

WATCP JOURNAL

Wisconsin Association of Treatment Court Professionals

9/4/2018

President's Welcome

J.C. Moore, WATCP President

Members, I hope you have all enjoyed some well deserved vacation, and in the meantime, your team at WATCP has been and will continue to be hard at work training and advocating on behalf of Wisconsin's treatment courts. Below I've listed a brief description of some of our accomplishments and exciting things on the horizon.

WATCP and NADCP conferences were both a big success. Our state conference enjoyed over 500 attendees. A number of well received State and National speakers presented on a variety of issues. Planning is already underway for next year's conference to be held **5/8-10/2019 at the Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells.**

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Our planning team is getting ready for our **Coordinators Conference 9/19-20/2018 in Stevens Point.** The agenda will include a number of topics of interest for new and experienced coordinators alike. As an additional bonus, all attendees will receive a hardcopy of the new updated standards. WATCP just held its very first member-wide election via electronic means for the expiring board of director seats. Thanks to 117 members who voted and provided input on the leadership of your organization as well as the 9 new candidates who stepped forward to do so. Special thanks to departing directors **Cameron Overton,**

Events and Action Items

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In September, five Adult Drug Court Teams are selected to participate in an Adult Drug Court Operational Tune-Up facilitated by the National Drug Court Institute (NDCI). The training topics will include equity and inclusion, revisiting drug court phases, behavior responses, constitutional issues, target population, effective drug court team and facilitated break out sessions. Each team will leave with a action and time task plan. The following counties will participate in the training; Iowa, Fond du Lac, Kenosha, Marquette, and Pierce County.

The Director of State Courts Office in collaboration with the Wisconsin Highway Traffic Safety office and the National Center for DWI Courts will be coordinating OWI Court Operational Tune-up Trainings in 2019.

Richard Bryant and Liesl Nelson and welcome to new directors **Adam Haase, Kim Kitzberger, Kristy Gusse, Serah Muinde and Sean Kuether.**

In the coming months, look forward to **more training events** sponsored by WATCP and outside organizations focused on specific topics like drunk driving, hands on skills for judges as well as regional training focused on the new standards. Many of these as well as other valuable information will be listed on Facebook and our **new and improved website** which will be launched shortly.

As always, I am proud to be your president.

Call for Proposals

WATCP will host its annual Statewide conference from May 8-10, 2019, at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center in the Wisconsin Dells. The WATCP statewide conference is Wisconsin's only conference focusing exclusively on treatment courts and provides training for over 80 courts statewide. Our 2018 conference drew 16 different state and national level presenters, 19 vendors and over 500 conference attendees.

WATCP obtains its conference presenters from a variety of different sources. We are seeking conference session proposals that present best practices in service delivery, collaboration and justice programming that enhance outcomes for participants in treatment courts. Interested presenters should provide an overview of their presentation and credentials using the form on the WATCP website and submit to watcp.assistant@gmail.com, Attention: Conference Planning Chair no later than 12/1/2018.

Conference Recaps

JC Moore, Emily Nolan-Plutchak and Katy Burke

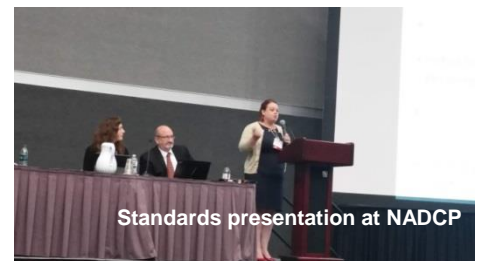
NADCP

From 5/30 to 6/2/2018, over 5,000 multi-disciplinary treatment team members converged in Houston, TX to attend the combined NADCP/justice for vets training conference. The conference boasted 300 sessions spread across 33 tracks focused on specific court types and roles within each. The conference also had skill building workshops for team members and a Veteran's court mentor training program (boot camp). Opportunities to socialize, connect with other professionals from across the country and just have fun were held nightly including two film festivals, a free concert and a number of mixers. Of particular note this year were special tracks honoring 10 years of veterans' courts, law enforcement contributions to treatment courts and the release of Volume 1 of a new NDCI publication: **Journal for Advancing Justice** focusing on identifying and rectifying racial ethnic and gender disparities in treatment courts.

Wisconsin was particularly well represented. At a meeting convened by the Statewide coordinator Katy Burke and hosted by WATCP, nearly 50 of Wisconsin's treatment court professionals were able to enjoy lunch provided by Justice Point Inc., discuss the conference highlights and what they wanted to see at our 2019 conference. Many of these speakers have already been lined up for the WATCP statewide conference: May 8-10 at the Kalahari Resort in the Wisconsin Dells. Additionally Katy, Renee Lushaj from the Wisconsin Dept. of Justice and Judge Elliott Levine held a session on the development of Wisconsin's Treatment Court Standards due to be released at the coordinators conference in September.

Finally, the Menipaniw diversionary program with the Menominee tribe in Kenosha, WI received an award for diversity and inclusion of persons who have historically faced systemic discrimination.

Mark your calendars for the 2019 conference to be held July 14-17 at the Gaylord Convention Center in Washington DC.



WATCP

The 2018 WATCP Conference took place, April 18-20, at the Country Springs Resort in Pewaukee, WI. The theme of the 2018 Conference was Spotlight on the Wisconsin State Treatment Court Standards. The Conference hosted various national speakers including Terrence Walton and Dr. Kevin Baldwin, and Wisconsin based presenters, Dr. David Mays and Sheila Weix from the Marshfield Clinic. For the first time we also partnered with Milwaukee Behavioral Health to screen an award winning documentary film entitled, *Written Off* chronicling the addiction and death of Wisconsin native, Matt Edwards. The film was introduced by his mother, Jane Funk. We had 528 people registered for the Conference including, participants, speakers, sponsors, vendors and volunteers. This year we had 25 vendors which included two Gold level sponsors (Justice Point and Alkermes) and two Silver level sponsors (AutoMon and Options Lab). The WATCP Conference continues to grow and will be held next year at the Kalahari in the Wisconsin Dells on May 8-10th, 2019.

Veteran's Court Operational Tune-Up

In May, four Veteran Treatment Court teams attended a Veteran Court Operational Tune-Up training in Milwaukee. The participating teams were Milwaukee Area Vet Court, North East Regional Veteran Court, Sheboygan Area Veteran Court, and the Second Judicial District Veteran Court. The training was facilitated by Justice for Vets. The training topics included an overview of best practices, effective teams, equity and inclusion, target population, behavior change, mental health treatment, mentors, staffing process, and legal concerns. Each team was assigned a mentor and spent time in break out sessions addressing specific barriers. The teams also developed work plans to address barriers and improve their programs.

Aulik Award

Mary Murphy, WATCP Treasurer

Judge Kathryn Foster is the winner of 2018 Aulik Award. Judge Foster came to the bench in Waukesha County in 1988 after working in the Waukesha County District Attorney's office. When I first came to Waukesha in 1993, I was struck by Judge Foster's interaction with the defendants that appeared in her court. While she was fair and held the defendants accountable, she expressed a compassion in wanting to see those who appeared before her to be successful in their lives addressing issues of substance abuse, education and employment. Judge Foster was a treatment court judge before we knew of treatment courts.



L-R: Judge J.C. Moore, WATCP President; SPD Regional Attorney Manager, Robin Dorman; Aulik Award Recipient Judge Kathryn Foster; and Attorney Emily Nolan-Plutchak, outgoing WATCP President.

After Judge Foster had observed a treatment court in Arizona, she knew she found her answer to working on problems within the community.

Judge Foster led the charge to bring to Waukesha the Alcohol Treatment Court in 2006 which has been successful and a model to other treatment courts. To have this court come to be, Judge Foster united professionals of the justice system and government officials to help develop this court as a means to address the problem of repeat drunk drivers in our community, having to educate the community to the importance of treatment in addition to accountability.

A member of the Wisconsin Association of Treatment County Professionals, she has aided other communities in the development of treatment courts for veterans, those with drug addiction, family courts and mental health issues. Judge Foster aided in the development of the Wisconsin Treatment Court Standards and has led the charge to educate our legislators about the importance and success of treatment courts to reduce recidivism and a more cost effective way to address crime in our communities instead of jail and prison.

Judge Foster has truly earned the respect, admiration and thanks from many who currently work in treatment courts as she has been a driving force for their existence. Judge Foster has truly left her mark

in Wisconsin judiciary and on the many participants that have come before her in the Waukesha County Alcohol Treatment Court.

Judge Foster retired at the end of July this year to work in her garden, however, in her, I know that we will still have a friend in our ongoing pursuit of developing more courts along the way.

Sponsor Spotlight



Alkermes, Inc.

Sandra Westerman, J.D.; Associate Director, Policy & Government Affairs, Alkermes, Inc.

In January of this year, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine published a consensus report entitled *Getting to Zero Alcohol-Impaired Driving Fatalities: A Comprehensive Approach to a Persistent Problem*. The report sounds the alarm regarding increases in alcohol-related driving fatalities over the last three years. Over 10,000 people were killed across the country in alcohol-related traffic accidents in 2016, accounting for 28 percent of all driving-related fatalities.

These trends are often lost in headlines surrounding the national opioid crisis, but are no less troubling. In Wisconsin, the Center for Disease Control's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System found that the percentage of adults who reported driving after drinking too much in the past 30 days was tied for fifth highest in the nation. The State of Wisconsin would be well-advised to acknowledge and address the harmful implications of impaired driving on the health, economy, and safety of our communities. It is a public health issue warranting a public health response.

The Academies' report provides a multi-faceted examination of policies, strategies, and practices to offer interventions and actions to reduce alcohol-impaired driving fatalities, as well as concrete recommendations to "galvanize stakeholder action." The report includes research and recommendations for law enforcement, justice interventions, public health, public policy, and the collection and use of data. It is perhaps the most comprehensive analysis of the myriad of perspectives of stakeholders for consideration of how to address the pernicious effects of intoxicated driving, and its recommendations are worth considering.

In its review of intervention strategies, the report underscores the importance of medications in combination with other treatment services for those diagnosed with alcohol use disorder (AUD) and dealing with alcohol-impaired driving convictions. It goes on to recommend that: "All health care systems and health insurers should cover and facilitate effective evaluation, prevention, and treatment strategies for binge drinking and alcohol use disorders including screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment (SBIRT), cognitive behavioral therapy, and medication-assisted therapy."

Regarding treatment courts, the report recommends that "every state should implement DWI courts, guided by the evidence-based standards set by the National Center for DWI courts, and all DWI courts should include available consultation or referral for evaluation by an addiction-trained clinician."

In reaching these recommendations, the authors of the report make several key observations of existing data. First, although there is no published literature on the rates of diagnosed alcohol use disorder among DWI offenders, rates of alcoholism appear to increase as the number of DWI convictions increase. While a single DWI may not be evidence of an illness, repeat offenses suggest a greater probability that treatment is a necessary component of any intervention.

Second, studies indicate that DWI courts can be more effective at intervening with repeat offenders than traditional courts, and in fact are best utilized when targeted toward repeat offenders, not first offenders. However DWI courts may operate under different conditions and protocols than other treatment courts, including longer program duration and access to more services.

Third, among repeat DWI offenders with AUD, medication has been shown to reduce daily drinking and positive drug and alcohol tests. The use of medication as part of a justice intervention must be informed by clinical evaluation and should be coupled with comprehensive treatment program. Although medication and psychosocial support is proven to be a helpful tool in treating people with alcohol use disorder (AUD), medications are underutilized in DWI interventions despite evidence of cost-effectiveness and reductions in heavy drinking.

The report affirms that dedicated treatment interventions, including specialized courts and medication-assisted therapies for treatment of individuals with AUD, are important strategies that can be cost-effective and major contributors to addressing underlying causes of intoxicated driving. However, multi-system attention and commitment is necessary to bring the availability of these important resources to fruition.

The full report can be found at: <http://www.nationalacademies.org/hmd/reports/2018/getting-to-zero-alcohol-impaired-driving-fatalities.aspx>

CDC Data Showing Percentage of Adults Who Report Driving After Drinking Too Much, All States, 2014: <https://data.cdc.gov/Motor-Vehicle/Percentage-of-Adults-Who-Report-Driving-After-Drin/s9bp-7k3m/data>



WATCP MEMBER CORNER

On May 15, Manitowoc County Drug Court was awarded the Democracy in Action Award by the League of Women Voters of Manitowoc County. In its first year of operation, several participants spoke about the impact of the program. Team members include judges Mark Rohrer and Bob Dewane; District Attorney Jacalyn Labre; Public Defender Ann Larson; officers Jeremy Kronforst, Ian Tompson and Dave Remiker; probation officers Kevin Mueller and Samantha Schneider; Human Services Director Lori Fure; treatment provider Jerry Mutchie; and Drug Court Coordinator Jason Latva.

On May 25, Milwaukee County Family Drug Treatment Court celebrated its 50th graduate! WI Supreme Court Chief Justice, Patience Drake Roggensack, released the following statement recognizing the FDTC, "I congratulate Milwaukee County on the work they are doing with the Family Drug Treatment Court Program. When a family falls apart because of a parent's addiction, the children suffer significantly. We cannot effectively remedy the problems in the family without treating the parent's addiction."

In future editions of the quarterly newsletter, the WATCP Board members hope to provide an opportunity for individual and court members to highlight the remarkable work that our communities are doing throughout Wisconsin. Please contact Rebecca Foley at Rebecca.foley@wicourts.gov or Jodi Severson at watcp.assistant@gmail.com with any celebrations, graduations, alumni achievements, milestones or awards that we should acknowledge, as well as any events or trainings open to treatment court professionals.

This is also an opportunity for members to seek guidance from experts in the fields, established Treatment Courts utilizing best practices and practitioners both locally and nationally. If there is a topic of interest to you, please e-mail Rebecca or Jodi

Legislative Updates

Legislative work on bail and pre-trial conditions underway by Adam Plotkin

In the summer of the even numbered years, the Wisconsin Legislature creates a number of special study committees to look at specific topics for legislation in the upcoming session. One of the committees formed this year is the Study Committee on Bail and Pretrial Conditions of Release. The scope of the committee's work is: "...to review Wisconsin's pretrial release system, including considerations for courts in imposing monetary bail and for denying pretrial release. The committee shall review relevant Wisconsin constitutional and statutory provisions and best practices implemented by Wisconsin counties and other states, including use of risk assessment tools for informing pretrial detention decisions. The committee is directed to recommend legislation regarding bail and pretrial release that enhances public safety, respects constitutional rights of the accused, considers costs to local governments, and incorporates evidence-based strategies."

Several of the committee members are involved in local and statewide treatment court and evidence based practices efforts. Committee members are:

Senator Van Wanggaard (Chair)
Waukesha Co. Judge Jennifer Dorow
Ozaukee Co. DA Adam Gerol
La Crosse Co. Judge Scott Horne
La Crosse Co. Associate Administrator Jane Klekamp
Bayfield Co. Sheriff Paul Susienka
State Public Defender Kelli Thompson
Milwaukee Co. Chief Judge Maxine White

Senator Fred Risser (Vice-Chair)
Representative Cindi Duchow
Representative Evan Goyke
Eau Claire Co. DA Gary King
Attorney Joseph McCleer
Representative Ron Tusler

One of the presentations at the inaugural meeting came from the National Conference of State Legislatures. The presenter highlighted studies showing an increase in support for less reliance on cash bail. She also talked about the expanding role of risk assessment tools, statutory changes to increase use of non-monetary conditions, the negative impact of over-conditioning and technical violations, the expansion of pretrial services, and diversion at the law enforcement contact and pretrial stages.

Tianna Glenna and Connie Kostelac presented background information on the Evidence Based Decision-Making efforts. They were followed by Judge Jeff Kremers who presented information on the use of the Milwaukee risk assessment tool and the role of risk assessment tools in general.

The committee had a general discussion about issues members would like to see addressed through the process. Suggested ideas include constitutional amendments on preventive detention and increased use of cash bail, statutory preventive detention statutes, better data collection, and data collection to increased use of risk assessment tools and pretrial incarceration.

The committee is scheduled to meet again on September 17, October 16, November 13, and December 11. Over the next couple of meetings, the committee will receive information from experts. The committee will then decide which proposals it would like to forward for consideration by the 2019-20 Legislature.

Anyone interested in tracking the work of the committee can find agendas, meeting material and ultimately any legislative proposals on the Legislative Council website at:
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lc/study/2018/1783>

**LOOK FOR FUTURE LEGISLATIVE ALERTS IN YOUR E-MAIL OR ON THE
WATCP WEBSITE**