
STATE

OF

MISSISSIPPI

**DRUG CONTROL AND SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT
FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM**



**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR PERIOD
7/1/2002 - 6/30/2003**

**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PLANNING
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

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activities funded under the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Formula Grant Program. During this report period, the Office of Justice Programs awarded 45 subgrants to state agencies and units of local government totaling approximately \$4.4 million in federal funds designed to reduce drug use and violent crime. These funds were received from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Division of Public Safety Planning manages these funds for the State. These projects supported drug enforcement activities, criminal justice records improvement, crime prevention, victim witness/juror assistance, multi-disciplinary prosecution teams, court delay reduction, drug court intervention and evaluation, and pre-release prison industries.

The following projects were implemented: 17 multi-jurisdictional narcotics task forces, which reported 5,076 initiated cases and 4,455 arrested drug offenders; street sales enforcement project which initiated 491 drug cases resulting in 270 felony arrests; 198 misdemeanor arrest, and 87 indictments; one crime prevention program which reported 10 block watch programs established; 60 security surveys conducted and 50 homes provided with property markings equipment; and 14 victim assistance projects that reported serving in excess of 2,090 abused and neglected children; one drug court program with 109 active participants; and one juvenile drug court program serving 15 participants; one court delay reduction project which funded updated equipment for four (4) additional courtrooms throughout the state; one prison industry project which placed 15 ex-offenders in jobs; two multi-disciplinary prosecution teams operating in 46 counties; two Criminal Justice Records Improvement (CJRI) projects which provided assistance to local law enforcement agencies to purchase live scan systems to have direct access to the Criminal Information Center's (CIC) AFIS; and two CJRI projects awarded to the Department of Public Safety's CIC to deal with data quality issues and expansion of the current system.

Special emphasis was placed on programs designed to increase the capability of law enforcement and prosecution to deal with persons violating drug laws through the creation and expansion of the multi-jurisdictional task force units. This program received priority funding which represents approximately 54% of the total Byrne allocation. Today, there are 17 narcotics units operating in the state, serving more than one million Mississippians directly. These units continue to be very effective in investigating illegal drug activity, especially with mobile drug traffickers. The multi-jurisdictional narcotics concept is now looked upon as a successful way to achieve cooperation and coordination across jurisdictions within the State. Also, drug task forces continued to aggressively employ the asset seizure and forfeiture program to reduce the profit of drug traffickers. The program offers an increasingly powerful weapon to state, county, and municipal law enforcement agencies in the war against drugs. In FY 2002/2003, \$787,481 of drug traffickers' assets and contraband were forfeited to state/local narcotics task force units. Seizures for this same period were \$1,700,053.

Although the seizures and forfeitures show a slight increase over last fiscal year, the units report the same problem with the law that place limitations on certain assets that can be seized. Also, assets that could be legally seized were sometimes diverted to other names to protect the violator's

property. Overall, these units have revised their objectives to target high-level drug traffickers with the main focus on taking away property and all other assets contributing to drug trafficking.

Evaluation efforts during this past year included a second year drug court evaluation. The drug court located in the Fourteenth Circuit Court District (Pike, Lincoln, and Walthall Counties) is designed to stop the abuse of alcohol and other drugs and related criminal activity. The objective of this study is to assess the implementation and effectiveness of Mississippi's Drug Court program. Specifically, it will be to ascertain whether the program is being properly implemented and administered. Also, the evaluation will seek to uncover the effect the program is having on reducing recidivism among program participants. Although the primary goal is to assess the effectiveness of the Drug Court program, the evaluators will also examine the interaction of drug task force operations within the drug court jurisdiction. The specific mission of the Drug Court Program is to deter drug use by establishing a comprehensive system to more effectively impact the community in an effort to focus on increasing public safety by preventing drug use and reducing the recidivism rate of substance abusing offenders.

Coordination of efforts continue to improve in Mississippi. The State Attorney General's office continue to assist local drug units in statewide drug investigations and undercover operations as well as contribute resources to aid in the apprehension of high-level drug dealers. These units consistently work with state and federal agencies, conducting joint investigations and exchanging information and personnel. The overall perception is that drug task forces are effective, targeting the appropriate level of violators, facilitating interagency coordination and helping to reduce duplication of investigative efforts while maximizing the use of available resources. Additionally, communities and neighborhoods are working with law enforcement to revitalize drug infested neighborhoods through drug courts and neighborhood watch programs.

During this past fiscal year, the state continued to utilize fiscal years 2000 and 2001 CJRI funds. Funds were awarded to the State's Criminal Information Center (CIC) to complete several major tasks and expand its services to the criminal justice community. The CIC became fully operational in March 1988. Since that time CIC has added over 150,000 fingerprint cards, trained several hundred users and established a special processing unit. Two additional projects were implemented under the FY 2001 CJRI plan where resources were provided to local law enforcement agencies to purchase live scan equipment to aid in submitting fingerprints electronically to the Mississippi Criminal History System. Ultimately, these systems will increase efficiency and speed when taking fingerprints, thereby decreasing the number of errors.

Approval has been granted for both the phase I and phase II plans for reporting records of conviction of aliens and suspected aliens to the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. The Mississippi Supreme Court is the agency which collects and reports this information.

The State of Mississippi has a law which provides for HIV testing of convicted sex offenders. The law has been approved by the U.S. Department of Justice as meeting the federal requirements for HIV testing of convicted sexual offenders.

The Division of Public Safety Planning (DPSP) was granted a two year extension to comply with the sex offender registration and notification provisions of the Jacob Wetterling Act and Megan's Law. The extension allowed the Department of Public Safety to fully implement the provision of legislation (Senate Bill 2800) that was passed during the 1997 session of the Mississippi Legislature. On March 1998, the DPSP provided an update on the status of the Jacob Wetterling Legislation as it relates to Senate Bill 2800. The Bill was revised to change the place of registration and the Sex Offender Advisory Board's reporting requirement.

Based upon information and documents submitted to BJA, it has been determined that the State has demonstrated compliance with the original requirements of the Jacob Wetterling Act as amended. The State remains eligible for its full entitlement under the fiscal year 2003 Edward Byrne Memorial State/Local Law Enforcement Formula Grant Program.

Based upon information and documents submitted to the BJA for review, the OGC and the BJA have determined that the State of Mississippi has demonstrated compliance with the requirements of the Pam Lychner Sexual Offender Tracking and Identification Act of 1996.

Based upon the information and documents submitted to BJA, the State of Mississippi has demonstrated Compliance with the PROTECT ACT (The Prosecutorial Remedies and Tools Against the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003) requirements of the Jacob Wetterling Crimes against Children and Sexually Violent Offenders Registration Act. As a result, the State of Mississippi remains eligible for its full entitlement under Fiscal Year 2003 Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program.

INTRODUCTION

State and local units of governments in Mississippi continue to receive funding under the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 for the purpose of developing and implementing state and local drug control

programs. The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Bureau of Justice Assistance on programs supported by Byrne funding.

Major emphasis continued to be placed on multi-jurisdictional drug investigation programs, where units of local government received priority funding. The drug task forces have substantially increased their effectiveness in drug arrests, case referrals and filings, information sharing in pursuing upper level dealers, and seizures of drugs, weapons, vehicles and other assets. This past year, task forces efforts continued to be focused on deterrence and disruption to increase traffickers' costs and risks of doing business. Drug seizures and arrests not only removed drugs and criminals from the streets, but when brought to the public's attention, served to discourage others from engaging in trafficking or the use of illicit drugs. The mere presence of law enforcement, in the form of an investigative task force, an interdiction effort, or an eradication program, has prevented a certain amount of trafficking, production, and use that would otherwise take place. It also disrupts organized trafficking and distribution networks and displaces established production sources and trafficking routes. The continuing challenge is to apply constant pressure in different ways and places to have a lasting impact on drug availability.

Other programs implemented during the past fiscal year were community and neighborhood programs that assisted citizens in preventing and controlling crime; victim witness programs which provided services and assistance to victims of crime; criminal history records improvement (CHRI); street sales enforcement Program which addressed street level drug trafficking; drug evaluation programs designed to assess the implementation, effectiveness and extent of drugs and violent crime control activities throughout the state; drug court rehabilitation programs designed to intervene with first time nonviolent substance abusing offenders; prison industry program which provided job training, employment skills and direct placement services to offenders returning to society; court delay reduction program to help with improved technology in Mississippi's courtrooms; and multi-disciplinary prosecution teams with emphases on child abuse and neglect.

The State continues to benefit from funds received under the Drug Control and System Improvement Formula Grant Program. The increase in funding has made it possible to expand existing drug task forces, thereby giving state/local agencies the additional resources needed to attack drug traffickers and put thousands behind bars. In addition to increased funding for drug task forces, education/prevention, adjudication, corrections, prosecution and CJRI programs were implemented and expanded to include 80% of the state's population. **The following graphs and charts illustrates funding trends from fiscal years 1997- 2002 and Byrne funding by Statewide Strategy area for fiscal years 2002/2003.**

Efforts to coordinate and ensure an effective integrated program as identified in the State Strategy continued. The Division of Public Safety Planning cooperated with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities staff to share information and ideas on criminal justice programs impacting the state. Also, the Division cooperates with the Department of Education and the Department of Mental

Health through funding for drug and alcohol treatment of offenders in the state's correctional system.

Additionally, the following programs are administered by the Division of Public Safety Planning, and coordination efforts are on-going to establish projects which benefit the criminal justice system and to avoid duplication of efforts among these programs: The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT) Formula Grant Program; The Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program (LLEBG). Under the LLEBG Program subgrants were provided to approximately 59 local law enforcement agencies. These projects included the hiring, training and employing additional law enforcement officers, paying overtime, procuring equipment and technology directly related to basic law enforcement functions.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS UNDER THE FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM

PROGRAM TITLE: Multi-jurisdictional Enforcement Units (Purpose Area 02)

GOAL: To enhance, through jointly controlled operations, the ability of local, county, and state criminal justice agencies to remove specific narcotics offenders through investigation, arrest, prosecution, and conviction.

OBJECTIVE: To increase the arrest and prosecution of drug violators and seize illegal drugs and assets.

NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 17

FEDERAL FUNDS: \$2,339,933

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/COMPONENTS

The Multi-jurisdictional Narcotics Enforcement Program is a joint effort by state/local law enforcement agencies to combat illegal drug activity by sharing crime-fighting resources and capabilities. These projects generally target mid-to-upper level drug traffickers but may include street level drug enforcement and marijuana eradication activities. Each agency representative signs a formal intergovernmental agreement affirming their intent to fully participate in the management and operations of the project. A control group of all participating agencies must unanimously approve investigative plans and the allocation of resources. The control group establishes policies to select cases to be investigated; allocate, focus and manage project resources; and provide oversight of project investigations. The control group meets regularly and documents and maintains a written record of each meeting. Members of the group have an equal vote on all matters before the group.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Number of staff assigned to project;
- Total amount of federal/non-federal funds expended;
- Number of criminal subjects identified;
- Number of instances of interagency information exchange;
- Number of criminal activities under investigation, by type;
- Number of arrests;
- Number of subjects charged;
- Number of convictions;
- Length of sentences; and
- Amount of fines and restitution ordered.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The formation of Multi-jurisdictional Narcotics Enforcement Units has brought about better

cooperation among local and state law enforcement agencies to conduct investigations, apprehend suspects, and in general to build better cases for prosecution. Mississippi continues to benefit tremendously from this type of enforcement. The advantages of these units are well known in drug law enforcement. Since most law enforcement departments in the state cannot devote the resources or personnel needed to maintain their own specialized full-time drug enforcement unit, it has been very beneficial for local law enforcement agencies to pool resources to form a cooperative drug enforcement unit. This approach has been valuable both in metropolitan and rural areas. In smaller municipalities and counties it has provided a larger pool of law enforcement officers to do undercover work. Local officers are usually well-known to local drug dealers and users, so it is vitally important to be able to bring in outside personnel, who are not well-known locally, to aid in undercover operations and investigations.

Task Force units overall have taken a harder look at the drug war and decided that the number of individuals arrested are not as important as the quality of cases they are making. Their main objectives now are to target the high level drug dealer and focus on collecting solid evidence to make strong prosecutable cases. The seizures and forfeitures were slightly higher this past fiscal year, however, Task Force Commanders are still concerned about the Seizure and Forfeiture Law which place limitations on law enforcement’s ability to seize certain properties or assets. In addition to the change in the law, Drug Task Force commanders report that drug dealers are getting increasingly smarter. They are diverting assets to others and using leased vehicles instead of their personal vehicles. Also, certain District Attorneys are very selective about the cases they will prosecute and task force units are now prioritizing their drug enforcement investigations based on the ability to have their cases prosecuted. **(See attached Mississippi Task Force Activity Profiles)**

From July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003, data revealed that drug task force activities across the state have resulted in the following:

● Investigations Initiated:	5,076
● Investigations Pending:	16,314
● Offenders Arrested:	4,455
● Weapons Seized:	254
● Vehicles Seized:	236
● Grams of Crack Seized:	24,453 grams
● Grams of Cocaine Seized:	40,945 grams
● Pounds of Marijuana Seized:	1,700.54 lbs. & 6,127 grams
● Number of Marijuana Plants Eradicated:	389
● Nondrug Assets Seized:	\$ 1,700,053
● Nondrug Assets Forfeited:	\$ 787,481
● Number of Convictions:	800
● Number of Meth. Labs seized	146

Multi-jurisdictional drug task forces were also established to increase cooperation between law enforcement agencies and to reduce duplicate activities. Officers still agree that the quality of communication among law enforcement agencies has increased since the task forces were

organized and agencies are more cooperative now. Multi-jurisdictional drug task forces operations reveal that they have made a positive impact on controlling the drug problem, that task forces officers believe their efforts are contributing to limiting drug crime, and that the general population appreciates law enforcement efforts in their communities.

PROGRAM TITLE: Street Sales Enforcement (Purpose Area 21)

GOAL: To exhibit effective police efforts to target street level narcotic

dealers and buyers through effective planning, investigation and prosecution.

OBJECTIVE: To reduce and ultimately eliminate illicit drug activities in targeted areas through community efforts, enforcement, arrest, prosecution, sentencing, and incarceration of drug violators.

NUMBER OF PROJECTS SITES: One (1)

FEDERAL FUNDS: \$75,000

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/COMPONENT

To strengthen local enforcement and prosecution efforts, targeted street level narcotic sales must address the following critical elements: data collection and analysis for identifying and using available resources and for using results of internal evaluation to revise programs to fit changing conditions; emphasis on early involvement of the prosecution and court functions in order to ensure that citizen's rights and system impact issues are addressed; train and utilize personnel and certify officers as narcotics expert for testifying in court; deployment of street teams for ongoing investigations and arrests of street narcotic dealers and buyers; vigorous enforcement efforts to arrest and convict narcotics dealers; organization and deployment of mobile task forces to target those areas of the city where street sales of drugs have become blatant; undercover buy programs concerned with enforcement efforts aimed at the street retailer who has become the most observable manifestation of narcotic traffic; asset seizure and forfeiture efforts when practical; coordination or project mission with forensic laboratory.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Number of staff assigned to the project;
- Total amount of federal/non-federal funds expended;
- Number of criminal subjects identified;
- Number of arrests;
- Number of subjects charged;
- Number of convictions;
- Length of sentences;
- Amount of fines and restitution ordered;

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Hinds County Sheriff's Office **Narcotics Enforcement Team (NET)** Task Force is dedicated to the continued effort to reduce illicit drug sales in the targeted area along with the crimes

perpetrated against the citizens of the community that are generally a result of drug activity. Hinds County is located in the central part of the state and covers approximately 875 square miles. With a population of about 249,945 which is inclusive of the capital city, Jackson, the county is also made up of rural area with five smaller incorporated towns. To positively affect the ability to protect the public from criminal activity that will improve the quality of life for this geographical area, the Hinds County NET task force will continue to aggressively enforce the judicial narcotics codes on targeted individuals in specified areas. These areas have already been identified and are currently under investigation. Investigators will continue to work with other agencies such as the DEA, FBI, Customs, ATF, State Bureau of Narcotics, surrounding city police departments and prosecuting agencies which includes the U.S. Attorney's Office, the Attorney General's Office, and the Hinds County District Attorney's Office in the ongoing fight against illicit drug activities. It is the proposal of the Hinds County NET to continue to break the cycle of drug trafficking and criminal activities associated with drugs by attacking street level drug dealing. The removal of these perpetrators will not only reduce the amount and availability of drugs in the Hinds County area but will also curtail crimes as a whole. Since October 2002 through August 2003, the NET Task Force has investigated approximately 491 cases in their fight against illicit drug sales. This case load has led to 270 felony arrests, 198 misdemeanor arrests, and 87 indictments.

Stronger enforcement of Mississippi's existing controlled substance laws and more visible support from the NET unit will increase restraint in the usage of drugs and hopefully save lives. In order to be successful, the NET unit will continuously build support among other law enforcement agencies to achieve its goal and objectives of combating illegal drug activity.

PROGRAM TITLE: Community Crime Prevention (Purpose Area 04)

GOAL: This program is an integral part of the Drug Control and System

Improvement grant. The focus is to encourage communities and other groups such as law enforcement, businesses and civic groups to work together and strengthen their defenses against violent crime and drug abuse.

- OBJECTIVE:**
- 1) To provide technical assistance in the development of programs which address the needs of specific population groups such as rural residents and the elderly.
 - 2) To make referrals for training opportunities in order to initiate new programs or improve the service delivery capabilities of existing programs.

NUMBER OF PROJECT SITES: One (1)

FEDERAL FUNDS: \$33,200

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/COMPONENTS

- Recruitment of volunteers
- Block watches
- Security surveys
- Operation I.D.
- Public education
- Neighborhood clean-ups

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Number of blocks organized for "Neighborhood Watch";
- Number of homes receiving security surveys;
- Number of crime prevention meetings held and number and composition of residents attending;
- Number of households borrowing property marking equipment;
- Number and kind of block homes established;
- Number of users;
- Number of volunteer participants;
- Number of requests for crime prevention information; and
- Number of crime prevention presentations requested/completed.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During the past fiscal year, one project was funded through this grant. Some law enforcement

agencies in the state have incorporated auto theft prevention, violence prevention TRIAD as part of their activities. The following activities were reported during the same period:

Neighborhood Watch:	10 new watch blocks were established;
Security Survey:	50 homes and other premises;
Operations Identification:	150 homes were provided property-marking equipment;
Public Education:	35 presentations were made to civic groups and schools;
Volunteers:	10 volunteers recruited.

In addition to the above activities, various communities organized and participated in National Night Out and Crime Prevention Month events.

PROGRAM TITLE: Victim/Witness Juror Assistance (Purpose Area 14)

GOAL: To provide assistance and support services to victims, witnesses (prosecution and defense) and jurors through local units of government in order to improve the efficiency of the criminal justice system.

OBJECTIVE: To provide assistance in the development of programs that inform victims, witnesses and jurors of support services available to them in their local areas.

NUMBER OF PROJECTS: 14 (7 child abuse shelters; 3 Children's Advocacy Centers; 1 Survivors of Homicide Victims Project;1 CASA project and 1 law enforcement Victims Services project and 1 youth court based Project.

FEDERAL FUNDS: \$644,600

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/COMPONENTS

- Crisis intervention;
- Counseling (short term and long term);
- Support during criminal proceedings; and
- Training, public awareness and prevention.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Number assisted through Crisis Line;
- Number receiving shelter services; and
- Number of referrals to social service agencies.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A joint conference involving the Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Survivors Homicide Coalitions was held in May 2003. The Child Abuse Shelters have served over 2,090 abused and neglected children.

Shelter Services:	1,970 Children
Crisis Line:	1,990

PROGRAM TITLE: Child Abuse Prosecution (Purpose Area 18)

GOAL: Multi-disciplinary Child Abuse Review Teams (MDT) will review and coordinate the handling of child abuse and neglect cases with emphasis on child sexual abuse and exploitation in a manner which limits additional trauma to the child victim; and the investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect cases, particular child sexual abuse, exploitation and other felony crimes against children.

OBJECTIVE: To coordinate the investigation of child abuse and neglect cases between social service agencies and law enforcement to assure that the investigations are both timely and thorough, and to develop and maintain multi-disciplinary teams.

NUMBER OF PROJECT SITES: Two (2)

FEDERAL FUNDS: \$108,000

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/COMPONENT

Law enforcement and social services agencies make up Multi-disciplinary Teams in different parts of the State, to meet regularly and to staff felony referrals. This ensures that investigations, treatment and prosecution proceed in an expeditious manner.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Number and location of active Multi-disciplinary Teams;
- Date, time, and locations of MDT meetings attended by program coordinator;
- Number of attendees at MDT meetings by location;
- Number of teams referred cases ending in conviction by trial;
- Number of needs assessment surveys distributed;
- Date and location of networking meetings and interviews by program coordinator;
- Dates, locations, and topics of training sessions conducted by program coordinator.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

There are 46 counties with active Multi-disciplinary Teams in the State. This number represents over half of the counties in the State. Our plan is to reach the other 36 counties in the next two years.

The program coordinators at the two subgrantee agencies have conducted over 60 network meetings and interviews in the 46 counties referenced above. However, the agencies are currently developing a data base to collect information regarding cases that have been referred for prosecution and their outcomes.

PROGRAM TITLE: Drug Courts (Purpose Area 10)

GOAL: To promote public safety by reducing the recidivism rate of substance abusing offenders by providing treatment to first time nonviolent offenders.

OBJECTIVE: To provide early intervention and treatment for drug court participants in order to deter future criminal activity.

NUMBER OF PROJECT SITES: One (1)

FEDERAL FUNDS: \$98,500

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/COMPONENTS

This program forges a bridge between law enforcement and the community in a united effort to focus on preventing drug abuse and promoting public safety by reducing the recidivism rate of substance abusing offenders. The Drug Court offers a comprehensive treatment program to address the needs of drug/alcohol abusers and offer an alternative to incarceration in the already crowded prison system. The ultimate goal is to reform drug users, thereby making them productive citizens free from criminal activity. The treatment component of the Drug Court provides in-patient treatment immediately after arrests or after apprehension for a probation violation. The Drug court operates under the leadership of Judge Keith Starrett, Circuit Court Judge, who has the final say as to who will be allowed in the program.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Number of clients served during this 12 month project period;
- Number of clients receiving treatment;
- Decrease in number of nonviolent drug offender within the existing correctional systems and local jails;
- Reduction in the number of cases, and the time devoted to drug related caseloads in the criminal justice system;
- Number of clients becoming productive citizens;
- Number of clients receiving aftercare treatment services;
- Number of clients completing treatment, educational and job training programs; and
- Number of families benefitting from the treatment program.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

There are presently 109 active participants in the Pike County Drug Court. The Drug Court graduated 44 successful participants from the program since its inception in February, 1999. The graduates are required to report back to the court on the first Monday of each month for a status report from the probation officers and treatment Provider. The participants continue to be tested in drug court every Monday and at random times during the week. This not only encourages the graduates to maintain their sobriety but it serves as an example to other participants of how sobriety can change their lives. The Drug Court reported that less than 5% of its participants tested positive for drugs. Drug Court officials contributed much of this success to a new drug call "Revia." This medication helps reduce the cravings for certain drugs. "Revia" is a white, crystalline compound, co-administered with morphine (on a chronic basis) which blocks the physical dependence to morphine, heroin and other drugs. In addition to "Revia," a new medication called "Nalrexone" was used to deter the craving of opiates and alcohol. Naltrexone helps with the craving and the effect of the drug on an addicted person which will also reduce relapses.

The Drug Court has been successful in collecting fees and fines from participants prior to graduation. A \$50.00 fee is assess to each participant and payable to the Circuit Court Clerk each month for the offenders to participate in the drug court program. A system has been set up to monitor the payment of all fines and fees on a monthly basis. The participant is reminded each time he/she appears in drug court of their balance and the responsibility to pay on a monthly basis. During the last fiscal year approximately \$10,577 was collected in drug court fees, and approximately \$30,780 has been collected in drug court fines.

The staff assigned to the project consist of two full time probation officers, one full time coordinator and one part time treatment provider. The Judge, Court Administrator, Public Defender, and District Attorney make up the Drug Court Team.

Some drug court participants are now assisting others in maintaining sober lifestyles by starting support groups in various communities within the Fourteenth Circuit Court District. Not only do these offenders set examples, but they actively engage in assisting others in maintaining their sobriety. Drug Court officials refer to this as "Letting our light shine." The success of this drug court program has encouraged other judges to take the time and effort to implement drug court programs in their respective districts, and certain State officials are lobbying for a statewide drug court.

The following Performance Indicators were noted:

- 252 participants entered the program;
- 58 terminated from program (9 of 58 have had new charges against them and been re-arrested);
- 109 active participants;
- 10 inactive;
- 19 in Phase III;
- 19 in Phase IV;
- 34 completed the program (11 out of this 34 were eligible to have their records expunged);
- 3 deceased.

GOALS:	To promote public safety by reducing the recidivism rate or substance abusing juveniles between the age of 13-17 years old.
OBJECTIVE:	To provide treatment and other services to appropriate juvenile nonviolent offenders immediately following arrest under judicially supervised programs.
NUMBER OF PROJECT SITES:	One (1)
FEDERAL FUNDS:	\$6,700 (This amount represents the first couple months only)

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/COMPONENTS

Presently, Adams County operates the only supervised juvenile drug court in Mississippi, which will be used as a model to set up additional juvenile drug courts in the State. This court is a comprehensive treatment program for 13-17 year old nonviolent defendants and their families. This program includes regular court appearances before a Juvenile Drug Court Judge. Treatment, which includes individual/family/group counseling, drug testing and regular attendance at Sobriety Support Group meetings (Narcotics Anonymous or Alcoholics Anonymous) is a mandatory part of the program. The Juvenile Drug Court Program is a team effort which consists of the Judge, the Prosecutor, the Defense Attorney, Youth Court Counselor, Youth Court Case Manager, Treatment Counselor, and the Team Coordinator. Ancillary members include representatives from Court Appointed Special Advocates, Local School Systems, Mississippi Mental Health agencies and a MIS representative.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- The number of participants in the drug court program;
- The number of staff assigned to project;
- The total amount of federal/non-federal funds expended;
- School performance and attendance;
- The number of participants obtain employment and participate in pro-social extracurricular activities;
- The number of participants tested weekly for drugs/alcohol, with negative results;
- The number of participants tested weekly for drugs/alcohol, with positive results;
- The number of participants receiving in-patient vs. out-patient treatment;
- The number of participants graduating from drug court;
- Aftercare and transitional phase success;
- Indicators of continuing support of law enforcement and communities;
- Number of task force meeting held;
- Number and type (e.g. community, parents, law enforcement, public officials) of attendees at task force meetings.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Adams County Drug Court was initially started with a \$40,000 grant from the Attorney's General's office in August 2001. It served only the youth in the Adolescence Offender's Program and was only providing for the appearances before the Judge on the Beach for the Drug Court every other week in addition to all the components of the AOP program.

In January 2003, the Division of Public Safety Planning awarded Adams County the Byrne Memorial Grant with \$56,240 in federal funds and \$18,746.00 in the form of a local match. The match was made from \$5,390 from funds from the Coalition of Children and Youth and from the remaining \$13,356.00 of the original grant from the Attorney General's office.

The Byrne grant allowed the Drug Court to reach out into the general population of the youth on probation in the Adams County Court who showed signs of using drugs or alcohol, but who had not been convicted of a violent crime. These youth were enrolled in Drug Court. The first component was assessment. If in-patient treatment was recommended, the youth were sent to such places as Cart House or Sunflower Landing treatment facilities. If not, the youth were assigned to the Drug Court Counselor located at the Juvenile Justice Center to provide a full array of services to at least 15 youth. The counselor would then explain the three phases of Drug Court and the responsibilities of the youth and their parents. Individual treatment plans were developed with individual goals for each case, with each case involving individual, family and group therapy. Youth were subject to drug testing and attendance at school, or GED, tutoring, and other skill development classes. As youth progress, they move from Phase I, II and finally III, followed by aftercare.

Before Court, the Members of the Drug Court Team would meet for review of each case making recommendations for the ongoing assessments and the recommendations of incentives and sanctions, community service, detention or any other recommendations needed. The Drug Court Team consisted of the Judge, the Director of AOP/Drug Court, the Drug Court counselors, the Youth Probation officers, the Director of CASA, the Compliance Officer, the Mental Health Representative, a school principal, the Prosecutor, the Public Defender, and a treatment representative.

Under this grant a policeman was assigned to do drug test at the homes of the youth on a random basis and to go by youth's home and check on curfew. The grant paid for one half of the policeman's salary. Incentives were also purchased, as well as drug test to be used randomly on youth. The Judge also added the mandatory attendance at the Alcohol Chemical Treatment Series (ACTS) program every Sunday afternoon sponsored by the First United Pentecostal Church.

Staff was able to continue training by attending the Drug Court Convention in New Orleans last February. Staff was also encouraged to use literature in the Families First Resource Center to improve their knowledge of A&D counseling.

Under the Byrne Memorial grant between February and the end of September 2003, fifteen (15) youth received services in the free standing Drug Court. One (1) graduated in May along with two

(2) graduates from the eighteen participants enrolled in the AOP program. Five (5) youth in the free standing Drug Court have been drug free since they have been in the program, including the one that graduated. Four (4) other youth have tested positive for drugs only once since the program started. Four youth were sent to treatment with one being sent to detention for lack of cooperation. Detention was used as a method of sanction for serious offenses, like failing the drug test, being suspended from school, and missing court appearances, etc.

Judge Hudson, the presiding Judge, ranks this program as a major success. He particularly likes the fact that he is able to give these youth incentives for their progress in the program. He feels very close to the youth and enjoys the interaction with them in the courtroom. The graduation was a time of real celebration, which the entire community got involved donating gifts, meals, and time. We look forward to more in the future. Everyone at the court feels this is an extremely effective program, “one of progress, not perfection”!

GOAL: The overall goal of this program is to provide technology-based courtrooms that will enable all trial participants to improve their presentation to the jury and provide quality evidence to all courtroom participants.

OBJECTIVE: To respond to the demand and need for evidence in the courtroom, to be presented in a more thorough and expeditious way, by implementing several pilot courtroom sites through Mississippi's Judicial System.

NUMBER OF PROJECT SITES: Five (5)

FEDERAL FUNDS: \$158,000

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/COMPONENTS

In order to provide a timely response to the demand and need for technology equipped courtrooms in the Mississippi Judicial System, the Mississippi Administrative Office of Courts (AOC) implemented twelve (12) pilot courtrooms throughout the state. The selected pilot courtrooms will allow participants, who are very interested in using advanced technology during a trial, the opportunity to present evidence in a more thorough and expeditious manner. Upon equipping the courtrooms throughout the state, many more judges and attorneys will have an opportunity to cut down on the number of days in trial by using updated technology and avoiding (as much as feasible) the old-fashioned system of presenting evidence - especially in trials where several hundred exhibits will be used. Mississippi courtrooms of the 21st Century will also provide counsel with the ability to have physical evidence examined in a more timely manner as well.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Performance will be measured by conducting surveys of judges, attorneys, court personnel, litigants, and jurors;
- Site visits will be conducted on a regular basis during trial at various pilot locations and evidence presentation comparisons will be recorded;
- The AOC will conduct a series of courtroom monitoring sessions to compare the presentation of evidence offered by technologically based equipment to presentations in courts where evidence is presented in a non-technical manner.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Mississippi Administrative Office of Court through the Court Delay Reduction Program has successfully overseen the installation, implementation and training of court staff for twelve (12) technologically equipped courtrooms in the state of Mississippi. Four (4) additional sites were equipped this past fiscal year. **Attached is a list of Circuit Courts in the State receiving the equipment to date.**

Each courtroom received the same technological equipment provided and installed by Jefferson Audio Video Systems, Inc. of Louisville, Kentucky. This technologically advanced equipment

provides a significant improvement in the presentation of evidence to the juries while reducing the amount of time needed to pass around charts, graphs, reports, photographs, diagrams and is significant considering the time needed for the reproduction of documents and time needed for each juror to personally examine each and every document. This system eliminates the need for increased paper work and the storage of these court documents. Easels are no longer needed to display blown up charts.

The system provides a large screen mounted from the ceiling to the wall opposite the jury box for the viewing of evidence, along with desk monitors at the attorney's tables, the witness stand and the judge's bench. This allows quick and clear viewing methods for all finders of facts. The judge has total control over the presentation of the evidence by the use of a "kill switch" mounted on his desk. This eliminates any potential problem with inadmissible evidence being viewed by the jury.

This system further provides a podium equipped not only with a monitor, but also with audio visual equipment. The attorney can bring a lap top computer to court and connect to the system in order to use a power point presentation. The system includes a CD player and tape cassette player for audio/video presentation. A display unit also known as an "elmo" is located within arms reach from the podium.

Overall, the amount of time spent in trials has been decreased due to this advance evidence presentation system and the administration of justice has been made faster, less expensive, more accurate, understandable and more certain. While this past fiscal year continued with the installation of equipment, priority will be given this year to gathering specific information to determine the impact of the improved technology on the equipped courtrooms.

GOAL: To provide meaningful job training, employment skills and direct placement services to returning offenders for improving their opportunities in making a successful transition to the free community.

OBJECTIVE: To prepare offenders with job readiness training, resume writing, job application skills, job interview skills, job counseling and, job searching skills.

NUMBER OF PROJECTS SITES: One (1)

FEDERAL FUNDS: \$53,000

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/COMPONENTS

Each year, many offenders complete their sentence and resume lives in the free community. As offenders, they are often not welcome in the community or workplace, and experience difficulties in finding and keeping jobs. Providing direct job placement services to returning offenders is an important link in a worker's successful transition.

Corrections officials recognize the value of operating both pre-release and post-release programs that include job training and job placement components. The focus will be on comprehensive job training and work in a productive business environment. The program will offer job placement and other transitional assistance tailored to the individual participant's needs, supporting a successful transition back into society.

Meaningful work opportunities will be provided for inmates that contribute to public safety by:

- Providing job training, work experience and employment skills that can help reduce dependence on criminal activity;
- Fostering self-esteem through the satisfaction of personal accomplishment;
- Promoting understanding and respect for community values;
- Encouraging the development of social skills that can help reduce interpersonal conflict on or off the job.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Number of staff assigned to project;

- Total amount of federal/non-federal funds expended;
- Number of participants in the program;
- Number of failures or dropouts;
- Recidivism Impact;
- Number of participants placed in jobs;
- Success/Failure Classification Analysis;
- Interview Success Rate;
- Social Assistance Needs Analysis;
- Job Placement Category Analysis.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This project has provided ex-offenders with quality job training, acquisition of work ethics, pre-employment services, job placement services and post employment services. Additionally, this program has reduced the idleness of selected inmates, and provided meaningful employment skills that helped reduce dependence on criminal activity while fostering self-esteem through the satisfaction of personal accomplishments.

During this past year, program officials reported the following:

Number of Participants in the Program	140
Number Offenders Interviewed	90
Offenders Assigned Skills Upgrading	85 (Monthly Average)
Offender Job Placement	56
Social Assistance Needs Analysis	15
Recidivism Impact	6 participants returned to prison

PROGRAM TITLE: Criminal Justice Records Improvement (Purpose Area 15b)

GOAL: To provide criminal justice system agencies with the capability to have direct access to the state’s automated criminal history database

and AFIS.

OBJECTIVE: To improve the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of criminal justice record.

NUMBER OF PROJECT SITES: Five (5)

FEDERAL FUNDS: \$472,267

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/COMPONENTS

The State of Mississippi is still implementing its original plan for improving criminal justice system records. Major components of the plan were the acquisition of an automated fingerprint identification system (AFIS), establishment of an automated criminal history records system and upgrading its National Crime Information Center (NCIC) system. All systems have been established or upgraded at the central repository and are currently operational. The Mississippi Criminal Information Center within the Department of Public Safety operates the central repository which houses the AFIS, NCIC and the automated criminal history records system.

“The Mississippi Criminal History System (MCHS) is an information processing system based on a criminal history database, including textual and mug shot information and a fingerprint identification capability.” The MCHS supports a number of operations based on a series of source document types. The MCHS consist of a central site located at the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and a number of data entry fingerprint analysis stations located at the State Crime Laboratory, the Department of Corrections (DOC) and other state and local sites.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- The number and type of staff assigned to project;
- The number of criminal justice system agencies with the capability to have immediate access; to the State’s automated criminal history database and AFIS;
- The number of training programs held and number of persons trained;
- Appropriate legislation established;
- Development of policies and procedures manual for criminal history records;
- Automation plan is developed; and
- Future funding commitment if federal funds are no longer available.

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENT

This past fiscal year the MDPS’s Criminal Information Center (CIC) continued to work on several pending tasks and expanded its services to the criminal justice community. The Center became fully

operational March 1988. Since that time CIC has added over 150,000 arrests, trained several hundred users and established a Special processing Unit (SPU). The SPU reviews all incoming documents, responds to both written and telephone record checks and manages the state sex offender registry. Prior to past Byrne grants, CIC staff was forced to use out dated equipment. This grant helped with both hardware and software upgrades. New workstations were acquired and software was installed that permitted SPU staff to search several databases to respond to inquiries. Byrne funds were also used to equip a comprehensive training lab. Student desks, chairs, workstations and software were purchased. Prior to this upgrade, lab students were unable to practice skills taught in the classroom. Instructors could only demonstrate the results of file update. The lab was also equipped with equipment for the instructors (workstations and audio visual equipment).

Last fiscal year, CIC contracted with Global Data System (GDS) to perform a network security audit. The service included a comprehensive network analysis for the purposes of recommending improvements and establishing security risks. The objectives in the audit were designed to provide a picture of Mississippi Department of Public Safety's (MDPS) internal and external security. GDS Engineers analyzed security procedures by testing them, reporting failures and weaknesses, and recommending software and policy solutions. Specialized software designed to explore security issues and flag them was used during the audit process. **(See attached audit report, including recommendation)** In addition, CIC continue to operate with Byrne funding to complete several ongoing projects, and to allow for necessary upgrades and improvements to the criminal history system.

Staff completed the upgrade of the State's NEC AFIS system. CIC's ten print and latent capacity was increased. Performance was enhanced because CIC now use the latest revisions of software available. Workstations connected now use the Windows NT operating system platform that provides greater versatility. Operators can now use other windows based software on the same hardware platform. Both CIC and Crime Laboratory staff were trained on the new system.

Two additional projects were awarded to local law enforcement agencies(City of Clinton Police Department, City of Greenwood Police Department) to assist with the purchase of live scan systems to be used to submit fingerprints electronically to the Mississippi Criminal History System, and to process electronic criminal submissions and inquiries to the FBI and other national criminal justice system agencies. All live scan systems have been purchased and installed.

DRUG COURT EVALUATION UPDATE

Mississippi State University's Crime and Justice Unit completed its initial evaluation of

Mississippi's Byrne funded Drug Court program. The following is a summary of the second year evaluation plan.

On-Going Drug Court Evaluation

Since 2001 the Mississippi Crime and Justice Unit has been conducting an evaluation of Mississippi's Drug Court Program. The evaluation has centered around two major areas: implementation and administration of the Drug Court Program and its effectiveness. The Drug court has been found to be operating appropriately and delivering important services to offenders with substance abuse problems. Results of our evaluation reveals the Drug Court to be a viable and effective alternative to both traditional probation and incarceration for a certain segment of the offending population.

The program combines a high level of structure and discipline with the ideals of treatment. In fact, clients often cited these features as strengths of the program. For example, when asked what are the main strengths of the Drug Court Program one respondent said "the level of strictness and the emphasis on responsibility." A number of participants stated that the program's strength was that it allowed offenders another chance at staying in the community and rehabilitating themselves. Many subjects also indicated avoiding prison enabled them to maintain treatment. Accountability, discipline, structure, and level of support received during counseling also were mentioned as program strengths.

In general, clients indicated a high degree of satisfaction with the program. Most respondents indicated that participating in Drug Court program had improved their lives and their relationships with family and friends. According to some interviewees, the program gave them a positive outlook, improved their self-esteem, helped them stay out of trouble, and gave them a sense of independence. There was a strong consensus among participants that regular attendance of AA and NA meetings were important to their rehabilitation, and that the aftercare meetings were important as well. Many respondents attributed their staying "clean and sober" to participation in the Drug Court program. Lastly, comments from the staff indicate they believe strongly that the program is demonstrating a positive impact for offenders, the justice system, and the community at large. Taken together, these findings highlight the need for a multifaceted approach, like that offered by the Drug Court, to tackle the ubiquitous problem of drug use and abuse among offenders.

Assessing program effectiveness is still somewhat imprecise. As of September 2003, only nine individuals had completed all four phases (one of which died shortly thereafter). While none of

these individuals have, to our knowledge, re-offended or returned to drug use, it is a relatively small number of individuals who have not been out of the program very long on which to draw any generalizations about recidivism. Thus, we have also looked at compliance of participants in program and failure rates. Here we find that roughly half of the individuals in the program fail to comply with the conditions of the program. Typically, the non-compliance offense is testing positive on a drug screen. While it is expected that some participants will, during phase two, slip and use drugs, repeat offenders are ultimately terminated from the program. As of September 2003, nineteen individuals have been terminated from the program. In addition, several other participants currently have bench warrants on them and will likely be terminated once they are arrested and given a disposition by the Drug Court judge. Thus, to date individuals who are terminated by the program out number individuals who have completed the program by nearly three to one.

In the past year we have also begun to examine the impact of the program on the participant's mental well-being. We are in the final stage of collecting surveys from each of the active members in the Drug Court. These surveys assess a variety of mental health indicators including: anxiety; depression; self-control; relationship satisfaction; as well as several others. Although our survey is yet to be completed at this time, we predict that as individuals progress through the program they will display better mental health outcomes.

In sum, we are encouraged by the initial success of Mississippi's experiment with drug courts and we encourage further evaluation of this program, as well as any others which may develop in the state. Nonetheless, further evaluation is necessary, particularly with regard to program effectiveness. Another year of evaluation should allow us to track more graduates for an extended period of time. Additionally, we can assess the mental health outcomes as individuals progress through the various phases. Finally, we need to determine whether or not this particular program is any more effective than traditional forms of probation.

Proposed Follow-up Evaluation

The Mississippi Crime and Justice Research Unit (MCJRU) stands ready to conduct an extensive follow-up evaluation of the Drug Court Program in Mississippi. The MCJRU has a well established record of criminal justice program and policy research and evaluation. Researchers in the Unit have worked closely with law enforcement officials, the courts, and corrections. Recent MCJRU studies have examined drug use and crime among adults and juveniles, the removal of juveniles from adult jails, the impact of using risk/need assessment instruments in juvenile sentencing decisions, the effectiveness of rehabilitation programs for prison inmates, sentencing disparities, and the impact of state drug control and violent crime reduction programs.

The objectives of this proposed evaluation are to systematically monitor and assess the impact of the Drug Court Program. The evaluation will examine a wide array of programmatic performance measures and report findings which in turn will serve as reference points for policy-makers concerned about the status, impact, and effectiveness of the programs. The results from the evaluation will assist policymakers in making informed decisions about the direction and utility of the drug control and prevention programs.

Because of the complex nature of evaluation research and the difficulties involved with accurately

measuring the net effects of drug control and prevention programs, a sophisticated and multi-faceted evaluation design is required. Therefore, a number of different research designs will be used. The assumption is that it is virtually impossible to ascertain valid and reliable measures of the effects of drug control efforts using only one method or data source. Simply put, the greater the number of independent performance measures that indicate the same outcome, the greater the confidence attached to the results of the evaluation.

Comparison of Drug Court Participants with Traditional Probation

We propose to examine the effectiveness of the Drug Court compared to its most common alternative sanction probation. Traditional probation is an imposed sentence which allows a convicted offender to remain in the community under the supervision of a legal agency (usually the Department of Corrections) with specific restrictions and conditions. Typically a person who is placed in traditional probation meets with a probation officer on a regular basis, must refrain from any further criminal activity, must be employed or in school, and may be required to participate in various counseling and/or therapeutic services. Compared to the Drug Court program, traditional probation is not as structured nor as intensive.

We suggest two different strategies for comparing the two sentencing strategies. First, we will sample a group of offenders who currently are on probation in the three county area (Lincoln, Pike and Walthall). We will attempt to match this sample based on experience with drugs/alcohol and those who have committed similar crimes with those who are eligible for the Drug Court program. The sample of traditional probationers will be administered identical surveys given to Drug Court participants and will be followed-up on a similar timetable as the Drug Court sample. Data will be compared from both groups and analyzed with attention to pro-social behaviors; drug and alcohol use; and criminal behavior.

The second part of this comparison will utilize state probationary data to examine recidivism rates. Six month and annual recidivism rates will be compared for the Drug Court participants and the state probation population.

Clients Progress Analysis

In order to assess the impact of the Drug Court with regard to treating drug offenders and reducing recidivism, a detailed impact evaluation of the Drug Court Program will be conducted. Based on the initial evaluation, an intake form was developed which includes demographic information (i.e., age, gender, race, etc.), criminal history information and substance abuse information. Data collected from the intake form will serve as baseline data on the clients. The evaluation team will also develop a survey to be completed by clients when they are release from the Drug Court program. Data from the intake and exit surveys will be compared to assess whether clients were significantly affected by the program. Data also will be collected from any previous criminal history records to verify and complement self-reported data. Finally, clients' criminal records will be traced in order to determine the presence of recidivism. Performance measures at this stage of the evaluation include the number of drug offenders within the existing corrections system and local jails served; the number of offenders receiving treatment and other services through the Drug Court; the number of first-time offenders 17 years of age and older who exhibit symptoms of alcohol and drug (AOD) use; the number of participants who successfully complete Drug Court programs; the number of Drug Court participants versus non-participants.

Clients Surveys

As part of the second year evaluation we began surveying clients as they enter and complete the four phases of the Drug Court program. The purpose of the surveys are to determine whether Drug Court participants experience a positive change in an array of social psychological characteristics and life experiences the longer they are in the program. In our initial survey we make only group comparisons between individuals in different phases of the program.

Interviews With Clients

In-depth interviews will be conducted with a significant proportion of active Drug Court participants. The purpose of these interviews will be to gather detailed information regarding the clients' perceptions of their progress in the program, perceived barriers to their success in the program, and their evaluation of the program, including its strengths and weaknesses.

Interviews With Staff and Stakeholders

We will continue to conduct an organizational process evaluation to evaluate the implementation of the Drug Court program. The evaluation team will monitor the Drug Court plan and timetable in order to assess whether planned objectives are met as intended. Interviews and focus groups will be conducted with staff and stakeholders in order to determine whether implementation of the Drug Court is continuing to operate appropriately. Performance measures at this stage of the evaluation include the number of Drug Courts identified and established; the number of personnel hired in the Drug Court program; the ratio of personnel to positions required by the Drug Court program; and the number and description of sub-programs, activities, initiatives, and projects implemented for clients and participants. For the third year evaluation we will concentrate on two new aspects of the program. First, we examine the implementation and effectiveness of the new drug testing equipment. Second, we look at the impact of the women's aftercare program on female participants and their families. Additionally, the judge is considering expanding the program to allow individuals who are eligible for pre-release from correctional institutions to enter the Drug Court program.

If the court would expand in this manner we would be able to adapt our evaluation in such a way as to assess these new participants.

Record Auditing and Reporting System Analysis

After evaluating the Drug Court program for nearly three years, we have found that the current system for collecting intake information and maintaining appropriate records for evaluation purposes is not adequate. This is primarily the result of an ever-increasing caseload. Given that the caseload is likely to continue growing, we suggest that an improved and automated intake system be developed and implemented. We will assist in developing and implementing this system in conjunction with current Drug Court personnel.

Reporting of Evaluation Findings

All aspects of the evaluation funded through this program will collect, analyze, and report statistical data regarding the implementation and/or the effectiveness of the drug control/prevention program being evaluated. Progress will be reported and compared to the stated goals and objectives. Progress reports of the evaluations will be sent to the appropriate agencies. Meetings will also be scheduled with appropriate agency personnel in order to apprise them of pertinent information and evaluation updates. Ultimately, a final report will be published and distributed to appropriate agency representatives. The report will contain all results of the specific evaluations for a designated time period.

