

Your opinion counts

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority wants to hear from you.

The Authority is charged with administering the federal Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program, also referred to as the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (ADAA). This program supports the operation of criminal justice programs that address drug and violent crime in Illinois. *Illinois' Multiyear Strategy to Control Drug and Violent Crime* is the Authority's plan for the administration of these funds, and it includes a detailed analysis of Illinois crime trends and the status of crime control efforts.

Promoting successful programming

To help develop a plan to promote successful and effective programming, the Authority solicited innovative, programmatic ideas and expertise from diverse groups about the design, development, and funding of crime control initiatives. In June 2000, the Authority convened a state Criminal Justice Planning Assembly in which 135 policy makers, service providers, researchers, practitioners and elected officials participated. Participants formed six workgroups to discuss drug and violent crime, juvenile crime, offender services, victims of violent crime, community capacity building, and information systems and technology.

In the months following the Assembly, Authority staff convened ad hoc advisory committees consisting primarily of members of the six workgroups. These advisory committees refined the goals and objectives crafted at the Assembly, and developed recommendations to address the identified priorities. The Authority considered these recommendations, as well as comprehensive information on crime and victimization trends, in the development of the *Criminal Justice Plan for the State of Illinois*, which was approved by the Authority in June 2001. The plan can be found on the Authority's website: www.icjia.state.il.us.

The Authority also developed an Action Plan intended to guide the Authority's agenda in areas of policy, research and evaluation, legislation, and funding. The Action Plan is organized around the five overarching areas identified during the development of the *Criminal Justice Plan for the State of Illinois*: information, collaboration, utilization of resources, services, and accountability. Also available from the Authority, the Action Plan describes initiatives intended to address priority issues identified in the *Criminal Justice Plan for the State of Illinois*. The Action Plan has been applied to

Authority initiatives, including administration of the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program.

Anti-Drug Abuse Act goals and priorities

Illinois' federal fiscal year 2003 ADAA award was \$19.2 million. We are still awaiting Illinois' 2004 allocation from the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance. In its application for these funds, the Authority will submit a new *Illinois Multiyear Strategy* reflecting changes in drug and violent crime trends since the development of the last strategy. The following goals and priorities were identified in previous plans:

Goals

Goal 1

Motivate youth to reject illegal drugs, substance abuse, and violence.

Goal 2

Increase safety in Illinois by substantially reducing drug-related crime and violence.

Goal 3

Reduce health, welfare, and crime costs resulting from illegal drug use and violent crime.

Priorities

Priority 1

Support prevention programs that help youth recognize risks associated with violent crime and drug use and target youth to reduce their use of violence, illicit drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products. *The Authority Action Plan recognized the need to make better use of the resources available in the school system by training educators so that they understand how to identify and respond to risk factors without stigmatizing youth.*

Priority 2

Support programs that strengthen multi-agency linkages at the community level among prevention, treatment, and criminal justice programs, as well as other supportive social services, to better address drug abuse. *The Authority Action Plan recognized the importance of collaboration within the criminal justice system. It supports efforts to examine and promote methods for building partnerships between criminal justice agencies and communities. It also recognized that*

agencies need to create partnerships to coordinate the effective use of resources outside the criminal justice system that may be used for services for offenders and families.

Priority 3

Support programs that enhance treatment effectiveness, quality, and services so that those who need treatment can receive it. *The Authority Action Plan recognized the need to build the capacity of the criminal justice system and its partner agencies to provide a continuum of services for offenders with an early intervention response, including treatment for offenders, programs for the less serious offenders, community based multidisciplinary responses to delinquency and mechanisms that support remedial recommendations.*

Priority 4

Support programs that reduce drug-related crime and violence. *The Authority Action Plan indicated that accountability must be a central principle of the justice system. It encourages local departments to participate in multi-jurisdictional drugs units. It also supports efforts to ensure that the most serious offenders can be identified, incarcerated and monitored appropriately. It also supports efforts to increase crime gun tracing resources and awareness.*

Priority 5

Support research that identifies what works in drug treatment and the prevention of drug use and violent crime. Develop new information about drug use, violent crime, and their consequences. *The Authority Action Plan recognized the state must make more effective use of personnel and programs. It supports the "best use" concept that includes making more effective use of research findings in identifying issues and trends, planning programmatic responses and evaluating impact.*

Priority 6

Support programs that promote the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system. *In its Action Plan, the Authority supports a statewide integrated justice needs analysis and, based on the analysis, the creation of a proof-of-concept network that can serve as a model for integrated justice in Illinois.*

Priority 7

Support programs statewide that target prevention and early intervention for juveniles, with particular emphasis on the principals of balanced and restorative justice. *In its Action Plan, the Authority recognized the need to cross-train practitioners to ensure that there is a common*

understanding of risk factors that may lead to juvenile delinquency and to promote a coordinated response to special youth populations.

Additional information concerning the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program, the Authority, and the *Criminal Justice Plan for the State of Illinois* is available from the Authority.

Request for input

We welcome your comments on these goals and priorities. In developing the strategy for this year, the Authority also seeks input on the drug and violent crime problem in Illinois. The Authority will consider all input as it develops ADAA goals and funding priorities for federal fiscal year 2004. This is your opportunity to inform the Authority of criminal justice issues, crime problems, and possible interventions and help guide the Authority's administration of federal funds for the next year. You may submit comments by e-mail, fax, or U.S. mail. Submission of comments does not constitute an application for grant funding. **The Authority must receive your comments by Monday, March 1, 2004.**

Comments may be e-mailed to:

ltaylor@icjia.state.il.us

Comments may be faxed to the attention of:

Linda Taylor at 312-793-8422

Written comments should be directed to:

**Linda Taylor
Federal & State Grants Unit
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1016
Chicago, IL 60606**

Questions

Questions may be directed to the Authority by:

Fax: 312-793-8422

Toll-free phone: 888-425-4248

E-mail: irc@icjia.state.il.us

Or by visiting the Authority's website:
www.icjia.state.il.us

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