



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

300 W. Adams Street • Suite 200 • Chicago, Illinois 60606 • (312) 793-8550

To: Authority Members

From: Mark Myrent, Associate Director
Research and Analysis Unit

Date: May 16, 2011

Re: Research and Analysis Unit Report for the June 2011 Authority Meeting

This memorandum highlights some of the work performed by staff of the Research and Analysis Unit since the Authority's last quarterly meeting.

I. NEW PROJECTS

A. St. Leonard's Ministries Program Evaluation

St. Leonard's Ministries operates four main programs—St. Leonard's House, Grace House, the Michael Barlow Center, and St. Andrew's Court. St. Leonard's House (SLH) provides housing for adult men exiting prison and Grace House (GH) provides housing for adult women exiting prison. They are both voluntary, transitional housing programs with an average stay of 120-180 days. The Michael Barlow Center provides educational and vocational assistance to formerly incarcerated men and women who may or may not be program residents. St. Andrew's Court is permanent supportive housing for men, many of whom were residents in the St. Leonard's House program. St. Leonard's Ministries' programs have never been formally evaluated, so there is a lack of information indicating the effectiveness of the programs. An evaluation and report of the findings will identify and share the critical program components that are effective in contributing to successful client outcomes. This information will also help educate policy makers about the potential benefit of long-term, structured reentry programming for formerly incarcerated men and women. A final report is expected to be completed by Winter 2013.

B. Medicaid and Justice Populations-Statewide Working Groups

The genesis of the Medicaid and Justice Populations workgroup was a series of discussions at the Authority's strategic planning workgroups about the advent of national healthcare reform and its impact on justice-involved individuals and the agencies that serve them. Participants asked the Authority to convene an exploratory meeting of senior administrators from the Illinois Department of Corrections, Illinois Department of Human Services (DASA/DMH/HCD/OCAPS), and the Illinois

Department of Healthcare and Family Services to determine the appropriate role of the Authority and the scope of the issue.

In February 2011, the initial meeting was convened at the Authority. The workgroup identified the broad issues facing state criminal justice and health and human services agencies, including the need to better understand how existing protocols and partnerships can inform the statewide discussion. In March and April 2011, state officials presented initiatives with potential for replication and/or expansion, including:

- Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health (DMH): Jail DataLink Project which connects open mental health cases with DMH to new county jail admissions to triage re-engagement into mental health services;
- Department of Human Services, Office of Clinical, Administrative and Program Support: current procedures for cross-matching Medicaid recipients with new admissions into State Psychiatric Hospitals to suspend services until hospital discharge;
- Department of Human Services, Human Capital Development Services and Bureau of Research and Analysis: pending policy for “quick reinstatement” of Medicaid benefits for individuals who contact local Medicaid offices upon release from more than 30 days of detention in county jail;
- Department of Human Services, Human Capital Development Services and Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services: pending policy to “restrict” Medicaid benefits to hospitalization while incarcerated in county jail for more than thirty days; and
- Department of Juvenile Justice: lessons learned from their Medicaid planning activities and suggestions for this planning process.

Participants are now beginning a needs assessment and strategic planning process using the guidelines set forth in the Justice Center at the Council of State Government’s *“Implications of the Federal Health Legislation on Justice Involved Populations”* project. This document identifies type of services that Medicaid will cover, procedures for enrollment, and when enrollment can occur.

The workgroup several components to shape a comprehensive plan for Illinois in implementing healthcare reform for justice-involved populations, including eligibility determination; procedures for enrollment; existing privacy and information sharing laws and the need to develop new laws, practices, MOU’s, and information sharing systems; timing for enrollment; types of services; preparing service providers and justice system officials for these changes.

C. Kane County State’s Attorney-Standardized Decision Making Tool

The Kane County State’s Attorney approached R&A to develop an evidence-based risk, asset, needs assessment to help inform plea decisions. Staff met with the State’s Attorney to identify the primary factors for determining plea decisions. Staff are now in the process of working with the State’s Attorney and his staff to pilot test and implement the tool.

Authority staff will work closely with the state’s attorney’s office (SAO) to monitor implementation on a number of levels. First, the SAO will determine the “weights” given to each risk, asset, and need factor to appropriate score the tool. Secondly, the SAO will pilot test the tool for ten working days to

determine its efficacy. Authority staff will then meet with the SAO to reframe the tool as necessary, first monthly, then periodically over a 12-month period. An overlying objective is to offer the tool to other state's attorneys in Illinois.

D. Anne's House Program Evaluation

ICJIA staff will complete a process evaluation of Anne's House during year one of program operations. The residential home, operated by Salvation Army can accommodate up to eight women and girls aged 12-21 years old who are domestic (non-international) victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The home provides a safe nurturing residential environment along with long-term trauma treatment, life skills training, spiritual support, education, anger management, money management, and recreational activities. The evaluation will describe the program's services and its participants, as well as gain input from staff.

There will be five components to the research: Component 1 will be a description of the program and its participants; Component 2 will be case file review of program participants; Component 3 will be a client satisfaction survey; Component 4 will be interviews with adult program staff; and Component 5 will be a description of similar homes around the country. The Institutional Review Board will review the application for the research at its June 2011 meeting. A final report is expected to be completed by Summer 2012.

E. Inventory of Employment Restrictions on Persons with Criminal Records

Illinois Senate Bill 2109, which was recently signed into law, directs the Authority, under the direction of a Task Force, to review the statutes, administrative rules, policies, and practices that restrict employment of persons with a criminal history, and to report to the Governor and the General Assembly those employment restrictions and their impact on employment opportunities for people having those criminal records. All state agencies are required to submit a report that describes restrictions for employment within the agency; in facilities licensed, regulated, supervised, or funded by the agency; and in occupations that the agency licenses or provides certifications to practice. Agencies are required to report, among other data, specific disqualifying offenses delineated in these statutes, rules, and policies - and time limits for each offense. If the agency is afforded discretion in determining disqualifying offenses, the criteria used by the agency must be reported (for example, whether disqualifying offenses are related to the practice of a given profession, considered an act of "moral turpitude", or one that calls into question "good moral character"). Agencies are also required to describe any exemptions, waivers, or review mechanisms available to individuals to seek relief from disqualification. In addition to this reporting for all agencies, executive agencies are required to participate in an accounting of actual applicants who underwent criminal background checks, the number found disqualified, the number who sought waiver, those denied waiver.

The Senate bill was reintroduced in May to amend the various due dates of reports. The final report to the Governor and the General Assembly will be due in September 2012. While awaiting the convening of the Task Force, Authority staff have met several time to familiarize themselves with the various provisions of the bill and the associated tasks that are to be performed. Appropriate contact

information for all state agencies is being compiled, as well as a preliminary listing of the state job titles within each agency.

F. Drug Task Force Research

ICJIA staff have reviewed the literature concerning drug task forces (Metropolitan Enforcement Groups and Task Forces), and found that much is still unknown about their processes and outcomes. This research will allow us to learn more about the operations of these units in Illinois - specifically what and how information is used to develop strategic priorities. Besides informing the field and advancing the literature on drug task forces staff hope to identify the core components of program success. That information will be used to inform ICJIA's grant review and grant administration process for this program area. Participants will be drawn from all ICJIA-funded drug task forces, and participation will be voluntary. There will be structured questions based on the nine research questions. The questions address the development of drug task forces' goals, objectives, and strategic priorities; identification of problems and needs in the community; the ways in which program effectiveness or success are measured; collaboration with local police departments, probation, parole, and service providers; changes to task forces in the past ten years; and advice for other drug task forces or for agencies wanting to start a task force. A summary of the focus group responses will be shared with the task force officials and published on the web. The Institutional Review Board approved this research in February 2011. Two focus groups are scheduled in June in Chicago and Springfield. A final report is expected to be completed by Winter 2012.

G. Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) 2010 Audit

The unit's Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Audit Center is a Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funded in-house effort to continuously examine the accuracy, completeness and timeliness of the criminal history record information reported to the state repository maintained by the Illinois State Police, and to recommend strategies for improvement.

Preparations for the 2011 CHRI audit have begun. The focus of the audit will be on court disposition reporting, since accurate and complete conviction information is a key component of decisions within the criminal justice system and an increasing number of decisions outside of criminal justice (employment, housing, student loans, and so on).

During this quarter, staff made some preliminary contacts at the Cook County Circuit Court Clerk's office regarding the feasibility of obtaining their court disposition records to use as a reference point for the audit of the state's CHRI system, as well as a review of information from Winnebago County's Integrated Information Project to gain knowledge of the Automated Disposition Reporting System (ADR) used in that county to report court dispositions to ISP. A full proposal for the 2011 CHRI Audit will be presented to the State Police in July, with work to commence thereafter.

H. Statistical Fact Sheet Updates

Staff is working on updating the Illinois criminal justice statistical fact sheets consisting of violent and property offenses and arrests, drug trends, victimization, and criminal court case filings spanning from 1999 to 2008 (in some cases 2009 data). These brief statistical summaries are slated to be public domain on the agency's website before the end of the year.

II. CURRENT PROJECTS

A. Program evaluation and research projects/ internally funded

The R&A Unit pursues a program evaluation and research agenda through an in-house Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)-funded grant program. Evaluation and research efforts conducted, supported, or monitored by R&A staff include:

1. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Strategic Planning Initiative – Summit Follow-up

On September 22-23, 2010, ICJIA staff convened a large group of criminal justice professionals, lawmakers, and policymakers from across Illinois at the Criminal Justice Planning Summit. At this event, participants reviewed current challenges in the adult justice system based on the experiences of policymakers, practitioners, and others in the field, and on the latest research. They also identified priorities for a statewide strategy for criminal justice policy, funding initiatives, and justice research in the coming years. This effort is the first since 2001 to create and implement a strategic criminal justice plan for the state of Illinois. Several panelists, from both Illinois and across the country, presented strategies from law enforcement, courts, probation, and community members that can potentially be adopted within local Illinois jurisdictions.

ICJIA partnered with several key state and national criminal justice and human services agencies to gather information and guide planning for the summit, including the Illinois Department of Corrections, Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, Illinois Department of Human Services, Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Child and Family Services, and the National Criminal Justice Association, Justice and Research Statistics Association, and Pew Research Center. Other partners include representatives of the state's mental health, law enforcement, judicial and court services, and criminal justice associations.

Staff completed several fact-finding strategies to pinpoint critical criminal justice issues and the most effective and efficient evidence-based policies, practices, and programs in Illinois and across the nation. These include reviewing existing statewide strategic plans from around the country to identify areas for potential replication and lessons learned, interviews with state justice and human service association leaders to solicit information about critical issues facing their communities, and workgroups with representatives of the academic and policy advocacy communities. Staff also collected existing needs assessment data, reports, survey findings, and other information reflective of current justice trends in Illinois that could be used to support the development of the summit agenda and the strategic plan.

In the end, this initiative will result in a coordinated statewide, data-driven strategic approach to crime reduction and justice system investment. This effort and the subsequent working sessions, which will take

place in January and February 2011, will increase the investment all facets of the justice system have in planning for a more organized and strategic effort to reduce crime and increase public health and safety.

The Authority hosted five working meetings with over 140 stakeholders from all sectors of the justice and human services fields to review the draft plan resulting from the Summit. The five groups began identifying action steps for programs and practices, professional development, public policy, and research and evaluation that will become the guiding document for the Authority's activities, and will be offered to as well as for other justice-related agencies in the state. The meetings were held in February and March 2011. Specifically, working groups:

- ensured that the identified critical challenges represent those that are most acute and widespread;
- proposed realistic strategies to address the critical challenges;
- determined whether existing strategies are in place that can be adopted, replicated, or expanded to address the core challenges; and
- provided knowledge and expertise that will contribute to the identification of critical challenges, and facilitate the identification of realistic programs and practices, training and professional development and public policy action steps within the strategic plan.

The draft of the strategic plan is currently being reviewed internally and by state partners. The goals, objectives, and action steps pertain to both local and state-level stakeholders, and include the need for program grants, professional development, changes in public policy, additional research, and/or enhancements to information technology.

In accordance with the overriding theme of *creating smarter solutions for crime reduction*, the plan supports programs, practices, and policies that are multijurisdictional and multidisciplinary; promising or evidence-based; and support professional development and training. It is expected to be released in the summer 2011.

2. Evidence Based Practices Initiative

As part of ICJIA's movement toward endorsing promising and evidence-based practices, staff have begun to develop an online portal of promising and evidence-based juvenile and criminal justice practices. The resource will serve as a tool for potential and current grantees and other state and local program administrators. The components of this online resource will include:

- Descriptions of and links to existing online repositories and searchable databases of promising and evidence-based practices.
- Descriptions of and links to existing online technical assistance manuals and guides for identifying promising and evidence-based practices.
- Summaries of selected promising and evidence-based practices from meta-analyses and evaluations.
- Snapshots of selected current Illinois practices, resulting from current promising and/or evidence-based initiatives, which can be applied to the implementation of other promising or evidence-based programs. To contextualize the snapshots in order to provide an effective mechanism for knowledge transfer, program officials were asked to address the following implementation issues:

- √ How did you know you had a problem?
- √ What was the problem you needed to address?

- √ Who was the leader in addressing the problem? Has that changed through the life of the strategy?
- √ How did you determine your strategy (policy, program, or practice) for addressing the problem?
- √ What are the core components of your strategy that make it effective?
- √ Who are the key partners?
- √ How much did it cost?
- √ What type of reorganization of existing resources did you undertake?
- √ How did you garner public support for your strategy?
- √ In retrospect, what would you have done differently to plan for, develop, and implement your strategy?
- √ How do you know your strategy is working?

Local contact information for program leaders was also provided. This information has begun to be placed on the agency website. More will be posted as additional evidence-based practices material is identified, and as tools are developed to facilitate the implementation process. During this quarter, staff compiled a web portal with links to over 50 reports, searchable data bases and technical assistance documents about identifying and using evidence-based practices. This portal is currently being enhanced to include summary explanations of evidence-based practices being employed in Illinois and will be complemented by a series of Authority-sponsored webinars and roundtables about effective practices to take place over the next 24 months.

3. Assessment of First Defense Legal Aid

In December of 2010, staff began working with the First Defense Legal Aid (FDLA) program, a non-profit that provides education on individual rights at arrest and legal representation at interrogation, to provide technical assistance and basic outcome evaluations for these services. The project has been divided into multiple sections.

The first, providing technical assistance in examining the efficacy of the StreetLaw program, received IRB exemption in December and was started in January. StreetLaw is a program whereby lawyers volunteer to go into Chicago Public Schools classrooms or community group meetings and provide a basic lesson on how to interact with police officers when stopped for questioning, including individual rights and responsibilities in such situations. Students are given a test before the lesson to gauge their baseline level of knowledge of the subject matter, and then given the same test after the lesson to determine how much was learned during the presentation. As well, staff members in these classrooms and community groups were given a survey to determine their level of satisfaction with the presentation, and provide feedback for FDLA. Both the test results and the survey results were examined by staff, and the analyses were presented to FDLA in January.

The next phase will be to examine the efficacy of FDLA's station representation program, which utilizes on-call volunteer lawyers to provide legal counsel during the interrogation of an arrestee. The service is provided free to the individual, and requires either the arrestee or a friend or family member to call FDLA and request representation. Staff has examined records kept by the volunteers and entered into a database maintained by FDLA, and has compiled preliminary findings. It is expected that these findings will be finalized and presented to FDLA during this quarter.

4. Prescription Drug Research Bulletin

This research bulletin will provide up-to-date information on the status of illegal prescription drug use in Illinois using existing statewide data. It is an update to an earlier report on this topic that was produced by the Authority in 2008. A partial draft has been completed and will be finalized following receipt of additional data from the Illinois Department of Human Services. The bulletin will describe the types of prescription drugs, the prevalence of illegal use, and overdoses and deaths. Illinois-specific information will include prescription drug-related treatment admissions and emergency room visits, as well as the State's efforts to combat illegal use – such as new laws and its prescription drug monitoring program. A draft is currently in review and a final report is expected to be completed by Summer 2011.

5. Survey of Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Programs

The Authority has supported Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) programs in the juvenile justice system for several years by sponsoring BARJ trainings for police, prosecutors, detention centers and probation departments, as well as service providers and school officials. Staff have also produced several BARJ guides that contain detailed instructions for incorporating BARJ principles into the operations of these agencies and institutions. This project is a continuation of that effort. The survey will create an inventory of restorative justice practices in Illinois and measure the extent to which agencies have incorporated components of restorative justice into their programming. The online survey closed on May 13, 2011. Staff is now analyzing the survey results and compiling the final report. This report is expected to be finalized in Autumn 2011.

6. Risks, Assets, and Needs Assessment (RANA) Task Force Support

The Crime Reduction Act, signed into law in August 2009, created the Risks, Assets, and Needs Assessment (RANA) Task Force to adopt a standardized assessment instrument for the state criminal justice system. The goal of the Task Force is to find the best possible assessment instrument/system to be used at all levels of the Illinois criminal justice system to improve public safety outcomes. The task force has conducted a national overview of commonly used assessment tools, including LSI-R (which is used in Illinois), COMPAS, and Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS), and how they are used to structure case plans and supervision/sanction strategies. They have also reviewed the assessment instruments currently used by the courts and corrections agencies in Illinois. To aid in these objectives, the task force convened an advisory group with community-level representatives, researchers, the bar association, sex offender management board, and legislators. Authority staff serve on the task force, and have assisted in selecting criteria by which to assess the different instruments including: the inclusion of criminogenic domains, the validity and reliability of the assessment instrument, its utility at different points in the justice system, its adaptability to existing agency data systems, costs, and ease of implementation and training. A Request for Information (RFI) was issued in order to identify the overall capabilities of vendors to meet these criteria. Following a review of the RFI responses, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was prepared, and will be issued with the goal of selecting an instrument for implementation by June 2011. Shortly thereafter, a vendors conference will be held to supply additional information to the process.

7. Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data: 2008 Annual Report

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, the annual report entitled “Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data” is a compilation of county-level juvenile justice system and risk factor data. Research staff are now amassing the 2008 data sets for the 2008 Annual Report. Similar to previous editions, this report summarizes recent trends in these data over time and discusses emerging juvenile justice system issues in Illinois, including Balanced and Restorative Justice, the Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, Disproportionate Minority Contact, and Redeploy Illinois. This report was published in March. Preliminary data acquisition for the 2009 report is underway.

8. Policies and Procedures of the Illinois Criminal Justice System

Staff have completed an initial draft of a step-by-step walkthrough of the general practices, processes, and procedures of the Illinois criminal justice system, from arrest through community supervision. The report is intended to mirror the already published Juvenile Walkthrough and will include detailed information on assessments, diversion, and special issues. The report will be provided to an advisory committee of experts including judges, police, attorneys, and professionals in the field to review for accuracy. A draft of the report is complete and a final report is expected to be completed by Summer 2011.

9. Sheridan Correctional Center National Drug Prison and Re-entry Therapeutic Community Recidivism Study

The goal is to evaluate the post-prison outcomes for graduates of Sheridan by interviewing re-incarcerated graduates of the Sheridan program and learning the factors that contribute to a Sheridan program graduate’s failure at re-entry. Failure includes a return to drug use or other technical violations, or committing a new crime. Data will be collected through 50 face to face interviews with successful graduates of the Sheridan who have been re-incarcerated since their release from Sheridan. The information will allow for a better understanding of what happens with Sheridan graduates after release in order to offer recommendations to improve the effectiveness of the Sheridan program.

Opened in January 2004, Sheridan Correctional Center is a medium security prison operated by the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC), which uses a Therapeutic Community model. Every inmate at Sheridan participates in substance abuse treatment. Before enrolling in the program, inmates agree to participate in the in-prison therapeutic community and 90 days of community substance abuse treatment (aftercare) as a condition of their parole. A successful Sheridan graduate includes anyone who completes the in-prison portion of the Sheridan program and is released from Sheridan Correctional Center on Mandatory Supervised Release. This study enhances prior research on Sheridan by providing quantitative and qualitative information from former participants themselves. This information could then be used to enhance programming both internally at Sheridan Correctional Center and externally with partner agencies and parole in order to improve a Sheridan graduate’s re-entry experience. Data collection was completed in January 2011 and the final report is expected to be completed in Summer 2011.

10. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)/Chicago Police Department (CPD) Youth Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training Evaluation

The Chicago Police Department (CPD) established its Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) in 2004 to address the high prevalence of mental illness among incarcerated adults. All CIT members volunteered to attend a 40-hour training to become certified. The purpose of the CIT-training is to teach law enforcement officers how to identify signs and symptoms of mental illnesses, exercise skills to defuse crisis situations, and make dispositions that best serve individuals' needs. In May 2009, the Chicago Police Department (CPD) and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) held its first advanced CIT training on addressing mental health issues among the youth population. ICJIA research and analysis staff is currently evaluating the extent to which the advanced training curriculum is helpful for officers, as they respond to situations involving youth experiencing mental health crises. The evaluation project was approved by the Authority's Institutional Review Board (IRB) in June 2010 and will be completed by June 2013. Each year of the three-year evaluation project will have specific objectives guided by the previous year's findings. A report will be completed for each year's findings and all findings will be conveyed to the Youth—CIT training staff in a way that allows them to improve and enhance their training practices.

Year 1 of the evaluation project began shortly after IRB approval and had the following objectives: (1) measure officer pre- and post-training knowledge; (2) measure officer retention of the training material; (3) measure officer satisfaction with the training; (4) measure officer intention to use the training material; and (5) measure officer use of the training curriculum in the field. Year 1 of the evaluation project was completed in November 2010. Initial findings were presented to NAMI/CPD Youth-CIT training staff in February 2011. ICJIA research and analysis staff anticipates the report of Year 1's findings to be completed by Fall 2011.

As this is an accumulative evaluation, Year 2's evaluation objectives were guided by Year 1's findings. Year 2 of this evaluation project aims to (1) measure officer knowledge of the Youth—CIT training curriculum's core elements pre- and post-training, (2) measure officer attitude of mentally ill youth pre- and post-training; (3) measure officer satisfaction with the presentation and delivery of the Youth—CIT training curriculum; and (4) measure officer use of the training curriculum in the field. The information that will be solicited through the course evaluation survey and pre- and post-tests include the feedback provided in Year 1's course evaluation surveys. Year 2 of the evaluation will begin Summer 2011.

11. River Valley Juvenile Detention Center (RVJDC) Mental Health Program Evaluation

River Valley Juvenile Detention Center (RVJDC) is a nationally accredited facility located in Joliet, Illinois. It serves both Will and Kankakee Counties and includes 102 beds, as well as a 24-hour on-site medical unit. RVJDC is a temporary placement center for juveniles, between the ages of ten and seventeen, awaiting court decisions on their cases. Only minors who have allegedly committed a delinquent offense and are determined to be a danger to the community or themselves may be detained. In 2008, a total of 911 juveniles were admitted and received medical and mental health care. In addition, the mental health department staff provided Will and Kankakee Counties juvenile justice courts with psychological reports on approximately 40 percent of the youth detained, as ordered by the judges. RVJDC mental health department staff plans to expand their program by

providing Will and Kankakee Counties' juvenile-court judges with psychological reports on all detained youth. The psychological reports provide the juvenile-court judges with an extensive amount of information on youth backgrounds.

ICJIA research and analysis staff partnered with RVJDC administrative staff in March 2010 for the purpose of evaluating the facility's mental health program. An evaluation plan was finalized in July 2010 and includes the following objectives: (1) measure youth satisfaction with the conditions and treatment provided by RVJDC staff, (2) measure the use of court-ordered psychological reports, and (3) measure the influence psychological reports have on juvenile justice system outcomes. ICJIA research and analysis staff obtained approval for the evaluation project in August 2010 from the Authority's Institutional Review Board (IRB). Data collection began in September 2010 and will be completed by September 2011. A report of this evaluation's findings will be published by the Authority before September 2013.

12. Illinois' Metropolitan Enforcement Groups and Task Forces Profiles

In 2009, the Authority funded 19 Metropolitan Enforcement Groups (MEG) and Task Forces which pooling resources, knowledge and personnel to more efficiently and effectively fight the proliferation of illicit drugs. All MEGs and task forces are staffed by officers representing federal, state, county, and local police agencies. Periodically, the Authority creates profiles of each MEG and task force in order to provide a general overview of the drug and violent crime problem in their jurisdictions and share their response to these problems. Updated profiles will be published in Spring 2011.

13. Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC) Technical Assistance

SPAC, which was created by Public Act 96-0711, will draw on criminal justice information collected by state and local justice agencies and use that information to explore sentencing issues and how these practices impact the criminal justice system as a whole. The Council consists of a nonpartisan group of 18 key stakeholders from across the state and local criminal justice systems, including members from all three branches of government: legislators (from both political parties and houses), retired judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, corrections and administrators of the court officials, law enforcement, victim's rights advocates and academics. There are also ex-officio members from the agencies providing data to SPAC (Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, and Illinois Department of Corrections).

During this quarter, ICJIA staff provided to SPAC a listing of arrest charges appearing in the State's Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) system over the past five years, for use in efficiently "triaging" which bills introduced in the current legislative session might have the most impact on the criminal justice system if passed (based on the volume of arrests for the charges impacted by the bill). Impact statements on the bills with highest impact could then be developed by SPAC staff. Authority staff also participated in a SPAC Strategic Planning session, to assess progress since the first planning in October 2010, and to map out short term tasks and longer term goals of continued sustainability past SPAC's enabling legislation sunset date of December 2012.

14. Adult Redeploy Illinois Utilization-Focused Evaluation

The Crime Reduction Act (Public Act 96-0761 effective on January 1, 2010) establishes the Adult Redeploy Illinois program, which provides financial incentives to local jurisdictions for designing community-based programs to treat offenders in the community instead of sending them to state prisons. Under the Act, financial incentives will be offered to counties/groups of counties/judicial circuits to increase programming in their areas, in exchange for reducing the number of people they send to the Illinois Department of Corrections (with penalties if they do not meet the reduction goal).

The goal of Adult Redeploy is to establish pilot sites to increase access to community-based services and decrease commitments to the Illinois Department of Corrections. In Phase I, counties or judicial circuits craft local program plans that specify how to reduce commitments of non-violent offenders to prison and implement these plans in Phase II. The counties or judicial circuits must negotiate an agreement with the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board (AROIB) to limit the number of Adult Redeploy Illinois eligible commitments from that area to 75% of the average number of commitments of the three previous calendar years.

ICJIA Research and Analysis Staff have worked closely with the AROIB and IDOC and IDHS staff to track the policy implementation process, to guide the development of performance and outcome measures, and to provide relevant technical assistance toward insuring the program model aligns with the language describing the initiative in the Crime Reduction Act.

Additionally, ICJIA worked with the AROIB to draft the required standard planning document and ensured the incorporation of existing legislated alternatives to incarceration programs in Illinois. In November 2010, five standard plans were approved by the AROIB, and these sites will go on to apply for implementation grants out of JAG ARRA.

15. Adult Redeploy Illinois Website Development

As technical support for the Adult Redeploy Illinois program, planning grants issued by the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board (AROIB), staff has developed a new website to simplify and standardize access to county-level data required for the planning process. The counties and judicial circuit (encompassing 12 counties) currently accepting planning grants can access the county census and criminal justice system data available through the Authority's website. This information is to be used to guide their identification of target populations eligible for the program, and serve as a starting point for the community corrections and service gap analysis to be conducted in the planning process. Data for all 102 counties are also available as print-friendly PDF documents as well.

During the last quarter, staff participated on the ARI Outreach, Technical Assistance and Communication Committee to provide suggestions for making the new Adult Redeploy Illinois Website more comprehensive and useful as a source of information about the program and progress towards its goals and objectives.

16. Hate Crime in Illinois and across the United States Report

Staff completed a report that compares incidences of reported hate crime throughout Illinois and the United States over an 11-year period, 1997-2007. Using ISP-UCR supplemental case level data as well as FBI-UCR data, staff is analyzing data to determine trends in the number of reported hate crimes within Illinois and throughout the United States from 1997 to 2007. The report involves analysis and evaluation of regional and county-level reporting of hate crime throughout Illinois, as well as the specific hate related offenses (i.e., against persons / property) committed and explicit locations where such crimes are occurring. Also, victim and offender characteristics (e.g., bias motivation, race, gender, religious affiliation, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical/mental handicap, victim type, etc.) are being compared in an effort to identify relationships between victims and offenders of hate related offenses. Staff made a presentation on the findings of the report to the Illinois Crime Analysts Association in April. The final report is slated for publication in June 2011, and will incorporate some feedback from the crime analysts.

17. Illinois College Campus Crime and Safety Issues Series

Staff is working on a series of reports on the issues of emergency preparedness on college campuses, and general crime as reported through various sources of data. The first report, *Issues on Illinois College Campus –History of College Campus Emergency Preparedness and Safety Planning* was published on the Authority's website in March, on the new *College Campus Resource Center* web page. Two other reports, *Trends in Illinois Campus Crime at Four Year Colleges, 2005-2008*, and *A Comparison of Campus Crime Trends at Illinois Four Year and Two Year Colleges, 2003-2007* are under review and are slated for publication in June 2011.

Other reports in the series include: arrests and referrals for school disciplinary action for weapons, drugs and alcohol offenses, the prevalence of sexual assault on campus, and hate crimes reported on college campuses compared to the state in general.

18. Get the Facts

Staff continues to work on updating existing and create new "Get the Facts" publications. These popular publications explain processes and components of the Illinois criminal and juvenile justice systems, and have not been updated since 2000. Topic areas of the publications include: victims' rights; the court system; criminal sentencing; juvenile sentencing; the juvenile court system; juvenile pre-trial; juvenile corrections; adult pre-trial; adults arrests; juvenile arrests; criminal records; and adult corrections.

The Get the Facts on expungement of adult records, adult arrests, corrections, adult pre-trial procedures, and the rights of crime victims were published in 2010 and are available on the Authority's website. The Get the Facts publication on expungement of juvenile records will be published in June 2011.

19. Juvenile Justice Data Coordination Partnership

Staff participates on several working groups related to effective juvenile justice data collection, including DMC, Juvenile Redeploy Illinois, IJDAI, and Models for Change. During the last quarter, staff has also been requested to participate on various workgroups initiated by the Governor's Office related to the merger of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Service (DCFS).

Juvenile Redeploy Illinois monthly data reporting form. Staff developed new data reporting form for the Juvenile Redeploy Illinois Program and the corresponding policy around submission of the report. The data reports are being submitted to the Authority on a monthly basis and quarterly reports will be developed and sent to each Redeploy Illinois site to provide information to participants/staff of the programs. Use of the form by the Redeploy sites began in January 2011. Staff are working towards developing a web-enabled tool that sites can use to submit data directly to the Authority, and generate reports on their own programs.

Data repository template. During discussions at meetings, it was determined that a data template, or a standardized local criminal justice data and risk factor analysis and graphical presentation tool, is needed in order to help local practitioners better understand the communities in which they work in and the people with whom they work. As a result of numerous calls for technical assistance regarding proper data analysis as well as discussions within the various initiatives, it was determined that a uniform data template was something those participating in initiatives would benefit from. Work on this data template is ongoing.

20. Juvenile Justice Information Request database

Staff completed a database to track juvenile justice system information requests from agencies, legislators, and the public. This database will help the Authority determine what information is requested, what it is used for, and how it can be made more available through our website. During the last quarter, 30 substantial requests for juvenile justice data and information were received and processed.

21. Safety Net Works – Implementation Evaluation

Authority staff concluded its evaluation of the implementation of the Safety Net Works Initiative, a violence prevention and youth development program currently taking place across 14 community areas in Illinois. The primary purpose of this implementation evaluation is to assess the extent to which project implementation is conducted in accordance with pre-operational expectations; to document the progress and limitations of the program's implementation; to provide recommendations and guide refinement of the project; and to inform and guide similar undertakings. Sources of data for the evaluation include surveys, interviews, meeting observations, and implementation and progress reports submitted by the sites. A final project report on the implementation process of the SNW programs was completed and published in March 2011.

22. Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice and Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Merger Committees

Staff from ICJIA have been participating in and providing assistance to different subcommittees created by the Office of the Governor to facilitate the merger of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Staff participate on subcommittees including: assessment tools; reports and best practices; data collection; aftercare; programs and internal services; and steering committee. The initial merger committees completed their directives in April.

23. Evaluation of IDOC's Sheridan Correctional Center Therapeutic Community Program

In response to increases in Illinois' prison population, low rates of access to substance abuse treatment services while in prison, and high rates of recidivism, on January 2, 2004, the Illinois Department of Corrections opened the Sheridan Correctional Center as a fully-dedicated, modified therapeutic community for incarcerated adult male inmates. Since the program began, a process and impact evaluation has been supported by ICJIA and conducted by researchers from Loyola University Chicago, the Illinois Department of Corrections, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC), the Safer Foundation, and WestCare. After 6 ½ years of operation, covering the period from January 2, 2004 through the end of State Fiscal Year 2010 (June 30, 2010), the evaluation has found the following:

- The pre-operational target population identified for the program is being served, with those admitted to Sheridan having extensive criminal and substance abuse histories, and a substantial unmet need for treatment, vocational and educational programming;
- The earned good conduct credits many of the inmates received at Sheridan for their participation in treatment during the first six full state fiscal years of operation (SFY 2005-2010) translates into a savings of 714 years of incarceration, which equates to \$16.7 million, or \$2.78 million per year, in reduced incarceration costs;
- Sheridan participants who earned a vocational certificate were almost twice as likely to have job starts than those released from Sheridan who did not earn a vocational certificate;
- As a result of the treatment services and aftercare received, those inmates released from Sheridan had a 16 percent lower likelihood of being returned to prison after three years in the community than a statistically similar comparison group of inmates released from Illinois' other prisons during the same time period, and a 25 percent lower recidivism rate than those removed from Sheridan due to disciplinary reasons; and,
- The largest reductions in recidivism—both in terms of rearrest and return to prison--were evident among those Sheridan releasees who successfully completed aftercare treatment. Those Sheridan graduates who also completed aftercare had a 44 percent lower likelihood of being returned to prison after three years in the community than a statistically similar comparison group. Given that rates of aftercare treatment completion have improved substantially over the past year, it is likely that in the future the overall reductions in recidivism associated with Sheridan will be even larger.

Numerous other findings are documented in the full report, available on the ICJIA website.

24. Mental Health Courts in Illinois

Loyola University Chicago was selected to conduct the assessment and evaluation of mental health courts in Illinois. The project will inventory the operating courts in Illinois and assess what barriers were in place for those courts that did not materialize. A more thorough evaluation will be conducted on specific courts in an effort to gauge their operations, effectiveness and outcomes. Loyola's methodology and study design includes a mixed methods approach, including quantitative data from program operations and client outcomes, as well as qualitative data stemming from interviews and focus groups with the court stakeholders.

A component of the study that includes client surveys will assess the perceptions of those that participate in the courts. Loyola will collect data and assess the implementation and operation of each court in Illinois, including those that are in the planning stages. Factors that contributed to the failure of some jurisdictions to implement a court will also be outlined. A more detailed in-depth analysis of three (3) courts will be conducted. This analysis will involve a thorough assessment as to the operation, impact and outcomes of the courts. Special attention will be paid to the multi-disciplinary roles of the MHC teams and the "boundary-spanning" that they are required to do. An additional extension was processed in order to complete data collection so that all counties with a MHC could be included. A final report is scheduled for December 2011.

25. Investigator Initiated Research

Projects funded under an Investigator-initiated RFP address research in our priority areas of interest. A number of projects have been completed and final reports are available on our website. The following projects have recently been completed, are in progress or near completion.

- *Safer Return Demonstration: A Research-Based Community Reentry Initiative – An Examination of the Family-Inclusive Case Management Service Component* - Conducted by the Urban Institute this project will provide an implementation and impact evaluation of the family-inclusive case management component of the Safer Return offender reentry initiative. Stemming from a larger evaluation of the reentry initiative, this study will focus on whether and to what extent the family-inclusive case management benefits offenders returning back to the community and their family and social support networks. Individual and family-level outcomes will be assessed. Due to lower than anticipated enrollment, as well as delays in locating and contacting family members for follow-up interviews, the project has been granted an extension into 2012 in order to achieve a sufficient sample size.
- *Systematic Evaluation of the Peoria Drug Market Intervention* - Conducted by Southern Illinois University, this project assessed the approach and effectiveness of a strategy to combat open air drug markets in the City of Peoria. The Peoria Police Department (PPD) implemented a proactive policing strategy in response to open-air drug markets in a high crime neighborhood. The PPD more specifically implemented a "pulling levers" intervention that relies on a combination of incapacitation for serious, chronic and violent offenders as well as a deterrent-based message combined with increased social support mechanisms for less serious offender who have been deemed suitable for diversion and have the potential to be diverted from a lifestyle of offending. The pulling levers framework is implemented at the local level and is designed to strengthen relationships and communication between criminal

and social justice agencies. The evaluation of the implementation and preliminary impact of the effort is available on our website.

- *Growth of Illinois Prison Population and Assessment of Risk and Recidivism Among Prison Releasees* - Conducted by Loyola University, this multi-tiered project examined trends in prison admissions, end of year populations, and prison exits. Using existing data available from IDOC and the CHRI system, the research examined, in detail: 1) trends in admissions, exits and the end-of-year populations within prison and 2) the post-release recidivism of those released from prison. For both of these research activities, there was emphasis on the similarities and differences between female versus male inmates and releasees. The research sought to further the understanding within Illinois regarding the risk and recidivism of those released from prison, and assess the utility of existing information collected by DOC for determining post-release risk. It extends the potential predictive validity of risk assessment by examining community-level risk factors such as indicators of social disadvantage, social cohesion, and police surveillance as well as individual level characteristics, such as age, criminal history, substance abuse, and other factors. The research also examined post-prison recidivism of offenders using the most current statistical techniques and ensuring that the findings and results are useful to practitioners and policy makers. A number of presentations have been given on findings to date - including a presentation to the annual Justice Research and Statistics Association conference held this past October. The report will be available on our website in July 2011.

26. Multidisciplinary Team Evaluations

ICJIA has identified the operation of multidisciplinary team (MDT) programs as potentially promising programs and that an evaluation of such programs is consistent with the current need to identify evidence based programming and practices in the criminal justice system. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was released and the University of Illinois at Springfield was selected to conduct the evaluation of the MDT programs currently operating in McLean, Kankakee, St. Clair and Peoria counties in Illinois. Multidisciplinary teams aim to bring together several components of the criminal justice and victim service systems in a coordinated approach to effectively process cases and provide support and service to victims. Three of the MDTs were formed to address domestic violence and one to address sexual assault cases. The study will assess to what extent the programs operated collaboratively, how victims were served and what efforts were made to hold the offender accountable. The evaluation began May 1, 2011 and will continue for one year.

B. Program evaluation and research projects/ externally funded

R&A staff has been successful in the pursuit of external discretionary grants to support research and evaluation efforts. Several current projects are or were supported by such grants:

1. Redesign of Criminal Justice DataNet

The Authority received continued funding for this project, in the amount of \$68,000, bring the total award to \$127,000 over two years from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics

(BJS) to enhance web access and on-line presentation formats of the Authority's holdings of criminal justice and social risk factor data. An added feature of the project is enhancements to the Federal Deaths in Custody Reporting process conducted by the Authority on behalf of Illinois law enforcement agencies. The grant is scheduled to end on September 30, 2011.

Two Flash-based Instant Atlas applications were created for the new SAC website to be released in summer 2011. An HTML-based alternative to this application was also created to allow users who cannot use Adobe Flash to access the same data, regardless of accessibility issues. On-line users (and Authority staff) will be able to access the Authority's holdings of criminal justice data to create maps and explore relationships among the various data sets across time and counties. Two additional applications are in development that allow for more advanced comparisons. A data download page was also constructed to allow users to download all data in excel format. Descriptions of metadata are included on the data download page.

2. Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice Recidivism Study

Staff are conducting a research study on recidivism for juveniles admitted to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice which was funded for \$19,575 by the American Statistical Association/Bureau of Justice Statistics Small Grants program. This study will employ various statistical techniques including multilevel modeling, survival analysis, and markov modeling to examine recidivism in-depth. Further, recidivism will be measured through readmission to either juvenile or adult correctional custody (derived from IDJJ and IDOC admissions data) and through re-arrest (derived from criminal history record information). Recidivism will be compared across various demographic and offense-type subgroups, with special attention paid to neighborhood of release indicators using U.S. Bureau of the Census data. The study was approved by the IRB. The study period and funding award will be finished in July 2011. Staff are in the final stages of data analysis, and will be traveling to Washington, DC in May to present preliminary results and findings to the Bureau of Justice Statistics to fulfill a grant requirement.

3. Elder Abuse Collaboration Technical Assistance

Supported by a grant from the federal government, staff provided technical assistance to this project aimed at coordinating responses to elder abuse among service providers, law enforcement and the courts. Participants include Metropolitan Family Service (an elder abuse service provider), the Chicago Police Department, and the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, among others. The goal of the program was to provide a coordinated response ensuring that victims receive needed services while abusers are held accountable in the criminal justice system. The project ended in November 2010, and a final report summarizing project activities is slated for completion in the spring of 2011. The policy team had hoped to expand the program to other Chicago Police Department Districts. However, layoffs of senior service officers by the department and cuts within the Cook County State's Attorney's Office have forced those plans to be abandoned until such time as staff levels can be restored.

The latest elder abuse meeting took place on March 29, 2011. Several issues were discussed. Since the Chicago Police Department no longer has senior service officers, it was decided that when a call in reference to elder abuse is placed, it should go through 911. This decision requires changes be

made to the training video made as part of this grant, as it currently instructs individuals to contact Chicago Police senior service officers. There is no money left on the grant to pay for the changes, so the producer of the video will be contacted to ask if the changes can be made free of charge. A new flow chart of the multi-disciplinary team protocol was drafted to reflect the changed role of the Chicago Police Department.

4. Evaluation of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts Evidence-Based Practices

In March of 2005, ICJIA research staff entered into a three-year cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) in the amount of \$194,232 to evaluate Illinois' Evidenced-Based Practices (EBP) Initiative. This project will assist local probation departments participating in the EBP Initiative by providing them with data and analysis that gauges performance before and during the implementation of evidence-based practices, and will establish a process and protocol for ongoing assessment of probation performance through an effective state and local partnership. All three waves of data collection (years 2002, 2005 and 2006) have been completed in all six participating counties: Lake, DuPage, Adams, Cook, Sangamon and the 2nd Judicial Circuit. Data analysis is currently being conducted and work on a draft final report is nearing completion. The final report will be completed and available in summer 2011.

C. Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Ad Hoc Data Connection Partnership

The Authority has entered into a data sharing partnership with the Illinois State Police, whereby CHRI data is made available to staff via a permanent on-line connection. All data entered on state "rap sheets", as housed on the State Police Computerized Criminal History system, are accessible to staff in electronic format. These data provide a unique resource for answering information requests from legislators, the media, and other interested parties, in-house research projects and studies being conducted by others around the country. A CHRI Ad Hoc Data Archive of all criminal history records from 1990-2009 has been created in formats that can be readily shared with researchers. This Archive currently holds close to a million records for each year of data.

The CHRI Ad Hoc data partnership with the State Police has progressed to the point where the Authority is now considered the sole source for electronic CHRI data for research purposes. (The State Police still generate paper versions for a fee.) Outside researchers can enter into a User Agreement to gain access to CHRI data which is distributed through the Authority. The process incorporates verification of bona fide research and appropriate protection of confidential data. The unified user agreement facilitates accountability for the research use of criminal history data records.

During the last quarter, one new CHRI User Agreement was processed from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science. Since the inception of the CHRI Ad Hoc Connection Partnership, at least 47 outside research projects have received CHRI data from the Authority.

Staff is also working with several university-based researchers to develop appropriate methodologies for their research using CHRI Ad Hoc data, and is reviewing drafts of completed research projects for appropriate interpretation of the CHRI data used. Technical assistance on CHRI data interpretation and data manipulation was provided to several researchers who received data in previously, including

those from the University of Chicago, and the University of Illinois Center for Prevention and Development.

Staff is also investigating the *Merge ToolBox System* of probabilistic matching techniques in tandem with researchers from the University of Chicago Crime Lab to determine whether it is possible to increase our ability to find matching arrest records in cases where the requestor's input data has errors in reporting the person's name or date of birth or in cases where an arrestee has only one arrest and that arrest has errors in the input of name or date of birth. Using this tool can suggest the statistical likelihood that "near matches" are the same individual, which may increase the number of success matches achieved between the user's dataset individuals and arrestees in the CHRI Ad Hoc database.

Information requests answered using CHRI data. During the last quarter, updating of all non-expunged arrests and associated arrest charges and court dispositions from 1999 through 2011 continued for loading into a new SQL Server database to provide an immediate querying capability for these arrests, dispositions, and charges covering the entire ten year period. In combination with CHRI data already stored in SPSS files, these data were used to answer several media requests for criminal justice statistics. During this quarter, CHRI data was examined to answer user questions about juvenile arrests, prostitution arrests, and arrests for attacks against school personnel.

D. Chicago Homicide Dataset Update Project

The Chicago Homicide Dataset (CHD) has been collected and maintained for many years in close cooperation with the Crime Analysis Unit, Detective Division, of the Chicago Police Department. The CHD is a comprehensive database containing information on every homicide that occurred in Chicago between 1965 and 2000. CHD data from 1965 to 1995, with all victim identifiers and addresses removed, is archived with the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. Staff is currently cleaning the entire dataset from 1965 to 2000, and creating three linked CHD datasets – victim-level, incident-level and offender-level.

During this quarter, staff continued to collaborate with selected researchers on projects involving use of the Chicago Homicide Dataset.

III. ONGOING ACTIVITIES

A. Briefings/Presentations

Since the last Authority update for the December 2010 meeting, R&A staff made presentations at, and/or attended the following professional meetings:

- Staff visited the River Valley Detention Center to collect data for the River Valley Detention Center Mental Health Program Evaluation on numerous dates during the reporting period.
- Staff participated in the Victim Services summit workgroup meeting on February 17 in Chicago.

- Staff participated in the Law Enforcement summit workgroup meeting on February 18 in Chicago.
- Staff attended a meeting regarding the Adult Redeploy Illinois evaluation on February 22.
- Staff held a conference call with the Loyola University evaluation team for the Mental Health Courts in Illinois project on February 22.
- Staff coordinated the Summit Work Group on Alternatives to Incarceration on February 23 in Bloomington.
- Staff presented project applications at the February 24 Institutional Review Board meeting at the Authority's office. Projects included the Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Survey, Evaluation of Anne's House, Inventory of Employment Restrictions for Persons with Criminal Records, Research on Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEG)/Drug Task Force, and Evaluation of Adult Redeploy Illinois.
- Staff attended the Alternatives to Incarceration Workgroup meeting in Bloomington on February 23.
- Staff participated in the Information Sharing summit workgroup meeting on February 28 in Chicago.
- On February 28th, staff presented initial findings from Year 1's NAMI/CPD Youth—CIT training evaluation to NAMI/CPD Youth—CIT training staff.
- Staff attended the Strategic Planning Summit Workgroup meeting for Jails and Prisons on March 1.
- Staff participated in an all-day off-site "retreat" of R&A staff on March 2 at the University of Illinois at Chicago.
- Staff participated in a teleconference on March 4 with officials from the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) and other statistical analysis center researchers to discuss juvenile justice evaluation issues.
- Staff met with members of the Illinois Juvenile Redeploy program to discuss changes to the data form developed and other data needs on March 4.
- Staff participated in a meeting with the Metropolitan Battered Women's Network regarding possible victim services outcome measures on March 7 in Chicago.
- On March 10 staff held a phone conference meeting with the Kane County State's Attorney and assistant state's attorneys to discuss components for an evidence-based assessment and state's attorney diversion programs.
- Staff attended the Cook County Juvenile Court Research Consortium on March 11.
- Staff attended the DJJ/DCFS merger workgroups wrap-up meeting on March 11.
- On March 14 staff hosted the first meeting between IHFS, IDOC, IDHS, a policy analyst from the governor's office and local court and jail representatives to develop the Medicaid rules for justice populations under the health reform laws that will come into effect in 2014.
- On March 16, staff attended a phone conference to discuss the Authority's role in a Center of Excellence for technical assistance regarding criminal justice clients with mental health issues.
- Staff met with officials from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission on March 16 and 17 to present the 2008 Juvenile Justice and Risk Factor Report, discuss future data collaboration projects, and discuss upcoming trainings for Juvenile Redeploy Illinois pilot sites.
- Staff attended the SPAC quarterly meeting on March 18 in Chicago.

- Staff met on March 18 with NAMI-GC (National Alliance on Mental Illness-Greater Chicago) and the Chicago Police Department's CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) staff to discuss a Year 2 evaluation of CIT trainings.
- On March 21, staff met with the Center of Excellence Planning Committee to formalize the priorities for a technical assistance center related to criminal justice and the nexus with human services issues.
- Staff met with members from the University of Chicago Crime Lab and Chapin Hall on March 22 to discuss access to criminal history data for their recidivism research.
- On March 23, staff attended a conference call with Kane County State's Attorney and Court Services Division to discuss technical assistance related to an evidence-based risk, asset, needs assessment and subsequent diversion programming.
- On March 24, staff attended an Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Initiative meeting in Peoria, IL.
- Staff attended meetings of the Adult Redeploy Outreach, Technical Assistance and Communications Committee on March 28 and April 12 in Chicago.
- Staff attended a meeting of Elder Abuse Multi-disciplinary Team on March 29 in Chicago.
- Staff participated in a meeting on March 25 to introduce the Authority to visiting Polish law enforcement dignitaries sponsored by the International Visitors Leadership Program of the US State Department.
- Staff hosted a teleconference meeting on March 29 with officials from the Illinois State Police (ISP) and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) to organize the required data for the U.S. Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics for National Instant Check System (NICS).
- On March 29, staff participated in a conference call with officials from the Pew Center on the States and the director of the Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC) to discuss cost-benefit analysis.
- Staff attended the Violence Prevention Authority meeting in Chicago on March 30.
- Staff attended the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board meeting on March 30 in Chicago.
- On March 31, staff met to review and score research proposals submitted in response to the Authority's Request for Proposals (RFP) for the study and evaluation of four multidisciplinary teams (MDT) currently operating in Illinois counties (Kankakee, McLean, Peoria and St. Clair). Three of the counties operate a domestic violence MDT and one operates a sexual assault MDT.
- Staff met with representatives of TASC and the Disproportionate Justice Impact Study (DJIS) on March 31 in Chicago, to discuss the feasibility of including racial impact notes on pending legislation.
- The research director served on a panel at Roosevelt University's Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy on April 1 to discuss the Authority's project to inventory employment restrictions for persons with criminal records.
- The research director participated as a member of the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) Research Committee at a teleconference meeting on April 5.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission DMC Committee on April 7 in Chicago.
- On April 8, staff presented a session entitled "*Victimization and Trauma among Female Prisoners across the Life Course*" at the 2011 Illinois Council on Family Relations Conference in Champaign, IL.

- On April 8, the research director attended a meeting at the offices of Cook County Chief Court Judge's office to participate in a discussion of restorative justice programming in the criminal courts.
- Staff attended the International Conference on Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Stalking on April 11 – 13 in Schaumburg.
- On April 12, staff visited the St. Leonard's House Ministries and meet with their staff in preparation for an evaluation of their halfway house for ex-offenders.
- On April 14, staff attended a meeting at Cook County Juvenile Court to discuss data sharing initiatives between the juvenile probation, Youth Outreach Services, and the Children and Family Research Center.
- Staff attended the Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Council steering committee meeting on April 20.
- Staff attended a meeting of the IIJIS Implementation Board on April 20 in Chicago.
- Staff provided a presentation on hate crime at the Illinois Association of Crime Analysts meeting in Berwyn on April 21.
- Staff participated in a SPAC Strategic Planning meeting on April 21 at Loyola University Law School.
- Staff participated in a demonstration of the Winnebago County Integration Information Sharing Project on April 25 in Rockford.
- On April 25, staff attended a meeting with WestCare researchers on the Sheridan evaluation project.
- Staff attended the Citywide BARJ meeting to promote the RJ survey on April 28 at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center.
- Staff attended two phone conference meetings in May to plan for the implementation of a new version of CLARIS to maintain connectivity to EPIC's upgraded meth lab seizure reporting system.
- Staff participated in a Juvenile Redeploy Illinois Board meeting on May 3 in Chicago.
- Staff held a planning meeting on May 3 with the evaluation team from University of Illinois Springfield for the study of multidisciplinary teams in Illinois.
- Staff attended the Juvenile Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board Committee meeting on May 4 in Chicago.
- On May 9, staff attended a meeting with WestCare researchers on the Sheridan evaluation project.
- Staff attended a meeting of the co-chairs of the summit workgroups on May 9 to review the draft Strategic Plan for Illinois Criminal Justice.
- Staff participated in an evaluation planning meeting with the Urban Institute on May 10 regarding the Safer Returns program evaluation.
- Staff met with Judge George Timberlake on May 11 to discuss the Authority's research partnership with the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission.
- Staff met with researchers from the Urban Institute on May 10 to discuss the progress of their Authority-funded evaluation of the Safer Return offender reentry program.

B. Criminal Justice Information Clearinghouse

The Authority serves as a statewide clearinghouse for statistics and other information about crime and the criminal justice system. The Clearinghouse Center within R&A maintains and regularly updates many county-level datasets related to crime and the criminal justice system, as well as social risk factor data. These datasets are used for in-house research projects and publications, such as *Trends and Issues* and *County Profiles of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems*. The Clearinghouse is also responsible for answering requests for criminal justice data and information, as well as maintaining the publications on the Authority's website: www.icjia.il.state.us .

Information Requests

Many requests continue to come from government agencies (18 percent) and private citizens (44 percent). Other requests come from private agencies, researchers, students, news media representatives, legislators and prison inmates. Fifteen percent of the requests originated in the Chicago metropolitan area, and another 29 percent originate in other parts of the state. All other requests for information were received from other states, outside the United States, or unknown origin (*Appendix B*).

New Publications

R&A published five research reports during the period February through May 2011. The titles are listed in Appendix A.

Website

The volume of web users has remained at high levels. Using *WebTrends* website analytics tool, it was determined that the website had 72,718 unique visitors during the period February 2011 through April 2011, and that all new and returning visitors viewed 539,297 pages of content on the site (*Appendix C*). The website continues to be a valuable resource for our constituents.

The following Table shows the publications that were downloaded most often from the Authority's website from February 2011 through April 2011.

Table 1
Top 25 Downloaded Publications
February 1, 2011 to April 30, 2011

Publications	Downloads
Policies and Procedures of the Illinois Juvenile Justice System (August 2010)	9782
Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data for Illinois: 2007 Annual Report (December 2009)	8991
Mental Health Screening and Assessment in the Illinois Juvenile Justice System (March 2010)	6177
The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth in Illinois (January 2008)	4974
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority 2010 Annual Report (April 2011)	4689
Implementing Restorative Justice: A Guide for Schools (October 2009)	3640
The Little Village Gang Violence Reduction Project in Chicago (March 2004)	3440
An Evaluation of the Moral Reconciliation Therapy of the Franklin/Jefferson County Evening Reporting Center Program (2003)	2985
S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women In Illinois A Multi-Year Plan: FFY10-12 (March 2011)	2762
A Process and Impact Evaluation of the Sheridan Correctional Center Therapeutic Community Program During Fiscal Years 2004 through 2010 (January 2010)	2691
The Compiler: Alternative to Incarceration - Four Cook County Programs (Winter/Spring 1995)	2577
Victimization and Help Seeking Behaviors among Female Prisoners in Illinois (April 2010)	2154
A Profile of Juvenile Justice System Activities and Juvenile Delinquency Risk Factors in Cook County (March 2003)	2069
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority 2009 Annual Report (March 2010)	1912
Critical Incident Preparedness and Response on Campus: Examining the Relationship Between Local Law Enforcement and Post-Secondary Institutions in Illinois and the United (December 2008)	1808
Domestic Sex Trafficking of Chicago Women and Girls (May 2008)	1649
Implementing Balanced and Restorative Justice: A Guide for Juvenile Probation (May 2006)	1628
The Compiler: Minority Overrepresentation in the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Systems (Summer 2003)	1538
Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data for Illinois: 2007 Annual Report Appendix H: Data tables section (December 2009)	1490
I-Clear: Illinois Citizens and Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting (IJIS Summit June 25, 2007)	1398
Statewide Terrorism & Intelligence Center Program Review Executive Summary (June 2007)	1362
Illinois Municipal Officers' Perceptions of Police Ethics (September 1994)	1313
Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data for Illinois: 2007 Annual Report (December 2009)	1310
Get the Facts: Juvenile Justice (July 2000)	1302

Acquiring/updating/documenting dataset holdings

During the last quarter, staff continued to inventory and update core datasets data on all criminal justice and risk factor topics, including Illinois State Police 2009 Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) crime statistics.

C. FSGU Support Efforts

Several R&A staff work in a partnership with the Authority's Federal and State Grants Unit (FSGU) to provide statistical technical assistance. Upon request, R&A staff review grant data reports, grant proposals, and data report forms; create grantee program profiles; report at FSGU grant meetings; participate in conferences; offer statistical information through presentations; attends relevant trainings; and create and update grant-related databases. R&A staff continued to work with FSGU staff responsible for the VAWA, VOCA, JABG, MVTPC, and MEG/TF funds. In addition, R&A staff assumes responsibility for the computerization of some program performance for many grants.

During the last quarter, staff assisted extensively on the development of continuation/exhibit A forms for the Victims of Crime (VOCA) grants, and updates to the STOP VAWA annual report. In addition, staff partnered with FSGU staff on the following activities:

VAWA ARRA site visits:

- Attorney General Office, February 25
- Evanston YWCA, April 5
- Illinois State Police, April 15
- Chicago Battered Women's Network, May 17
- Sexual Assault Cook County State's Attorney's Office, May 19

VOCA site visits:

Freedom House, April 27

Meetings with Chicago Battered Women's Network regarding the Outcome Measures Project on February 1, 16; March 29; and April 28.

D. Technical Assistance

- Staff are working with officials from the Illinois State Police (ISP) and the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC) to organize the required data for the U.S. Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics for National Instant Check System (NICS) which was due May 16 .
- As planning and implementation for Adult Redeploy Illinois sites have progressed, staff has provided technical support to participating counties to assist with target population identification.
- Staff continues to analyze and provide data to various State juvenile justice initiatives.

- Staff participated in extensive technical assistance to the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board and staff of IDOC, DHS, and Metropolis 2020 regarding implementation issues with this new program to be initiated as part of the Crime Reduction Act of 2009.
- Staff provided research support for the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council.
- Staff continues to provide technical support to the Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network in establishing measurable outcomes/goals
- Staff continues to provide technical support to the Cook County Domestic Violence Court in establishing a data collection tool for tracking clients seeking services at the courthouse. Staff continues to work with the court to create and refine queries and reports for data summaries.

E. Deaths in Custody Reporting

The Deaths in Custody Reporting Act (DICRA) (P.L. 106-297, effective Oct. 13, 2000) requires states to compile and report quarterly to the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) the number of deaths, and the circumstances surrounding the deaths, of people in local jails, state prisons, juvenile correctional facilities, and law enforcement custody. Until recently, the information requested by BJS was limited to deaths in local jails, state prisons, and state juvenile facilities. Collection of DICRA information has been expanded to include deaths that occur while a person is in police custody or in the process of arrest. Information on deaths that occur while a person is in police custody will supplement the annual data on prison inmate deaths that BJS already receives from the Illinois Department of Corrections as part of the National Prisoners Statistics Program and the National Corrections Reporting Program. R&A staff began in July 2004 collecting specific information requested by BJS for all deaths in Illinois that occur while the person is in police custody or in the process of arrest by local, county, and state law enforcement agencies regardless of cause of death. For reporting purposes, the data include the following:

- Deaths occurring when an individual is in the physical custody, or under the physical restraint, of law enforcement officers, even if the person was not formally under arrest.
- Deaths that occur by natural causes, while in the physical custody, or under the physical restraint, of law enforcement officers, even if the person was not formally under arrest.
- Those killed by any use of force by law enforcement officers prior to booking
- People who died at a crime/arrest scene or medical facility prior to booking.
- Deaths occurring in transit to or from law enforcement facilities.
- Deaths of those confined in lockups or booking centers (facilities from which arrestees are usually transferred within 72 hours and not held beyond arraignment).

Forms for all 2010 cases were sent to police departments and sheriffs offices. Staff are following up and attempting to complete all 2010 cases while identifying 2011 cases. BJS utilizes the data to produce reports of arrest fatalities in the United States, with updates planned as states submit data. The last report, Arrest-Related Deaths in the United States, 2003-2006, was released in July 2009.

As part of the SJS grant received from the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics, a new DICRA web page was designed to facilitate reporting from law enforcement agencies. A permanent graphical link has been added to the ICJIA homepage sidebar that allows users easier access to a new web page regarding how to report a death that would be eligible for reporting. The

page consists of three main sections (general information, information for law enforcement agencies, information for coroners/medical examiners) that each contain more detailed information. Forms provided by the Department of Justice are available for users to fill out and return to the Authority. The website can be accessed here: www.icjia.state.il.us . A short survey targeting coroners and their knowledge and willingness to participate in the reporting process is being developed.

F. Web-based applications

1. Nefsis Video Conferencing

Nefsis is an internet based video conferencing service that is used to create information and general presentations, online training materials, web conferencing, learning modules, and user desktop sharing applications.

Staff is currently developing other INFONET User Training using this software.

Staff is currently developing other Research and Analysis Unit and other agency on-line applications.

2. SurveyGizmo

SurveyGizmo is an online survey software solution that provides a variety of features to help in conducting a multitude of tasks including advanced market research, quick polling and quizzing, embedding forms into websites.

3. CJ Dispatch

CJ Dispatch is an e-mailing sent to almost 3,000 subscribers to announce and highlight ICJIA publications, Request for Proposals for grants that ICJIA administers, and other newsworthy items.

Staff is currently researching a service to provide us with a better method to send out CJ Dispatches to subscribers which would enable subscribers to edit their individual subscriber profiles, seeking the ability to forward the CJ Dispatches to other interested parties which would enable them to subscribe to receive these e-mails, seeking to give the subscriber the ability to receive HTML-based e-mails or text based e-mails, and seeking the ability to track subscriber activity on whether they receive the e-mail and if they read it. Staff is also looking into updating our current template with the assistance of the web based software the vendor will provide us with. We are currently beta testing VerticalResponse e-mail marketing service, and AWeber Communications as a viable option.

4. Website Enhancements

Staff is currently working on updating various sections and pages of the ICJIA Public Website.

Staff has created and launched the *Sentencing Policy Advisory Council Website*. Visit the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council website at <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/index.cfm?metasection=spac>.

Staff is currently assisting in the development of the *Illinois Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) Website*. The Illinois Statistical Analysis Center will serve as criminal justice data collection and analysis center for the Research and Analysis Unit the research arm of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA). The website is currently under development/construction at <http://www.icjia.org/sac>.

Staff is currently developing a new redesign of the Illinois Integrated Justice Information System (IJIS) Website to enhance web access to further the mission of the IJIS Implementation Board. IJIS is an intergovernmental effort dedicated to improving the administration of justice in Illinois by facilitating the electronic sharing of justice information throughout the state. It is a collaborative effort charged with enhancing public safety by making complete, accurate, and timely offender-based information available to all justice decision makers.

G. Authority's Institutional Review Board (IRB)

The Authority's Institutional Review Board (IRB) met on February 24, and several projects were reviewed at that meeting. The applications for the Inventory of Employment Restrictions on Persons with Criminal Records and the Balanced and Restorative Justice Survey were given exempt status from further IRB review. The applications for two projects, Research on Metropolitan Enforcement groups and Drug Task Forces Adult Redeploy Illinois Utilization-Focused Evaluation were approved by the Board. A decision on the application for the Program Evaluation of Anne's House was deferred until the next meeting to get clarifications regarding the processes for obtaining informed consent from juvenile clients, as well as measures to ensure record confidentiality for all research subjects.

Staff are also working the Authority legal counsel to develop revised work protocols for preparation and in-house review of IRB materials.

IV. GRANT PROPOSALS

R&A staff routinely pursues discretionary grants to support data collection, research, and evaluation activities:

- Staff applied for a \$73,000 grant from the Bureau of Justice Statistics to develop a web-based "Adult Prisoner Criminal History Analysis Tool", that will enable users to explore the various patterns of Illinois prisoners' prior criminal history and how that relates to their prison term. If awarded, the project would begin in October 2011.

V. CONTINUING STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

- Staff participated in a webinar on: Research to Implementation on March 16
- Staff attended a webinar on Illinois State Library resources on March 3.
- Staff attended a webinar on approaches to dealing with missing data.
- Staff attended a webinar on using the Mathematica analysis software for statistical analysis
- Staff are attending a four-week training program on modeling count data

VI. INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Under the direct supervision of a senior staff member in the Research and Analysis Unit, interns are hired to perform a variety of information functions relating to critical issues facing the Illinois criminal justice system. There is no compensation for these positions, but interns may be able to use the experience as course credit. Candidates for the summer internship program will be interviewed in late May.

VII. HONORS

The article, “Distinguishing between Return to Juvenile versus Adult Prison in Juvenile Recidivism Analyses” will be published in an upcoming issue of the journal *Justice Research and Policy* (the JRSA publication), with Jordan Boulger of the Authority’s Research & Analysis as first author.

cc: Jack Cutrone
Hank Anthony

Appendix A – Most recent publications

RESEARCH REPORTS

The Peoria Pulling Levers Drug Market Intervention: A Review of Program Process, Changes in Perception, and Crime Impact (April 2011)

Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data 2008 Annual Report (March 2011)

The Safety Net Works Initiative: Examining the role of the community coalition in strengthening neighborhoods (March 2011)

A Process and Impact Evaluation of the Southwestern Illinois Correctional Center Therapeutic Community Program During Fiscal Years 2007 through 2010 (March 2011)

A Process and Impact Evaluation of the Sheridan Correctional Center Therapeutic Community Program During Fiscal Years 2004 through 2010 (March 2011)

Appendix B – Information Request Handling Statistics

January 1, 2011 through March 31, 2011

ITEM	REQUESTS/Pct
Number of information requests handled:	55
Monthly average number of requests:	18
Geographic origin of requesters:	
Chicago metropolitan area	15%
Other region of Illinois	29%
U.S. other than Illinois	25%
Outside the U.S.	4%
Unknown	27%
Type of requester:	
Government agency	18%
Private agency	20%
Researcher	2%
Student	13%
Citizen	44%
Media	2%
Legislators	0%
Inmates	2%
Method of request:	
Telephone/fax	38%
Mail	2%
Email/Internet	31%
In-person	0%
ICJIA Website	29%

Appendix C
www.icjia.state.il.us

WebTrends

Months	File Downloads	Visitors		
		Unique	New Visitors	Returning Visitors
Feb-11	41,717	23,524	19,995	3,569
March-11	269,717	26,216	22,551	3,665
April-11	227,863	22,978	19,546	3,432
Total	539,297	72,718	62,052	10,666
Monthly Average	134,824	24,239	20,684	3,555