

*Evaluation News is brought to you by BJA's Center for Program Evaluation (CPE) project at the Justice Research and Statistics Association*

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Dear Criminal Justice Professionals:

Welcome to the March edition of "Evaluation News: Expanding Knowledge Through Information Exchange." This monthly E-newsletter contains technical assistance information, links to national publication sources and information on upcoming conferences. This issue also features documents on the use of performance information. The E-newsletter provides evaluation information to states on a regular basis using technology to promote information exchange and enhance capacity to access the research and evaluation community.

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### **NATIONAL EVALUATION NEWS**

NIJ has released *Managing Calls to the Police with 911-311 Systems*. This study presents information from a study examining the ability of a 311 system to reduce the burden of 911 calls in Baltimore, Maryland. In addition to the findings presented in the report, recommendations for implementing a 311 system and limitations of the study are discussed. This Research for Practice report is available at:  
<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/206256.pdf>

### **THINKING ABOUT CONDUCTING A PROGRAM EVALUATION?**

Technical assistance resources designed to help enhance the evaluation capacity of State Administering Agencies and their subgrantees in the area of criminal justice are available through the BJA Center for Program Evaluation. On-site trainings and written correspondence are just examples of the types of technical assistance offered.

Perhaps you are thinking about requesting on-site training on basic evaluation concepts or assistance in developing and using performance measures. Maybe you are interested in receiving advice for developing an evaluation plan for your program or initiating the development of a statewide strategy for performance measurement and evaluation. To learn more about technical assistance, visit our technical assistance page on the BJA Center for Program Evaluation Web Site at:  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/evaluation/technical-assistance.htm>

Useful resources for planning and implementing program evaluations and for developing program performance measures are available at:  
The BJA Center for Program Evaluation Web Site  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/evaluation/index.html>

**IN THE SPOTLIGHT: USING AND DEVELOPING PERFORMANCE INFORMATION FOR RESULTS**

Developing and using performance information has become increasingly important to states with the budgetary shortfalls many are facing. Now, more than ever, states produce performance information for decisionmaking and to improve program performance. For more information see:

The report by the General Accounting Office (GAO), *Performance Budgeting: States' Experiences Can Inform Federal Efforts* (2005), is available at: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d05215.pdf>

An additional report by Donald P. Moynihan, *The Impact of Managing for Results Mandates in Correction: Lessons From Three States* is available through SAGE Publications and is printed in: *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, Vol. 16, No.1, 18-37 (2005).

**UPCOMING CONFERENCES**

The Bureau of Justice Assistance and The National Center for State Courts will be hosting the following drug court evaluation training workshops:

June 15-16, 2005, Southfield, Michigan

July 19-20, 2005 Minneapolis, Minnesota

For more information visit: <http://www.ncscsurveys.org/BJA/register.shtml> or download the announcement at: <http://spa.american.edu/justice/publications/evaluation.pdf>

The Fifth Annual Jerry Lee Crime Prevention Symposium will take place May 2nd and 3rd, 2005 at the University of Maryland, Inn and Conference Center, Adelphi Maryland. Information for the Symposium which is entitled, *Systematic Evidence on What Works in Crime and Justice: Raising Questions and Presenting Findings* is available at: <http://www.ccjs.umd.edu/ccjg/>

JRSA will be hosting its 2nd annual Student Presentation Contest in conjunction with the 2005 Bureau of Justice Statistics/Justice Research and Statistics Association National Conference. The winner will receive an all-expense paid trip to the conference which will be held October 27-28, 2005 in St. Petersburg, FL. The winner will also have an opportunity to present research findings as part of a panel session at the conference. For more information visit: <http://www.jrsa.org/events/conference/index.htm>

The National Institute of Justice's Annual Research and Evaluation Conference will be held July 18-20, 2005 in Washington, DC. The focus for this year will be *Evidence-Based Policies and Practices*. More information is available at their web site: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/>

To view current and past editions of the Evaluation Newsletter, visit the Bureau of Justice Assistance Center for Program Evaluation:  
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/evaluation/index.html>

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