



WCS Connection

May 2021



From the desk of the WCS Executive Director:

A Big Thank You to Our Supporters of the CDLRE

The WCS Center for Driver's License Recovery and Employability (Center) was established in 2007 to help low-income drivers in Milwaukee's underserved communities restore their driving privileges. Since then, the Center has served more than 16,000 individuals and helped to restore the driving privileges of more than 5,000 individuals in Milwaukee County. The Center relies on the support of foundations and an anchor grant from the City of Milwaukee Community Development Block Grant program to sustain its work. Individuals and companies also play a vital role with providing financial support for the Center. Earlier this spring, the Center conducted an appeal for sponsors to support its work for 2021 and beyond. We are happy to have raised almost \$30,000 which will go directly to support the case management and legal services provided by the Center.

As that appeal draws to a close, I would like to thank the businesses, nonprofits, and individuals who provided the much needed support. A large part of this May 2021 edition of the WCS Connection is dedicated to recognizing the numerous supporters who generously responded to the Center's appeal. This month we are featuring our Gold Supporters by including their corporate advertisements.

In a recent conversation with retired City of Milwaukee Police Department Assistant Chief Ray Banks, he reminded me of why the Center is so important. He remarked that the Center provides education and support to Milwaukee residents who receive traffic citations and are unaware of the importance of getting them resolved early and the options they have to manage the financial burden. He also commented that providing driver's license restoration services to low-income drivers allows them greater access to higher paying and family supporting jobs. Lastly, he noted that law enforcement officers are able to spend far less time on a traffic stop when they encounter someone with a valid license.

The last year has been particularly challenging in terms of dealing with a pandemic and the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd. It makes it all the more remarkable that the Center has continued to provide much needed services during significant unrest and uncertainty. We appreciate all those listed below who have stepped up to the plate by providing financial support to carry on this important work.

Clarence Johnson



A Special Thank You to Our Presenting CDLRE Supporter

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Thank You to Our Gold, Silver, & Bronze CDLRE Supporters



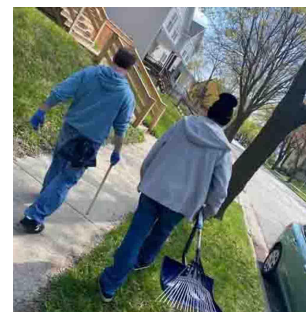
Giving Back: Parsons House Makes the Neighborhood Look Good

By Kim Tardin, WCS Parsons House Assistant Program Director

The WCS Parsons House staff have organized neighborhood clean-up events since 2019 as a way for the residents to complete selfless deeds and a way to give back to the Park West neighborhood that welcomes our facility.

Since it began in 1970, Earth Day has been a celebration of the birth of the modern environmental movement. This year, the staff and residents of Parsons House believed it would be fitting to schedule a neighborhood clean-up on Earth Day 2021. So, on April 22nd (Earth Day), a group of staff and residents picked up trash for more than two hours along 25th Street between West Chambers Street and West Burleigh Street.

According to program staff members, "This year's clean-up was particularly exceptional! On several occasions, the crew was stopped by passersby who told them that they were doing a 'good job' and that they were so happy to see everyone helping to keep the community clean. It was really special to be able to interact with so many individuals along the clean-up route. We were even joined by a longtime neighbor who brought additional clean-up tools."



With the success of this year's Earth Day clean-up, and the many positive reactions

received from their Park West neighbors, Parsons House has decided to implement this event at least once every other month and to extend clean-up efforts further down 25th Street. Parsons House would like to extend a big thank you to Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful, Inc. who provided us cleaning tools/supplies and to Leah DeMarco, Parsons House Employment Placement Specialist, for capturing a few moments from the day in photos!



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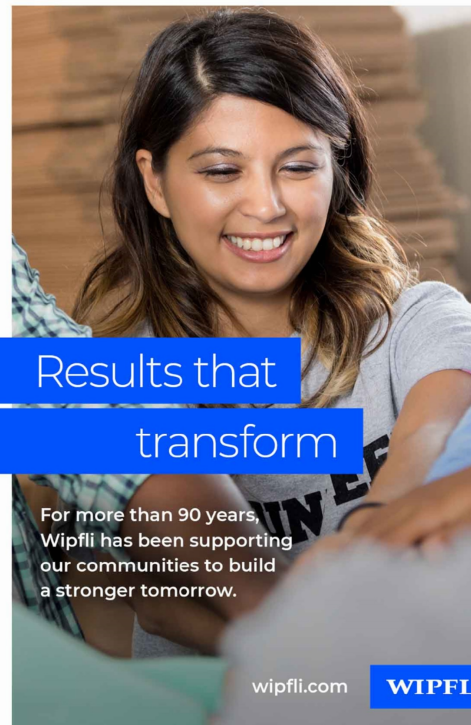
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Career Opportunities at WCS

WCS is searching for caring and dedicated individuals to fill the following positions:

Care Coordinator – Hub and Spoke Health Home Program

Hub and Spoke is a new program at WCS and the program is looking for a Care Coordinator. This position will closely collaborate with program staff to help participants with ongoing medical and treatment services. They will be responsible for developing the individualized comprehensive care plan for participants' needs, including legal, financial, benefits, food, clothes, and social needs. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree in social work, psychology, nursing, or social services as well as knowledge and experience serving people with substance use needs.

Case Manager – Treatment Alternative Program (TAP)

Case Managers in the Treatment Alternative Program are an important part in providing services for a participant with substance use treatment needs and criminal justice involvement. They will work with and help the participant attain their goals and improve their chronic conditions through specific individualized comprehensive care plans. As a TAP Case Manager, they will have contact with incarcerated individuals, correctional staff, probation and parole staff, and AODA and recovery and support services staff. Minimal requirements for the position include a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, social work, or human services and three years of related experience.

Youth Advocate – Project Excel

A Youth Advocate will be responsible for working with the youth in Project Excel. They will assist in coordinating programming and community service opportunities for youth of the program. Also, the Youth Advocate is responsible for working with staff to track activities that support enrollment, service delivery, operations, outcome data, and reporting for the program. Qualified candidates will have a working knowledge of child/youth development, the ability to interact with escalating youth and/or parents in a calm and professional manner, and a bachelor's degree in social work, criminal justice, or social service-related field.

Did You Know?

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

**You can't tell
just *by* looking
at someone
what *they* are
going through.**



Every year millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental illness.

WCS provides behavioral health services to thousands of individuals in southeastern Wisconsin and has been doing so for more than 40 years.



Wisconsin Community Services, Inc.

3732 West Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 320

Milwaukee, WI 53208

Phone: 414-290-0400

Fax: 414-271-4605

www.wiscs.org

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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