



STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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January 14, 2022

SENT VIA EMAIL

Michael Queensland, Senate Chief Clerk
(c/o email erin.gillitzer@legis.wisconsin.gov)

Ted Blazel, Assembly Chief Clerk
(c/o email julie.martyn@legis.wisconsin.gov)

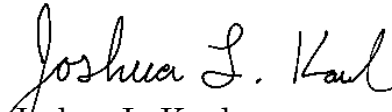
Re: Annual State Grants Report CY2021

Dear Chief Clerks Queensland and Blazel:

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m), the Wisconsin Department of Justice shall annually submit a report to the legislature regarding its administration of grant programs under Wis. Stat. §§ 165.95, 165.955, 165.96, 165.986, and 165.987. The report for CY2021 is enclosed.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lara Kenny, Director, Bureau of Justice Programs, Division of Law Enforcement Services, at (608) 640-7635.

Sincerely,


Joshua L. Kaul
Attorney General

EJW:LCK:alm

Enclosure

Report on Grants – Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)
2021



Wisconsin Department of Justice
January 15, 2022

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Introduction

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)

“...beginning on January 15, 2015, and annually thereafter, the department of justice shall submit a report to the legislature regarding its administration of grant programs under Wis. Stat. § 165.95, 165.955, 165.96, 165.986, and 165.987. The report shall include, for each grant program, all of the following information:

(a) The amount of each grant awarded by the department of justice for the previous fiscal year.

(b) The grant recipient to whom each grant was awarded.

(c) The methodology used by the department of justice to choose grant recipients and to determine the level of grant funding for each grant recipient.

(d) Performance measures created by the department of justice for each grant program.

(e) Reported results from each grant recipient in each fiscal year as to the attainment of performance measures the department of justice developed for the grant recipient.”

Alternatives to Incarceration Grants, Wis. Stat. § 165.95

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(a) The amount of each grant awarded in the previous year.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(b) The grant recipient to whom each grant was awarded.

\$69,519	Adams County
\$97,915	Ashland County
\$26,962	Barron County
\$125,078	Bayfield County
\$159,712	Brown County
\$125,286	Buffalo County (includes Pepin County as a partner)
\$125,000	Burnett County (includes Washburn County as a partner)
\$115,327	Chippewa County
\$204,124	Columbia County
\$108,030	Crawford County
\$214,931	Dane County
\$209,620	Dodge County
\$141,011	Door County
\$108,031	Douglas County
\$99,566	Dunn County
\$137,213	Eau Claire County
\$119,572	Grant County
\$72,615	Ho-Chunk Nation
\$65,046	Iowa County
\$88,000	Jackson County
\$174,020	Jefferson County

\$124,500	Kenosha County
\$156,885	La Crosse County
\$113,294	Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
\$118,533	Lafayette County
\$142,396	Manitowoc County
\$150,000	Marathon County
\$203,770	Marinette County
\$100,082	Marquette County
\$98,148	Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
\$380,981	Milwaukee County
\$69,401	Monroe County
\$178,343	Outagamie County
\$125,930	Ozaukee County
\$205,777	Pierce County
\$150,118	Polk County
\$76,187	Portage County
\$124,975	Racine County
\$125,000	Rock County
\$123,144	Rusk County
\$116,733	Sauk County
\$107,347	Shawano County
\$93,079	Sheboygan County
\$146,517	St. Croix County
\$100,000	Taylor County

\$110,000	Trempealeau County
\$195,000	Walworth County
\$96,720	Washington County
\$139,680	Waukesha County
\$89,782	Waushara County
\$140,000	Wood County

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(c) The methodology used by the department of justice to choose grant recipients and to determine the level of grant funding for each grant recipient.

All projects are funded for a calendar year period. All groups listed above, and the Drug Court projects identified in Wis. Stat. § 165.955 enumerated in the next section, applied for funding through a competitive grant announcement. Each application was reviewed by the state agency partners: Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Corrections (DOC), Department of Health Services (DHS), the Director of State Courts, and the State Public Defender. Each grantee responded appropriately to the grant announcement and was determined to meet the criteria for the program. The partner agencies recommended approval to the Attorney General and the Secretaries of DOC and DHS. DOJ thereafter accepted the recommendations and approved the grant awards.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(d) Performance measures created by the department of justice for each grant program.

DOJ's Bureau of Justice Information and Analysis (BJIA) developed performance measures, as well as outcome and impact measures, that incorporate the goals and objectives enumerated in Wis. Stat. § 165.95(3)(b) and (3)(f) for the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (TAD) program. The measures were based primarily on the Wisconsin Adult Drug and Hybrid Performance Measures, published in 2016, along with draft measures for Diversion Programs developed in 2018 under the Evidence-Based Decision-Making Initiative. Ongoing performance measures include participant-focused goals centered on efforts to reduce the use of alcohol or other drugs, facilitate gainful employment, or enhance education or training, provide stable

housing, reduce in-program recidivism, and ensure payment of child support. Promoting public safety, reducing jail and prison populations, and reducing prosecution and incarceration costs, along with the primary focus of reducing recidivism by utilizing these performance measures continue to be long-term criminal justice goals.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(e) Reported results from each grant recipient in each fiscal year as to the attainment of performance measures the department of justice developed for the grant recipient.

To support the expansion of TAD and the tracking of both performance measures and program outcomes, BJIA utilizes the Comprehensive Outcome, Research, and Evaluation (CORE) reporting system to track participant-level data. This secure, web-based system supports more robust and expansive data collection and reporting on participants including tracking key participant characteristics such as education, employment, housing stability, and child support status, both at the time of admission and discharge from the program, as well as various indicators such as demographics, risk level, drug/alcohol use, and related factors. In addition, the system tracks ongoing interventions throughout the program such as the frequency and results of alcohol and drug testing, participant attendance at status hearings, use of incentives and sanctions in response to behavior, attendance at treatment or other services, and changes in key areas such as education and employment.

The full rollout of the system with the TAD sites occurred in 2018. Additional improvements were made to the system in 2020, including the release of a variety of reports for local site utilization in addition to overall system improvements and enhancements. Additional CORE enhancements will be made in 2022 with a focus on data quality and increasing the accessibility of data for sites. CORE also incorporates the statewide performance measures for adult drug and hybrid courts that have been adopted for Wisconsin, as well as most of the draft performance measures that were developed for diversion programs.

BJIA has continued to develop data reports for the TAD program based on the data collected through the CORE application. The data continue to be cleaned and summarized to provide an overview of the participants across all TAD sites as part of ongoing program monitoring, including characteristics of program participants such as demographics, program status, and related information. This work will help support routine reporting of this information in annual TAD program progress

reports available on the DOJ and CJCC (Criminal Justice Coordinating Council) websites. A total of 1,036 participants were entered by local sites into the CORE Reporting System with admission dates in FY21 (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021) and funded by TAD. This included 445 admissions to treatment courts, and 591 admissions to diversion programs.

Drug Court Grants, Wis. Stat. § 165.955

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(a) The amount of each grant awarded in the previous year.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(b) The grant recipient to whom each grant was awarded.

\$28,470	Adams County
\$122,900	Green County
\$101,130	Green Lake County
\$125,000	Portage County
\$122,500	Richland County

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(c) The methodology used by the department of justice to choose grant recipients and to determine the level of grant funding for each grant recipient.

The methodology used by DOJ to choose grant recipients and to determine the level of grant funding for each grant recipient is the same as that for the TAD projects under Wis. Stat. § 165.95.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(d) Performance measures created by the department of justice for each grant program.

The TAD performance measures and evaluation process are being applied to these five grant awards.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(e) Reported results from each grant recipient in each fiscal year as to the attainment of performance measures the department of justice developed for the grant recipient.

The reported results from these grant recipients will be included in required reports as part of the TAD program. In addition, these programs will also use the CORE reporting system to track participants.

Child Advocacy Grants, Wis. Stat. § 165.96

165.25(10m)(a) The amount of each grant awarded in the previous fiscal year.

165.25(10m)(b) The grant recipient to whom each grant was awarded.

\$17,000	YWCA of Rock County
\$17,000	Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin – Milwaukee
\$17,000	Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center
\$17,000	Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin – Kenosha
\$17,000	Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin – Fox Valley Child Advocacy Center
\$17,000	Family and Children’s Center – Stepping Stones
\$17,000	Family Service of Waukesha
\$17,000	Children’s Service Society of Wisconsin – Wausau
\$17,000	Children’s Service Society of Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley Child Advocacy Center
\$17,000	Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin, Inc.
\$17,000	Children’s Service Society of Wisconsin – Racine
\$17,000	Children’s Service Society of Wisconsin – Walworth
\$17,000	Green County Human Services
\$17,000	Marshfield Clinic – Child Advocacy Center

165.25(10m)(c) The methodology used by the department of justice to choose grant recipients and to determine the level of grant funding for each grant recipient.

Section 165.96 of the Wisconsin statutes dictates which grant recipients receive funding. Per statute, each recipient is awarded \$17,000.

165.25(10m)(d) Performance measures created by the department of justice for each grant program.

Subgrantees are required to submit semi-annual program reports with the option of providing self-determined performance measures. The program reports must contain client demographics, number of victims served, milestones accomplished by the program, barriers to providing services, and any additional resources or technical assistance that would better enable the project to achieve its objectives.

165.25(10m)(e) Reported results from each grant recipient in each fiscal year as to the attainment of performance measures the department of justice developed for the grant recipient.

YWCA of Rock County used funds to support their Child and Family Advocate and Program Director at the CARE House. These positions are responsible for assisting and facilitating child advocacy services including interview coordination, victim/family intake, and assisting the team in the interview process. CARE House continued to increase participation of professionals from multi-disciplines, which assisted in the improvement of services to child victims and the non-offending care giver. In addition, CARE House provided 86 forensic interviews, conducted SANE Advocacy for 20 youth, and offered 257 follow up calls/check ins.

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin – Milwaukee used funds for nursing staff to support medical peer review sessions and to offer continuing medical education sessions. This includes medical evaluations, weekly peer reviews of medical cases by our medical team and program managers. Each medical provider receives ongoing continuing education in the areas of child abuse/maltreatment/health conditions related to child abuse and maltreatment, a minimum of 18 hours per fiscal year, and engaging in the reaccreditation process. Medical peer review is practiced ensuring medical staff are using best practice in their medical evaluations, allow discussion of complex patients, maintain providers' knowledge of changes in the field of child abuse pediatrics, and facilitate coordination of patient care between inpatient, outpatient, and on-call child abuse medical providers.

Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center used grant funding for data collection and analysis to ensure those being served are tracked correctly within the agency. This was accomplished through a partially funded Data Analyst position. This position is responsible for case coordination, tracking, and database systems. Outcome data is collected for both Safe Harbor cases and from community partners and later shared

with the multidisciplinary team. Through this process, the multidisciplinary team can improve coordination and better serve the needs of children and families.

Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin – Kenosha used funds to support peer reviews, supervision, community meetings, and case reviews for the Forensic Interviewer and Nurse Practitioner positions at the Kenosha County Child Advocacy Center. These activities are crucial for ensuring the delivery of quality services in line with best practice. Staff continued to provide high-quality, consistent forensic interviews and medical evaluations for children impacted by abuse and trauma. In fact, an increased number of forensic interview requests was reporting during this funding period.

Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin - Fox Valley Child Advocacy Center used funds to support their Forensic Interviewer and Program Manager to improve their multidisciplinary response. Fox Valley CAC coordinated and provided direct advocacy services to respond to child abuse victims and their families and improved the ability of the multidisciplinary team agencies to respond to child abuse victims in a timely and coordinated fashion. Additionally, they led the effort to enhance the jurisdictions’ ability to better serve underserved populations. This was accomplished through case review meetings, protocol work, and peer review.

Family and Children’s Center – Stepping Stones used funds for the Forensic Interviewer/Family Advocate position and the Coordinator of Child Advocacy Center Services to ensure that children and families receive comprehensive services and support specifically designed to meet their emotional, physical, and mental health needs during the child abuse investigation and beyond. Funding also supported monthly multidisciplinary team meetings and further developed the team’s protocol for responding to alleged child abuse.

Family Service of Waukesha used funds to support four positions including a Family Advocate/Forensic Interviewer, Forensic Interviewer, Intake/CARE Specialist, and Program Director. These positions not only provide high quality recorded forensic interviews to alleged victims of child abuse, but also educational presentations and program direction. The Program Director facilitates monthly multidisciplinary case reviews. Family Service of Waukesha continues to see consistent numbers while reaching their goal of serving the communication and ensuring the emotional well-being of each child they see.

Children’s Service Society of Wisconsin – Wausau used funds to support two forensic interviewers who provide forensic interviews for children alleged to be victims of child abuse or maltreatment in Marathon County and North Central Wisconsin. These positions also participate in peer review, case review and

multidisciplinary team meetings, provides advocacy to children and families including mental health and medical referrals, and provides training and technical assistance to multidisciplinary team members, professionals who work in the field, and the community. This project also focused on quality assurance through the provision and monitoring of client satisfaction and responding to needs of the multidisciplinary team.

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley Child Advocacy Center used funds to support their full-time Forensic Interviewer and Advocate Case Manager. These positions will provide forensic interviews, advocacy services, and connections to mental health services for children who are reported to be victims of sensitive crimes (physical abuse, sexual abuse, domestic violence, and drug endangerment). Another focus of the project is to enhance the ability of the Multidisciplinary Team agencies to respond to victims in a timely and coordinated fashion. The facilitation of a cohesive multidisciplinary child abuse investigative and response team promotes the best care for children and their families during a crisis in their lives. Children and families benefiting reside in the northwestern part of the state of Wisconsin; primarily Eau Claire, Chippewa, and Dunn counties, as well as an additional thirteen surrounding counties.

Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin, Inc. used funds to facilitate child abuse prevention education in schools throughout Brown County and facilitation of case review and peer review. This was accomplished with the support of three positions, Prevention Specialist, Program Supervisor/Child Forensic Interviewer, and Support Staff. Case review, peer review, and supervision ensures the continued improvement of services provided to children who have been abused or neglected. This project also covered the installation of wireless internet at the CAC and improved the layout of the front desk.

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin – Racine used funds to support the Forensic Interviewer position and CAC Health Tech to ensure a high level of internal and external collaboration. This included participation in weekly peer review and monthly supervision sessions. The forensic interviewer also attends and facilitates monthly multidisciplinary team meetings with an attendance rate of over 85%. These efforts provide a comprehensive and collaborative approach to serving youth and their families after an alleged victimization.

Children's Service Society of Wisconsin – Walworth used funds to develop a new multidisciplinary case review process in an effort to have regular and consistent attendance from agencies required to attend by NCA standards. Meetings have taken

place monthly over this grant period and consist of case review, identification of gaps in services, as well as information sharing about upcoming child maltreatment related trainings. Staff continued to provide high-quality, consistent forensic interviews and medical evaluations for children impacted by abuse and trauma.

Green County Human Services used funds to support the center's Child Advocacy Center Coordinator position. This position strengthens collaboration with the multidisciplinary team consisting of the District Attorney's Office, medical, law enforcement, social services, and victim advocacy providers in response to allegations of child abuse, domestic violence, trafficking, and child witness to crime. This coordinated effort ensures children receive services that are trauma informed, child focused, and are conducted in a timely and professional manner. The coordinator also preforms forensic interviews, manages training for forensic interviewers, facilitates case reviews and peer reviews, and attends Wisconsin Chapter meetings.

Marshfield Clinic – Child Advocacy Center used funds to support three positions including Application Analyst, Programmer, and Triage Coordinator/Project Director. Funds supported the time and effort for staff to update and maintain the MCAC's custom REDCap database. This database serves as the primary data collection instrument used in the MCAC and facilitates record keeping and communication between MCAC staff outside of the electronic medical record, includes custom reports to satisfy accreditation and funding requirements, and supports evaluation of patient demographics and outcomes over time to improve the quality of care provided. Funds also utilized to track and maintain quality standards in the MCAC.

Beat Patrol Officers Grants, Wis. Stat. § 165.986

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(a) The amount of each grant awarded in the previous year.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(b) The grant recipient to whom each grant was awarded.

\$121,434	Beloit Police Department
\$121,434	Fitchburg Police Department
\$121,434	Green Bay Police Department
\$121,434	Kenosha Police Department
\$126,714	Madison Police Department
\$126,714	Milwaukee Police Department
\$121,434	Racine Police Department
\$121,434	Sheboygan Police Department
\$121,434	Wausau Police Department
\$121,434	West Allis Police Department

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(c) The methodology used by the department of justice to choose grant recipients and to determine the level of grant funding for each grant recipient.

As directed by statute, eligible grant recipients are identified based on the highest rates of violent crime index offenses in the most recent full calendar year for which data is available under the uniform crime reporting system of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, among cities with a population of 25,000 or more. The statute permits cities to receive a grant for three consecutive years without submitting a new application each year. Funds may only be used to support the salary and fringe benefits of officers assigned primarily to conduct beat patrol operations. The amount of each award was originally established by the two largest eligible cities. Milwaukee and Madison were each awarded the maximum amount permitted in the legislation (\$150,000) with the remaining funds divided among the remaining eight eligible jurisdictions. Subsequent state budget reductions resulted in prorated cuts to each of the eligible jurisdictions.

Beat Patrol project eligibility for calendar years 2019, 2020, and 2021 were established in 2018, using 2017 Uniform Crime Report data.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(d) Performance measures created by the department of justice for each grant program.

The Department requires each grant recipient to report the identity of the officers assigned to receive the funding from the grant award on a quarterly basis, and attest that they are performing beat patrol activities.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(e) Reported results from each grant recipient in each fiscal year as to the attainment of performance measures the department of justice developed for the grant recipient.

Each agency reports crime and arrest data to the Uniform Crime Report program, but no specific performance data has been developed. As this program is based on violent crime rates and not linked to specific performance or outcome measures, no results are directly attributable to the officers funded by the beat patrol program.

Youth Diversion Programs Grants, Wis. Stat. § 165.987

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(a) The amount of each grant awarded in the previous year.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(b) The grant recipient to whom each grant was awarded.

\$96,200	Boys and Girls Club of Green Bay: Brown County Ties
\$96,200	Kenosha County Department of Human Services: Gang Reduction Project
\$320,400	Social Development Commission (Milwaukee): Youth Services Gang Diversion Program
\$281,600	Social Development Commission (Milwaukee): ATODA and Mental Health Services Program
\$96,200	Racine Family YMCA: Young Leaders Academy
\$63,400	City of Racine Police Department: Mayor's Gang Collaborative

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(c) The methodology used by the department of justice to choose grant recipients and to determine the level of grant funding for each grant recipient.

The recipients of these grants have been historically established in the legislative process. The legislation establishes the original amount to be awarded. Subsequent budget rescissions resulted in a pro-rated reduction to each project as reflected in the award amounts identified above.

Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)(d) Performance measures created by the department of justice for each grant program.

Minimal performance measures are established for each project funded under this program area.

165.25(10m)(e) Reported results from each grant recipient in each fiscal year as to the attainment of performance measures the department of justice developed for the grant recipient.

The **Boys and Girls Club in the City of Green Bay's Brown County Ties Project** is a gang diversion initiative involving Brown County youth that encourages collaboration between local youth service agencies and law enforcement. The Boys & Girls Club of Green Bay's professional youth development staff identify at-risk youth and link them to structured programs that provide positive social and activity outlets.

The project activities were conducted in a hybrid format. During the latter part of 2020, activities were provided through a virtual learning platform. However, during quarter 4, as schools reopened, the Clubhouses resumed in-person after-school programming and summer programming. The Clubhouses operated at 40 percent capacity to adhere to the local health department's health and safety recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic. Project activities focused on addressing young people's basic needs and providing learning enrichment through virtual and in-person experiences. A total of 282 Cyber Clubhouse virtual program experiences were offered ranging in topics including self-care and stress management, athletics and sports, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math), career readiness, diversity, equity and inclusion, community-building, and educational activities. An average of 85 youth participated in each Cyber Clubhouse. The most popular programs were Athletic Programs Athletic Adventures, Team Building Games, Build'Em construction tasks and crafts, and the Education and Career Programs Power Hour with 212 youth participating in each.

As a result of this grant, 1700 youth have been served and numerous report positive impacts. Specifically, 84 percent of project youth said they felt like they belonged at the program and 95 percent that they enjoy coming to the club. 92 percent of youth reported that the Club has adults to talk to about their problems and even more said that they felt that the adults at the Club believe that they will be a success and encourage them to do their best. 82 percent of youth planned to go to college and most abstained from cigarette smoking, alcohol, and marijuana.

Brown County Ties continues to support youth to graduate, prepare for college and careers, and positively engage in their communities during this unprecedented time. The project's academic mentoring program, BE GREAT: Graduate, continues to produce lasting positive benefits for more than 100 teens annually who are at-risk of dropping out. Over the course of the 2020-2021 school year, teens served by the program achieved the following outcomes:

- 56 percent improved or maintained Language Arts course grades ;
- 55 percent improved or maintained Math course grades;
- 86 percent improved or maintained school day Behavior;
- 33 percent had 10 or fewer full school day Absences;
- 29 percent are on-track in terms of grade level Credit Accrual;
- 100 percent of this year's cohort of seniors (6 out of 6) graduated on time.

These accomplishments are significant achievements for many of the program's participants who entered the program with no passing course grades, high rates of truancy, and numerous major behavioral incidents.

The **Kenosha County Department of Human Services** used funds to support its **Gang Reduction Project**, which provides gang-involved or at-risk youth with incentive-based educational, recreational, and social activities. During this period, 61 youth participated in the program and 56 (92 percent) of the youth did not commit an offense while in the program. Of the 24 youth that successfully completed the program, 79 percent did not increase their gang risk score, 88 percent improved or maintained their attendance at school, and 88 percent of the youth increased their GPA.

The Gang Reduction Project faced barriers with the global pandemic impacting the community and schools. During the height of the pandemic the project focused more on engaging with youth in individual sessions over virtual platforms and in outdoor social-distanced settings. With students back in person, contact has increased. Overall criminal activity in Kenosha has decreased, with a 39 percent drop in 2020 and a 17 percent drop in violent crime arrest rates in 2020. Given the gang influence that Kenosha County faces from both Chicago and Milwaukee, the relative containment of gang activity coupled with the overall decline in juvenile arrests is viewed as a success of current project efforts.

The **Social Development Commission's (SDC) Youth Services Gang Diversion Program** implements best practices and evidence-based models to benefit under-resourced youth who are involved, or at-risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system. Gang diversion activities are designed to address the risk factors underlying gang recruitment and gang involvement. The program provides youth with anti-gang and violence diversion strategies. SDC implements individual and

family-centered approaches to decrease the number of youths who participate in delinquent behavior or who have used aggression to handle a conflict.

During this fiscal year, this grant provided several virtual workshops covering topics such as Anti-Bullying, Substance Abuse, and the impact of COVID-19 on mental and physical health. During the last quarter, a few in-person events were completed.

SDC served a total of 547 youth during this project period. 418 youth completed programming. Zero youth had a new offense while being served. 31 youth demonstrated a decrease in substance abuse, while 86 youth demonstrated an increase in school attendance, and 97 youth exhibited an improvement in family relationships during the current reporting period.

The grant allowed the organization to open their doors to youth and families who did not have internet services or computers. Youth and their parents were able to use SDC's computer labs for homework and receive assistance from volunteer staff. The Youth Diversion Project was also able to collaborate with another service area and create a nine-member youth council that works closely with staff in making suggestions and planning events for all youth served by SDC. The Youth Council is diverse and through its outreach, SDC has been able to reach more youth and their families.

The Community Relations-Social Development Commission's (SDC) ATODA and Mental Health Services Program targets youth considered at-risk due to substance use, and provides outpatient treatment services for Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Abuse (ATODA). SDC's Counseling and Wellness Clinic provided both prevention workshops and outpatient treatment services for Alcohol, and Other Drug Abuse (AODA). The program focused on educating and treating Milwaukee County youth and parents/guardians about AODA issues and providing youth with healthy, but effective coping skills. Staff conducted assessments, developed a treatment plan, and provided case management. Funds supported SDC's efforts to create environments for youth that are conducive to healthy development. Youth also learned about how substance abuse negatively impacts quality of life for individuals, families, and communities.

During this period, 432 youth participated in programming, 27 youth completed the program, and zero youth committed offenses during their involvement. 80 percent of youth who completed surveys regarding the program indicated confidence in applying resistance or coping strategies. The pandemic reduced the number of youths referred to the program, however, most participants were able to verbalize their knowledge of the importance of healthy peer connection. The community served has seen a

decrease in youth involvement in the criminal justice. Families have learned new improved communication and relationship skills.

Overall, the project gave youth, families, and the community an outlet for emotional support during the pandemic. Staff was available via ZOOM, and by phone for any issues customers were experiencing. SDC is committed to being a vision of hope for the community they serve.

The **City of Racine Police Department** used grant funds to continue gang diversion work currently being conducted under the **Mayor's Gang Collaborative**. Funds were used to partner with Safe Haven of Racine, Racine Unified School District (RUSD), Why Gangs LLC, Racine Vocational Ministries, and the YMCA (Bray Center) to provide specific intervention services to mitigate the adverse impact of gang membership (and gang affiliation) in the City of Racine.

Due to the pandemic, the Mayor's Gang Collaborative experienced challenges with recruitment due to a significant drop-off in referrals from the Wisconsin Department of Corrections and challenges with staff teleworking. Despite the challenges, the program continues to address the issues by maintained connections to participants through phone check-ins and other electronic and virtual platforms. Additionally, as the pandemic subsides, in-person appointments have been reinstated which has improved progress in cognitive therapy sessions.

A total of 115 youth participated in programming during the project period. 14 completed the programming, and zero youth had a new offense during the time they were served. 47 youth exhibited a decrease in substance abuse, and 34 youth reported an increase in school attendance. 54 youth exhibited improvement in employment status, and 50 youth reported improvement in family relationships.

The **Racine Family YMCA** used grant funds to support the **Young Leaders Academy (YLA)**, with the goal to increase academic achievement and improve the behavior of at-risk, inner-city minority youth. YLA is a year-round program dedicated to reversing the negative trend of low academic achievement and concerning behavior of youth ages 7-18 from low-income communities in Racine, WI. The YLA's mission is to nurture the development of leadership abilities and build the life skills of inner-city youth, empowering them to improve the quality of their lives and assist them in becoming productive citizens.

190 youth were served over the project period. 155 youth participants increased school attendance. 155 youth exhibited an improvement in family relationships during the reporting period. 100 percent of youth participating did not have formal

contact with the juvenile justice system over the project period. Students have improved academically through homework completion, school attendance and increase in grades through the support of YLA staff and the YLA's structured model. There has been some form of improvement from 100 percent of YLA participants in all objectives. Parents have shared feedback based on their children's behavior at home. 100 percent of students have shown improved behaviors at home, including effective communication skills, and displaying positive character within their respective communities. Parents have increased their knowledge in supporting their children academically and emotionally through the YLA program and additional resources from our Family Services program.