

**Community Outreach-Diversity (COD) Subcommittee Summary Report to the:
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council October 2007 Meeting**

The COD Subcommittee met on **September 27, 2007** from 12 Noon to 1 PM. This was our first meeting since the former Community Outreach Subcommittee and the Diversity Subcommittee merged. Regular Meetings of COD will be held on the last Thursday of the month from 12 Noon to 1 PM in Jury Room #3 on the 4th Floor of the Winona County Courthouse (unless otherwise noticed).

Members of the Subcommittee are as follows: The Honorable Jeffrey D. Thompson, Judge of District Court; Sally Cumiskey, Winona County Court Administrator; Fatima Said, Director of Project Fine; Carmaine Sturino, Attorney; Rich McCluer, Attorney and President of the Winona County Bar Association; Alex Hines, Cultural Diversity Director, WSU; Kevin Kearney, Winona City Police Department; Lynn Theurer, Director of Winona County Community Health Department; and Karin Sonneman, Assistant Public Defender and Chair of the COD Subcommittee.

The COD Subcommittee will be working on ways to inform, reach out, and go to the community as a whole (all age groups) as well as bring people in to be informed and learn about the criminal justice/court system. Among some of our initial action plans: we will be contacting service groups to offer speakers and we will look at opportunities to join with other groups to participate in events involving community outreach and diversity such as the upcoming Winona City Human Rights Commission outreach program this month at 4 different locations in Winona.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karin Sonneman
Chair-COD Subcommittee
October 3, 2007

**Community Outreach and Diversity (COD) Subcommittee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**

**Agenda for October 25, 2007 Meeting-12 Noon-1PM
Jury Rm #3 Winona County Courthouse**

- I. Greetings and Introductions-Member update as to activities of interest to committee
- II. News Items and Other Interesting Possibilities to Think About
 - A. Council on Crime and Justice
 - 1. 147 Page Report entitled: "Justice, Where For Art Thou?"
 - 2. Star Tribune Editorial on the Report
 - 3. Malcolm Gladwell- author of "Blink" and "Tipping Point"
 - B. Minneapolis' Juvenile Crime Initiative-approaching it as a public health issue as well as a police problem.
- III. Action Possibilities:
 - A. Community Forums
 - B. Winona City Human Rights Commission Outreach in October-update-possible opportunity to include info on criminal justice system-Sally Cumiskey and Fatima Said
 - C. Speakers Bureau-Judge Thompson and Rich McCluer
 - D. Communicating Interpreter Needs Among Agencies-coordination-so that an agency knows asap when interpreter is needed- ADA compliance.
 - E. Info Clearinghouse-Creating Information Reference Source/Contact Information – brochures, website? – Lynn Theuer
- IV. Future Agenda Items
- V. Future Meetings- 4th Thursday of the Month at 12 Noon- BYOL.

**Community Outreach-Diversity (COD) Subcommittee Summary Report to the:
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's November 2007 Meeting**

The COD Subcommittee met on **October 25, 2007** from 12 Noon to 1 PM. Regular Meetings of COD will be held on the last Thursday of the month from 12 Noon to 1 PM in Jury Room #3 on the 4th Floor of the Winona County Courthouse (unless otherwise noticed). Members of the Subcommittee are as follows: The Honorable Jeffrey D. Thompson, Judge of District Court; Sally Cumiskey, Winona County Court Administrator; Fatima Said, Director of Project Fine; Carmaine Sturino, Attorney; Rich McCluer, Attorney and President of the Winona County Bar Association; Alex Hines, Cultural Diversity Director, WSU; Kevin Kearney, Winona City Police Department; Lynn Theurer, Director of Winona County Community Health Department; and Karin Sonneman, Assistant Public Defender and Chair of the COD Subcommittee.

The COD Subcommittee continued its discussion on developing ways to inform, reach out, and engage the community as a whole (all age groups) as well as bring people in to be informed and learn about the criminal justice/court system. Many of our members are already active participants in other community outreach events separate from their work on the subcommittee. At the beginning of our meeting members updated the subcommittee on these activities. On October 30, 2007, a community forum sponsored by League of Women Voters had Kevin Kearney and Fatima Said on the panel (they appeared in their representatives capacities for the Winona City Police Department and Project Fine, respectively, and not for the COD Subcommittee).

Karin Sonneman provided members with a packet of information for further thought on several items of interest:

1. A comprehensive report entitled "Justice, Where For Art Thou? A Framework for the Future" recently released by the Council on Crime and Justice- a Minneapolis based independent non-profit organization founded in 1957 whose "mission is to address the causes and consequences of crime and violence through research, demonstration and advocacy." Webpage mission statement. The "report details numerous ominous signs for the state's justice system, including a burgeoning prison population and an increasing gap between the state's aging affluent white population and its growing, poor minority population." Star Tribune article on report from October 10, 2007. The report offers recommendations to address the problems. To obtain the entire 148 page report, go to:

www.crimeandjustice.org

2. An article from the Star Tribune (go to www.startribune.com for the article by David Chanen from September 29, 2007) describing "an innovative and promising effort to attack the roots of juvenile crime in Minneapolis" that received national attention by law enforcement leaders at a recent national summit. The program that is a **"holistic approach that views violence among kids as a public health issue as well as a police problem has reduced juvenile crime in Minneapolis by 20 percent from last year."** Star Tribune September 29, 2007 article, *emphasis added.*

Kevin Kearney discussed the "Coach What Counts" program for children whose parents are incarcerated. He indicated that the program has been successful in Rochester. The Committee noted that the program has started here through the joint efforts of Big Brothers/Big Sister and Catholic Charities. A presentation of that program was made to the Winona County District Court Criminal Justice Committee earlier this year.

Sally Cumiskey suggested an idea to inform and engage the community about the criminal justice system. The program would involve following a mock criminal case through the system by having an evening presentation once a month where each month would focus on one or two aspects of the system from the initial police investigation, to the prosecution of the case, the defense of the case, the pre-trial and trial criminal court hearings, sentencing, jail and probation. Each presentation would include representatives of the process being explained that month and would have time for questions and answers from the public. If the planning for this is approved by the Council, the aim to start the program sometime in April, 2008.

The subcommittee discussed other standing action items including the speakers bureau and other community outreach ideas. We also discussed idea of inviting representatives of the local media to be members of our subcommittee. Finally, we briefly discussed the possibility of having a booth at the Winona County Fair next year to feature information about the Criminal Justice System in Winona County.

Our next meeting will be later this month.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karin Sonneman
Chair-COD Subcommittee
November 7, 2007

**Community Outreach and Diversity (COD) Subcommittee of the Winona County Criminal
Justice Coordinating Council**

**Agenda for November 15, 2007 Meeting-12 Noon-1PM
Jury Rm #2 Winona County Courthouse**

- I. Greetings and Member update as to activities of interest to subcommittee:
 - A. LWV Forum Follow-up-Kevin Kearney and Fatima Said
- II. New Agenda Items
 - A. Failing Through the Cracks- Service Gaps in Situations where an incident meets neither a criminal or DHS family protection standard for intervention – a community outreach problem in need of a solution? Carmaine Sturino
- III. Action Programs: The monthly mock criminal case program (to start in April 2008?) that involves presenting each month a segment of the system from initial police investigation to sentencing and probation and all that comes in between. Shall we go ahead with the planning on this?
- IV. Action Possibilities:
 - A. Community Forums and Joint programs with other Winona County entities such as: Winona City Human Rights Commission Outreach: update-possible opportunity to include info on criminal justice system-Sally Cumiskey and Fatima Said
 - B. Speakers Bureau-Judge Thompson and Rich McCluer
 - C. ~~Communicating Interpreter Needs Among Agencies-coordination- so that an agency knows asap when interpreter is needed-ADA compliance- Sally Cumiskey~~
 - D. Info Clearinghouse-Creating Information Reference Source/Contact Information – brochures, possible ideas for a website for the Coordinating Council?
 - E. Food for Thought Items:
 - 1. Council on Crime and Justice Report
 - A. 147 Page Report entitled: "Justice, Where For Art Thou?"
 - B. Star Tribune Editorial on the Report
 - C. Malcolm Gladwell- author of "Blink" and "Tipping Point"
 - 2. Minneapolis' Juvenile Crime Initiative-approaching it as a public health issue as well as a police problem.
- V. Future Agenda Items
- VI. Future Meetings- Clarify Meeting Time: 4th Thursday of the Month at 12 Noon- BYOL.
Nov. 19th @ 4 PM.

→ Last Thurs. of.

Nov. 15

mtg. COD
Review of activities
Kevin Kearney - words of
Neighborhood Watch.
2nd Wed. of the month.
- possibilities.

Intro of Alex Hiner. (a WSU
partnered w/ a # of
Inclusion Director.

Fatma Said

WNB - Diversity
Education Prog.

4 months of classes
St. Charles / Winona

Diversity
Presentations
- wait on
Council

Human Rights Comm - Outreach
Nov. 19th.

Alex - success is because they
look at everyone from cultural
perspective (we all have
something culturally to
bring to the table)

A cultural ^{into} the legal - || Ask about
IMMA what Rock
does

29. 2

Forum - Fatima / Kevin
Immigration Question.

Baby steps

Carmine - Educate of mandatory reporters. Students at WSU who are in a profession that are mandatory reporter.

Alex - fragmented system of mentors

Mentoring Partnership
School system - transportation problems.

mentoring programs.

Inclusion / Diversity office.

Goes to the population.

Oldest women - need to be identified

Diversity youth Quest - Project
every month in Title.

St. Charles

Winona / Maplewood.

children's program

But also looking at program for parents!

Blondin Events.

WNB - 40K

Look at diff. target population
in terms of diff. strategies
of getting them.

Blondin Foundation // lines.

801

Human Rights
Project Final
Sub-comm.

I

Dove Dickey.

last plus of month

Dec. 27 next meeting