

Report on Grants – Wis. Stat. § 165.25(10m)  
2022



Wisconsin Department of Justice  
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Table of Contents

I. *Introduction*.....2

II. *Alternatives to Incarceration Grants, Wis. Stat. §165.95*.....3

III. *Drug Court Grants, Wis. Stat. § 165.955*.....8

IV. *Child Advocacy Grants, Wis. Stat. § 165.96*.....8

V. *Beat Patrol Officers Grants, Wis. Stat. § 165.986*.....14

VI. *Youth Diversion Program Grants, Wis. Stat. § 165.987*.....16

## 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.**

\$97,989	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
\$102,492	Clark County
\$7,976	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
\$122,900	Green County
\$63,536	Ho-Chunk Nation
\$65,046	Iowa County

\$63,307	Jackson County
\$174,020	Jefferson County
\$124,500	Kenosha County
\$125,000	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
\$98,148	Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
\$380,981	Milwaukee County
\$69,401	Monroe County
\$178,343	Outagamie County
\$124,999	Ozaukee County
\$205,777	Pierce County
\$150,000	Polk County
\$201,187	Portage County
\$124,975	Racine County
\$122,500	Richland County
\$125,000	Rock County
\$123,144	Rusk County
\$116,733	Sauk County
\$102,492	Sawyer County
\$107,347	Shawano County
\$93,079	Sheboygan County

\$146,517	St. Croix County
\$85,000	Taylor County
\$110,000	Trempealeau County
\$22,135	Vernon County
\$150,717	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) uses 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 informed from

several resources, including 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 2020-21, including the release of a variety of reports for local site utilization and the ability for local sites to download all of their raw data for local analysis, in addition to overall system improvements and enhancements. Additional CORE enhancements will be made in 2023 with a focus on adding data elements needed to measure new performance measures that the National Center for State Courts has developed for mental health, veterans and OWI courts. Furthermore, BJIA will collaborate with the deflection and pretrial programs so that those program sites can also enter data into CORE. 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 websites. A total of 1,163 participants were entered by local sites into the CORE Reporting System with admission dates in FY22 (July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022) and funded by TAD. This included 464 admissions to treatment courts, and 699 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.**

\$196,148	Columbia County
\$203,770	Marinette County
\$100,082	Marquette 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, s. 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
\$17,000	Lakeshore Regional 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.**

Wis. Stat. § 165.96 identifies the agencies that receive funding and sets the award at \$17,000 per agency.

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

Subgrantees must submit semi-annual program reports. 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 one of two Child and Family Advocates and the Program Director at the CARE House. The Child and Family Advocate position assists and facilitates child advocacy services, including interview coordination, victim/family intake, and assists the team in the interview process. CARE House continued to increase participation of professionals from multiple disciplines, which assisted in the improvement of services to child victims and the non-offending caregiver. CARE House provides advocacy at SANE exams and has coverage for forensic interviews 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. With the addition of a second Child and Family Advocate, they have increased efforts in community education, support group facilitation, and follow up contacts with youth and supportive family members. This year, CARE House has also established new Mental Health partnerships. CARE House has seen an increase in severity of cases in the past grant cycle and has started to have structured debriefing meetings with partners to better support their team.

**Children's Hospital of Wisconsin – Milwaukee** continued to use funds for nursing staff to support medical peer review sessions and to offer continuing medical education sessions. In addition, this program plans to expand SANE service areas by hiring and training 5 new registered nurses (RN's) to the program to increase availability and evaluations for victims of sexual abuse. Medical peer review is practiced to ensure medical staff is 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. Milwaukee CAC serves a primarily urban and multi-ethnic population. Approximately 60% of clients served identify as Black or African American and nearly 50% of clients served live in economically disadvantaged areas of the city and are medically underserved. In addition, this year the MCAC has seen an increase in the amount of children seen related to homicide or shooting incidents.

**Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center - Madison** used grant funding for case tracking, coordination, and evaluation of child abuse cases. Data collection includes not only information about families served, but also about offenders and case outcomes. Data is used to identify underserved populations, service needs, and trends. This was accomplished through a partially funded Data Analyst position and a portion of funding of the Executive Director salary. Data gathered from the last available reporting period indicated that Safe Harbor served 389 children and 393 caregivers. There was a 19% increase in the number of teens served during that time period, which highlighted the need for additional mental health resources.

**Children's Hospital of Wisconsin – Kenosha** used funds to support the salaries of the Forensic Interviewer and Nurse Practitioner at the Child Advocacy Center. Throughout the year these individuals were able to participate in numerous quality assurance activities such as weekly peer review, supervision, case review with multi-disciplinary team members, and training to increase and enhance skills. These opportunities also have enhanced community partnerships, leading to debriefing sessions with Kenosha County Children and Family Services (DCFS) to discuss decisions made around safety and services for children seen.

**Children's Hospital of Wisconsin - Fox Valley Child Advocacy Center (FVCAC)** used funds to support their Forensic Interviewer and Manager to improve their multidisciplinary response. Enhanced coordinated response to child maltreatment cases leads to improved safety for children. In the last year, FVCAC has completed the writing and implementation of a Drug Endangered Children Protocol in Winnebago County. On average, Fox Valley sees 400 children per year for forensic interviews and advocacy. Although the mental health waitlist has decreased for the provider within FVCAC, there continues to be extensive waitlists for external mental health providers. In addition, MDT partners are experiencing high turnover rates, which is impacting the criminal justice and child welfare response and level of training needed from the FVCAC staff.

**Family and Children's Center – Stepping Stones** used funds for a Coordinator of Child Advocacy Center Services position to ensure that goals are met through supporting staff, pragmatic implementation and oversight, and providing direct services to children and families as needed. Stepping Stones is designed to ensure that children have their physical, emotional, and mental health needs met during an investigation of child maltreatment. Activities of the Coordinator include providing educational and professional development opportunities for staff and multi-disciplinary team partners, overseeing quality assurance activities, and increasing knowledge of the benefit of medical evaluations and mental health referrals.

Stepping Stones expects to serve 350 children for forensic interviews, advocacy, and referral services.

**Family Service of Waukesha** used funds to support three positions - a Forensic Interviewer, Intake Specialist, and Program Director. These positions not only provide high quality recorded forensic interviews to alleged victims of child abuse, but also educational presentations, coordination of appointments with the multidisciplinary team, and program direction. The Program Director facilitates monthly multidisciplinary case reviews and recently reviewed and updated the MOU for the Waukesha County multi-disciplinary team. Family Service of Waukesha is also in the process of launching a Drug Endangered Children Protocol. In the last reporting period, Family Service of Waukesha served 275 children and their 269 caregivers.

**Children's Service Society of Wisconsin – Wausau** used funds to support one Forensic Interviewer and one Advocate Case Manager who provide support 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, provide advocacy to children and families including mental health and medical referrals, and provide training and technical assistance to multidisciplinary team members, professionals who work in the field, and the community. This Child Advocacy Center sees approximately 300 children a year from more than 17 counties or tribes and 40 different investigative agencies. Wausau is seeing an increase in children being seen for drug endangerment and exposure to domestic violence. Due to a rise in identified mental health issues, the CAC model was restructured to better integrate mental and behavioral health services.

**Children's Service Society of Wisconsin – Chippewa Valley Child Advocacy Center (CVCAC)** used funds to support the salaries of a full time Forensic Interviewer and Advocate Case Manager. This position provides children and youth who may have been victimized with an opportunity to disclose their experience in a comfortable, child friendly, trauma informed environment. 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. In the last available reporting period, 381 Forensic Interviews were conducted at this Child Advocacy Center. Advocacy services were also provided during almost all of these appointments. CVCAC has seen an increase in the amount

of children been seen for witnessing violent crimes and has also faced some challenges related to turnover in the last year.

**Family Services of Northeast Wisconsin, Inc.** used funds to support the salaries of the Prevention Specialist and Program Supervisor/Forensic Interviewer in addition to funding training opportunities for staff on child maltreatment and supplies to support programming and forensic interviewing. This project also covered membership to the National Children's Alliance and Child Advocacy Centers of Wisconsin. The Program Supervisor is responsible for facilitating specialized local trainings for staff and multidisciplinary team members as well as monthly case review and bi-weekly peer review to improve investigations of child maltreatment. Willow Tree Child Advocacy Center averages around 500 forensic interviews and 200 medical evaluations each year and reports seeing a decrease in the average age of children served, with the most common age for sexual abuse being 6.

**Children's Service Society of Wisconsin – Racine** used funds to support the Forensic Interviewer and Health Tech/CAC Clinic Assistant positions to enhance provision of trauma informed care throughout the appointment process. Quality assurance activities under this project included time for the Forensic Interviewer to participate in and coordinate peer review, MDT meetings, and case review. The Clinic Assistant is responsible for safety rounding, information sharing, and checking in and providing support and comfort in the waiting room. The Racine CAC has recently updated their Child Maltreatment Response Protocol and has completed the National Children's Alliance re-accreditation process and report a trend of drug endangered children cases involving opioids and a growing need for mental health services.

**Children's Service Society of Wisconsin – Walworth** used funds support the Program Manager position and efforts to explore, identify, and overcome the relationship obstacles faced by the Walworth County multi-disciplinary team. Due to challenges faced with leadership turnover at partner agencies, there has been an identified need for re-establishing communication and coordination efforts. In response to these challenges, this CAC worked with CACs of Wisconsin to provide an MDT Training for the community. Despite the challenges faced by Treehouse CAC, staff continue to provide trauma informed forensic interviews, advocacy, and medical evaluations. The Forensic Interviewer at this CAC is a member of the statewide training team for the Wisconsin Forensic Interview Guidelines.

**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 providers, 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 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. In addition to supporting Green County, 30% of referrals at Brickhouse CAC are from outside of the county.

**Marshfield Clinic – Child Advocacy Center (MCAC)** used funds to support the Triage Coordinator position that tracks and maintains quality standards within the CAC. Tracking of efforts and services provided in the MCAC and Hayward Satellite helps to identify unique needs of vulnerable populations in the service areas, variation in outcomes in these populations, and to assess the impact of quality improvement initiatives. In addition, funds were used to support upkeep of forensic interview equipment to ensure the best possible services are offered to children and families amidst child maltreatment investigations in rural central Wisconsin.

**Lakeshore Regional Child Advocacy Center** used funds for medical and related expenses for children, witnesses, and their protective family members impacted by crimes, abuse, and neglect. Funding was also used to cover operational costs such as rent of leased space, which is required to provide the core CAC services of advocacy, forensic interviews, and medical evaluations. Lakeshore CAC has already served over 3,000 children since its inception in 2015 and in the first year of funding through this grant, they saw an increase of 35% in children served. This CAC covers and serves a four county area of the state and during the grant period, strategies have been employed to increase accessibility and use by smaller police jurisdictions.

**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                      Green Bay Police Department

\$121,434	Kenosha Police Department
\$126,714	Madison Police Department
\$121,434	Manitowoc 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 2022, 2023, and 2024 were established in 2021, using 2020 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 targeting Brown County youth that involves collaboration between local youth service agencies and law enforcement. The Boys & Girls Club of Green Bay's professional youth development staff target at-risk youth and link them to structured programs that provide positive social and activity outlets.

The project included hands-on activities that target a variety of risk and protective factors for delinquency and gang involvement. Specifically, 84 youth participated in activities to learn a range of ways to cope with stress and intense emotions such as exercise and meditation; 164 youth learned healthy cooking skills; 155 youth engaged with staff and other youth about issues going on in their lives and offered support for positive relationship building; 117 youth participated in the healthy habits program to learn about healthy eating, hygiene, and healthy relationships. Some of the most popular programs were Athletic Adventures (218 youth), Crafty Creators (211), and the educational and homework support Power Hour (263).

As a result of this grant, 3,479 youth have been served and numerous report positive impacts. 164 project youth were surveyed about their experiences. 95% of project youth surveyed said they felt like people at the club accept them, 84% said they feel

like their ideas count, and 59% said that they feel safer at the Club than anywhere. 94% 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. All project teens surveyed (164 youth) reported that they avoided engaging in risk behaviors that included smoking, alcohol, marijuana, physical fighting, and sexual activity. 79% of youth believe the things they are learning in school are important for later in life and 75% of project teens plan to go to college. Over 90% of youth formed meaningful relationships with positive adults (a key protective factor against delinquency).

Brown County Ties continues to make a positive impact on youths' lives and the community. The program provides intensive mentoring including individualized academic coaching and social emotional support, and many other programs that meet youth's individual needs. The COVID-19 pandemic made the program pivot in the ways it served youth and addressed their increased mental and emotional health needs. Despite those challenges, project youth logged over 350 hours of volunteer service to make their community a better place, all while forming positive connections with local nonprofits that included, We All Rise, Goodwill, and the Girl Scouts. On a community scale, the project staff believe that the project partnership has contributed to a decrease in juvenile arrests and gang involvement among the population of high-risk youth served.

The **Kenosha County Department of Human Services** used funds to support its **Gang Reduction Project**, which provides at-risk or gang involved youth with incentive based educational, social, and recreational activities intended to provide identified youth with positive alternatives to gang activity.

The program served a total of 47 youth over the year and 44 of those youth did not commit a delinquent offense while in the program (94%). 19 youth successfully completed the program and 95% of those did not increase their gang risk score, 68% improved or maintained their attendance at school, and 83% increased their GPA. The program provided services through in person activities and home visits, as well as virtual and phone options to accommodate COVID-19 concerns. The program continues to successfully create positive change through the educational and recreation activities including community service work, tutoring, financial literacy, and employability skill building such as resume work, and job placement. Numerous youth participated in the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) that helped youth obtain employment.

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 youth who participate in delinquent behavior or who have used aggression to handle a conflict.

This year, SDC participated in several community events and conducted outreach in the community to provide information at various locations youth frequent including libraries and youth centers. One highlight of the program was the 6-week Youth Empowerment series for youth and parents. The series included discussions around gang diversion and alternatives to gangs such as obtaining jobs, joining positive social groups, and building business from hobbies. The program continued to provide informational workshops within schools about decision making, conflict resolution, and self-care.

A total of 1,854 youth participated in the program throughout the year. Participating youth received assignments to assist with the neighborhood clean-up and attended individual workgroups to address issues such as anger management, substance use, truancy, conflict resolution, and family communication skills. Program youth report that SDC was able to meet their family needs and know they can access programming at any time to receive support in their community. By offering educational prevention in schools and the community, youth and families gain new knowledge that helps them make better choices and become equipped to change their lives.

The **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 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.

A total of 2,052 youth participated in the program throughout the year. The program hosted informational workshops for youth grades K3-12 on topics including decision making, conflict resolution, and self-care. Their outreach efforts continue through disseminating the program flyer describing the program's services and prevention information regarding substance use disorders, mental health, and messages to reduce stigma in the community.

In consultation with the youth advisory board and other program youth, SDC developed programming to meet the needs of youth including healthy vs. unhealthy relationships and job readiness programs. Verbal client surveys were conducted and showed that more than 85% of clients rated SDC's services Very Good and that they learned something new that could assist them. SDC's prevention services educates youth and families about the destructive impact of substance use on individuals, families, and their community. The services provide tools to individuals to advocate for improved treatment services.

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 (RVM) 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.

RVM provides all participating youth with core services including intake, case management, life skills training, job search training, transportation assistance, employment advocacy and placement, education supports, and resume assistance. Other programs are available according to the needs of each individual. The Second Chance program offers cognitive interventions which are specifically directed to high and medium-high risk gang affiliated re-entrants. For those at lower risk, Walk In services are geared towards job readiness, employment, US business culture, and healthy civic engagement. All services are geared towards achieving outcomes that reduce crime and recidivism through evidence-based cognitive programming. The goal of these practices is to foster prosocial activities and relationships such as employment, creating a healthy circle of associates, and participating in family building activities.

A total of 76 youth participated in the program. 32 youth exhibited a decrease in substance abuse, 28 increased school attendance, 19 improved their employment status, and 36 improved family relationships. Despite challenges imposed by the pandemic, folks have stayed connected to services. Low program recidivism rates

continue to be maintained despite the public tension around the pandemic and social justice. No participants returned to prison this year and as a result, more reentrants are remaining at home, rebuilding family life, maintaining employment and treatment programs. The program has dramatically reduced recidivism rates in the community for those receiving services. RVM has been able to maintain recidivism rates well below 50% of the state average for more than a decade, even though RVM only serves higher risk offenders. RVM's one-year recidivism rates have been consistently between 4% and 7% which is well under 50% of the State average. RVM's three-year recidivism rate is currently at an all-time low of 12% while the State rate for high and medium risk individuals is 40-45%. The program's major accomplishment is helping to create more prosocial life patterns with participants. This lowers criminal activity, recidivism, and improves relationships between participants and their families.

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.

510 youth participated in the program over the project period. 474 youth increased school attendance and 486 improved their family relationships. Students have improved academically through homework completion and school attendance, and increased their grades through the support of program staff. Teachers from various Racine Unified School District schools have informed staff and parents that participating students have showed improvement in reading and mathematics. Additional staff support in the areas of character development, teaching effective communication skills and promoting personal responsibility, have contributed to a decrease in behavioral issues in youth clients.

Participants continue to enhance career ready soft skills and are learning to manage positive peer and adult relationships. Parents and teachers have shared with program staff that they continue to see a significant difference in their children/students' behavior, communication skills and desire to learn.