



Celebrating Recovery Month: Honoring Strength, Hope and Community

September is National Recovery Month, a time to recognize the courage of individuals living in recovery and the families, peers, and professionals who walk alongside them. At Wisconsin Community Services (WCS), we know recovery is possible for everyone, and we are committed to providing the care, support, and community connections that make it achievable.

Read the full blog on our LinkedIn page to learn more about how WCS is working to support recovery.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clarence Johnson".



[Read Full Blog Here](#)



WCS in The Media: 620WTMJ Wisconsin's Radio Station

A Night Without Stigma: Honoring Lives, Lifting Hope

On August 31, our community came together at Horeb Springs Park in Waukesha for *A Night Without Stigma*, an overdose awareness vigil held in recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day, the world's largest annual campaign to end overdose.

The evening was one of remembrance and connection. Through live music, luminaries, and heartfelt stories, we honored those we've lost, celebrated those in recovery, and stood together in solidarity against stigma.

WCS Peer Services Coordinator Susie Austin shared her powerful story of recovery, reminding us that addiction does not define a person and that recovery is always possible when compassion and support are present.

We are grateful to all who joined us, shared their voices, and helped create a space of healing and hope.

Listen to the full interview: [HERE](#)

A Staff Spotlight: Dwayne Marks, VP of Operations

Leadership means combining compassion with strategy, and that's exactly what Vice President of Operations, Dwayne Marks, brings to his role.

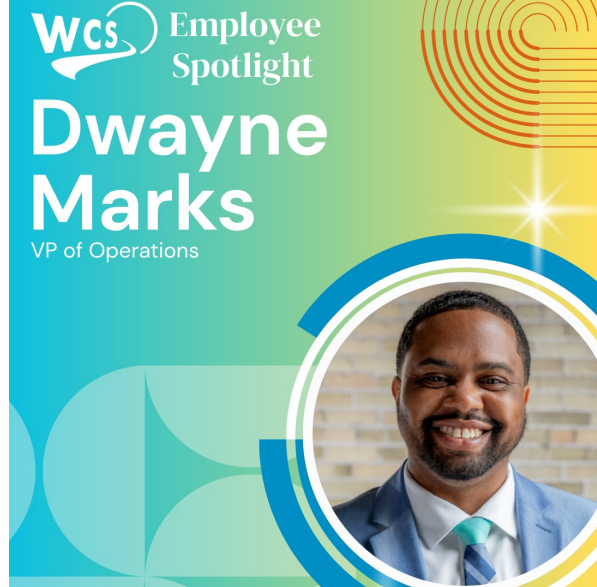
Dwayne oversees day-to-day operations across the agency, so that things run smoothly for our 600 staff and our 60+ programs. His leadership guides initiatives that strengthen service delivery and drive long-term growth. He is also the founder of the WCS Leadership Academy, a program

designed to train and empower leaders at every level of the organization.

“What inspires me to work at WCS is the agency’s understanding and acknowledgement that there are a myriad of different adverse situations that affect people in ways that don’t allow them to fulfill their potential.

WCS strives to provide tools, pathways and support for everyone who needs help overcoming any one of those challenges.”

We’re grateful for Dwayne’s vision and dedication to advancing our mission, supporting our staff, and ensuring stronger outcomes for the individuals and families we serve.



Event Recap



Celebrating Recovery, Building Community: WCS Recovery Prom

On August 2, Wisconsin Community Services hosted its first Recovery Prom at Waukesha Elks Lodge 400. The evening brought together individuals in recovery, their families, and supporters for a night of joy, community, and purpose.

More than a dance, Recovery Prom served as a fundraiser for WCS's all-peer support program, which provides critical connections for people navigating recovery. The event highlighted the power of peer support, reduced stigma around addiction, and raised funds to ensure more people can access the help they need. Attendees danced, laughed, and shared stories that prove recovery is not only possible but worth celebrating.





WCS Attends Milwaukee Brewers Game Night

Thank You to the Brewers Community Foundation

Wisconsin Community Services (WCS) extends heartfelt gratitude to the Milwaukee Brewers Community Foundation for their generous gift of tickets to several games throughout the season.

Because of this support, the individuals and families we serve had the opportunity to spend a day at the ballpark, creating positive memories, enjoying time together, and experiencing the joy of being part of Milwaukee's broader community.

Moments like these go beyond recreation. They strengthen connection, foster inclusion, and remind us that well-being is also built on joy and belonging.

Thank you, **Brewers Community Foundation**, for investing in our mission and for being a true partner in community.

We Are Looking for People to Join the WCS Team!

The dedicated staff at WCS works with individuals to overcome adversity by providing access to a continuum of support services. Our efforts give individuals the opportunity to improve their quality of life, empowering them to lead independent lives and experience self-efficacy. In turn, WCS has transformative power in strengthening our community as a whole. We invite you to be a part of that change.

Youth Treatment Specialist | Jefferson County Youth

We're looking for energetic, caring people to join our team as Youth Treatment Specialists! You'll get to work side-by-side with teens ages 13–17 teaching life skills, leading activities, and being a

positive role model along the way. It's a hands-on, rewarding role where every day brings a chance to make a real impact.

[\[Apply Here\]](#)

Case Manager | Community Support Program (CSP)

We're looking for a passionate, mission-driven individual ready to make a difference in our community. If you're compassionate, team-oriented, and eager to grow your career while helping others, this could be the perfect fit. Provide ongoing assessment and treatment planning, case management, supportive psychotherapy, symptom management, medication monitoring, and crisis intervention including after hours hotline coverage for individuals with serious and persistent mental health support and co-occurring substance use.

[\[Apply Here\]](#)

Visit www.wiscs.org/careers to view a full list of current job openings at WCS.

WCS in the Media

We're proud to share recent media appearances that highlight the work and impact of Wisconsin Community Services:

- **620 WTMJ Interview:** ["A Night Without Stigma": Waukesha to Host Overdose Awareness Vigil This Sunday - Wis. Afternoon News](#)
- **FOX6 News:** [Waukesha County 'Recovery Prom' supports community help programs](#)

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