

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-seven 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:

- Somerset County (NJ), Social Services Space Needs Assessment and Facility Program
- King County (WA), Juvenile Detention Center Conceptual Program
- City of Kannapolis (NC), Police Headquarters, Fire Administration, and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Facility Space Programs
- Goodwill Industries of the Carolinas (SC, NC) Space Needs Assessment and Facilities Master Plan
- Clayton County (GA), Fire Command, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and Training Center Program
- Lexington County (SC), Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and 911 Facility Space Program
- Aiken County (SC), Administration and Social Services Building Space Program
- Lexington County (SC), Coroner's Office Space Program and Expansion Plan
- Lexington County (SC), Sheriff's Department Administration Space Program and Expansion Plan
- Lexington County (SC), Records Storage Assessment and Facility Space Program
- Spartanburg County (SC), Evans Building Replacement Space Allocation Plan
- Tulsa County (OK), Juvenile Justice Center Facility Program
- Calaveras County (CA), Adult Detention Facility, Sheriff's Administration and EOC Program
- Lancaster County (NE), Adult Detention Facility Design Review Services
- Sarpy County (NE), Criminal Justice System and Jail Master Plan Update

Related Projects (continued),

- Mecklenburg County (NC), Government Facilities Master Plan
 - Spartanburg County (SC), Health and Human Services Space Master Plan and Program
 - City of Spartanburg (SC), Space Needs Assessment Study and Facility Program
 - Lexington County (SC), Health and Human Services Facility Space Program
 - Mecklenburg County (NC), Crisis Stabilization Facility Program
 - Cabarrus County (NC), Facilities Assessment and Space Needs Master Plan
 - State of South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice, Report to the Court – Assessment of Progress and Plan for Future Development (2009, 2007, and 2005)
 - State of California Core Treatment Youth Correctional Program Revisions and Design Review
 - State of California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation, Northern California Core Treatment Facility Program
 - State of California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Secure Reentry Facility Conceptual Program
 - State of California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Women’s Facility Program Plan
 - State of California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Health Services Component Plan for Reentry
 - Aiken County (SC), Space Allocation Master Plan
 - State of Arkansas Division of Youth Services Juvenile Operational and Facilities Master Plan
 - Nebraska Statewide Juvenile Corrections Master Plan Update
 - Lancaster County (NE), Pre-Architectural Planning Services for Lancaster County Adult Detention Facility
 - Mecklenburg County (NC), Jail Expansion Program for Juvenile Offender Housing
 - Mohave County (AZ), Criminal Justice System Master Plan and Jail Facility Program
 - Cuyahoga County/Cleveland (OH), Juvenile Intervention Center Facility Program
 - Jackson County (NC) Health Department, Cooperative Extension, and Soil and Water Conservation Facility Program
 - Sarpy County (NE), Jail Housing and Service Area Expansion Facility Program
 - Sarpy County (NE), Jail Needs Assessment and Master Plan
 - Sarpy County (NE), Juvenile Needs Assessment and Master Plan and Detention Facility Program
 - Mecklenburg County (NC), Mental Health and Social Services Master Plan Update
 - City of Greenfield (WI), Law Enforcement Facility Master Plan and Program
 - State of New Hampshire Architecturally Secure Care Juvenile Facility Program & Design Plan
 - State of Illinois Sexually Violent Persons Treatment and Detention Facility Program
 - Jackson County (NC), Department of Social Services Facility Operational and Architectural Program
 - Sedgwick County (KS), Juvenile Courts and Detention Facility Program Plan
 - State of Indiana DOC New Castle Special Needs Correctional Facility Program
 - City of Columbia (SC), Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update
 - City of Columbia (SC), Space Utilization Master Plan
 - City of Philadelphia (PA), New Youth Center Facility Program Plan and Site Evaluation
 - City of Oak Creek (WI), Police Facility Space Needs Analysis and Programming Study
 - Dallas County (TX), Jail Master Plan and Suzanne Kays Jail Replacement Study and Program
 - Bexar County (TX), Jail Needs Assessment and Master Planning Study
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Related Projects (continued),

- Washoe County (NV), Juvenile Justice Center Needs Assessment and Detention Facility Program
 - State of South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice Master Plan
 - Charlotte/Mecklenburg (NC), Government District Master Plan
 - Mecklenburg (NC), Health and Human Services Space Needs Assessment Campus Master Plan
 - Westmoreland County (PA), Comprehensive Juvenile Justice System Study and Detention Facility Program
 - Lancaster County (NE), Comprehensive Juvenile Justice System Study and Detention Facility Program
 - State of Idaho Juvenile Justice Master Plan and Manpower Study
 - Ingham County (MI), Action Plan for Juvenile Detention Services
 - Dane County (WI), Juvenile Justice System Assessment
 - Charleston County (SC), Needs Assessment for Secure Juvenile Detention
 - Laurens County (SC), Regional Juvenile Detention Needs Assessment Study
 - Calhoun County (MI), Juvenile Justice Master Plan
 - Lake County (IL), Juvenile Justice Master Plan
 - State of North Carolina Youth Detention Center Prototype Detention Program
 - State of Nebraska, YRTC Kearney Housing Unit Expansion Plan
 - State of Nebraska Juvenile Correctional System Master Plan
 - State of Nebraska Juvenile Detention System Assessment and Master Plan
 - State of Nebraska Juvenile Parole Revocation Facility Program
 - King County/Seattle (WA), Juvenile Operational Master Plan
 - Monroe County (IN), Juvenile Justice Master Plan
 - Polk County (IA), Youth Detention Center Needs Assessment and Detention Facility Program
 - Caddo/Bossier Parish (LA), Juvenile Needs Assessment and Regional Detention Center Facility Program
 - State of Colorado, Division of Youth Corrections Operational Master Plan
 - State of Colorado Department of Corrections Youth Offender System Facility Program
 - State of Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, Maximum Security Violent Offender Juvenile Facility Program
 - Chesterfield County (VA), Juvenile Detention Home Needs Assessment and Planning Study
 - State of Nebraska Department of Correctional Services Secure Youth Confinement Facility Program
 - Outagamie County (WI), Juvenile Offender Master Plan
 - McHenry County (IL), Secure Juvenile Detention Assessment
 - Montgomery County (OH), Juvenile Court Operations Review
 - Cuyahoga County/Cleveland (OH), Continuum of Juvenile Detention Services Plan
 - Forsyth County, (NC) Juvenile Treatment Facility Analysis
 - City of Beaufort (SC), Government Space Utilization Assessment and Facility Program
 - Richland County and City of Columbia (SC), Planning Department Collocation Study
 - Richland County (SC), MIS Department Space Allocation Study
 - Kershaw County (SC), Government Complex Space Utilization Master Plan
 - Gaston County (NC), Government Facilities Master Plan and Update
 - Gaston County (NC), Highland Street Master Plan Update
 - Gaston County (NC), Agriculture Center Facility Master Plan
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Related Projects (continued),

- Gaston County (NC), Department of Social Services Facility Program
- Seminole County (FL), Sheriff's Office and Public Safety Department Facility Space Program
- Sheboygan County (WI), Law Enforcement Center Master Space Plan
- Fayetteville County (NC), Police Department Operational and Architectural Program
- Lincoln County (NC), Jail and Law Enforcement Center Master Plan and Program
- City of Baltimore (MD), Police Department Headquarters Operational and Architectural Program
- City of Baltimore (MD), Police Department Education and Training Facility Operational and Architectural Program
- King County (WA), Sheriff's Criminal Investigation Division Facility Program
- Gaston County (NC), Administrative and Law Enforcement Facilities Master Plan
- Ft. Lee (NJ), Police Department and Municipal Court Study
- Ocean City (MD), Public Safety Complex Operational and Architectural Program
- Carver County (MN), Justice and Law Enforcement Center Master Plan and Program
- City of Gainesville (FL), Government Facility Program Plan
- Kenosha County (WI), Public Safety Building Facility Master Plan
- Kenosha County (WI), Sheriff's Department Sub-Station Operational and Architectural Program
- Baltimore City Juvenile Justice Center Facility Program
- DuPage County (Illinois), Juvenile Justice System Master Plan and Disproportionate Minority Confinement Assessment
- Maricopa County/Phoenix (AZ), Adult and Juvenile Justice Master Plan
- Denver (CO), Division of Youth Services Juvenile Justice Master Plan
- City/County of Denver (CO), Jail Master Plan
- Spartanburg County (SC), Adult Boot Camp Feasibility Study
- State of New Jersey Adult and Juvenile Correctional System Master Plan
- Richland County (SC), Detention Center Management and Operations Assessment
- State of Colorado Department of Corrections Minimum Security Facility Assessment
- King County (WA), Regional Justice Center Facility Program
- Salt Lake County (UT), Jail Location and Site Analysis
- City of Columbia (SC), Police Headquarters Renovation and Addition Space Program

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, PRESENTATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS

- Oklahoma Juvenile Justice Reform Committee Workshop, Tulsa Oklahoma, January 2011.
 - *"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.
 - *"Designing Facilities and Programs for Special Needs Offender: Lessons Learned from New Castle, Indiana"*, American Corrections Association, 2000 Winter Conference, Phoenix, Arizona.
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CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, PRESENTATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS (continued),

- *"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 "25th 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."