

2008-2009 Year in Review and 2009-2010 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 2008-2009 ■

This document is a summary of the Willamette Criminal Justice Council's 2008-2009 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).

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, 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 2008-2009, 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 2009-2010 as well as four areas to continue monitoring.

■ WCJC Workplan ■

Areas of Focus ■ 2009-2010

The Workplan for 2009-2010 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 2009-2010.

WCJC's primary mission is to enhance cooperation and collaboration within the criminal justice system within Benton County. During 2009-2010, 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 2009-2010- 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. Commissioner Jay Dixon, Sheriff Diana Simpson, Undersheriff Scott Jackson, and Jail Commander Chris Schlegel will attend a Jail Planning training in August sponsored by the National Institute of Corrections. In the meantime, additional 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. Through a partnership between the corrections facility and Adult Parole & Probation, a mental health transition program was implemented in an effort to identify those individuals who could benefit from a highly supervised and highly structured living situation versus frequent trips to the jail. Additionally, a small remodel allowed the jail to convert space into an additional holding cell that can potentially be used for those in custody detoxing offenders.

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 2009-2010- 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 2009-2010- 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 2009-2010- The WCJC will continue to complete tasks that are delegated to them from current legislative session decisions. An annual report is submitted to the Oregon Criminal Justice Commission.

4. Coordination and Cooperation Among Agencies

Steps for 2009-2010- 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 2009-2010: 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 2009-2010: 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 2009-2010: 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 2009-2010: The WCJC continues to discuss 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 2008-2009

■ 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

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 for the adult DTC program for one year. 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. In the past the program has received generous donations from the Good Samaritan Hospital Social Accountability Fund. The Zonta Foundation and the Altrusa Club of Corvallis currently provide annual contributions for participant services and activities. Most recently, the Benton County DTC Programs were awarded over \$91,000 in forfeiture funds from the Benton County Sheriff's Office and the Corvallis Police Department in conjunction to two high profile criminal drug cases.

Adult Drug Treatment Court Overview Adult DTC continues to increase the number of program participants. As of June 9, 2009, 251 participants have entered Drug Treatment Court, 112 have graduated, 66 have been terminated, and 48 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 or participants with suspended prison sentences for felony property crimes (Measure 57).

DTC cases are staffed each Wednesday morning at 8:00 a.m. 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 2008 – May 2009, 38 new participants entered the program, 18 graduated and 11 were terminated. Currently 55 % of participants are male and 45% 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 2009. Participants take an average of 19 months to successfully complete DTC. The average graduate is 35 years old.

DTC offers services to enhance the program and better serve each participant. 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, 18 drug free babies have been born.

Local Support From May of 2007 through April of 2009, DTC was the recipient of a generous donation from the Good Samaritan Regional Medical Center Social Accountability Committee. DTC is looking for replacement funding sources to continue to provide assistance for residential treatment, expanded drug testing, clean and sober housing, participant incentives, pro-social activity opportunities 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 fourth year in a row.

The Altrusa Club of Corvallis provides assistance to participants who are working toward earning their GED. They donate funds to Linn-Benton Community College 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 June 2009, treatment team staffing members attended the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) 15th Annual conference in Anaheim, California.

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 Dave Clark, DTC Coordinator at 541.766.6240.

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

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 Staffing team meetings are held every Thursday morning at 8:30 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 and the Benton County Health Department, with final admittance to be granted by the District Attorney's Office. Participants must undergo an in-home, strengths based, needs assessment with a determination 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 17 months. The program consists of four

“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*

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, 43 youth have been served, including 11 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. Six participants have received their GED and three others graduated from high school. The JDTC had its most recent graduation in April of 2009.

Successes Two of the JDTC female participants were asked to speak in front of the Oregon State Senate Committee on Health and Human Services as youth advocates for treatment in November 2008. Two of our participant's parents were nominated and chosen to participate in a National Conversation about family involvement in treatment. This was sponsored by Addictions and Mental Health and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Ms. Turner and Ms. Solis went to Washington DC March 25 - March 28, 2009 all expenses paid. They were two out of 55 nationwide!

Local Support The JDTC received a generous donation from the Zonta Foundation of Corvallis for the third year in a row. The donations continue to aid the JDTC in meeting the unique needs of young women in the program.

In the past, JDTC has received generous support from the Good Samaritan Hospital Social Accountability Committee. JDTC is looking for funding that will allow them to continue expanded drug testing, psychological evaluations, residential treatment, housing, basic needs, money for continuing education as well as pro-social activities.

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, Juvenile Probation Officer Amy Atchison at 541.766.6063, or the Treatment Provider Heather Grott at 541.766.6206.

“Drug treatment courts have proven to be one of the most effective tools in the fight against drug and alcohol addiction. The collaboration of community partners along with intensive supervision gives participants and their families a tangible feeling of support and reason for hope. Participants who successfully complete our program are no longer likely to engage in criminal behavior and are much more likely to succeed in life.

*- Locke A. Williams
Presiding Circuit Court Judge, Benton County*

■ 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, six panels are now held annually for more than 400 participants.

■ 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 A major effort was launched in 2007 to provide methamphetamine education and awareness to the community this year. The WCJC provided multiple presentations saturating the community.

“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
2008-2009 WCJC Chair*

■ WCJC Strategic Plan - 2009-2010

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 2009-2010 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. Network connections were installed in the Emergency Communications Center in the basement of the Law Enforcement Building (LEB) to allow the city connection to their network and similar connections were installed in the Police Conference Room on the 1st floor of the LEB for the county.
2. Protocols and procedures were mutually developed and implemented such as an interagency pursuit policy. The Sheriff’s Office received accreditation status through the Oregon Accreditation Alliance in April 2009. The Corvallis Police Department was accredited in 1995 by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), a national accreditation organization.
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 BCSO day shift and swing shift currently brief together in order to exchange information and conduct short trainings.
5. The Records function continues to work moderately well, but at times Reception is challenging. Due to overcrowding and interpersonal conflicts, the BCSO Patrol Deputies were moved back to the second floor of the LEB in January 2008.
6. This occurs occasionally as opportunities arise.

7. The Corvallis Police Department is no longer purchasing vehicles through the Benton County Fleet Manager and servicing of their vehicles has also been discontinued. In 2008, Corvallis switched to 6 cylinder Dodge police cars for a reduction in fuel costs. They no longer purchase the Ford Crown Victoria vehicles BCSO purchases and services.
8. BCSO continues to train new recruits in an effort to return to 24/7 patrol coverage. Once that schedule is reinstated, a deputy will be assigned to the Street Crimes Team. In the meantime, the team functions well and has been very successful.

■ 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 2009 - 2011 Community Corrections Plan was developed by a work group from the Willamette Criminal Justice Council and Benton County Community Corrections. Benton County Community Corrections supervises approximately 470 adult offenders on probation, parole, and post-prison supervision. Benton County utilizes evidence-based supervision to enhance public safety through the reformation of offenders and the reduction of criminal conduct. All certified staff receive training and coaching in evidence-based supervision techniques. Resources and sanctions are prioritized for those offenders who are the highest risk to reoffend.

Benton County Community Corrections (BCCC) remains committed to working with our community partners to provide effective services and sanctions within available resources. Community Corrections continues to partner with Benton County Mental Health to provide outpatient substance abuse treatment at New Beginnings Treatment Center. In September 2008, the corrections treatment programs at New Beginnings were evaluated using the evidence-based Correctional Program Checklist (CPC) to ensure they were delivering effective evidence-based treatment. The independent CPC assessment rated New Beginnings Treatment Center as "Very Satisfactory" which is the highest rating for this assessment process.

Community Corrections recently developed and implemented the Community Corrections Mental Health Transition Program to provide transitional housing and intensive supervision to offenders who suffer from mental illness. Offenders selected for this program are identified as individuals who have mental health disorders which directly correlate to their criminal behaviors. The Mental Health Transition Program consists of two subsidized apartments to provide transitional housing for offenders with mental illness. The program also provides intensive supervision to mentally ill offenders who do not reside in the transitional housing units. This program provides coordinated case planning to ensure stability in the community and to reduce the rates of incarceration. Subsidy funding is utilized to ensure that mental health medications are available to all indigent offenders participating in the program. The Mental Health Transition Program supervising officer works closely with mental health counselors and other community partners to develop and implement case plans for all offenders involved in this program. All participants are closely supervised to monitor mental health treatment status, medication compliance, and compliance to the conditions of supervision. Offenders involved in this program are referred to a variety of social service agencies to develop the resources necessary to remain in the community. These services may include assistance in obtaining Social Security benefits, supportive housing, employment, budget management, etc. The overarching goals of the program are to reduce recidivism and reincarceration, and to improve the quality of care for individuals in the criminal justice system who are affected by mental illness.

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.

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.

Due to anticipated statewide community corrections budget reductions, two recent staff vacancies have not been filled; it is anticipated that 2009 – 2011 state funding levels will not support these positions. The Sheriff's Office has applied for grant funding through two grant sources in an attempt to fund these positions and restore staffing levels. If the vacant positions cannot be filled, misdemeanor supervision for all non-sexual convictions will be eliminated. Despite the uncertainty of the budget, Benton County Community Corrections will continue to prioritize funding, jail beds, and rehabilitative services to those offenders who pose the greatest risk to the community.

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 2010.

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 2008, 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: Ken Elwer, Jon Sassaman, Dan Schwab, and Diana Simpson.

Overview This committee was charged with recommending a slate of candidates to hold leadership positions during FYE 2009-2010.

Work to Date WCJC Officers were approved by the WCJC Membership on June 17, 2009.

FYE 2009-2010 Officers and Executive Committee: Chair, Dan Schwab; Chair-Elect, Ed Boyd; Lay Committee Chair, Rick Hein; Treasurer, Jon Sassaman; Past Chair, Gail Newman; Directors: Gary Boldizsar, Ken Elwer, John Haroldson, Jack Rogers, and Deb Williams.

■ Developing the WCJC FYE 2009-2010 Budget

Status: Completed

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

Overview The committee was charged with developing a budget for FYE 2009-2011. The WCJC Budget is composed of contributions from the WCJC member jurisdictions who are partners in the Inter-governmental agreement (Benton County, Corvallis, Albany, Adair Village, Philomath, and Oregon State University). The WCJC FYE 2009-2011 Budget includes funding for administrative staffing and WCJC Strategic Priorities.

Work to Date The budget was approved by WCJC Membership on February 18, 2009.

■ 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 2008-09:

- **Benton County Drug Treatment Court Programs**
Locke Williams, Benton County Presiding Circuit Court Judge
- **Issues and Challenges Related to Public Safety: The Governor's Perspective**
Joseph O'Leary, Senior Policy Advisor
- **OSU Emergency Notification Program**
Jack Rogers, Director OSU Department of Public Safety
- **Oregon Public Safety Issues**
Representatives Sarah Gelser & Andy Olson
- **Behind the Scenes @ OSU**
Jack Rogers, Director OSU Department of Public Safety
- **Oak Creek Projects; Inside-Out**
Professor Michelle Inderbitzin, OSU
- **Oak Creek OYA Site Visit**
Jim Kramer, Oregon Youth Authority
- **Mental Health Corrections Transition Program**
Diana Simpson, Benton County Sheriff
- **OSU Conduct Process and Wellness Teams**
Dan Schwab, Director, OSU Student Conduct and Community Standards
- **Governor's Recommended Budget for Public Safety Agencies**
Joseph O'Leary, Senior Policy Advisor
- **Juvenile Drug Treatment Court – A Participant's Perspective**
Guest Juvenile, Locke Williams, Benton County Presiding Circuit Court Judge
- **OSU Greek Life**
Bob Kerr, Greek Life Coordinator OSU
- **2009-2011 Community Corrections Plan**
Gail Newman, Benton County Community Corrections Director
- **What's New in Adair Village**
Bill Currier, Adair Village Mayor & Justin Jones, Adair Village Police Chief

Membership

As of August 2009

WCJC Positions (38 total) ● Indicates Lay Position (22 total) ■ Indicates Exec Committee	Member Name
● Adair Village Citizen Representative	1.
Department of Public Safety - OSU	2.
● Philomath Mayor/City Manager Representative	3.
● Benton County Citizen Representative	4.
● Philomath City Councilor	5. Baca, Angie
● Corvallis City Councilor	6. Beilstein, Mike
■ Corvallis Police Chief	7. Boldizar, Gary
■ Albany Police Chief	8. Boyd, Ed
● Albany City Councilor	9. Collins, Floyd
Oregon State Police Representative	10. Cotter, Mark
● Adair Village Mayor/City Manager Representative	11. Currier, Bill
● Benton County Commissioner	12. Dixon, Jay
■ Philomath Police Chief	13. Elwer, Ken
● Corvallis Citizen Representative	14. Foster, Elizabeth
● Albany Citizen Representative	15. Fredrick, Max
■ Benton County District Attorney	16. Haroldson, John
● ■ Governor's Citizen Representative	17. Hein, Rick
● Benton County Commission on Children & Families	18. Houde, Terri
Trial Court Administrator	19. Hukari, Linda
Adair Police Chief	20. Jones, Justin
● Adair Village City Councilor	21. King, Charline
● Albany Mayor/City Manager	22. Konopa, Sharon
Oregon Youth Authority	23. Kramer, Jim
Benton County Juvenile Department Director	24. Krug, Al
Oregon State Police @ Oregon State University (OSU)	25. Lanz, Jeff
Benton Branch Supervisor: DHS (Dept of Human Services)	26. Michaud, Paula
● 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
● ASOSU Representative	35. Welter, Kate
● ■ Philomath Citizen Representative	36. Williams, Deborah
Benton County Circuit Court Judge	37. Williams, Locke
● School District Representative	38. Youngblood, Steve
Public Defender/Defense Attorney	39. Zorn, Karen
WCJC Coordinator	Spaulding, Michele