



## **WCS Connection**

January 2022

# *Looking Forward in 2022*



*From the desk of the WCS Executive Director:*

### **Wisconsin Community Services - Celebrating 110 Years of Service**

In 2022, Wisconsin Community Services will celebrate its 110th year anniversary of providing programs and services in Southeast Wisconsin to individuals and families who have behavioral health needs and/or have involvement with the youth or adult justice system. During that span of time, WCS has grown from an organization with a staff of one during the early days, to a staff of about 10 in 1970, and to a staff of over 470 today. The growth of WCS services, programs and staff aligns with the needs that continue to emerge in our community and the desire of government entities and justice system stakeholders to work with private human services organizations to address these needs. Founded in 1912 as the Society for the Friendless, WCS still holds firm to the belief that we are a friend to those who are experiencing adversity with unmet behavioral health needs, involvement with the justice system or experiencing other adversities as a result of the presence of one or both of those conditions. During the past two years, we have seen unprecedented problems with the Covid-19 Pandemic, which have exacerbated levels of behavioral health needs and challenges within legal and justice systems.

In 2022 we look forward to continuing our work of providing essential and needed services that will support children, adults and families in their desire to improve the conditions and circumstances that will help them to reach their goals, and to overcome the adversity in their lives. We look forward to working collaboratively and in partnership with our funding sources, community-based organizations, community leaders and friends of WCS. Over the next several months, in the WCS Connection, we will feature new initiatives, programs, services, and leaders that will be integral to our commitment to positively impact the lives of those we serve and to improve community safety. Working together we can make the 110-year anniversary of WCS the most impactful year ever and, more importantly, improve the life prospects for thousands of individuals throughout 2022 and beyond.

Clarence Johnson



## Thank You Quad!

A big "Thank You" goes out to the U.N.I.T.E. group at Quad for donating the proceeds from a fun and delicious mac and cheese and loaded chili bar fundraiser luncheon hosted on November 28, 2021 at the company's West Allis location. All of the donated proceeds will be used to assist residents at Parsons House Residential Reentry Center (RRC), a WCS program that provides residential services to support successful reentry into the community. A total of \$515 was donated and will be used to buy winter clothing for individuals that come into the program. Thanks to WCS employee Leah DeMarco, employees at Quad learned about



Pictured above left to right:  
DeShaun Brown from Quad, Leah DeMarco from WCS, Lyndsay Zwaska from Quad, and Raymond Tomlin from Running Rebels.

WCS through a newly formed partnership that has allowed many residents of Parsons House to obtain full-time employment at the company. After meeting the residents, hearing their stories, and working with them, the U.N.I.T.E. group selected WCS as the recipient of this wonderful donation. U.N.I.T.E. is an employee QUAD Business Resource Group committed to diversity and inclusion. The group's mission: U.N.I.T.E. propels Black Excellence and aims to create space for professional development, community outreach, and career advancement while encouraging authenticity of Black employees within Quad and our communities.



## Now Introducing...Louis Miranda

Its great to start off the new year by introducing Louis Miranda as the Program Director of the WCS Youth Shelter Care Program. Louis hails from our great city of Milwaukee and has also spent a lot of time outside the state of Wisconsin. He has a criminal justice degree from Jackson State University in Mississippi and worked as a supervisor at the Harris County Juvenile Justice Department in Houston, Texas. Here in Wisconsin, Louis worked 12 years with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections as a Senior Probation-Parole Agent, and most recently worked as the Homeless Prevention Coordinator at the Guest House of Milwaukee. In his free time Louis stays busy hanging out with his two teenage daughters as well as playing semi-professional baseball with the Milwaukee Barons.

The WCS Youth Care Shelter Program provides short-term (typically about 30 days), non-secure, supervised residential programming for youth and is designed to be an alternative

to a Secure Detention placement. The overall goal of the program is to provide youth a safe, nurturing, and well-maintained environment, ensure court appearances, increase school attendance, and reduce the likelihood of re-offense.



## Career Opportunities at WCS

WCS is looking for caring and enthusiastic individuals to fill the following positions:

### Case Manager - Community Support Program

WCS is searching for an organized, independent, compassionate individual who has experience working with individuals who have mental health needs to take on the role as a Case Manager in the Community Support Program. The Case Manager will provide treatment planning, symptom management, medication monitoring, and crisis intervention to participants in the program who have serious and persistent mental health needs and co-occurring substance use. Qualified applicants must have a bachelor's or master's degree in a behavioral science; sensitivity toward cultural, ethnic, and disability concerns; and knowledge of DSM V and psychotropic medications and their side effects.

### Court Services Division Administrator – WCS Administration

Are you looking for a job that keeps the organization moving? Then look no further than the role as Court Services Division Administrator. This is a senior leadership management position that oversees several WCS programs in four counties. As the Administrator you will be responsible for leading and directing program implementation, compliance, achieving and maximizing revenue projections, and oversight of personnel management of the Division. This person requires in-depth knowledge of the court systems and processes, and mental health and substance use conditions. The Administrator will work closely with the agency's HR, IT, Development, and Finance Departments as well as external government partners. The ideal candidate will have at least a bachelor's degree in social sciences or management, an advanced degree is preferred; five years of experience in managerial positions; and five years of experience in program management with strong budget and personnel experience. They will also have knowledge of the criminal justice system; knowledge of contract expectations and the ability to communicate those expectations; Knowledge of Evidence Based Principles to include risk assessments, Motivational Interviewing and Trauma Informed Care, as well as any other EBPs required by contract or the agency. For complete job description [click here](#).

### Jail Screener – Waukesha County Pretrial Jail Screening Program

If you are an independent, strong-willed, and determined individual, then this job is for you. The Jail Screener position is a unique entry-level job where the person will be responsible for conducting extensive criminal

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You can make a tax-deductible donation to WCS and help us carry out our mission of advocating for justice and community safety by providing innovative opportunities for individuals to overcome adversity.

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background checks of inmates in the Waukesha County Jail. As a Jail Screener you will use local and national resources to submit Public Safety Assessment (PSA) reports to Court officials to assist them in making release decisions of defendants. Applicants need to have an associate's degree in criminal justice, sociology, psychology, social work, a related field, or be actively working on a degree within the criminal justice field.

Youth Treatment Specialist - Bakari Youth Residential Care Center

This is an exciting opportunity to work in a therapeutic environment serving male youth, ages 13 to 17. The Specialist will embrace working with youth, teaching them life skills, and empowering them through the programming. They will also provide supervision of the youth as they take responsibility for implementing the daily schedule of activities which includes educational and recreational activities as well as educational support. Qualified applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent, a bachelor's degree is preferred. They must also be at least 21 years old, be able to work a flexible schedule, and have a minimum of one year of experience serving children/youth with mental health needs.



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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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& Waukesha County**

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