOC Supervisor	X
Buswell, Steve Jail Administrator		Green, Justin Public Member		Vacant Asst. Winona City Atty	
Buytendorp, Nancy District Court Judge		Kovecsi, Marie County Commissioner	P	Said, Fatima Project Fine, Public Member	P
Carman, Gwen L-A Superintendent		Kuehn, Michael Asst. Public Defender	X	Sanness, Karen Winona DHHS Director	X
Maureen Holte Interim County Administrator		Lallemont, Angela Winona Co. Bar Assoc	X	Sonneman, Karin Winona Co. Attorney	X
Ganrude, Ron Winona Co. Sheriff	X	Moeller, Eileen Winona City Council		Volkman, Travis Goodview Police Dept.	
				Williams, Tom Winona Police Chief	X

**Guests Present:** Kalene Engel (CJCC Executive Director); Chris Meyer (Winona County Commissioner; proxy for Marie Kovecsi); Trish Chandler (Jail Intake Worker); Katie Schild (Criminal Justice Social Worker); Rebecca Church (Asst. Winona Co. Atty); Rebecca Lundeen (WRAP+ Community Connector); Laura Madsen (SEMCIL), Sally Poepping (HVMHC); Andy Kranz (Inclusa); Carin Hyter (Treatment Court of Winona County); Katie Van Eijl (Project FINE, proxy for Fatima Said); Linda Soderstrom (Supportive Housing Workgroup); Tim Hunter (HVMHC), Vanessa Southworth (Livewell Winona), Jay Rasmussen (Winona Police Department); Tara Brown (Plaza Hotel & Suites).

Minutes by Kalene Engel

- 1) **Call to Order:** Karin Sonneman called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.
- 2) **Review/Revise/Approve Agenda for September 7, 2022:** Approved as presented by consensus.
- 3) **Review/Revise/Approve Draft Minutes from August 3, 2022:** Minutes were approved by consensus as presented.
- 4) **Information/Action Items:**
  - A. Presentation on Treatment Court of Winona County (TCWC) by Carin Hyter and Tara Brown: Carin Hyter and Tara Brown provided an overview of Treatment Court of Winona County, as follows:
    - Carin has been Coordinator for 5½ years and is grateful to have this job because it is her passion. She is the only paid staff; all other team members either volunteer their time or participate on treatment court as part of their regular job duties.

- The mission of TCWC is to enhance public safety and reduce costs to the community and criminal justice system by providing resources and structure that allow offenders to become alcohol and drug free. Accountability, structure, honesty and rehabilitation are important components of the program.
- Treatment courts are the most enhanced, structured form of community supervision that is offered in the nation.
- Winona's TC is one of 70 operational treatment courts in Minnesota and is hybrid, meaning that both drug and alcohol offenses are accepted.
- The main criteria for admission are as follows: 18 years or older, Winona County resident, convicted of a felony-level offense and no past or current violent offenses.
- In addition to the above, the individual must have high risk (according to the Risk and Needs Triage – RANT) and must have high need (moderate to severe chemical dependency diagnoses). Serving someone with a low risk or low need could have a detrimental impact.
- A participant must also complete a mental health diagnosis. Over 90% of the participants have a mental health diagnosis, so the program is very much a dual diagnosis program.
- The time from start to completion is 13 months at a minimum. Even after a person completes treatment court, they are under the umbrella of treatment court due to probation. The average length of time in TCWC from start to completion is 18 months, plus a year on felony probation.
- The program is tiered, so the supervision is reduced as the participants progress through phases.
- To address the criminal thinking behaviors of the participants, Carin co-teaches a 16-week cognitive thinking course with Probation Officer, Bill Moe. The course is called CAMO and takes the participants on a deep drive into their thoughts, beliefs and behaviors to encourage them to change their thinking.
- Every participant must do over 100 hours of community service as a way to give back to the community.
- The capacity of treatment court is 20 participants, and Winona County will reach capacity for the first time this month.
- TCWC has had 43 graduates. TCWC's graduation rate is 60%, compared to a national average of 56%.
- Recidivism rates for graduates for 3 years post-graduation are less than 15%.
- The yearly funding allocation for treatment court is \$87,000. For comparison purposes, in 2015, the average cost to house one inmate in jail for a year was \$41,366 per the VERA Institute.
- TCWC has several benefits: reduced arrest rates, a lower cost to society, family reunification, potential lowered ACEs score for children; tax-paying citizens; increasing volunteers/work force, mentorship, decline in overdose rate and emergency room/urgent care visits, safer neighborhoods, licensed drivers.
- Treatment court hearings are open to the public. They are held on Thursday afternoons in hybrid (Zoom and in-person format). Contact Carin for the link if interested in attending the Zoom sessions.
- Carin's contact information is [chyter@co.winona.mn.us](mailto:chyter@co.winona.mn.us); (507) 457-6434.
- Tara Brown provided a summary of her time in treatment court. The best decision she ever made was accepting the offer to participate in treatment court—it saved her life. She was facing three years in prison and had tried unsuccessfully to get clean

on her own. Treatment court had the accountability and structure she needed. She is now employed full time in a management position for an employer who is one of her biggest supporters. She has been clean for 18 months, has her children back in her life and has supported treatment court by facilitating the TCWC participation in parades, starting a Crystal Meth Anonymous chapter and attending aftercare meetings and treatment court every three months.

- B. COVID Updates-Karen Sanness: Winona County has the new booster (Bivalent) available and may be sponsoring a larger vaccination clinic. This booster is effective for the original COVID strain as well as the Omicron and BA5 viruses. The county is at medium transmission levels right now, but Karen anticipates seeing more COVID in 2023. Staff is also being briefed on Monkeypox.

#### 5) **Committee Reports:**

- A. Courts Committee: Judge Buytendorp was not available to provide a report. Please see the minutes in the meeting packet.

**Next Meeting: September 15, 2022 at 8:15 a.m.**

- B. Early Intervention & Prevention Committee (Andy Kranz): The Access to Health and Human Services Workgroup discussed the survey, which yielded two main suggestions: provide more education/information/training about available services and have a single point of contact for someone who wishes to access services at HHS. Challenges include state mandates and archaic software, for which one solution is to engage in long-term advocacy to encourage changes at the state level. HHS is open to providing increased training, but doesn't have the capacity to provide it currently due to understaffing. Benefit applications are also on the rise, which further strains staffing. One of the workgroup members is a Professor in the Social Worker Department at Winona State and stated that her students were always looking for internship opportunities, so that might alleviate some of the workforce issues. The workgroup was considering undertaking a "mapping" of access, much like was done by the Juvenile Justice Committee. The group will continue to look for additional opportunities for further training, including researching what other counties are doing. The Navigator Network received a presentation from Brad Nelson of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Judicial District Ignition Interlock Program on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Additional documents distributed included a tips sheet on how best to communicate with HHS and a fillable referral form for FARR. Catholic Charities has posted a position for a Community Connector for the Warming Center.

**Next Meeting: September 22, 2022 at 1 p.m.**

- C. Community Outreach & Diversity Committee-Karin Sonneman: The committee did not meet in August.

**Next Meeting: September 21, 2022 at noon**

- D. Jail & Jail Alternatives Committee-Kalene Engel on behalf of Justin Green: WRAP+ continues to go very well with several new participants being added this quarter. Rebecca

Lundeen has reached maximum capacity for her client load, so new participants are being assigned to other Community Connectors. The Policy Committee met to consider and recommend changes regarding the criminal history exclusion. On September 14<sup>th</sup>, Kalene and Karin will be presenting on WRAP+ for a Council of State Governments webinar. The Supportive Housing Workgroup continues to work on developing the Scattered Sites Housing Program, with a current focus on stakeholder engagement. The Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Workgroup is not active, but there is a webinar on MAT immediately after the CJCC Meeting.

**Next Meeting: September 28, 2022 at noon**

- E. Juvenile Justice Committee-Rebecca Church: The committee has been working on reviewing and revamping the juvenile justice guidelines, flowcharts and brochures for truancies, diversions and delinquency cases. Final changes were approved at the August meeting and the documents are ready to be made available to the public via the County Attorney's website. The FDTC has stalled due to lack of funding. Surveys provided to participants in the WRAP+ training programs yielded a large number of requests for trainings on juvenile-related topics. As a result, the Juvenile Justice Committee is going to take on the project of arranging for trainings on juvenile-related topics—much like is currently being done for adult mental health and criminal justice topics through WRAP+. Kalene created a Google docs spreadsheet to plan and coordinate training topics and presenters.

**Next Meeting: September 15, 2022 at noon via Zoom**

**Adjourn:** 12:52 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** October 5, 2022