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Hello WJCIA members,

As I write this, we are in the dog days of summer. Except that the only thing that feels like summer is the weather. This is certainly a summer like we have never known before, where we have more questions than answers. But the one thing I know, this pandemic has shown people's ability to adapt, improvise and overcome challenging and unfamiliar situations. WJCIA had to make the difficult decision to cancel our annual conference in September. Our priority is the safety, health and wellbeing of your members, vendors and presenters. However, we realize that many social workers and providers look to the annual conference for CEUs and we too knew that we needed to adapt and do things differently to provide this for our membership. WJCIA is working on providing a means to achieve credits for licensure requirements by offering virtual trainings with some of our presenters that we had lined up for September. There will be emails and updates on our website and Facebook page as these trainings are ready to roll out.

Another area that we continue to brainstorm is the best way to virtually hold our annual meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Items that typically are addressed at that meeting are board election, membership and WJCIA updates. There too will be more information on this to come as we solidify the format to hold the meeting-stay tuned!

Although, I will miss all the networking, information and laughs that are shared at conference, the decision to postpone is the right one. Make sure to mark your calendars for the 2021 conference September 22-24 at the Kalahari Resort and convention center where we plan to be back better than ever!

Respectfully,

Renee Handrow (Rock County)  
WJCIA President

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## 2019 WJCIA Conference

*WJCIA board met via Zoom on June 12, 2020 and made the difficult decision to cancel our annual fall conference that was scheduled for September 16, 17, 18 2020. This decision was not taken lightly, but we found it was necessary in considering the health and safety of everyone involved and attending. Please know that it is our priority to try and provide opportunities for our membership to have opportunities to earn CEU's for license renewal. We are in the process of scheduling and working out all of those details and will keep you updated as that information is solidified. In the future, we will also provide an update regarding membership, elections and our annual meeting that are all typically held at conference.*

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## WCWPDS Updates

WCWPDS has been offering virtual training since mid-May! Basic Intake Worker Training and YASI trainings have been virtually delivered and are going very well! We want to thank all of the county participants in their ability to participate in the trainings and for being flexible and tolerant of the technology issues that inevitably arise! WCWPDS is committed to continuing to offer the exceptional education and training our county partners want and need! To see all of the virtual trainings being offered, please go to this link: <https://wcpds.wisc.edu/virtual-learning-training-materials/> There are also resources and guidance at that link in using the Zoom platform, as well as “test days” to try out your internet connection prior to a training day. As always, please reach out to us at WCWPDS if you have any questions!

## Technology Committee Update:

The technology committee is proud to announce that we've switched to a reliable, faster, and more secure server for our website. There are minor differences in the appearance at the moment, but information is constantly being updated. We want to assure our members that the website will remain functional and be a reliable source of information for future events and news updates.

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## Frank J. Crisafi Recognition Award

### Frank J. Crisafi – Legend Icon Friend

Colleagues – we have lost a legend in the field of juvenile justice. Frank Crisafi, a long-time friend and trainer passed away on June 8, 2020. Frank trained juvenile justice workers for over 50 years. He partnered with WJCIA throughout our existence. He provided basic intake training, legal updates, and confidentiality and records training. He was WJCIA's attorney to go to for advice, wisdom, expertise, and support. He was an advocate for children and Social Workers' biggest fan. He knew the key role we play and also knew how difficult our jobs are on a daily basis. As many of us will remember, Frank always left us at the end of a training session with words of encouragement and support for all we do for children and families; and we cannot forget his wit and dry humor that endeared him to all of us. We waited with excitement to hear his presentations and we were constantly amazed at how understandable he made complicated cases. His knowledge was unsurpassed and his friendship golden. Frank Crisafi was an icon and he will be missed. Those that had the great fortune of knowing Frank and being in the audience during one of his presentations will forever refer back to something he did or said that made a decision easier to make or a situation more palatable. The Wisconsin Juvenile

Court Intake Association is honoring his legacy and the dedication that he had to our membership. The former WJCIA Recognition Award is now the Frank J. Crisafi Recognition Award. Frank's daughters appreciate this generous tribute to their dad and are proud of his work with WJCIA. This award has gained great prestige by changing the name to the Frank J. Crisafi Recognition Award, so please nominate workers that are deserving of recognition and true honor.

Complete the  
NOMINATION FORM  
online at: [WJCIA.ORG](http://WJCIA.ORG)



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## GRANT COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Grant Committee is in the process of finishing up our first DOJ grant and working on setting up trainings for 2020 with the second grant. WJCIA sponsored a number of trainings, including 10 Steps to Risk Reduction, Carey Guides and Bits, ART, and 4 Core Competencies. Look for more training announcements from WJCIA in 2020.

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## LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The Legislative Committee is made up of WJCIA Board members from across the State. We meet 4-5 times a year and discuss a variety of topics primarily having to do with legislation or laws regarding Juvenile Justice. The group tries to keep an eye on pending legislation and would encourage our membership to do so as well. Get notifications by logging onto <https://notify.legis.wisconsin.gov/> and putting in keywords or subjects that you would like to follow. One area of interest has been the Age of Jurisdiction with the consensus being 17 year olds should be moved back into the Juvenile System. Last year the committee wrote letters of support for such a move and sent them to several legislators. If you have input or thoughts on legislative issues you may contact the committee chair: Kerry Root at [kroot@co.chippewa.wi.us](mailto:kroot@co.chippewa.wi.us)

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### Nomination Committee

This committee coordinates the recruitment and receipt of nominations of candidates for the WJCIA Board of Directors. If you are interested in being on the WJCIA board of directors, or have any questions about being on the board, please contact Kari McKenna at

***Conference Site Committee***

*The WJCIA Annual Conference will be held at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center through the year 2030.*

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**WJCIA is always updating our Wisconsin Juvenile Court Intake Directory so county workers can connect across the state. Please send your county changes to Kris Fleming at [kris.fleming@wicourts.gov](mailto:kris.fleming@wicourts.gov)**

## **Division of Juvenile Corrections Updates**

### **CLS/LHS Youth Growth Plans**

Several months ago DJC Leadership established a multidisciplinary workgroup to examine the practice of case planning at Copper Lake and Lincoln Hills Schools and brainstorm improvements that could be made in this area. The newly developed Youth Growth Plan is the result of this workgroups effort, and the facilities have started to roll out the Growth Plan with youth who have arrived at CLS/LHS after June 1, 2020.

Youth are now assigned to their intended social worker the same week they arrive at CLS/LHS, this has greatly changed the lengthy reception process that was previously in place. This social worker starts to work with the youth immediately building rapport and fostering a positive professional alliance. Soon after the youth's initial Joint Planning Review Committee (JPRC) Meeting the youth and social worker start to build the youth's Individual Youth Growth Plan. Growth Plans are intended to be youth driven, in that youth identify changes that they want to make and feel will help them to make positive changes in their behavior. The Growth Plans establish goals and action steps that follow the SMART goal philosophy. Growth Plans are also holistic in that they will encompass all areas of the youth life at CLS/LHS from school and treatment to behavior and interactions with others.

Youth will be meeting with their assigned social worker on a weekly basis to talk about their progress towards their goals and action steps. All facility staff working with the youth will be able to view the Growth Plan and see the progress youth have made towards their goals. The hope is that youth become more focused on reaching the goals they have set for themselves. Social workers will be sharing the Youth Growth Plan with all JPRC members when it is first developed and prior to every JPRC Review.

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### **Appropriate Use of Secure Detention**

This year WJCIA has chosen to look at our position on the appropriate use of secure detention. Over the years there has been a lot of change and discussion around the use to secure detention both pre and post-adjudication for youth that have

committed a crime in their community. It is the intent of the WJCIA board to explore the new research that has been published to evaluate our current stance on it's uses. In 2011, the Board acknowledged that secure detention was found not to reduce recidivism to any significant degree. This was backed by a study performed by the Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau. Since that time there has been even more research that supports this statement. Additionally, in 2011, the Board cautioned against the use of secure detention without a plan to build competencies, this is further supported by the growing research that shows skill building, not confinement, reduces recidivism rates among the youth we all serve.

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Facebook: Wisconsin Juvenile Court Intake Association  
Twitter: WJCIA @WJCIA\_tech



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**Check out WJCIA's website at: [WJCIA.ORG](http://WJCIA.ORG)**