

2006-2007 Year in Review and 2007-2008 Workplan

*Promoting a “fair, effective, and coordinated”
criminal justice system in Benton County
through expansion of “cooperation and collaboration”*



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■ WCJC Year in Review 2006-2007 ■

This document is a summary of the Willamette Criminal Justice Council's 2006-2007 activities and accomplishments. The WCJC Inter-Governmental Agreement, the WCJC Strategic Plan and Action Plan provide the direction for these activities.

The WCJC is a policy-oriented council comprised of concerned citizens, elected officials, criminal justice service providers, and providers of juvenile, health and social services. The WCJC first convened in 1992 to consider comprehensive criminal justice planning to improve quality and increase efficiency and effectiveness through collaboration and cooperation. The WCJC was formalized by an inter-governmental agreement between Benton County, its five cities (Adair, Albany, Corvallis, Monroe and Philomath), and Oregon State University. The WCJC continually reviews the status of priority strategic actions and defines new priorities to meet the evolving needs of the community.

WCJC efforts have saved money, improved accuracy, and increased efficiency in the delivery of criminal justice services in Benton County and Oregon.

The WCJC also functions as Benton County's Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC).

■ New this Year ■

METHAMPHETAMINE AWARENESS EDUCATION

A major effort was launched to provide methamphetamine education to the community. The Albany Rotary, City of Corvallis and Benton County employees, the Albany Hub Club Rotary, and the Corvallis City Council received methamphetamine presentations in 2007. The presentations were televised on channel 21 and channel 29.

STREET CRIMES TEAM FORMED

The Benton County Sheriff's Office and the Corvallis Police Department formed the new Street Crimes Team. Members of the team received special training and were instrumental in a large methamphetamine drug bust in Benton County.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CO-INITIATIVES

In an effort to streamline procedures, the Benton County Sheriff's Office and the Corvallis Police Department who have been housed in the same building for many years, have now blended the agencies within areas: all detectives are located together as are patrol and administration. The initiatives have also resulted in joint training and joint purchasing of equipment such as vehicles.

VICTIM IMPACT PANELS

To promote restorative justice in Benton County, the DUII Victim Impact Panels were expanded to reach more than 450 attendees annually. Four new modular DVDs were created to capture both victim and law enforcement stories which augment live presentations.

"BUS"

Bus, the first detection drug dog in Benton County (funded by the WCJC) received his Canine Police Association Certification.

Promoting a "fair, effective and coordinated" criminal justice system in Benton County through expansion of "cooperation and collaboration."

WCJC - What is it?

Overview: The WCJC is a coalition of public safety professionals and citizens in Benton County. Formally established in 1992, the WCJC provides long-range planning and coordination of criminal justice and public safety services for Benton County. The WCJC was formalized in an inter-governmental agreement involving Benton County; the cities of Adair Village, Albany, Corvallis, Monroe and Philomath; and Oregon State University. The early success of the WCJC proved to be inspiration for the creation of Local Public Safety Coordinating Councils (LPSCC), now mandated for every Oregon county. Following passage of the LPSCC legislation in 1995, the Benton County Board of Commissioners designated the WCJC as Benton County's Local Public Safety Coordinating Council. In addition to coordinating local criminal justice policy among affected criminal justice entities, LPSCC's are required to develop and recommend to the county board of commissioners a plan for use of state resources to serve the local adult offender population and the needs of the local offender population who are between 15 and 18 years of age. This plan must provide for coordination of community-wide services involving prevention, treatment, education, employment resources, and intervention strategies.

The WCJC coordinates criminal justice planning for Benton County. It provides the administrative structure to facilitate communication among agencies and create opportunities for enhanced efficiency in the delivery of services.

WCJC brings people together to explore and discuss issues of importance in the criminal justice area and works to implement best practices for Benton County to enhance the livability of our community.

-- Joanne Trow,
Former
WCJC Chair

Organization

Membership: Criminal justice providers, related agencies, and community-at-large. The membership of the WCJC balances representation between citizens and criminal justice system professionals, thereby creating a governing structure that can collaboratively address the WCJC's goals and implement long-term solutions.

Leadership: Strong citizen involvement at all levels, from the executive committee to the work groups.

Decision-making: Consensus decision-making.

Mission

The mission of the Willamette Criminal Justice Council is to:

- Promote and facilitate fair, efficient, effective and coordinated criminal justice services in Benton County;
- Provide long-range planning for the delivery of criminal justice services in Benton County;
- Provide timely information to governmental agencies and to the public on criminal justice matters of local concern.

Objectives

WCJC has two critical objectives that must be met in order to deliver on its mission:

Objective #1: Coordinated Resources Among Agencies

Through an integrated criminal justice planning process, the WCJC seeks to reduce or eliminate duplication of effort, to foster the sharing of resources, and inter-disciplinary participation in the criminal justice system.

Objective #2: Standardized Data

Decisions, policies, and programs must be based on shared and credible information. The WCJC acknowledges that a coordinated, fair, effective and efficient criminal justice system can only be achieved through shared data that is developed and analyzed via standardized methodologies.

Role of the WCJC

Within the Criminal Justice System in Benton County

There are four key roles to be performed by the WCJC in order to achieve its objectives:

Role #1: Forum/Facilitator

The WCJC will act as a forum for long range planning and coordination of a fair, efficient and effective criminal justice system. In its role as a forum, the WCJC will act as an arena for policy deliberations, problem-solving, and coordination of collaborative initiatives. Within this role, the WCJC will enable agencies to overview and link with the plans and initiatives of others.

Role #2: Communicator

The WCJC can function as a hub of communication for criminal justice agencies, and a source of information and education on criminal justice issues for elected officials and others within government and participating organizations. The WCJC may at times have a limited role in communicating with the general public.

Role #3: Analyzer

The WCJC will strive to better understand the nature of crime and criminals in Benton County for the purpose of improving collaboration among agencies. Within this role, the WCJC will support and promote the standardization of data.

Role #4: Catalyst/Sponsor

The WCJC will, for high priority issues, initiate and sponsor specific programs that further the WCJC mission.

■ WCJC Workplan ■

Areas of Focus ■ 2007-2008

The Workplan for 2007-2008 was developed by the WCJC membership through a process of identifying and prioritizing the challenges faced by the criminal justice system in Benton County that could be addressed by collaboration and cooperation. WCJC members identified areas that could be enhanced through expanding collaboration. The Plan of Action focused on continuing to look at five key areas for 2007-2008.

In 2006-2007, WCJC members re-affirmed that "enhancing cooperation & collaboration" between entities in the criminal justice system would contribute significantly to a "fair, efficient, effective" criminal justice system.

WCJC members identified areas that could be enhanced through expanding collaboration. The Workplan focuses on five key areas to pursue in 2007-2008 as well as four areas to continue monitoring.

WCJC's primary mission is to enhance cooperation and collaboration within the criminal justice system within Benton County. During 2007-2008, WCJC will be focusing the attention of the criminal justice community in Benton County and the communities in Benton County on the following issues:

AREAS OF FOCUS

1. Adult Corrections Facility in Benton County

The WCJC continues to support and advocate for the construction of a new adult correctional facility in Benton County. The WCJC will collaborate with County Commissioners, citizen groups and other interested parties to present a unified effort, enhancing understanding and support of public agencies, elected officials and the community regarding the critical need for an adult corrections facility.

Jailing prisoners locally, rather than sending them to other counties has many benefits. As long as resources are being spent in other counties, rather than investing them into a local jail, being able to develop programming to transition inmates back into this community will be difficult - perhaps impossible. Local programming for inmates and transition programs would result in a higher success rate for local inmates. Programming done at other jails work well for their local inmates, because they can be transitioned back into their home communities; whereas, Benton County inmates may not be able to participate or utilize some of the programs, since they are not a resident of that county.

Revenues from local tax dollars should remain in Benton County rather than being spent outside of the county. Additional costs are associated with transporting inmates to other counties. For instance, additional staff and a transport vehicle are required to perform the transports. Maintaining local jail beds is critical. It is not cost effective to house certain inmates in other counties, due to their number of scheduled court appearances and release dates, etc. It is much more difficult for family members to visit inmates in another county rather than locally. There is currently an emphasis on maintaining contact and relationships within families, particularly between children and parents. Traveling to other counties in order to see incarcerated family members can often be a hardship.

Steps for 2007-2008- A new jail facility will continue to be considered and depending on the outcome of any county levies over the next few months, more work may be done in either restructuring the current jail bed rental levy or focusing on a concerted effort to build a new jail facility. In the meantime, consideration will be given on ways to address the problem of incarcerated offenders who have been diagnosed with mental illness as well as the problem of severely intoxicated individuals when they are brought to the jail. We also look forward to a new security video system that will provide additional safety and security for inmates and deputies, as well as a new jail management system for record keeping and monitoring inmates which will also contribute to efficiencies and security.

Changes have been made over the last year in the Corrections Facility to improve efficiency in the operations. Between a significant change in the meal program to inmate clothing and organization of storage, cost savings and efficiencies have been recognized. A new commissary program for the inmates as well as a new electronic fingerprinting system have also contributed to cost savings and efficiencies.

2. Promotion of Restorative Justice

The WCJC recognized the value of incorporating the principles of restorative justice into the criminal justice system and developed the Restorative Justice Task Force in 2001. The task force advocates for new restorative models in the justice system.

Steps for 2007-2008- WCJC will receive regular reports from the Restorative Justice Task Force detailing the work of the task force in developing concepts and working models based on restorative principles for the community.

3. Public Information About Law Enforcement

In a strategic planning session, the WCJC brought to light a need to inform the public about practices and pertinent information of law enforcement.

Steps for 2007-2008- Continuing projects are planned as issues arise and quarterly updates are submitted to the Gazette Times for publication.

4. Completing Tasks Delegated to LPSCC's from Legislature

Steps for 2007-2008- The WCJC will continue to complete tasks that are delegated to them from current legislative session decisions.

5. Coordination and Cooperation Among Agencies

Steps for 2007-2008- The WCJC will continue to promote inter-agency coordination and cooperation to enhance the criminal justice system. This includes tracking progress on the eight collaborative objectives identified by BCSO and CPD through the law enforcement initiatives.

AREAS TO MONITOR

1. Benton County Drug Treatment Court

Breaking the cycle of circulation through the criminal justice system, which is all too common for non-violent drug and alcohol abusing offenders, would significantly increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system.

Steps for 2007-2008: Check out the Activities and Accomplishments section for details.

2. Mental Health and Criminal Justice

Mentally ill persons in Benton County continue to absorb significant amounts of time from law enforcement. Over the past year the WCJC has maintained efforts to explore avenues of help for prisoners with mental illness. Several WCJC members participate in the Corrections-Mental Health Transitions Work Group, a collaborative effort focused on obtaining housing for 12 mentally ill persons who have come into contact with the criminal justice system. The WCJC also heard from Benton County Mental Health Services to learn about their Biennial Implementation Plan.

Steps for 2007-2008: Over the next year we anticipate initiatives coming out of the Work Group may include availability of special training for first responders and service providers in dealing with mentally ill persons in crisis situations.

3. Juvenile Justice

Steps for 2007-2008: With the conclusion of the Juvenile Justice Task force in April 2001, the WCJC is continuing to monitor juvenile crime and juvenile justice issues.

4. Relationships Between OSU Students and Law Enforcement

Steps for 2007-2008: The WCJC continues to discuss issues surrounding the OSU student population and law enforcement. When needed, forums are set up and held to encourage the sharing of viewpoints and information that will help the parties involved to work together and to come to resolution as needed. As a new school year begins and throughout the academic year, the WCJC will encourage and help these relationships to run smoothly.

What is impressive is the breadth of the membership of the organization, their dedication to making our criminal justice system work better, and their willingness to take on tasks that, if they had been easy, would have already been accomplished. We are so fortunate that the vision of a few more than a decade ago continues today.

-- Jay Dixon,
Benton County
Commissioner

WCJC 2006-2007

■ Activities & Accomplishments ■

WCJC's bylaws provide for three standing committees; Lay, Executive and Budget Committees. These committees are central to completing WCJC objectives. The activity is described below in the context of substantive areas.

The Lay Committee is composed of WCJC members not directly employed in the field of criminal justice. The bylaws charge the Lay Committee's members to "...consider long-range planning and the delivery of services in the Benton County criminal justice system." The overall goal is to facilitate lay and citizen input regarding criminal justice issues.

■ **Benton County Drug Treatment Court – Adult and Juvenile**

Status: In Process - Planning

Adult Drug Treatment Court Overview The Benton County Adult Drug Treatment Court (DTC) began operation in November 2001 after significant planning and coordination by many community partners. To fund program components, the Oregon Judicial Department was awarded grant funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The BJA grant was awarded in June of 2002 for a period of three years and was extended through September 2006. The SAMHSA grant, awarded in June of 2003, is a three-year award and was extended through May 2007. In June 2006, the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) awarded Benton County an enhancement grant to provide additional services for the adult DTC program for one year, ending in June 2007. The grant allowed the program to expand services to include evening groups and daycare for participants' children while they attend treatment groups and recovery related activities. In June 2007, the grant was extended for another two years.

Benton County Adult DTC continues to increase the number of program participants. Since November 2001, 187 participants entered Drug Treatment Court, 70 graduated, 47 were terminated, one is deceased, four transferred to other drug courts and 56 are active. Participation has generally been limited to drug addicts who are facing probation revocation or revocation of conditional discharge. In some cases, entry criteria have been expanded to include participants charged with new drug related crimes.

BCDTC cases are staffed each Wednesday morning and court proceedings are held each Wednesday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. in courtroom #2. Court sessions are open to the public. The staffing team consists of members from the Oregon Judicial Department, Benton County Sheriff's Office, Benton County Community Corrections, Legal Defense Consortium, Benton County District Attorney's Office, Corvallis Police Department, and Benton County Mental Health (New Beginnings Treatment Center).

Work to Date From June 2006 – June 2007, 44 new participants entered the program, 18 graduated, 12 were terminated, one declined entry and three transferred to other drug court programs in Oregon. Since its inception, 52 % of participants are male and 47.3% are female. The participants range in age from 18 to 56 years old.

Successes The first graduation ceremony was held in March of 2003. As of August 2007, 70 participants have graduated, 30 are female and 40 are male. Participants take an average of 18 months to successfully complete DTC. The average age of graduates is 36 years old.

Over the past year, DTC has added new services to enhance the program and better serve our participants, including clean and sober housing, mental health treatment with medication management, evening and weekend urinalysis collection, experiential therapy, acupuncture and drumming circles.

The Benton County Drug Treatment Court continues to increase housing stability, employment/wages, and education while reducing substance abuse and recidivism. To date, fifteen drug free babies have been born.

With funding from the BJA grant, community members were able to open the first Corvallis Men's Oxford House. The Oxford House can accommodate up to eleven men. Recently, the BCDTC has opened a women's Oxford house and a second men's Oxford house.

DTC participants continue to participate in pro-social activities in the community. Thanks to a generous donation from team sponsor, HMK Consulting, Inc., Benton County Drug Treatment Court participants are playing Corvallis City League Co-ed softball this summer. Katy Krupp provided uniforms. Participants and staffing team members volunteered at the United Way Day of Caring and participants have provided community service for various non-profit agencies throughout Benton and Linn Counties.

The Benton County Drug Treatment Court was the recipient of a generous donation from the Good Samaritan Hospital Social Accountability Committee. The donated funds will provide expanded drug testing, participant incentives, pro-social activity opportunities, clean and sober housing, and child care for participants.

The DTC also received a generous donation from the Zonta Foundation of Corvallis. The donation has aided the program in meeting the unique needs of female participants.

The Altrusa Foundation provides assistance to all participants who are working toward earning their GED. They donate the money to pay for all necessary preparatory classes and tests.

Evaluation Oregon Judicial Department's Court Programs and Services Division completed an outcome evaluation in March 2005. The evaluation focused on the 88 participants who entered the program between November 2001 and December 2004. The evaluation yielded the following data.

Key Outcome Evaluation Findings:

Increased Housing Stability 69% (38/55) survey respondents (active/separated) reported that their living conditions have improved while in the program.

Increased Employment/Wages 93% (26/28) graduates were employed at graduation and two were stay at home parents. Thirteen separated participants surveyed reported current average wages of \$1,229/month. Their average income upon entry into the program was \$171/month.

Increased Education 71.4% (5/7) participants without a GED or high school diploma completed their GED by graduation. The remaining two were waived based on cognitive assessments. One graduate entered Linn-Benton Community College and earned a 4.0 her first term.

Reduced Criminal Recidivism 87% reduction in the number of adult criminal charges filed between one year prior to entry into DTC and one year following participation/graduation.

Reduced Substance Abuse Data reveals that 83% (24/29) of the participants who completed at least two thirds of their treatment plans were not abusing alcohol or other drugs at program separation. The predominant self reported "drug of choice" among the participant group is methamphetamine (58%), with marijuana use being the second most widely used drug, and alcohol use third.

Drug Treatment Court is a collaborative model that gives participants the tools to take control of their lives in a positive way. It is a commonsense approach that works better than any other strategy I've seen in almost 20 years working in the criminal justice system in Benton County.

It is the most cost-effective, life changing program our community has developed to address addiction-related criminal behavior. Drug Treatment Courts Work!"

-- Janet Schoenhard Holcomb, Benton County Circuit Court Judge

Training Staffing team members continue to increase their education and knowledge about drug treatment courts. In June 2004, treatment team staffing members attended the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) conference in Washington, D.C. Other training activities for staffing team members include an Oregon Treatment Court Symposium in Bend, Oregon in August 2006 and local cultural competency training.

Outpatient Treatment Benton County Mental Health is the current contract for outpatient treatment services for Adult Drug Treatment Court participants. The program is located at New Beginnings Treatment Center, 557 NW Monroe Avenue, Corvallis, Oregon.

For more information, please contact Erik Martinez, DTC Coordinator at 541.766.6240.

Benton County Juvenile DRUG Court Overview In response to the complexity of issues created by adolescent alcohol and drug use, Benton County established the Benton County Juvenile DRUG (Determined Recovery Under Guidance) Court. In hopes of duplicating the success of the Benton County Adult Drug Treatment Court, representatives of the Benton County Juvenile Department, Benton County Mental Health Department, Benton County District Attorney's Office, Defense Counsel, and numerous other community partners began planning for the Juvenile DRUG Court in 2003.

During the early planning phase, it became apparent that the juvenile program approach had to be different from the adult program, because the needs of youth and their families are different from those of adult criminal offenders. With that in mind, Benton County has developed a juvenile drug court program that incorporates individually tailored and developmentally appropriate, comprehensive treatments that attend to the strengths of participants. The program is also designed to address the needs of the participant's families, and to engage the broader community in the treatment and success of the juvenile substance-abusing offender.

Work to Date The program began operation in March 2005. Team staff meetings are held every Thursday morning at 11:00 a.m. and are followed by official DRUG Court sessions every Thursday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. In order to be eligible for DRUG Court, participants must be between 14-17 years old, a resident of Benton County, and adjudicated for nonviolent drug or alcohol offenses or nonviolent offenses involving significant drug or alcohol issues. Participants must undergo an in-home, strengths based, bio/psycho/social assessment and be seen to have a chemical dependency/abuse issue. The DRUG Court program is a court-managed, intensive, integrated treatment program with an expected participation length of 9-12 months. The program consists of four phases. The participants first become engaged in the program, then break the cycle of addiction, eventually integrate themselves back into the community, and finally graduate from the program. Drug tests are given throughout each phase and remain an essential piece of the DRUG Court program. The tests are frequent (at least two times a week), random, and visually supervised.

Since instituting the DRUG Court in March of 2005, 23 youth have been served, while three youth have graduated. The participants are succeeding on several levels, as all show increased school attendance, decreased law violations, decreased drug use, and increased family functioning. Six participants have received their GED, while three others graduated from high school. Two participants have enrolled in college courses. The DRUG court had a public graduation in December of 2006 to recognize the graduates.

In June 2007, the Benton County DRUG court received a short-term grant from the Criminal Justice Commission. The grant provided clothing vouchers, basic needs item vouchers, incentives, and experiential therapy for all participants.

The DRUG Court also received a generous donation from the Zonta Foundation of Corvallis. The donation has aided the DRUG court in meeting the unique needs of young women in the program.

The full value and vision of the Willamette Criminal Justice Council did not become apparent to me until I left the position of Benton County Sheriff to become the Director of the Oregon Department of Corrections and gained perspective from distance and comparison.

Many Oregon communities strive to coordinate law enforcement services and create safer communities but few, if any, have matched the WCJC for genuine inclusiveness, commitment to community safety, elected officials' support, and, thankfully, intelligence and perseverance in resolving issues and achieving goals.

The future challenges are complex, difficult, and potentially dangerous, but in the WCJC this community has created a model for success.

-- Dave Cook,
Former Director
Oregon Dept. of
Corrections

The Benton County DRUG Court was the recipient of a charitable donation from the Good Samaritan Hospital Social Accountability Committee in May of 2007. The donation allowed the DRUG court to provide expanded drug testing, psychological evaluations, and money for continuing education. The donation will also allow DRUG court participants to engage in pro-social activities and receive incentives for their progress.

Treatment *Benton County Mental Health Division is currently contracted for outpatient treatment services for DRUG Court participants. The program is housed at the Benton County Health Department, 530 NW 27th Street, Corvallis. The DRUG Court also works closely with regional, residential providers to ensure a safe, stable and therapeutic environment when residential treatment is deemed necessary by the treatment provider.*

For more information, please contact Heather Grott at 541.766.6206.

■ Restorative Justice

Status: In Process

Overview The Task Force on Restorative Justice includes members from the District Attorney's Office, the Courts, the Juvenile Department, Corrections, Parole and Probation, and lay members. The task force has defined Restorative Justice in Benton County as *a process that restores balance, elevates the status of victims, enhances the accountability of offenders and increases the level of participation by the community in the criminal justice system.*

Work to Date During 2001-02, the task force designed and implemented a DUII Victim Impact Panel. To meet the growing need, seven panels are now held each year. This year, four new modular DVDs were created to help tell the stories of victims and DUII crash scene investigators. More than 450 individuals attend Benton County Victim Impact Panels annually.

■ Methamphetamine Taskforce

Status: Implementation

Overview The Methamphetamine Taskforce was created to help address the growing concern of methamphetamine use in Benton County. A Strategic Plan is in its final phase of development with four objective focuses identified: Prevention, to prevent methamphetamine use in children, youth and families in Benton County by providing prevention information to the Benton County community; Treatment, to reduce the incidence of methamphetamine addicted individuals in 95% of the Benton County Drug Court participants; Criminal Justice, to identify and arrest methamphetamine manufacturers, dealer and users and to support the Drug Treatment Court; and Legislative, to assure that future federal and state legislation regarding methamphetamine manufacture, sale or use authorizes and appropriates funding to local jurisdictions/agencies for implementation of programs including drug treatment courts.

Work to Date The 2006-2007 WCJC Methamphetamine Strategic Action Plan was submitted to the Full WCJC by the sub-committee and approved. A major effort was launched to provide community education on methamphetamine this year. The Albany Rotary, City of Corvallis and Benton County employees, the Albany Hub Club Rotary, and the Corvallis City Council received methamphetamine presentations in 2007. The presentations were also televised on channel 21 and channel 29. More presentations are scheduled for next year.

■ WCJC Strategic Plan - 2007-2008

Status: Implementation of Strategic Plan - In Process

Overview The Strategic Plan states the WCJC mission, vision, and objectives and clarifies the appropriate roles for the WCJC. The Strategic Plan is based on the results of the 1998 WCJC Survey of WCJC and Corrections Task Force members identifying that "enhancement of cooperation and collaboration" would contribute significantly to a "fair efficient, effective and coordinated" criminal justice system. The Strategic Plan is the foundation for the WCJC's activities specified in the 2007-2007 Workplan.

■ Law Enforcement (CPD & BCSO) Co-Location Initiatives

Status: Efficiency Plan In Progress

Overview In early 2004, the Corvallis City Council and Benton County Board of Commissioners received a report from former District Attorney Pete Sandrock on the potential for restructuring Benton County law enforcement services. Specifically, the report followed up a 2002 report titled Law Enforcement Consolidation in Benton County, Oregon: Identification of Issues. Both reports discussed the potential benefits and challenges of consolidating the Corvallis Police Department and Benton County Sheriff's Office.

Following multiple City Council and Board of Commissioners meetings and a public hearing, the elected officials decided to not consolidate the law enforcement agencies. Rather, they directed the agencies to work collaboratively on eight initiatives to further service partnerships that benefit residents and visitors.

Upcoming The following 8 initiatives are currently part of the Corvallis Police Department and Benton County Sheriff's Office work plan:

1. Develop common computer systems
2. Develop common procedures for high-risk activities, such as vehicle pursuits and use of force
3. Develop an intergovernmental agreement to coordinate patrol responses
4. Synchronize patrol schedules between the two agencies
5. Review Law Enforcement Building modifications, including co-location of functions such as patrol briefings
6. Provide joint training
7. Pursue joint procurement of supplies and equipment, and equipment servicing
8. Develop a joint Street Crimes Team.

Current Status:

1. This initiative has boiled down to implementing the technology that would allow any BCSO employee to plug into any CPD network data port and vice versa and still be able to access their respective network. This will be particularly valuable in the midst of a disaster or a major crime or whenever an emergency operation center is activated. The city and county information technology staff are continuing to work on this initiative.
2. Common protocols and procedures have been identified and continue to be worked on, implemented, and trained on. Careful consideration is being given to the development of policies in regards to accreditation for the county.
3. A draft intergovernmental agreement has been written to address the response coverage to the Corvallis Urban Growth Boundary; however, implementation was delayed initially until BCSO could implement their policies and procedures. Currently, with the reduction in patrol coverage for the county, there is some reluctance to move forward with this initiative. The County and the City will be having further discussion on the continued viability of this initiative.

A decade ago, the WCJC broke new ground in Oregon. It was the first organization created by local governments to promote and plan for the delivery of coordinated, efficient, and effective criminal justice services at a regional level. It had the right mission. It had the right membership - not just agency leaders, but citizens, elected officials, and city managers. It had funding and independent staff to support the work of the Council and its committees. It had influence. WCJC's endorsements carried substantial weight with grant administrators. By developing the District Attorney Case Management System for 30 or more counties, WCJC saved Oregon taxpayers millions of dollars and earned national recognition from the Bureau of Justice Assistance as one of the seven model Adjudication partnerships in the nation. WCJC can be rightfully proud of its accomplishments.

-- Pete Sandrock,
former Benton
County District
Attorney

4. One common patrol briefing is occurring every morning at 7:00 a.m. However, given BCSO's new patrol coverage and shifts, it is difficult to pass on information between shifts. There is some consideration being given to adjusting schedules from 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. in order for the shifts to have at least one half hour overlap with the second shift (5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.). This would also allow for short trainings to occur as well.
5. The remodel and modifications have been completed in the LEB and staff has moved into their new office space. The Sheriff's Office now contracts with CPD for the Records function and this seems to be working very well while saving money for the county. Patrol is now all in one room and detectives and investigations all on the second floor. Additional evaluation will have to be given to this arrangement. (Total cost for both agencies: \$110,732.21.)
6. Joint training has been going very well. It has enabled us to bring in some top notch trainers that we would otherwise not have been able to afford if only one agency were arranging and involved in the training.
7. This is another initiative that is going very well. County and City are purchasing vehicles together while also servicing each other's vehicles along with making joint fuel purchases. The Sheriff's Office, CPD, and Philomath PD, recently all purchased ORPAT equipment for use in recruitments. ORPAT (Oregon Physical Abilities Test) is the standard now being used by DPSST at the beginning and end of academy training. If the recruit is unable to meet the DPSST standard at the end of their training, they do not pass the class and can not become certified. Both agencies continue to look at ways to reduce costs by joint procurement.
8. The Street Crimes Team formally began operations January 1, 2007. Initially, BCSO had two deputies assigned to the program, but one transferred back to patrol. The team has been quite successful so far, especially working the Icebreaker case in which multiple search warrants, arrests, and seizures were made in a large scale methamphetamine delivery investigation. BCSO will soon be assigning another detective to the team.

■ WCJC's LPSCC Responsibilities ■

As the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC) for Benton County, WCJC is required, by ORS, to develop and monitor plans that address (1) Juvenile Crime and (2) Community Corrections. WCJC was assigned these responsibilities by Benton County Board of Commissioners in 1996. These plans are developed by a sub-group of the WCJC, approved by the WCJC, and then forwarded to the Benton County Board of Commissioners for final approval. The plans are the mechanism to distribute state funding in Benton County.

■ Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan

Status: Continuous

Overview The WCJC chartered the Juvenile Justice Task Force (JJTF) as a result of Senate Bill 1 (1995). The JJTF planned the use of state dollars and developed a resource plan that described and prioritized the local distribution of state moneys to serve the local juvenile offender population. Its work completed, the WCJC ended the JJTF in April 2001.

Upcoming The WCJC continues to monitor Juvenile Justice in Benton County.

■ Community Corrections Plan

Status: In Progress – continuous

Overview ORS 423.560 (3)(a) requires Local Public Safety Coordinating Councils (LPSCC) to develop and recommend a community corrections plan each biennium for the use of state resources that serve the local offender population.

Work to Date The 2007 - 2009 Community Corrections Plan was developed by a work group from the Willamette Criminal Justice Council and Benton County Community Corrections. Benton County Community Corrections has made significant changes in order to meet the evidence-based supervision mandates of Senate Bill 267. All certified staff have received extensive training in the evidence-based supervision model, and a variety of new supervision techniques and programs have been implemented. Non-specialized caseloads were reassigned based on risk level, with all high and medium-risk offenders receiving priority for services, including supervision, evidence-based rehabilitative programs, and sanctions.

Benton County Community Corrections (BCCC) remains committed to collaborating with community partners to provide effective services within available resources. BCCC maintains a partnership with Benton County Mental Health to operate the New Beginnings Treatment Center (NBTC). NBTC outpatient substance abuse treatment programming includes the evidence-based treatment curriculum Moral Reconciliation Therapy. NBTC also delivers outpatient substance abuse treatment and mental health services to Drug Treatment Court participants. The partnership remains strong with excellent communication and cooperation between BCCC and NBTC staff.

BCCC also continues to participate in the multi-jurisdictional Drug Treatment Court Staffing Team which includes city and county law enforcement, the Drug Treatment Court judge, a representative from the District Attorney's Office, a representative from the Defense Consortium and NBTC staff. Individuals who successfully complete Drug Treatment Court are diverted from incarceration in local jails or state prisons.

Community Corrections operates a 6-bed Transition Center to offer temporary housing for indigent offenders. This program provides a highly structured, alcohol and drug-free living environment for offenders transitioning back to the community. Priority for these limited beds is given to indigent offenders being released from prison or local incarceration. The Transition Center is funded entirely through a local levy, which also funds the rental of 40 jail beds in other counties.

For the first time since the County assumed responsibility for Community Corrections programs, a portion of the Community Corrections grant-in-aid funds in Benton County will be utilized to pay for jail beds. Funding Local Control jail beds and a limited number of jail sanction beds will allow Benton County to continue to operate at their maximum capacity of 40 beds. Maintaining this capacity is critical as Benton County continues to operate with the smallest jail per capita in Oregon.

Benton County Community Corrections presently supervises approximately 500 adult offenders including about 100 individuals on probation supervision for misdemeanor convictions which are not funded. If the population continues to increase, misdemeanor supervision for all non-sexual convictions may be eliminated. Community Corrections will continue to prioritize funding, jail beds, and rehabilitative services to those offenders who pose the greatest risk to the community. Limited resources will be allocated to programs and services which are proven to be effective in changing behavior and reducing recidivism.

CORRECTIONS FACILITY

Oregon Jail Standards Inspection: Oregon State Sheriff's Association jail inspectors compared Corrections Facility policy and operational practices against the Oregon Jail Standards. The inspection team, comprised of corrections professionals from five different sheriff's offices, found BCCF in full compliance with all 401 jail standards. The facility will be re-inspected in the fall of 2007.

Court Security: In January 2005, the Corrections Facility assumed responsibility for Court Security enhancing the safety of Courthouse employees, as well as citizens visiting or conducting business in the historical building. Weapon screening and channeling access to the Courthouse through the 4th Street main entrance and through the 5th Street basement entrance for those with mobility issues began in mid-summer. Between August 8th and the end of the calendar year, over 29,000 visitors were screened at the security check point and over 1300 prohibited items detected, including one firearm and over 1000 knives.

Overcrowding: In 2004, the Facility matrix released 48 individuals early from court sentences, parole or probation sanctions or from custody on pre-trial matters. In the 2006, the number of matrix releases more than doubled with 145 sentenced and pre-trial releases necessary in order to safely manage the inmate population. As last year, factors that influence the facility's population include Drug Treatment Court sanctioning practices, the limited use of video conferencing equipment, which result in inmates returning from contract jail beds to confer with their attorney, and the volume of imposed parole and probation sanctions. Sheriff Office Administration recognizes the need to establish a priority utilization system for the limited jail beds available in Benton County. This effort will be collaborative with involvement and input from a number of other criminal justice system organizations.

Upcoming Continued updates.

■ WCJC Organizational Development ■

■ Expanding and continuing strong WCJC leadership

Status: Completed

Nominating Committee: Ken Elwer, Diana Simpson, Deb Williams.

Overview This Committee was charged with recommending a slate of candidates to hold leadership positions during FYE 2007-2008. WCJC has prioritized leadership of lay members.

Work to Date WCJC officers were approved by the WCJC membership on June 20, 2007. FYE 2007-2008 officers and Executive Committee: Gary Boldizar – Chair, Jim Gouveia – Lay Committee Chair, Gail Newman – Chair Elect, Jack Rogers – Past Chair, Mark McCambridge - Treasurer, Patricia Daniels - Director, Ken Elwer - Director, John Haroldson – Director, Doug Killin – Director, Diana Simpson – Director and Deb Williams – Director.

■ Developing the WCJC FYE 2007-2009 Budget

Status: Completed

Budget Committee: The Executive Committee dealt with the responsibilities of the budget committee directly.

Overview The committee is charged with developing a budget for FYE 2007-2009. The WCJC Budget is composed of contributions from the WCJC member jurisdictions that are partners to the Inter-governmental agreement (Benton County, Corvallis, Albany, Adair Village, Philomath, and Oregon State University). The WCJC FYE 2007-2009 Budget includes funding for administrative staffing and WCJC Strategic Priorities.

Work to Date The budget was approved by WCJC membership on June 20, 2007.

■ Continuing Education

WCJC has made a commitment to stay “current” with programs (public and private) and trends in the criminal justice arena. Among the presentations during FYE 2006-07:

- **Benton County Drug Treatment Court (DTC) & D.R.U.G. Court ▪**
Judges Connell & Williams *Focus:* Updates on the adult and juvenile programs.
- **Street Crimes Team ▪**
Captain Jon Sassaman, 911 Emergency Communications Director
Focus: Provide updates on the formation of a new Street Crimes Team.
- **Multi-Agency Active Shooter Debrief ▪**
Lt. Phil Zerzan, Oregon State Police
Focus: Describe outcomes of the multi-agency training exercise at Oregon State University.
- **DUII Sentencing Standards ▪**
Judge Connell *Focus:* Define new DUII sentencing standards.
- **“Bus” ▪**
Deputy Jim Weikel *Focus:* Update the council on “Bus” the detection drug dog’s progress.
- **ACIST – A Community Integrated Service Team ▪**
Jim Gouveia, Benton County Mental Health Department *Focus:* To inform the council about an early intervention program for children dealing with mental health issues.
- **Benton County’s 2007-2009 Biennial Implementation Plan for Mental Health Services**
Mitch Anderson & Marie Laper, Benton County Mental Health
Focus: Mitch and Marie presented the 2007-2009 plan.
- **Law Enforcement Initiatives ▪**
Sheriff Jim Swinyard, Sheriff Diana Simpson & Chief Gary Boldizar
Focus: Continuing status updates on the 8 initiatives.
- **Neighborhood Watch Program ▪** Liz Foster *Focus:* Updates were given.**Vision for the DA’s Office ▪**
District Attorney John Haroldson *Focus:* Share the goals of the DA’s office.
- **2007-2009 Community Corrections Plan▪**
Gail Newman, Director of Community Corrections *Focus:* Introduce the new Community Corrections Plan.

During the past year, the Willamette Criminal Justice Council continued to examine and support the needs of our community by working with members of the criminal justice body to address crucial social issues. The WCJC focused on understanding mental health challenges; methamphetamine treatment, education, and enforcement; crime victim impact panels, and resource administration. It was my distinct honor to serve as Chair for the Executive and Full Council and to see first hand the spirit of cooperation among the membership as we work to make our community safer and better informed.

-- Jack Rogers,
2006-2007
WCJC Chair

Membership

As of August 2007

Member Name (alphabetically by last name)		WCJC Positions (38 total positions) ➤ Indicates Lay Position (22 total)
1.	Vacant	➤ Adair Village: City Councilor
2.	Vacant	➤ Philomath: Mayor/City Manager Rep
3.	Vacant	➤ Adair Village: Citizen Representative
4.	Dan Bedore	➤ Albany: City Councilor
5.	Gary Boldizar – WCJC Chair, Exec Committee	Corvallis: Police Chief
6.	Ed Boyd	Albany: Police Chief
7.	Sandy Chase	Benton Branch Supervisor - DHS
8.	Rob Corl	Public Defender/Defense Attorney
9.	Mark Cotter	Oregon State Police
10.	Charlie Crawford	➤ Philomath: City Councilor
11.	Bill Currier	➤ Adair Village: Mayor/City Manager Rep
12.	Patricia Daniels – Exec Committee	➤ Corvallis: City Councilor
13.	Jay Dixon	➤ Benton County: Board of Commissioners
14.	Paul Egbert	Oregon Youth Authority
15.	Ken Elwer – Exec Committee	Philomath: Police Chief
16.	Elizabeth Foster	➤ Corvallis: Citizen Representative
17.	Jim Gouveia – Lay Chair	➤ Benton County: Health Dept. Admin Rep
18.	John Haroldson – Exec Committee	Benton County: District Attorney
19.	Richard Hein	➤ Benton County: Citizen Representative
20.	Jim Hogeboom	➤ School District Representative
21.	Doug Killin – Exec Committee	➤ Albany: Mayor/City Manager Rep
22.	Roger Kroening	➤ Albany: Citizen Representative
23.	Al Krug	Benton County: Juvenile Dept. Director
24.	Mark McCambridge – Treasurer, Exec Committee	➤ OSU: Senior Administrator
25.	JoAnn Miller	➤ Benton Co. Comm. Children & Families
26.	Jon Nelson	➤ Corvallis: Mayor/City Manager Rep
27.	Gail Newman – Chair-Elect, Exec Committee	Benton Co. Director of Comm. Corrections
28.	Jack Rogers -- Exec Committee	OSU: Director, Department of Public Safety
29.	Jon Sassaman	911 Emergency Communications Director
30.	Dan Schwab	➤ OSU: Citizen Representative
31.	David Sheehan	➤ Representative of Crime Victims
32.	Diana Simpson – Exec Committee	Benton County: Sheriff
33.	Kenyon Solecki	➤ ASOSU Representative
34.	Cheryl Stone	Trial Court Administrator
35.	JoAnne Trow	➤ Governor's Office: Citizen Representative
36.	Locke Williams	Benton County Circuit Court Judge
37.	Deb Williams – Exec Committee	➤ Philomath: Citizen Representative
38.	Phil Zerzan	OSU Oregon State Police Representative
Michele Spaulding, WCJC Coordinator (Staff provided by Benton County through contract with WCJC)		