



Data Analysis and Research Committee

Thursday, March 25, 2021, 8:30am via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Attendees: Nick DeSiato, Kent Lovern, Mandy Potapenko, Erin Perkins, Lynne Zidek, Connie Kostelac, Betsy Mueller, Stephanie Garbo, Angelique Richards, Tom Reed, Derrick Lashua, Paul Geenen

- 1) **Welcome and Introductions** – Mandy Potapenko called the meeting to order at 8:27am. Attendees proceeded with introductions. Mandy briefly revisited the purpose and goal of the committee before moving on to the next agenda item.
- 2) **Overview and Discussion with Paul Geenen re: Potential Justice Data Sharing Legislation** – Mr. Paul Geenen, First Unitarian Church, provided an overview of legislation he and others are working on to increase criminal justice data-sharing and data-transparency across the state of Wisconsin. His work is modeled after the 2017 Statewide Legislation enacted in the State of Florida. Committee members contributed individual and local perspective on the data-sharing efforts underway. The committee raised several questions and potential impacts at the local level. Connie and Paul will connect after the meeting to discuss this in further detail, as well as potentially include additional members from the Statewide CJCC Data-Sharing committee.
- 3) **Data-Related Projects Underway**
 - **CJC Executive Committee Dashboard** – Connie was unable to provide a demonstration of the dashboard due to technical difficulties while traveling. Two main pages of the dashboard have been completed. Progress has been slower than she would have liked, but MCW is currently working hire a new analyst to support this project and other Homicide Review Commission data work. There were over 30 applicants and interviews are currently being scheduled. Connie anticipates having a more robust update at the April or May CJC Executive Committee meeting.
 - **SJC Jail Population Dashboard and Other SJC Analyses** – Mandy first welcomed an update from Derrick Lashua, jail populations analyst with the Sheriff's Office. Derrick reported having several one-on-one meetings and getting oriented to others within MCSO while awaiting his fingerprint and background check clearance. Derrick is also working to get access to the jail data through SQL Server. Connie and Derrick discussed mutual interest in better understanding MCSO's classification process and the history tables for persons-in-custody status. Derrick will work with Captain Briggs and Sarah Moore within Jail Records to better understand their process and he will report back to the group on what he learns. Mandy informed the group that Ken Strait is also working with MCSO to focus on supporting MCSO as they plan for a potential resolution of the long-standing court-imposed jail population cap. Ken will attend future meetings.
 - **Any Others or Things on the Horizon**
 - i. **SJC Research Consortium** – Tom Reed shared that Don Stemen, from Loyola University, will be conducting a plea-bargaining study in Milwaukee County. This committee won't need to contribute any data but should be aware of this project underway.
- 4) **Overview of State and National Data-Sharing Efforts** – Mandy and Connie provided a brief overview of the data-sharing projects and resources outlined below.
 - **Statewide CJCC Committee Efforts** – the Statewide CJCC Data-Sharing Committee is currently working to better understand how racial and demographic data is captured within each system.

- **CJARS – Criminal Justice Administrative Records System** – this is a project at the University of Michigan that creates a nationally integrated repository of data that follows individuals through the criminal justice system ([link here](#))
 - **Justice Counts – Council of State Governments (CSG)** – ([link here](#))
 - **Any Others** – Connie added an update regarding the State of Wisconsin’s JRI (Justice Reinvestment Initiative). The initiative has taken a shift and has a large data-sharing component that builds upon a pilot project that was carried out between the state courts, DOJ, and DOC to join criminal justice data that will allow for analysis across different parts of the system. The State’s Data-Sharing committee will be working on this, as well.
- 5) Expanding the Scope of the Committee to Encompass “Research,” in Addition to Data Analysis and Data Sharing** – This agenda item wasn’t covered due to time restrictions. Mandy asked members to think about the future and vision of this group as the group will discuss this further at future meetings.
- Establish Shared “Data Vision” for Milwaukee County’s justice system
 - Establish goals, including a current priority list for analysis and research
 - Establish External Partnerships
- 6) Opportunity to Share and Discuss Any Relevant Justice-System Data or Research**
- **Wisconsin Policy Forum Jail Population Brief** – Mandy shared a brief that was released by the Wisconsin Policy Forum today on the impact of COVID on local jails within the State of Wisconsin. Mandy encouraged committee members to pass along any additional research or noteworthy reports for the committee’s awareness and discussion at future meetings.
- 7) Public Comment and Any Other Business**
- **Updated Data-Use Agreement for the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge** – Mandy reminded the committee of the current DUA in place with the MacArthur Foundation. A new DUA will be forthcoming. Mandy asked attendees to stay tuned to their inboxes for when the agreement arrives. Once received, the SJC team asks stakeholders to review and provide feedback or requested changes to the language as timely as possible, as continued funding is contingent on the execution of the newest DUA.
- 8) Adjourn** – meeting adjourned at 9:45am. The committee agreed to continuing to meet on the 4th Thursday of the month at 8:30am.