



# On Balance

A publication of Dane County's Department of Human Services  
and the Dane County Juvenile Court Program

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## Juveniles with Sexual Offending Behaviors Committee – Final Summary

By Rhonda Voigt

Beginning in September 2004, Juvenile Court Administrator James Moeser and DCDHS Delinquency Services Manager Stephen Blue co-chaired a committee to continue to address issues regarding juveniles with sexual offending behaviors. Committee members were drawn from across the community including Juvenile Court Programs, Dane County Human Services, Dane County District Attorneys Office, State Public Defenders Office, Madison Metropolitan School District, Dane County Sheriff's Office, Madison Police Department, Department of Corrections, the Guardian ad litem Project and various service agencies including victim and offender

treatment programs. The format for the larger group meetings was to address broader issues including defining a target group, a mission statement and guiding principles for developing policy and procedures. Subcommittees were formed to look more in-depth at the following areas: 1) Arrest, Investigation and Prosecution; 2) Assessment & Treatment; 3) Supervision and Notification; 4) Reunification.

The overall purpose of the work group was to use the latest national research to assess our current practice and make recommendations for practice, policy and program changes that will provide effective intervention services for juveniles with sexual offending behaviors, support victims, and promote continued safety for citizens in our community.

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### Staff Spotlight:

New Juvenile Court Community Program Manager,  
**John Bauman**



**On Balance:** John, can you say a little about what you've been doing in terms of working with kids in the juvenile justice system for the past 15-20 years?

**John:** I began working with kids and families in 1985 as a wide-eyed intern at Sojourn Group Home. I continued at Sojourn after graduation from the UW with a sociology degree, while also working as an LTE at Shel-

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On the web @ [www.co.dane.wi.us/juvenilecourt/](http://www.co.dane.wi.us/juvenilecourt/)  
[www.co.dane.wi.us/humanservices](http://www.co.dane.wi.us/humanservices)

# Several MMSD Social Workers Retire

By **Dennis Whitish**, Madison Metropolitan School District

At the end of the 2005-06 school year, six Madison school social workers retired from the District. This was the largest number of school social workers retiring in one year in one year after many years of service to the District.

**Carol Ziesemer:** Carol was the Program Support Social Worker for the District whose responsibilities included the supervision of social work interns as well as providing support to school-based social workers. Carol retired after 34.5 years of service to the District. Jeannette Deloya replaced Carol as the Program Support for Social Work.

**Penny Mory:** Penny came to the District in 1986 from Dane County Social Services. She began her MMSD career as an Early Childhood social worker, then moved to Falk Elementary School for 7 years as their social worker. In 1995 Penny moved to Allis Elementary School where she remained for 10 years until her retirement.

**Joan Lerman:** Joan retired from the District after 32 years of service. She joined the District in 1974 when she became the social worker at West High School where she remained for 17 years. Instrumental in writing grants, Joan became the

grants administrator when the District received the Safe Schools Healthy Students multi million dollar grant. She also administered the AOD Violence Prevention grants as well as the DPI AOD grant. Programs associated with those grants included: FAST, Tribes, Restorative Practices and parent education as well as work in the area of student screening for alcohol and drugs.

**Charlene Sweeney:** Charlene was the Lafollette High School social worker for the past 21 years. She came to the District in 1985 from Dane County Human Services where she was a child welfare worker and also did delinquency supervision. Charlene was instrumental in working with Mothers of Simpson Street in their early years and served on the committee that established Joining Forces For Families.

**Cynthia Rose:** After 32 years as an MMSD school social worker, Cindy retired from the District at Muir Elementary. In her early years, Cindy was the social worker at Midvale Elementary School. Her strength was in group facilitation, conducting social skills groups, friendship groups, etc. Cindy shared her skills and knowledge with many new school social workers over the years.

**Al Fiest:** Al spent the last several years as an MMSD social worker at West High School. For many years he was assigned to Cherokee Middle School as their school social worker. Al retired from the District after 32 years of service. His gift was his good-natured humor and ability to engage students with a wide range of needs.

**On Balance** is a publication of Dane County's Department of Human Services and Juvenile Court Program.

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# PASS: A New Prevention-based Program For Dane County Youth

By **Emily Engel**, Dane County Department of Human Services, PASS Program Coordinator

**PASS (Partners for After School Success)** is an AmeriCorps program that places AmeriCorps members at various youth programs in Dane County. This community collaboration resulted from the Youth Resource Network designing the program, asking the county to be the fiscal agent, writing the grant, and receiving \$1.3 million dollars over three years.

PASS is a prevention-based program that focuses on tutoring, community service, creating safe spaces after school, and connecting youth with caring adults. AmeriCorps members work at 20 different programs with a heavy concentration on middle school age youth. Some members will work with high school teens to build employment skills and continue the support that teens grew accustomed to at Youth Resource Centers during their middle school years.

AmeriCorps programs also emphasize the members' professional development and understanding of citizenship. To this end, PASS provides members with training in career building, civic engagement, and youth

work. PASS also encourages members to gain professional experience by participating in organizations such as the Youth Resource Network and the Wisconsin Afterschool Network.

### Community Partners

PASS is comprised of 15 community partners: Madison School and Community Recreation, Dane County 4H, Urban League of Greater Madison, Centro Hispano, Mount Horeb Youth Center, Oregon Youth Center, Vera Court Neighborhood Center, Wexford Ridge Neighborhood Center, Kennedy Heights Neighborhood Center, Girl Scouts of Blackhawk Council, Commonwealth Development, Wisconsin Youth Company, Stoughton Youth Center, Waunona Bridge Lake Point Neighborhood Center and Atwood Community Center.

### My Role as the AmeriCorps Coordinator

My job is to make PASS a success. My main responsibility is to understand all the federal and state regulations of AmeriCorps and ensure that PASS is compliant with all the provisions. To this end, I work closely with the partners, PASS members, the AmeriCorps state office, and the county to

guarantee that we are fulfilling all of our obligations. This includes collecting and analyzing data relating to the performance measures, writing progress reports, and proving leadership to the community partners. Another aspect of my job is to support and mentor the members. I meet with them regularly to build a strong team identity that enriches their AmeriCorps experience.

### My Background

For the past 5 years, I was the Director of the Mount Horeb Youth Center. During my tenure there, I chaired the Youth Resource Network, worked closely with the Youth Commission to create outcomes for youth centers, coordinated the Youth Skate, participated on the local Joining Forces for Families team, advocated to the County Board for increased funding of prevention services, and was a founding partner of PASS.

This is a dream job for me because I am coordinating a Federal program that significantly impacts local youth and families. I am also looking forward to joining the Dane County Team and learning more about government process. I am concurrently pursuing my Master of Public Affairs at the La Follette School at UW-Madison.



# Bringing *FOCUS* to Dane County Youth

By **Marykay Wills**, Dane County Department of Human Services

### The Issue

Dane County Department of Human Services prides itself on providing successful, innovative programming to youth and families. Children Come First, Joining Forces for Families, the Neighborhood Intervention Program and Family Group Conferencing are but a few examples of the Department's commitment to strengthening families and communities. Unfortunately, despite our efforts to the contrary, 2005 saw growing numbers of young men (predominantly young men of color) being remanded to the Department of Corrections (DOC). Many of these young men had been placed in a residential care center prior to DOC. In an effort to stave off this alarming trend, DCDHS staff looked to find better service options for this population.

Focus, a collaborative program between Wraparound Milwaukee, Milwaukee County Bureau of Delinquency Services and St. Charles Youth and Family Services, has demonstrated great outcomes during its first three years of existence. Using a strength based, flexible, and highly teamed approach, Focus diverts 60% of high risk youth from Juvenile and Adult Corrections - a very impres-

sive statistic given that other program efforts show far lower success rates.

Knowing that young men were not generalizing the program gains made when sent to residential care centers outside of Madison, Dane County staff began to explore the possibility of bringing Focus programming to Dane County.

### The Program Vision

Dane County's new Focus program will be a specialized model within our existing Children Come First (CCF) Program. Like CCF, Focus is a strength-based team model designed to divert youth from institutional placements. As stated earlier, Focus strives to divert youth from Correctional placements and shorten residential care center stays. All program participants will be Children Come First (CCF) eligible and because of the required Residential Care Center (RCC) stay, the vast majority will be assigned to the ARTT unit. CCF eligibility includes a DSM-IV diagnosis given by a psychologist or psychiatrist, risk of institutional placement and poor outcomes with traditional services.

Focus will target boys, age 13-16, who would normally be placed in Type II Resident Care Center (RCC) or Juvenile Corrections. Focus participants will carry a diagnosis of Conduct Disorder,

Adjustment Disorder, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, ADD or ADHD. Youth with accompanying AODA issues will also be accepted. Youth charged with sexual perpetration offenses will **not** be eligible for Focus (as no sex offender programming will be offered). Youth with more significant mental health concerns will also be deemed ineligible. Parent or guardian participation will be mandatory for program acceptance.

Focus will provide a highly staffed, highly teamed model that emphasizes increasing youth responsibility as it decreases structured supports. All youth will begin their enrollment placed within a single licensed RCC located within Dane County. Each Focus youth will have a Type II status and a stayed Correctional Order upon program enrollment. These designations will allow Focus participants to be sanctioned at a Type I facility (Ethan Allen or Lincoln Hills Boys' Schools) or if deemed inappropriate for Focus, discharged to the Type I facility by lifting the judge's "stay". The facility will house a maximum of 10 boys within the RCC. Average lengths of stay at the RCC will be 90-120 days. Focus participants will be sent to a self-contained school program located at the Neighborhood

**See FOCUS, Page 6**

# Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin: All Together Under One Roof

By **Sherri Gatts**, Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin

Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin is a non-profit organization formed on July 1, 2003 through the merger of Briarpatch and Community Adolescent Programs. The agency provides services for runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth.

In June of 2006, the Briarpatch staff moved from their former site at 512 East Washington Avenue and moved in with Community Adolescent Programs at 1955 Atwood Avenue. The need for substantial renovations at the East Washington Avenue location contributed to the relocation decision.

For more than 35 years, Briarpatch has provided services for runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth. Services include a 24-hour

help-line, temporary shelter, individual and family counseling, outreach, advocacy, and youth groups. These services will continue at their new Atwood location. Community Adolescent Programs



*All YSOW Staff are now located under one*

has more than 25 years of proven effectiveness working with youth involved in the juvenile court system. Services are not duplicated by the two entities. In fact, they are compatible and complimentary to each other.

The transition has gone quite well. With everyone under one roof, there are more opportunities for intra-agency program sharing as well as some budgetary savings. The move has provided many important benefits for Briarpatch services including more office space, expanded counseling areas, and larger group meeting rooms. The new location is on four bus lines, and there is more parking available, which is great for clients, staff and volunteers. Its convenient location is also near East High School and the Isthmus Bike Path.

Each new day presents new opportunities for staff in all programs to work together to provide services to youth and their families. It is an adventure that everyone has embraced with enthusiasm and a positive, cooperative spirit.

## Neighborhood Intervention Program Gets a New Home

After months of searching, NIP will be moving into a bigger, better home at the end of November. We will be located at 1227 North Sherman, which is part of the original Job Center complex.

This facility will house a multitude of programs serving the needs of youth and their parents in our community. These programs include Right Track Second Chance, Right Track Plus, REPLAY, Gang Task Force, Spartans basketball, STARS, Future Lead-

ers, Right Track ADDS and Right Track Discussion Group. A new program, Focus, specifically designed to help keep youth out of correctional facilities, will have their day programming in the NIP building also.

The new building will offer a professional suite of offices and meeting rooms for Delinquency Manager Stephen Blue and Supervisor Andre Johnson. There will be exciting classrooms, lots of office space for group leaders and social

workers and a "hotel" for visiting social workers or other professionals. A new kitchen will be built, as well as a second set of bathrooms. Bright and spacious group rooms will be set up to meet the many needs of our clients and provide areas for computer work and research, expression through art, a game room with pool tables and ping pong as well as rooms for meeting and learning.

When you're in the neighborhood, please stop by!

# Subculture Corner

## Youth Subcultures Conferences Scheduled for April 2007

The 2007 Youth Subcultures Conference will be held on Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, so mark your calendars now!

This all-day event will be held at

the UW Memorial Union in Madison. A small but active planning committee is working hard to locate presenters and arrange a variety of workshops—something for everyone.

Target audience includes social workers, community service

providers, law enforcement, school counselors and social workers, juvenile court personnel, and others.

Look for more information in the next ON BALANCE issue.

### FOCUS

Continued from Page 4

Intervention program site. Focus youth will be able to continue in the same school program after the RCC stay if needed, and because a Madison Metropolitan School District teacher will staff the classroom, participants will earn public school credit. Modeled after the successful DCDHS/MMSD partnership in REPLAY, the Focus school will be a MMSD alternative school program staffed with a special education certified teacher.

All Focus participants will have child and family teams that meet at least twice monthly to review goals and support the youth's transition through the program. In addition, family members will be strongly encouraged to have frequent visits with Focus participants placed in the RCC.

Youth graduating from the RCC portion of the program will be

placed at home, or if deemed appropriate by the team, a Dane County foster home or group home. Every Focus participant will be placed on electronic monitoring for the first 30 days after RCC discharge. All Focus youth will eventually be transitioned to their respective home schools. Within these first 30 days, Focus youth will also be expected to comply with regular check-ins with the intensive supervision worker and participate in report center programming. Electronic monitoring could continue for an additional 30 days if the team deems this a useful tool in the young person's case plan.

Wraparound services will be increased after the first 30 days. Services will include structured activities, treatment services and vocational skill building all based upon the young person's strengths and individual needs. All Focus

youth will be eligible for respite/stabilization in the RCC once they have been transitioned back to their community placement. The average program enrollment for Focus (including the 90-120 day RCC stay) will be one year.

### Making it Happen

A small but dedicated team of people from DCDHS, St. Charles Inc. and MMSD has been meeting regularly over the past several months to create Focus policies and procedures and to begin the process for RCC licensure. Focus is expected to open in January 2007.

DCDHS is excited about this specialized expansion of our Children Come First Initiative. Working in tandem with our partners, we will bring *Focus* and accountability to the lives of challenged Dane County teens and safety to our greater community.

# On Balance

## Bauman

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ter and supervising work crews for the Youth Restitution Program. I left my position as the Assistant Director at Sojourn in 1992 to become a Supervision Counselor at Community Adolescent Programs. After three years of providing intensive supervision, I became a Case Coordinator for CCF. In 1999, CAP and the Mental Health Center partnered to create a new agency called Community Partnerships, which managed the CCF contract. I remained there until May of this year as the Quality Improvement Manager and was responsible for chairing committees, developing our MIS system and providing general leadership to the agency. My wife and I were also foster parents for five years and I have helped troubled and less troubled kids while serving on my school board during the last seven years.

**OB:** What interested you in applying for the Community Program Manager position with the Juvenile Court Program?

**John:** The position has a wonderful amount of variety and challenge. The range of responsibilities between supervising the Shelter program and facility, Home Detention, the restitution and victim services contract and other miscellaneous areas is huge and really suits my personality. Given these responsibilities, I truly believe that I can help to positively impact the juvenile system in Dane County, which is very fulfilling to me.

**OB:** Do you have some ideas about things you'd like to focus on or ac-

complish in this first year?

**John:** Since I will be supervising somewhere around 25 permanent and LTE staff, I think it's very important that I learn as much as I can about each staff member to know their strengths and needs and to work with them to continue to develop their skills. The staff are very experienced and caring and I feel fortunate to be their supervisor. It will also be important to evaluate all aspects of the programs I supervise and make changes to areas that may need them so we can more effectively work with troubled kids.

In the first year, I will also evaluate possible revenue sources for the Shelter and Home Detention programs and will hopefully be able to generate revenue for the Juvenile Court Program.

**OB:** How do you see the Shelter Home and Home Detention Programs fitting into our overall efforts to develop a system that meets the needs of youth and the community?

**John:** The Shelter Home and Home Detention Programs are in very unique positions in the juvenile sys-

tem. In addition to providing short-term shelter care and supervision, they are often the first service or program that a youth has had contact with in the system. As a result, both programs provide valuable information that social workers, parents and providers can use to develop case plans to meet the needs of the youth and family. The more we can partner with others to evaluate and provide this information, the more effective the system will be with youth and the safer it will be for the community.

I expect that through the services provided at Shelter and Home Detention, youth will leave each program with skills they may not have had prior to their involvement. I also hope that the programs act as a deterrent for youth who are new to the system so their involvement in the juvenile justice system is minimized.

Thanks to everyone for their support in my new position as the Community Program Manager with the Juvenile Court!

## Sex Offenders

Continued from Page 1

A subgroup has put together an informational pamphlet for parents of juveniles who have pending petitions for sexual offending behaviors. Two other subgroups planned and hosted training

for staff on risk assessment and offender registration.

The final report may be used as a reference tool for those working with juveniles with sexual offending behaviors and as a training tool for new workers.

# Maureen Torphy's Retirement is Anything But Retiring

By **Sherri Gatts**, Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin

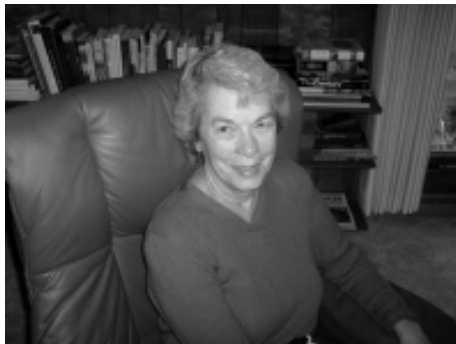
Maureen Torphy retired from her position as the CYF Division Manager with Dane County Human Services in August 1996 after holding that position for five years. Prior to assuming the CYF Division Manager position, Maureen served as the Juvenile Court Administrator for 15 years. In that position, she worked closely with (now retired) Judge Ervin Bruner, the first Juvenile Court Judge in Dane County.

Retirement has not slowed her down; it has simply sent her off in many different directions. She and her husband, retired Dane County Judge Michael Torphy, enjoy spending time at their cottage in Minnesota and visiting their daughters in New Jersey and Eureka, California. Maureen enjoys traveling and has been to Spain, Thailand and Costa Rica. According to Maureen, "retirement is good; I definitely recommend it."

Co-workers and the variety of challenges are what she misses most, but not the daily grind and pressure that go with working in the

human services field. "I don't miss the struggles, especially with the budget," she said. "There will always be a continual pull between what the court expects and what the county can afford to do."

In March of 1967, Maureen retired "the first time" as Deputy Director to Al Zoeller, then Director of the Dane County Department of Public Welfare. That January she was involved in moving the Department from the City-County Building into its current building on Northport Drive. Once that daunting task was accomplished, she left the Department to be a stay at home mom for the next 9 years.



*Former CYF Division Manager Maureen Torphy has had an active retirement.*

Maureen has been a volunteer board member with the Capital Times Kids Fund for many years. It has been a positive experience because she "is able to do something about prevention. A little amount of money can make such a difference." She also serves as a member of the United Way Safe Community/Strong Neighborhoods Committee currently involved in prison reintegration activities.

Maureen was a citizen member of the Dane County Human Services Board for six years after retirement.

Maureen remembers when the Joining Forces for Families concept was first introduced. She enjoyed working with Carol Lobes who "developed concepts and ideas from former County Executive Rick Phelps' vision into a productive model of delivering services." Maureen believes that a coordinated effort is needed to respond to the human service needs of the county.

Since leaving Dane County Human Services in 1996, she has noticed that many things have improved. There are more cooperative working relationships between the schools, Human Services, law enforcement, and other stakeholders. "It takes lots of hard work to learn to help and understand each other," she says.

As she looks back on her career with the Department of Human Services, Maureen noted that she is "proud of the positive reputation of the Department, and of the excellent job being done by the current Director, Lynn Green." She believes that Dane County is an exceptional county with excellent services for children and families, and she is pleased to have played a role in developing the network that exists today.



# Spotlight on Youth, 2006

By **Lani Urbas**, Dane County Department of Human Services, Neighborhood Intervention Program

Dane County Department of Human Services' Neighborhood Intervention Program and Dane County Safety Project joined together on August 21, 2006, for their annual "**Spotlight on Youth**" banquet and awards ceremony. Distinguished local adult and youth leaders were recognized for their contributions to our community and the families we serve.

More than 120 parents, community members and youth joined in the celebration at the Lussier Heritage Center. One of the highlights was the recognition of the 6th grade Spartans basketball team, coached by Stephen Blue. This team ranked among the top 16 teams in the country in their age group.

**Keynote speaker** for this year's presentation was **Judge James Martin**. He spoke about life choices, emphasizing the value of education leading to employment in fields as varied as plumbing to being an attorney. Judge Martin stressed his desire that we all become productive and valued

members of our communities.

The Neighborhood Intervention Program presented **Ron Biendseil** with the **Competency Builder Award** for his long-standing support of innovative programming and youth services in Dane County, programs which help develop and maintain competencies in youth.

Two recipients, **Richard Brown** and **Charles Brown**, shared this year's **Community Leadership Award**. Charles Brown was recognized for his tutoring program with the Boys and Girls Club, his fundraising for college scholarships for minority students and his book distributions at James C. Wright Middle School.

**Jacqueline Wright** received the **Betty Franklin-Hammonds Community Service Award** for her work with the Friends of South Madison Neighborhood Center, the South Madison Coalition and her work on the board of Genesis Quaker Housing of the Taft Street apartments.

**Milele Chikasa Anana** received the **Joe Thomas Positive Image Award** as the publisher of UMOJA magazine, a positive-only news magazine celebrating its 16<sup>th</sup>

anniversary in 2006. The oldest Black Magazine in Wisconsin, UMOJA has dedicated itself to covering news of the Black community.

A new award was given this year, one designed to honor the work, creative case plans for families and a demonstrated respect for the culture, dignity and diversity of his/her clients by an individual social worker from Dane County Department of Human Services. The **Gene Weidemann Award** was shared by two outstanding but humble social workers, **Ginny Whitehouse** and **Bobby Moore**.

Dane County Safety Awards were given to the following recipients for their individual or joint multi media entries:

Middle School – Chanel Hardnett, Tamika Wilson, Latia Lanagan, and Tyrice Longino.

High School – Alisia Borman, Stina Seaberg and Mac Johnston, and lastly Tou Vue.

Entry Winners were given gift cards to East or West Towne Malls in the amounts of \$100, \$50 or \$25.

# “Right Track” Teens of the Year 2006

## Douglas J. Hall

By **Ty Mahone**, Dane County Department of Human Services, NIP Program Leader

To summarize Douglas J. (D.J.) Hall’s accomplishments in a few sentences would be minimizing the important roles he has played within NIP programming and beyond. Douglas has been involved with the Spartans Basketball Program since 5<sup>th</sup> grade. His leadership abilities and positive attitude helped him become co-captain of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Red team. His desire to overcome obstacles and to have a positive outlook on life is infectious. As a leader in the STARS program, which requires a tremendous amount of academic and physical energy, D.J. modeled appropriate behavior and gave of

himself to any student in need of academic, emotional and physical help; in other words, doing the extras without being asked.

To know D.J. Hall is to know a person who believes in “getting the job done.” D.J. is a thoughtful young man who doesn’t believe in making excuses. Rather he finds satisfaction in accomplishing tough tasks.

If given a choice of roads or routes in life, D.J. would not take the easy or hard route, rather he would take routes that bring others along with him. You can’t put a price on that type of unselfishness.

But I cannot speak so highly of D.J. without giving some of that

same praise to his mother, Carolyn. One conversation with Carolyn and you will understand where a lot of D.J.’s qualities come from. Hon-

esty, hard work, acceptance, understanding and patience are some of the many qualities that she has raised her son to have with additional “pleases” and “thank-you’s” to go along. DCNIP is appreciative of the opportunity

to work with such a wonderful young man.

This year D.J. will be a freshman at LaFollette High School, and we are sure he will continue to make good choices and stay on the Right Track.



*D.J. Hall with his “Right Track” Award*

## Lauren LiNe’ Ward

By **Andrea Jones**, DCDHS NIP Program Leader

Lauren LiNe’ Ward is a 13-year-old student at J.C. Wright Middle School where she holds a 3.78 GPA. She has been on the Honor Roll for the past two years and has had perfect attendance the past three years. She has been honored by Links and the Madison Spartan’s Basketball team, not to mention that her family is very proud of her. She received the Panther Pride Award two years in a row. She was recently selected for

the Leadership Program at J.C. Wright, where she will be a peer mentor to her classmates as well as underclassmen. She is also involved in the UW-Madison People Program.

Outside of school, Lauren gets involved in many activities as well. She belongs to the Simpson Street Free Press. She is a member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, YMCA, Boys & Girls Club and the Spartan’s Girls Basketball Team, where she serves as the co-captain. She also loves swimming, reading

and jumping rope; however, she spent most of her summer on the computer on the “My Space” website.

Lauren is the daughter of Lin F. Brown and Laurence W. Ward, Jr. She is the second of four children with one brother, Laurence III, and two sisters, LayLyn and Laker, to whom she has been a great role model. We are glad to honor her as Dane County Neighborhood Intervention Program Right Track Teen of the year 2006.