



GOODHUE COUNTY MINNESOTA

TO EFFECTIVELY PROMOTE THE SAFETY, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING OF OUR RESIDENTS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

COUNTY BOARD ROOM
GOVERNMENT CENTER
RED WING, MN

AUGUST 16, 2022
10:00 A.M.

Virtual Meeting Notice

Due to concerns surrounding the spread of COVID-19, it has been determined that in-person meetings or meetings conducted under Minn. Stat. 13D.02 a are not practical or prudent. Therefore, meetings that are governed by the Open Meeting Law will temporarily be conducted by telephone or other electronic means pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.021.

The Goodhue County Board of Commissioners will be conducting a Committee of the Whole meeting pursuant to this section on August 16, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the County Board Room. The County Administrator and/or County Attorney will be present at the meeting location. All County Commissioners attending will appear by telephone or other electronic means. The public may monitor the meeting from a remote site by logging into <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/972958885> or calling 1 877 309 2073 OR 1 646 749 3129 any time during the meeting. Access Code: 972-958-885

1. Restorative Justice

Documents:

[Restorative Justice 2022 Committee of the Whole Presentantion.pdf](#)

Goodhue County Court Services

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

What is Restorative Justice?

Restorative Justice was first introduced in Minnesota in the early 1990s when corrections re-examined how we responded to crime and the costs associated with it. It remains a *reactive* response to crime, but the response shifted from one of retribution to one of restoration. Restorative Justice is a philosophy and framework used to guide the criminal justice system and focuses attention and resources on restoring victims, communities and offenders. It incorporates strategies and programs to accomplish the goals of making victims/communities whole, holding offenders accountable and improving offender competencies.

Restorative Justice within Goodhue County Court Services

Court Services adopted the Restorative Justice philosophy beginning about 1992 and expanded the definition to a Balanced and Restorative Justice model which addresses the areas of Public Safety, Offender Accountability, Competency Development and Victim Services in our work with offenders. In addition to traditional Restorative Justice practices, Court Services has incorporated many Evidence Based Practices which are those that have been shown through research to reduce recidivism.

Traditional Restorative Justice Practices

- Victim support/services
- Collection of restitution
- Victim-offender mediation
- Sentence to Service/Community Service Work
- Educational/treatment programs
- Circle Sentencing

Additional Services and Evidence Based Practices in Court Services:

Mental Health Screening	Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Treatment Referrals
Youth Level of Service Inventory (YLS) risk/needs	Alcohol and Drug Testing
ACES Education	Sex & The Law Student Education
Safe Harbor Protocol Screening	Mind & Movement Education
Direct Supervision to Youth	Drug & Alcohol Offender Education
Out-of-Home Placement Screening Team Member	Utilization of Carey Guides Tools
Comprehensive Intensive Bridging Program (CIBS) In-Home Therapy Referrals	Ability to Reason Cognitive Skills Group (currently suspended)

Additional Red Wing Youth Programs

Youth Outreach is a dynamic Red Wing based program that has served youth for 30 years and continues to grow in services and impact. It offers voluntary programs accessible to adolescents in the areas of Independent Living Skills, Mentoring, Parent Engagement and Youth Leadership and Advocacy.

Current Challenges

Despite these many resources and services, Court Services has experienced a shortage of local juvenile resources in the areas of substance abuse treatment and mental health therapy; and a state-wide scarcity of residential treatment and detention options. Our out-of-home placements have been few and our juvenile agents are tasked with finding alternative resources that meet the needs of our clientele. This need for more mental health and chemical health support is consistent with findings of a recent youth needs assessment in the Red Wing area.

Region 6W Community Corrections

6W is comprised of Chippewa, Yellow Medicine, Lac Qui Parle and Swift counties bordering South Dakota with a total combined population of 28,835. Three of the counties are involved in a Restorative Justice Program of Circle Sentencing and Mentoring Programs. The programs are “stand alone” and not run by corrections. They are staffed by four year degree paid professional coordinators and community volunteers.

Chippewa County Circle Sentencing and Mentoring Program

Circle Sentencing takes a reactive approach to crime in Chippewa County by recruiting volunteers who meet with juveniles who have committed crimes in the hopes of rehabilitating them without the use of traditional punishments (jail, probation, etc.). The Circle Sentencing Coordinator, volunteers and juvenile (and family of the juvenile) meet several times a month and discuss goals and objectives that all parties agree upon.

Some of these goals may include:

- Community service
- Finding a job
- Getting good grades
- Going to school
- Paying restitution

The Circle Sentencing Process

- Police write a ticket and County Attorney determines if charges are filed. Delinquency cases must be referred for consideration to Circle Sentencing by county attorney, probation or the judge. The program accepts cases from truancy to more serious cases, but excludes traffic, petty offenses and serious criminal sexual conduct cases. The juvenile appears in court and is given the choice to participate in Circle. If they agree, the case is Continued for Adjudication or Continued for Dismissal. Chippewa County currently has 8 juveniles in the Circle Program and have had up to 15. They typically have 4-5 in the Truancy Circle.
- Once all goals have been met, and the Circle feels that the juvenile has been rehabilitated, the juvenile will graduate from Circle Sentencing and have his/her record cleared of the charges that required him/her to go to Circle.
- Two full time coordinators manage the program, do intake and agreements, recruit and train community volunteers and write the grants. Cost estimate for 2022 was \$194,983 with a \$30,000 state grant to offset the amount.

<https://www.co.chippewa.mn.us/192/Restorative-Justice>

<https://www.co.ym.mn.gov/restorative-justice>,

<https://www.co.ym.mn.gov/index.asp?SEC=50671D85-EE8D-4FED-85A6-4278B9479E42>