

**Jefferson County**

# **Delinquency Prevention Council**

**2007 Annual Report**



*Children are one third of our population  
and all of our future.*

*~Select Panel for the Promotion of Child Health, 1981*

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***The Delinquency Prevention Council, of Opportunities, Inc. envisions that all children, youth and families grow and prosper because a positive and healthy environment is provided through collaborative efforts of individuals, organizations and institutions in Jefferson County communities.***

Dear Citizens of Jefferson County:

This report highlights the efforts of the Delinquency Prevention Council during 2007 and the impact those efforts have had on the youth and families of Jefferson County. Additionally, this report previews new programming for 2008. Some of the major accomplishments for 2007 include the implementation of the Obesity Prevention Project, creation of the Whoocares website, the expansion of teen court to serve repeat and felony level offenders; continued substance abuse prevention efforts, including a tobacco education presentation for youth featuring Dr. Victor DeNoble; continued community education, including a Latino Culture Seminar and a decrease in juvenile crime as a result of the continued enhancement of the restorative justice programs.

Thank you to the members of the Council who volunteer their time, talents, and resources to make the work of the Council possible. We also thank Opportunities, Inc., and Jefferson County Department of Human Services for funding many of our programs and for their continued support of our efforts and mission. Finally, thank you to those individuals and organizations that have worked with the Council and its programs. Your efforts have improved the quality of life for Jefferson County's youth and families.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Roets

Corey Krueger

Don Nolan

Monica Wagner

Chairperson

Vice Chair

Secretary

Director

# RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

## Teen Court

### Now and Then

The Jefferson County Teen Court program began in 1998, holding a mere 13 trials its first year. Each year, this number has grown and to date, Teen Court has held 520 youth trials. As Teen Court involvement has developed, so have the site locations. In 2007, the Teen Court site offerings expanded to meet the needs of all of our county-wide participants, now holding court proceedings in Whitewater, Jefferson and in 2008, will also hold court proceedings in Watertown.

### Value Beyond The Dollar

The value of Teen Court is measured by more than just a dollar savings. While it is important to acknowledge that a 2005 cost-benefit analysis concluded that the teen court program resulted in a net present value to Jefferson County of at least \$75,400 annually, it is also important to note the qualitative value. When obtaining feedback from families on the impact Teen Court had on their lives, one mother stated, *“My son seemed like a different kid after Teen Court, it defiantly taught him respect.”* A father commented, *“Teen Court can be time consuming for active youth, but it introduced my son to how the legal system works and showed him the consequences for what may seem like a minor infraction. Overall it was a positive experience and I would choose to do Teen Court again if I had to do it.”* Not only does the Teen Court experience impact the youth involved, but the entire family system, as well as the greater community.

### Success Through Numbers

During 2007, thirty-nine youth were sentenced through teen court, 35 of them completed their sentencing successfully, yielding a 89.7% success rate. To date, only one participant has reoffended since their successful sentence completion. The Jefferson County Teen Court has a longitudinal recidivism rate of only 5.4% overall and 2.6% within a year of previous program completion.

### A New Approach

As the result of grant funding provided by the Department of Corrections, the Teen Court program was given the opportunity to expand its services to repeat offenders and felony level offenders (when applicable and allowed by court policy) in 2007. To date, none of the repeat/felony level offenders served have reoffended. Additionally, this funding allowed Teen Court to enhance the school-based referral process, adding Watertown's Riverside Middle School as one of our referral sources.

### The Teen Court Difference

Here is what one teen court participant had to say about how the program affected him:

*“Teen Court helped me learn my lesson. It wasn't the most fun, but I enjoyed helping other people and knowing that I wasn't the only one who's ever been in trouble.”*

# Community Service

## Now and Then

The Restorative Justice Program of Jefferson County has been providing service supervision to youth since 1997. Since that time, 1580 youth have been referred to this program and 22,945 hours of community service have been performed in Jefferson County. 1,100 youth have completed their orders successfully, resulting in a 70% successful completion rate since 1997. We currently offer 12 different supervised community service sites for youth to attend across the county.

## Value Beyond The Dollar

An evaluation was provided to all community service locations to assess their satisfaction with the work completed by the youth and the impact this program has on the lives of others in the community. Of the 12 sites surveys, 9 returned the completed evaluation forms. On a scale of 1-5, one being least satisfied and 5 being most satisfied, the evaluation average level of satisfaction was 4.6. Some comments made by the sites representative include:

- “It is good to see these kids doing something,”
- “We appreciate all the help that your kids provide and we would miss them if anything would change.”
- “The residents really look forward to the weekly games. Thanks for all you have done!”
- “This program is very helpful. The fact that a staff comes with the youth is very important to us.”

## Success Through Numbers

In 2007, the 127 youth of Jefferson County who were referred completed 1514.75 hours of community service. These youth performed community service throughout Jefferson County, where youth engaged in recreational activities with the residents of assisted living facilities, tutored elementary age children at the Boys and Girls Club, and helped at various community activities in places like the Health and Wellness Center of Watertown. This year, a new site was adopted at the Literacy Council of Jefferson County. Youth have the opportunity to earn community service hours by providing child care for children under the age of 10, while adults in the community take English classes. This addition provides youth another option to complete their court ordered community service, thus paying back the community for the crimes they committed.

## A New Approach

In 2008, the Restorative Justice Program will adopt additional sites, in an effort to provide youth community service options that fit their interests, thus increasing the chances they will complete their court orders successfully.

# Restitution

## Now and Then

The restitution monitoring component of this program has been in place since 1996. Since that time, 828 youth have been referred and over \$208,400 dollars has been collected in restitution. 533 of the 828 youth referred successfully completed their court obligations, presenting a success rate of 64%. There are currently 2 full time staff who are devoted to assisting youth in completing their court ordered requirements by providing them the guidance and encouragement needed to pay their restitution debt.

## Value Beyond The Dollar

An evaluation was completed by victims who were paid back in full during the 2007 year. 10 evaluations were completed and returned. Of those 10 returned evaluations, 7 of the 10 victims reported feeling satisfied with the process. The main concern expressed with the dissatisfaction of the process was the time it took to receive their payments, which is often a result of the length of the court order, not of the payment process.

## Restitution Pay-off

This is what a victim had to say about the restitution process as a whole in a December 2007 evaluation:

*"I'm glad that there is some way for them to work off the damage caused."*

*"I am very satisfied. I got what was taken from me. Thanks so much!"*

## Success Through Numbers

Throughout 2007 we have continued to monitor the restitution payments made to victims of juvenile crime throughout Jefferson County. This year, \$13,022.76 was collected and repaid to those victims of crimes, in an effort to repair the damage that was caused by youth offenders.

## A New Approach

In 2008, we would like to see an increase in restitution payments. The Restorative Justice Program staff is making efforts to increase the percentage of successfully paid restitution debts by collaborating with the District Attorney's Office and Human Services to increase communication. Additionally, it is a goal of 2008 to increase the number of personal contact that each staff member makes with every youth, in an effort to promote additional payments.

# Victim Offender Conferencing

## Now and Then

The Victim Offender Conferencing (VOC) program has been in implementation in Jefferson County since 1997. Victim offender conferencing requires a very specific eligibility process for participation. Eligibility criteria are multi-faceted, with four main tenants. First, VOC is a voluntary program for both the youth offender and the victim. Secondly, both parties must want to participate in the mediation process. Third, the appropriateness of the case must be assessed by the coordinator, based upon the pre-conference individual meetings. Finally, the offender needs to take responsibility for the crime. With all of these elements determining whether the conference will be held, approximately 1/3 of all referrals become eligible to participate in VOC. All in all, since it's inception in 1997 we have held 55 Victim Offender conferences.

## Value Beyond the Dollar

The Victim Offender Conferencing (VOC) program not only benefits the victim, but this process is also restorative for the youth offender and the community as a whole. The victim benefits from the mediation by being provided a chance to express their feelings about the event at hand, thus allowing the victim a voice. The youth benefits from the mediation by being provided an opportunity to understand process and make amends for the damage caused to the victim and/or the community at large. Finally, the community benefits from the mediation by repairing the harm done to the relationships affected, by promoting non-violent forms of conflict management and, potentially, preventing the juvenile from offending again.

## Success Through Numbers

In 2007, the Restorative Justice Program received 13 referrals and found 3 of those cases to be eligible for conferencing, based upon the criteria. Of the 10 non-conferences, 5 of the referrals were closed due to extenuating circumstances (example: family relocation) and the other 5 referrals had an uninterested victim. Of the 3 youth who were involved in those mediations, to date, none of them have reoffended, presenting a recidivism rate of 0.0%.

## A New Approach

In 2007, the Restorative Justice Program has begun recruiting volunteer victims. Using these adult volunteers will potentially increase the number of mediations held by allowing the victim to write an impact statement, as opposed to attending the conference in person. This statement is then read and reenacted by the adult volunteer to simulate the victim's feelings about the crime committed. This process still gives the victim a voice, however allows them to share in a medium they feel most comfortable, while still allowing the juvenile to process the impact of the crime.

# Educational Programs

## First Offender Program

The First offender Program (FOP) is an 8-10 hour class that deals with issues associated with the youth's offense. Topics include stereotyping, stress, health and goals, self control, decision making, juvenile rights and laws, restorative justice principals, and asset building. The youth also participate in a jail tour and presentation by a local Deputy. The curriculum includes lessons from *Keepin' it R.E.A.L* and *Project TNT*. In 2007, there were 18 youth referred to the First Offender Program. Of the youth referred, 12 of them successfully completed the class, with a success rate of 66.6%. Of the 12 successful youth, to date, none have reoffended. This curriculum was recently revised in preparation for 2008.

## Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Abuse (ATODA) Awareness Program

The Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Abuse Awareness curriculum was first offered by the Restorative Justice Program in 2007. It's inception was a result of an over arching concern that at least half of the youth being referred to First Offender Program were entering the education program due to ATODA related concerns. As a result, the Restorative Justice Program split the FOP class in two. Currently, the ATODA program serves youth with alcohol or drug related offenses, while FOP serves youth who have other offenses, including disorderly conduct, battery, theft, etc.

Using the *Toward No Drugs* curriculum, this awareness program is provided for youth who are referred to the Restorative Justice Program with drug or alcohol related offenses. In 2007, 16 youth were referred to this educational program. 15 of the youth referred completed this program successfully. This is a 93.8 % completion rate. One youth referred entered the program with a prior offense, however none of the youth who have completed the program successfully have reoffended (to date), indicating a 0% recidivism rate for the ATODA Awareness program.

## Anger Management

Anger management is a newly offered educational class for 2007. While partnering with Human Services, it was determined that there was a need to offer an anger management class. Currently the anger management program offered by the Restorative Justice Program serves the low-risk offenders, whose risk level is determined by their case manager on the delinquency team, while Human Services offers classes to the medium and high-risk offenders.

Since it's inception in September of 2007, 3 youth were referred to the Anger Management Program. Using the *Skills for Managing Anger* curriculum, the program offers direction on self-control, decision making, boundaries, restorative justice principles and asset building. All three youth referred completed the class successfully with a success rate of 100% and to date, none of them have reoffended.

## Fort Atkinson Probation Program

Since, 2005, the Fort Atkinson School District has collaborated with the Restorative Justice Program to provide services to youth who commit alcohol and drug related offense on school grounds. By providing this alternative to expulsion, youth are given a chance to make amends for their actions and to learn about the dangers of drug and alcohol use. The youth referred are required to complete up to 30 hours of community service and participate in the ATODA Awareness class. The sanctions are given, in addition to other stipulations delegated by the school district, in an effort to promote substance abuse cessation and encourage youth to get help for any substance abuse issues.

Since 2005, the Restorative Justice Program has had 30 youth referred to this program for community service completion and 22 youth referred for ATODA Awareness class completion, for a total of 33 youth served (not all youth receive both sanctions).

In 2007, there were 7 youth referred to the Fort Atkinson Probation Program. 5 of the 7 youth referred completed the program successfully, providing a success rate of 71.4% in 2007. The two youth who did not complete this program successfully were removed from the program by the school, due to extenuating circumstances.

This partnership has been valuable to the community at large, the student and the school district. The community benefit from this program by encouraging the youth to take responsibility for their actions, by requiring the teen to give back to others through community service and by providing an ATODA awareness class, this collaboration is demonstrating a community stance that does not support drug or alcohol abuse. The youth benefits from this program by having a second chance to make things right and by learning about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, the teen becomes a stronger person with a greater respect for their education, community and others around them. Additionally, the school district benefits from this program by having the opportunity to foster this learning through a local community agency.

*“The program that we have developed with Opportunities Incorporated to help students who are prone to drug abuse has been tremendous. We have found much ease in working with the good folks that take so much time and care to work with our students. It is nice to know that we are able to provide a second chance to our students, and to refer them to highly qualified individuals that seek the same goal as we do.”*

*~Brent Torrenge, Associate Principal, Fort Atkinson High School*

# YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

## Mentoring Program

### MENTORING PROGRAM TESTIMONIALS

"I've mentored Shanina since she was in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, she's now in 10<sup>th</sup>. So it's been 4 years, which is typically not the norm. I do enjoy Shanina as I've seen her grow in a positive way in the past four years."

*–Lynn, mentor*

"She is a good kid, kind hearted, usually makes the right decision and is willing to help a friend out always."

*–Rhonda, mentor*

"I teased her the other day about how the first year she would always forget I was coming and never be ready and now she always is ready."

*–Rhonda, mentor*

"It has been a wonderful experience. It is a fantastic program and I think that it has been good for both Brennan and Ed."

*–Tracey, mom to program participant*

"I see Austin maturing and growing up. He is doing better in school and I think we both enjoy the time together."

*–Wil, mentor*

The juvenile mentoring program (JUMP) continues to make an active commitment to match at-risk youth with positive role models throughout Jefferson County. Few bonds in life are more influential than those between a young person and an adult mentor.

This program was started in 2002, funded by a grant through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Now, the Juvenile Mentoring Program is supported solely through the Restorative Justice Program of Opportunities, Inc.

Throughout 2007, 7 youth participated in the mentoring program, actively meeting with their mentors and making the positive choice to spend time with and learn from the experience. Going to the movies, eating a meal together and having a chance to talk about their day, and participating in the JUMP summer picnic are all examples of activities that our mentors and mentees are doing around Jefferson County. There has been a constant flow of youth referrals to the program; however that also brought a need for more mentors. A waiting list has been established for those youth who have expressed interest in being involved in the program and active recruitment for more mentors is ongoing.

2008 will bring more aggressive recruitment procedures including, but not limited to, staff presentations at local service organization meetings, letters to municipalities about the need for adult mentors and media coverage to promote adult involvement.

# Drug Free Communities Support Program

The Delinquency Prevention Council received third-year funding for the Drug-Free Communities Support Program grant. This \$95,000 grant provided DPC the opportunity to continue the juvenile substance abuse prevention programs currently in place and allowed the coalition to provide new opportunities to youth and the community, in an effort to promote safe and drug free lifestyles.

There were a number of seminars and presentations for community members during 2007. These events included:

- A Latino Culture Seminar, held September 28, 2007 to promote cultural awareness for community service providers, featuring UW Whitewater Professor, Pilar Melero and PADA staff member, Alejandra Munoz.
- Evidence Based Practices training, featuring Mark Carey for the Restorative Justice Program and The Department of Human Services Staff.
- A Drug Court Training, featuring the drug court coordinator and judge from Eau Claire County's adult drug court program.
- A Tobacco Awareness Presentation geared towards 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders serving 5 school districts in the County, featuring Dr. Victor DeNoble, driving force behind the Wisconsin Tobacco Settlement.

Other 2007 DFC sponsored projects included:

- County-wide parent focus groups, gathering adult perceptions of drug and alcohol use amongst teens, and a needs assessment, outlining the actions parents are ready and willing to take to prevent drug abuse in Jefferson County.
- Red Ribbon Week placemats, which were distributed to restaurants across the county to promote awareness of ATODA issues.
- The Social Norms campaign kicked off in Lake Mills and Palmyra High schools. Posters promoting the number of youth who DO NOT use drugs and alcohol are hung throughout Lake Mills High School. Palmyra High School is currently waiting for their posters to be printed.

Ongoing projects supported by the Drug-Free Communities Support Program include:

- The Juvenile Mentoring Program
- The ATODA, Anger Management and First Offender Educational Courses
- Teen Court
- Children's Fair
- Search Surveys
- Youth Focus Groups



## Childhood Obesity Prevention

This year, DPC received a generous grant in the amount of \$45,040 from the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health to fund a project focusing on Childhood Obesity in Jefferson County. According to the Women, Infants and Children's (WIC) 2005 report, Jefferson County youth obesity mirrors the current trends of national and state levels. Jefferson County children ages 2-4 are more likely to be overweight and at risk for becoming overweight than other children in Wisconsin. Data also shows that childhood obesity sets youth on a path toward adult obesity. About 60% of toddlers and preschoolers who are overweight or obese during their preschool years will be overweight at age twelve. Jefferson County citizens have identified childhood obesity as a priority issue the county needs to address. A 2006 Community Assessment conducted for Head start by the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Jefferson County identified rising childhood obesity rates as the primary physical health concern facing Jefferson County Head Start families. This project will advance the State Health Plan *Healthiest Wisconsin 2010* because it will decrease childhood obesity by educating children and families about healthy food choices and family activities, showing them how to make those choices. Therefore, childhood and adult obesity will decrease and families will be making healthier lifestyle choices, thereby decreasing the onset of serious health issues.

In collaboration, Jefferson County Head Start and the DPC selected a curriculum that would best meet the needs of the children and parents, focusing on physical activity and proper nutrition habits. The committee decided on a best-practices curriculum titled *I am Moving, I am Learning* whose goals are to increase the quantity of time spent in moderate to vigorous physical activity, improve the quality of structured movement experiences, and improve healthy nutrition choices for children every day.

Through the use of Family Fun Nights and Fatherhood Initiative Activities, the Jefferson County Head Start programs have positively affected 246 children and their families by increasing adult education, promoting activity where physical movement and parents are involved such as dances and races, and increased the positive relationships between fathers and their children. These strategies, along with the supplementary materials available at each event, assist in creating a new trend to help families become more aware of healthy choices and improving their lives through inexpensive and beneficial activities. By promoting healthier lifestyle choices, healthier families are created, therefore developing healthy Jefferson County youth.

**In a December 2007 Evaluation, the Head Start Family Advocates reported:**

***"The youth and staff did a great job. They were very pleasant with our kids and families. It is really helpful to have the extra hands to help."***

This project will continue on into 2008. Baseline BMI's were collected in August of 2007 and in March of 2008, secondary measures will be taken to track the progress of this initiative. In June of 2008, a best practice manual will be created as a tool for promoting health and wellness objectives in other early childhood education centers.

## Children's Care and Share Fair

The Children's Share and Care Fair started in 2001 and each year has had a resounding response! The Fair is an opportunity for parents and families to discover the early childhood and community resources available to them throughout the county. Everyone should have knowledge of the different services, businesses, and agencies within their community to assist them with their needs. Children and parents alike have enjoyable experiences learning about those resources while experiencing face painting, a petting zoo, arts and crafts, hand washing experiments, and more! This annual event is funded solely through donations include a very generous annual donation from Wal-Mart of \$250.00.

The value of this fair is measured beyond the monetary form. Children have a positive environment; learn about things that are not normally taught in their schools or homes, and experience new and fun activities. One parent commented, *"It was fun. I hope it happens more often!"* while another commented that she felt *"it was a nice activity for a winter morning"*. Children are not the only ones who benefit from this activity. Another parent stated, *"This is great for kids AND there is lots of information for parents!"* This fair is a benefit to families, but also to the community. It spreads knowledge of services, increases the economy, and helps the county promote healthy family systems.

In 2007, the Fair was held at Fort Atkinson High School on March 10<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12pm. With a wonderful attendance rate, there were over 250 children who received a gift bag and, based on a survey, approximately 117 parents who attended with their children.

In 2008, the sixth annual Children's Share and Care Fair is due to continue its positive tradition another year. 2008's fair will be held at Fort Atkinson High School on March 29<sup>th</sup> from 9 am-12noon. This year, we plan to incorporate a broad array of services focusing on more bilingual services and businesses.

### PARENTS SPEAK OUT

According to the 2007 Evaluations, one parent stated:

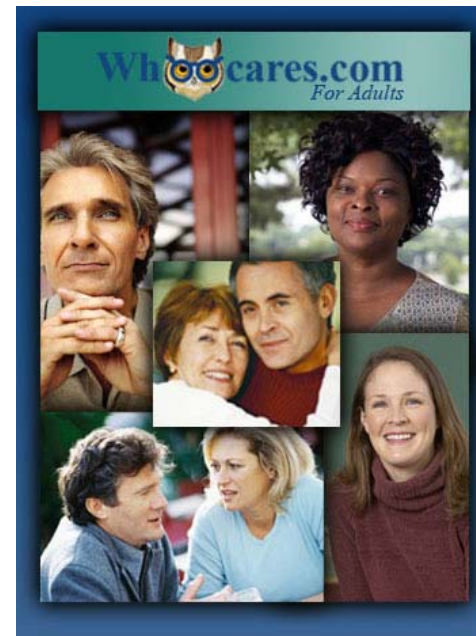
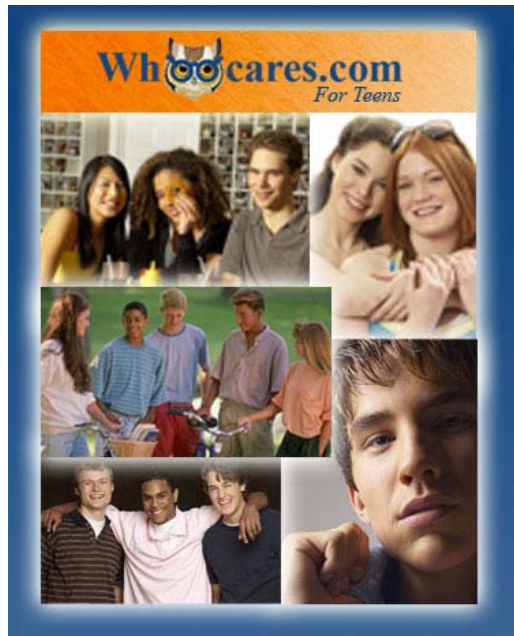
*"It was fun. This is great for kids and good information for parents. I hope it happens more often."*

## www.whoocares.com

Thanks to funding from AT&T, The Delinquency Prevention Council of Jefferson County successfully completed the creation and publication of the Whoocares website, a resource for at-risk teens and their parents. The website, [www.whoocares.com](http://www.whoocares.com), was created to connect local youth and their parents to credible, useful resources that are found both on the internet and locally in Jefferson County. The School Age and Intervention Committees of DPC focused the website content on common parent and teen concerns, providing a concise collection of accurate information on topics ranging from drug abuse to obtaining a work permit.

The website is divided into two sections; one for parents and one for teens. The committee members recognized that kids and parents express very different concerns, so the content on each of the pages is programmed specifically to the target audience's needs. Topics featured on the parent's website include employment, mental health, violence and parenting resources. On the teen website topics include school, relationships, understanding your parents and teen pregnancy. The website was publicized in an effort to provide local youth and parents with a variety of internet resources and access to local community agencies for assistance.

In 2008, the School Age and Intervention committee will continue to advertise this internet tool via press releases, printed book marks for distribution and linking on local school district websites.



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION

## Latino Culture Seminar

The Membership and Sustainability committee of DPC has been contemplating ways to recruit and sustain new members of DPC, while making a larger contribution to the community. This committee decided to encourage DPC participation by demonstrating the way that DPC gives back to the community. The Latino Culture Seminar took place on September 28, 2007 at City Hall in Watertown and included two speakers and a panel of professionals from Jefferson County. This 3 hour seminar included a presentation from a UW-Whitewater professor, Dr. Pilar Melero, who spoke on the struggles of the Latino population when facing issues of institutional heroes, lack of direct goals, and how the self and collective image can be effected as a direct result of cultural and language barriers. Our second speaker, Alejandra Munoz of People against Domestic and Sexual Abuse, shared her knowledge of trauma, challenges and issues facing the Latino population. The panelists included service providers who have worked directly with the Latino population in their particular fields of study.

This seminar was very well attended with 46 service providers in attendance. Per the program evaluation, it was suggested that a second Latino Culture seminar be held to address advanced issues such as how to deal with barriers/myths, do's and don't of working with Latino families, cultural values in regards to family and intimate relationships, and issues specific to the providers area of service. We want to thank the Watertown Police Department for volunteering City Hall as a location to hold this seminar and the Membership and Sustainability committee members for all of their hard work in organizing this public service seminar.

## Dr. Victor DeNoble

In cooperation with the ATODA Partnership and the Tobacco Free Coalition of Jefferson County, DPC had the pleasure of presenting Dr. DeNoble, who was a driving force in the Wisconsin Tobacco Settlement in 1994. On November 30, 2007, Horicon, Watertown and Fort Atkinson middle schools heard the turbulent tales of DeNoble's work with tobacco giant Phillip Morris, who was recruited in the 1980's to develop a heart safe cigarette that would have the same addicting effects of nicotine. DeNoble spoke of his top-secret laboratory on the third floor of the Phillip Morris building where he did brain experiments on rats, a capuchin monkey and a 63-year-old former smoker, and discovered that nicotine changes brain chemistry. The students then got to see first hand the specimens of these experiments when Dr. DeNoble ran through the auditorium holding the brain of the monkey and then the brain of the 63-year-old former smoker. The auditorium roared with excitement! After completing his experiments, DeNoble was fired from Phillip Morris, but before he left, he gathered pictures and documents that would prove his laboratory's existence. He sent that proof to the FBI and his testimony before Congress helped lead to settlements forcing tobacco companies to pay billions of dollars and restrict the way they advertise.

Dr. DeNoble speaks to thousands of middle school and college students every year, sharing his message about the dangers of cigarettes and how his research changed the tobacco industry forever. We want to thank the Tobacco Free Coalition of Jefferson County for their assistance in bringing Dr. DeNoble to Jefferson County.

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## Mark Carey Training: Evidenced Based Practices

From June 13-15<sup>th</sup>, 2007, in cooperation with the Southern Child Welfare Training Partnership, DPC held a training presented by Mark Carey on Evidence Based Practices in the Juvenile Justice System. Mark Carey is a well respected trainer/consultant with a background in residential treatment and probation and parole, having served as a warden of a women's prison and the director of four county corrections agencies. Mr. Carey's presentation highlighted information on criminogenic needs, low, moderate and high risk youth and the need to separate classifications of youth in an effort to prevent further delinquency. Additionally, Mr. Carey facilitated strategic planning sessions for the Jefferson County service providers, in an effort to fully integrate evidence based practices into our current juvenile justice programs.

As a result of Mark Carey's training, the Department of Human Services Delinquency Team, in collaboration with UW-Whitewater professor Jim Winship, has spent the second half of this year creating an assessment tool that will help to pinpoint the criminogenic needs of each youth, as well as define their target level of risk, so the juvenile justice systems in place can appropriately meet their rehabilitation and support needs. It is the hope that this tool will, in the long run, facilitate more appropriate targeting of youth services, reduce recidivism and save the county significant dollars by servicing youth in a risk appropriate manor.

## Drug Court Training

On August 17, 2007, the Eau Claire County Drug Court program director, Pat Isenberger and Lisa Starks, Drug Court Judge, brought wisdom and insight to the service providers of Jefferson County. Included in the 9 person audience were the District Attorney, Assistant District Attorney, Public Defender, mental health professionals, human services staff and Restorative Justice Program staff, who were eager to see all of the ins and outs of implementing a full scale drug court program. The speakers shared detailed accounts of the grant application process, start up costs and processes, documents and written forms needed, court processes, involvement needed, procedures, as well as the positive experiences and impact that drug court has had on Eau Claire County. The program evaluation indicated that when the Jefferson County Juvenile Drug Court gets rolling, we will need to spend more time talking with treatment providers about the expectations of participation.

As a result of this training, the Juvenile Drug Court planning team has been established and DPC has obtained the support of all integral parties. When grant funds are obtained, we will have the providers, procedures and enthusiasm to make the Jefferson County Juvenile Drug Court a success.

## **NEW FOR 2008**

### **Drug Free Communities Support Program**

The Delinquency Prevention Council will apply for a fourth year of Drug Free Communities Support in 2008. This funding will continue to support great programs such as the social norms campaign, shifting the focus from teens to parents. With the data collected at the Town Hall Meeting in March, it should be possible to create a social norms campaign using parental perspectives. Additionally, the Search Survey will be administered this fall, with data available in the spring of 2009. The Drug Free Communities Support Program will continue to support Red Ribbon Week, enhance current programming, provide community presentations and promote a safe and drug free community for Jefferson County.

### **Community Service Sites**

Starting in February of 2008, a new community service site will be available for Watertown youth. Bread and Roses will be added to the supervised community service site offerings, where youth will set tables and assist staff in preparation for the weekly free meal provided by the Immanuel Lutheran Church on 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Youth will have a chance to provide some support to those community members less fortunate than they are, while fulfilling their debt to society. This new site will be provided in addition to the 12 other supervised community service sites offered on a weekly basis and staffed by the Restorative Justice Program.

### **Watertown Teen Court**

This January, Watertown will have a monthly Teen Court date hosted at City Hall. This innovation is the result of collaboration between the Restorative Justice Program, Watertown Police Department and Riverside Middle School in Watertown. By providing a court site in Watertown, as well as expanding the community service sites offered in Watertown, it is our hope that the Watertown community will find Teen Court to be a useful and beneficial tool in helping to curb repeat offenses of juveniles. By providing youth with a supportive learning environment, free from punitive actions, it is our hope that they will come out of their Teen Court experience with a new outlook on criminal behavior, a better understanding of the effects of crime on the community and a higher self worth that will compel them to move forward with their lives in a positive manor, free from further criminal behavior.

## **Town Hall Meeting on Underage Drinking**

Compliments of a SAMHSA stipend, the Delinquency Prevention Council will be hosting a Jefferson County Town Hall Meeting entitled, *Underage Drinking: A Community Concern*. This community forum will take place at Johnson Creek Elementary School in the commons room from 6-8:30 on April 1, 2008. There will be a short presentation on Underage Drinking, provided by Carol Garuz, the associate director of the Addiction Resource Council in Waukesha, followed by a facilitated community discussion about the concerns and issues surrounding underage drinking, the needs of the community and the action steps to be taken to address those needs.

## **Gang Summit: A Jefferson County Perspective**

In the fall of 2006, a Gang Seminar was held in Jefferson County. This seminar was very successful and due to popular demand, a second seminar is being held on March 11, 2008. This conference will target the ever changing gang warning signs, markings and tags, in addition to addressing the direct gangs that are infiltrating Jefferson County. This all day summit will include speakers who specialize in gang activity and a panel of legal and municipal professionals. The speakers include gang specialist, George Chavez; local gang experts, Kathy Selck and Ole Olson; a mental health professional to address the socio-emotional process behind gang involvement and Tammy Forester, social worker at Watertown High School to speak to the school response to gang involvement. The panel includes police chiefs, sheriff department representatives, a Judge, an Assistant District Attorney and a representative from the Department of Human Services Delinquency Team. Artifacts will be available for viewing and resources will be provided.

# MANAGING PUBLIC FUNDS RESPONSIBLY

To date, the Delinquency Prevention Council of Jefferson County has brought **\$1,452,326.00** into Jefferson County for its youth and family development programs since 1998, via federal, state and private grants. This year alone, through a combination of grants provided by AT&T, The Drug Free Communities Support Grant and the Obesity Prevention grant, we obtained \$101,326.36 to apply to youth focused projects.

Since the inception of the Delinquency Prevention Council, the community has grown in a positive direction.

- 1) **Community Education has increased.** DPC has hosted over 13 service provider and community informational events since 2003, which assist in keeping our county well educated on youth-related issues.
- 2) **Developmental Assets have increased.** According to the Search Survey results from 1997-2006, youth reported a steady increase in developmental assets over time. In 1997, 29% of youth reported having 21-40 developmental assets, compared to 36% in 2006, for a 7 % increase in developmental assets reported by Jefferson County youth.
- 3) **Juvenile Delinquency has drastically decreased.** Overtime the number of police referrals for juvenile offenses has steadily decreased. According to the Department Human Services, there has been a 37.7% decrease in the number of juvenile offenses since 1996, going from 1062 referrals to 662 in 2006!

These facts indicate that the county has prospered greatly since the inception of DPC. With the support of the community at large, the participation of local professionals in DPC related activities and with the financial support of future public funding, DPC will continue to benefit the lives of young people across Jefferson County.

# Our Partners

Big Brothers and Big Sisters  
Community Action Coalition  
Workforce Development Board  
People Against Domestic Abuse  
Head Start  
Local Senior Citizens Centers  
Chambers of Commerce  
Municipal Courts  
UW-Extension  
UW-Whitewater  
Local Media  
Citizens  
United Way

Opportunities, Inc  
Jefferson County School Districts  
Local Law Enforcement Agencies  
Jefferson County Circuit Court  
District Attorney's Office  
Department of Human Services  
Public Health Department  
Elected Officials  
Private Industry  
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug  
Abuse Partnership Council  
Inter-agency Collaboration Committee  
Family Impact Seminar