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Hello WJCIA Members,

As I write this, 2019 is quickly coming to a close and WJCIA has had an exciting year! Board member Sandy Craig (Outagamie County) retired this past spring and Cindy Waller (Eau Claire County) left the board after 12 years of service. Cindy Waller was the go-getter behind the ever popular “raffle table” at conference with all of the amazing prizes and donations that she gathered for the members of WJCIA. Their excitement, knowledge and dedication to WJCIA will be missed. We welcomed three new board members in September, Kasey Banker (Juneau County), Kenny Cyracus (Outagamie County) and Cathrina Dunnman (Vernon County). We look forward to their contribution to the association and we are excited to learn more about them.

WJCIA held its annual conference this past year at the Kalahari Convention Center September 18-20<sup>th</sup>. Conference highlights were opening speaker, Michael McGowan, with his humor and wit, while offering insight into a difficult subject as well as Judge Everett Mitchell closing conference with rave reviews noting him to be “relevant,” “inspiring” and “absolutely fantastic!” Barb Haffa (Wood County) and Melissa Zarczynski (Dodge County) are chairpersons for the conference and work endless hours prior to and during the entire conference. A big thank you to them and the conference committee for their time, effort, and dedication to make conference an amazing experience for our members.

As we move into our 2020 calendars, plan ahead and mark the dates of the 2020 conference: September 16-18, 2020 at the Kalahari Resort and Conference Center. We have begun conference planning for 2020 and look at your reviews and suggestions from the evaluations to help guide us. Stay tuned, we are already looking at some amazing speakers for 2020!

Also this year, WJCIA was awarded two grants from the Department of Justice to offer training to youth justice staff from across Wisconsin. Sessions of Anger Replacement Training (ART), Carey Guides and BITS (Brief Intervention Strategies), 4 Core Competencies, and 10 steps to Risk Reduction were offered for YJ workers by the Carey Group and Dr. Oliver. In addition to the trainings, the grant funded binders of Carey Guides to 12 counties. A big thank you to Stacy Ledvina (Manitowoc County) and her committee for obtaining the grant and organizing the training throughout the state. This was a great way WJCIA could offer evidence based training and resources to YJ workers in Wisconsin.

2020 will mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WJCIA and I hope the association will continue to be a leader in the state for resources, training and networking

for social workers and service providers who work with youth and their families for another 40 years!

Respectfully,

**Renee Handrow (Rock County)**  
WJCIA President

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## WJCIA Board of Directors

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## 2019 WJCIA Conference

Conference 2019 was a success and we are busy working on 2020 conference plans. We will be celebrating WJCIA turning 45! 2020 is expected to be the best conference yet. We will have a special gift for all attendees to commemorate turning 40 and our speakers will be sure to pique your interest and provide you with knowledge and skills to take with and put into practice in the field. Mark your calendars now for September 16-18, 2020 at Kalahari! If there is a

**speaker or topic that you think is a must for 2020 be sure to reach out to a board member ASAP!!**

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**The 2019 Conference Committee would like to give a big thank you to all of our vendors! Please check out their websites!**

Northwest Journey  
WI Council on Problem Gambling  
Rawhide  
Assurance Laboratories  
Justice Point  
Forensic Fluid Laboratories  
Sequel Youth and Family Services  
Clinicare  
Tomorrow's Children  
Anu Family Services  
Northwest Passage  
Nexus  
Boys Town  
The Hills Youth and Family Services  
Youth Villages  
Lutheran Social Services/Homme Home Youth and Family Services  
Positive Alternatives  
Attenti  
Southwest Key Programs  
Piney Ridge Behavioral Treatment Center  
Wisconsin Division of Care and Treatment Services  
Prentice House  
Norris Adolescent Center  
Rosecrance Health Network  
New Vision Wilderness

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## **WCWPDS Updates**

**Wisconsin Child Welfare Professional Development System is piloting a new Youth Justice training for workers who took Basic Intake Worker Training prior to the new 5-day curriculum! The training, Advanced Intake Worker Training, will focus on the aspects of intake work that are currently being trained, including: trauma, brain development, service matching, and engagement. The pilot will be completed by the end of this year, so keep an eye out in 2020 for this offering!**

**Additionally, WCWPDS and the Department of Children and Families are currently in Phase 2 (of 4 total) in the statewide roll-out of the YASI: Youth Assessment and Screening Instrument Training. The roll-out will continue into the year 2021, when all 72 counties will have been trained! The YASI training consists of 2 days of training on administering the assessment, 2 days of training on developing a case plan from the assessment, and finally 2 days of**

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## **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.

booster training on structured contacts and reassessments. So far, the roll-out is going very well, with DCF collecting feedback from participants and making adjustments as needed! Stay tuned for more updates!

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*Providing Professional  
Services for Wisconsin  
Juvenile Justice*



*Nominations are  
due by:*

***SEPTEMBER 1, 2020***

## **RECOGNITION COMMITTEE**

WJCIA is currently seeking nominations for the annual recognition award. Please consider nominating a fellow co-worker for the honor. This worker must be a current member of WJCIA and have 5 years of relevant work experience. They should have superior job performance, positive work relationships, and a commitment to the profession.

The award will be presented at this year's 2020 annual conference in September. Please email Melissa Zarczynski at [mzarczynski@co.dodge.wi.us](mailto:mzarczynski@co.dodge.wi.us) or visit the WJCIA website for the nomination form.

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 UPDATE**

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 [kari.mckenna@co.monroe.wi.us](mailto:kari.mckenna@co.monroe.wi.us) or 608-269-8643.

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### ***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**

The Lincoln Hills/ Copper Lake Schools woodshop teacher has been making wreaths with the LHS/CLS youth for 7 years now. Each year the students who would like the opportunity to learn how to make a wreath are able to join in the fun. About 25 wreaths are made each year to decorate the facility for the winter holiday and to bring cheer. The youth are able to be a part of the process from the beginning by collecting bows found on over 500 acres of land that make up the Lincoln Hills/ Copper Lake property. All of the bows are cut down and collected the week before Thanksgiving, and then all of the wreath making magic happens the week of Thanksgiving. In all the whole process to create one wreath takes about 1-2 hours depending on the skill of the maker, and can be pretty labor intensive. Overall youth are able to learn a new skill and have fun for the holidays while they learn!

Every year at the beginning of December the Lincoln Hills/Copper Lake Schools Maintenance team brings in trees to each cottage for youth to decorate. In addition to the tree, a decorating contest is held each year for the cottages within LHS/CLS. Each cottage is given decorations and craft supplies to make their unit as festive as possible before the judges come to inspect and vote.

The students in Ms. Heimerl's English class have been working on an "Inside Out" project. The project incorporates writing as well as art. Students were given a silhouette view of their face sheet and taught a method to aid them in drawing it

accurately. Inside of their head/body, they were asked to write down some important events from their past, the things they "carry with them". They were asked to draw a "word bubble" and inside the bubble, they were to write down what they want to say to their future. Around their head and word bubble, they were to write phrases about their current experience. The students enjoy projects that are personal, incorporate multiple modes of learning and are hands-on. Each project will be laminated and displayed either inside or outside their classroom.

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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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### **Meet Your New Board Members**

#### **Kenny Cyracus**

**Kenny Cyracus is currently a Juvenile Court Intake Worker with Outagamie County Youth and Family Services. Kenny has experience serving adults and at-risk youth in different areas throughout Wisconsin. While working closely with the Portage County District Attorney, Kenny developed and implemented Portage County's first adult Deferred Prosecution Agreement Program. This consisted of assessing and monitoring first time, low risk adults. For two years, Kenny also served as the Program Coordinator for the Boys and Girls Club Gateway Report Center in Stevens Point, WI. In this role, he worked with habitually truant, high risk youth referred to the program through their juvenile court order. Kenny has a strong desire and passion for working with at-risk youth, specifically in the areas of diversion and restorative justice. He earned his Bachelor of Science in**



**Social Work in 2018 from UW- Stevens Point. In 2019, he received his Master's in Social Work from UW-Green Bay.**

## **Cathrina Dunnum**

**Cathrina has been employed with Vernon County Department of Human Services since February 2015 and is a certified Social Worker. She started her career as a LTE position in Monroe County in December 2014 as a CPS initial assessment worker before being hired full time in Vernon County. Vernon County is small and all workers in the Child Welfare unit share responsibilities for access, initial assessments, ongoing and on-call after hours. Cathrina started to handle all the youth justice intake responsibilities and supervises all DPA's and court orders in July 2017. Cathrina received her BSW from Winona State University in December 2014. When Cathrina is not at work she is at home with her husband and two small children on their family farm.**

## **Kasey Banker**

**Kasey is a graduate of Viterbo University in La Crosse and has been employed with Juneau County Human Services since 2015. She has a bachelors in Sociology and received her certification in 2000. She is a certified social worker and started her career in La Crosse County as an intern in the delinquency tracking program.**

**Kasey has spent her career working at the State and County level. In 1994, she was the Department Manager for the Non Secure Shelter Care in Baraboo. Returning to La Crosse in 1995, she went back to work as a delinquency youth tracker for the county. From there, Kasey moved onto to Richland County Human Services and worked as a juvenile support worker, eventually taking over as the Juvenile Court Intake Worker.**

**Kasey married in 2000 and had her first child in 2001. She took leave from county work at that time and went to work at the State level for Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center in Mauston. Kasey worked with patients working toward supervised release. She was also a treatment facilitator for high risk sex offenders.**

**When the time was right, and her child was a bit older, Kasey returned to her love working children/adolescents and families. She was employed as a social worker for Richland and La Crosse Counties from 2010 through 2014 with duties including ongoing CPS, initial assessment, youth justice, program development and crisis intervention.**

**Kasey began her job at Juneau County in 2015. She is currently the Juvenile Court Worker and enjoys not only working with the youth and families, but putting together and implementing new policy and procedures.**

**Over the years, Kasey has been involved in various community organizations such as a being a member of the Hope House Board of directors, on the Kinship Care Program Board in Richland County and most recently on committees in Juneau County to include the crisis as well as OE (Organizational Effectiveness) team.**

**Kasey brings over 25 years of experience in the child welfare and juvenile justice field. She is honored to be a part of the Board of Directors for the WJCIA.**

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# POWER OF HOPE

A YOUTH DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

## EVENT DETAILS

Thursday, March 12, 2020

Friday, March 13, 2020

8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Holiday Inn Manitowoc, WI

4601 Calument Ave. | Manitowoc, WI 54220

Early bird special \$100 Before February 1st

\$125 After February 1st

Register Here: <https://conta.cc/2oiU0Sn>

Questions:

Contact Stacy (920) 683-4240

[stacyledvina@co.manitowoc.wi.us](mailto:stacyledvina@co.manitowoc.wi.us)

The Power of Hope is a two day seminar which will include trainings on the Soul, Science and Culture of Hope, as well as details on the implementation of this trauma-focused approach to working with children and families. You will leave feeling rejuvenated, hopeful, and inspired, No Exceptions!



## FEATURED SPEAKERS



### ROBERT MAURER, PH.D.

Dr. Maurer is the Director of Behavioral Sciences for the Family Practice Residency Program at UCLA Medical Center and a faculty member with the UCLA School of Medicine. He will share his unique approach to personal happiness and success.



### CHARLIE APPELSTEIN, MSW

Mr. Appelstein is an expert in strength-based approaches to working with children and youth experiencing serious emotional and behavioral issues. He will share his strategies for working with this population.



### VALERIE CALDERON, PH.D.

Dr. Calderon is a consultant and researcher with the Gallup Organization. She will share tactics for organization improvement through engagement measurement and strategic action planning.



### RICK MILLER

Rick is the founder/CEO and Chief Treasure Hunter of Kids at Hope as well as Professor of Practice and Clinical Director for the Center for the Advanced Study and Practice of HOPE at Arizona State University. Rick will share the Soul, Science and Culture of Hope.

Facebook: Wisconsin Juvenile Court Intake Association

Twitter: WJCIA @WJCIA\_tech



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