



WCS Connection

August 2018



From the desk of the WCS Executive Director:

WCS Holds 4th Annual BMAC Resource & Job Fair

On Wednesday, August 15th, the WCS Black Male Advisory Council (BMAC) in conjunction with the WCS Employment and Training Program, sponsored the 4th annual Community Resource and Job Fair. The purpose of this event is to make resource and job information available to men in our community who are struggling and looking for the means to improve their lives, especially African American men. The Community Resource and Job Fair demonstrates how the WCS BMAC supports the efforts and desire of African American men to improve their life prospects, support their families and become more involved with their communities. While the event is open to everyone, it is designed to focus on the unique needs and experiences of African American men and their families in the Milwaukee area community. In many ways, the event brings light and highlights the plight of African American men in our community and the negative disparities that exist for this group when compared to males of other racial and ethnic groups. The WCS BMAC was created four years ago as a strategy to improve agency practice in how we work with African American men, and to develop and empower a group that has been marginalized for far too long. The WCS BMAC also endeavors to work with other similar initiatives in our community and to do so in a way that accelerates positive change and impact.

The WCS BMAC Community Resource and Job Fair featured over 30 community providers and institutions as well as 25 employers. The event was attended by many individuals and many left the event with a scheduled job interview along with the prospect of a more meaningful, healthier and more self-sufficient life. A life where men who might otherwise be relegated to a marginal existence are hopeful about their futures. The event would not have been possible without the help and support of numerous WCS staff members and community agencies, institutions and employers who chose to stand with us to make the day a very special one. For that, WCS and the BMAC owe them a debt of gratitude.

A big thank you to our Event Sponsors!

We look forward to seeing all of you at next year's event.

Clarence Johnson



Emmy-Award Winning Photojournalist Creates WCS Testimonial Video

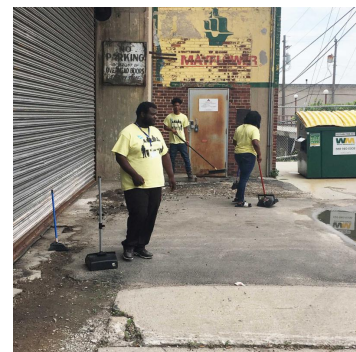
Wisconsin Community Services (WCS) and Waukesha County strongly value participant feedback and one of our priorities is to understand the impact a program has on the participants' lives. To accomplish this, we have found video testimonials to be very valuable. As the Administrator of the WCS Courts and Community Alternatives Division, Daniela Imig had a unique opportunity to work with her husband and utilize his expertise to produce a video testimonial for the Waukesha County Drug Treatment Court which is funded by the Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council (CJCC). Jerry Imig is an Emmy-award winning photojournalist with a local news organization who shot, edited, and produced this video pro bono for WCS and Waukesha County. The video features Bridget and Matt, graduates of the Waukesha County Drug Treatment Court who currently serve as Peer Support Mentors, and agreed to be a part of this project. This inspiring video details their lives before being offered the opportunity to participate in Drug Treatment Court and shows how the program helped shape the people they are today. Please watch the video and learn how the Waukesha County Drug Treatment Court changes lives!

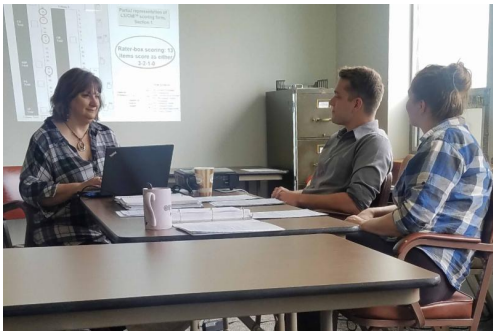
[Watch the Video Here!](#)



Youth Gained Work Experience Through WCS Earn & Learn Program

This summer WCS was once again part of Employ Milwaukee and the City of Milwaukee Earn & Learn Summer Youth Employment Program. Eight youth were employed at the WCS Community Improvement & Job Training (CIJT) Program; they earned a subsidized wage while developing work readiness skills. They kept the streets clean during Garfield Days, accomplished assignments at the CIJT office, and distributed flyers in many neighborhoods promoting the BMAC Community Resource and Job Fair.





WCS Leads LS-CMI Training for Employ Milwaukee

WCS employee, Denise Rawski, provided Level of Service Case Management Inventory (LS-CMI) assessment training to Employ Milwaukee, the local workforce development board serving Milwaukee County. The training, conducted this summer, involved 10 employees from Employ Milwaukee who will now use the LS-CMI in their

programming for individuals they serve. The LS-CMI is a risk and needs assessment instrument used by community and correctional agencies to assist in treatment planning and case management. WCS uses the LS-CMI in many of the programs we operate and has made the investment in having several employees become LS-CMI trainers. This has allowed WCS to train the agency's newly hired case managers who are required to use the tool, as well as provide this instruction to external entities. WCS offers training and required follow-up testing, ongoing quality assurance of assessments post training, and all assessments post training. We strive to ensure the success of the individuals we train.

Anyone seeking LS-CMI training should contact Sara Carpenter at 414-290-0405.



LEAP - Lead, Empower, Accept and Persist

This summer in Waukesha, teen girls learned Leadership, Empowerment, Acceptance and Persistence through a special LEAP Skills Group offered by WCS. This group focused on building social skills, self-esteem, healthy relationships and boundaries and was attended weekly by girls ages 12 to 17. These girls received guidance through life's challenges as they increased self-awareness through empowering discussion and fun activities.

The girls enjoyed the chance to socialize in a safe and welcoming environment. They made stress balls to support the use of positive coping skills, painted kindness rocks, did a baking activity that promoted leadership skills, participated in meditative canvas painting, and decorated mirrors with positive affirmations about themselves. The LEAP Skills Group was created by WCS Case Managers Megan Pfeifer and Amanda Buschmann. Both ladies work in the agency's Intensive Tracking Program in Waukesha County and have years of experience successfully guiding youth in the community as they address their needs.



Career Opportunities at WCS

Did You

Be a part of WCS and help provide opportunities for individuals to overcome adversity:

Know?

WCS has been part of the Earn & Learn Summer Youth Employment Program since 2008.

Clinical Therapist

Two positions are open to work in our residential care center, a program serving youth ages 12-17. The therapist is responsible for providing individual and group counseling for residents and their families. This position also plans, implements and coordinates services and resources. Applicants must have a Master's degree in a social or behavioral science field.

Resident Monitor (Security)

This position is responsible for monitoring and supervising the adult residents within the WCS residential reentry centers. Monitors maintain accountability of residents and ensure adherence to all safety, security and sanitation requirements. This position may work 8-hour and/or 12-hour shifts.

[Visit our website to learn more!](#)



Wisconsin Community Services, Inc.

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Wisconsin Community Services, Inc. (WCS) advocates for justice and community safety, providing innovative opportunities for individuals to overcome adversity.

WCS is a 501(c) 3 non-profit agency that provides services in southeastern Wisconsin.
WCS has been serving the community successfully for over 100 years.



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