



WCS Connection

July 2018



From the desk of the WCS Executive Director:

2018 WCS Friend of the Friendless

In 2001, WCS established the Friend of the Friendless Award to recognize individuals and organizations that have demonstrated a long-term commitment to meeting the needs of those who have been marginalized in our community. WCS is proud to honor Ms. Eloise Anderson, Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, as the 2018 WCS Friend of the Friendless Awardee.

Secretary Anderson began her career in Milwaukee as a social worker before joining state government. She recalls her humble beginnings working for Northcott Neighborhood House in Milwaukee and providing services to low-income families. Working there, Secretary Anderson developed her fervent belief that individuals have the capacity to make substantive improvements in their lives given the right opportunity and supports. She has more than 20 years of experience in Wisconsin state government in a variety of roles including serving as the administrator of the Division of Community Services at the Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services.

Locally, Secretary Anderson has left an indelible mark on southeast Wisconsin where she continues to be a champion for systems reform and supporting urban communities. Her leadership is particularly evident in Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha, and Rock Counties where she strongly supports the work of community-based organizations and their ability to positively affect the lives of thousands. In Milwaukee, Secretary Anderson has worked to improve the operations of the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services, the Transitional Jobs Programs, and mental health services for children. She has also been an ardent supporter for Transform Milwaukee. Secretary Anderson has demonstrated bold leadership with her support of Community Building Milwaukee (CBM), an initiative that has evolved over the past five years to help heal trauma in Milwaukee and surrounding communities. As a national and international leader in public policy creation, a visionary, and a thoughtful leader, Secretary Anderson has changed the way low-income communities and government work together. She is indeed a Friend of the Friendless.

Clarence Johnson

The picture at the top of the newsletter features Secretary Eloise Anderson (center) with Sara Carpenter, WCS Associate Executive Director, (left) and Clarence Johnson, WCS Executive Director (right).



WCS Employees Receive Patriot Award

Brittany Taff has been a full-time Forensic Specialist in the Opening Avenues to Reentry Success (OARS) Program at WCS since 2016. She has also been a member of the Army National Guard for seven years, and currently is a commissioned officer ranked as a 1st Lieutenant. Brittany wanted to recognize her supervisors and the Human Resources Director at WCS for their outstanding support and understanding of her military service and obligations, so she



nominated them for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Patriot Award. The ESGR award committee agreed with Brittany's nomination, and earlier this year Wisconsin's ESGR committee member, Bob Strange, presented the award certificates to Lori Sheets, WCS Human Resources Director; Andrea Gage, WCS OARS Program Supervisor; and Lori Akstulewicz, WCS Forensic Services Program Director. Because of the ongoing support she receives from her co-workers, Brittany has been able to grow professionally while continuing to serve her community and country in the Army National Guard. Brittany truly believes she wouldn't be where she is today without the understanding efforts of her supervisors and the Human Resources Department. WCS also received an award recognizing the agency for the support it gives Tiffany as a member of the Army National Guard.

ESGR is the lead Defense Department program promoting cooperation and understanding between civilian employers and their National Guard and Reserve employees. One of the most honorable Department of Defense awards is the Patriot Award. It reflects the efforts made by companies to support citizen soldiers through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families, and granting leaves of absence if needed.



Reaching Out to the Community

The WCS Black Male Advisory Council (BMAC) is excited to host the 4th annual BMAC Community Resource & Job Fair on Wednesday, August 15th. The Fair aims to support African American men in Milwaukee by providing resources about employment, education and training, healthcare, parenting, driver's license recovery, and legal services. Many fair attendees are



dislocated individuals who are looking to find stable employment or temporary opportunities that may lead to a regular full-time position so they can become self-supporting individuals. This year's event will feature several community resources including My Choice Family Care, Social Development Commission (SDC), and Milwaukee JobsWork. Employers seeking to hire individuals will include Performance Clean, FedEx, and the Milwaukee County Zoo.

The BMAC Community Resource & Job Fair is on August 15th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at WCS., 3732 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 am. For more information, please contact WCS at 414-290-0400. A huge thank you to our sponsors: BestEd Business, Cardinal Management, Inc., and Morgan Stanley.



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Career Opportunities at WCS

Start your career at WCS by applying for one of these great positions:

Waukesha County Drug Treatment Court Case Manager

The case manager partakes in the day-to-day operations of the Drug Treatment Court, a post-plea and pre-disposition specialty court, which provides intensive support and monitoring of eligible drug offenders. The position also engages in supervision case management activities of program participants.

Resident Monitor - 1st, 2nd, 3rd Shift

These positions are responsible for monitoring and supervising adult male residents within a residential correctional setting and in the community. The resident monitor maintains accountability of residents at all times and ensures adherence to all life safety, security, and sanitation requirements. This position also performs some general office duties.

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

Did You Know?

Previous WCS Friend of the Friendless awardees have included:

Legal Action of Wisconsin

Lois Quinn

John Pawasarat

MICAH

SOPHIA

Senator Gwen Moore



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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.
For over 100 years, WCS has successfully been serving the community.



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