

## 2021 LWVLA Observer Corps Report Form

Thank you for participating as a member of the Observer Corps for the League of Women Voters of the La Crosse Area. Our goal is to educate LWVLA members on local government activities with the potential to refer topics for further study and advocacy.

**Your Name:** Sally King

**Name of Governmental Body (City/County/Town) Board or Committee:** CJMC

**Time and Date of Meeting:** January 19, 2022

**Members of the Governmental Body (If available, note attendance.):**

**Link to the public posting of meeting information:**

### Meeting Purpose and Content

Please provide a brief statement of the meeting's purpose and a concise overview of its content in the form of a bulleted list:

The committee continues to ask for visitors from various departments/agencies who can shed light on mental health and policing in La Crosse.

-heard from county in the past

-continued report from the "CRU" (Community Resource Unit) Officers Whitney Hughes and Joel Miller. This is a program that pairs and officer with a trained mental health officer/crisis intervention specialist. Unclear how much time this unit is available to the department.

-outlined the purpose/goals: ID high users of law enforcement and reduce their usage

develop partnerships with services and agencies

provide wrap around support

build relationships and collaboration with support systems

investigate gaps and fix (ex. now garner release of info from "consumers" so can quickly share needed info)

support police officers-provide background information and where to go for info and help when dealing with a consumer.

The officers feel the program has been very successful:

50% of contacts resulted in consumer connection to new resource

not just crisis intervention but collaborative problem solving with agencies

Whitney says successes are consumer successes!

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Consumers are recognizing officers as support that can help to defuse

The consensus is that they hope the program can be expanded and provided county wide.

Wish there was a detox facility for those who don't need hospitalization and aren't being arrested

Mention of "Peer Run Respite Center Lighthouse (if not life threatening) lacrosse [lighthouse.org](https://lighthouse.org)

Monica Kruse update on study committee. Roster finalized. Goes to board for approval in February and then they will start meeting.

Retreat planning delayed-maybe meet outside in May.

Need to look at juvenile mental health? racism mental health?

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**Identify issues that the League may want to follow for further study or advocacy:**

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**Note any additional comments or feedback regarding this meeting:**

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Items in this section of the form are provided for the observers' benefit. They do not need to be a part of the report, but they provide a checklist of WI Open Meetings Law requirements and good practice for public meeting accessibility. Notable observations about these practices could be included in your feedback comments.

### WI Open Meetings Law Checklist

- ☐ Public notice (time/date/location/content) was readily available no later than 2 hours prior to the meeting.
- ☐ The meeting was held in a location that was open to the public and readily accessible to members of the public who wished to attend.
- ☐ The agenda provided enough specific detail to inform interested members of the public about the content of the meeting.
- ☐ A quorum was present to conduct business.
- ☐ Meeting content was limited to only noticed agenda items, including business discussed in closed session.
- ☐ A record of motions, seconds, and roll-call votes from the meeting will be (was?) created and preserved.

### Good Practice for Public Accessibility Checklist

- ☐ The meeting was available to view or listen to on-line.
- ☐ Copies of the agenda and handouts were available to the public. Important information was available for viewing via handouts, web links, or projector.
- ☐ Roll call was conducted, and the public could identify members who were present or absent
- ☐ Speakers were identified and could be easily heard.
- ☐ The public was given an opportunity to speak at the meeting.
- ☐ Minutes and/or a recording of the meeting will be made available to the public.

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Thank you for participating in the LWVLA Observer Corps. Your responses will help us ensure transparency in local government and assess the need for future LWVLA actions!