

Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Early Intervention and Prevention Committee Minutes

January 2022 – December 2022*

*The committee may not have had a meeting in every month. The attached minutes are from every month in which a meeting was held

**Minutes of the Early Intervention Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
January 27, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Present: Justin Green, Kalene Engel, Marie Kovecsi, Andrew Kranz, Katie Schild, Judy Gilow, Chris Meyer, Gwen Carman, Kylie Davison, Phil Huerta, Karrie Hahn, Rebecca Church, Katie Illies

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome and Introductions: Workgroup members provided introductions. Chris Meyer and Andy Kranz are co-chairing this newly formed CJCC Committee. Welcome to Kylie Davison, Restorative Justice Coordinator. Congratulations to Rebecca Church who was selected to chair the Winona County Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition.

Review of Committee Charge/Workgroup Structure (Andy Kranz and Kalene Engel):

Andy reviewed the committee charge which is *to research, evaluate and recommend community-based programming and services designed to prevent individuals from entering the criminal justice system.* Kalene explained the committee structure, noting that ASAP provided reports to this committee (as Treatment Court does to the Courts Committee and as WRAP+ does to the Jail & Jail Alternatives Committee). Three workgroups that were formed as a result of the Sequential Intercept Mapping Workshop also report to this committee. One of those workgroups is a joint workgroup between the Health & Human Services Advisory Committee and the CJCC. It is called a subcommittee by HHS Advisory Committee and a workgroup by CJCC, but it is one in the same.

Update on Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (Rebecca Church and Phil Huerta):

As noted above, Rebecca is the chair of ASAP for 2022. The Tobacco, Alcohol and Youth Committees have all been very active. ASAP has four youth interns and one WSU intern. Financials were reviewed and are in good shape, especially with a greatly increased match amount, reflective of the hard work of the volunteers. The 2021 Annual Report was just distributed. Phil presented on a hybrid book club; more information can be found at <https://www.winonacountyasap.org/hybrid-book-club/>. Helen Bagshaw, Vice-Chair, was the spotlight member for January. Katie and Kylie did a tabling on ASAP at a Winona High School basketball game. Results from the youth listening sessions and survey were shared. Phil also shared a brochure/graphic that was created to better explain the process for someone who was interested in seeking substance abuse treatment.

SIM Workgroup – Access to Health & Human Services Programs (Andy Kranz): This workgroup was formed as a result of gaps identified in the SIM Mapping Workshop and has a goal of improving access to Winona County Health & Human Services programs and services. As noted above, this workgroup is a joint effort of the HHS Advisory Committee and CJCC EIP Committee. Members of the HHS subcommittee have been working on developing a survey to

gather more information about challenges knowing about, accessing and maintaining eligibility for county HHS programs and services. Members will review the survey and supporting documents at the first meeting of the workgroup, which is scheduled for February 1st at 1 p.m. The intent is to have members of the Navigator Network (another SIM Workgroup) take the survey to gather information about access issues.

SIM Workgroup – Navigator Network (NN)(Chris Meyer for Rachel Stoll): The goal of the NN Workgroup is to connect persons who help others navigate system and access services so they can share resources and ideas. Rachel Stoll has been heading up this group thus far, which has met twice and has already made good progress towards the above goal. Activities of the workgroup include identifying a place where they will store information, creation of a list of navigators and sharing of “tutorials” on how to accomplish certain “navigation” activities, such as helping a client obtain a Social Security card or birth certificate.

SIM Workgroup – Resource Directory (Andy Kranz): The goal of the Resource Directory Workgroup is to improve methods/ways to inform the community about available resources. The work of this workgroup is on hold until the other two workgroups get some footing. Andy will be chairing the workgroup and welcomes anyone who has interest or expertise to join the workgroup.

Review of SIM Workchart (Kalene Engel): Kalene screen-shared the location of the SIM Workchart on the CJCC website (<http://winonacountycjcc.org/sim-mapping/>) and encouraged members to review it to see if there were other gaps that appeared to be “low hanging fruit” that this committee could address. Phil noted that ASAP has had drug drop boxes in places for a few years and has been discussing adding vape drop boxes. However, one of the challenges that they have encountered is how to handle the waste that is collected. Chris will alert Kay Qualley of Environmental Services to this issue to obtain her feedback. Phil also noted that he has been writing letters to the editor about prevention activities and would appreciate if others would be willing to join him in doing so.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:43 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 22, 2022 at 1pm via Zoom

WINONA AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2022

Hello community partners,

We are in the beginning stages of updating and revising our strategic plan, and we are hoping you can help us in this process.

As leaders in Winona and the surrounding areas, you have a unique insight and perspective that will help shape our strategic plan in order to better meet the needs of our students, our staff, our families and the general community.

We would like to invite you to a listening session specifically for our elected officials, city and county employees and business leaders. The listening session will be held virtually from 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 3 at this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81471828833?pwd=aUhjS2Nzc25rMDBkdIB6WTg0dTNFdz09>

Please feel free to pass the invitation along to others in your professional circles.

We would also like to invite you to participate in a short online survey. You can find the survey at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WinonaExternal>.

More information about our strategic planning process, including other ways for community members to get involved, can be found at winonaschools.org/plan.

Thank you for your consideration during a busy time of the year. It is important that your voice is heard in this process.

Please feel free to respond with questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Dr. Annette K. Freiheit
Superintendent
Winona Area Public Schools

**Minutes of the Early Intervention & Prevention Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
March 24, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Present: Marie Kovecsi, Andrew Kranz, Katie Schild, Chris Meyer, Gwen Carman, Phil Huerta, Karrie Hahn, Rebecca Church, Rachel Stoll, Kylie Daison, Karin Sonneman, Katie Illies, Renee Rumpca

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Introductions: Attendees introduced themselves.

Update on Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (Rebecca Church): The ASAP meeting was held on March 23rd. Coalition members are working on a sustainability plan. The Coordinator will be going on a paternity leave shortly. The Tobacco Committee is working on a presentation to the County Board about the harms of tobacco as well as recommending possible legislation. The Alcohol Committee is considering asking the City Council for legislation. The upcoming month will be very busy, with updates forthcoming.

Access to Health & Human Services Workgroup (Andy Kranz): The workgroup did not meet in March, pending compilation of the survey into a usable format. At its next meeting, the group will be looking for patterns and ways to move forward using the data from the survey.

Navigator Network (Rachel Stoll): The workgroup had an awesome presentation from Carin Hyter on Treatment Court. The group is informal and anyone can join or attend meetings at any time. Presentations are booked through the summer, with Rebecca presenting on WRAP for the month of April.

SIM Workgroup – Resource Directory (Andy Kranz): The Resource Directory Workgroup is on hold at this time. Currently, through the other workgroups, information is being collected on the programs available through the county and community.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:12 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 28, 2022 at 1pm via Zoom

**Minutes of the Early Intervention & Prevention Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
May 26, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Present: Marie Kovecsi, Andrew Kranz, Katie Schild, Karrie Hahn, Rebecca Church, Rachel Stoll, Kylie Davison

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Update on Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (Rebecca): The ASAP meeting was held on May 25th. Restorative Justice Coordinators gave a presentation about the RJ Program. A new college intern was welcomed and the high school student intern projects were discussed. There are several upcoming opportunities for youth this summer: A Summer End Challenge, a Youth Leadership Camp through Montana Institute and a YMCA Teen Night. The Summer End Challenge offers different activities for youth to do each week for four weeks. Teens completing the activity receive a gift certificate from area businesses. The Drug Takeback Day in April was attended by fewer individuals, but more pounds of drugs were collected. At the next meeting on June 22nd, the group will be doing a hybrid book club review.

Access to Health & Human Services Workgroup (Andy/Kalene): A survey to identify possible issues with access to, knowledge of or retention of services from the Department of Health and Human Services was administered to members of the Navigator Network earlier this year. The results have been compiled but need to be vetted Human Resources to make sure they are handled in a way that is productive and appropriate. Pending that activity, the workgroup has cancelled a few meetings. However, the June meeting will be held and strategies to move forward with the workplan will be discussed.

Navigator Network (Rachel Stoll): The workgroup, which has approximately 58 members, continues to meet monthly and receive presentations on community organizations and services. An average of 15 people attend the monthly meetings. In May, Amy Sixty gave a presentation on SEMCIL. Bill Moe will be discussing Probation and Parole in June and Phil Huerta and Rebecca Church will be talking about ASAP in July. An in-person gathering will take place on June 1st from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Fire Union Shelter in Lake Park.

Community Health Needs Assessment: Livewell Winona, Winona County and Winona Health are partnering on a Community Health Needs Assessment. This type of assessment must be done every three years. Over 4,000 surveys were distributed to area residents with a 27% return rate. An additional 200 surveys were translated by Project FINE. Currently, Livewell Winona is conducting Listening Sessions on the survey to gather feedback. In June, the Winona County Board will be receiving a presentation on the assessment. Future steps involve creating an action plan to address the identified needs.

SIM Workgroup – Resource Directory (Andy/Kalene): Vanessa Southworth has expressed interest in chairing the Resource Directory Workgroup. However, due to work on the Community Health Survey and other obligations, she won't have time to focus on this until later this summer. Kalene inquired as to whether any Comprehensive Plan or Community Health Needs Assessment might be tackling this issue in an action plan. Action plans have not yet been formed for the Community Health Needs Assessment. Kalene will check with Chad Ubl to see if anything is in the works with the Comprehensive Plan Committees.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:12 p.m.

Next Meeting: June 23, 2022 at 1pm via Zoom

**Minutes of the Early Intervention & Prevention Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
June 23, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Present: Chris Meyer, Kalene Engel, Katie Illies, Kylie Davison, Rachel Stoll, Danielle Swedberg, Karin Sonneman, Katie Schild

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Update on Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (Phil, via E-mail): ASAP welcomed Abby Quandt as the new Youth Representative to the Board of Directors. The June 3rd Teen Night at the YMCA was well attended and, judging by the photos, was a lot of fun. ASAP has several volunteer opportunities available on its Tobacco, Alcohol and Youth Engagement Groups. ASAP will be partnering with the Winona County Sheriff's Office to man a booth at the Winona County Fair (July 6th-10th). Consider volunteering for a volunteer slot for the County Fair. Other upcoming events include a Youth Ropes Course and Leadership Day in Mankato and the Summer End Challenge, where youth can win prizes for completing specific healthy activity. Consider participating in or providing financial support for the Restorative Justice Golf Tournament on August 19th.

Access to Health & Human Services Workgroup (Chris): A survey to identify possible issues with access to, knowledge of or retention of services from the Department of Health and Human Services was administered to members of the Navigator Network earlier this year. Chris requested that Karin discuss the compiled results with county administration; the meeting is scheduled for later today. Progress has already been made on increasing knowledge of and accessibility to some HHS services. Naomi Morris did a presentation on how to complete the Combined Application Form as part of the WRAP+ training series. Additionally, at the June Access to HHS Workgroup Meeting, representatives of HHS provided helpful tips on the best ways to communicate with HHS staff by mail, e-mail, text and in-person. The compiled Tip Sheet is being revised by Karen Sanness. Members were asked to give suggestions on what HHS programs or services they would like to learn more about. Programs/services mentioned included PSOP (Parent Support Outreach Program), MN Choices, MNSURE, Adult Mental Health Case Management (specifically, how does someone get into the program). Katie shared that a person must have an SPMI diagnosis and must be the person to request services in order to get adult mental health case management. Discussion was held on the importance of maintaining low barrier access programs, especially for vulnerable populations.

Navigator Network (Rachel Stoll): The Navigator Network held an in-person picnic at Lake Park yesterday. The group continues to receive monthly presentations on programs and services. During the June meeting, Bill Moe provided an overview of the work of Probation/Parole. Upcoming speakers include Phil Huerta from ASAP, Brad Nelson from the Ignition Interlock Program, Loice Odoul from MNSURE and PSOP. Rachel will attempt to record future presentations so they are available for people who were not able to attend the meeting.

SIM Workgroup – Resource Directory (Kalene): This workgroup is still dormant. However, the Shelter and Housing Opportunity Council is looking at creating a directory related to housing. Kalene checked with Chad Ubl from the City of Winona to find out whether the creation of a resource directory is something that one of the Comprehensive Plan Committees intends to take on. Chad indicated that none of the committees is currently working on that issue.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:29 p.m.

Next Meeting: August 25, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.; No meeting in July

**Minutes of the Early Intervention & Prevention Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
August 25, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Present: Kalene Engel, Katie Illies, Kylie Davison, Rachel Stoll, Karin Sonneman, Katie Schild, Rebecca Church, Marie Kovecsi, Andy Kranz

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Update on Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (Rebecca): The scheduled presenter for the August 24th meeting cancelled due to an emergency, so coalition members used the additional time to discuss past events, how to improve those events and what events would occur in the future. The Summer End Challenge had low participation numbers, so strategies were identified to increase those numbers, including the formation of a workgroup. Youth leadership and “Escape the Vape” were also topics of discussion, as was increasing middle school level activities. The new WAPS principal at the Middle School plans to serve on the board. Miss Minnesota and Miss Winona will be tabling at an upcoming football game.

Access to Health & Human Services Workgroup (Andy/Kalene): The survey report was finalized and shared with members of the workgroup. The general feedback received was that more education and communication is needed to improve access to services. Next steps were discussed. Members were tasked with researching other jurisdictions approaches to accessing HHS programs. One of the challenges identified by an HHS staff member was the archaic software system that staff is required to use. Because replacing the software would be a statewide effort, the staff member suggesting that having a letter of support from the workgroup for an improved software system might be helpful. Andy did some research on the access issue and found that improving access is also a federal priority, so there may be more traction for improvements in the future. In addition to the Tip Sheet for Communicating with Health and Human Services, Kalene also found lists of commonly used acronyms for HHS programs that can be passed along to the Navigator Network. Fastenal is sponsoring a Community Resources Day on Saturday at the new Fastenal building downtown. It was unclear from the invitation who was organizing the event, but both ASAP and Livewell Winona were invited to attend, as was Marie. Rachel will be attending the event and will try to gather more information to bring back to the committee. With respect to having Winona HHS staff provide trainings or more information about different programs, a concern was raised that most departments were already understaffed and would not have time to provide presentations. It is possible that more education could be provided through brochures or other entities (such as HB101.org or DB101.org). It was not clear whether HHS has created program brochures for its different programs.

Navigator Network (Rachel Stoll): The Navigator Network continues to host monthly presentations and is attended by 10-15 people each month on average. Brad Nelson of the Third District Ignition Interlock Program presented in August. Rachel obtained business cards from him after the meeting and can provide a stack of them to interested persons. Rachel will present

on Livewell Winona in September; Loice Odoul will present on MNSURE in October, PSOP will present in November and Advocacy Center of Winona will present in December.

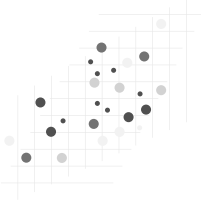
Resource Directory (Kalene): See above discussion of the Community Resources Day. As part of the Scattered Sites Supportive Housing Grant, a housing specialist is supposed to be compiling information and creating a website for housing resources.

Other:

- Habitat for Humanity is partnering with local churches and corporations for a “Rock the Block” event this weekend on the east end of Winona. The event will consist of volunteers doing repairs on homes on the east end to help maintain affordable housing. Marie will be working at the headquarters for the event, which is at Sobieski Park. There will be a kickoff for the event on August 26th at Peters Biergarten.
- The Restorative Justice Golf Tournament was a success. Congratulations to Katie and Kyle for organizing such a successful and fun event!

Meeting Adjourned: 1:27 p.m.

Next Meeting: September 22, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.



**Minutes of the Early Intervention & Prevention Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
September 22, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom**

Present: Kalene Engel, Katie Illies, Karin Sonneman, Katie Schild, Andy Kranz, Gwen Carman, Rachel Stoll

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome and Call to Order: 1:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from August Meeting: Approved by consensus without changes.

Update on Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (Kalene for Rebecca Church): Participation in the Summer End Challenge was less than desired, so coalition members discussed ways to increase numbers. Five students completed youth internships last school year and two of them intend to continue during the 22-23 school year. On October 19th, ASAP will be sponsoring Miss Minnesota and Miss Winona at the WSHS football game. Strategies to engage with middle school students and parents were discussed. A budget updated was provided. Evaluator, Melissa Adolfson, will be visiting in October.

Access to Health & Human Services Workgroup (Andy): The workgroup did not meet in September, but members were encouraged to continue searching for training resources. Kalene noted that HB101.org provided some excellent links and videos for housing resources and had a “sister site” of DB101.org for disability benefits.

Navigator Network (Rachel Stoll): The Navigator Network continues to host monthly presentations and is attended by 10-15 people each month on average. Rachel presented on the Winona Community Hub in September. Loice Odoul will present on MNSURE in October, PSOP will present in November and Advocacy Center of Winona will present in December.

Resource Directory (Rachel/Kalene): The Community Resources Day hosted by Fastenal was cancelled due to bad weather. The Housing Resource Specialist for the Scattered Sites Supportive Housing Project has not yet been hired. One of this person’s job duties is to compile information and create a website for housing resources. Discussion was held on findhelp.org and GreatRivers 211.org. Kalene will reach out to a representative of GreatRivers211.org to see if they could do a presentation for the EIP Committee.

Review SIM Chart for Future Workgroup Formation: Committee members discussed intercepts -1 through 0 of the SIM Chart and made the following observations/suggestions:

- Many of the gaps that were identified through the SIM Mapping Process are being or have already been addressed and should be identified and documented.

- **Co-Responder Program:** Karen recently participated in a meeting with the police chiefs and HVMHC where the use of HVMHC as an informal support for law enforcement was mentioned. Thus, even though a true co-responder program does not exist, the current arrangements appear to be working. Kalene will reach out to Christy Ferrington to provide an update on the current system.
- **Crisis Stabilization Beds:** Mark Jacobson, Peer Specialist, has spoken with several elected officials and others about the need for a better solution for persons in crisis than holding them in the Winona Health Emergency Department. He's interested in finding out what it would take to get crisis stabilization beds back in Winona or to provide rides to the Southeast Regional Emergency Response Center in Rochester. Winona Health was given some ARPA funding to look into a partial hospitalization program. Kalene will follow up with Winona Health to find out the status of that program.
- **Communicating Information About Mental Health Issues to Responding Officers:** Kalene will reach out to Jennifer La Valla of Dispatch to see if she'd be willing to speak to the group about how information about mental health issues is recorded in the law enforcement software and communicated to officers responding to a call for service.
- **Police-led Diversion:** Officer discretion is the only known method of police-led diversion. This issue will need to be discussed and addressed by law enforcement.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 25, 2022 at noon (Change from normal meeting time). Tonya Van Tol of La Crosse County Justice Support Services will be presenting on two of the prevention programs she supervises.

**Minutes of the Early Intervention & Prevention Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
October 25, 2022 at noon via Zoom**

Present: Emilie Volkman, Andrea Pierson, Trish Chandler, Jenifer LaValla, Chris Meyer, Kylie Davison, Rebecca Church, Justin Green, Phil Huerta, Carin Hyter, Rebecca Lundeen, Rachel Stoll, Brooke Stueve, Dave Glithero

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome and Call to Order: 12:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from September Meeting: Approved by consensus without changes.

Winona Health Intensive Outpatient Program (Emilie Volkman): Winona Health is working on two mental health programs with different levels of mental health care to address gaps in the system. The program that will be launched first is the intensive outpatient program (IOP). This program is for people who need more care and support than a traditional outpatient program, such as people who are having escalating symptoms. The program will be tailored to each individual, who will attend group therapy with a psychotherapist 3 hours per day, between 1 and 5 days per week. They plan to launch the program in mid-December to early-January and start with 6 people in a group, eventually working up to 12 people per group, with four groups each day (2 a.m./2 p.m.) Individuals in the program will also have support from a psychiatrist. The referral process is still being developed, but referrals will be accepted from anywhere—even self-referrals. Potential clients will undergo an assessment to make sure they are safe for the level of care being offered; however, the goal is to respond to people very quickly, so they could start the same day as they are assessed. The biggest challenge for Winona Health in starting the program is hiring the personnel.

The second program that Winona Health is developing is a voluntary, partial hospitalization program. This program is intended for people who need a higher level of care than the IOP but can be served by a program less than inpatient hospitalization. This program is taking longer to develop due to the fact that it has many more regulations, but Winona Health still plans to start it in 2023, provided they can hire personnel. The partial hospitalization program will be 5-6 hours per day, five days per week.

Family & Children's Center Healthy Families Program (Andrea Pierson): Family and Children's Center received a five-year grant from the State of Minnesota Department of Health to start a Healthy Families Program in Winona County. The program is an evidence-based home visiting program designed to promote healthy children and families. Staff can work with families (which includes fathers) prenatally until five years old and help them make goals and reduce barriers to meet those goals. Referrals can be received from anywhere, including self-referrals. Program benefits include fewer birth complications, improved access to healthcare, enhanced

cognitive development, fewer behavioral problems, reduced child maltreatment episodes, higher birthweights, fewer special ed students and increased financial security. The program can provide transportation, do developmental screenings, and connect families with community resources. Families are expected to develop goals and work towards those goals. Last year, 90% of the La Crosse families who were served established a medical home, were up-to-date on immunizations, participated in goal planning and achieved their goals. FCC will start the program on January 1st.

Winona County Dispatch Procedure (Jenifer LaValla): A dispatcher's job is to paint a picture for the first responders before they go out on a call. Dispatchers have access to backlogs of incidents with individuals so they are able to see what type of calls they've been involved in as well as what type of calls have been made at that location. They relay that information to the responders who ask clarifying questions. If it is a check welfare request, they will want to know why and if there is a concern of suicidality, they will ask additional questions such as whether they have attempted in the past, whether they identified a method and whether anyone else is there. The records management software allows them to search quickly to obtain the date, time and type of involvement. They can dig deeper by clicking on calls to get a summary of the call. Law enforcement has the same access to the records as dispatch does. Law enforcement makes the decision as to whether to call the crisis team; however, they sometimes ask dispatch to make that call.

Smart911 is an app that allows people to register with their cell phone and then enter information into the database that they want released to a dispatcher in case their phone is used to contact 911. When dispatch receives a call from a person who is on Smart911, the information in that person's file is released to dispatch. This is very helpful in a situation where a person is not able to verbalize once they want. Registration for 911 is free and anyone can register themselves, but it will only work in a response area that is connected to Smart911 (like Winona). The system is a great place to record preexisting medical conditions, medications and triggers. Trish noted it would be very helpful to have a person's guardian listed in Smart911 if they have a guardian. Not as many people are signing up for the service as Jenifer would like, but she plans to do some more presentations on it soon.

ASAP Update (Rebecca Church/Phil Huerta): October was a busy month for ASAP but the monthly meeting has not yet occurred. Upcoming events include an ice cream social, a Miss Minnesota event and formation of a positive community norms group. On Saturday there is a drug takeback at the Winona YMCA where people can dispose of prescription medication and e-cigarette devices.

Access to Health and Human Services Workgroup (Kalene Engel): Kalene compiled a resource document with links to educational resources about DHS programs. Winona County has updated its Human Services pages and now has a "services" page with numerous links to the state DHS website: <https://co.winona.mn.us/427/Services>.

Navigator Network (Rachel Stoll): At the October meeting, Loice Odoul presented on Minnesota Health Access. The November Navigator Network was moved to November 15th (Rachel's birthday 🎂). The presenters will be Jennifer Quarberg and Kelly Wooden from the Parent Support Outreach Program.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:52 p.m.

Next Meeting: TBA due to conflict with Thanksgiving.

**Minutes of the Early Intervention & Prevention Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
December 22, 2022 at noon via Zoom**

Present: Chris Meyer, Kalene Engel, Rachel Stoll, Tonya Van Tol, Karrie Hahn, Rebecca Church, Jocylyn Poehler, Justin Green, Isaac Hoffman, Anne Mclaughlin, Danielle Swedberg, Katie Schild, Trish Chandler, Andy Kranz

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome and Call to Order: 12:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from October Meeting: Approved by consensus without changes.

La Crosse Prevention Programs: Tonya Van Tol, Manager of Justice Support Services and Isaac Hoffman, Director of the La Crosse Area Family Collaborative were present to talk about two prevention programs that are operated out of Justice Support Services, which is a division of La Crosse County Human Services. Justice Support Services also oversees adult justice services

La Crosse Area Family Collaborative (Isaac Hoffman): La Crosse Area Family Collaborative (LAFC) is a prevention program that started approximately 5-6 years ago when a group of community members who review child protection data became concerned about the rising number of CHIPS cases. Cases had risen dramatically between 2010 and 2015 and the child welfare system was overwhelmed, so the group started looking at different programs. Dane County had a community based social work program called “Joining Forces for Families” which was achieving positive outcomes, so the folks from La Crosse toured their facilities and gathered more information about the program, ultimately deciding to replicate it in La Crosse. The goal of the program is to have social workers strategically placed within the neighborhoods to “meet families where they are,” to focus on relationship building and to stabilize families before more intensive intervention is required. La Crosse County has formalized neighborhood teams, which includes specific and intentional relationships with elementary schools and social workers embedded within the schools. They also have neighborhood offices in targeted neighborhoods. Mayo Clinic has donated a building while a local church also offers free space in its building. The LAFC staff maintains an active presence by attending community events and providing information in resource booths or via educational presentations. Referrals are evenly split between schools, other agencies and the families themselves. The most pressing need of clients is housing, followed by mental health navigation, transportation, basic needs, employment readiness child education, support and advocacy. Housing has been such a predominant issue that LAFC is leading the shelter plan for families for their community. LAFC has different funding streams to assist clients financially for certain items. They focus on relationship building, collaboration and flexibility. The average length of the program for families is 5 months. Since the LAFC was launched, child protection referrals have decreased dramatically. Not all of this can be directly correlated to the Collaborative, because other interventions have

also been put in place. The social work positions are all county positions, but the School District of La Crosse funds half of one position. Since starting their program, La Crosse County has assisted two other Wisconsin jurisdictions (Rock County and Sheboygan) in launching similar programs.

Systems of Care (Tonya Van Tol, on behalf of Bridget Todd-Robbins, Program Manager):

Systems of Care is a partnership between La Crosse County, City of La Crosse, the police and the school district. The program was developed after reviewing data, hiring a consultant and doing research on better responses to juvenile delinquencies. Their data showed over-arresting of youth, particularly youth of color. The SOC Program looks at the behaviors that led to the actions of a youth and offers wraparound services based upon the needs of the youth and the families. Currently, the focus is on middle to high school grade levels, but there have been requests for interventions at the elementary level. Instead of criminalizing the behaviors for lower level crimes, the SOC seeks to use social workers to help families work through the issues that led to the behaviors. The focus acts of the program include disorderly conduct, misdemeanor battery, criminal damage to property less than \$2,500, theft less than \$2,500 and chronic absenteeism. The SOC keeps the youth of the justice system safe from abuse and neglect and mentally healthy, which are often the reason why youth get into the juvenile justice system in the first place. Partnerships are a huge part of the program, as is building trust. Bridget is officed in the La Crosse YMCA Youth Center. Social workers are based in the school and work directly with kids. Teachers work with kids on the spot. Like the LAFC, the program is voluntary, but hardly anyone who is referred refuses to participate. The program operates throughout the summer, provides field trips and fun activities for youth and gets funding from community foundations and others. Outcomes have been excellent. Over the past 6 years, the program has served 398 youth and enjoyed an 80% success rate. On average, a youth participant in the program for 4-6 months.

SIM Workgroup – Access to Health & Human Services Programs (Chris Meyer): The workgroup will be suspending activity until a county administrator is hired. Work completed by the workgroup included a survey which resulted in valuable insight into areas where access could be improved. Some of the ideas for improvement, such updates to the Winona HHS website and written guidance as to how to best access specific services at HHS were implemented. Other suggestions, such as training provided by Winona HHS were not implemented, primarily due to staff shortages.

SIM Workgroup – Navigator Network (Rachel Stoll): The workgroup has been meeting regularly and attendance has been pretty steady, at around 10 people per meeting. Each meeting consists of a presentation from a group or organization, followed by organizational announcements. A representative from Advocacy Center of Winona presented at the December meeting. Rachel welcomes suggestions for presenters.

Strategic Planning (Committee): Kalene distributed the SIM Map Chart for Intercepts -0 through 1, noting that some of the gaps identified in those intercepts were identical to gaps in

other intercepts, that were already being addressed by another CJCC Committee. Namely, the Jail and Jail Alternatives Committee is already working on addressing gaps in supportive housing and local medication assisted treatment. Winona Health is working on addressing some of the identified gaps in mental health programming through the Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) and Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) that it is implementing. As a 2023 goal, the EIP Committee can monitor and support and hear reports from the IOP and PHP. Other gaps are being addressed by community service providers and those efforts can be monitored by the committee. After hearing about the early intervention/prevention work being done by La Crosse County, committee members were interested in working on a way to develop a collaborative structure or programs to provide early intervention for families on the verge of child protection or juvenile justice involvement. Winona County has several different early intervention programs, such as PSOP, FARR, Restorative Justice and now Healthy Families, plus community-based community health workers in the HUB, that could be incorporated into a more intentional and coordinated way to provide services. The Committee will also continue to monitor/support and hear reports from the Navigator Network.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: January 16, 2023 at noon; future meetings will be the 3rd Monday of each month at noon.