

Committee Name:
Joint Committee on Finance – Budget Hearings (JCF_BH)

Appointments

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Courts + Crime + Corrections



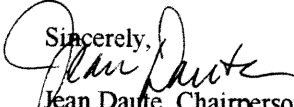
April 15, 1999

Dear Joint Finance Committee Members,

As the Chairperson of Family Resource Network, I have been encouraged to share the concerns of our members. We are greatly alarmed by the significant amount of funding that our state government is putting into the corrections budget. It is true that we need to keep dangerous criminals off the streets of Wisconsin. However, we continue to put huge increases in the bi-annual budget with very little being put on the other end of the continuum in the form of primary prevention. We know from various sources of research, that primary prevention is cheaper per person and has a longer, positive sustained impact than do prisons and institutions. We also know that between 80-95% of the people in prisons were victims of some form of abuse as a child. It is not hard to miss the connection between these two outcomes.

Therefore, we strongly support the 1% for Prevention provision in the Truth in Sentencing Bill that now must become a new, separate piece of legislation. This new legislation will require new dollars from the corrections budget to expand on what exists and develop new additional programming for communities not yet involved. Funding primary prevention programs can allow a greater amount of local control for more communities throughout the state.

Further, primary prevention funding with new dollars to programs that offer universal access to all families would be an extremely effective use of taxpayer dollars. Programs that are limited to "at risk" families do not reach enough people and it is often implemented after the problems occurred. We need to take advantage of this important window of opportunity with babies and new parents. The recent brain research has indicated that a child's earliest development is an extremely crucial time. It is then that we can offer support and help to new parents to assure a more positive outcome for all parents and their children. Healthy, supported and nurtured children now means healthier, less disturbed, resource draining adults later. Which is more cost effective? We believe all of you know the answer to this question. Please support 1% for Prevention!

Sincerely,

Jean Daute, Chairperson

608/757-5285 * fax 608/757-5374

P O Box 1649 * Janesville, WI 53547

One Percent Now !!



Right From the Start
a Wisconsin Coalition

Testimony for the Joint Committee on Finance Public Hearing
April 15, 1999

My name is Ron Biendseil. I am here today as co-chair of the Right From the Start Coalition to urge the Joint Committee on Finance to amend the state budget to include additional funding equal to 1% of the Department of Corrections budget to for a statewide Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Initiative. Such an amendment would provide funding for the preventive component of the Truth in Sentencing Act (Act 283) passed last year by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.

The Truth in Sentencing Act is a comprehensive effort to control and reduce crime in Wisconsin. The current budget contains significant new funding to support Act 283. Unfortunately, it does not include the fiscal component required to make Section 29 of the Act a reality. Section 29 reads as follows:

“As part of its biennial budget request... (the Department of Health and Family Services shall) submit a request for funding for child abuse prevention efforts in an amount equal to or greater than 1% of the total proposed budget of the department of corrections for the same biennium...”

The current budget proposal does not comply with this directive.

It is crucial that the Joint Committee on Finance address this oversight. There is clear and compelling evidence that children who experience early childhood abuse and neglect are at great risk of become criminals as adults. There is also strong evidence that once serious abuse and neglect occurs, all the court interventions and counselors and therapists and community programs can never completely undo the damage. If we want to avoid the tragic consequences of child abuse and neglect, we must prevent it from happening in the first place!

This proposal is particularly timely because in the past few years we have made great strides in understanding how to prevent child abuse and neglect. We know that family visitation programs initiated soon after the birth of a baby on a voluntary basis increase parenting skills and reduce abuse and neglect. We know that when new parents have easy access to family resource centers, they use those centers to become better parents. We know that short-term respite programs provide an alternative to stressed out parents who are at risk of becoming abusive. And we know that when communities work together to develop these programs, they are well received by parents.

Many legislators from both parties support Act 283 in its entirety. We urge the Join Committee on Finance to amend the proposed budget to fund the component of the Act that designates an amount at least equal to 1% of the DOC budget for the prevention of crime.

I have attached to this statement language which our coalition has developed for your consideration. I am also including a list of those statewide organizations that are co-sponsors of this initiative.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this most important issue.

Ronald E. Biendseil, co-chair
Right From the Start Coalition
1202 Northport Dr., Room 444
Madison WI 53704
Phone: (608) 242-6422

ONE PERCENT -- NOW!!

(A COALITION OF WISCONSIN ORGANIZATIONS COMMITTED TO THE PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT)

Proposed Motion to Joint Finance Committee

Note: The purpose of this amendment is to provide the fiscal resources required to implement the intent of Section 29 of 1997 Wisconsin Act 283 (Truth in Sentencing)

1. A sum sufficient equal to 1% of the total amounts appropriated and estimated to be expended from all sources for the Department of Corrections for each fiscal year as shown in the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) will be used for grants to a statewide Initiative for the Primary Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect to be administered by the Department of Health and Family Services.
2. These funds shall be distributed to community planning/coordinating bodies as designated by counties or tribes and representing the ethnic, socio-economic, and geographic composition of the community according to a formula based on the number of annual births. Priority shall be given to building on existing primary prevention services. The goal shall be to offer all parents of newborn children family resource and home visitation services.
3. Each county or tribe receiving these funds shall provide an annual report to the Department of Health and Family Services detailing the services provided, the number of families using these services, and the status of key child development indicators.
4. The Department of Health and Family Services shall submit an annual report on the status of the Initiative for the Primary Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect to the Governor, Attorney General, and Legislature.

1% NOW!! SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

The Child Abuse Prevention Fund,
Jennifer Hammel, Prevention Initiative Manager
PO Box 1997, M.S. 3085
Milwaukee WI 53201
414/266-6300

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin
Sue Weimerskirch, State Director of Prevention
2420 Stewart Sq.
Wausau, WI 54401

Community Ventures
Children's Health System
Christine Holmes, Director
P.O. Box 1997 M.S. 958
Milwaukee, WI 53201
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Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin
Rev. Sue Moline Larson, Director
322 E. Washington Ave
Madison WI 53703
608/255-7399

National Association of Social Workers,
Wisconsin Chapter
Marc Herstand, Executive Director
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Madison WI 53503
608/257-6334

Parents Plus of Wisconsin
Sue Werely, State Project Director
PO Box 452
Menasha, WI 54952
920/729-1787

Wisconsin Association of Family and
Children's Agencies
John Grace, Executive Director
131 W. Wilson
Madison WI 53703
608/257-5939

League of Women Voters of Wisconsin
Carol Kiemel, Legislative Committee
2769 Marshall Parkway,
Madison, WI 53713

Wisconsin Cares
Jack Westman, Chair
1234 Dartmouth Rd.
Madison WI 53705
608/238-0858

Wisconsin Children's Trust Fund
Nadine Schwab, Executive Director
110 E. Main St.
Madison WI 53703
608/266-3737

Wisconsin Committee to Prevent Child Abuse
Steve Ritt, President, Board of Directors
214 N. Hamilton St.
Madison, WI 53703
608/256-3374

Wisconsin Head Start
Ginny Roman
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Madison WI 53713
608/265-9422

Wisconsin Interfaith IMPACT (Wisconsin
Council of Churches)
Bonnee Lauridsen Voss, Director
750 Windsor Street (#301)
Sun Prairie WI 53590

Wisconsin Prevention Network
Jean Daute, Chair
%Rock Co. Human Services
P.O. Box 1649
Janesville, WI 575-5374
(608) 757-5374

Wisconsin Right From the Start Coalition
Amy Bakken, Co-Chair
Ron Biendseil, Co-Chair
711 W. Capitol Dr.
Milwaukee WI 53206
414/264-2660



Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

**Testimony on the State Budget, Senate Bill 45/Assembly Bill 133
Joint Finance Committee**

April 15, 1999

Good morning Chairman Burke and Chairman Gard and other members of the committee. My name is Cheri Dubiel, and I am the Policy Development Specialist at the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA). WCASA is a statewide network of individuals, agencies and organizations, including 34 community-based sexual assault service providers, working to end sexual violence in Wisconsin.

I am here to ask you to reject the Governor's proposal to authorize Sexual Assault Victim Services (or SAVS) funding and federal Victims of Crimes Act (or VOCA) funds to reimburse counties for the cost of their victim/witness services. I am also here to ask you to reject the Governor's appropriation of \$200,000 from federal VOCA funds to fund three new victim services positions in the Department of Corrections.

While we at WCASA are encouraged by the Governor's intention of expanding victim witness programs at the county level, his proposals would take much needed funding from local, non-profit programs which provide direct services to victims and give it to counties. We believe the money for these county-run services should be found elsewhere.

Prior to the establishment of the SAVS fund, local non-profit sexual assault service providers relied to a much greater extent on VOCA funds. VOCA funds are essential to the operations of sexual assault services, but are extremely limited in scope, funding only direct services. There was no specific state funding available to cover administrative and operational costs. Sexual assault service providers were struggling to stay alive.

Then in 1992 and 1993, a large group consisting of victims, community members, and legislators, came together to establish a fund which would allow providers to provide comprehensive services to victims/survivors of sexual assaults. Out of that hard work came the Sexual Assault Victim Services fund. SAVS was established for the sole purpose of providing additional funding to local, non-profit sexual assault service providers and is very necessary to insure funding for victims/survivors at the local level. If the SAVS fund is opened up to fund county victim/witness programs, the state legislature will be in the role of pitting victims against victims and undermining the original intent of the fund. The money can not be spent in both places, and the result would be that local sexual assault victim services would be diminished. Without strong local sexual assault victim services, victims won't have the support to report

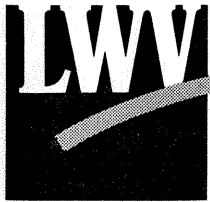


Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

their assault and will never access the victim witness programs within the counties and criminal justice system that are being established.

Of the 34 sexual assault service providers represented by WCASA, which provide services in 52 counties, 16 rely on SAVS and VOCA funding for 100% of their funding. 25 of the 34 rely on SAVS and VOCA funding for at least 50% of their funding.

SAVS and VOCA funding are the lifeblood of local sexual assault services. Unfortunately, while this legislation has good intentions, it would actually hurt victims of sexual assault. Please reject the governor's proposal to authorize SAVS and VOCA funding to reimburse counties for the cost of their victim/witness services. Please also reject the appropriation of \$200,000 from federal VOCA funds to fund three new victim services positions in the Department of Corrections.



**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WISCONSIN, INC.**

122 State Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703-2500 608-256-0827 FAX 608-256-2853

**Statement to the Joint Committee on Finance
Regarding Increased Funding for Early Prevention**

April 15, 1999

The League of women Voters of Wisconsin recommends the Joint Committee on Finance increase funding in the 1999-2000 state budget for two initiatives supporting families at the most critical time in their lives: when their children are newborns.

The **first** is to expand funding for the PREVENTION OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT (POCAN) to \$2.1 million in general purpose revenue per year. Under the beginning phase of the program, grants were awarded to nine counties and one Indian tribe to support those at risk of abuse or neglect.

Unfortunately, an additional 22 counties were denied grants because of lack of funds. The additional \$2.1 million per year will extend the program to an additional 20 counties and three Indian tribes.

The **second** is to include new money equal to 1% of the Department of Corrections biennial budget to expand the availability of family support and home visitation services. The new money will build on the services already in place and establish new programs where necessary.

The 1% FOR PREVENTION initiative is in response to the TRUTH IN SENTENCING legislation which directs the Department of Health and Family Services to submit a budget request for funding of child abuse prevention efforts in an amount equal to or greater than 1% of the Department of Corrections biennial budget request.

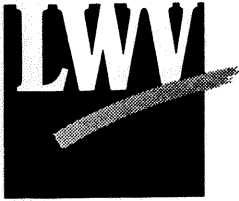
Wisconsin is the **first state in the nation to link crime and child abuse**. The next step is to follow through on this historic commitment by including the 1% for prevention in new money in the 1999-2000 state budget.

The League's commitment to prevention is based on solid research.

1. Family-focused prevention services have been effective in reducing the violent cycle of abuse and neglect. For every dollar spent on outcome driven child abuse prevention strategy at least twice as much is saved on child welfare, special education, mental health and juvenile justice services.
2. Abused or neglected children are 59% more likely than other children to be arrested as a juvenile, 27% more likely to go to jail as an adult and 29% more likely to commit a violent crime.

3. Regrettably, in Wisconsin over 46,000 cases of child abuse are reported each year. In Milwaukee County alone, child abuse and neglect rose from 5,193 cases in 1986 to 9,086 cases in 1995.
4. Home visit programs are effective in curbing youth aggression; the programs use paraprofessionals or volunteers who regularly visit the homes of new parents and provide support and information that helps new parents and their babies establish healthy childbearing patterns from the start, are effective in curbing youth aggression.

The League of Women Voters has a long history in support of legislation which provides families with the funds and community assistance needed to raise children who will become responsible adults. We urge your support of these funding proposals not only because preventative programs save the state money long-term, but because young lives are saved from the cycle of violence which results from abuse and neglect encountered during their first years. Wisconsin as a state must take responsibility for providing a safe environment for its youngest citizens.



**THE LEAGUE
OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WISCONSIN, INC.**

122 State Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53703-2500 608-256-0827 FAX 608-256-2853

**Statement to Joint Committee on Finance Regarding
Corrections Provisions in AB 133/SB 45**

April 1999

The executive budget submitted to the state legislature continues an expensive and single-faceted correctional policy in the state of Wisconsin. This budget reflects the soaring costs resulting from a policy which relies almost exclusively on prisons and increased sentences. And indeed, this year the increase in general purpose revenue funds for the Department of Corrections is surpassed only by the increase in school aids.

The budget narrative explains that "Continual increases in the state correctional population absorbs a major portion of available revenue.... The request (was) trimmed to fund only essential, population driven expenditures, including those for new institutions coming on line..." This "essential" budget for the Department of Corrections amounts to state tax funds growing to more than \$700 million by 2001! We view with equal alarm the expenditure of \$150 million of those funds for existing and additional contract beds through 2001 despite the nearing completion of three additional prisons.

Need for Alternative Programs and Sanctions

All of this has to be a clear indication of the need to implement programs and alternative sanctions that can be more cost effective and still serve public safety needs. We point to our neighboring state of Minnesota which has less than half the incarceration rate of Wisconsin. Our correctional system also needs development and use of prevention, diversion, restitution, rehabilitation and reform programs.

As a beginning step in that direction, we support the governor's proposal to provide literacy software for the correctional facilities as well as increased funding for drug and alcohol abuse treatment.

Sending Prisoners Out-of-State

The League of Women Voters also looks with great concern on the growing number of prisoners being sent to facilities in other states. An offender's responsible behavior is promoted by maintaining family contacts and visits. This is next to impossible for most families when those facilities are in Texas, Oklahoma, etc.

Private Correctional Facilities

Our final concern in the funding of correctional policy relates to the use of private correctional facilities in the state of Wisconsin. The primary goal of criminal sanctions is the protection of society, but this serious event involves a citizen and the law. It is the sole responsibility of the state to enforce and provide criminal sanctions. How would the state protect the rights of individual prisoners? How will the state maintain appropriate personnel requirements and degrees of professionalism? We seriously question the use of private correctional facilities in the state of Wisconsin.

Juvenile Justice

We urge reconsideration of two parts of the Governor's proposed budget pertaining to Juvenile Justice where there are marked funding inadequacies.

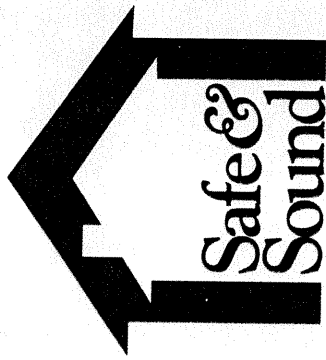
The first regards state funds to counties for programs dealing with juvenile delinquency, of which the most important is Youth Aids. Youth Aids cover a portion of county expenses on services and facilities for juvenile detentions and dispositions. The Governor's budget proposes increased funding for Youth Aids of 2 million for FY00 and 4 million for FY01. However, these increases are primarily to cover projected increases in costs to counties of juveniles committed to state correctional facilities. The projected increases include both a rise in daily rates per juvenile, and an increase in the number of juveniles committed to the state institutions. The budgeted increase in Youth Aids leaves little, if any, additional money for alternate care of juvenile offenders within the counties where they and their families reside. The Wisconsin statutes provide an exemplary array of alternate disposition possibilities for county juvenile courts to choose from depending on the nature of the offense and the needs of the juvenile and the community. These include, for example, monitoring at home, placement in foster homes, or in non-secure and secure group homes, and a range of treatments for drugs, mental health, etc. However, unless these local alternate dispositions are funded, for practical purposes they are not an option for the juvenile courts. Few counties can afford to finance the needed services and facilities on their own. Yet few people would argue that diversion and local placements in facilities which are less criminalizing than a state correctional facility is preferable for most younger juveniles, first time offenders, and minor offenses. Rehabilitation is more likely to be successful, repeat offenses upon release less frequent.

For the past half decade, the proportion of county costs for juvenile delinquency covered by Youth Aids has fallen steadily from 65% to 45%, and some communities with growing caseloads, like Milwaukee County, have been disproportionately disadvantaged by the current state distribution formula. We also note that the proposed budget cuts the funds for community-based treatment services for serious juvenile offenders from \$5,000 to \$3,000 per juvenile. To skimp on funds for Youth Aids and other community-based services is shortsighted, and lack of rehabilitation of today's juvenile offenders will lead to greater expenses for prisons in the future.

On the other hand, the League of Women Voters applauds the proposal to increase funds for Aftercare services, which provide assistance for juveniles in the transition from state correctional facilities back into their local communities. We also note with approval that a number of effective programs which could be viewed as preventive measures for at-risk children have received funding in the Governor's proposed budget, though most of the money comes from the so-called "welfare dividend."

The second inadequacy in the proposed juvenile justice budget that the League of Women Voters urges you to reconsider concerns rehabilitation within the state juvenile correctional facilities themselves. A proposed cut of 20 positions in the institutions, for a saving of over \$1,268,000 eliminates primarily positions associated with rehabilitation, such as youth counselors, teachers, social workers, recreation leaders, psychologists, and program assistants. This reduction is in spite of a projected increase in the juvenile population of the correctional institutions from 939 in 1998-1999 to 1,044 in 2000-2001.

The recommendations of the Juvenile Justice Study Committee, upon which the Juvenile Code of 1996 is based, called for "an approach which balances rehabilitation, personal accountability, and public protection." The League of Women Voters supports these goals, but remarks that the budget focuses on the protection of the public to the neglect of the rehabilitation of the juvenile. While recognizing the importance of protection, the League of Women Voters urges the Wisconsin legislature not to forget rehabilitation, the best way to reduce future criminal behavior.



A community-based, crime-fighting initiative
incorporating:

- * tough law enforcement
- * positive alternatives for youth
- * and neighborhood organizing



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Thompson wants to use U.S. funds for welfare for at-risk kids

\$20 million would be split among communities that develop best programs

By STEVEN WALTERS
of the Journal Sentinel staff

Madison — Gov. Tommy G. Thompson this week will ask legislators to use federal welfare-reform funds to create a \$20 million "community youth" fund to be shared by communities who develop the best plans to help at-risk children.

In his State of the State mes-

sage scheduled for Wednesday night, Thompson also will ask that part of the \$20 million fund be reserved for grants for two Milwaukee non-profit programs, Safe & Sound and the Wisconsin Good Samaritan Project Inc., an aide said.

In addition to making Wisconsin children a theme of his annual speech, the Republican governor also will propose a one-time \$200,000 grant to help a private group develop a way for small, private businesses to go together to buy health insurance for employees.

Thompson aide Kevin Keane

said the governor will weave the need to help children through many subjects in his speech, including health care, education, welfare reform, communities and the environment.

As an example of that emphasis, Keane said, Thompson will ask the Legislature to create the new \$20 million fund, with communities competing for grants from the fund.

Only the best project applications would be funded, except that "several million" would be set aside for the two Milwaukee projects, Keane said. He said exactly how much would be set

aside would not be announced until the governor's Feb. 16 budget message.

In Wednesday's speech, Thompson is scheduled to say the \$20 million grant fund would "forge a partnership between state and neighborhood groups to help at-risk children get off to a strong and healthy start (and) build stronger families and communities."

"Today's children are the first generation of a new millennium, and we must make sure they have an area ready to tackle the chal-

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Proposal/Governor seeks 'community youth' fund

From page 1

lenges ahead," says the preliminary draft of the speech.

To pay for the \$20 million in new grants, Keane said Thompson will ask the Legislature to use federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds the state built up as a result of W-2, the work-based alternative to welfare.

Guaranteed part of the \$20 million would be:

* **Safe & Sound:** In its materials, Safe & Sound leaders say it fights youth crime and violence by organizing neighborhoods against drug sales and gangs and by giving youth safe, constructive activity centers after school, on evenings and on weekends and in the summer.

Officials of the group say they would like to first target an area of Milwaukee bounded by the Menomonee River north to Mill Road, from N. Humboldt Blvd. on the east to N. Sherman Blvd., W. Fond du Lac Ave. and N. 76th St. on the west.

It would cost \$7 million a year to run Safe & Sound programs in about 20 Milwaukee neighborhoods, which would dramatically expand a pilot program, the group's leaders have estimated. In addition to the state, that money would come from other sources.

Safe & Sound now gets some tax funds, Keane said.

Good Samaritan: In materials given to state officials, leaders of the Wisconsin Good Samaritan project say it would work with individuals and families to fight drug and alcohol abuse, child abuse, homelessness and family violence.

Keane said the new fund would be administered by the state Department of Workforce Development and grants would be awarded based on which programs would best keep children in school and away from criminal activity.

"We want to encourage communities to find ways to help at-risk children," Keane said.

Thompson will also propose giving a private group or industry trade group, which will be picked by the state insurance commissioner, a one-time grant of \$200,000 to develop a way that small employers can go together to buy health insurance.

The experiment would try to help "small employers who just don't have the purchasing power to afford health insurance," Keane added. "The state's role would be to just get it started."

State insurance officials estimate that, if the experiment works, it might help make health insurance available to 35,000 workers at small businesses, Keane added.

Youth fund gets warm response

Community leaders like plan but say poor families need even more programs

By MARGO HUSTON
of the Journal Sentinel staff

Community leaders Tuesday applauded Gov. Tommy G. Thompson's proposal to use welfare-reform funds to create a \$20 million "community youth" fund, but they cautioned that additional programs are needed to help poor Milwaukee families become self-sufficient.

The state has a \$200 million surplus in federal welfare dollars, unspent because thousands fewer families than expected are using child-care subsidies or participating in Wisconsin Works (W-2), the state's work-based welfare reform program.

Thompson is expected to unveil the youth initiative in his State of the State message tonight.

Bob Milbourne, executive director of the Greater Milwaukee Committee of business and civic leaders, praised Thompson's commitment to funding Safe & Sound — a neighborhood-based program to fight youth crime and violence — saying the group is a remarkable collaboration of community organiza-

tions.

Establishing a youth fund will spur creative approaches to helping youngsters, he said. Milwaukee also needs more resources to improve child care options and alcohol and drug programs, both essential if parents are to succeed in the work force.

"The whole community is better off if individuals get the [alcohol and drug abuse] treatment they need," Milbourne said.

Dave Rohlfs, executive director of the Milwaukee Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, said "all of the services conceptualized for use of the \$200 million should focus on prevention of substance abuse, because substance abuse contributes heavily to poverty and unemployment and other human needs."

He and other community leaders, particularly members of the Milwaukee Innerscity Churches Allied for Hope, are calling for state and federal dollars to restore funding of treatment programs in Milwaukee County to \$15 million, the level it had in 1993, before cuts began.

County officials spent \$3.4 million over budget in 1998 and recently announced cuts in services to poor and uninsured addicts to avoid overspending this

year.

The county has budgeted \$7.5 million for treatment programs for the past two years.

State Rep. John Gard (R-Peshigo), one of the architects of W-2, said that before the state allocates additional dollars to Milwaukee County for drug and alcohol treatment the current system must be scrutinized, especially the services provided under Medicaid.

Child care also must improve. "I am open to spending some additional money there, but I want to make sure we're using the existing dollars as effectively as possible."

Gard said that with the huge drop in welfare caseloads — 87% since 1993 — state taxpayers should reap the benefits.

Anne Arnesen, executive director of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families, a statewide advocacy group, praised Thompson's "community youth" fund, saying, "There's a crying need for help for children 10 to 16, latchkey children, who are too old for day care and too young to be unsupervised after school."

But she urged Thompson to consider initiatives to help younger children, for whom the quality of care can help determine a person's success in life.

SAFE AND SOUND CELEBRATES 'SAFE PLACES' GRAND OPENING

MILWAUKEE-- Safe & Sound Inc. officially marked the grand opening of 25 Safe & Sound after school Safe Places in Milwaukee. Safe Places offer positive, constructive activities during the critical after school, weekend and summer hours. Safe & Sound officials along with community leaders marked the grand opening with fireworks and festivities at Douglas Community Academy, an MPS middle school with a "community learning center" after school program in place.

"Through these Safe Places, we hope to reach on a daily basis, as many as 5,000 youth who would not otherwise be served," said Nicolette Bautista, executive director of Safe & Sound Inc. "We plan to have more than 40 Safe Places open by January with at least two Safe Places in twenty focus neighborhoods."

The Safe Places are one part of a three-pronged approach to preventing and reducing crime in

Milwaukee. Along with offering Safe Places to keep children away from gangs, drugs and guns, Safe & Sound attacks the problem of youth crime and violence through the coordination of tough law enforcement and door-to-door efforts to strengthen neighborhoods and support residents. All three components come together in a common-sense, comprehensive approach to redirecting our youth to more positive paths.

"These Safe Places will be open until 8 or 9 p.m. in most cases," said Steven J. Smith, chairman and CEO of Journal Communications and co-chair of the Safe & Sound board of directors. "Those are prime hours when children are the victims and even the perpetrators of crime. We want to eliminate the situation, and Safe Places will help do so in a positive way."

Milwaukee Public Schools is a major partner in Safe & Sound Safe Places because it is providing MPS

facilities to house many of the after-school programs.

"We're very pleased that MPS has pledged to open its facilities for this purpose," said Patti McKeithan, vice president - corporate affairs for Miller Brewing Company and co-chair of the Safe & Sound board of directors. "These programs do more than give kids a place to go after school. They are reaching out to the entire neighborhood with education, resources and new ideas."

Youth-serving agencies such as the YMCA, Boy's & Girls Clubs, as well as independent neighborhood centers such as members of the United Neighborhood Centers of Milwaukee, will team with MPS to operate these Safe Place and staff programs.

Safe & Sound's mission is to reduce crime in the focus area by at least 20% in its first three years. A campaign to raise \$4.5 million in private contributions is under way.



The program has a \$21 million total budget for its first three years.

The nonprofit Safe & Sound was created to implement the

recommendations of the Youth Crime and Violence Task Force, which was established by U.S.

Senator Herb Kohl, Mayor John O. Norquist and U.S. Attorney Thomas Schneider. The program is based on similar, successful models in Boston and Pittsburgh and three pilot "

Weed and Seed" neighborhoods in Milwaukee, where criminal elements were "weeded" out and positive alternatives were "seeded" to prevent the recurrence of criminal activity. Safe & Sound, which was launched in June, is supported by a variety of public and private funds.

City deserves to be Safe & Sound

The drastic drop in crime in Milwaukee's three Weed and Seed neighborhoods raises this question: Why not expand the Weed and Seed program to all the city's high-crime areas? The answer: Officials are doing precisely that.

They have dubbed the expanded effort Safe & Sound. The idea is to weed out crime while seeding hope in young people. The program comprises coalitions of law-enforcement agencies and youth-serving organizations and a network of neighborhood organizers.

Safe & Sound involves stepped-up policing and more recreational and academic activities for young people. The key, according to Mayor John Norquist, are the organizers, who identify trouble spots as they go from house to house and who can connect families to resources.

Weed and Seed has been federally financed. The new effort, costing \$21 million over three years, will come from public and private funds. A drive is under way to raise \$4.5 million in private money to finance so-called Safe Places, after-school sites for young people. So far, \$800,000 has come in — \$300,000 from the Fleck Foundation and \$250,000 each from Herb Kohl Charities and the Northwestern Mutual Life Foundation.

(Steven Smith, president and chief executive officer of Journal Communications Inc., is co-chair of the Safe & Sound board of directors.)

This fund drive is a worthy cause. As Norquist notes, lowering crime raises the value of city neighborhoods. And the combination of weeding out crime and seeding hope is a formula proven to work.

COMMENT

Businesses can help make Milwaukee safer and sounder

Milwaukee's business community has a unique opportunity to reap an unprecedented return on an investment in a new crime-reduction program called Safe & Sound. This return will come in the form of lower crime rates, higher property values, more stable neighborhoods and better student achievement — all things the business community wants.

These may sound like bold claims for a crime-reduction program, but we wouldn't make them without the evidence to back them up.

Safe & Sound, a new \$21 million anti-crime initiative, gives us the opportunity to make all of those things happen, and we encourage Milwaukee's business leaders to join us in supporting this unparalleled effort.

Safe & Sound is different because it brings together tough law enforcement, positive alternatives for youth and stronger neighborhoods in a common-sense, comprehensive approach to preventing crime and redirecting our youth to more positive paths.

First, local, state and federal law enforcement agencies are working together to aggressively target gangs, drugs and guns in the city's highest-crime areas. That means we will see more efforts like the recent increases in gang- and drug-related arrests on the city's south side.

Second, Community Partners are helping make 20 focus neighborhoods stronger. The Community Partners go door-to-door, letting residents know about resources and positive activities such as job fairs and neighborhood clean-ups and helping identify drug houses. When the Community Partners are hired, they are told that crime reduction in their assigned neighborhood is their top priority. It's very clear — Safe & Sound is about



ON SAFE & SOUND
PATTI BRASH McKEITHAN AND ED ZORE



measurable results.

The third component that makes Safe & Sound different is Safe Places — neighborhood sites that offer youth an organized place to participate in positive activities rather than choose or be victims of crime and violence.

We will see lower crime, higher property values, better student achievement and an improved quality of life in our community.

These Safe Places are open in the afternoons and evenings on school days and on weekends, holidays and vacation periods. Milwaukee's youth-serving agencies, such as the YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs, Journey House, the Next Door Foundation and many others, will operate these Safe Places at their own sites and in dozens of schools, as Milwaukee Public Schools opens its school buildings as after-school sites in the focus neighborhoods.

While these components make Safe & Sound different, they have also been proven successful.

For three years, a pilot program using the Safe & Sound model, operated in three Mil-

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Director named for new anti-crime program

BY GEORGIA PABST
of the Journal Sentinel staff

A former Peace Corps volunteer and executive director of a south side agency will become the executive director of Safe & Sound Inc., Milwaukee's new communitywide anti-crime initiative.

Nicolette Bautista, who has been executive director of Journey House for the last seven years, will take over as the director of Safe & Sound on Nov. 23, according to Patricia Brash McKeithan, the co-chair of Safe & Sound and vice president of corporate affairs for Miller Brewing Co.

The Safe & Sound program, with a \$21 million budget for its first three years, hopes to reduce youth crime and violence



Bautista

nizing.

Safe & Sound is based on similar programs in Boston and Pittsburgh and on Milwaukee's Weed and Seed programs, which reduced criminal activity in three Milwaukee neighborhoods.

Steven J. Smith, co-chair of the Safe & Sound board and president and CEO of Journal

through the coordination of tough law enforcement, positive alternatives for youth such as after-school programs, and stronger neighborhoods through door-to-door orga-

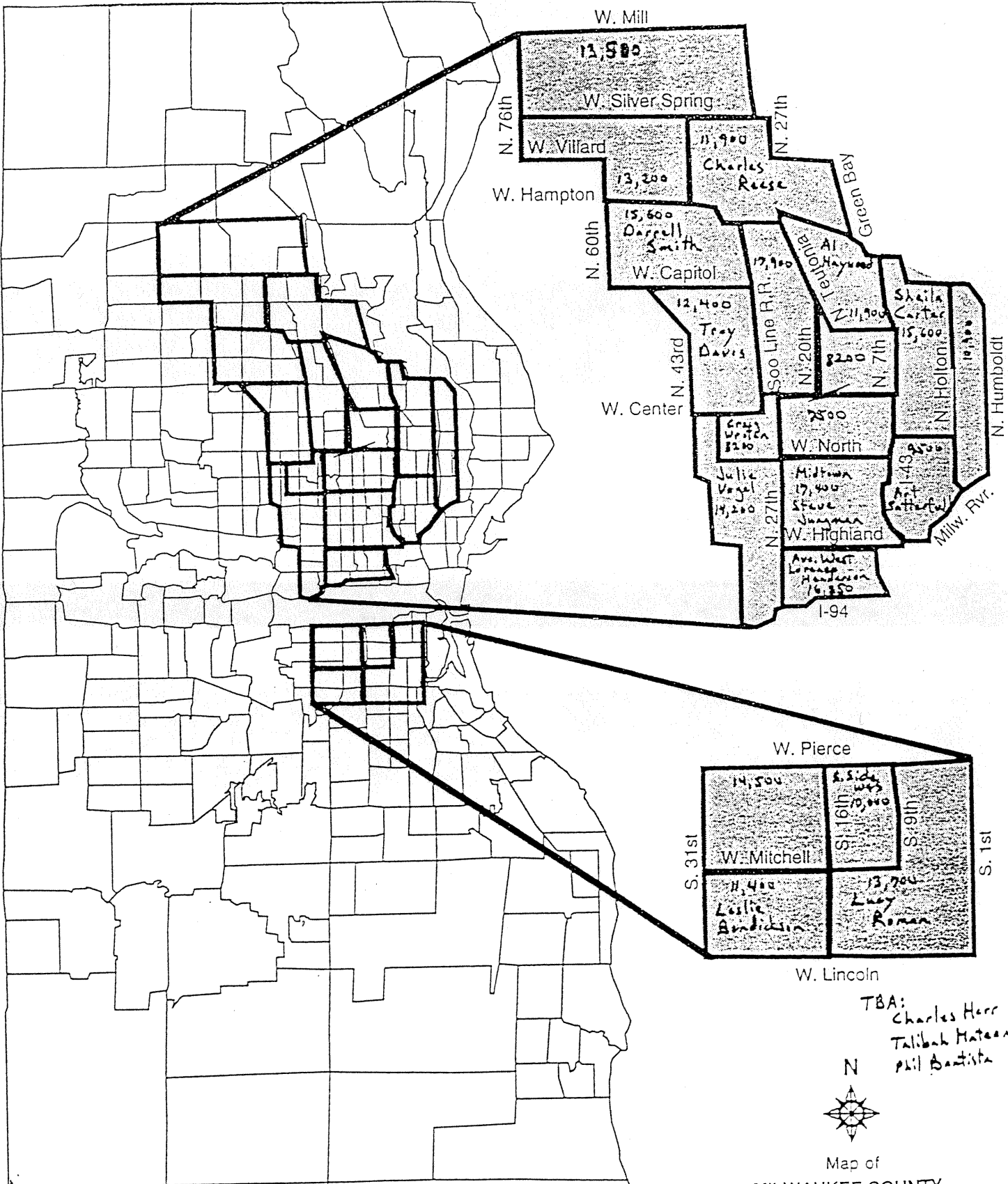
Communications Inc., said Bautista will help "keep us on the right track and help us achieve real, measurable results."

Born in Milwaukee, Bautista graduated from Hamilton High School and Marquette University. After college she served as a Peace Corps volunteer in west-central Africa.

Part of her job with Safe & Sound will be raising the \$4.5 million in private contributions needed to finance the network of after-school programs, or safe havens that are part of the program.

MPS hopes to open 11 community learning centers by the end of the month, and an additional 16 Safe Havens next year.

Safe & Sound Target Neighborhoods: Area, Est. Population, and Community Partner



TBA:
Charles Herr
Talibah Mateen
Phil Bautista



Map of
MILWAUKEE COUNTY
by Census Tract





A community-based, crime-fighting initiative incorporating tough law enforcement, positive alternatives for youth and neighborhood organizing

What It Is...

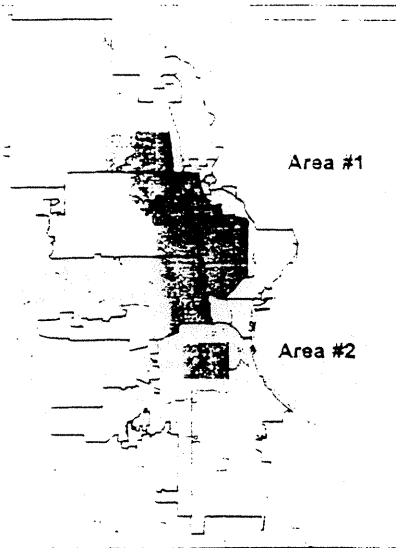
- Safe & Sound is an anti-crime initiative that attacks the problem of youth crime and violence on three fronts:
 - ***Tough Law Enforcement:** Federal, state and local authorities cooperate and communicate to target gangs, drug pushers and gun traffickers in the highest crime neighborhoods.
 - ***Positive Alternatives for Youth:** Safe & Sound Safe Places give children and teenagers safe places to go that offer positive, constructive activities during the critical after-school, evening, weekend and summer hours.
 - ***Neighborhood Organizing:** Safe & Sound Community Partners go door to door in specific neighborhoods to share information and help residents support law enforcement and neighborhood revitalization.
- Safe & Sound is a new initiative that will raise funds through public and private efforts, coordinate and financially support programming of community organizations, establish Community Partners to work in target areas, and evaluate the efforts' successes. Overall, Safe & Sound will affect approximately 290,000 Milwaukee residents.
- Safe & Sound is supported through a combination of federal and state public funds and private contributions. The goal of the program is to raise and disseminate approximately \$7 million per year, or \$21 million over three years. To date, more than \$15 million for the three-year period has been secured. Those funds include more than \$675,000 through the federal Weed & Seed program and \$9 million over three years through the federal High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program. Safe & Sound will solicit private donations to further fund the comprehensive effort.
- Immediate goals of Safe & Sound are to establish approximately 50 Safe Places, hire 24 Community Partners within the target areas and support joint federal-state-local task forces to target gangs and drug traffickers in the target areas.
- The three-year goal of Safe & Sound is to reduce violent crime in Milwaukee by 20 percent in the targeted areas.

How It Works...

- A pilot program like Safe & Sound was conducted in Milwaukee with amazing results. Through this successful pilot, three targeted Milwaukee neighborhoods -- Avenues West, Midtown and Metcalfe Park -- underwent dramatic transformations. According to a Marquette University evaluation of the program, the pilot resulted in a 47-percent reduction in violent felonies and 21-percent reduction in overall crime in the targeted neighborhoods. The new Safe & Sound initiative will be approximately eight times the size and reach of the pilot program.
- A similar effort in Pittsburgh, the Allegheny County Youth Crime Prevention Strategy, accomplished a 13-percent overall drop in juvenile crime in one year.
- A similar effort in Boston achieved a remarkable reduction in gang-related violence -- homicides dropped from about 150 per year to 70 per year, and in the last three years only one juvenile murder by gunshot.

Safe & Sound Target Areas

Safe & Sound efforts will be focused in areas most victimized by crime, and particularly violent crime. While these target areas cover approximately 27 percent of the City and represent about 46 percent of the City's population, more than 80 percent of Milwaukee's homicides and a disproportionate percentage of robberies, gang disputes, drug trafficking and other violent felonies occur there.

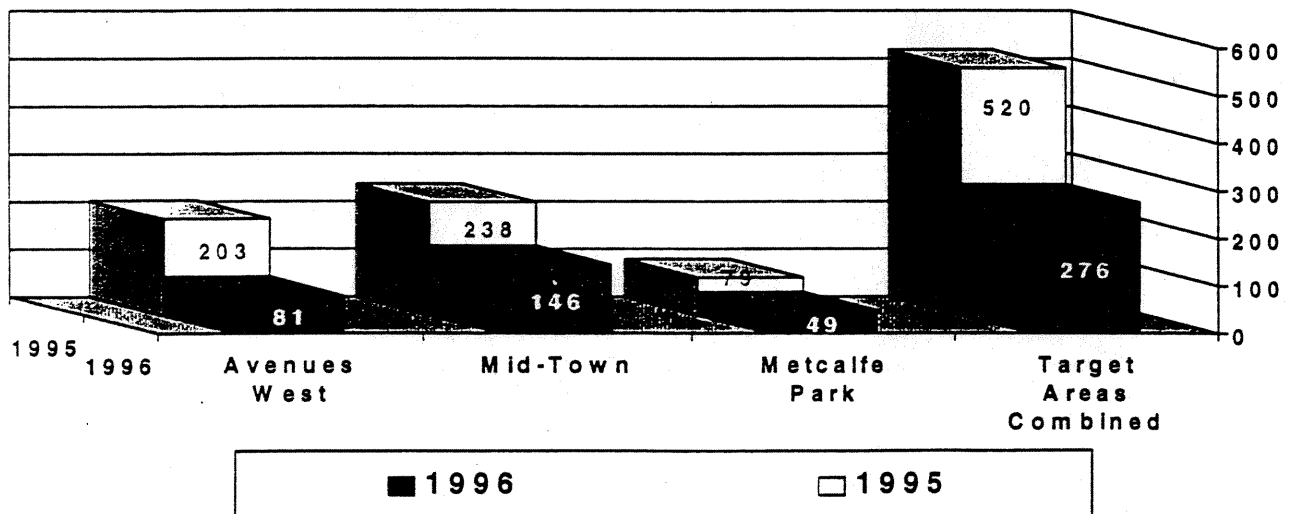


Area 1 reaches roughly from the Menomonee River north to Mill Road, and from N. Humboldt Blvd. on the east to N. Sherman Blvd., W. Fond du Lac Ave., and N. 76th on the west.

Area 2 is between S. 1st St., W. Lincoln Ave., S. 31st St. and W. National Ave.

Positive Results

Reduction in Violent Crimes During Pilot Program



\$1.1 million pledged for Safe Places for children

Donations will help build network of after-school sanctuaries for youths

By JESSICA MCBRIDE
of the Journal Sentinel staff

Five of the city's major charitable foundations and a prominent business leader together have pledged more than \$1.1 million toward funding a network of after-school Safe Places for children.

The donations were announced Monday by Safe & Sound board co-chairs Steven Smith, chairman and CEO of Journal Communications Inc., and Patti McKelthan, vice president for corporate affairs at Miller Brewing Co.

The Jane B. Pettit Foundation contributed the largest amount, with a \$450,000 grant, and Michael J. Cudahy contributed \$250,000. The Elizabeth A. Brinn Foundation gave \$150,000, and the Firststar Milwaukee Foundation, the Johnson Controls Foundation and the Faye

McBeath Foundation donated \$100,000 a piece.

The Safe & Sound campaign aims to raise \$4.5 million in private money to establish at least 47 Safe Places to serve about 7,500 children a day. Safe & Sound is a three-year, \$21 million program designed to reduce crime by at least 20% in focus areas.

Nicolette Bautista, director of Safe & Sound, said 37 Safe Place locations are operating and all 47 should be open by the end of the month.

"We are about half-way there," she said of the fund-raising campaign. "We deeply appreciate the support we have received so far. We think in the long term this will buy unlimited returns. Six-hundred dollars buys a Safe Place for a child for three years."

The city has already received

Please see **SAFE** page 3

Eugene Kane's
column will return April 15

Safe/Donors pledge funds for sanctuaries

From page 1

a \$2.5 million grant from the federal High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area effort for the crime-fighting elements. The program is based on models in Boston and Pittsburgh and on three Weed and Seed neighborhoods in Milwaukee, where criminal elements were "weeded out" and replaced with positive endeavors.

"I think the model that it is based on has proven very successful in other communities, as well as Weed and Seed," Sarah Dean, executive director of the Faye McBeath Foundation, said Monday. "We want to help reduce crime and improve the

quality of life for children in central city neighborhoods."

Safe Places will offer structured activities during after-school, evening and weekend hours and during school vacation periods. Many of the Safe Places, which also offer academic help for youths, will be open this week during spring break.

An example is the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center, 5460 N. 64th St., which Mayor John O. Norquist visited Monday during its spring break mini-camp. The center will be open for youths from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. this week.

"These Safe Places are so important to our youths," Norquist says in a statement. "Children will gather at schools and orga-

nizations during Easter break and play volleyball, soccer and kickball instead of getting involved in less positive activities."

Although the Safe & Sound program is supported by a variety of public and private funds, private donations will be the primary funding source for the Safe Places.

The Safe & Sound board is a non-profit organization set up to implement the recommendations of the Youth Crime and Violence Task Force established last year by Sen. Herb Kohl (D-Wis.), Norquist and U.S. Attorney Thomas Schneider.

Bautista said that people who want a list of Safe Places should call 276-6237.

Judy Johnson, Nina Walker
Co-founders

Ozaukee Justice Center
1201 South Spring Street
Port Washington, WI 53074
Phone: 414-238-8440 Ext. 646
Fax: 414-238-8490



Opportunity Is The Key!

Corporate Address:
P.O. Box 391
Grafton, WI 53024

OZAUKEE COUNTY JAIL LITERACY PROGRAM, INC.

History and Services of the OCJLP, Inc.

The Ozaukee County Jail Literacy Program, Inc. provides 45 weeks of instruction for adult individuals (18 years and over) incarcerated at the Ozaukee County Jail who do not have high school diplomas. Currently, two instructors each provide 12 hours of classroom instruction per week. Since April 8, 1992, ninety-four-inmate participants have received their HSEDs (High School Equivalency Diplomas) while incarcerated at the Ozaukee County Jail; in addition, many others have continued their education after leaving the Program. This grass roots educational initiative has had nearly 400 inmate participants since its inception.

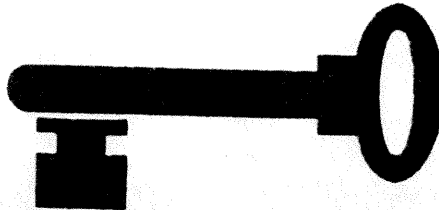
The Program relies heavily on community support for materials, supplies and testing fees. An alternate tester from Milwaukee Area Technical College, Downtown Campus administers GED tests at the jail site to participants every other week.

The total annual budget for our own project is \$64,000 this year. Twenty-four percent (24%) of our funds come from the jail commissary (a match to get federal funds through the VTAE). Thirty percent (30%) is from the federal grant, and forty-six percent (46%) from monies raised in the community. Our concern at this point is the continued availability of matching federal funds for jail education. The current emphasis appears to be directed to family literacy. This brings us to our request.

We are, therefore, requesting your help in securing state funds that the counties could match for their jail education programs. We would like \$1.7 million placed in the budget for educational programming for county jails. (This figure represents \$25,000.00 for each of the 71 county jails in Wisconsin and represents one-tenth of 1 percent of the annual prison budget.) We suggest a 70-30% match. The counties could pay their thirty-percent match through commissary funds, county budgets, and/or private fund-raising, and could be administered through the state office of Justice Assistance, which already oversees jails in Wisconsin.

Since the Ozaukee County Jail Literacy Program, Inc. has an excellent seven year track record, we recommend that it be used as a model for implementation of this request. The co-founders, Nina Walker and Judy Johnson would agree to act as consultants.





OZAUKEE COUNTY JAIL LITERACY PROJECT

1201 South Spring Street
Post Office Box 245
Port Washington, WI 53074-0245
Phone: 414-238-8440 Ext. 646
Fax: 414-238-8490

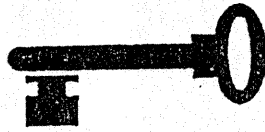
NINA WALKER
Co-Director

(414) 377-7468
Judy Johnson

Co-Director
(920) 823-2369

Judy Johnson, Nina Walker
Co-founders

Ozaukee Justice Center
1201 South Spring Street
Port Washington, WI 53074
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Fax: 414-238-8490



Opportunity Is The Key!

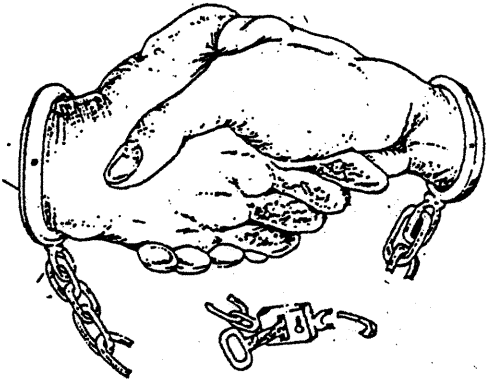
Corporate Address:
P.O. Box 391
Grafton, WI 53024

OZAUKEE COUNTY JAIL LITERACY PROGRAM, INC.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ozaukee County Jail Literacy Project, located in the Ozaukee County Justice Center, will provide educational opportunities to incarcerated adults through compassionate delivery of services and community support. This will be accomplished by offering high school equivalency diploma completion, basic literacy skills, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and career awareness and employability skills courses; these offerings will improve personal and employment potential, leading to the reduction of recidivism at the county jail level.





EDUCATION

BREAK THE CHAINS FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Contributions are tax deductible.
 Make checks payable to:
 Ozaukee County Jail Literacy Program, Inc.
 P.O. Box 391
 Grafton, WI 53024

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____ Date _____

Please contact us for a speaking engagement

Educate-an-Inmate - \$150.00

Other- please enter amount

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jane Beck
 Business Owner

Elizabeth Brelsford
 Ozaukee County Supervisor
 Law Enforcement Committee

Mary Goeks
 Project Advocate

Tim Boven, Advisory
 State Assemblyman

Judy Johnson
 Program Co-founder

Pastor Dick Lomnee
 Crossroads Presbyterian, Mequon

Lt. David Lorenz, Advisory
 Ozaukee County Jail Administrator

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Robin Parsons
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Bolly Ryan
 Community Co-Coordinator
 Cedarburg High School

Reverend Dell Sailer
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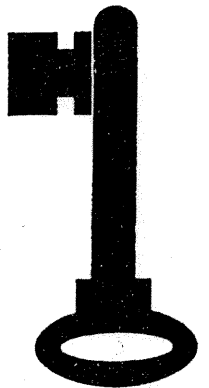
Harvey Salger
 CPA

Betty Schmidt
 Business Owner

Mina Walker
 Program Co-founder

Martie Watts
 Community Volunteer

Harmony Welsbach
 Project Advocate



**OPPORTUNITY
 IS THE
 KEY**

"By and large criminals are social failures. They cannot hold a steady job. They have alcohol and drug problems. They lack a high school education. When we return these individuals back to society, we need to have provided to them the opportunities to change into productive citizens. Education is the cornerstone of these opportunities."

"By supporting programs like the Ozaukee County Jail Literacy Program, Inc., Your investment will show greater dividends."

Lt. David C. Lorenz
 Ozaukee County Jail Administrator

MISSION STATEMENT

The Ozaukee County Jail Literacy Program Inc., located in the Ozaukee County Justice Center, has been in operation since April 8, 1992. The Program will provide educational opportunities to incarcerated adults through compassionate delivery of services and community support. This will be accomplished by offering high school equivalency diploma completion, basic literacy skills, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, and career awareness and employability skills courses; these offerings will improve personal and employment potential, leading to the reduction of recidivism at the county jail level.

The total yearly budget for the Program is approximately \$52,000 which serves more than 50 inmates per year. This compares to the annual cost of incarceration for two individuals which is nearly \$24,000 per inmate per year. The Program relies on private donations to achieve its goals.

The co-founders welcome the opportunity to speak to groups and organizations that are interested in supporting this vital educational initiative.

-Judy Johnson and Nina Walker-

OZAUKEE COUNTY JAIL LITERACY PROGRAM, INC. GOALS

- ◆ Offer an opportunity for change
- ◆ Improve reading, math and writing skills
- ◆ Increase employability
- ◆ Encourage positive decision making/problem solving skills
- ◆ Reduce recidivism

SPECIFIC PROGRAM NEEDS

- ◆ Educate-an-Inmate- \$150.00
Covers books, testing fees, and supplies for one inmate
- ◆ Basic skills materials
Reading, math, and writing books
- ◆ Funds for educational videos
Civics, social studies, career awareness, employability skills
- ◆ Funds for computer software
- ◆ Library books, dictionaries, magazine subscriptions
- ◆ Supplies- paper, folders, pencils

PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS

"I just recently received my HSED at the Ozaukee County Jail. The school program has helped me strive to be a better person and a smarter person. Not having a high school diploma is very hard as far as getting a job."

"This program improved my education, self-esteem, and self-respect. I really can't say enough good things about this program. It has given me a new start in life."
-Mike C.

"Coming to jail has been the biggest waking-up to reality for me. I am extremely grateful for being here to straighten out my life. Thanks to the Ozaukee County Jail Literacy Program, Inc., I am a high school graduate and am more focused on my life that ever before. I owe a lot to my teachers."
-Garrett S.

"I was able to get my HSED while I was incarcerated in the Ozaukee County Jail. Before I came, I could not read or write. Now, I can read books instead of just looking at the pictures. It will be easier to read and fill out job applications. I also learned how to set goals in my life and work to get them."
-Robert H.



The State of Wisconsin

CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

HONORING THE

OZAUKEE COUNTY JAIL LITERACY PROGRAM




ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF WISCONSIN, I AM
ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO SALUTE THE

OZAUKEE COUNTY JAIL LITERACY PROGRAM

ON THE OCCASION OF THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROJECT.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE OZAUKEE COUNTY JAIL LITERACY
PROJECT IS MAKING EDUCATION POSSIBLE FOR THOSE WHO
ARE WISHING TO REHABILITATE THEMSELVES. THIS PROGRAM
IS A PRODUCTIVE INVESTMENT FOR
ALL OF WISCONSIN'S CITIZENS

PRESENTED WITH MY BEST WISHES.



DONE AT THE CAPITOL IN THE
CITY OF MADISON THIS
FOURTH DAY OF APRIL IN THE
YEAR ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James D. Hoopes".

GOVERNOR