

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL STATE AND
LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE
FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM**

**STATE ANNUAL REPORT
(JULY 1, 2002 - JUNE 30, 2003)**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The New Hampshire Department of Justice, led by the Attorney General, is the State Administrative Agency for the Byrne Formula Grant Program as well as for several other formula and discretionary grant programs that are managed by the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The priority areas addressed in the Byrne Formula Grant Multi-year Statewide Strategy are coordinated with the plans for these other federal and state grant programs.

The first priority area is to reduce the availability of illegal drugs in the State of New Hampshire. The State funds one statewide Multijurisdictional Drug Task Force to investigate and arrest the suppliers of illegal drugs in the State. The New Hampshire Drug Task Force, which is operated through the New Hampshire Department of Justice, has had twenty-two (22) State and local law enforcement agencies participating in four (4) regional teams around the State in the last year. A specialized drug prosecutor is also funded at the county level to prosecute the drug-related cases that arise out of successful police investigations.

The State of New Hampshire determined a second priority area to be addressing the needs of at-risk juveniles and the impact of juveniles on the criminal justice system. The State funds a number of program types to address this priority area:

First, Drug Abuse Resistance Education, (DARE), programs have been implemented to two (2) local communities to attempt to reduce the demand for illegal drugs.

Second, the State has funded projects under its Youth-At-Risk Crime Prevention Program area. Subgrants were continued to the out-of-school projects for at-risk youth in communities around the State. Six (6) projects received continuation funding to provide valuable services to children during the after-school hours and during school vacation times when children would otherwise be left in their neighborhoods without supervised activities. In addition, a juvenile diversion project and a pilot youth restorative justice project were continued during this reporting time period. A formal evaluation activity of the youth restorative justice project was begun during this time period by researchers at the University of New Hampshire.

The third and final funded program type under this priority area is the statewide mentoring initiative that was begun as a result of the State's cooperation with the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and University of New Hampshire's New Futures. The statewide

mentoring collaborative agency, known as Granite State Youth Mentors, was created in 2001 and continued during this time period to expand advocacy and training for local mentoring agencies that serve at-risk youth in New Hampshire. There were also seven (7) subgrant projects that received funding for direct expansion and enhancement of youth mentoring opportunities. All of the projects have increased the number of mentoring matches made for at-risk youth around the State. A formal, two-year evaluation activity to provide a cost/benefit analysis of youth mentoring was begun during this reporting timeframe.

The next priority area is the enhancement of the State's criminal justice information sharing capabilities at all levels of the criminal justice system. Byrne Formula Grant funding has been utilized to link the courts to the State's criminal justice information system. Also a major Byrne Formula Grant funded project in this area has been an information technology consultant contract to assist with the design of the criminal justice information system plan. The State has also utilized other federal grant funding to fund various components of the criminal justice information system. The inclusion of all components of the criminal justice system through a well-developed plan is vital to ensuring that all pertinent data will be added to the overall records system in a timely manner.

Finally, New Hampshire provided subgrant funding for one project under the Emergency Preparedness program area, which was approved in 2002. Byrne Formula Grant funds were subgranted to create a model city command-training program to be used for simulation training in mass casualty response and command post operations. The project began in November 2003.

New Hampshire's program areas and subgrant projects funded through the use of grant funds continue to be chosen based on the needs of the citizens of the State of New Hampshire and their contribution to the overall goals of the Byrne Formula Grant Program – making this a drug-free nation and reducing incidents of violent crime.

EVALUATION PLAN AND ACTIVITIES

The Department of Justice has continued to collaborate with the evaluation consortium through the University of New Hampshire known as "Justiceworks: A Northern New England Consortium for the Study of the Prevention and Control of Crime" ("Justiceworks "). Justiceworks consists of representatives from the Byrne Formula Grant administration agencies, the Departments of Corrections, and the land grant universities from New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont. Justiceworks has come together through a memorandum of understanding to conduct evaluation activities for Byrne Formula Grant funded programs and to provide training and technical assistance to criminal justice professionals.

There are two evaluation activities to be designed and implemented in the field by Justiceworks. Each subgrant is for \$50,000. The first is to study the statewide mentoring initiative subgrants that were begun last year from a cost-benefit standpoint. We know from the national studies that have been conducted that mentoring is effective, consequently the review that will be undertaken here will determine the cost savings that communities experience when a juvenile is served by a mentoring program instead of through the state's juvenile justice system. A final report from this project is expected in December 2004.

The second evaluation activity is to study the effectiveness of a new juvenile restorative justice project that has been funded under the Youth-At-Risk Crime Prevention program area. This project has operated for just two years so far, but in the coming years we anticipate useful data to be received regarding its effects in the community. A final report from this project is expected in December 2004.

Finally, as part of the State's commitment to evaluation activities, the Department of Justice, as State Administrative Agency, continues to provide on-going evaluation, monitoring and technical support to the subgrantee agencies of New Hampshire Byrne Formula Grant funds. Subgrantee agencies receive an on-site monitoring visit every year and additional support via telephone and e-mail throughout the year. In addition, subgrantees are required to provide annual progress reports. This monitoring process assists subgrant programs in evaluating their own programs while at the same time assists the New Hampshire Department of Justice in the evaluation and monitoring of the progress of State's Byrne Formula Grant Program.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

I. Multijurisdictional Drug Task Force

Since 1986, New Hampshire has operated a Multijurisdictional Drug Task Force that continues to be the State's largest drug investigation unit. Currently, there are four regional teams, coordinated and supported by a central administrative operation. Each team consists of a team leader and a number of undercover operatives, who are select members of local law enforcement agencies. The team leader reports to the Commander who is assisted by his administrative staff. While the central coordination of activities is a requirement of a successful task force and is done so through the New Hampshire Department of Justice, the sole function of the Multijurisdictional Drug Task Force continues to be local drug enforcement.

The 2002-2003 subgrant award was \$324,960 to fund the central Multijurisdictional Drug Task Force and \$266,042 to fund the four regionalized drug task force operations. Those operations involve the selected representatives from approximately 21 local police departments located throughout the State, whose subgrants amount to approximately \$750,000.

The primary goal of this program is to reduce the supply of drugs in New Hampshire. The planned objectives to realize this goal is to eliminate the suppliers of drugs by:

- a. Concentrating our enforcement resources in those areas of greatest need;
- b. Expanding the scope of the Multijurisdictional Drug Task Force through regionalization;
- c. Continuing the enhancement of information sharing between all law enforcement agencies (state, federal and local); and
- d. Ensuring compliance with Chapter 8 of the Office of the Comprehensive Financial Guide on the use of confidential funds.

There are no plans to formally evaluate the Multijurisdictional Drug Task Force at this time.

The New Hampshire Drug Task Force does maintain statistical information for its activities. From July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003 the New Hampshire Drug Task Force was involved in 688 cases that resulted in 145 arrests and 51 indictments. The predominant types of drugs seized

and purchased during this time period were marijuana and marijuana plants, cocaine, heroin and crack. The New Hampshire Drug Task Force also seized and purchased as part of their enforcement effort LSD, mushrooms, ecstasy, crystal methamphetamine, oxycontin and other unidentified pills. The New Hampshire Drug Task Force was also successful in seizing 22 weapons, 8 vehicles, and approximately \$645,522 in U.S. currency.

To complement the Multijurisdictional Drug Task Force's work which is put into investigating and arresting individuals for drug-related crimes, New Hampshire has funded one county drug case prosecutor program in the State's largest county in the amount of \$42,606. The goal of this project is to enhance the judicial efficiency of drug case prosecution and to provide the prosecutor as a resource to police and other prosecutors during investigations and case prosecutions. The drug case prosecutor specializes and prosecutes drug-related cases arising from the New Hampshire Drug Task Force and other drug investigations/arrests.

A formal evaluation is not planned for this project but statistical data is maintained through the project's performance measures, as follows:

During the term of this reporting period, the Hillsborough County Attorney's Office opened cases involving 87 new defendants, which accounted for 137 new indictments and 18 misdemeanor charges. The drug case prosecutor handles approximately 100-120 open cases at any given time. At times that caseload has exceeded 140 open cases.

II. Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Program

The primary goal of supporting DARE programs is to work toward the reduction in the demand for drugs. The DARE Program has been in operation in New Hampshire for several years. In an effort to coordinate the expansion of this program, a Governor's Advisory Commission on DARE was established in 1992. From 2002-2003 approximately \$3,000 was spent for DARE programs in two small, rural communities around the State.

The State's commitment of Byrne Formula Grant funding to the DARE initiative has continued to decrease significantly, which is due primarily to the fact that most communities in New Hampshire have DARE programs in place and many agencies are subject to the four-year rule, prohibiting further Byrne Formula Grant funding.

No formal evaluation of DARE in New Hampshire will be conducted. The State realizes that DARE should not be looked at as the sole answer in creating a drug resilient generation of youth. It is part of what is needed to be a coordinated, comprehensive effort in the total community commitment toward future generations. Toward that end, the State of New Hampshire has funded other program areas to assist in this effort, such as out-of-school and mentoring projects, which will be described in more detail within this report.

III. Youth-At-Risk Crime Prevention Programs

The goal of the projects funded under the Youth-At-Risk Crime Prevention Program area is to reduce the rate of juvenile crime by providing a program of early and intensive intervention for at-risk youth that collaborates with the school, police department, juvenile service department, community leaders/organizations and/or families.

The first project is a diversion project operating with Byrne Formula Grant funds to serve juveniles in the northeastern county of the state. The project received its fourth and final year of funding in the amount of \$22,000 and served 93 juveniles who participated in volunteer diversion panels and community service. Of the 93 juveniles served, 30 juveniles also completed the Challenge courses to promote leadership skills.

The second project is in Belknap County, which is located in the central part of New

Hampshire. This county-level juvenile justice initiative was a new program last year for federal funding. It is based on the restorative justice model and is designed for juveniles between the ages of 10 and 17. The program components include: restorative boards, victim impact panels, community service, community education, mentor programs, and collaborative initiatives with local schools. In the project's second year of operation, it served 46 juveniles. In addition, the project trained and supported 40 adult volunteers to participate on the restorative panels. From the restorative panel meetings, the juveniles enter into contracts and from those contracts the juveniles have completed a total of 1,200 community service hours and have paid a total of \$3,113 in restitution. A formal evaluation process has been contracted with the University of New Hampshire, Justiceworks, for this project.

The New Hampshire Department of Justice also funded six out-of-school projects under this program area. These projects were continued for their third year through this reporting period with the assistance of approximately \$200,000 in Byrne Formula Grant funding. These projects offer a variety of activities, programming and field trips for the children and are available for service daily, during after school hours, as well as during school vacations. These funded projects included the expansion of two existing program sites and the creation of 11 new program sites around the State. The projects reported serving approximately 1,077 children. This number is an increase from last year since most of the projects are now in full operation.

Since each of these projects is slightly different and targets a slightly different population of at-risk youth, it was decided not to develop a formal evaluation activity for this program area at this time.

IV. Mentoring

In 2000, representatives from the New Hampshire Department of Justice, the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and New Futures worked with representatives of Big Brothers Big Sisters, both national and state, to begin a plan for expanding mentoring services throughout the State of New Hampshire. An agency known as Granite State Youth Mentors was created in 2001 to implement the business plan for this statewide mentoring initiative.

During this timeframe, Granite State Youth Mentors, through funding from a Byrne Formula Grant subgrant of approximately \$94,000 and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation matching funding, continued its efforts to increase public awareness about the agency and mentoring and offered training and technical assistance services to support existing mentoring projects and to assist in the start-up of new mentoring projects. The project provided 3 training institutes attended by 75 mentoring program professionals; 3 Program Directors Forums, which were attended by 30 professionals; 26 outreach workshops for community and civic groups; and the Executive Director training 125 new mentors in programs across the state. The mentor hotline received 35 calls and of these, 15 mentors were placed with local mentoring agency partners. Furthermore, Granite State Youth Mentors seeded 22 new youth mentoring initiatives across the state. At the year's end, a total of 51 youth mentoring agencies have partnered with Granite State Youth Mentors.

In addition to the Byrne Formula Grant support awarded to the statewide Granite State Youth Mentors agency, 7 local mentoring agencies received approximately \$250,000 in grant funding to enhance the youth mentoring services in communities around the state. The

projects have served to match approximately 378 at-risk youth with adult mentors. We anticipate the numbers of mentor matches will continue to increase as the statewide initiative and local programs continue to draw the public's attention to this cost-effective and rewarding youth crime prevention activity.

A formal evaluation activity, through the University of New Hampshire, is underway for this grant-funded program area.

V. Criminal Justice Information System Development

The overall goal of this program area is to improve the criminal records system in New Hampshire.

During this reporting period, the Administrative Office of the Courts was subgranted approximately \$270,000, to continue the courts involvement in the system development. Three subgrants in the approximate amount of \$123,000 to support new personnel positions were utilized to further the projects goals and objectives.

Furthermore, in order to further advance this project, a subgrant in the amount of \$150,000 was awarded and some expended during this reporting timeframe to acquire information technology consulting services from KPMG Consulting, Inc. A committee of state and local officials oversees the CJIS project. This committee includes members from KPMG Consulting, Inc., Department of Safety, Department of Corrections, Administrative Office of the Courts, New Hampshire State Police, Department of Justice and Local Law Enforcement. From this consulting contract, KPMG Consulting, Inc. has produced a Project Plan and some project deliverables. An updated Criminal Records Improvement Plan that describes the various components to the state's plan has been attached as Appendix A.

VI. Emergency Preparedness

This program area was approved by BJA in 2002. A subgrant was made during this reporting period to the New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council to develop a model city command training program. The plan includes development of the training program and a train the trainer component, as well. Actual utilization of federal grant funds did not occur during this reporting timeframe consequently more information regarding this project and the trainees it served will be reported next year.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION

All essential narrative information has been provided in the text of this report. The appendix that was referenced in the previous section of this report is attached hereto as supplemental program documentation.

Appendix A: Updated Criminal Justice Information System Plan for the State of New Hampshire

APPENDIX A