

2007-2008 Year in Review and 2008-2009 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 2007-2008 ■

This document is a summary of the Willamette Criminal Justice Council's 2007-2008 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 Village, 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).

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, LPSCCs 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.

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.

In 2007-2008, 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 2008-2009 as well as four areas to continue monitoring.

■ WCJC Workplan ■

Areas of Focus ■ 2008-2009

The
Workplan
for 2008-

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 2008-2009.

WCJC's primary mission is to enhance cooperation and collaboration within the criminal justice system within Benton County. During 2008-2009, 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 works 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 2008-2009- A new jail facility will continue to be considered and depending on the outcome of any local levies over the next few months, more work may be done on 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 utilizing 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 contribute to efficiencies and security.

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

1. 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 2008-2009- 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.

2. 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 2008-2009- Continuing projects are planned as issues arise and quarterly updates are submitted to the Gazette Times for publication.

3. Completing Tasks Delegated to LPSCC's from Legislature

Steps for 2008-2009- The WCJC will continue to complete tasks that are delegated to them from current legislative session decisions.

4. Coordination and Cooperation Among Agencies

Steps for 2008-2009- 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 2008-2009: 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 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 and from the Benton County Peer Wellness Coordinator about their new program plans.

Steps for 2008-2009: 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 2008-2009: 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 2008-2009: 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.

WCJC 2007-2008

■ 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) is a coordinated multi-agency program that provides structured, supervised treatment for individuals who are both addicted and involved in criminal conduct. It is an accountability-based model designed to address addiction and the criminal behavior associated with it. The program began operation in November 2001 after significant planning and coordination by many community partners. To fund program components from 2003 - 2007, 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). In June 2006, the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) awarded Benton County an enhancement grant to provide additional services. 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. The program also operates on generous donations from local community organizations, including the Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center and the Altrusa Club of Corvallis.

DTC continues to increase the number of program participants. As of August 5, 2008, 277 participants have entered Drug Treatment Court, 99 have graduated, 56 were terminated, and 51 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.

DTC 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 Community Corrections, Legal Defense Consortium, Benton County District Attorney's Office, Corvallis Police Department, and Benton County Health Department (New Beginnings Treatment Center).

Work to Date From June 2007 – June 2008, 30 new participants entered the program, 25 graduated and 11 were terminated. Currently 53.6 % of participants are male and 46.4% are female with an average age of 31 years old.

Successes The first graduation ceremony was held in March of 2003. The most recent graduation was in May of 2008. Participants take an average of 16 months to successfully complete DTC. The average age of graduates is 35 years old.

Over the past year, DTC has added new services to enhance the program and better serve the participants. These services include clean and sober housing, mental health treatment with medication management, and expanded alcohol testing.

DTC continues to increase housing stability, employment and education while reducing substance abuse and recidivism. To date, fifteen drug free babies have been born.

DTC has provided start-up funds for two men's Oxford Houses and 1 women's Oxford House. Oxford Houses provide clean and sober housing for members of the community dedicated to living in recovery.

Local Support Since 2007, DTC has been the recipient of a generous annual donation from the Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center Social Accountability Committee. The donated funds provide expanded drug testing, participant incentives, pro-social activity opportunities, clean and sober housing, and child care for participants.

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 for the third year in a row.

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

Training Staffing team members continue to increase their education and knowledge about drug treatment courts. In May 2008, treatment team staffing members attended the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) 14th Annual conference in St. Louis, Missouri.

Outpatient Treatment Benton County Mental Health is the current provider 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.

"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 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 Court Works!"

-Janet Shoenhard Holcomb
Benton County Circuit Court Judge

Benton County Juvenile DRUG Court Overview The Benton County Juvenile DRUG (Determined Recovery Under Guidance) Treatment Court began in April 2005. 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 Treatment Court in 2003.

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 adults. With that in mind, Benton County developed a juvenile drug treatment court program that incorporates individually tailored and developmentally appropriate comprehensive treatments that attend to the strengths of the 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 youth.

Work to Date Team staff meetings are held every Thursday morning at 11:00 a.m. and are followed by official DRUG Treatment Court sessions every Thursday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. in Courtroom #1. In order to be eligible for DRUG Treatment Court, participants must be between 13-18 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 are referred by the Benton County Juvenile Department, the Benton County Health Department and area schools with final admittance to be granted by the District Attorney's Office. Participants must undergo an in-home, strengths based, needs assessment and it be determined that they have a chemical dependency/abuse issue. The DRUG Treatment Court Program is a court-managed, intensive, integrated treatment program with a current average participation length of 16-17 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 Treatment Court Program. The tests are frequent (at least two times a week), random, and visually supervised.

Since instituting the Juvenile DRUG Treatment Court (JDTC) in April of 2005, 34 youth have been served, including ten youth who 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. Five participants have received their GED and three others graduated from high school. The JDTC had it's most recent graduation in July of 2008.

The JDTC received a generous donation from the Zonta Foundation of Corvallis for the second year in a row. The donations continue to aid the JDTC in meeting the unique needs of young women in the program. In addition, the JDTC was the recipient of a charitable donation from the Good Samaritan Hospital Social Accountability Committee in May of 2008 for the second year in a row. The donations continue to allow the JDTC to provide expanded drug testing, psychological evaluations, residential treatment, housing, basic needs and money for continuing education. The donation also allows JDTC participants to engage in pro-social activities and receive incentives for their progress.

Treatment Benton County Mental Health is the provider for outpatient treatment services for JDTC participants. The program is housed at the Benton County Health Department, 530 NW 27th Street, Corvallis, Oregon. The JDTC 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 the JDTC Coordinator Melanie Keller at 541.766.6644; the Juvenile Probation Officer Amy Atchison at 541.766.6063; or the Treatment Provider 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 committee 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. These DVDs augment the live speakers who present at panels. More than 450 individuals attended Benton County Victim Impact Panels last year.

■ Methamphetamine Taskforce

Status: Implementation

Overview The Methamphetamine Taskforce was created to help address the growing concern of methamphetamine use in Benton County. Four focuses have been identified in the strategic plan: 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 2007-2008 WCJC Methamphetamine Strategic Action Plan was submitted to the Full WCJC by the sub-committee and approved. A major effort was launched to provide methamphetamine education and awareness to the community 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 2008. The presentations were also televised on channel 21 and channel 29. More presentations are scheduled for next year.

"The membership's willingness to invest their time and effort into the WCJC to assist in the goal of delivering efficient criminal justice services to the Benton County community is a critical piece in the creation of opportunities for efficient criminal justice service delivery."

- Gary Boldizar

Corvallis Police Chief
2007-2008 WCJC Chair

■ WCJC Strategic Plan - 2008-2009

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 2008-2008 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 the 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.
4. Due to difficulties with meet shift schedules, each agency is currently conducting their own briefings. With only two shifts and a gap in the early morning hours, the day shift and swing shift currently brief together in order to exchange information and conduct short trainings.
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 with detectives

and investigations all on the second floor. Additional evaluation will 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, 2008. 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.

Community Corrections continues to operate the Transition Center to provide temporary housing for certain indigent offenders. This program provides a highly structured, alcohol and drug-free living environment for offenders transitioning back to the community. Priority for the 6-bed facility 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.

Benton County Community Corrections (BCCC) collaborates 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 and mental health programming includes several evidence-based programs. NBTC provides treatment to supervised offenders including 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.

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 is being 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 475 adult offenders, including over 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 to be 99% in compliance with all 401 jail standards. The facility will be re-inspected in the fall of 2009.

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 with over 1300 prohibited items detected, including one firearm and more than 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 2007, 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's 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: Ed Boyd, Dan Schwab, Diana Simpson, Deb Williams.

Overview This Committee was charged with recommending a slate of candidates to hold leadership positions during FYE 2008-2009.

Work to Date WCJC officers were approved by the WCJC membership on June 18, 2008.

FYE 2008-2009 officers and Executive Committee: Gail Newman – Chair, Rick Hein – Lay Committee Chair, Dan Schwab – Chair Elect, Gary Boldizar – Past Chair, Jon Sassaman - Treasurer, Patricia Daniels - Director, Ken Elwer - Director, John Haroldson – Director, Jack Rogers – Director, Diana Simpson – Director and Deb Williams – Director.

■ Developing the WCJC FYE 2008-2009 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 2007-08:

- **Benton County Drug Treatment Court (DTC) & D.R.U.G. Court Programs**
Judge Locke Williams
- **Potential Impacts of Initiative 40 & SB 1087 on the Corrections System**
Michael Wilson, Criminal Justice Commission Economist
- **Peer Wellness Program**
Meghan Caughey, Peer Wellness Coordinator
- **Corvallis Partnership Coalition – Reducing Underage Drinking Around OSU**
Jessica Kelly
- **Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)**
DaNette Wernette, Program Manager/Volunteer Supervisor
- **Crime Trends in Benton County**
John Haroldson, District Attorney
- **The Benton County Comprehensive Plan**
JoAnn Miller, Benton County Commission on Children & Families
- **DUII Victim Impact Panel Update**
Michele Spaulding, WCJC Coordinator
- **Benton County's 2009-2011 Biennial Implementation Plan for Mental Health Services**
Mitch Anderson, Benton County Mental Health
- **Deadly Use of Force Protocol in Benton County**
John Haroldson, District Attorney
- **2008 Drug Free Communities Grant**
JoAnn Miller, Benton County Commission on Children & Families

Membership

As of August 2008

| WCJC Positions (38 total) ● Indicates Lay Position (22 total) | Member Name |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ● Adair Village Citizen Representative | 1. |
| ● Adair Village City Councilor | 2. |
| Department of Public Safety - OSU | 3. |
| ● Philomath City Councilor | 4. |
| ● Philomath Mayor/City Manager Representative | 5. |
| ● Albany Mayor/City Manager | 6. Bedore, Dan |
| Corvallis Police Chief | 7. Boldizar, Gary |
| Albany Police Chief | 8. Boyd, Ed |
| ● Albany City Councilor | 9. Collins, Floyd |
| Public Defender/Defense Attorney | 10. Corl, Rob |
| Oregon State Police Representative | 11. Cotter, Mark |
| ● ASOSU Representative | 12. Crawford, Rick |
| ● Adair Village Mayor/City Manager Representative | 13. Currier, Bill |
| ● Corvallis City Councilor | 14. Daniels, Patricia |
| ● Benton County Commissioner | 15. Dixon, Jay |
| Philomath Police Chief | 16. Elwer, Ken |
| ● Corvallis Citizen Representative | 17. Foster, Elizabeth |
| Benton County District Attorney | 18. Haroldson, John |
| ● Benton County Citizen Representative | 19. Hein, Richard |
| Trial Court Administrator | 20. Hukari, Linda |
| Oregon Youth Authority | 21. Kramer, Jim |
| ● Albany Citizen Representative | 22. Kroening, Roger |
| Benton County Juvenile Department Director | 23. Krug, Al |
| Oregon State Police @ Oregon State University (OSU) | 24. Lanz, Jeff |
| Benton Branch Supervisor: DHS (Dept of Human Services) | 25. Michaud, Paula |
| ● Benton County Commission on Children & Families | 26. Miller, JoAnn |
| ● Benton County Health Department Administrative Rep | 27. Nelson, Jeanne |
| ● Corvallis Mayor/City Manager | 28. Nelson, Jon |
| Benton County Director of Community Corrections | 29. Newman, Gail |
| ● OSU Senior Administrator | 30. Rogers, Jack |
| 911 Emergency Communications Director | 31. Sassaman, Jon |
| ● OSU Citizen Representative | 32. Schwab, Dan |
| ● Representative of Crime Victims | 33. Sheehan, David |
| Benton County Sheriff | 34. Simpson, Diana |
| ● Governor's Citizen Representative | 35. Trow, Jo Anne |
| ● Philomath Citizen Representative | 36. Williams, Deborah |
| Benton County Circuit Court Judge | 37. Williams, Locke |
| ● School District Representative | 38. Youngblood, Steve |
| WCJC Coordinator | Spaulding, Michele |