Third Year Evaluation of the Center for Driver’s License Recovery and Employability

Presentation of preliminary findings
May 27, 2010
Major Evaluation Findings

Evaluation reports will be posted at www.licenserecovery.org (site available on June 1st) and at www.eti.uwm.edu.

The third year evaluation of the Center for Driver’s License Recovery and Employability is being conducted by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Employment and Training Institute, with funding support from the CDLRE.
• The CDLRE is serving an increasingly difficult population -- with higher unemployment, more referrals from the courts and DOC, and with more legal problems.

• CDLRE driver’s license recovery rates remained very high – 57% for the 3-year period.

• Over 5,000 Milwaukee County residents received assistance – case management or license recovery planning advice – in 2007-2009.
• The CDLRE continues to reach the hard-to-serve target populations – 66% males, 92% minorities, all low-income.

• More clients are receiving legal assistance – 62% of the 2009 clients had 3 or more legal problem areas. Clients had cases in over 100 different municipal and circuit courts.

• Use of community service hours to redress outstanding fines has decreased.
The CDLRE client base is showing the effects of the economic recession with fewer incoming clients holding employment. Only 13% of the 2009 clients had full-time jobs, down from 17% in 2008.
A growing number of the clients served are from court and Department of Corrections referrals.

- 2007: 11%
- 2008: 12%
- 2009: 23%
In 2009 more CDLRE clients served had multiple legal problems.
CDLRE driver’s license recovery success rates have remained very high in spite of the economic crisis and the more challenging client populations.

**57% success for 3-year period**
Labor market context for the evaluation
Transportation to jobs is critical in this economy.

• A majority of job openings are beyond the bus routes.

• Hundreds of jobs require a valid driver’s license.

• Employers use the DL as a screening device.
May 2009
Full-Time Openings
(by zip code area)

11% in inner city
12% in rest of Milwaukee
27% in Milwaukee County suburbs
29% in WOW counties
19% in SE counties
2% various locations
May 2009
Part-Time Openings
(by zip code area)

6% in inner city
11% in rest of Milwaukee
26% in Milwaukee County suburbs
29% in SE counties
26% in WOW counties
2% various locations
The combination of workers laid off from their jobs and fewer job openings has led to an unprecedented job gap in the region between people seeking work and full-time jobs available. Spatial mismatch problems are most severe in inner city Milwaukee and Racine/Kenosha.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 City of Milwaukee CDBG zip codes</td>
<td>25 to 1</td>
<td>7 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee County</td>
<td>13 to 1</td>
<td>3 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waukesha, Ozaukee, Washington cntys</td>
<td>12 to 1</td>
<td>2 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenosha, Racine, Walworth counties</td>
<td>18 to 1</td>
<td>7 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-County Region</td>
<td>13 to 1</td>
<td>3 to 1</td>
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</table>
Economic conditions have worsened since summer of 2008.

• Unemployment reached a 20-year high in 2009.

• 1 in 5 Milwaukee County residents now receives FoodShare to help with grocery bills.

• CDLRE clients face a tougher job market and may have fewer economic resources to pay fines and fees.
The recession hit Milwaukee County hard in 2009. In December 2009 over 50,000 workers were laid off from their jobs and receiving unemployment insurance payments instead of a paycheck.
Unemployment rates reached 10% in Milwaukee County and 12% in the city of Milwaukee in summer of 2009.
Demographics of the client population
Over 5,000 Milwaukee County residents had received CDLRE services by the end of 2009

- 296 clients were active (as of Dec. 31, 2009)
- 2,350 residents had received advice on their driver’s record and a suggested recovery plan.
2,380 clients completing case management services (2007-2009)

- Two-thirds (66%) were males – the population most affected by driver’s license problems.
- 92% were minorities.
- All had income below 200% of poverty and 78% had income of less than $1,000 a month.
- Clients were from throughout Milwaukee County with highest concentrations from the lowest-income neighborhoods.
CDLRE clients completing case management services 2007 – 2009
African Americans were the largest racial/ethnic group served.
Three-fourths of the clients served were in their 20s and 30s – critical employment ages.
Clients included high school dropouts, GED/HSED recipients, high school grads, and about a third with post-secondary education.
Clients had cases pending in over 100 different municipal and circuit courts. Two-thirds of the cases were in Milwaukee municipal court.
2,350 additional residents received “advice only” services (i.e., a review of their driver’s license record and a suggested license recovery plan). The largest number served (351 in Q4 of 2007) included Fatherhood Summit participants.
CDLRE client outcomes
Clients referred from City agencies had a 61% license recovery success rate. Employment services agencies and self-referrals had a 59% success rate.
## 3-Year CDLRE Driver’s License Recovery Success Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Referral Source</th>
<th>Clients Completing Case Management</th>
<th>License Recovery Success Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-referrals</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W-2 agencies</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court system</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social service agencies</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment services agencies</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee Area Technical College</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Milwaukee</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Corrections agencies</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community operations – general</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal services</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,380</strong></td>
<td><strong>57%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
License recovery success rates were strong for all racial/ethnic groups.

- Hispanic females: 53%
- Other races: 56%
- African American males: 56%
- African American females: 59%
- Hispanic males: 60%
- White males: 61%
- White females: 69%

3-year success rates by race/ethnicity
License recovery success rates by types of legal barriers faced

[Note: Clients may be in more than 1 category.]

- Required to take driving test*: 40%
- 5 or more court cases: 51%
- Required to obtain SR 22 insurance: 53%
- Nonpayment of fines: 56%
- Demerit points: 56%
- Fees required: 57%
- 1 court case: 64%

3-year success rates by types of legal barriers
*Almost half (46%) of those needing to take their driving test had 4 or more legal problem areas.

Only 10% of those with licenses had 4 or more legal problem areas.
License recovery success rates vary by the number of major problem areas that need to be addressed.

- One (N=140): 80%
- Two (N=868): 58%
- Three (N=830): 53%
- Four (N=413): 41%
- Five or more (N=110): 29%
License recovery success rates for hard-to-serve populations

- Less than high school completion: 51%
- With no health insurance: 56%
- Extremely low income: 57%
- Larger households (5+ persons): 61%
License recovery success rates were highest for older clients and lowest for teens served. Almost half of the teens needed to take their driving test.
License recovery success rates varied by level of education completed. Only the GED/HSED group showed a success rate below 50%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Education</th>
<th>3-year Success Rate</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High school non-completer</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GED/HSED*</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduate</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College and postsecondary technical</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3-year success rates by level of education
*Clients with state prison records were 3 times more likely to have a GED or HSED (High School Equivalency Diploma) than those not showing a record in the Department of Corrections inmates file.

[DOC match for the 2007-mid-2008 client population]
Declining use of community service to help work off outstanding fines
Community service hours (at $10/hour credit) were used by 308 clients from 2007-2009 to work off $126,900 in outstanding fines.

- Milwaukee municipal court, $65,872
- Milwaukee County circuit court, $25,977
- Other courts, $35,069
• 75% of the clients using CSOs were successful in obtaining their license.

• The clients using CSOs and whose only legal problem was non-payment of fines and fees had a 90% license recovery success rate.
After the Milwaukee municipal courts eliminated use of community service in 2009, only a few new clients used CSOs.
CDLRE community partnerships
CDLRE service delivery approach

- Experienced leadership
- Community collaboratives
- Talented staff
- Funding commitments
- Government partnerships
CDLRE leadership partners

- Legal Action of Wisconsin
- Milwaukee Area Technical College
- Municipal Court of Milwaukee
- Wisconsin Community Services/Justice 2000
Client referrals from over 40 community and government agencies

- City of Milwaukee agencies
- Employment services agencies
- W-2 agencies
- Social service agencies
- Legal services
- Community operations (incl. Fatherhood Summit)
- Department of Corrections
- Court systems
- Self-referrals
- Milwaukee Area Technical College
- Center for Driver’s License Recovery & Employability
2-way collaboration with governmental agencies
This PowerPoint summarizes preliminary evaluation findings. The final report will include detailed analyses of CDLRE client outcomes; a review of Wisconsin Department of Corrections data on CDLRE clients; and an overview of Wisconsin driver’s licenses, suspension and revocation data (based on Wisconsin Department of Transportation records). Reports will be posted on the CDLRE and ETI websites.

Center for Driver’s License Recovery and Employability
www.licenserecovery.org

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Employment and Training Institute  www.eti.uwm.edu