

DATE _____

State of Wisconsin
Department of Justice
PO BOX 7070
Madison, WI 53707-7070

RE: Letter of Support for Rusk County Recovery Court

Dear TAD Grant Professionals:

I author this supportive letter of the Rusk County Recovery Court (RCDC) program on behalf of the Rusk County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council (CJCC.)

The CJCC membership includes representation from the following: Rusk County Circuit Court Judge, Sheriff, Jail Captain, Ladysmith Police Chief, Clergy, County Administrative Coordinator, County Board of Supervisors, County Health & Human Services Director, Probation & Parole, Recovery Court Coordinator, County School Personnel, Youth Justice, local advocacy groups, Clerk of Court and community members. Please see the attached list of specific individual members.

This RCDC's evidence-based, diversion program is essential to the recovery needs of the consumers of Rusk County. The wrap around approach and individualized treatment is most effective when it addresses dual diagnosis and supports the entire family of the offender, offering stability through formal and informal supports which promote long-lasting, effective recovery changes.

Rusk County has a documented significant need for AODA & mental health services with limited access to providers that specialize in these areas. RCDC increases the level of accountability through individualized, purposeful programming that leads to less recidivism, less time spent in jail and prison, and promotes public safety. Treatment court initiatives continue to be one of the most effective, and sometimes the only, option in Rusk County and are supported wholly by the CJCC membership.

Respectfully,

_____, CJCC Chair

Rusk County CJCC Membership List

Honorable Annette M. Barna,
Rusk County Circuit Court Judge

John Kalepp,
Rusk County Board Chair

Jeffrey Wallace,
Rusk County Sheriff

Dave Willingham,
Rusk County Board of Supervisors

George Murray,
Rusk County Jail Captain

Jeremy Jacobs,
Rusk County DHHS Director

Kevin Julien,
Ladysmith Chief of Police

Melissa Bruesgen,
Department of Corrections

Deacon Craig Voldberg,
Clergy/Community Member

Angela Kostka,
RCRC Coordinator

Ashley Heath,
Rusk County Administrative Coordinator

Richard Gauger,
Rusk Restorative Youth Programs

Kendra Carillon
Embrace

Lori Gorsegner,
Rusk County Clerk of Court

Honorable William Stewart,
Retired Dunn County Circuit Court Judge
Community Member

Substance Abuse Provider

Mental Health Provider