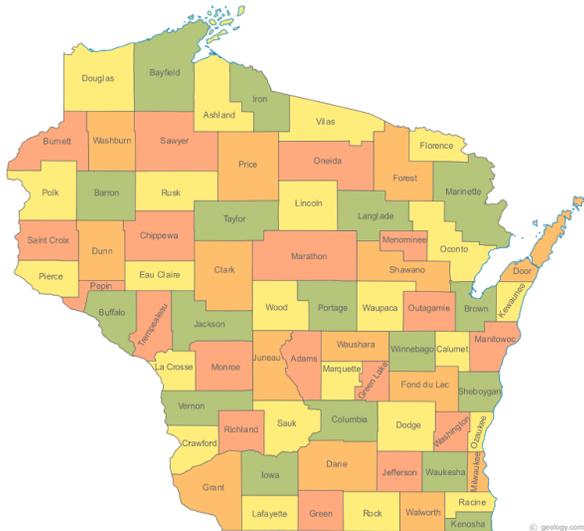


Who We Are.

UW-Extension is the outreach arm of the University of Wisconsin System. Divisions in UW-Extension include:

- Cooperative Extension Service;
- Broadcasting and Media Innovations (including Public Television and Public Radio);
- Continuing Education, Outreach, and E-Learning;
- Entrepreneurship and Economic Development.

Our structures allows us to reach citizens throughout the entire state. From our earliest days our programs have addressed the relevant social, economic, environmental, and cultural issues of the people of Wisconsin.



Contact Us.

If you are interested in participating in this project, have questions, or would like to make suggestions, please visit our website at:

<http://criminaljustice.uwex.edu>

We will respond swiftly to your email and would like to thank you in advance for your interest.



Understanding the System: Creating Impacts in Criminal Justice



Interested?

Contact us at

<http://criminaljustice.uwex.edu>

Background.

Criminal Justice is Expensive.

Correction costs and populations are growing rapidly. The Wisconsin Taxpayer's Alliance noted that state corrections costs increased more than 270% between fiscal years 1991-92 and 2004-05. This reflected a near tripling of inmates at state prisons. County correction costs and populations have mirrored this trend. Compared with other states, Wisconsin's criminal justice spending is the highest among Midwestern states and the state ranks among the top third in the nation for criminal justice expenditures.

The Criminal Justice System is Evolving.

The core elements of the "traditional" criminal justice system are detection, apprehension, charging, adjudication, incarceration and supervision of those charged with a crime. It is the minimum government is expected to provide. Law enforcement, the bar, courts, and corrections are the traditional participants. Public policy is developing beyond these elements and is including programs to prevent crime through family support, early intervention, programs and support for the incarcerated, and re-entry services.

Improve Communication Between Partners.

This reframing lends itself to a host of specialized efforts that ought to involve collaboration within communities, and among state and local governments, agencies and educators. But instead, resources have primarily been directed towards incarceration while failing to address the underlying needs of the individuals and families engaged in the system.

UW-Extension responds.

In 2009, in an effort to close this gap UW-Extension initiated a project with five goals, all of which require significant collaboration both within the UW System and with outside agencies.

Project Goals.

- Reconceptualize the criminal justice system to include programs geared at prevention and reduced recidivism.
- Develop a database of county programs and expenditures for all 72 counties.
- Create an online resource accessible to all citizens and policymakers connected to the criminal justice system.
- Design and deliver educational workshops for county partners.
- Create a forum for community dialogue on the criminal justice system.

Anticipated Outcomes.

- Greater fiscal efficiencies.
- Increased professional effectiveness.
- Strong collaborative networks.
- Reduced rates of incarceration and recidivism.



We Need You.

UW-Extension Cooperative Extension Service need your help to succeed in this ambitious project. Some possible ways to be involved include:

- Designing instruments and processes.
- Analyzing data.
- Researching best practices.
- Identifying additional partners, gaps, and needs.
- Building effective collaborations.
- Creating community forums.

Current Partners.

Wisconsin Institute for Public Policy and Service
Marathon County Administrator
UWEX Broadcasting and Media Innovations
Wisconsin Counties Association
Wisconsin Community Services
United Way of Dane County
Dane County Sheriff's Department
UW-Madison Criminal Justice Certificate Program
UW-Madison Criminal Justice Student Association
Wisconsin Department of Corrections
LaCrosse Criminal Justice Management Council
Wisconsin County Human Services Association
UW-Platteville Criminal Justice Department
Office of Justice Assistance
Madison Area Urban Ministry
Wisconsin State Court System
UW-Madison Law School

Badger State Sheriff's Association
Wisconsin Public Television
Wisconsin Public Radio
Wisconsin Council on Children and Families
UW-Madison Department of Human Ecology