

**Karen Leah Chinn, Principal**

**Karen L. Chinn** is the Founding Principal of Chinn Planning Inc., a Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) certified consulting firm located in Columbia, South Carolina. Ms. Chinn has wide experience in needs assessment, program evaluation, operational analyses, system master planning, and facility programming for criminal justice, juvenile justice, law enforcement, human service, health care, and general government agencies.

Over twenty-five years of experience in government and public sector consulting are reflected in Ms. Chinn's approach to meeting her client's needs. By working in partnership with clients, Ms. Chinn seeks to build a consensus on workable solutions for improving service delivery through effective use of limited resources.

She is a member of the American Correctional Association, American Jail Association, National Partnership for Juvenile Service, American Planning Association, National Association of Counties and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Ms. Chinn has served on committees, made presentations, and participated in workshops with these organizations.

Ms. Chinn holds a Bachelor of Arts degree (1978) and a Masters of Urban and Regional Planning degree (1982) from the University of Illinois. She also attended the George Washington University, School of Government and Business Administration, Department of Urban and Regional Planning in Washington, DC, with a concentration in policy analysis and program evaluation. In addition, she has instructed graduate students on computer-based analysis, survey research techniques, public policy analysis and evaluation research.

Some of the projects directed by Ms. Chinn include:

- Spartanburg County (South Carolina), Evans Building Replacement Space Allocation
  - Tulsa County (Oklahoma), Juvenile Justice Center Facility Program
  - Calaveras County (California), Adult Detention Facility, Sheriff's Administration and EOC Program
  - Lancaster County (Nebraska), Adult Detention Facility Design Review Services
  - Sarpy County (Nebraska), Criminal Justice System and Jail Master Plan Update
  - Mecklenburg County (North Carolina), Government Facilities Master Plan
  - Spartanburg County (South Carolina), Health and Human Services Space Utilization Plan
  - City of Spartanburg (South Carolina), Space Needs Assessment Study and Facility Program
  - Lexington County (South Carolina), Health and Human Services Space Allocation Plan
  - Mecklenburg County (North Carolina), Crisis Stabilization Facility Program
  - Cabarrus County (North Carolina), Facilities Assessment and Space Needs Master Plan
  - State of South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice Report to the Court Assessment of Program and Plan for Future Development (2005, 2007, 2009)
  - State of California Core Treatment Youth Correctional Facility Architectural Program
  - State of California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Conceptual Program Plan for Secure Reentry Facility
  - Aiken County (South Carolina), Space Utilization Survey and Needs Assessment Analysis
  - State of Arkansas Division of Youth Services Juvenile Operational and Facilities Master Plan
  - State of Nebraska Juvenile Corrections Master Plan Update
  - Lancaster County (Nebraska), Pre-Architectural Planning Services for Lancaster County Adult Detention Facility
  - Mecklenburg County (North Carolina), Jail Expansion Program
-

**Karen Leah Chinn, Principal***Related Projects (continued),*

- Mohave County (Arizona), Correctional Facility Needs Assessment and Pre-Design Planning Services
- Cuyahoga County (Cleveland), Juvenile Intervention Center Facility Program
- Jackson County (North Carolina) Health Department and Cooperative Extension Facility Operational and Architectural Program
- Sarpy County (Nebraska), Jail Housing and Service Area Expansion Facility Program
- Sarpy County (Nebraska), Juvenile Needs Assessment and Master Plan
- Mecklenburg County (North Carolina), Mental Health and Social Services Master Plan Update
- City of Greenfield (Wisconsin), Law Enforcement Facility Master Plan and Program
- State of New Hampshire Architecturally Secure Juvenile Operational and Facility Program
- State of Illinois Sexually Violent Persons Treatment and Detention Facility Program
- Jackson County (North Carolina), Department of Social Services Facility Operational and Architectural Program
- Sedgwick County (Kansas), Juvenile Courts and Detention Facility Study and Program
- State of Indiana DOC New Castle Special Needs Correctional Facility Program
- City of Columbia (South Carolina), Space Utilization Master Plan
- City of Philadelphia Department of Human Services New Youth Center Facility Program
- City of Oak Creek (Wisconsin), Police Facility Space Needs Analysis and Programming Study
- Dallas County (Texas), Jail Master Plan and Suzanne Kays Jail Replacement Study and Program
- Bexar County (Texas), Jail Needs Assessment and Master Planning Study
- Washoe County (Nevada), Juvenile Justice Center Needs Assessment and Facility Program
- State of South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice Master Plan
- Charlotte/Mecklenburg (North Carolina), Government Utilization Master Plan
- State of Colorado Department of Corrections Youth Offender System Facility Program
- Chesterfield County (Virginia), Juvenile Detention Home Needs Assessment and Planning Study
- State of Nebraska Department of Correctional Services Secure Youth Confinement Facility Program Plan
- Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center Facility Program
- Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Corrections Violent Juvenile Offender Facility Program
- DuPage County (Illinois), Juvenile Justice System Master Plan and Disproportionate Minority Confinement Assessment

**CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, PRESENTATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS**

- *"Taking Aim at the Revolving Door: Successful Prisoner Reentry", AIA 2009 AAJ Fall Conference, Beyond the Horizon: The Next Generation of Justice, Chicago, Illinois, October 7, 2009.*
  - *"Taking Conceptual Planning to Design for CDCR Reentry Facilities - What Will They Look Like?" The 15th Annual International Community Corrections Association Research Conference, October 30, 2007.*
  - *"Bells and Whistles: Designing Facilities for Female Offenders. Trends and Needs of the Juvenile Female Offender Population", American Corrections Association, 2003 Summer Conference, Nashville, Tennessee.*
  - *"Juvenile Justice Prevention and Detention", The American Institute of Architects Committee on Architecture for Justice "The Juvenile Facility Partnerships: Leading Edge Collaboration & Technology", Charlotte, North Carolina, October 5, 2000.*
-

**Karen Leah Chinn, Principal****CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, PRESENTATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS** *(continued)*

- *"Designing Facilities and Programs for Special Needs Offender: Lessons Learned from New Castle, Indiana"*, American Corrections Association, 2000 Winter Conference, Phoenix, Arizona.
- *"The Juvenile System's Overriding Issues"*, The American Institute of Architects Committee on Architecture for Justice "The Juvenile Justice System: Change as a Constant", Denver, Colorado, March 1998.
- *"Strategic Planning for a Pre-Trial Juvenile Justice System"*, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges "25<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Juvenile Justice", Orlando, Florida, March 1998.
- *"Conducting a Comprehensive Juvenile Justice System Assessment"*, Nebraska Association of County Officials, Lincoln, Nebraska, February 1998.
- *"Planning and Programming Juvenile Facilities Workshop"*, Heartland Juvenile Services Training Institute Conference, Omaha, Nebraska, August 1995.
- *"Conducting a Comprehensive Juvenile Justice System Assessment Workshop"*, Heartland Juvenile Services Training Institute Conference, Omaha, Nebraska, August 1995.

**PUBLICATIONS**

- *"Operational/Architectural Programming – Juveniles"*, American Corrections Association – *Planning and Design Guide for Secure Adult and Juvenile facilities*, 1999.
- *"In Search of Security: National Trends in Juvenile Violence,"* *Corrections Today*, American Correctional Association, Vol. 58, No. 4, July 1996.

**CHINN PLANNING IN THE NEWS**

- "Budget Cuts Eroding Progress in Juvenile Justice", New York Times, July 11, 2009.
- "Staffing New Jail Puts Another Crimp in Calaveras' Budget", Calaveras Record (California), June 17, 2009.
- "Report: Juvenile Justice Cuts Threaten Court Fight", The State Newspaper (Columbia, SC), February 12, 2009.
- "New Jail Won't Meet County Population Projections", Lincoln Journal Star, June 24, 2008.
- "Report: Close Youth Lockup Legislators Urged to Rebuild Alexander, Mansfield Center", Arkansas News Gazette, December 19, 2006.
- Correctional Building News Facility of the Month, "Nebraska Builds First Secure Juvenile Correctional Facility", November/December 1998.
- Architectural Record, "Detention Facilities – Locking Them Up: Is getting tough the Best Way to Approach Prison Design? Or Should Facilities Respond to the Needs of the Populations Detained," December 1998.
- Profiles (Shive Hattery Publication, September 2002), "Giving Youth a Second Chance: Polk County Juvenile Detention."