



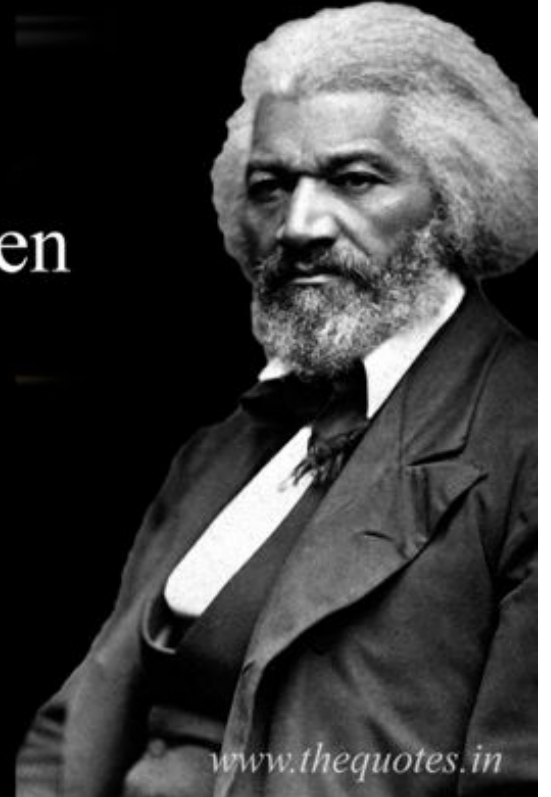
YOUTH JUSTICE
MILWAUKEE

Our Community Our Youth

ADVOCACY UPDATE
Milwaukee Community Justice Council Meeting
February 24th, 2021

It is easier to build strong children
than to repair broken men.

Frederick Douglass

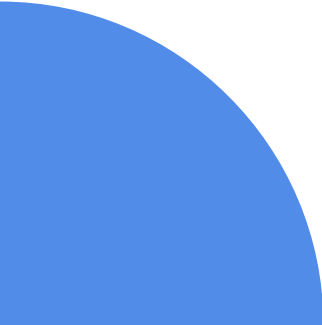


www.thequotes.in

Centering...



Please answer one of the following questions using the chat.

1. What do young people need to be successful?
 2. What does a world without prisons look like?
- 



Advocacy Update

- 01 | ACT 185: What Now?
- 02 | Raise the Age - Wisconsin Coalition
- 03 | WAYJ Collaboration: Eliminate JLWOP
- 04 | COVID - 19 Impact Project
- 05 | Justice for Emerging Adults Webinar

Overview of 2017 Wisconsin Act 185

Department of Corrections

- Close LHS/CLS by July 1, 2021
- Establish 2 Type 1 youth correctional facilities for Serious Juvenile Offenders & youth under adult sentences

Department of Health Services

- Expand Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center *No fewer than 29 additional juveniles*

Counties

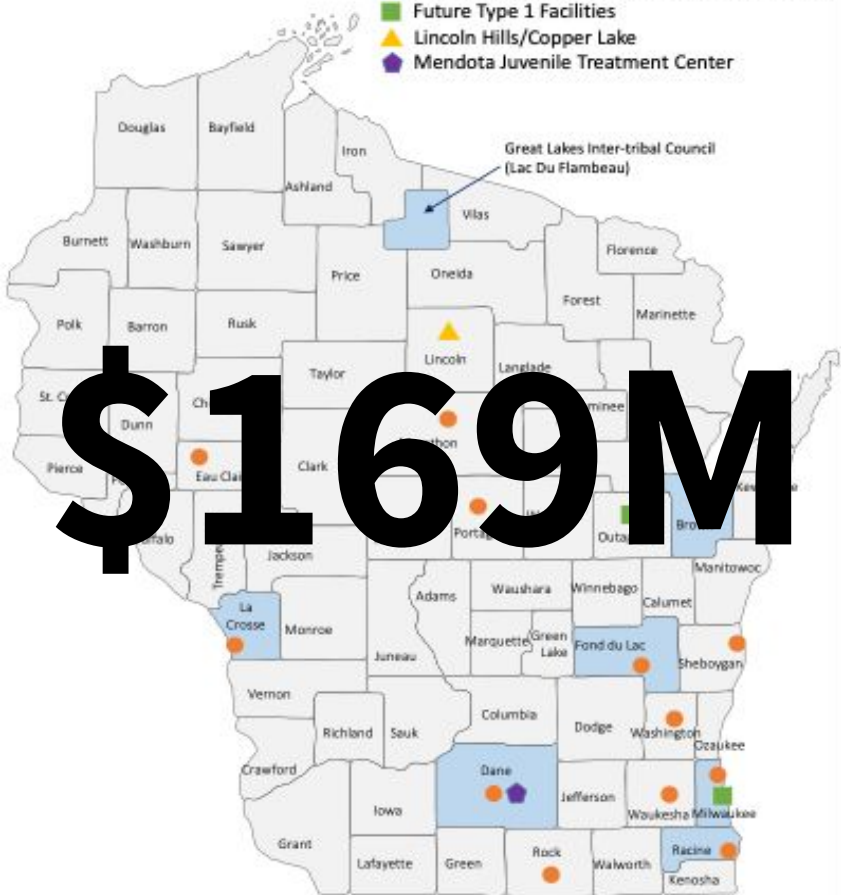
- Create SRCCCYs - Youth in *Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake* transfer to *county supervision and placement*
- Supervision of all other youth not under the supervision of DOC

JUVENILE CORRECTIONS GRANT COMMITTEE

Youth Facility Map

April 4, 2019

- Letter of Interest Submitted
- County-run Secure Juvenile Detention Facilities
- Future Type 1 Facilities
- Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake
- Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center



EXPANSION COSTS

Secure Residential Care Centers for Children & Youth (SRCCCYs)

- \$110M
- Milwaukee: Vel Phillips Renovation 40 SRCCCY; proposed \$23.62M, but only received \$15M
- Dane: 23-29 SRCCCY: proposed \$6.46M, but has pulled out.
- Racine: 32 SRCCCY/16 Detention; \$40M
- Brown (Green Bay): 24 SRCCCY/32 Detention; \$40.88M

State Run Type 1 Facilities

- \$25M --- now \$3M...received nothing!
- 32 beds/70 staff per facility

Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (MJTC) Expansion

- \$59M
- 29 current/add 64 beds = 93



YJM RECOMMENDATIONS

01

Invest in youth not facilities for youth

04

Invest in strategies that build better policy and practice based on lived experience

02

Invest in reducing the root causes of youth incarceration

05

Invest in better mental health options for youth

03

Invest in positive youth development services in schools and youth settings

06

Invest in more diversion programs on the “front” end

Governor's Budget Recommendations



- Eliminating automatic original adult court jurisdiction for youth under the age of 18 and modifying the conditions under which a youth under the age of 18 may be waived into adult court.
- Raising the age that a circuit court or municipal court exercises adult court jurisdiction on individuals from 17 years of age to 18 years of age.
- Removing statutory daily rates for placements at juvenile correctional facilities and allowing the Department of Corrections to establish rates that reflect the number of supervised youth and the costs for providing care.
- Eliminating Type 1 juvenile correctional facilities (Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake youth prisons) and authorizing DOC to operate secured residential care centers for children and youth.
- Eliminating the Serious Juvenile Offender Program to reflect evidenced-based decision making practices that recognize the risk and needs of youth.

Governor's Budget Recommendations



- Prohibiting the use of restraints on anyone under the age of 18 when appearing before a juvenile or criminal court unless the court orders restraints after finding that their use is necessary.
- Eliminating the use of detention for youth who have violated a court order for having committed a status offense.
- Limiting the use of detention sanctions or holds to situations where there is a public safety risk.
- Increasing the minimum age of delinquency from 10 years old to 12 years old to enable more age-appropriate, evidence-based youth justice programs.
- Creating a sentence adjustment procedure for individuals who commit criminal offenses prior to the age of 18.

Raise the Age Wisconsin Coalition

The Raise the Age - Wisconsin coalition is dedicated to bringing 17-year-old youth back to their rightful place in the juvenile court system and eliminating, any disparities across Wisconsin's juvenile justice system. Our coalition members' push for this bipartisan legislation is part of our shared call for a more equitable, benevolent, and just Wisconsin.

- **Governor's Budget vs. Stand Alone Legislation**
- **All 17 yo's vs. Exceptions**
- **Broad coalition - variety of perspectives**

WAYJ Collaboration Eliminate JLWOP (Juvenile Life Without Parole)

WayJ provides peer support for families with children in the juvenile justice and criminal justice systems, informs families and the public, and advocates positive change.

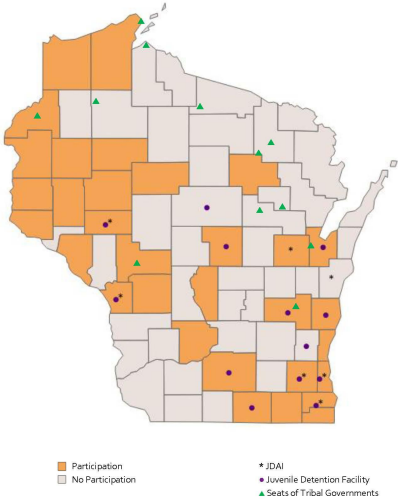
GOAL: Abolish JLWOP in Wisconsin and allow for a meaningful Opportunity of release



COVID - 19 Impact Project

Implementation of COVID-19 protocols has safely reduced the number of youth in custody and suggests we tend to rely on detention as a substitute for other, more effective, responses to youth in crisis.

COVID-19 Impact on Youth Justice: Project Participation



Tribal communities tribal communities were engaged through Indian Child Welfare Liasons.
 See https://www.wisconsin.gov/infoopen.aspx?contentid=1023&content= Tribal+Seeds+Map+July_#50149
 and https://www.wisconsin.gov/infoopen.aspx?contentid=1023&content= Tribal+Seeds+Map+July_#50149 for more information and maps of Tribal Lands.

Total Youth Justice Intake Referrals in Wisconsin: May 2019 vs. May 2020

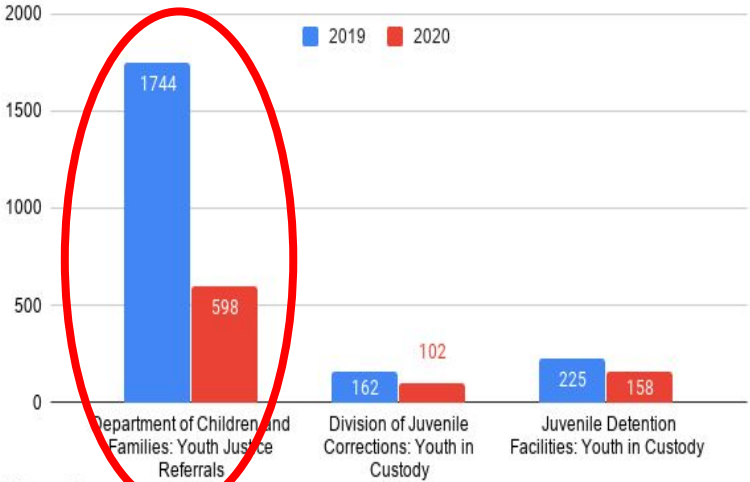


Figure C

[We need more coordination with the court systems around appropriate response to youth {to reduce confinement.} separating behavior that places the community at risk, from behavior that is simply a technical violation.

[Rules of probation set] unrealistic expectations for some kids."

-Youth Justice Supervisor

Justice for Emerging Adults Webinar

Young people between the ages of 18-24 years old, also known as Emerging Adults, experience the worst racial disparities within the criminal justice system of any age group.

Session 1: Great Lakes Region: How Does Wisconsin Compare?

Session 2: Emerging Adults: Why Are They Different?

Session 3: Key Facts: Why The Huge Disparities?

Session 4: A Different Approach: How Do We Get There?

Webinar Series Justice for Emerging Adults



Young people between the ages of 18-24 years old, also known as Emerging Adults, experience the worst racial disparities within the criminal justice system of any age group. Join us for this four-part webinar series to learn about this overlooked group. Each of the four sessions will feature a panel of national and local speakers examining a key area in need of change.

Session One: Examining Policy

**Great Lakes Region: How Does Wisconsin Compare?
February 25, 2021: 12pm - 1pm (CST)**

PANELISTS

[Katrina Goodjoint, Esq. - Juvenile Law Center](#)

[Dominee Meek, WI Alliance for Youth Justice](#)

[Erica Nelson - Kids Forward](#)

PANEL Q & A

Session II Preview: [Lael Chester, Emerging Adult Justice Project](#)

To Register

[Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

Registration is limited so register early. For more information contact: kgoodjoint@jlc.org

SAVE THE DATES

MARCH 11 : RESEARCH & SCIENCE WITH LAEL CHESTER, EMERGING ADULT JUSTICE PROJECT

MARCH 25: MYTHS & FACTS WITH MARC SCHINDLER, JUSTICE POLICY INSTITUTE

APRIL 8: EXAMPLES OF SPECIALIZED PRACTICE AND FUNDING MODELS



These workshops are free of charge. If you register and your plans change please contact Katrina Goodjoint at: kgoodjoint@jlc.org so your registration can be reassigned.



**“For these are all
our children, we
will all profit by or
pay for what they
become.”**

- James Baldwin

Call to Action...

- Youth Justice Milwaukee: youthjusticemke@gmail.com
- Youth Justice Wisconsin: youthjusticewi@gmail.com (website pending)
- Girls Advocacy WorkGroup: youthjusticemke@gmail.com (to be added to list)
- Raise the Age Wisconsin Coalition: Kyle.Minden@elca.org (coordinator)
- Wisconsin Alliance for Youth Justice (WAYJ):
<https://incarcerateus.com/wisconsin-alliance-for-youth-justice/>
<https://www.facebook.com/wayjinfo/>
- Wisconsin Budget Advocacy Coalition:
<https://www.aclu-wi.org/en/issues/2021-2022-budget-work>
- Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission - Ethnic Racial Disparities subcommittee: smoore@urbanunderground.org (to be added to committee)



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THANK YOU!

youthjusticemke@gmail.com