



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Menomonie/Dunn County to Launch Wisconsin's First Situation Table on October 20

Wisconsin Department of Justice partnership supports new community initiative to strengthen collaboration and connect vulnerable individuals and families to services before a crisis occurs.



MENOMONIE, WI — Menomonie and Dunn County are preparing to make history with the launch of **Wisconsin's first Situation Table on October 20, 2026**, introducing an innovative approach to community safety and well-being that brings together public safety, healthcare, behavioral health, social services, and other community organizations to support individuals and families experiencing complex challenges.

The milestone follows a two-day Situation Table training held October 6–7, 2026, at Compass IL in

Menomonie. **More than 50 professionals representing 26 agencies registered for the training**, demonstrating strong community interest and a shared commitment to bringing Wisconsin's first Situation Table to Menomonie and Dunn County.

The training and implementation of the Menomonie/Dunn County Situation Table were supported through **Technology Grant funding from the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ)**. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to strengthening community safety, expanding early intervention opportunities, and improving coordination among agencies serving vulnerable populations.

The training was delivered by instructors Kendall Jordan, Mike Botieri and Daniel Meloy with Cordata Healthcare Innovations, in partnership with the Global Network for Community Safety.

Building on Existing Community Partnerships

The Menomonie/Dunn County Situation Table builds upon the community's existing collaborative efforts, including the Menomonie Police Department's Project HOPE, which has helped connect individuals experiencing substance use disorders, mental health challenges, homelessness, and other complex needs with treatment, recovery support, and community services.

The Situation Table expands this approach by bringing additional agencies and service sectors together to recognize situations where multiple risk factors create an immediate concern for an individual or family.



Menomonie Police Chief Rick Hollister emphasized the importance of this collaboration and the opportunity to build upon the community's existing partnerships.

"Project Hope has shown us the importance of bringing agencies together to help individuals struggling with substance use, mental health challenges, homelessness, and other complex needs. The Situation Table builds on that approach by creating a coordinated process for identifying individuals and families experiencing an acutely elevated risk of harm and connecting them with appropriate supports before their situations escalate into a full-blown crisis.



"The training brought together more than 50 participants from 26 agencies, strengthened understanding of client privacy and the four-filter process, and helped build confidence in this collaborative model.

"We are grateful to the Wisconsin Department of Justice for providing Technology Grant funding to support the training and implementation of the Situation Table. This investment strengthens our community's ability to work together, reach people who may

otherwise fall through the cracks and connect them with the help they need."

— **Chief Rick Hollister, Menomonie Police Department**

A Collaborative Approach to Reducing Risk

The Situation Table is a risk-based, rapid triage model that brings together professionals from multiple service sectors to address situations where individuals or families are experiencing **Acutely Elevated Risk (AER)**.

These situations often involve overlapping challenges, including substance use, mental health concerns, housing instability, violence, poverty, and other social health issues. While individual agencies may already be helping, the combination of risks can create challenges that no single organization can effectively address alone.

Through a structured four-filter process, participating agencies identify situations of acutely elevated risk, determine which organizations can aid, and coordinate an appropriate response.

When an intervention is needed, a smaller group of relevant agencies works together to engage the individual or family and connect them with supportive services, ideally within 24 to 48 hours.

The Situation Table does not replace existing services or create another case management program. Instead, it strengthens collaboration among organizations already serving the community, allowing them



to mobilize resources, address barriers to services, and provide support before situations escalate into emergencies.

The process also incorporates privacy protections and limited information sharing to ensure that only appropriate information is discussed and that identifiable information is restricted to agencies directly involved in an intervention.

Preparing for Wisconsin's First Situation Table

The October 6–7 training brought together professionals representing public safety, healthcare, behavioral health, treatment, social services, and community-based organizations from Menomonie, Dunn County, and the surrounding region.

Participants learned the principles of the Situation Table model, how to recognize acutely elevated risk, the responsibilities of participating agencies, and the importance of maintaining fidelity to the established four-filter process.

The training included interactive discussions, practical scenarios, and collaborative problem-solving exercises that allowed participants to practice the model and better understand how their organizations could work together.

Special attention was given to client privacy, appropriate information sharing, coordinated intervention planning, and the responsibilities of local Situation Table leadership.



Kendall Jordan, a member of Cordata's Situation Table training team, recognized the commitment of participating agencies and the significance of the community's efforts.

"The participation and commitment we saw from the Menomonie and Dunn County partners throughout the training were encouraging. The Situation Table provides an opportunity for these organizations to build on the relationships they already have and work together in new ways to support individuals and families facing complex

challenges. We are excited to see Wisconsin's first Situation Table launch and look forward to supporting the community as this important work moves forward."

— **Kendall Jordan, Situation Table Training Team, Cordata Healthcare Innovations**

With training completed, local leaders and participating agencies are finalizing preparations for the first official Menomonie/Dunn County Situation Table meeting on **Tuesday, October 20, 2026**.

The participating agencies will meet regularly to identify situations involving acutely elevated risk and coordinate timely, appropriate support for individuals and families.



Wisconsin Partnership Supports Community Innovation

The Wisconsin Department of Justice's support for the Menomonie/Dunn County Situation Table reflects the value of partnerships that bring community organizations together to address complex challenges. The training and implementation of the Menomonie/Dunn County Situation Table were supported through a COSSUP WDI Technology Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Justice (WI DOJ). The grant is funded through WI DOJ's Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) award from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), and is part of the Wisconsin Deflection Initiative (WDI). WDI supports communities across the state in building deflection programs that connect people to treatment, services, and support before or instead of formal justice system involvement. This partnership reflects a shared commitment to strengthening community safety, expanding early intervention opportunities, and improving coordination among agencies serving vulnerable populations.

Through Technology Grant funding, the Department helped support the training and implementation of Wisconsin's first Situation Table, creating a foundation for local agencies to strengthen their existing relationships and develop a consistent, coordinated approach to early intervention. Link to the grant. https://www.wisdoj.gov/Law%20Enforcement%20Services/COSSUP_WDI_2024%282026%29.pdf

The Menomonie/Dunn County initiative also provides an opportunity for other Wisconsin communities to learn about the model and explore how similar partnerships might strengthen community safety and well-being in their regions.

A Model Expanding Across North America

The Situation Table model originated in Saskatchewan, Canada, in 2011 and has since expanded to communities throughout Canada and the United States.

Cordata Healthcare Innovations, in partnership with the Global Network for Community Safety, supports the implementation of Situation Tables through community mobilization, professional training, technology, and ongoing mentorship.

The October 20 launch of the Menomonie/Dunn County Situation Table marks another milestone in the model's continued expansion across the United States.

More importantly, it represents the commitment of local professionals and community organizations to work together differently, strengthen existing partnerships, and provide timely support to individuals and families who might otherwise fall through the cracks.

About the Situation Table Model

A Situation Table is a structured, multi-agency collaboration model designed to identify and address situations of acutely elevated risk. By bringing together professionals from multiple service sectors, the model supports timely, coordinated interventions that connect individuals and families to services, reduce risk, and strengthen community safety and well-being.