

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Edward Byrne Memorial Law Enforcement Formula grant program has allowed us to fund a wide range of programming designed to reduce the problems of drug abuse and violence in Minnesota. We believe that if we are to be effective in addressing these problems, we must employ comprehensive, collaborative and innovative strategies within the criminal justice system and in our communities.

This report of program activities covers the period of July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003. We maintain our commitment to the priorities outlined in the multi-year application. They are:

- To support and strengthen community based crime prevention efforts.
- To increase innovative criminal justice system programming.
- To continue criminal justice system improvement grants including substance abuse courts.

Over the past year, the state administering agency has continued its role as a partner in and a catalyst for statewide approaches to reduce and prevent drug abuse and violence. We have continued our support of creative community/criminal justice partnerships designed to improve the criminal justice system and improve community safety. We provided quality training and technical assistance to our grantees, particularly in the area of evaluation. We maintained our commitment to successful law enforcement, prosecution and courts programming. Modeling the federal effort, we solicited applications for reentry services for offenders.

Project highlights from the reporting period of July 2002 through June 30, 2003 include:

- The creation of WEGO-a web-based grants management system designed to reduce complexity and cost while improving grant oversight and responsiveness.
- Criminal history records held in suspense were reduced from 450,000 to 103,000 and an additional 75,000 incoming records were also resolved.
- The Predatory Offender Registration (POR) database has been fully implemented at the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA). 299 agencies have requested access to the site which contains registration information on 14,500 offenders.
- The operation of 22 Multi-Jurisdictional Narcotics Task Forces which cumulatively investigated 7,036 cases resulting in 5,281 arrests, 665 guns taken off the streets and 310 methamphetamine labs seized.
- The Attorney General's Drug Unit maintained an average of 101 active files, obtained 69 felony convictions and prosecuted cases in 30 counties.
- Forty-two community based crime prevention programs served 63, 759 youth and 21, 274 adults.

- Five substance abuse courts, employing best practices identified by the OJP Drug Court Program Office, are beginning to show positive outcomes.
- Five new projects for reentry services for offenders were funded.
- Twenty-six successful community justice partnerships grants were institutionalized to some degree at the local level.

In May of 2003, Governor Tim Pawlenty created the Minnesota Office of Justice Programs (OJP) to improve the coordination and effectiveness of state criminal justice planning and grants administration activities. The new Office merges the Office of Drug Policy & Violence Prevention, the state administering agency for Byrne, and the Minnesota Center for Crime Victims from the Department of Public Safety with programs from four other state agencies: the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) from Minnesota Planning, the Office of Crime Victim Ombudsman, the Abused Children's Program from the Department of Education and the Juvenile Justice and Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JAIBG) grant programs from the Department of Economic Security.

The Justice and Community Grants unit of OJP will continue to administer the Byrne grant and work in partnership with all OJP units to provide leadership and resources to reduce crime in Minnesota and improve the functioning of the criminal justice system.

INTRODUCTION

Minnesota continues its multi-faceted approach to the problems of chemical abuse, crime and violence. We support a wide range of programming designed to enhance safety and improve the

quality of life in Minnesota communities and improve the functioning of the criminal justice system. These programs range from prevention to apprehension, prosecution, incarceration and alternative sentencing. We believe that if we are to be effective in reducing drug abuse and violence we must employ innovative and diverse strategies throughout the criminal justice system and in our communities. We continue to support the priorities outlined in the multi-year application which are:

- To support and strengthen community-based crime prevention efforts.
- To increase innovative criminal justice system programming.
- To continue criminal justice system improvement grants including substance abuse court initiatives and develop new grants that support reentry services for offenders.

The state administering agency continues to serve in the capacity as partner in and catalyst for statewide approaches to the prevention of violence and drug abuse. Consistent with the first priority, we have spent significant time and effort in the past year seeking ways to support and strengthen community-based efforts.

We have worked in close partnership with 42 community crime prevention projects throughout the state. Each project is unique to the community it serves. We have provided intensive technical assistance to build the capacity of the agency to conduct quality programming. All grantees have attended training sessions on the administrative requirements and received a copy of the OJP Compliance Manual. Grant staff have conducted on-site visits of each program to review accounting and administrative processes and procedures to ensure compliance. In addition, we have conducted detailed financial desk reviews on most grantees. All grantees received hours of evaluation training as well as intensive technical assistance tailored to meet their specific needs.

To further our goal of increasing innovative criminal justice system programming, we continued our support of 19 programs designed to improve public safety by developing problem solving relationships between and among community partners and criminal justice providers. We remained committed to the challenge of strengthening and coordinating the community and system problem-solving partnerships by providing individual technical assistance and training.

To accomplish our third priority, we have continued the funding of programs designed to improve the functioning and efficiency of Minnesota's criminal justice system such as Multi-jurisdictional Narcotics Task Forces, specialized prosecution, Criminal Justice training grants. We have strengthened the five substance abuse court grants and funded 5 new grants for reentry services for offenders.

Coordination

We continue to coordinate our work with other federal, state and local entities dedicated to

preventing violence and drug abuse.

The Director of the Office of Justice Programs is the Co-Director of Minnesota's State Incentive Grant. This three-year \$8,879,167 grant was awarded to Minnesota from the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). The goals of the grant are to 1) Coordinate, leverage and/or redirect all substance abuse prevention resources within Minnesota that are directed at communities, families, schools and workplaces in order that resources be directed to effective and promising approaches to reduce the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs by our youth; and 2) Develop and implement a statewide prevention strategy grounded in science based research findings designed to improve community-based prevention efforts.

Eighty-five (85%) of the award is for grants to local communities and 15% is for staffing, training, and technical assistance. The primary state agencies involved in this effort are Children, Families and Learning, Public Safety, Health, and Human Services. We completed the final year of the grant in June of 2003. All projects developed a logic model and an outcome evaluation plan. Projects identified long-term outcomes, short term indicators or progress toward those outcomes and comprehensive measurement plans.

Staff from OJP continues to work in close partnership with staff from the Supreme Court to support substance abuse courts throughout Minnesota. The Supreme Court recognizes the connection between chemical use, addiction and the many cases filed in courthouses throughout Minnesota. They have also recognized that they must provide leadership in identifying innovative court responses to the problem. OJP assisted in the planning and funding of a conference held in July 2002 entitled "Ending the Disconnect, Advancing the Dialogue: Innovative Judicial Interventions for Chemical Health".

The Narcotics Enforcement Coordinating Committee (N.E.C.C), which includes members from the Drug Enforcement Agency, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, the County Attorney's Association and local law enforcement continues to advise us on issues relating to the work of the narcotics task forces, specialized prosecution and narcotics officer training. In 2002 and 2003, we hosted sessions with the N.E.C.C. and the state funded Minnesota Gang Strike Force Coordinating Council to explore creative ways to work together in order to maximize resources and increase effectiveness.

We continue to enjoy a strong working relationship with the Minnesota United States Attorneys Office. We partner to administer the Weed and Seed Program in Minnesota. We both attend local steering committee meetings; conduct joint training for the sites. We are also a partner and fiscal agent for the U.S. Attorney's Project Safe Neighborhood initiative. The focus in this District is on reducing gun violence on the 11 Indian reservations around the state and the urban Indian community in Minneapolis.

The Director and/or staff from the Office participate in an array of coordinating councils and specialized criminal justice related committees.

In an effort to increase coordination and improve the effectiveness of the state's criminal justice

planning and grants activities, Governor Tim Pawlenty created the Minnesota Office of Justice Programs (OJP) in May of 2003. The new office merges the Office of Drug Policy & Violence Prevention, the state administering agency for Byrne, and the Minnesota Center for Crime Victims from the Department of Public Safety with programs from four other state agencies: the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) from Minnesota Planning, the Office of Crime Victim Ombudsman, the Abused Children's Program from the Department of Education and the Juvenile Justice and Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JAIBG) grant programs from the Department of Economic Security.

The Justice and Community grants unit will continue to administer the Byrne grant and work in partnership with all OJP units to provide leadership and resources to reduce crime in Minnesota and improve the functioning of the criminal justice system and assist crime victims.

The new structure provides opportunities to streamline grant processes conduct joint planning, and training and coordinate our resources and efforts to reduce crime and assist victims.

EVALUATION PLAN AND ACTIVITIES

The State Administering Agency (SAA) provides technical assistance and monitoring to all grantees. During the competitive application process, applicants must provide detailed information about their needs, organization, proposed project design, work plan (including objectives, strategies and implementation time lines), collaboration partners, evaluation plan and budget.

All Grantees must complete a Monthly Financial Statements and Quarterly Progress Reports. Financial reports serve as the vehicle for reimbursement and provide information to insure that grantees are spending funds in accordance with their budgets and federal guidelines. The progress report addresses process and outcomes by requiring programs to document services and activities and provide information related to implementation, barriers encountered participant feedback, significant developments and program outcomes. Grantees are also required to submit copies of evaluation reports. Staff thoroughly review reports and provide appropriate interventions, technical assistance and support.

Staff implemented a detailed desk review protocol over the last year for our Byrne grants to ensure administrative compliance. We have provided significant evaluation training and technical assistance. Staff has regular team meetings to discuss administrative and evaluation issues to ensure consistency among grant managers in addressing these issues. Grantees are being held increasingly more accountable, both programmatically and administratively.

Comprehensive procedures are in place for administrative oversight of grants. Administrative capacity reviews are conducted for all grantees that have not previously done business with our office. All new grantees are required to attend an orientation session at which the Administrative Compliance manual is reviewed and distributed. Within the first few months of grant operation, all grants receive administrative site visits. Desk reviews, which include a review of source documentation for all expenses claimed, are done at least once (more often if

needed) per grant. Staff conduct at least one site visit per year for each project. In addition, staff are in frequent contact via telephone and e-mail. All projects are required to provide quarterly performance data and financial expenditure reports. Any concerns arising from staff review of these reports are addressed immediately.

The Community Problem-Solving Partnerships/Community Justice grants have been the focus of a significant program evaluation effort over the last several years. Many of these grants were approaching their end-dates during this report period. Due to the challenges the individual grantees have experienced with demonstrating their impact, we contracted with Laura Bloomberg, Ph.D. to undertake a study exploring the overall impact of these grants. This report, “Reflections on Objectives, Barriers, and Long Term Impact” is attached as **Appendix A**

Our efforts to build the evaluation capacity of our new Community Crime Prevention grantees intensified during this time period. Through a contract with the Wilder Research Center grantees received a total of 946.5 hours of individualized technical assistance regarding evaluation. This assistance consisted of finalizing logic models, revising work plans, developing evaluation plans, and identifying and developing measurement tools, etc. Grantees received an average of 27 hours of technical assistance. Individual grant amounts ranged from five hours to 50 hours per site. Additionally, 16 hours of small group training was provided on issues such as identifying priorities for evaluation, developing program theories and logic models, and determining the most appropriate data collection approaches. Evaluation plans include elements of process evaluation, outcome evaluation, and client satisfaction.

Staff are in the process of reviewing all grant programs to determine the appropriate level of evaluation activity for each program in the coming year.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS, PERFORMANCE MEASURES, EVALUATION METHODS AND EVALUATION RESULTS.

Listed below are the programs funded by the Byrne Memorial Formula Grant Program and their progress during this funding cycle:

Program Title: Criminal Justice Electronic Grants Management System

Number of Programs: 1

Federal Cost of Program: \$200,000

Purpose Area: 15B

Fiscal Year: 2000

PROGRAM GOAL

Implement a web-based grants application and management system that reduces the complexities and costs of the grant process, while at the same time improving oversight of funded activities and responsiveness to funding agencies.

OBJECTIVES

- Through an approved bidding process, secure a contract with a vendor or vendors to implement a web-based grants application and management system that includes the following functionality:
 - Online processing (applications, awards and reports);
 - Automatic notifications and messaging;
 - Work management (staff and client);
 - Funds planning and tracking (against source and plan);
 - Performance measurement and evaluations; and
 - Audits and closeouts.
- Implement the system, provide training, and encourage online application for funds.
- Reduce costs associated with the grant process.
- Improve service to clients.
 - Reduce processing time for applications and awards.
 - Reduce cost to apply for funds.
 - Reduce number of technical errors in applications
 - Improve turn-around time for staff responses to requests for information.
 - Provide better management tools for grantees.
 - Work management.
 - Automatic notifications.
- Improve oversight of funded programs and responsiveness to funding agencies.
 - Allow for performance measurement across funding initiatives.
 - Automate access to performance measurement and evaluation data.
 - Automate fiscal reporting processes.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

OJP conducted research in August and September of 2002 to decide whether to build or buy a system. OJP decided to buy a system and customize it as necessary. In November of 2002, OJP released a request for proposals. Nine vendors submitted proposals. The review process included demonstrations of the products and lasted through March 2003. OJP selected

IntelliGrants, a product of Agate Software, Inc. from Michigan after several weeks of negotiation. In June of 2003, OJP and Agate Software began to analyze what functionality would have to be added or changed in the core product to meet our standards for flexibility and usefulness.

We anticipate that they will finish analysis by mid-August 2003 and that the system will be fully functional by December 31, 2003.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Title:	Criminal Justice Information System Improvement (CJIS)
Number of Projects Funded:	1
Federal Cost of the Program:	FFY 01-\$426,368 FFY02-\$422,823
Purpose Area:	15B
Fiscal Year:	FFY01 FFY 02

PROGRAM GOAL

Develop an Integrated Criminal History System (ICHS) which facilitates the accumulation, storage, updating, retrieval and dissemination, in a timely manner, of data to all customers of the criminal and juvenile information system.

OBJECTIVES

- Replace 10 year old technology
- Reduce Suspense files
- Launch integration data, linking data to the fingerprint biometric

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Significant progress toward the goal has been made during the review period. Accomplishments include the following:

- **CJDN Network Upgrade.** This project is complete and replaces the CJIS dedicated SNA Network with a TCP/IP based routed network. CJDN utilizes the MNet as the core of its delivery system. CJDN employs the latest technologies to provide the basic infrastructure necessary to support the new applications required in an integrated criminal justice architecture. The project replaced the 3270 SNA terminal access with a new Windows based application. It also established a new single standard for interfacing computer systems (example: Mobile systems to CJIS).
- **Upgrade and Enhance Integrated Criminal History Systems (ICHS) technology**
This initiative was launched during the review period. A pilot rollout of the new NCIC2000 compliant message switch and new web based client interface is schedule for December of 2003. It is expected that this project will be completed in the first half of calendar 2004. CJIS staff are upgrading the switch to new technologies that will increase our ability to integrate with the Minnesota's CriMNet's architecture. This is expected to be completed by August 2004.

In addition, a concept of operations (ConOps) for the new ICHS was developed. A statement of work was developed and a Request for Proposal was released. An evaluation of the bids is in process.

- **Suspense File Reduction**
The original 450,000 records held in suspense have been reduced to 103,000. An additional 75,000 incoming records where also resolved. Eighty- eight thousand of the 103,000 records are considered no match. Based on a fingerprint study it was determined that for 51% of these records the agencies have not submitted the original fingerprint record. Many of these prints are unobtainable because sentences have expired people have moved out of state or died.

A major initiative to further reduce the occurrence of suspense records is underway. There are two sub-projects to this initiative. The first will make the suspense records available to the local agency and then provide a method to modify either the disposition or the arrest record. The web portion of this application, as well as the training and certification programs has been completed. The interface from the web application to the Computerized Criminal History (CCH) is currently under development. Development and deployment is expected to begin in the first quarter of calendar year 2004.

The second subproject is to create an interface with the courts new Minnesota Courts Information System (MNCIS). This will allow the identification of individuals not fingerprinted at the time of the court filing. New business practices are being developed that will require that all individuals are fingerprinted no later than at first appearance.

The technical design for this portion is nearly complete. The suspense team has been working with a large metropolitan county to define and develop new business processes to address those people that are directly summoned to court. It is expected that these business processes will be the model protocol for all counties.

- **Cardhandler/Live Scan Project.** (CJIS) The Cardhandler project automates the fingerprint process at the BCA and provides all sheriffs' offices, larger police departments, select correction facilities and select courts with LiveScan technology for electronic fingerprint capture. The workflow from capture of fingerprints during the booking process through AFIS identity verification and CCH updating at the BCA is automated. Response times for fingerprint cards submitted electronically have been reduced from weeks to less than an hour in most cases. The current status of the Cardhandler includes implementation of workflow automation at the BCA with electronic transmission of data to the FBI, and installation of LiveScan units at more than 100 law enforcement agencies. One hundred percent (100%) of sheriffs' offices will have LiveScans by 9/30/03.

- **Electronic Criminal Linking Service**
The portion of the strategy is to develop a methodology to improve the linking of information within the criminal justice system, by developing a criminal linking service. This focuses on improving the integration between several systems including the live scan fingerprint capture stations, the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), CCH, the Minnesota Repository of Arrest Photos (MRAP), and local agency systems like Records Management (RMS), booking systems, and others. The scope for this project has been developed and the initial analysis is underway. It is expected that several technical projects will come out of the analysis. The target date for completing these efforts is the end of calendar year 2004.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

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Program Title:	CriMNET
Number of Projects Funded:	2
Federal Cost of the Program:	FFY 01-\$112,500 FFY 02 -\$1,077,077 FFY 03- \$1,500,000
Purpose Area:	15B
Fiscal Year:	FFY01 FFY02

FFY03

PROGRAM GOAL

The CriMNet Strategic Plan has two major goals:

- Develop a blueprint for the integration of criminal justice information statewide.
- Make available consolidated, complete, and accurate records of an individual's interaction with the criminal justice system.

OBJECTIVES

CriMNet's key implementation objectives include:

- The coordination of local government planning and implementation activities;
- The design and implementation of the backbone and local-hub infrastructure;
- The development and enhancement of key statewide systems;

CriMNet is the State's integration initiative that will allow criminal justice professionals throughout the state of Minnesota to share information among over 1,100 criminal justice agencies. Once complete, CriMNet will give Minnesota prosecutors, judges, law enforcement officers, and probation and correction officials' timely access to comprehensive criminal justice data. CriMNet's vision is to ensure that the right information will be in the hands of the right people at the right time and in the right place.

A common misperception is that CriMNet is a centralized database that will be created by permanently appropriating data from current state and local agency systems. Another is that CriMNet will completely replace existing criminal justice systems. Neither is true. Like the Internet, CriMNet will be a "system of systems," not a single database application or discrete development project. Just as the Web enables access to a vast range of independent sites via an Internet connection and standard browser (such as Netscape Navigator or Microsoft Explorer), CriMNet will provide its authorized users with access to an ever-growing quantity of data and applications that have been created—and are still owned and maintained—by the individual state and local agencies.

At the center of CriMNet is the "integration backbone," that supports two key functions. First, it provides the connections and interfaces that make previously stand alone criminal justice applications available to authorized users throughout the Minnesota criminal justice community. Secondly, the backbone will act as a central index of shared data. Agencies retain ownership and control of their own systems and data—linking them to the CriMNet backbone will not change this.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Over the last year, CriMNet engaged 727 pilot users across the state using the CriMNet search functionality. This number is expected to grow to several thousand over the next year as the search functionality is rolled out into production. The users are criminal justice professionals including crime analysts, law enforcement investigators, dispatch personnel, patrol officers, court administrators, judges, corrections supervisors, probation officers, public defenders, prosecutors, county attorneys, state troopers, correctional deputies, and bailiffs. Specific repositories and even specific data fields are secured through the use of profiles and policies.

Some of the benefits of today's CriMNet search functionality include: Single sign-on for users to access authorized systems eliminating the need for multiple passwords and thus increasing security; users are able to search multiple systems with one search command increasing efficiency and productivity; time spent searching for relevant data is dramatically reduced; statewide information is quickly made available thru a single interface.

The CriMNet search capability is a big accomplishment. Pilot Users are already receiving results and solving crimes, most notably a suburban church arson case and the major metropolitan serial burglaries case.

CriMNet currently encompasses eight operating component or *source* systems.

- **PREDATORY OFFENDER REGISTRATION (POR)** – The POR database has been fully implemented internally. The POR database is available, free of charge, to all agencies that have a secure CJDN connection. As of June 30, 2003, 299 agencies have requested access to the POR web site and a total of 2,837 user ids have been issued. Currently, 81 of the 87 county sheriff's offices and all nine state correctional facilities have applied for and received access to the POR database. The POR Unit is actively working to complete the access for the remaining sheriff's offices, police departments and probation offices that have CJDN access. Currently, the BCA is managing registration materials for over 14,500 offenders.
- **MINNESOTA REPOSITORY OF ARREST PHOTOS (MRAP)** – The MRAP is a central database accepting digital photographs taken at the booking/arrest and the corresponding descriptive and demographic data collected. This database also may include images of scars, marks, or tattoos, photographed at the time of arrest or booking. The MRAP provides criminal justice agencies an opportunity to search arrest and booking photos from a variety of law enforcement agencies, to create lineups and witness viewing sessions from those photos and to enroll unidentified persons into the facial recognition component in an attempt to obtain an identity.
- **STATEWIDE SUPERVISION SYSTEM (S³)** – This system includes information regarding juveniles and adults who are or who have been on probation, in detention, imprisoned or jailed. The current status of the system includes adult probation data from all 87 counties,

juvenile probation data from 86 counties, jail data from 77 counties, and booking information from 31 police departments.

- **PRISON ADAPTER** – This adapter allows CriMNet users to include searches for over 50,000 unique records from the prison system maintained by the Department of Corrections. It includes a rich amount of information including demographics, aliases, offenses, and, most importantly, multiple photographs of over 25,000 individuals. This new adapter contains a rich source of information that has, in the past, only been available through the Law Enforcement Viewer provided by the Department of Corrections.

- **MINNESOTA COURT WEB ACCESS (CWA)** – CWA contains non-confidential, adult criminal case and defendant information from court cases that are Open, Closed, or Archived (excluding Sealed, Expunged, and Deleted cases). The following data is available:
 - Statewide data from all counties .
 - Adult criminal defendant and case information:
 - Cases with events in 1999 for all counties except Scott County and all cases with events in 2000 going forward for all counties including Scott County.
 - Historical information is available on "charge" information only.
 - Sentence information represents the current version of the sentence only.

- **MINNESOTA COUNTY ATTORNEY PRACTICE SYSTEM (MCAPS)** – MCAPS is the prosecutor practice management system that is used by over 50 counties in the state of Minnesota. MCAPS tracks the information used by the county and city attorney's offices to prepare documentation for filing criminal cases to the courts. MCAPS has the ability to electronically file criminal complaints in CriMNet format directly to the CriMNet backbone. From the CriMNet backbone it can be transmitted directly to the Minnesota Courts system. The new MCAPS adapter allows qualified CriMNet users to perform person-based searches of all records in the MCAPS system. For our initial phases these searches will be limited to users within Carver County. In the future the MCAPS software in other counties could be upgraded to allow expanded CriMNet access. MCAPS also has the ability to transmit "Case Outcome Reports" to the CriMNet backbone and then to local record management systems. The feature will enable local law enforcement systems to automatically be updated with case outcomes as the county attorney closes out a file.

- **MULTIPLE JURISDICTION NETWORK ORGANIZATION (MJNO)** – MJNO is sponsored by the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association. The MCPA provides the leadership and governance infrastructure that allows local law enforcement to share data in agencies

across the state. MJNO is a data index that local law enforcement agencies use to share police contact information. It is a law enforcement tool that is used for investigations, permit checks, background checks, warrant research and person location. Currently, there are 175 agencies actively contributing data to this program, with more than 5,000 law enforcement users on the system. The current repository contains over 8 million law enforcement records dating from 1998 to the present..

- **Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE).** VINE is a toll free fully automated telephone service that allows crime victims and other interested persons to contact an automated computer hotline 24 hours a day to receive information about the status of an offender. VINE also provides notification of a change in an offender’s custody status on a 24 hour a day, 365 days a year basis anywhere in the State of Minnesota via telephone, pager, email, fax or letter to registered users. Victims of crime, law enforcement officials, court professionals and members of the general public may all register for notification. To date extensive training has been conducted throughout the state and 52 law enforcement agencies are on-line and fully operational.

The vision is for CriMNet to eventually be linked to justice systems in other states as well as at the federal level, contributing to a national network of shared data and business processes that will enable public safety and justice professionals to more easily and rapidly collaborate on a broad range of critical issues. CriMNet’s architecture is aligned with guidelines that are coming out of the Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs Global advisory process, and has been fundamental in developing standards for Law Enforcement and Intelligence Sharing with: Global - National Justice Data Dictionary (XML) and Data Model; U.S. Department for Justice, Attorney General’s LEIS Project; Department of Homeland Security, Enterprise Architecture Design; FBI - System of Services Project; Global/RISSnet/LEO – National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan.

It has been recognized that this is the direction in which business process and technology is being re-engineered in every aspect of business and government today. From the Federal Enterprise Architecture initiatives in the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB), to the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO), integration and information sharing is becoming a major priority.

The scope and complexity of the CriMNet project requires funds from a variety of sources to fully implement the vision. The chart below displays CriMNet funding and activity for the 2004-2005 biennium.

Funds	Amount	Purpose
State Funds		
CriMNet Policy Group	1,566,000	operating budget
CriMNet Backbone	3,520,000	operating budget, federal grant match

		funds
Total State Funds for FY04/05:	5,086,000	
Federal Funds		
Byrne Grant 01 (25% match)	112,500	salaries, equipment
Byrne Grant 02 & 03 (requires 25% match)	2,877,077	salaries, contractual services, equipment
COPS Grant	915,945	contractual services
Local Law Enforcement Block Grant 02 (10% match)	660,000	contractual services, equipment
NCHIP Year 7 (10% match by locals)	926,708	grants to locals*
NCHIP Year 8 (10% match by locals)	502,000	grants to locals*
NCHIP Year 9 (10% match by locals)	600,000	grants to locals*
BJA Earmark 03	993,000	salaries, equipment*
CITA	3,592,831	grants to locals*
Total Federal Funds for FY04/05:	11,180,061	
Pending Federal Funds		
Homeland Security	1,432,000	Equipment**
Department of Corrections	1,060,000	Statewide Supervision System
Courts	11,640,000	MNCIS
Bureau of Criminal Apprehension	1,215,000	suspense file reduction

Current Local Implementation Grants

Grantee	Amount	Purpose
Anoka County	1,169,149	Records Management System Integration, Detention Project, Anoka/Dakota Joint Case Management Project
Dakota County	1,355,000	CJIN Web System
St. Louis County	800,000	Records Management System Project
Hennepin County	420,000	City of Minneapolis Attorney's Prosecution Case Management System, Hennepin County Workhouse Management System, Arrest and Booking Process Re-engineering
Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative	640,000	Court Services Tracking System

LOGIS	390,000	Public Safety Information Systems Integration
Total Grant Awards:	4,774,149	

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Title:	Multi-Jurisdictional Narcotics Task Forces
Number of Projects Funded:	22
Federal Cost of the Program:	\$2,600,000
Purpose Area:	2
Fiscal Year:	2001

PROGRAM GOAL

- To establish and maintain interagency cooperation among federal, state and local law enforcement agencies and prosecutors, to share intelligence information on violators of narcotics laws and facilitate multi-jurisdictional investigations.

OBJECTIVES

- To develop interagency agreements among two or more county/municipal law enforcement agencies and prosecutors in jurisdictions across the state for the investigation of narcotics cases.
- To establish cooperative relationships between local narcotics task forces and state and federal law enforcement and prosecution agencies.

- Reduce the availability of illegal drugs in Minnesota.
- Disrupt narcotics distribution networks and related patterns of serious criminal activity.
- To increase the level of knowledge and expertise among narcotics investigators in law enforcement agencies across the state.
- To improve the investigation and adjudication outcomes of narcotics violations and related criminal activity.
- Increase the awareness of the general public and criminal justice professionals regarding drug identification, drug trends, drug use and the consequences of drug use/criminal activity.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

All current grantees have received funding for several years. As a result, planning and development activities; such as creating an advisory board, executing a joint powers agreement, dedication of staff and office resources, establishing task force policies and procedures, developing a system for managing narcotics intelligence information and maintaining operations data have been accomplished. In an effort to make the best use of grant resources, commanders have been encouraged to work closely with their advisory boards to review and enhance the task force operations. The majority of task forces undertook the following general operational activities during this time period:

- Advisory boards continued to meet regularly to provide oversight for task force operations.
- All task forces received random, in-depth desk reviews that verified that expenses claimed were allowable and according to an approved budget. In some cases, task forces were required to refund grant funds that they had received for specific expenditures, and/or were asked to make modifications to their financial procedures to ensure compliance.
- Emerging trends in illegal drug use and distribution in the jurisdiction were identified.
- New strategies for investigating narcotics cases based on trends continued to be implemented including an increased emphasis on methamphetamine investigations.
- Efforts were undertaken to enhance cooperative relationships with other narcotics task forces, federal and state drug enforcement, state gang strike forces, and prosecution agencies. Sharing of information, personnel and equipment is now commonplace.
- Enhanced efforts were undertaken to establish cooperative relationships with public

agencies, businesses and community resources for drug abuse awareness, prevention and intervention.

- Efforts were made to insure that task forces had agents complete OSHA approved training related to clan lab clean-up or where not practical, relationships with entities having trained personnel were established.

Task force grants range from \$15,000 for a rural, single-county task force to \$300,000 for an urban task force in Minneapolis. Several task forces in greater Minnesota cover large geographic areas of up to ten counties, with budgets ranging from \$50,000 - \$150,000. Suburban narcotics task forces also serve a significant proportion of the state's population with grants from \$75,000 to \$150,000. A large urban task force covering both Ramsey County and the City of St. Paul receives \$188,000.

The data representing the body of work of the Drug Task Forces during this year is impressive. Although numbers do not tell the whole story, they are a starting point in providing a picture of the problem being addressed. In 2002, the Minnesota Drug Task Forces:

- were involved with 7,036 active investigations;
- made 5,281 arrests;
- seized 260 handguns, 405 long guns, and 43 other weapons.
- seized 310 methamphetamine labs, a 50% increase over the previous year. Arrests involving methamphetamine have risen from 1,104 during the period of July 1, 1999 – June 30, 2000 to 2,201 during calendar year 2002.

Task Force investigations resulted in 4,433 felony charges, 371 misdemeanor charges, and 432 petty misdemeanor charges. Of these charges, 215 were federal and 4,997 were state.

Despite the fact that funding levels have not changed for Minnesota Drug Task Forces, performance outcomes continue to improve. When comparing 2002 to the previous year, investigations were down, but arrests were up by 20%. Felony charges went from 82% of all arrests to 84% of all arrests.

Task Force investigative data reveal that the “average” Minnesota drug offender is a white male, aged 18 or older, who possessed or manufactured, then sold marijuana, methamphetamine, or crack/cocaine.

Education continues to be an important component within the operations of the Minnesota Drug Task Forces. Drug Task Force members gave presentations to 18,636 people during 5340 presentations. The members themselves received 6,876 hours of Police Officers Standards and Training (POST) hours of training during 554 courses attended.

Significant task force activities and areas of focus include:

- The Minnesota Legislature showed its support of narcotics enforcement in the state by providing the task forces with one-time state funding of \$250,000 for costs related to

methamphetamine investigation and lab clean-up for calendar year 2002.

- Several suburban task forces continue the Hotel/Motel programs to educate staff and develop investigative leads. Task forces are increasingly seeing the use of motel rooms as temporary methamphetamine clandestine labs.
- Metropolitan task forces continue to work closely with Public Housing Authorities and their security personnel. Many suburban task forces have also been active in the Minnesota Multi-Housing Association.
- Several task forces in eastern Minnesota continue to participate in ongoing intelligence sharing meetings with the Western Wisconsin Methamphetamine Working Group. In addition, one task force in the western portion of the state shares intelligence and expertise with Fargo, North Dakota.
- Task forces members have been trained as certified methamphetamine clandestine lab investigators through the DEA and Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.
- In response to the appearance of methamphetamine and small clandestine labs across the state, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension is continuing specialized training on methamphetamine manufacture and lab identification for all sheriffs' offices and police departments in Minnesota.
- Discussions continue on the use of one state-wide narcotics pointer system by the Minnesota Drug Task Forces.
- Many task forces continue to use drug dogs for search warrants, vehicle searches, and transportation and package interdiction efforts. Some have been involved in searches at local schools, upon the request of the principal. Drug dogs are also used in schools during educational seminars to discourage drug use.
- Several task forces in rural and outer-ring suburban areas have investigated cases of significant indoor and outdoor marijuana grow operations. Many of these investigations are coordinated with the Minnesota Civil Air Patrol, Air National Guard, and the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's Marijuana Eradication Program. For example, the Dakota County Drug Task Force dismantled an elaborate grow operation with 4,100 plants. Federal charges are pending.
- With the increase in methamphetamine labs cropping up in rural areas, many task forces have made contacts with local businesses that sell products used as precursor chemicals to educate them and obtain investigative leads. The Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension has provided education materials to the drug task forces for this endeavor.
- Many task forces continue to provide drug education and awareness training and information to areas schools, teacher's associations, parents groups, senior citizen

programs, citizen academies, church groups, emergency medical staff, civic groups and business associations on a regular basis. Most are also involved in D.A.R.E., G.R.E.A.T., and school liaison officer programs.

- Task force personnel continue to provide training on narcotics identification and trends for patrol officers within participating law enforcement agencies. This promotes officer safety and develops investigative leads.

- A few metropolitan task forces continue to be involved in Federal Title III wiretap and pen register investigations involving larger criminal organizations.

- Northern task forces continue to work with U.S. Customs, the Coast Guard, and Immigration and Naturalization Service on interdiction operations at the Canadian border.

- Several metropolitan and suburban task forces have investigators serving on the DEA task force in the twin cities. They also continue to work regularly with the FBI, ATF, IRS, US Postal Service, the Minnesota Department of Revenue, and the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

- Several metropolitan task forces are regularly involved in the investigation of homicides and other drug-related violent crimes. In addition, cooperation with the Minnesota Gang Strike Force has increased.

- Several task forces have leveraged additional resources or coordinated efforts for narcotics enforcement through federal COPS, Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, Weed & Seed and Project Safe Neighborhood grants.

- Many task forces continue to report significant increases in methamphetamine. Most is transported into the area from Southern states and Mexico. However, an increasing amount of methamphetamine is being manufactured in clandestine labs using both the hot and cold method. Virtually all of these cases were handled in concert with the narcotics task force located in each area. Several examples are:
 - In Minneapolis, the task force worked with an informant as part of a 4 month investigation of 3 men attempting to distribute 30 pounds of methamphetamine worth \$1 million. Federal charges were filed.

 - Task force agents in Moorhead (located on the N. Dakota border across from Fargo) were a part of a 1 ½ year investigation into a meth distribution ring reported to be the largest in North Dakota history. Eight individuals were indicted in federal court.

- Several task forces continue to utilize culturally specific investigative techniques to infiltrate certain ethnic groups specializing in certain types of drug trafficking. Coordination with the Immigration and Naturalization Service in drug and money laundering investigations is increasing. In addition, drug task forces continue to work with the various airport authorities in the state to reduce drug trafficking.
- Many rural task forces note an increased population during harvest season and related increases in narcotics transported into Minnesota from the Southern states and Mexico. They have continued to work with law enforcement officials in California, Texas and Mexico to gather information and coordinate investigations.
- The Hennepin/Minneapolis Task Force, working with affiliated agencies, uncovered a smuggling operation using opium soaked tablecloths. A chemical process was to have been utilized to convert the opium into 9 pounds of heroin valued at \$5 million.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

When making application, potential task force grantees submit information on the following:

- Geographic area and population to be served by the task force.
- Participating law enforcement agencies.
- Coordinating law enforcement agencies.
- Investigative priorities (i.e., street sales, distribution, manufacturing).
- Targeted types of narcotics and offenses.

Additionally, potential grantees must identify the specific outcomes they intend to accomplish. Grantees then report quarterly on their activities in the following areas:

- Number of investigations initiated.
- Number of active cases.
- Number of arrests and search warrants issued.
- Number of arrests made, including:
 - types of drugs
 - drug act
 - level of arrest
 - court filings
- Types and amount of drugs seized and purchased.
- Number and types of weapons seized.
- Number of methamphetamine labs seized

Task force quarterly reports also include narrative sections that highlight problems encountered

and accomplishments in the following areas:

- Progress on specified task force goals and objectives.
- Issues effecting coordination with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, other narcotics task forces and the statewide gang strike force.
- Information summarizing assistance provided investigating narcotics cases in jurisdictions outside official task force boundaries.
- Information on efforts to coordinate activity with other public agencies, businesses and community resources in investigating narcotics offenses.
- Information summarizing training and technical assistance received or provided regarding narcotics identification, abuse and distribution to other organizations for drug awareness and prevention efforts.
- Information summarizing efforts to develop investigative strategies responsive to local drug use and distribution trends.

Yearly and quarterly report data are reviewed by the Narcotics Enforcement Coordinating Committee (NECC) for the purposes of recommending improvements to task force operations and for recommending grant funding levels.

While it is not used in the evaluation of task force performance, grantees also report quarterly on expenditures of grant and match funds; assets seized and forfeited; expenditures of forfeiture funds; estimates of staff time and overtime dedicated to narcotics investigations; and on equipment purchased. The NECC Committee reviews this information and provides feedback to the task force on these issues.

In addition, the grants coordinator convenes semi-annual meetings with the task force commanders to review reporting and administrative requirements. Task Force staff also have an opportunity to network and learn about emerging narcotics enforcement issues through quarterly meetings of the Minnesota Association of Narcotics Investigators (MSANI).

Site visits and/or full desk reviews were completed on all task force grants during the review period.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Title:	Specialized Prosecution Services
Number of Projects Funded:	1
Federal Cost of the Program:	\$150,000

Purpose Area: 10

Fiscal Year: 2001

PROGRAM GOAL

To increase prosecutorial resources and expertise necessary to successfully prosecute violators of narcotics and gang laws.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide Minnesota Attorney General's Office with the resources to prosecute a high volume of drug and gang cases throughout Minnesota.
- To develop and share expertise in prosecuting complex cases. To provide training and technical assistance to county attorneys, local prosecutors and district court judges.
- To provide advice to law enforcement regarding legal issues associated with narcotics and gang cases.
- To coordinate prosecution efforts with narcotics task forces and investigators.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Attorney General's Office continues to provide prosecution support to county attorneys across the state; predominantly in the smaller counties. The Attorney General's Office continues to focus its primary efforts on the prosecution of operators of clandestine methamphetamine laboratories. During the review period the Attorney General's Drug Unit:

- maintained an average of 101 active case files,
- obtained 69 felony convictions with 52 of those convicted sent to prison
- received 20 new referrals,
- argued 28 omnibus hearings and;
- prosecuted cases in 30 counties.

Significant cases in 2002 were as follows:

- Obtained a guilty plea and 144 month sentence for murder in connection with a meth lab explosion and death. This was the first attempt at such a prosecution in the state.
- Tried and convicted a defendant for first-degree methamphetamine manufacturing

conspiracy in St. Louis County. This was the first of eight defendants charged in the case to go to trial. Three other defendants pleaded guilty to first degree controlled substance crimes.

- Tried and convicted a meth manufacturer who used his minor son to steal anhydrous ammonia for his operation. On one occasion, this son received a serious chemical burn while stealing the chemical. The court sentenced the defendant to 132 months in prison which included a consecutive sentence for the solicitation of a juvenile to commit a crime.
- Tried and convicted a defendant for first-degree methamphetamine manufacturing conspiracy in Kandiyohi County. Three co-conspirators pleaded guilty to the same charge.

Staff also taught at the DEA's Clan Lab Recertification School in October 2002 and served on the on the Drug Sentencing Subcommittee of the Sentencing Guidelines Commission.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

- Number and types of cases prosecuted.
- Number of convictions obtained.
- Training sessions provided and number of participants.
- Training sessions attended.
- Number of Omnibus Hearings.
- Number and quality of complex crime related protocols established.
- Number of cases resulting in charges and convictions.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Title:	Reentry Services for Offenders
Number of Projects Funded:	5
Federal Cost of Program:	\$1,100,000
Purpose Area:	11
Fiscal Year:	2002

PROGRAM GOAL

The goal of this funding is to improve public safety by preparing offenders for successful reentry to communities. Funded projects involve a partnership between community organization(s) and a government agency formed to develop and implement strategies that enhance offender reentry.

OBJECTIVES

- Assist offenders in becoming productive, responsible, and law-abiding citizens.
- Assist in development of strategic and comprehensive reentry plans that address the following reentry components:
 - Obtaining and retaining long-term employment.
 - Maintaining stable residence.
 - Successfully addressing substance abuse issues.
 - Successfully addressing physical and mental health issues.
 - Establishing a meaningful and supportive role in the community.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In January, 2003, a Request for Proposals was issued to solicit proposals to provide reentry services for offenders. Five of the eleven proposals submitted were chosen for funding with a start date of April, 2003. The five new reentry grants are:

The Clay County Joint Powers Collaborative, in partnership with various community agencies, will provide comprehensive reentry services to juvenile offenders (aged 12 – 21) returning to their home communities in this northwestern Minnesota county from out of home placement.

Dakota County Community Services, in partnership with various community agencies, will provide wrap-around services to improve the effectiveness of interventions, treatment, and community re-integration services for chemically abusing juvenile offenders.

Hennepin County Department of Community Corrections, in partnership with the community-based Amicus, Inc. program, will provide comprehensive reentry services to African American female and male offenders being released from Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF)-Shakopee and MCF-Lino Lakes.

The Minnesota Department of Corrections, in partnership with the community-based Recovery Resource Center, will provide comprehensive reentry and continuing care services to women offenders from the MCF-Shakopee Chemical Health Unit.

The Ramsey County Workforce Solutions, in partnership with the community-based HIRED program, will provide comprehensive reentry services to juvenile offenders (aged 16-19 years) in Ramsey County. This is an expansion of the federally funded Building Lives program.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Title:	Community Based Crime Prevention
Number of Projects Funded:	42
Federal Cost of the Program:	\$2,500,000
Purpose Area:	4
Fiscal Year:	FFY01 FFY02

PROGRAM GOAL

Increase citizen awareness of crime issues; enhance citizen participation at the local level in prevention and intervention initiatives; improve community response to crime related issues through education and leadership skill building; increase formation of lasting partnerships between law enforcement and community members leading to stronger, smarter allocation of resources to deter crime; support for planning and development of innovative projects designed to decrease the prevalence of substance abuse and criminal behaviors in youth and adults.

OBJECTIVES

The programs/projects focus on prevention and intervention initiatives that work toward creating and sustaining safer communities. The project/program strategies encompass promoting change in individual, familial and community attitudes and behaviors associated with crime and violence, with particular emphasis placed on programming and education tailored at reaching at-risk youth and adult populations. Examples of objectives include:

- Increase knowledge and skills related to crime prevention in communities through education and information dissemination.
- Increase citizen and target population in defining issues, establishing priorities, planning, and implementation of evaluation of objectives and activities.
- Reduce individual and community risk factors for substance abuse and crime prevention through innovative and collaborative substance abuse and violence

- prevention programming in communities.
- Increase individual and community-based strengths and assets aimed at prevention and intervention of substance abuse.
 - Reduction in criminal behavior of youth and adults.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During the review period the Office of Justice Programs supported 42 community crime prevention grant programs mid way through their second year of funding. Funded projects:

- served 63,759 youth;
- served 21, 274 adults and;
- reported over 100,000 hours of volunteer service.

These two year grants are funded with Byrne dollars and state funds that are match to Byrne. The community-based projects target the needs and problems of specific communities or neighborhoods. They reflect the differing factors contributing to crime, the perception of crime, and the fear of crime and violence specific to the identified communities.

Projects are selected via the Community Prevention and Intervention Funding process. The process integrates funds from a variety of federal and state grant programs addressing community crime, and drug and violence prevention activities. This combined Request for Proposal allows community-based programs to apply to a variety of funding sources in a single application. The intent is to increase access to funds by grassroots community groups, facilitate the distribution of funds geographically, fund projects tailored to meet a community's stated needs, promote partnerships between community stakeholders and law enforcement/criminal justice providers, and actively involve the citizenry in funding decisions. To be eligible for funding, initiatives must demonstrate citizen participation in: defining issues, establishing work plan priorities, and demonstrating inclusive community planning.

Hundreds of citizens review and rate the proposals in order to make funding recommendations to staff. Review teams represent a wide variety of professionals, parents, community representatives and representation from diverse groups (age, race, gender, ethnicity, etc.). This Office continues to receive extremely positive feedback on the review process from reviewers and applicants alike. Reviewers not only enjoy the opportunity to impact decision-making, but they also learn about new programming ideas from around the state and hone their own grant writing skills.

Types of crime prevention projects selected for funding vary from traditional to innovative. Activities supported include: organizing neighborhood block clubs and clean-up projects; CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) projects; after-school and summer

enrichment activities for youth; truancy reduction programs; services to those who are currently or at risk of becoming juvenile offenders; youth and adult employment, substance abuse/mental health, and transition services to offenders, crime-free multi-housing projects; conflict resolution/mediation and restorative justice strategies.

Four projects are highlighted below:

Lone Pine Community Center

In an effort to reduce juvenile crime and improve the community within the Edgewood Trailer Park, the lowest income and highest crime area in the central Minnesota city of Mora, an abandoned trailer was refurbished by the city with donations and volunteer labor from local businesses and city residents. The refurbished trailer was opened as the Lone Pine Community Center, with the mission to offer a safe environment to youth, provide after-school activities, and reduce juvenile crime and delinquency.

The Lone Pine Community Center offers youth and families several programs, among those programs are K-6 After-School Program, 7-12 After-School Program, D.R.E.A.M Girls, and Circle of Parents. These four programs served 209 individuals during the review period.

Activities to date include:

- 29 performances,
- 155 support sessions,
- 69 counseling sessions,
- 518 other children activities,
- 71 classes and workshops,
- 141 mentoring sessions,
- 76 employment focused sessions and
- 86 recreational activities.

The K-6 After-School Program and 7-12 After-School Program are the cornerstones of the Lone Pine Community Center. These programs provide safe, positive, and asset building activities for youth during the peak juvenile crime hours after school. Activities include: nutrition classes, 4-H, crafts, computer lab, bookmobile, mentoring, tutoring, substance abuse programs, and community service opportunities.

Girls in grades 7-12 are encouraged to become determined, responsible, educated, achieving, and motivated girls (D.R.E.A.M. Girls) through this program that seeks to build self-esteem and to demonstrate that girls can achieve their dreams. The program accomplishes this by exposing the girls to new positive experiences, educating them about safe and healthy choices, providing support groups, providing community service opportunities, teaching goal setting, and providing employment opportunities.

The Circle of Parents program is a chartered parent support group of Prevent Child Abuse Minnesota. The group meets once a week to discuss parenting issues and provide parenting

workshops.

As a result of these activities, the Lone Pine Community Center's preliminary evaluation results to date include the following:

- 23% decrease in juvenile crime from 2001 to 2002.
- Significant difference in juvenile offenses, school offenses, and grade point averages among D.R.E.A.M Girls regular participants (Group A, n=19) and infrequent participants (Group B, n=17). Group A results show 3 juvenile offenses, 60 school offenses, and an average gpa of 2.49. Group B results show 22 juvenile offenses, 110 school offenses, and an average gpa of 1.6.

The Garage

The Garage Youth Center is located in the city of Burnsville a first ring suburb just south of Minneapolis. The Garage Youth Center is a supervised recreation and entertainment center for at-risk teens. Programs and events at the Garage are all created by teens and facilitated by teens and adults. The Garage offers support groups, learning classes, speakers, awareness benefits, fundraisers, music concerts, parties, leadership training, book club, political debate club, music lessons, drama club, smoking cessation, karate, and diversity club.

The primary goal of the project supported by this office is to reduce juvenile crime rates among youth who are not served by traditional recreation programs in the Burnsville area. The Garage accomplishes this by providing after-school and weekend activities attractive to teens that have been difficult to reach by more traditional approaches. To date the garage has served, primarily through weekend music concerts, 37,366 duplicated youth from throughout the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Results from the interim evaluation report based on surveys of participants and parents indicate the following:

- 25% of respondents report increased school attendance
- Of those respondents reporting that they use alcohol, 18% decreased/stopped alcohol use.
- Of those respondents reporting that they use tobacco, 24% decreased/stopped use.
- Of those respondents reporting that they use drugs, 11% decreased/stopped drug use.
- 38% of responding parents report improved behavior of their child.
- 65% of respondents report that they make better choices.
- 61% of respondents report that they feel they are more valuable and important.

Chicano Latino Youth Leadership Institute

CHYLI is a program of the Region Nine Development Commission, a regional governmental unit serving a 9-county agricultural area in rural southern Minnesota. This area was hard hit by the farm crisis of the 1980's and never fully recovered. The subsequent out-migration of long-time residents resulted in a worker shortage that soon was filled by Chicano-Latino laborers who

had formerly been seasonal workers in the area. Latinos are now the fastest growing population group in Region Nine, and the number of Chicano-Latino students enrolled in the area public schools has grown 472% since 1986.

CHYLI is a culturally based leadership and youth development program with follow-up training and technical assistance for school-aged youth (12-17) in Region Nine. The program strives to decrease alcohol and other drug abuse in the Chicano-Latino community; and empower Chicano-Latino youth to be active participants in community decision making and vision setting.

CHYLI ascribes to the notion that successful prevention programs increase opportunities for youth to contribute, teach skills needed to contribute, and recognize successful or skillful performance. In following this skill-based model, CHYLI focuses on the following primary activities:

- Annual 2-day leadership institute. Each year approximately 60 Chicano-Latino youth are selected to participate through an open application process at area high schools.
- Supporting CHYLI participants in planning and implementing a community service project
- Providing regular follow-up and technical assistance, training workshops, and developmental guidance to CHYLI graduates in their home communities.
- College visits and postsecondary education options workshops.
- Provides support and guidance to a CHYLI Youth Advisory Committee.
- Offers additional leadership opportunities to CHYLI graduates as they become available.

Evaluation results indicate the following regarding CHYLI participants:

- 34% (n=105) of CHYLI participants have reached the typical high school graduation age (i.e. 4 years after starting the ninth grade). Of those, at least 71% are known to have completed requirements and graduated high school, 14% are known to have quit school, and 15% have moved from the region.
- Significant increase in self-confidence was evidenced by pre/post test differences.
- Significant improvement in social and leadership skills was evidenced by pre/post tests differences.

Tuancy Action Project

The Tuancy Action Project is a component of Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota in collaboration with the Duluth Public Schools, Duluth Police Department, St. Louis County Social Service Department, St. Louis County Attorney's Office, Arrowhead Regional Corrections, and the Duluth Area Family Service Collaborative.

TAP is a multi-agency approach to help improve students' attendance and divert them out of the court system by working with the youth and their family. TAP employs assessments, contracts and incentives, advocacy, peer support groups, and referral to resources in order to improve school attendance and reduce juvenile delinquency. For the most difficult cases, the Interagency Review Team was created. The IRT consists of numerous systems that work together to offer a continuum of service that is most effective and reaching the underlying cause of a student's

truant behavior. To date over 1,100 youth have been served by the project.

Preliminary evaluation results indicate the following:

- 83% (n=681) of students referred to TAP have improved their school attendance. Of those that have improved their attendance, 48% improved 1-10%, 38% improved 11-21%, and 13% improved 22-68%.
- Of the 477 students referred to the IRT, only 24% were subsequently referred to court. The 362 students successful served through the IRT translate to over 2.5 million dollars in savings of court and probation costs.
- 64% of parents have become actively involved in the project.
- Anecdotal evidence points to a reduction in daytime crime rates in the city of Duluth.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

Training and technical assistance on program evaluation was provided to all community crime prevention grantees by Wilder Research and OJP staff. Each grantee was required to develop a logic model in order to articulate the elements of their project and logically link their activities to their expected outcomes via their theory of change. Grantees were strongly encouraged to set aside 10% of their budget to develop and implement an evaluation plan based on their logic model. While the vast majority of grantees have developed evaluation plans, they are in various states of implementation and final results are not expected to be received until January of 2004.

In addition to logic models and evaluation plans, all projects are required to provide quarterly performance data and financial expenditure reports. Finally, each project receives at least two staff site visits during the two-year cycle of the grant. These monitoring visits are aimed at ensuring successful performance of the project work plan.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Title:	Chemical Dependency Courts
Number of Projects Funded:	5
Federal Cost of the Program:	\$712,619
Purpose Area:	13
Fiscal Year:	2002

PROGRAM GOAL

To develop an effective and flexible program of court-supervised drug treatment that would reduce demand for illicit drugs and subsequent involvement in the court system by substance abusers.

OBJECTIVES

- To divert appropriate offenders to chemical dependency treatment.
- To reduce recidivism rates of program participants.
- To demonstrate progress in employment, family reunification and/or health issues.
- To increase abstinence rates for program participants.
- To quickly identify eligible offenders who are chemically dependent.
- To decrease the average length of time from arrest to case disposition.
- To reduce recidivism rates of program completers.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Grant projects are intended to support judicial leadership, multidisciplinary collaboration and local planning to address issues of substance abuse among defendants in criminal and juvenile court.

Projects must meet the following ten key components developed by the federal Drug Court Program Office:

- Substance abuse courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing.
- Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.
- Eligible participants are identified early and promptly placed in the substance abuse court program.
- Substance abuse courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and related treatment.

- Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.
- A coordinated strategy governs substance abuse court responses to participants' compliance.
- Ongoing judicial interaction with each substance abuse court participant is essential.
- Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.
- Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning, implementation and operations.
- Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhanced substance abuse court effectiveness.

Six pilot projects were funded across the state; five are now fully operational and one returned the funding. A summary of each project and press to date follows:

Arrowhead Regional Corrections (6th Judicial District) targets adult, drug-addicted offenders drug addicted possession offenders as well as property crimes committed to support an addiction in the Duluth area..

Since the start of the Duluth Adult Drug Court in June 2002, 37 participants have been admitted to the program with 3 graduates. All of the graduates had full or part-time employment. One participant was terminated for failure to comply with program requirements and one voluntarily withdrew from the program. While in the program, 4 participants were convicted of new offenses, including two violent offenses and two traffic offenses. They plan to track recidivism rates for 18-months after graduation. Arrowhead Regional Corrections has subcontracted with a professor at the University of Minnesota Duluth for the evaluation of their drug court.

Dodge County Human Services (3rd Judicial District) administers a planning and implementation grant for training and program development in this rural county in Southern Minnesota. The initial target population is juvenile drug and alcohol and related cases with a planned expansion to adult cases.

They have held two planning workshops on addiction & crime and drug court concepts that were attended by more than 60 people. They began hearing juvenile cases in November 2002. Ten participants have been admitted to the program. No participants have been terminated for failure to comply with program requirements and none have been convicted of a new offense. They expect their first graduate early in 2004 and plan to track recidivism rates for 12-months after graduation.

The Dodge County Adult Drug Court began June 1st, 2003 and immediately admitted 10 participants. Half of participants identify methamphetamine as their primary drug of choice. They expect their first graduate late in 2004 and plan to track recidivism rates for 12-months after graduation.

Dodge County Human Services has subcontracted with an evaluator at Dodge/Filmore/Olmsted Community Corrections to evaluate both their juvenile and adult drug courts.

Ramsey County Community Corrections (2nd Judicial District) administers an implementation grant for substance abusing juveniles at risk for out-of-home placement in Ramsey County.

Since the start of the Ramsey County Juvenile Substance Abuse Court (JSAC) in July 2000, 101 participants have been admitted to the program and 16 have graduated. Eighty-one percent of program graduates were employed at least part-time. Eighty-five participants were terminated for failure to comply with program requirements, and 12 bench warrants were issued. While in the program, one participant was convicted of a new non-violent offense. They plan to track recidivism rates for twelve-months after graduation. Based on preliminary evaluation results and high termination rates, the JSAC team has held a series of planning retreats to examine participant screening, the program design and outcomes. There are plans to update and refine the procedures manual and make additional program adjustments in the coming year.

The Second Judicial District administers an implementation grant for an adult substance abuse court in Ramsey County.

Since the start of the Ramsey County Adult Substance Abuse Court (ASAC) in October 2002, 1842 defendants have been screened for residency, offence eligibility and chemical use. Of the 150 defendants determined to be eligible, 82 were willing to participate and 42 were accepted by the ASAC staffing team. Seven percent are in the diversion track, 57% are in the post adjudication track and 36% are in the probation violation track. A majority of participants (64%) have a charge for possession of a controlled substance and 12% are charged with fraud. They expect their first graduate early in 2004. They have collected \$1,245 in fees since the start of the program. They plan to track recidivism rates for 18-months after graduation. The 2nd Judicial District attended the NDCI evaluation workshop and is currently working with the Research Division of the Supreme Court on an evaluation plan.

The 7th Judicial District administers an implementation grant for adult felony drug and DUI offenders in St. Cloud.

Since the start of the Stearns County Drug Court in July 2002, 38 participants have been admitted to the program. One participant was terminated for failure to comply with program requirements and is on bench warrant status. They expect their first graduate late in 2003. While in the program, 2 participants were convicted of new traffic offenses. They plan to track recidivism rates for 18-months after graduation. The 7th Judicial District has subcontracted with a professor at the St. Johns University for the evaluation of their drug court.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

OJP staff work closely with the Supreme Court on this initiative and supported the first

conference for “Judicial Interventions in Chemical Health” in July, 2002 funded by a Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG). More than 200 participants in teams from each of the 10 judicial districts in the state attended and learned about addictive disease and its treatment, cultural issues in chemical dependency and trends in drug use in Minnesota. National speakers Bill White and General Barry McCaffrey joined local experts from the Hazelden Foundation and Veterans Administration Medical Center. While drug courts were not the primary focus of this conference, Julius Dupree from the (former) Drug Court Program Office and Karen Freeman-Brown from the National Association of Drug Court Professionals made presentations. Other topics included restorative justice, staggered sentencing for DUI cases, gender specific programming and innovative solutions in the schools. Experienced DCPI faculty, provided by NDCI, facilitated workshops for each judicial district that developed an action plan for chemical health. Supreme Court staff conducted follow-up activities with judicial districts and provided JAIBG sub-grants to several jurisdictions, including some for drug court planning.

Staff convene quarterly meetings of grantees to discuss common issues and concerns. A general grantee workshop in August 2002 solicited feedback on the Supreme Court Conference and identified issues for subsequent meetings, including funding for chemical dependency treatment, management information systems, evaluation plans, available training, communication among grantees and the development of a statewide drug court association.

The quarterly meeting in December 2002 was focused on chemical dependency assessment and funding. Minnesota has a unique consolidated chemical dependency treatment fund, administered by the state Department of Human Services (DHS), which combines federal and state resources. Drug court coordinators reported varying degrees of cooperation with their county human service assessors. Representatives from the DHS, Chemical Health Unit facilitated a meeting of drug coordinators and county human service contacts. They explained the assessment and funding process and empowered counties to design creative systems to serve drug court participants, with state resources available facilitate the dialog, if necessary. DHS has since become a partner with OJP and the Supreme Court with a designated drug court liaison.

In February 2003, we worked with an evaluation consultant to review quarterly report forms and agree on common definitions for data elements, so that future statewide reports will contain comparable data. There was a significant discussion about Management Information Systems used by each of the sites and their ability to download reports. It was agreed that this was an area of significant need for ongoing communication among coordinators and discussion at future meetings.

The final drug court grantee meeting for this reporting period, held in May 2003, focused on the federal grant application process and registration for DCPI. Invitations were extended to any jurisdiction interested in the planning process as well as representatives from the established Hennepin County Drug Court that planned to apply for both a drug court enhancement grant to address the unique needs of female offenders and a new mental health court. Drug court coordinator Dennis Miller, who also serves on the National Drug Court Institute (NDCI) faculty, provided participants with great insights into grant writing and drug court planning. Four

jurisdictions from Minnesota applied for 2003 BJA drug court grants, including the Supreme Court Statewide Enhancement Training and Technical Assistance proposal, and nine new jurisdictions registered for the 2004 DCPI.

In the third quarter of 2003, the Duluth Drug Court, in coordination with NDCI, will be hosting the first statewide drug court conference in the Minnesota. Representatives from operational drug courts and those in the planning stages will be invited. ODPVP and the Supreme Court will provide support in planning the agenda, identifying potential participants, onsite support, and post-training follow-up and technical assistance.

A goal of this pilot funding is to prepare local jurisdictions to be competitive in applying for federal drug court grant funds. OJP plans to dedicate additional Byrne funds to a substance abuse court training and technical assistance to support these pilot sites. Preliminary plans include hosting an NDCI evaluation workshop in Minnesota, then designing a follow-up workshop focusing on local needs. An evaluation consultant will host quarterly meetings with drug court coordinators and evaluators to discuss evaluation plans and discuss outcomes.

OJP requires grantees to submit baseline data and participant/program information, similar to the BJA semi-annual reports, on a quarterly basis in addition to a project narrative summarizing program implementation, participant feedback, barriers encountered and requested revisions. Substance Abuse Court grantees also provide quarterly financial expenditure reports to OJP. The grant manager conducts several site visits each year and maintains telephone and email contact as needed to monitor performance and provide technical assistance. In the next fiscal year, financial desk review audits will be conducted for all grants.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program Title:	Justice Training Partnerships
Number of Projects Funded:	3
Federal Cost of the Program:	\$64,630
Purpose Area:	11
Fiscal Year:	2002

PROGRAM GOAL

These training funds are intended to support new criminal justice training projects that increase public safety and improve the criminal justice system. The following awards were made April, 2003, and activities are ongoing to March, 2004.

Freeborn County Court Services, in partnership with Department of Human Services, and Community Action in Freeborn County, proposes a training project that will include the following components:

- Integrating Diversity (emphasis on Latino cultures). Confidential diversity audits will be done with each department. Court and related staff will initially discuss information about diversity and language and what is needed for each individual office of the Courts and Department of Human Services.
- Teaching Spanish to point of entry direct service staff . Staff will be prepared with Spanish phrases to accommodate the consumer requesting simple form information, directions, payments, appointment setting, and link them to a professional interpreter.
- Training two Spanish speaking facilitators in the Domestic Abuse Program (DAP) curriculum. DAP is a 24 week education group for male batterers who have been ordered by the court system, or have chosen to enter voluntarily. Usually, Spanish speaking offenders are either remanded to jail, or have no opportunity for attending a class addressing education in relationships, anger, and abuse.
- Training three Minnesota Supreme Court Roster Interpreters for certification.

Minnesota Department of Corrections will partner with AMICUS, a Minnesota non-profit organization with over 36 years of experience in building positive and constructive relationships between inmates, ex-offenders, and the community. This training program is being developed to enhance the capacity of faith-based and local neighborhood organizations to provide effective services to offenders returning to the community.

Minnesota Department of Corrections - Mental Health Training This training program is a cross-system mental health case planning collaboration for adult and juvenile offenders. The Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) Juvenile Services Division and Mental Health Services Division will be working with DOC district directors in nine locations around the state to:

- Increase knowledge, skills and attitudes on developing local partnerships in order to provide cost effective collaborative case planning for adult and juvenile offenders with serious mental health issues.
- Increase knowledge, skills, and abilities to identify adult or juvenile offenders who may have mental health problems, and/or more effectively deal with those offenders who already have a mental health disorder diagnosis.
- Increased understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the juvenile justice system for non-correction's stakeholders.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Program title:	Community Justice: Problem-Solving Partnerships
Number of Projects Funded:	19
Federal Cost of the Program:	\$2,200,000
Purpose Area:	04
Fiscal Year:	FFY01

PROGRAM GOAL

To improve public safety and increase the effectiveness of the criminal justice system by developing problem-solving partnerships among community partners, criminal justice providers, and criminal justice systems working toward a more effective community-focused justice system.

OBJECTIVES

- Increase involvement of citizens working in partnership with government in the design of efforts to improve public safety and community livability.
- Increased outreach to community groups by government criminal justice agencies.
- Increased emphasis on the community as the ultimate customer of the criminal justice system.
- Increased emphasis on restoring the harm caused by crime to the community and to victims of crime.
- Increase efforts to examine process, structures and activities inherent in traditional criminal justice systems to promote the development of new and innovative ways to serve clients within the system.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Programs funded focus on partnerships between criminal justice agencies, community groups and/or other agencies that have been created to solve a specific criminal justice or neighborhood livability problems. Partnerships range from police/probation partnerships to restorative justice transition programming to multi-cultural criminal justice programming. All projects received tailored technical assistance in the area program evaluation and implementation. While some programs struggled with implementation of evaluation protocols, data collection and analysis

issues, etc., at the outset, the majority of the programs posted better than expected outcomes.

Each grantee established an evaluation plan based on a logic model. The logic model served as the guide for both design and implementation. Evaluation plans incorporated measurement instruments to capture outcome data. Through reflection and examination of process evaluation feedback, each grantee made program improvements. Very often they discovered that common-sense changes in the work plan strengthened both the program and administrative components of their projects. The results affirm our commitment to providing tailored, intensive evaluation technical assistance to our grantees.

As these four year grants were coming to an end, OJP convened a final community justice meeting to celebrate the successes of these wide-ranging projects. As mentioned earlier, OJP asked Dr. Laura Bloomberg to document the lesson learned. Dr. Bloomberg reviewed all of the work plans and budgets for the funded programs and conducted two focus groups. The groups were held in early 2003. Focus group data, feedback and ideas for directing future initiatives were shared, documented and written in report form.

The following summaries include a brief project description, evaluation activities and outcomes reported from each community justice project. An evaluation matrix of these projects is included as **Appendix B**.

PROJECT SUMMARIES

The Clay County Restorative Justice Program operates a diversion program utilizing restorative justice conferencing and panels for juvenile offenders ages 12-20 in northwestern Minnesota. Conferencing and panels are staffed by the program, with support persons selected by the offender and the victim.

Twenty-five restorative justice cases were accepted and completed. Nineteen cases employed a face-to-face restorative process where offenders, victims and support persons discussed the incident and created a plan to address the harm caused to the victim. Four victims chose not to meet face-to-face, but did participate in developing a written agreement to address the harm caused. In two of the cases the offenders met with a community and/or victim panel instead of the victim. In this process, the offender took responsibility for the harm to the victim, the panel participants created a plan that addressed the harm caused to the victim and/or community.

Evaluation results of surveys returned by 313 participants indicate favorable results for the program. Approximately 98% of the participants indicated they felt satisfied or very satisfied with the process. One hundred percent (100%) of the participants rated the process as satisfactory and 97% indicated that they would probably or definitely recommend restorative justice processes to someone in a similar situation.

Dodge, Fillmore, Olmsted Community Corrections Community Probation Officer (CPO) Program provides intensive, community-based supervision to the highest risk juveniles, sex

offenders, and domestic violence offenders in the City of Rochester, and surrounding counties in Southeastern Minnesota. A victim services training component was also added this past year.

In its fourth year of operation, the CPO program has improved the overall effectiveness of probation, increased the accountability of offenders and reduced service fragmentation to offenders.

This intensive police/probation collaboration provided for increased monitoring and home visits which resulted in improved compliance and reduced recidivism. Caseworkers worked closely with offenders monitoring behavior as well as assisting them in finding stable housing, treatment services and employment.

In addition to traditional probation services, caseworkers also helped design and evaluate the use of restorative justice supervision circles with these offenders.

The program sought to increase the competencies and reduce the risk/needs of offenders. Forty three percent of adults assessed with the LSI-R and 41% of juveniles assessed with YLSO/CMI, reduced their risk/needs scores while in the program. The LSI-R and YLSO/CMI are risk assessment tools employed by corrections to measure baseline factors and subsequent changes. Of this high-risk group, 48 (49.7%) adults and 6 juveniles (21.9%) had no new arrests or convictions and only two low-level charged sex offenses occurred by offenders on the caseload, a marked improvement for this high risk group. Federal funding for this project ended in March 2003 but Dodge, Fillmore, Olmsted Community Corrections integrated this successful project.

Dodge, Fillmore, Olmsted Community Corrections Circles of Support serves the City of Rochester and the surrounding Southeastern Minnesota counties. Community volunteers are matched with high-risk female offenders on probation in the community. The circles meet regularly to focus on repairing harm to victims, family, friends and community and to support the offender in becoming law abiding, contributing member of the community.

During the review period, a supervision circle was introduced. An average of 15-20 high risk female probationers were engaged in circle as a substitute for weekly meetings with probation officers. The circle introduced these women to an alternative way of handling conflict, provided them with additional support and resources while holding them accountable for their past and current transgressions.

Outcomes are promising. Patterns evident in the data show that circles are having the best results with women who have significant criminal histories, often with multiple chemical dependency treatment admissions. In 2002, 15 circles were in action across the three counties, with a total of 33 cases. A total of 20 cases have been completed. Evaluation survey and interview data show:

- offenders rated satisfaction with the circle keeper and the process at 93%,
- 98% of the victims rated the process as agreeable,
- offenders report a 95% satisfaction with the outcome of the agreement;

- victims reported an 88% satisfaction rating with outcome of the agreement;

The support provided and the accountability demanded by the circle is leading to the development of long-term stability and crime-free lifestyles for these women, many of whom have been in the criminal justice system most of their adolescent and adult lives.

A quasi-experimental study was designed to track progress of participants and non-participants of all the circles. Circle is a voluntary alternative to traditional sentencing. Two groups of females were established in 2002. Members of both groups were referred by their probation officers. Most were drug-related, theft or property crime offenders. A circle group of nine participants and fifteen control group participants were matched solely on similar offense criteria and willingness to participate/not participate in circle. The criminal activities of women who select not to participate in the circle process were compared over time with the criminal activities of women who do participate in the circle process. Since the study began in July of 2002, 88% of female offenders in the circle groups have remained law abiding during participation, compared with 28% in the control group.

Volunteer hours increased by 10 % over last year, with 1780 hours of volunteer time recorded. Five current volunteers are women who have previously participated in the circle process as offenders. DFO will be introducing restorative measures philosophy training to all members of their probation and human services staff in 2003-04 as a result of the success of restorative justice programming.

Freeborn County Community Justice Project was initiated by the MN County Attorney's Association and the Freeborn County Attorney to examine the disproportionate representation of Latinos in the criminal court system. Funding for this project ended in December of 2002. The County has continued the project with local dollars.

In 1999, local stakeholders, including the County Attorney, two judges, court administration, probation staff, the public defender, representatives from the school district, area churches, and the business community met to discuss/identify community needs for building partnerships and understanding of the legal system. These initial discussions centered on viewpoints/observations which led to the performance of a gaps analysis. Identified needs were for language translation, orientation for new members of the community regarding legal systems, educational opportunities, health and medical care, education to the general public providing services, information and referrals to new immigrants, and an awareness of 'who needs to be at the table'.

The activity for the grant shifted from the Attorney's office to the Community Action Agency, which served to assist in managing the project and in moving the steering committee forward. The committee succeeded in changing the way the Attorney's office did business by offering language classes, legal advice, forums for the County Attorney and other legal representatives to meet with clients before and after legal issues developed. They identified better ways to streamline delivery of services for licenses, births certificates, and insurance cards. A victim advocacy system was put into place and established a victim impact panel as well.

One of the highlights of the project was the production of “Bienvenido a Minnesota” (Welcome to Minnesota). This is a bilingual booklet that includes information to assist new residents on constitutional rights, Minnesota law and local ordinances, immigration, housing, child abuse, insurance, truancy, and emergency response. Seven thousand five hundred (9,025) copies have been dispersed in Freeborn County and throughout the State of Minnesota. It has also been used as a model for other culturally specific projects across the state. Other highlights are the placement of language friendly signage and translation specific services in the court house and community centers in the County. Training and education services have been contracted from immigrant serving agencies in the Twin Cities. They have also assisted in the development of domestic violence services in the County.

A significant challenge to this project has been the recent Minnesota state law, which requires proof of identification with a primary and secondary document to obtain a driver’s license or state identification card. Immigrant communities often have great difficulties in obtaining copies of these documents from their home countries and this additional requirement may result in fewer Latino offenders meeting their court orders. Evaluation technical training and technical assistance from OJP proved significant in providing focus for the future.

The Hennepin County Attorney’s Office (HCAO) Juvenile Domestic Violence Project provides specialized legal advocacy services to victims of juvenile domestic and dating violence. The advocates provide victims with a knowledgeable court ally who can navigate within the system and ensure that victims/parents are an integral part of the process and have input into decisions that are made. The advocates’ role includes victim interviews and support, case review with prosecutors, and attendance at prosecution team meetings. The advocates communicate regularly with probation and social service staff on both individual cases and system issues. This grant ended January 31, 2003.

Measuring outcomes for this grant was a challenge. The initial plan included follow-up telephone surveys with clients six months after the case was closed. However, there were several problems inherent to using this methodology with this client base (highly mobile population, parents’ lack of knowledge about court-ordered dispositions, juvenile no longer living at home, etc.) Of those interviewed all but one reported that services provided by the advocate were helpful, 82% also felt that one or more of the court-ordered services were helpful, 67% of the family members responded that things were “better”. In 94% of the cases, interviewees reported that the juvenile had participated in the court-ordered services.

Working closely with victims, the HCAO Victim Witness Division Manager, the HCAO juvenile domestic team prosecutors, judges, probation, and other criminal justice system agencies and community agencies, the project advocates accomplished the following: timely communication between community stakeholders and criminal justice system; improved victim safety by communicating respondents’ histories and having the most violent juveniles detained; improved timeliness of case charging and disposition; and improved respondents’ access to appropriate treatment . These specialized legal advocacy services will be continuing on a reduced basis due to securing a Violence Against Women (VAWA) Grant.

The Hennepin County Community Corrections Rebound Project is a collaborative of Hennepin County Adult and Family Services and the Reuben Lindh Family Services Program. It utilizes a multi-disciplinary approach in working with families on supervised probation with substance issues who are caring for a child under twelve. Case management, parent education, therapy (individual and family), weekly home visits sober support networks and trusting relationships are used to assist families with recovery, rebuilding family ties, and reducing the risk for further involvement with corrections and child protection.

A final evaluation report will be available after the grant ends on December 31, 2003. For the period of July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003 the following outcomes for project participants were reported:

- No new maltreatment reports-94%
- No new criminal convictions -97%
- Improved parenting skills - 43% (all quarterly averages)

The Hennepin County Office of Multi-Cultural Services operates the Community Justice Project which partners the cultural and linguistic expertise of four Community Justice Liaisons with a variety of providers to ensure that persons from the Latino and Somali communities understand their rights and responsibilities within the criminal justice system. Housed within the Hennepin County Government Center, clients have immediate access to services in order to resolve issues related to traffic violations, orders for protection, child custody and visitation, divorce, name changes, conciliation court and a myriad of other issues. Clients come faced with language and cultural barriers and issues of mistrust of government. The Community Justice Liaisons function as “system navigators” helping to resolve issues where culture and language provide additional barriers to compliance with federal, state, and local laws, accessing self-help services, and understanding the complexities of the criminal justice system.

As of June 30, 2003, 10,105 Latino and Somali clients have received services from this project. The initiative is highly regarded by District Court partners, community-based organizations, and the immigrant community. Client satisfaction surveys consistently rate the services provided by the community justice liaisons as very helpful. In 2003, a survey was developed for use with clients at the community-based outreach locations. Due to the oral nature of the Latino and Somali communities, completing these surveys is very time-consuming. Significant time was required to help clients to complete the survey. Another, follow-up survey is in process with individuals who received services in 2002. A final evaluation report will be submitted when the grant ends at the end of 2003.

The Hennepin County Department of Community Corrections Male Oppression and Violence Elimination (M.O.V.E.) Program offers male perpetrators a 26-week domestic violence/anger management treatment program. M.O.V.E. is operated by African American Family Services, a culturally specific, community-based agency. The goal of the M.O.V.E. program is to educate and empower men who batter to change their destructive behavior. The focus is to ensure the safety and well being of all family members. Through education and therapy the men learn effective, practical and realistic methods for examining and changing their

behavior.

One hundred and thirty-nine men graduated from the M.O.V.E. program during the four-year grant period. Of the graduates who were out of the program at least six months, only sixteen re-offended. This is a low, 11.5% recidivism rate. This represents a significant cost savings to the county and taxpayers when compared to recidivism rates without any treatment. The grant ended in February 2003 and continues at approximately one-third of its capacity.

The MN Correctional Facility-Red Wing (MCF-RW) Transition Program provides a support network for juvenile offenders transitioning from this residential correctional facility back to the community. The purpose is to reduce the recidivism rate of offenders by increasing their job skills, improving access to educational opportunities, improving their connection to respective communities, their families/support systems and teaching them positive social activities. This institution serves clients who are the most difficult to place and those that have exhausted most other local resources. A collaboration of community service providers, families, community members, and criminal justice representatives is established to provide support for transitions back to the offenders' community.

MCF-RW has entered into approximately 12 professional/technical service contracts with community agencies to provide clients with specific, culturally responsive services. Statistics are kept by community agencies, as well as MCF-RW, to track recidivism rates and the effect of these services. The services provided by these agencies include: mentoring, including culture-specific and faith-based; community circles; educational assistance; cultural history and awareness; employment assistance and job retention; anger management; parenting skills; electronic home monitoring; training for staff and other community service providers on mentoring relationships and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome services and training. MCF-RW staff and community providers continued to provide and attend training to better serve the population.

This past year youth received trainings and lectures on health and wellness, grooming and etiquette for job placement, driver training and education, computer skills assessment and technology futures Microsoft, ethics and professionalism in the work place, anger management and conflict resolution, the cultural dynamics of domestic violence, institutional racism and the culture of poverty were presented at the facility.

A strong evaluation plan and tools have been designed and implemented. Surveys have been developed, and are administered to youth by each of the 12 contracted agencies. Data are collected on the following indicators: employment, substance abuse and mental health stability, and recidivism. Over the most recent past three quarters of the program, the following are changes were evidenced in clients being served:

- 24 of the 26 referred youth completed furlough-a 56% increase over previous year.
- Of the 24 youth released:
 - 3 youth were charged with a new offense six months after release.
 - 18 are employed and three more are in job training

- 15 are enrolled in regular classes or seeking a GED
- 14 have been referred for C.D. treatment.
- 10 have successfully completed treatment
- 18 are in monthly therapy and taking medications regularly.

The Minnesota Department of Corrections, BIHA (Black, Indian, Hispanic and Asian Women in Action) North-side Circles Project

This Project serves primarily African American juveniles and families in a North Minneapolis neighborhood. Juveniles charged with crimes, families involved with child protection services, and youth at risk of out-of-home placement participate in a restorative justice circle process

Due to variety of circumstances such as loss of other companion funding sources, financial infrastructure and capacity concerns, the grant contract for this project was closed in July 2002.

Minnesota Correctional Facility at Red Wing

The Connections Project provides training, restorative justice conferences, victim-offender mediation and victim impact services for residents and staff at Minnesota's juvenile correctional facility.

All staff at the institution received training on restorative practices, resulting in a unanimous decision to adopt a restorative justice disciplinary structure campus-wide in 2000. Restorative measures are now used in processing all conflicts on campus, including some staff conflicts. Community Partners in state and local agencies across Minnesota have contributed more than 600 hours of volunteer time in holding community conferences.

All residents who transition out of the facility must go through a closing case management circle. Connections staff, case managers, and staff of a community-based agency, work with the client in circles at the institution and within their home communities for the 90-day furlough period. Despite some major turnover this year in staffing, fourteen residents participated in thirty-two circles. This led to fourteen transition circles post-furlough, resulting in twelve completed post-release circle contracts. Upon release back to the community, only two have broken their compact during the furlough period and only one resident has re-offended upon return to their community. Violations of furlough have dropped in half to 46%. Seventy-nine youth have attended victim impact classes. Participant surveys administered at the end of the class found an 86% satisfaction rate

Funding for this project will end in September of 2003 and the coordinating position was cut due to budget constraints. Victim impact classes continue with the assistance of other trained case management staff. The goal is to re-establish the coordinator position in the near future.

Minnesota Department of Corrections/Restorative Justice Program for Girls The Department, in partnership with Amicus, Inc., offers a restorative justice program for juvenile females committed to the custody of the state. The goal is to assist the juvenile female offender's return to her community to live a successful, productive and law-abiding life. The

program focuses on intervention of the girl's offending behaviors and provides support for their own victimization issues through such restorative justice practices as circles of support, victim-offender healing circles, and community transition healing circles. Another objective of this grant is to foster the ongoing development of restorative justice values and philosophy within the residential facility for state-committed girls.

The evaluation plan for this program has been completely revised. When the primary staff for this program resigned in December of 2002, it was discovered that the plan for data collection was not being followed. Shortly thereafter an independent contractor was hired to manage the program's evaluation activities. Her responsibilities include completing telephone exit interviews with each girl transitioning to furlough, training Amicus staff at Woodland Hills on the importance of consistent, timely data collection, ensuring that data is accurately recorded in a database for analysis, and analyzing data for the final report. The plan includes post-circle surveys, phone interviews, case note review, re-arrest and re-conviction data review, client self-assessments and team assessments, one-to-one interviews with management team members, and Woodland Hills' staff end of grant survey. The grant ends December 31, 2003 and the report will be included in next year's annual report.

PACT IV Juvenile Community Probation/Restorative Justice This restorative justice program is a collaborative project serving juvenile offenders aged 12-21 in Kandiyohi County. In circle, offenders sign a compact committing to restoring harm and then provide updates on their progress in meeting the conditions set forth in the compact on a bi-weekly basis.

In the past year, Kandiyohi County has had 29 referrals to the circle process. Of these, fourteen are currently in circle, five were not accepted and ten have celebrated their completion of circle. A total of 49 cases have reached completion in the past 18 months.

As a result of the success of the Kandiyohi initiative, PACT IV has expanded into Meeker County. Four cases are currently active. A successful public information campaign has resulted in 35 volunteers being recruited from local communities. The Upper Sioux Indian Community has gone through four trainings in the Restorative Justice, restorative panels, victim-offender mediation and Circle Sentencing training since June 2002. Evaluations of these sessions have indicated an 83% rating of "very informative and helpful", and a 97% rating of "...the training has made me commit to being involved in circle."

Evaluation of participants in circles has been favorable as well. Stories have indicated major impact on participants. "I have changed my life completely as a result of the circle. I will not commit another offense and I am sober for the first time in my life." The project surveys participants to measure satisfaction with circle and works in conjunction with local law enforcement to track progress of youth after leaving the circle. To date:

- 87% of youth have not re-offended.
- In response to the surveys post-circle closure, clients report a 95% rating to the question, "The circle process has been a significant factor in keeping me crime free".
- Of the 10 youth who completed the circle process this past year, and the 24 who completed the circle process in the previous year, none have recorded a new offense

On-going tracking of current participants continues as the project is now supported through local dollars.

Ramsey County Community Corrections: Casa de Esperanza, Partnership Para Paz is a program serviced through Casa de Esperanza, a non-profit social services advocacy agency, serving Latino clients in the greater St. Paul, MN area. In the past year Partnership Para Paz has worked with almost 400 county staff members in the development and delivery of training and 40 clients in development of case management advocacy services. They have provided 15 training sessions for 323 participants.

Evaluation consists of surveys and interviews with persons who have received training from Casa. Evaluation data for 15 sessions indicate a 79% 'Very satisfied' rating from participants in sessions, with only a 3% 'Dissatisfied' rating. An impressive 94% of participants felt the new curriculum and awareness/skill building was 'Extremely helpful'.

A new curriculum for domestic violence education and advocacy has been designed and will be distributed in early October of 2003. The curriculum is targeted to assist criminal justice professionals in delivering more culturally appropriate services to Latino clients. A national review was conducted to gather feedback on the quality of the curriculum. An informal evaluation feedback form was distributed to the 50 persons who reviewed the curriculum. Response indicated an 89% rating of the curriculum as "Excellent" and "...extremely useful" Marks for the cultural teaching segments were also very high, with 96% rating these areas as 'excellent'. The curriculum also has evaluation survey tools associated with it and this data will be used to update and upgrade the manual at future dates.

Survey results of an evaluation of on-call advocacy services to Ramsey County probation agents reported that 76% of probation agents rated services from Casa as 'Excellent' in the categories of "Responsive to needs of particular situation", and to "I received requested follow-up assistance". Also, the number of calls from Probation officers to Casa for assistance has increased 112% from the last reporting period, an indication that confidence in service delivery from Casa in this area has risen substantially.

The Ramsey County Public Defenders TeamChild Project TeamChild is an innovative legal advocacy project intended to address the underlying causes of a child's delinquency. A collaboration between Ramsey County Public Defender's Office and the Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS) Education Law Advocacy Project. The project began as a result of several research studies pointed to the correlation between children who offend and the need to address problems with meeting their educational, social-emotional, stable housing and health care/nutritional issues. A TeamChild advocate, Community Resource Specialist (CRS), provides a link between public defenders representing children on delinquency matters and the legal aid attorney addressing related issues such as those associated with school, mental health and social services. The most common service provided by this project is support obtaining special education services and appropriate school placements. The advocate also conducts

outreach to community resources and referral of youth and families to appropriate services. Referrals come from community, schools, and attorneys working with delinquent juveniles.

TeamChild did increase coordination between two legal agencies, the public defender's office and community agencies. However, it did not change the way the legal system does business. A majority of the cases handled by the public defender's office were handled traditionally, and only a few referred to TeamChild received the added attention of the CRS. Once funding ended, the CRS position was terminated and it appears that both agencies are doing business in the traditional manner once again.

Barriers for the project were not extensive, but some were crucial to its operational structure. Families often moved out of the "service area", leaving families without legal representation from the education attorney. Once out of the area, these families were often referred to services at the new school and community resources. Another issue was the fact that after exhaustive hours meeting and building rapport with community resources, funding cuts would eliminate the resource resulting in limited restricted referral resources for clients. Lastly, the CRS found that she needed to continually "market" her position to educators, attorneys and community resources. She often found herself frustrated that services were not being called upon, despite the evidence from service satisfaction surveys that indicated very high marks for the services delivered.

Funding for TeamChild ended in December of 2002. SMRLS was dedicated to continuing to coordinate TeamChild, but could not provide or secure funding for resources for the project.

The St. Paul/Ramsey County Community Prosecution Program This project allowed for the cross-deputizing of assistant city and county prosecutors as community prosecutors to two high-crime neighborhoods in St. Paul. The focus was on solving problems, not just prosecuting cases. This allowed for a much needed freedom to remove "layers" of the justice system the separate community from the criminal justice system. The goal of the program is to improve livability in these communities by establishing long-term, proactive, cooperative relationships among residents, community organizations and law enforcement.

The community prosecutors have established their presence in the communities by developing strong working relationships with police, city services and neighborhood organizations. Stakeholders included St. Paul City Attorney's Office, Ramsey County Attorney's Office, St. Paul Police Department, Dist. 4 and 8 Planning Councils, Aurora/St. Anthony Development Corporation, Frogtown/Summit University Weed and Seed, East-side Consolidated Weed and Seed, and many area non-profits serving many needs of the local populations. Some of these stakeholders met regularly with prosecutors, residents and neighborhood organizations as well as having regular office hours in the communities they serve. They have taken a leadership role in helping to identify pressing issues and in determining the best legal or non-legal approach to those issues.

In 2000, with funds from OJP, the project expanded to the East Side neighborhoods of Dayton's Bluff and Payne-Phalen. This allowed for the hiring a second F.T. prosecutor and a P.T. legal

assistant. This allowed for further cooperation and investment in Sentencing Circle, Hmong Circles of Peace, and Community Court, investment in civil remedies cases, trespassing issues and enforcement. Community education components, a cornerstone of the project, also flourished. This resulted in the community cooperating in the development of the "Prosecution Manual and Community Resident Guide, offering practical legal and educational opportunities regarding legal rights for immigrants and community members in general. Many forums were held with immigrant communities as a result of the publication of the guide. Many more informal activities and meeting times began to take place for the prosecutor to have interaction with neighborhood youth and their families, law enforcement personnel and local business persons, which assisted in key relationship-building opportunities. This building of informal relationships proved invaluable to the success of the project.

Outcomes have been significant for the project. Surveys were sent out in October of 2002 to 60 individuals and agency representatives that had contact with the Program.

- 100% of respondents reported that the Program had improved their feelings of confidence in the fair and appropriate enforcement of law in the community (17% increase).
- 87% of respondents indicated that the Program had been somewhat or very successful at increasing community participation and trust in law enforcement and the criminal justice system (20% increase).
- 82% respondents report that the Program has been somewhat or very effective at bridging gaps between community members and law enforcement (6% increase)
- 75% of respondents had a somewhat effective assessment of the Program

Despite funding constraints, both the St. Paul City Attorney's Office and the Ramsey County Attorney's Office have committed to continuation of the program.

Summit-University/Frogdown Community Circle Project (SUFT) is a restorative justice model that incorporates principles of aboriginal/African tribal justice to address the harm crime brings to victims, offenders, the families and friends. In this Project, the circle is as much about community building as it is about restoring justice. The circle effort is managed by a coordinator who works with a volunteer coordinating team, which also serves as the core team attending to circles for victims and offenders. The project also serves as an education outlet on restorative justice measures to the community and provides training opportunities locally and nationally.

This past year, 23 educational sessions were held for 278 persons, and 2 regional trainings were provided, with 22 persons attending. Evaluations from training participants show a 90% satisfaction rating. Support for restorative justice alternatives from the Ramsey County bench and attorney's office remains a stumbling block for this project with only two cases referred to the circle this past year. A total of three applicants remain in circle and the 18 core volunteers remain with the project as well. The three applicants have participated in 46 circle meetings over the past year. The project reports that all applicants will graduate in late November 2003.

Ramsey County Community Court is now working with SUFT to transition families from the

court settings to circle processes in the community as a way to monitor familial court orders. The SUFT circle proposes to monitor three families and court disposition orders for periods of one-eight months. While experimental in concept, results are promising. Family members associated with cases are attending circle and adhering to conditions of the compacts that have been crafted by the circle. A process evaluation has been established to track the outputs of these cases.

Wabasha Community Corrections Restorative Justice Program provided restorative justice circles, restorative justice training, and mentoring. Program components are housed under the auspices of a coalition known as Youthlink. The coalition is a collaboration of agencies striving to streamline services to youth in the Wabasha County area. In the last year, Youthlink served 166 youth, and of these 22 were selected for circle or conferencing options. A total of 268 mentoring training sessions also took place during the year

Restorative justice circle clients reported favorable outcomes in follow-up surveys. Twenty-two offenders were selected to participate in the program. Results from these 22 cases include:

- nineteen youth (87%) completed their contracts and had no new offenses,
- 94% of offenders who participated were satisfied with the circle process.
- 24 victims were in attendance this past year in circle.
 - Of those filling out surveys, 92% rated the circle process as very successful
 - 99% of victims reported that the process made them feel more empowered than if they had been in a traditional court setting.

A total of 30 youth were matched with mentors this past year, and results have been positive. Only one match has been pre-maturely terminated. Over 1,467 mentoring contact hours were recorded this past year. Of the 30 youth participating:

- 26 had a prior or currently active criminal charge pending with the court.
- Only three youth have committed a new offense this calendar year post-match with their mentor.
- 95% reported that their relationships with mentors were key to keeping them crime free.
- 95% reported that because of their mentor relationship, they were more likely to be engaged in hobbies or programs and activities in the community
- 90% reported that they were better able to express emotions (moving from displaying mostly anger, to identifying emotions and feelings)
- 95% reported that they were getting along better with family and others

The Winona County Restorative Justice Program utilizes community group conferences, diversion work service, and mentoring for juveniles aged 10-17 who have admitted to crimes such as shoplifting, criminal damage to property, 5th degree assault, etc. Referrals come from the County Attorney, schools, and police department. This past year, 38 youth were referred to circle and conferencing groups, 46 youth were referred to the mentoring program with 31 successfully matched, and 49 youth completed 328 diversion hours. Only one of the youth re-offended over the past year. Over 3,388 volunteer hours with 101 volunteers have been recorded over a two year period.

Evaluation surveys and tracking documents were revised and implemented. Results include:

- 94% of the youth indicated that they were very satisfied with the process
- 95% “felt that the consequences of the circle held me accountable”
- 48 victims participated in circles this past year, an increase of 87% over last year
- 98% of attending victims report satisfaction “...in reparation for the harm done to them”
- 96% reported that “...participation helped heal them from victimization.”
- 100% of victims reported satisfaction with the process.

Mentor recruitment increased 29% over the last year. Thirty-one youth were matched with mentors. Over 1,544 contact hours were reported. Evaluation surveys indicated that:

- 95% of youth were “very satisfied” with their match,
- 94% felt that, “...the relationship with my mentor helps keep me out of trouble.”
- 100% indicated that the match “...improved relationships with my parents and siblings.”
- 100% of the mentors rated their training as very high quality

PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND EVALUATION METHODS

All grantees provide quarterly performance data and financial expenditure reports to OJP. Grant managers conduct several site visits each year and maintained telephone and e-mail contact as needed to monitor performance and provide technical assistance. Grantees attended orientation meetings and received a grant manual and supplemental training on grant administration and reporting requirements. Over this reporting period, grant managers continued to focus on improving the capacity of each program to use self-assessment for planning and program improvement.

