

Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Juvenile Justice Committee Minutes

January 2023 – December 2023*

*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 Juvenile Justice Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
January 19, 2023 at noon via Zoom**

Present: Rebecca Church, Kalene Engel, Judge Leahy, Alyssa Passehl, Jay Rasmussen, Phil Huerta, Amber (Livewell Winona Intern), Chris Meyer

Update on Trainings: The first juvenile-justice related training for 2023 is an ACES training by Dr. Ruth Charles on February 8th from 1-3 at Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center. She will be doing a brain architecture game as part of her training. The same training will be repeated on March 29th. See the attached flyer for additional trainings offered in conjunction with WRAP+. Anyone with ideas about additional trainings they would like to see or are aware of should contact Kalene.

Truancies: Lately there have been a lot of truancies—20 referrals were made for diversions last week. Truancy court has resumed in the schools and is being held once a month in both the high school and the ALC. Issues have arisen regarding allowing Restorative Justice access to school records. It is hoped that the school technology department can create a setup where the Restorative Justice staff could be allowed access to the attendance records only. Another alternative might be an MOU or nondisclosure agreement. Kalene will send an example nondisclosure to Judge Leahy.

Restorative Justice: [An update was provided by Restorative Justice staff via email following the meeting. The following is a summary of that update].

Restorative Justice is still working with families on truancy diversions. They ended their first semester of Life Skills (credit recovery course for high school students) in January and will be starting their second semester at the end of February. They are still rebuilding their mentoring program, doing more presentations at the local colleges to try and recruit more mentors. Diversions have been going really well with many being returned to the County Attorney's Office as successful. They are hoping to do more community group conferences with diversions. More kids have been referred for community work services so they have been out in the community working on various projects to help the kids complete their hours. They will be starting to work on their golf tournament fundraiser in the next month or so.

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention: ASAP is continuing to expand engagement with youth as leaders and important voices in the work of the organization. ASAP is partnering with law enforcement on alcohol compliance checks. The Tobacco Committee has given presentations to the Winona City Council and Winona County Board. The Positive Community Norms Committee is working on projects which will teach the schools and communities about the work of ASAP. The 2022 ASAP Impact Report was recently released; it is digital and interactive and can be accessed by clicking the following link: [2022 Impact Report - Winona County ASAP](#). The local schools are looking into getting vape detectors. The ASAP federal funding would not cover the cost of the vape detectors, but Phil wants to do more research on the efficacy of the detectors and what kind of programming could be offered in conjunction with the detectors.

A question about ASAP's position on marijuana legalization arose at the board meeting—thus far, the organization has not come forward with a recommendation but is following the legislation closely. The recent Minnesota Student Survey results showed a slight uptick in the use of marijuana. Not only is marijuana use up, but the perception that everyone is doing it and that it is not a big deal has also increased. Judge Leahy commented that she often sees pre-sentence investigation reports where the offender relates that their drug use history started with marijuana use in middle school or shortly after entering high school. Jay Rasmussen shared a story where police were recently called to a school for a student who was found with a vape pen that they had taken from a parent. When the parent arrived at school, they seemed more concerned about the theft of the pen than the child's use of it. Discussion was held about ways to address the perception that "it's not a big deal," possibly by noting the correlation between early onset marijuana use and criminal justice involvement.

Adjourned: 12:28 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 16, 2023 at noon

**Minutes of the Juvenile Justice Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
March 17, 2023 at noon via Zoom**

Present: Rebecca Church, Kalene Engel, Chris Meyer, Kylie Davison, Katie Illies, Kris Sather, Karrie Hahn, Andy Kranz, Becky Brandt, Sally Poepping

Juvenile Placement Concerns: Kris noted that, since COVID, many juvenile facilities have closed or reduced capacity. Anoka (which has a great program) has entered into contracts with other counties and has few or no beds available for counties without contracts. Winona County is struggling mightily to find placements for juveniles due to lack of facility space. When placements are located, they are often very long distances away. Other counties are having the same challenges. Chris asked whether Winona County could get a contract for space, possibly in conjunction with other area counties. After discussion, the committee decided to form a workgroup to further discuss this issue. Kris will pull together some numbers on the needs for placement and Kalene will arrange for a meeting. Kalene, Karen, Kris and Chris agreed to be on the workgroup.

Trainings: Kalene and Sally reviewed the list of trainings that have been scheduled through WRAP+, as follows:

March 29 from 12-2pm	Trauma Informed Care – Dr. Ruth Charles	In Person at HVMHC
April 18 th from 9-11 am (tentative, check with Sally)	Panel Discussion on CBT, DBT, EMDR, TIC, ITFC with Michelle Ellenberg, Andy/Jen Whetstone, Michelle Monerson	Online
May 16, 2023 from 1-3pm	Understanding Housing Support in Winona County Maia Uhrich, MN Dept of Human Services Megan Toney, HVMHC Andie Smith, Winona Co HHS	Online
June 6, 2023 from 1-3pm	Employment Services: How to Help Individuals Get Work. Erin Main & Marleen Lundberg, Dept of Employment and Economic Development (DEED); Troy Miller and Amanda Swart (Goodwill Easter Seals, IPS Program)	Online
July 11 th from 9-11 am July 27 th from 1-3pm	Government Benefits 101 by Nicole Mourgaz of Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services; Joel Kinder	Online
August 10 from 10-noon August 23 from 10-noon	Cultural Humility	In Person at HVMHC
September	TBD	TBD
October – date TBD	Poverty Simulation	In Person at Veteran’s Center

	Jen Timm and Ann Vandeberg of Winona State	
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Karrie noted that FCC has a grant funding that will fund free Mental Health 1st Aid, Youth Mental Health 1st Aid and Suicide Prevention Trainings through the end of June. She will reach out to the trainers to see if some sessions can be scheduled. Katie and Kyle are willing to do a training on Restorative Justice. Sally is having a tough time nailing down a trainer for a Fetal Alcohol Training.

Truancies: The Winona Area Public Schools have restricted probation/Restorative Justice's access to the student information system due to privacy concerns, claiming that they need court orders or authorizations on every student for which information is sought. Judge Leahy has provided the school with a proposed Memorandum of Understanding to share data but things are at a standstill. Because they cannot access attendance information, Restorative Justice has a difficult time helping with early interventions or diversions. WAPS is trying to handle its own early intervention processes but the truancies continue to skyrocket. Becky noted that fewer hearings are taking place at school and wonders whether it is a good use of judicial resources. Rebecca explained the rationale behind why the hearings were originally moved to the school (to make sure the administrators were available). Sally noted that there are a lot of children who are on the verge of education neglect, who simply refuse to go to school and the parents are at wits end and don't make them go to school. Kalene suggested a possible waiver of attendance information through the student handbook. Judge Leahy is planning to have a meeting with the school so holding court at the school can possibly be re-evaluated.

Diversions: When a case is closed through a diversion, Court Administration needs a court order to dismiss the case

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention: Phil Huerta and Helen Bagshaw took a group of 40 kids to the Day at the Capitol and the adults with whom they interacted had positive things to say about them. The Positive Community Norms Subcommittee has a meeting set up with the Winona Middle School. They are hoping to launch a campaign next school year. The Alcohol Subcommittee is working with the High School Prom committee to possibly present a positive community norms message during prom. Both the alcohol committee and the tobacco committee are working on doing compliance checks again. Everyone is watching the marijuana legislation.

Calendar Changes: Court Administration will be modifying juvenile calendars to make more times for CHIPS, including truancies and runaways. Juveniles will stay on Tuesdays.

Juvenile Justice Mental Health Diversion: Discussion deferred until the May meeting due to lack of time.

Adjourned: 12:55 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 18, 2023 at noon

**Minutes of the Juvenile Justice Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
May 18, 2023 at noon via Zoom**

Present: Rebecca Church, Kalene Engel, Chris Meyer, Kylie Davison, Kris Sather, Andy Kranz, Becky Brandt, Lori Klein, Alyssa Passehl, Teri Henderson

Juvenile Placement Concerns: Concerns continue about the lack of available placement options for youth. Just last night, the county was required to release a juvenile who was held for four hours and then released home because a suitable placement could not be located. This raised questions about whether there was a parent/guardian home and with the capacity to accept and care for the child. Many other counties pay to hold a bed at a detention center, but Winona County is not one of them. Chris stated that she recalled a conversation about possibly teaming up with other nearby counties to pay for a bed. She stated that it would be very helpful to have data on the need as well as a potential solution/recommendation. Becky will pull numbers from the detention court schedule for the past year and get it to Rebecca and Chris.

Trainings: Rebecca screen-shared the list of WRAP+ and other trainings (below) that have been scheduled thus for 2023. A juvenile-related training that was recently added is Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder by Proof Alliance on September 5th from 9-11 am.

Month in 2023	Topic/Presenter	Format
January 30 th from noon to 4pm	Motivational Interviewing – Dr. Debra Murray	In person at HVMHC
February 7 th from 1-3pm February 15 th from 1-3pm	Overview of MN Ombudsman Office by Wade Oldenburg and Civil Commitment by Stephanie Waters	Online
February 8 th from 1-3pm	Trauma Informed Care – Dr. Ruth Charles	In Person at HVMHC
March 29 from 12-2pm	Trauma Informed Care – Dr. Ruth Charles	In Person at HVMHC
March 30 th from 1-3:30 pm	*Civil Commitment Training – Full Training with Stephanie Waters and Andrea Strobel-Ayres	Online
April 13 from 9-10 am	*Advance Psychiatric Directives with Eren Sutherland of Disability Law Center	Online
April 18 th from 9-11 am (tentative, check with Sally)	Panel Discussion on CBT, DBT, EMDR, TIC, ITFC with Michelle Ellenberg, Andy/Jen Whetstone, Michelle Monerson	Online
May 8 th from 9 to 3pm	*Mental Health 1 st Aid Training for Youth with Craig Putz of Family and Children’s Center	Family and Children’s Center
May 16, 2023 from 1-3pm	Understanding Housing Support in Winona County Maia Uhrich, MN Dept of Human Services Megan Toney, HVMHC Andie Smith, Winona Co HHS	Online

June 6, 2023 from 1-3pm	Employment Services: How to Help Individuals Get Work. Erin Main & Marleen Lundberg, Dept of Employment and Economic Development (DEED); Troy Miller and Amanda Swart (Goodwill Easter Seals, IPS Program)	Online
July 11 th from 9-11 am July 27 th from 1-3pm	Government Benefits 101 by Nicole Mourgas of Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services; Joel Kinder	Online
August 10 from 10-noon August 23 from 10-noon	Cultural Humility	In Person at HVMHC
September 5th 9-11 am; taped	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder by Proof Alliance	Online
October 12 th from 9 to 11 October 12 th from 1 to 3	Poverty Simulation Jen Timm and Ann Vandeberg of Winona State	In Person at Veteran's Center/Legion on Sarnia Street

The group was interested in arranging for a Stewards of Children Training, so Kalene will put Vanessa Southworth in touch with Alyssa to coordinate schedules.

Truancy Updates: There hasn't been any movement towards securing access by Restorative Justice to the attendance data. Many angles have been attempted to work with the schools and there is no forward progress. Judge Leahy has decided that hearings will no longer be held at the schools; next school year the hearings will be held at the courthouse and school personnel are expected to be present in person for the hearings, as the majority of hearings are in person. Chris suggested reaching out to Commissioner Voegele to start a dialogue about possible options.

Restorative Justice: Aside from truanancies, things are going well with all of the other Restorative Justice Programs. RJ presented at the May Navigator Network Meeting. The RJ Golf Tournament will be held on August 18th at Cedar Valley.

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention: The Positive Community Norms Subcommittee is kicking off its work. It will have planning meetings in the summer and will be starting a campaign at the Winona Middle School in the fall. They would like to secure support from the school and have a meeting next week. ASAP is watching the marijuana bills and talking/thinking about what they can do to support the community and educate and protect youth. A small team will be doing a community scan to determine where THC is sold and how accessible it is.

Other:

- Lori Klein is the supervisor for the case processing team that handles CHIPS (Child in Need of Protection or Services cases).
- The juvenile guidelines (truanancies, diversion, delinquencies) are now posted on a new CJCC webpage.

Adjourned: 12:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 20, 2023 at noon

**Minutes of the Juvenile Justice Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
July 20, 2023 at noon via Zoom**

Present: Rebecca Church, Kalene Engel, Chris Meyer, Kylie Davison, Alyssa Passehl, Teri Henderson, Sally Poepping, Amber Ziegler, Maureen Holte, Renee Rumpca, Danielle Swedberg, Mary Leahy, Becky Brandt

Juvenile Placement Concerns: Teri shared her experiences regarding finding placements for juveniles during the past few months. It continues to be very difficult to find placements—if anything, it has gotten worse since our last meeting. As an example, on July 19th she had to find a placement for a youth with multiple probation violations who had turned himself in. She called several placements who turned her down because Winona County does not have a contract with them for bed space. She finally found a place in Bemidji, but since Transport was not available to take him, a sheriff's deputy drove 12 hours round trip make the placement.

Teri and Kris use placement as a last resort and work very hard with juveniles to try and come up with intervention options other than placement, so when they recommend placement, it is something that is really necessary. Time in residential placement ranges from 3 months to 18 months. Currently, Teri spends more time looking for placements than actually helping kids. Youth with aggressive behaviors are especially difficult to place and placement facilities can be picky because there is such a demand; thus, they can say no to aggressive children. Many nonsecure placement facilities also operate on a contract basis. The problem has been exacerbated by the closures of facilities and staffing shortages, which don't allow open facilities to operate at their capacity.

The department that funds placements is Human Services. A meeting was scheduled to discuss placements and detention, but Director Sanness was not able to attend that meeting so things were not moved forward. Teri and Alyssa believe contracting a bed, perhaps by joining with other area counties, would provide some immediate relief for the problem.

Rebecca is concerned that placements will continue to rise due to kids who lived through COVID and failed to develop proper coping skills. Sally stated that with the kids that are on waitlists for treatment, it feels like we are treading water, just waiting for those kids to end up on Teri and Kris's caseloads.

Education and services within the community are intervention options that are considered and used. However, in juvenile delinquency cases, the focus is on the child's behavior, so the parents aren't typically ordered to do things. In CHIPS cases, the parents can be ordered to parenting classes, but that is a bit of a gap in our community with only one provider who offers that service. Many times, the training and skills provided to a child/parent are through their therapist, often through caregiver sessions where the therapist directs the training and skills. Children who are involved in Legacies or HCO get training and skills from those programs.

Providing even earlier intervention, focused on younger children, could equip parents and children with skills and education they need to decrease the need for costlier interventions later.

We have many programs and services available in Winona that offer early childhood services, but the challenge is getting the word out to parents and referrals sources about what is available and appropriate for their child. The Navigator Network compiled a list of early intervention programs in the community. County DHS was exploring a “no wrong door” approach to entry into these programs, but it unknown whether that has come to fruition.

After discussion, the group determined that a meeting between DHS, DOC, County and County Attorney leadership would be needed to address short-term and long-term solutions.

Juvenile Citations/Diversions: When a juvenile diversion is authorized, Court Administration needs some type of notification that the case is a diversion case, otherwise they will schedule it for an arraignment. Even with diversions, cases sometimes need to be opened to deal with the finds or community work service. Renee will make sure that the diversion letters (letters confirming that a case is in diversion), gets filed into any case file with the citation and police report.

Restorative Justice: Kylie plans to reach out to school staff to reopen the lines of communication and see if they can get access to attendance records for truancy purposes. The new superintendent was a former principal and worked well with Restorative Justice in the past, so there is hope that the access issues can be resolved. Judge Leahy would reconsider bring the court back to school if the school would share information. The Restorative Justice Golf Tournament is on August 18th.

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention: Welcome to Amber Ziegler, the new ASAP Coordinator, who took over for Phil Huerta after he accepted a position as the Regional Prevention Coordinator. Amber interned at ASAP and is excited to make more in-depth connections through the position. The July ASAP Board Meeting was cancelled so everyone can “get their feet on the ground.” In August, ASAP will hold a volunteer appreciation barbeque. Amber is working on revamping ASAP’s youth internship and youth council meetings and looking into partnerships with other organizations. Work on the positive community norms continues.

Trainings: Alyssa reported on the recent “Stewards of Children – Darkness to Light” training done by Vanessa Southworth of Livewell Winona. The training was a video-based training delivered through people with lived experience which focuses on how to recognize and react to the signs of sexual abuse and to advocate healthy norms in communities. Sally shared information about upcoming trainings organized through WRAP+, as follows.

July 11 th from 9-11 am July 27 th from 1-3pm	Government Benefits 101 by Nicole Mourgas of Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services; Joel Kinder	Online
August 10 from 10-noon August 23 from 10-noon	Cultural Humility	In Person at HVMHC
September 5th 9-11 am; taped	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder by Proof Alliance	Online
October 12 th from 9 to 11 October 12 th from 1 to 3	Poverty Simulation Jen Timm and Ann Vandeberg of Winona State	In Person at Veteran’s Center/Legion on Sarnia Street

Registration for the trainings can be done online through the Community Mental Health Trainings link on the HVMHC.org website. Plans are underway for a training from a member of the Drug Task Force in November.

Adjourned: 12:58 p.m.

Next Meeting: August 17th at noon

**Minutes of the Juvenile Justice Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
August 17, 2023 at noon via Zoom**

Present: Rebecca Church, Chris Meyer, Kris Sather, Jay Rasmussen, Kalene Engel, Andy Kranz, Kylie Davison, Maureen Holte, Amber Ziegler, Becky Brandt, Alyssa Passehl

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Juvenile Placement Concerns: Placement of juveniles continues to be a concern, with continued examples of difficulties in placement which creates stress and significant added time for staff. Staff involved are advocating for finding solutions because nothing has changed. Maureen will take responsibility for organizing a meeting between her, Karin Sonneman, Rena Patterson and Alyssa Passehl to explore possible solutions.

Truancy Update: Several representatives from juvenile justice met with the new superintendent on August 16th. They provided a background of last years' challenges and how to best move forward for the upcoming school year. The meeting went well and it seemed like everyone was on the same page, so everyone is hopeful for a good start to this school year.

Restorative Justice Update: Everything is going well with Restorative Justice. They have held a couple of community group conferences. The golf tournament fundraiser is on August 18, 2023.

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention: ASAP is solidifying plans with youth partnerships and revamping the internship program. Suspension alternatives for students caught vaping is also being explored with the help of Dr. Jen Timm from WSU. ASAP is also mapping out a plan in preparation for a meeting with the new WAPS Superintendent. Rebecca complimented Amber on how she has jumped into the new position with both feet and is a hard worker and go-getter.

Update on 2023 Training Schedule: The September training is a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder training on September 5th at 9am. October's training is a Poverty Simulation on October 12th, with two sessions (9-11 am and 1-3pm). Kalene noted that there is a new youth center in Winona opening in early September called Impact Center. It is located next to Grace Place and will serve students 5 and up.

Open Discussion:

- **Marijuana Legalization:** Andy asked how the legalization of marijuana will impact the justice system. The state hasn't taken a full stance or updated guidelines, but in meetings and webinars, it seems like marijuana will be treated similar to alcohol. For juveniles, it will be business as usual. For CHIPS cases, it will be case specific and depend upon a number of factors. For the police, it is going to be trial and error. If persons under 21 possess marijuana, it is not allowed but there is not really a statute for that so it will be

hard to charge, so it would likely be a petty misdemeanor. Another complicating factor is that nothing will get regulated until 2025 so there will be a lot of learning curves. Currently there is no where to send stuff to test it to see if it meets a threshold. Chris commented that MNPOST had a good article on the laws and lack of clarity on August 16th. Representative Pelowski thinks that the legislature will revisit the law. Other cities have passed ordinances prohibiting smoking in public areas.

- **Personnel:** Sherri Brekke is retiring on August 25th. Right now her cases are going to be covered by other ongoing social workers until a replacement can be hired.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 12:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 19, 2023

**Minutes of the Juvenile Justice Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
October 19, 2023 at noon via Zoom**

Present: Rebecca Church, Chris Meyer, Kris Sather, Jay Rasmussen, Kalene Engel, Amber Ziegler, Alyssa Passehl, Teri Henderson, Karrie Hahn, Mary Leahy

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Juvenile Placement Concerns: Since our last meeting, Maureen, Andy, Karin, Rena and Alyssa met to discuss juvenile placement concerns. Alyssa compiled and shared some cost information about contracted beds. Unfortunately, the one county that responded to Alyssa in time (Anoka) stated that they would not accept more counties for membership at this time. Alyssa also received feedback from some counties that the contracted beds were frustrated because the contracted beds were unavailable when needed. Prairie Lakes advised Teri that they would always make a bed available if the county contracted with them. Other options, such as finding space at a community location, are being explored but licensing will be a challenge. Frustration was expressed by all regarding the lack of progress on this issue. Chris acknowledged the frustration and stated that she cares about the issue and would continue to advocate for solutions.

Truancy Update: Despite a promising meeting with school administration earlier this year, Rebecca has not seen the changes in the truancy program that she was hoping for. The school continues to maintain that there is no way to get around the releases that they say they need in order to release student data. There have been more referrals for truancy to the County Attorney than in past years for this time period; approximately half of them have been referred to diversion. Judge Leahy noted that Winona's truancy program (with the court hearings being held in the school) was once a model for the rest of the state as one of the best ways to handle truancy is gone. The current system (with hearings in the courthouse) results in more time out of school for the youth and administration. Alyssa noted that the truancy cases are currently being assigned to the ongoing social workers on a rotational basis until a replacement has been hired for Sherri Brekke. A tentative offer was made to a candidate for that position and background checks are pending, with full onboarding expected in mid-November.

Restorative Justice Update: Rebecca complimented the Restorative Justice team as being flexible and thinking outside the box, citing a recent unique resolution where everyone was able to work effectively as a team. The Juvenile Screening Team meetings have resumed which are also good opportunities for team-building.

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention: ASAP is getting into the swing of the school year. Partnering with Miller Mentoring, ASAP will be going into 10th grade health classes to talk about resiliency and healthy coping habits. In mid-November, students who were being suspended for vaping will be allowed to complete in-depth vaping curriculum from the American

Lung Association provided by ASAP and WSU Graduate Students. Jay reported the results of the alcohol compliance checks. In round one, 13 passed and 11 failed and in round 2, 11 passed and 3 failed. They are reassessing follow-up and enforcement processes with the businesses who attend the responsible beverage server training. The tobacco committee is attempting to work with the county and schools to get vape boxes in the schools (for confiscated/discarded vapes). Amber has been busy tabling at events in Winona and Lewiston and is recruiting youth to be interns.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 12:34 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 16, 2023 at noon

**Minutes of the Juvenile Justice Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
November 16, 2023 at noon via Zoom**

Present: Rebecca Church, Chris Meyer, Kris Sather, Jay Rasmussen, Kalene Engel, Brad Berzinski, Katie Illies, Kylie Davison, Karin Sonneman, Becky Brandt

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Juvenile Placement Concerns: Since our last meeting, Maureen, Karin, Rena, Rebecca, Alyssa and Kris met to discuss concerns about juvenile placements. Maureen was exploring additional options and another meeting will be scheduled to discuss those options.

Truancy Update: Restorative Justice was given access to Infinite Campus so they can now monitor the students on truancy diversion, so diversions are working better. The numbers for early intervention are very low. Currently, there is only one student on early intervention, whereas during the same timeframe last year, there were 60 students on early intervention. Katie prefers that students be referred at 3 unexcused absences because that provides a buffer for Restorative Justice to get involved, thereby reducing situations where the child racks up 7 unexcused absences (which is the point at which the school can file for truancy). Rebecca noted that the referral patterns for truanancies are different than in previous years, with a large batch of referrals in the beginning of the year, but not much since. Brad would like to get updates from the principals on attendance data, as well as more information on what the school is doing internally to reduce truanancies. Discussion was held on how to get notice to the school about upcoming truancy hearings, as the judge expects someone from the school to be present at the hearings. For the November hearings, Katie notified the assistant principal of the hearing. In the past, the assigned social worker notified the school. There may be a way that the school could be added as a party, such that notice would be mailed to the school. Becky will look into how to provide notice to the court. Rebecca reported that Sherri Brekke's position was filled. The new employee (Ally) started on Tuesday and will be the main social worker handling pretrials, truanancies and runaways. Kalene shared the link for the Truancy Guidelines, which are posted on the CJCC Juvenile Justice webpage: <https://winonacountycjcc.org/juvenile-justice-committee/>.

Restorative Justice Update: The other Restorative Justice programs are going well, with arrangements being made for community group conferences.

Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention: Amber continues to work on recruiting and training youth interns and table at various events. The Alcohol Committee is in the process of revamping; Helen Bagshaw continues to manage the work of the Tobacco Committee. The Lionheart Experience gave a presentation at Winona Senior High School on November 14th. Brad received feedback that the presentation was well received. There is another event planned for tonight where students will be walking to WAV nutrition and gathering to talk about healthy coping habits and resiliency.

Other: Rebecca has accepted a new position at the Public Defender's Office which she will start on December 4th. She is passionate about juvenile justice issues and will continue to participate in the committee as she is able.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 12:42 p.m.

Next Meeting: January 18, 2023 at noon (no meeting in December)