

MOSES JAIL TASK FORCE
MOBILIZATION to FIX
Dane County's
Criminal Justice System

Jan 2015

Short Version

Dane Co jail has 3 sites:

City-Co Building (max. security, 334 capacity)

52 cellblocks (2-8 beds) + dorms (14+ beds)

~300 men, 60 women. Built 1956.

Public Safety Building 1st floor = 64 max. security

3rd & 4th Floors = 400 medium security

12 pods (24-50 beds); 356 men, 52 women

Ferris Center (minimum sec.) 144 capacity

“Huber” = work (etc.) release, return to jail eves and weekends. ~ half full; top floor empty

Huber women are at PSB (~28 beds)

Special/med need Huber women are at CCB

Atrocious Outcomes of Dane County's (white) "Liberal Studyitis"

- Worst rate of incarceration of African American men in the nation
 - Dane & WI among nation's worst places for African Americans
 - Mental health crisis → Solitary cell
 - Good intentions, good talk, same bad outcomes
- ~8 studies of crim.justice system past 12 yrs

Dane Lags Behind

“...a flagging Criminal Justice Coordinating Council...[R]ecommend visits with other CJCCs to help officials see new possibilities.”

Institute for Law & Public Policy Report, 2011

“Decisions are largely uninformed by data and information.”

Dane Co Criminal Justice System Mapping Report, Center for Effective Public Policy, 2013

Dane Co. allocations 2008- 2011

10% increase to Sheriff's budget

Despite drops in arrests, # people & # days in jail

2% increase to Human Services

0% to Community Mental Health

(ILPP Report 2011)

Dane spends 13% less than other WI counties on mental health supports

(David Delap MSSW, LCSW)

Brief history of MOSES Jail Task Force

- Formed July 2014 when proposal for new Dane Co. jail was released
 - Mead & Hunt consultant firm (>\$600,000)
 - >600 pg. report on whole jail system, with data on people in jail & why
- We studied data, critiqued report, and rejected proposal for new jail
- Presented at 8/25/14 NAMI Jail Forum
- MOSES endorsed our position statement
- Other organizations follow MOSES' lead

MOSES Position Statement 9/5/14:

“A New \$130M Dane County Jail? The Wrong Solution to the Wrong Problem”

- Whether to build or not is not real issue
- The real issue is that Dane Co’s practices are **outdated, harmful, and wasteful**
- All Mead & Hunt options add 186 people/day in jail--**worsening** our bad outcomes

MJTF GOALS (Nov. 2014) :

- 1. Stop all unnecessary incarceration**
 - A. End racial disparities**
 - B. Treatment & supports instead of jail for people with mental illness, addictions, or developmental disabilities**
- 2. Improve jail conditions for those inside**
- 3. Ensure that any facility changes promote goals 1 and 2**

Goals 1 and 2 take priority:

1. Quickest solution to unsafe jail areas is to move people out of those areas
2. Stop wasting lives and money
3. Catch up to new proven practices
4. Can predict facility needs only AFTER this
5. MORAL IMPERATIVES: Dane County
 - Has racial inequities (among) worst in U.S.
 - Over-uses solitary, incl of people w/ mental illness

- MANY people in Dane County jail are there **UNNECESSARILY**—i.e., they are not a danger to the public
- Dane is way behind other counties in US & WI in implementing **proven** ways to stop unnecessary incarceration
- Implementing proven practices could drop jail population **within months**

“PROVEN PRACTICES” =

**1. EBP = Evidence-based practices
at every decision point:**

**Based on data & studies of what
works (e.g., rewards) & costs less**

And

2. ALTERNATIVES to incarceration

Evidence-Based Practices

- **PROVEN methods at all decision points (police, judges, bail, charges, prosecutor, public defender, treatment, alternatives, diversions, home/bracelet monitoring, rehab, job training, reentry, etc.)**
- **Greater success at FAR less cost!**

IMPLEMENT proven TAD

Treatment, alternatives, & diversions (TAD)
\$1 spent saves ~\$1.96

- Community supports & treatment for people with mental illness, developmental disabilities, addictions
- Restorative justice, other alternatives to court
- Drug court, and other specialized courts
- Work release
- Home detention / bracelet monitoring

We Say, “FIX IT NOW!”

Implement proven practices

- MOSES GOAL = Reduce Dane Co jail population by **half** in 2015
- Get people out of the bad areas of CCB jail within weeks
- Change solitary policies, transfer people to psychiatric treatment asap

MJTF GOALS :

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 - A. End racial disparities**
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\$8M for New Jail Still in Co Budget

- “Capital funds” = to borrow for land acquisition, building, remodeling, or studies related to same; can’t use for services
- Early Dec, Sheriff submitted proposal to use undisclosed amount for a 3rd study by Mead & Hunt re building a new jail in phases, with a little extra study re people w/ mental illness

- 12/30, Parisi & Mahoney said “no brand new jail,” but want to build facility to get people w/ mental illness out of solitary
- 1/8 (10pm news): Sheriff said they’ll add 4 floors to PSB, use CCB for admin offices
- 1/13: Same “phased” build proposal on PP & J agenda (no new proposal yet!?)

Adding 4 Floors to PSB = ~\$160M!

M & H included this (Option 3)*:

Estimated \$146 - \$161 Million

NOT including “fixtures, furniture, equipment,” other construction costs, remodeling CCB into offices

**Mead & Hunt Exec Summary, pp 26-28*

A New Jail by Any Other Name?

- Includes Huber, vs. Day Reporting Center
- Projects 186 more people/day in jail
- Assumes same unnecessary incarceration
- Will continue to waste lives & money, and harm children whose parents are jailed
- Will not reduce racial disparities
- Still puts people w/ mental illness in jail

Successes elsewhere are from **alternatives** to jail, not “nicer” larger jails!

PROVEN PRACTICES (a few examples)

**Treatment, Alternatives, &
Diversions: \$1 spent= \$1.96 saved**

San Antonio Restoration Center :

Saved \$50M over 5 years by
keeping ppl w/ mental illness and
addictions out of jail (and saved
\$40M in reduced hospital ER use)

MORE PROVEN PRACTICES

Milwaukee CJ Resource Center (2010)

Day reporting center, alternatives to jail

Better outcomes at 10 to 20% the cost of jail!!

Waukesha Co Day Report Center:

avoided 16,000 jail days

MOSES MOBILIZATION

1. Reject latest proposal for 3rd M&H study (violates Goals 1 & 2)
2. Promote Bayrd & Pan proposal in PP & J and
3. Get leaders to implement proven methods to stop all unnecessary incarceration and solitary, and to address racial disparities at all levels of system

What Can YOU Do?

1. Sign, add to, send letters to politicians, etc.
2. Call same, and/or meet with them
3. Attend PP & J meetings (irreg Tues ~5:15)
4. Help educate all congregations and public
5. Write letters to editors
6. Join Moses Jail Task Force, recruit others

See www.mosesmadison.org

MOSES JAIL TASK FORCE

3rd Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:30 P
(optional orientation 6:00P)

St. Mark's Church

605 Spruce St, So. Madison

(Off So. Park St. across from Copp's)

Ann Pooler, apooler@charter.net

Authors =

Ann Pooler & Nino Rodriguez,

With assistance from other members of MJTF.

Thanks to everyone