



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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To: Authority Members

From: Mark Myrent, Associate Director
Research and Analysis Unit

Date: May 18, 2009

Re: Research and Analysis Unit Report for the June 2009 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. Safety Net Works – Implementation Evaluation

Authority staff has been evaluating the implementation of the Safety Net Works Initiative, a violence prevention and youth development program taking place across 17 community areas in Illinois. The primary purpose of this implementation evaluation will be 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, site visits, and implementation and progress reports submitted by the sites.

The implementation evaluation is focusing on practical, management-oriented issues, as well as interpersonal and group dynamics. The methodology will include assessments of program set-up and development, the nature and extent of collaboration among participating agencies and organizations, program operations and service delivery and change since the beginning of the initiative. Each of the 17 sites is being evaluated on their program setup, collaboration, and service delivery to the target population. A smaller subset of sites will be selected for a more thorough evaluation through the use of multiple interviews and site visits over the span of the evaluation period.

Authority staff has contributed community area profiles for each of the 17 community areas that the sites are located in. These community profiles provide data on demographic, economic, housing, substance abuse, health, child assistance, and crime indicators collected from several state, non-profit, and academic organizations. Safety Net Works sites will be able to use the profiles to assist in strategic planning and program implementation. An online and print survey has been implemented and results are currently being analyzed. The survey primarily addresses the perceptions of

collaboration and communication of coalition members and service provision. Authority staff has also been providing interim program reports, with information on coalition membership, services available, meetings, trainings, and outreach for each site to the program monitor. Interviews are also expected to be conducted with site coordinators and lead agencies beginning in June, with site visits to occur in June or July. Survey and interview results will also be discussed with the program manager to provide feedback to the Safety Net Works sites.

B. Go To 2040 Regional Comprehensive Planning Initiative

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) initiated a comprehensive, long-range planning project for the Chicago region (Cook, DuPage, Kane Will, Kendall, Lake and McHenry counties) entitled *Go To 2040*. With resources made available by the Chicago Community Trust, this planning process was enlarged to include multiple domains related to quality of life in the region, including education, health, workforce development, arts and culture, food security, human relations and public safety. The Authority, in partnership with the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) Criminal Justice Department, was selected to provide leadership in the area of crime and justice within the public safety sphere. As lead agency, Authority staff is expected to identify indicators, report on existing conditions, make recommendations for action in the area of crime and justice, and with guidance from an Advisory Committee, produce a report that will:

- a) state the present condition of the issue examined;
- b) identify challenges and opportunities;
- c) set targets for 2040;
- d) identify strategies and their impact for the region;
- e) identify federal, state and local policies and resources critical to the success of the region; and
- f) identify all organizations working on the issue and other resources relevant to the issue.

During the last quarter, the Crime and Justice Advisory Group held its third and final meeting on April 30th in Chicago (JRT Building), to discuss the draft final report. Advisory Group members' suggestions will be incorporated into the final report, which is to be submitted at the end of May to the CMAP Board of Directors. The Chicago Community Trust will also use the recommendations to inform their future grant funding opportunities.

C. Redesign of Criminal Justice DataNet

Staff received \$58,000 in funding 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 process of hiring a staff person has been initiated, and an initial assessment of the Authority's Data web page has been conducted. Project staff are in the process of developing and posting approximately 20 updated maps, charts and facts for the JUST THE FACTS:

CJ DataNet Statistics web page. The topic areas updated with 2007 data include: crime trends for violent and property offenses; drugs seized; drugs submitted for testing at Illinois State Police labs; drug treatment admissions; arrest trends for violent, property and drug offenses; court filings statistics; probation sentence statistics; juvenile petitions, adjudications and detention statistics; and several special topics, such as domestic violence trends and elder abuse statistics.

D. Issues in Illinois College Campus Safety Report Series

Staff has produced a two-part series of reports regarding crime and general safety on Illinois college campuses. The first, *Issues in Illinois College Campus Safety, Part I: History and Development of Campus Safety Planning*, focuses critical incidents preparedness, while the second, *Issues in Illinois College Campus Safety, Part II: Trends in Illinois Campus Crime, 2001-2007*, presents an analysis of Clery Act data submitted annually by Illinois colleges to the US Department of Education, Office of Post-Secondary Education. The report includes information on trends regarding violent and property offenses, as well as arrests and school disciplinary referrals for alcohol, drug, and weapons violations, for the period 2001 through 2007.

E. Employment Trends of Felony Probationers in collaboration with Harvard University

The purpose of this joint research project is to promote research on the employment participation and performance of those sentenced to terms of felony probation and imprisonment in Illinois. By combining labor market information derived from the unemployment insurance (UI) system of Illinois with criminal history record information (CHRI) for Illinois, the project will allow for detailed analysis of the relationship between criminal justice sanctions, labor market performance, and criminal recidivism.

ICJIA and Harvard have signed a data use agreement with the IDES. ICJIA will match and disseminate the data to Harvard University for analysis. The employment data set was received from IDES in mid-May.

F. Juvenile Female Offenders Research Report

Staff completed a draft of a research report on girls in the Illinois juvenile justice system. The report summarizes risk factor data on juvenile females in Illinois, as well as analyzes juvenile justice system data on arrests, detention, corrections. The preliminary findings of the report indicate that juvenile females in Illinois are more likely than their male counterparts to be involved in the juvenile justice system for less serious offenses. Girls in Illinois are more likely to be arrested, detained, and incarcerated for misdemeanor offenses, status offenses, and retail theft. The report should be published in early Summer.

G. Partnership with the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) – Multi-City Study of Workplace Violence among Pharmacists and Health Care Workers

In response to news reports across the country of robberies of pharmacies for prescription drugs instead of money, NIOSH partnered with five Statistical Analysis Centers, including Illinois, to study the magnitude of the problem and assess the risk to health care worker safety. Research and Analysis Unit staff completed participation in this six-month project involving the analysis of Chicago Police Department incident reports for cases involving robberies and other violent crimes at pharmacies, hospitals and clinics, and doctors' offices in 2005 and 2006. A total of 1,123 police case reports were examined to determine if the incident met the criteria for inclusion in the research. Data collection instrument were completed for 460 eligible incidents. These data were forwarded to NIOSH for incorporation with results from Milwaukee, Ohio, Tennessee and South Carolina to determine initial frequencies, rates and circumstances of crimes that threaten the safety of pharmacists and other health care workers.

A final report based on combined results from all participating sites will be produced by NIOSH staff. Based on this research experience, Authority staff recommended that NIOSH fund future research focused on occupational hazards faced by security guards, store managers and taxi drivers, as well as research focused on domestic violence incidents that occur at the victim's place of employment.

H. Juvenile Justice Data Coordination Partnership

Staff has been invited to participate on several working groups related to effective juvenile justice data collection. These include all members of the five juvenile initiatives currently in place in several counties across Illinois: 1) DMC, 2) Redeploy, 3) IJDAI, 4) Models for Change, and 5) BARJ.

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.

During the last quarter the data template was developed by R&A staff with assistance from staff through the Juvenile Justice Initiative and presented to the Pathways partners group and the Models for Change/DMC committee. Feedback was provided by both groups and as a result, a few changes were made. In addition, staff was asked to present this data collection and presentation tool at the next Redeploy Illinois all sites meeting in Springfield on June 8, 2009 in order to "test" the template with those who will be using it. Staff from the Illinois Department of Human Services has volunteered trainers to facilitate distribution and training on the data template once it is approved. Authority staff will assist in developing on-line training modules using Adobe Connect software to assist in this state-wide training effort. By the time this template is in wide use, over a third of the state will be using this tool for consistent data collection methods. The ultimate goal is to have it implemented statewide.

II. CURRENT PROJECTS

A. Program evaluation and research projects/ internally funded

The R&A Unit pursues an aggressive program evaluation and research agenda through an in-house ADAA-funded grant program. Evaluation and research efforts conducted, supported, or monitored by R&A staff include:

1. Trends and Issues 2008

Trends and Issues 2008 is a report about crime and justice in Illinois. This report is an update to previous *Trends and Issues 1997* and is the sixth such publication. It describes the organization and operation of the state's justice system, tracks statewide and regional trends in crime and the processing of offenders, and presents important criminal and justice issues that have emerged this decade. The report derived data from numerous criminal justice sources. Data is presented in several ways in the document through data summaries and descriptions, data tables and trend graphs, and state maps. The graphs depict state data trends over 10 years from 1995 to 2005.

There are five sections: law enforcement, courts, corrections, victims, and juvenile justice. In addition, each section highlights special issues of significance facing the criminal justice system today, including identity theft, gangs, DNA, specialized courts, substance abuse treatment in prison, human trafficking, and juvenile justice reform initiatives. The report provides valuable crime and justice information to inform the general public, criminal justice professionals, and policy makers.

A final draft of the report was presented at the March 2008 Authority meeting. The report is now available on the Authority's website.

The primary distribution format for the *Trends and Issues 2008* report is via the Authority's website. Table 1 below shows the total number of downloads for the full report or individual chapters from November 2008 through January 2009, as well as the cumulative total since the report's publication in May, 2008.

Table 1. *Trends and Issues 2008* Report Downloads from the Authority Website, November 2008 through January, 2009

CHAPTER SECTIONS	Total Downloads Feb, 2009 through April, 2009	Cumulative Downloads since publication in May, 2008
<i>Trends & Issues 2008</i> Full Report	625	4,841
<i>Trends & Issues 2008</i> Chapter - Foreword	50	385
<i>Trends & Issues 2008</i> Chapter - Executive summary	132	4,683
<i>Trends & Issues 2008</i> Chapter - Overview	102	487

<i>Trends & Issues 2008 Chapter - Introduction</i>	161	654
<i>Trends & Issues 2008 Chapter - Law Enforcement</i>	1,469	4,977
<i>Trends & Issues 2008 Chapter - The courts</i>	181	1,087
<i>Trends & Issues 2008 Chapter - Corrections</i>	1,635	5,745
<i>Trends & Issues 2008 Chapter - Juvenile justice</i>	4,698	10,394
<i>Trends & Issues 2008 Chapter - Crime victims</i>	740	2,915
<i>Trends & Issues 2008 Chapter - Conclusion</i>	112	483

Over 36,600 copies of the full report or individual chapters have been downloaded since its publication in May 2008. There is particular interest in information on Illinois juvenile justice.

2. Trends and Issues Updates

As follow-up to that report, a *Trends and Issues Update: Justice Assistance Grant Planning Materials – Illinois crime and criminal justice trends, 1997-2007* was published on the Authority's website in April. A second *Update* publication, *Needs Assessment Survey Results for Law Enforcement Agencies*, is in executive review and will be published in May. Other *Updates* being drafted to highlight specific topic introduced in the main document include: drug crime trends in Illinois; trends in violent crime; and trends in offenses against school personnel. These are scheduled for publication later in 2009.

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

Research & Analysis staff is continuing to support the operation of the Sheridan Correctional Center through a process and impact evaluation. Sheridan is currently the largest correctional facility in the country that is entirely committed to substance abuse treatment. The prison, designed as a therapeutic community for substance abuse users, reopened at the beginning of 2004 and had an additional methamphetamine treatment unit built on in FY08. Drug offenders released from IDOC have relatively high recidivism rates if they are released without any form of treatment in prison or in their communities upon release. The Sheridan treatment plan is designed to treat offenders while incarcerated and while they are released to their communities under supervision to reduce recidivism rates across Illinois.

The evaluation of Sheridan is a collaborative effort between the Authority, Loyola University, and the Illinois Department of Corrections and is under the direction of Dr. David Olson of Loyola. The evaluation uses a combination of quantitative and qualitative data to gage the process and impact of operations at Sheridan and the aftercare component required for inmates under mandatory supervised release. Authority staff contributed to analyses of program completion and recidivism of Sheridan participants compared to a matched sample of inmates released from other prisons in Illinois, including the compiling and organization of criminal history and arrest data on subjects in the research.

The final report detailing the progress and outcomes of the program from inception through 2007 has been reviewed by Authority staff. Two past Program Evaluation Summaries have been completed on Sheridan indicating benefits from reduced recidivism and increased

employment for participants. The most recent report also indicated benefits due to the program. Additional publications intended for scholarly journals have also been produced. These reports address the long-term impact of the program and the characteristics of participants that influence success in the program. The final report and summary are being updated with 2008 data and will be available on our website in spring 2009.

Dr. Olson is continuing the evaluation of the Sheridan program, as well as assessing the drug treatment therapeutic community operating at the Southwestern Illinois Correctional Center. This continued research began in October 2008 and will continue through March 2010.

4. Lake County Transitional Services for Female Offenders (PTSD)

Loyola University, under the direction of Dr. Loretta Stalans, was awarded a grant to evaluate the Lake County probation program that provides specialized services to women probationers who exhibit post-traumatic stress disorder. The report outlines the development and adjustments that were made to the program to better accommodate and serve the female probationers' needs in an effort to prevent recidivism and improve their lives. The final report is available on our website and a summary is forthcoming.

A one-year follow-up study to further assess the impact of the program began in January 2008. This follow-up study will address whether the program reduced recidivism, and assisted the women in obtaining employment, housing, food and childcare. The study is also focusing on the third service provider that the program enlisted and the draft final report is under review.

5. Jail Data Link

In May 2007, evaluators at the University of Illinois – Springfield began an evaluation of the Jail Data Link (JDL) project. Implemented in three sites in Illinois, the Jail Data Link project identifies jail detainees who are recipients of Department of Human Services mental health services and links them up with continued services and treatment while they are incarcerated in the jail. This identification and continuation of treatment assists jails in the care of inmates who are in need of mental health services and / or medication. A draft final report was submitted in February 2009 and revisions and additional analysis on recidivism were conducted. While there were no differences in recidivism rates between JDL participants and non-JDL, there were a number of positive findings regarding the implementation and operation of program. The report will be available in June 2009.

6. Capital Punishment Reform Study Committee

Loyola University Chicago was selected to continue research and conduct a survey regarding capital punishment in Illinois for the Capital Punishment Reform Study Committee. Work on this project began in October 2008.

7. Investigator Initiated Research

Projects funded under an Investigator-initiated RFP address research in our priority areas of interest. Reviewers elected to fund the following projects in 2007:

- *Assessing the Risk of Sexual and Violent Recidivism and Identifying Differences in Risk Factor.* This study is under the direction of Loyola University and will seek to inform the criminal justice system's probation and parole officers, treatment professionals, and judges as to the accuracy of assessment tools for predicting the risk of sexual or violent reoffending. Comparisons between offenders from the prison system and those on probation will be conducted. The project has concluded and a final report is under review.
- *A Study of Co-occurring Conditions and Treatment Coordination of Jail Detainees.* Conducted by the University of Illinois at Chicago, this study will select and interview 300 adult male and 150 adult female detainees in the psychiatric residential treatment units at the Cook County Department of Corrections jail facility. The project will seek to better understand the needs of this high-risk and resource-intensive population and provide a basis for developing better coordinated systems of care within the jail, community and transition to prison for those sentenced detainees. The final report will be submitted for review in May 2009.

An additional Investigator-initiated RFP was issued in June 2007, and four new projects were selected for funding in October 2007:

- *Critical Incident Preparedness and Response on Campus* – Conducted by Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, this study examined the current state of critical incident preparedness, planning and response activities on a census of Illinois colleges and university campuses and a sample of campuses nationwide. This study also looked at reported campus crime rates from the Cleary Act. The research will be valuable for state and national policymakers and the findings will provide information on current practices as they relate to campus security and how they differ from a national perspective. A final report was received and is available on our website.
- *Analysis of Shelter Utilization by Victims of Domestic Violence* – Conducted by Loyola University School of Social Work, Loyola researchers in collaboration with the City of Chicago Mayor's Office will conduct a study of the dynamics of shelter utilization and how it relates to the process of, and readiness for, change among women who are victims of domestic violence. The project will aim to better identify the housing and service needs and utilization patterns, as well as the outcomes of women who are in the domestic violence shelter system in Chicago. The project will also identify stages in the help seeking process, including the characteristics of readiness for change that lead women to shelter and/or to end the abusive situation. A report is due in May 2009.
- *Methamphetamine and Violence* – Conducted by Illinois State University, this study conducted in-depth interviews with methamphetamine users from downstate Illinois and a select group of law enforcement and other officials to determine the extent to which

methamphetamine and violence are associated, and to better understand the nature of that association. The research provides a picture of the epidemiology of methamphetamine and related violence in Illinois across communities of varying size and rural characteristics. The findings will inform law enforcement and social service providers regarding factors associated with an increased likelihood of violence by those who use and manufacture the drug. A final report will be placed on the website in May 2009.

- *The Impact of Illinois' Truth-in-Sentencing Legislation* – Conducted by Loyola University Department of Criminal Justice, this project will examine the impact that Illinois' Truth-in-Sentencing (TIS) legislation has had on sentences imposed, projected lengths of time served in prison, and inmate behavior. The findings will allow policy makers to more accurately assess the impact the law has had on sentencing practices and on how inmates have adjusted to their incarceration. It will also inform practitioners of the implications of TIS on issues related to inmate reentry and the aging of the prison population, given the potential increased length of stay and release from prison at older ages of those sentenced under the law. A final report is under review.

An additional RFP was released in 2009 and the following projects were funded:

- *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. The project term is June 2009 – May 2010.
- *Assessing Views of Critical Incident Prevention and Response* – Conducted by Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, this project will determine the attitudes and perceptions of students regarding campus safety initiatives and campus preparedness for critical incidents. The study will conduct surveys of students in six Illinois campuses regarding the perceived likelihood of an incident occurring, fear of incidents and past exposure to types of incidents or offenses. The project term is June 2009 – May 2010.

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. Juvenile justice system and risk factor data: 2006 Annual Report

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, the 2006 Annual Report, a compilation of county-level juvenile justice system and risk factor data, is complete. Like the 2005 report, this version also 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.

The report is currently under review and the final report is expected to be available by early summer 2009.

2. Juvenile justice system and risk factor data: 2007 Annual Report

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, the 2007 Annual Report, a compilation of county-level juvenile justice system and risk factor data, is complete. Like the 2006 report, this version also 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.

The report is completed and currently under review and the final report is expected to be available by summer 2009.

3. Mental health screening and assessment practices in the Illinois juvenile justice system

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, staff is currently working on a report of the results of a survey of the mental health screening and assessment practices in the Illinois juvenile justice system. The goal of the project is to determine what screening and assessment tools are being used by whom, and at what point in the system. These data were gathered through a survey of all juvenile detention centers, juvenile probation and court service offices, juvenile correctional facilities, and the Juvenile Officers Association. The survey received a 51 percent response rate. This research will prove useful to juvenile justice practitioners, community-based mental health providers, and researchers who want to explore further the issue of screening and assessment in Illinois. In addition, it will guide them in the selection of the most current and appropriate tools for their facilities. Furthermore, the results of the study will inform future research in the area of mental health and juvenile justice.

After approval of the survey from IRB, 99 surveys were mailed. Approximately 54 percent of surveys were completed and returned. The deadline for the survey responses was extended to allow for additional surveys to be returned. Staff has compiled the survey results into a researchable database and is currently working on a draft of the report. A draft of the report to be submitted for review is expected by summer 2009.

4. Redeploy Illinois County Profiles

The Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board requested county profiles providing detention and corrections information for sites that are operational, as well as 15 additional potential sites. These profiles were presented at the September Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board meeting and distributed to the counties.

The data in the profiles are being updated and final updated reports should be available on the Authority website in Fall 2009.

5. 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 has begun. An initial meeting to go over data analysis and findings and to discuss strategies for on-going data collection and analysis was held. An additional six-month no-cost extension through May 2009 has been obtained from NIC to complete data analysis.

6. Assessment of prior victimization and access to services among adult female inmates in the Illinois Department of Corrections

This project is designed as an assessment of the prevalence of prior victimization, primarily domestic violence and sexual assault/abuse, among adult female inmates within the Illinois Department of Corrections. The research study will collect information on the extent and nature of victimization and treatment episodes of female prison inmates in Illinois. The research involves detailed face-to-face interviews with current female prisoners. The questions will explore prior help seeking strategies, substance use, and physical and sexual abuse during the course of the person's life history. The data will provide information to criminal justice and social service agencies, funding entities, policy makers, and the general public. The research will be able to offer treatment recommendations to IDOC to further help women in corrections.

Staff obtained a random sample of female inmates (stratified by the facility). Respondents were paid a \$10 stipend. Each interview lasted approximately 30 minutes. Staff have interviewed almost 200 women located in three IDOC institutions – Dwight, Decatur, and Lincoln.

The IRB approved the initial application in June 2008. After lengthy negotiations with Authority legal counsel, IDOC legal counsel, and the IRB on the language in the consent form, the project restarted in January 2009. Staff are finishing the interviews and reviewing prison case files in May-June 2009. Staff will also obtain participants' criminal histories. The final report should be completed by late Summer/early Fall.

7. Domestic Sex Trafficking of Chicago Women and Girls

The DePaul College of Law Schiller Du Canto & Fleck Law Center collaborated with Authority to conduct data entry and analysis for a research project on sex trafficking. Ms. Jody Raphael, Senior Research Fellow, received a grant from the Chicago Foundation on Women for this research. The project administered questionnaires to 100 girls and women currently in the sex trade industry to gain information about recruitment and violence by pimps in local sex trafficking. The final report has been posted on the ICJIA website. The authors wrote a journal article, Pimp Control and Violence of Domestically Trafficked Women that will be published in Women and Criminal Justice in a special issue on human trafficking in early 2010.

8. Implementing Restorative Justice: A Guide for Schools

This is a final guide a series of eight BARJ implementation guides. ICJIA staff created this series of BARJ implementation guides to provide profession-specific information on how the BARJ philosophy can be used across the juvenile justice system. The guide is specifically designed to provide Illinois school personnel and families with practical strategies to use BARJ in their daily activities. School districts in Illinois have been incorporating the BARJ philosophy and BARJ programs into their discipline codes. BARJ has also been implemented in schools in Illinois through peer juries, peer mediation, and circles. In particular, the Chicago Public Schools have implemented peer juries the majority of its high schools. Staff have drafted the guide and it is in final review. The guide will be published in May/June 2009.

C. Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Audit

The unit's Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Audit Center is a 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.

Staff shortages continue to hamper efforts to develop a feasible 2009 CHRI Audit methodology. Court disposition reporting accuracy and completeness is the ideal topic for investigation, particularly in light of the request for historic data from the U.S. Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJS) regarding arrests and court disposition data as it applies to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Improvement Act of 2007. It is hoped that additional audit staff can be hired in the next few months to begin such an audit.

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 us 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 1990-2007 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, several CHRI User Agreement were forwarded to the Illinois State Police for initial processing, including those received from the Disproportionate Justice Impact Study (DJIS) Commission, Carnegie-Mellon University, TASC, Inc, University of Colorado, and the DuPage Drug Court Administrator. Since the inception of the CHRI Ad Hoc Connection Partnership, a total of thirty-five 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 also provided to several researchers who received data in previously, including the Urban Institute and the Jail data Link project, and the Disproportionate Justice Impact Study (DJIS) Commission.

Staff also participated in a meeting in April of experts from around the country, regarding the use of criminal history records in recidivism research. This meeting was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) in Washington D.C. The aim of the conference was to inform BJS researchers on the various data quality issues that impact analysis and interpretation of state criminal history records, as BJS prepares to develop a standardized searchable database of CHRI data across all 50 states, for the purpose of conducting national recidivism studies.

Information requests answered using CHRI data. During the last quarter, all non-expunged arrests and associated arrest charges and court dispositions from 1999-2008 were loaded 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. Chicago Tribune reporters requested information on the number of arrests made for stalking in Chicago and surrounding counties, as well as information on arrests and convictions for criminal sexual assault, and information on the top ten largest police jurisdictions (sworn officers and population) in Illinois. A Fox News reporter requested data on heroin arrests in Chicago and surrounding counties. A Medill reporter requested data on juveniles transferred to adult court, and a Daily Herald reporter requested the number of arrests for methamphetamine in 2008. Finally, House Republican research staff is requesting the number of Illinois felony arrests from 2002-2007.

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 are 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, discussions were continued with Chicago Police Department’s Research and Development Division to resume the collaborative process of collecting and maintaining the CHD, adding years since 2000, and updating 1965-2000 data for cases that have been cleared since the last data collection effort. It was made clear by the research experience of using CPD incident case reports for the NIOSH study, that any update of the CHD will be very labor intensive, as the detailed case-level information on homicides required in this project are not available electronically from CPD data systems.

Staff continues to collaborate with selected researchers on projects involving use of the Chicago Homicide Dataset. Recently, staff presented an overview of the Chicago Homicide Dataset at the BJS/JRSA National Conference on Using Data to Improve Justice Policy and Practice. Staff will present a paper on “Strangulation” to the Homicide Research Working Group in June.

Staff produced a bibliography of over 100 publications and presentations in which the research actually used the Chicago Homicide Dataset for the research. Some of the most recent of these reports include the following:

Alderden, Megan A. & Timothy A. Lavery (2007). Predicting homicide clearances in Chicago. *Homicide Studies* 11(2, May):115-132.

Bachman, Ronet, Carolyn Rebecca Block & Michelle L. Meloy (2005). Violence Against the Elderly: A comparison of the NCVS and the Chicago Homicide Files. Presented at the American Society of Criminology, Toronto, Canada, November, 2005.

Bhati, Avinash Singh (2002). Spatial analysis of rare crimes: Homicides in Chicago, Illinois, 1989-1991 [Computer file]. ICPSR version. Washington, DC: Urban Institute, 2004. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2004. doi:10.3886/ICPSR04079

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E. Chicago Women's Health Risk Study

The Chicago Women's Health Risk Project is a continuing collaboration of medical, public health, and criminal justice agencies, and domestic violence experts to identify factors that indicate a significant danger of life-threatening injury or death in situations of intimate partner violence. Collaborating agencies include the Chicago Department of Public Health, Erie Family Health Center, Cook County Hospital, Chicago Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence, Cook County Medical Examiner's Office, Chicago Police Department and the Authority.

The current goal of the CWHRs project is to "get the word out" about important and potentially life-saving results, to the public and to practitioners and legislators who can use those results to help save lives. The CWHRs Forum, housed on the Authority's web site, currently has 209 members, most of them practitioners or researchers in the field. The CWHRs Forum also welcomes visits from people seeking information. A number of reports, journal articles and other publications have been developed from the research, most of them collaborations. Staff is frequently solicited for presentations and briefings on the research and project tools, and data continue to be requested for use by other researchers.

Recently, staff presented the keynote address at a Femicide conference in November for professionals and practitioners, co-sponsored by John Jay College of Criminal Justice and the largest provider of DV support in New York City. Over 300 people attended, and many of them have asked to join the CWHRs Forum to gather more information they can use as helping professionals. In addition, staff presented the keynote address at the International Conference on Homicide, sponsored by the

Australian Institute of Criminology, on key risk factors for death in intimate partner violence. The address was entitled, “Reducing intimate-partner homicide rates: What are the risk factors when a woman is being abused?”

During the last quarter, staff worked on adapting Web Forum software for use in hosting the popular Chicago Women’s Health Risk Study Forum, a discussion and information-sharing site for people interested in reducing levels of death and serious injury from intimate partner violence. Forum members are trying to apply findings from the Chicago Women’s Health Risk Study (CWHRS) and similar research to practical situations in the field.

The following articles using CWHRS data have been recently published:

- Glass, Nancy, Kathryn Laughon, Jacquelyn C. Campbell, Carolyn Rebecca Block, Ginger Hanson, Phyllis W. Sharps & Ellen Taliaferro (2008). Non-fatal strangulation is an important risk factor for homicide of women. *Journal of Emergency Medicine* 35 (Oct): 329-335.
- Morland, Leslie A., Gregory A. Leskin, Carolyn Rebecca Block, Jacquelyn C. Campbell, and Matthew J. Friedman (2008). Intimate Partner Violence and Miscarriage: Examination of the Role of Physical and Psychological Abuse and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 23: 652-669.
- Kellum, Sharlette Annette (2008). *Domestic Homicide: Female Victim’s Employment Status as a Risk Factor*. Dissertation, College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology, Prairie View A&M University, Doctor of Philosophy in Juvenile Justice.
- Perez, Sara and Dawn M. Johnson (2008). PTSD Compromises Battered Women’s Future Safety. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* 23: 635-651.
- Block, Carolyn R. and Walter DeKeseredy (2007). Forced sex and leaving intimate relationships: Results of the Chicago Women’s Health Risk Study. *Women’s Health and Urban Life* 5 (1, May): 6-23.
- Davies, Kim, Carolyn R. Block & Jacquelyn C. Campbell (2007). Seeking help from the police: Battered women’s decisions and experiences. *Criminal Justice Studies: A Critical Journal of Crime, Law and Society* 20 (1, March): 15-41.

III. ONGOING ACTIVITIES

A. Briefings/Presentations

Since the last Authority update for the March 2009 meeting, R&A staff made presentations at, and/or attended the following professional meetings:

- Staff attended the State of Illinois Webmaster Roundtable teleconference on Tuesday, February 24.

- Staff attended a meeting of the Cook County Sheriff's Department, Women Justice Services regarding potential involvement in an evaluation of a new prostitution/sex trafficking program on February 25.
- On February 27, staff participated in a Pathways meeting where members will start to develop a strategic plan for the next year. The meeting will be held at Loyola Law School in Chicago.
- On March 3, staff attended a conference call with staff from the Illinois Department of Mental Health and research staff from the University of Illinois at Springfield regarding the evaluation of the Jail Data Link project.
- Staff presented criminal justice statistical information to the Authority Budget Committee on March 5.
- Staff participated in planning sessions for the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) at the Authority's offices on March 5.
- Staff participated in a presentation of the Jail Data Link program and evaluation at the Authority Board meeting on March 6.
- Staff attended a DMC/Models for Change meeting at Loyola on March 9.
- Staff attended a Redeploy Oversight Board meeting in Chicago, also on March 9.
- Staff attended an Elder Abuse Project Sub-Committee meeting at the Chicago Police Department headquarters on March 10.
- On March 10, staff attended a meeting of the Chicago Public Schools Peer Jury Advisory Board.
- Staff attended a seminar on the Media and Crime at Loyola University Watertower campus on March 11.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Illinois Advisory Council on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependency on March 11 in Matteson.
- Staff attended a PROMISE (Partnership to Rescue Our Minors from Sexual Exploitation) meeting on March 13.
- Staff observed Cook County juvenile court proceedings on March 17.
- Staff participated in and prepared materials for a March 20 meeting of the sub-group of Pathways. Staff developed a data tool kit for local practitioners that included a template, along with other materials (a how-to excel manual, a racial coding manual, instructions for the template, data collection reports used by various agencies, etc).
- On March 20, staff attended a training on commercial sexual exploitation of children and child sex tourism at University of Illinois, Chicago.
- Staff participated in a Redeploy Oversight Board meeting in Chicago on March 20.
- The Research Director and the Executive Director met with Executive Director Cynthia Cobbs of the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts in Chicago on March 23 to discuss a proposed analysis of how presentence investigation are prepared across the state.
- Staff attended a meeting on March 24 with those working on an elder abuse grant. The meeting concerned the coordinated efforts of police and elder abuse social service workers who are trying to change the way they (both police and social service) address elder abuse cases. The meeting was at CPD headquarters.
- Staff attended the State of Illinois Webmasters Roundtable Meeting on March 24.
- The Research Director and Executive Director attended a meeting in Chicago on March 25 of the Collaborative on Reentry for an update on the status of the Second Chance Act Demonstration Grants and to discuss "strategic corrections."

- The Research Director attended a meeting in Chicago on March 26 of the juvenile justice work group for the Collaborative on Reentry.
- The Executive Director, and staff attended a meeting with the South Shore Safety Net Works Coalition on March 27 in Chicago.
- The Research Director attended a Technical Assistance meeting at the Grand Boulevard site for Safety Net Works on April 1 in Chicago.
- On April 7, staff attended a meeting with Cook County Probation staff in preparation for submission of a research proposal to the American Statistical Association and the Bureau of Justice Statistics' Small Grants Program for Analysis of Crime and Justice Data.
- On April 9, staff attended an in-house training on internet safety by the Office of the Illinois Attorney General's Cybercrime Unit.
- On April 10, staff attended a conference call with the Illinois State Police regarding state estimates of available records information collection project related to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) Improvement Act.
- On April 13, staff attended a multi-city sex trafficking briefing at DePaul University.
- Staff participated in an Illinois Mental Health Courts Association data entry meeting on April 14 in Elgin to discuss the design of a statewide mental health court database.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Illinois Advisory Council on Alcoholism and other Drug Dependency in Matteson on April 15.
- Staff met on April 16 to discuss proposals that were submitted in response to our Investigator Initiated RFP. The evaluation committee designated recommendations for funding.
- Staff met with the Illinois State Police Bureau of Identification staff, in Joliet on April 16, to discuss data that needs to be compiled as part of the NICS Improvement Program.
- On April 20, staff attended a human trafficking press conference in Chicago.
- On April 20, staff attended a meeting with the Illinois State Police at the Authority regarding the potential impact of changes to Illinois' Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR) Program.
- Staff met with the Illinois State Police officials on April 22 in Chicago to discuss strategies for improving the quality of Uniform Crime Reports offense and arrest data.
- Staff attended a Pathways meeting in Bloomington on April 24 to present the juvenile justice data template staff developed. The goal was to map out a training schedule and determine the best way to distribute the template to local users.
- Staff attended a meeting on April 27 and 28 in Washington DC, hosted by Justice Research and Research Association (JRSA), to discuss the use of criminal history records in conducting recidivism research.
- Staff attended an Illinois Student Safety and Security Conference in Rosemont on April 29 to present crime trends at campuses on Illinois and show the session participants how to download and analyze their own campus data.
- The research director and staff hosted the final Go To 2040 Crime & Justice Advisory Council meeting on April 30 in Chicago.
- Staff attended a Safe Havens Local Consulting Committee meeting on April 30 Chicago Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence.
- Staff held a conference call on May 6 with Loyola University to discuss a grant application under the Recovery Act: Research and Evaluation Recovery Act State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance grant for the analysis and evaluation of mental health courts in Illinois.

- Staff attended the first annual statewide youth summit for Safety Networks on May 9.
- Staff attended a DMC/Models for Change meeting at Loyola on May 12.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Disproportionate Justice Impact Study on May 13 at the Jane Addams School of Social Work, UIC campus.
- Staff attended the Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board meeting on May 15 to present admissions to corrections data for the annual report.
- On May 20 staff attended a meeting with IDOC on parole agent training on human trafficking.
- On May 21 staff assisted at the Chicago Public Schools Peer Jury Recognition Event at Northwestern Law School.

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.

Many requests continue to come from government agencies (22 percent) and private agencies (10 percent). Other requests come from private citizens, researchers, students news media representatives, legislators and prison inmates. Ten percent of the requests originate in the Chicago metropolitan area, and another 25 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.

R&A distributed 2 authority publications during the third quarter of SFY 09 (Jan-Mar, 2009), not including those downloaded from our website (288,817) (*Table 1*). The volume of web users has remained at high levels. During this time period, there were 2,410,490 "hits" on our website and more than 84,041 visitors that remained on the site for a period of time. There were 288,886 downloads of information or publications (*Table 2*). The website continues to be a valuable resource for our constituents.

Acquiring/updating/documenting dataset holdings

During the last quarter, staff continued to inventory and update core datasets Data on drug submissions to Illinois State Police labs by zip code was entered into newly designed spreadsheets, to include data by Chicago Police Department districts as well municipal totals. TANF data and court data from the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts were also updated. Updates of juvenile petition and detention data and population were completed during this quarter. As previously mentioned. These updated datasets are being made available as maps, chart and brief facts on the Authority's Data web page. Enhanced graphing and analysis capabilities on the full set of data holdings will eventually be accomplished through the CJ DataNet Redesign Project.

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. Currently, R&A staff are working with FSGU to draft a protocol outlining staff roles. The protocol outlines the following purposes of the partnership:

- Help FSGU report statistical information to ICJIA boards and the public.
- Help guide decisions to best spend limited federal funding.
- Help ensure ICJIA collects and reports reliable statistics on grantees.
- Help hold grantees accountable for ICJIA administered federal funds.
- Help ensure ICJIA meets federal and auditor requirements.

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 assume responsibility for the computerization of some program performance for many grants.

During the last quarter:

- R&A staff attended site visits with FSGU staff, to the Chicago Police Department and Kankakee County Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) for Sexual Assault, to discuss the programs' data reporting.
- R&A staff participated in a VAWA Data Report Training.
- R&A staff completed two program profiles in April on S.T.O.P. VAWA Chicago Response program, and Cook County State's Attorney's office on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prosecution programs.
- R&A staff completed a training with FSGU staff on VAWA goals, objectives, and performance measures.
- R&A staff provided program data from the Child Advocacy Center in Quincy, Illinois (Adams County) and the Women's Center (sexual assault services) in Carbondale (Jackson County), in preparation for a site visit by the FSGU grant monitor.

D. Technical Assistance

- Staff provided St. Clair County juvenile justice and risk factor data to Juvenile Justice Initiative staff.
- Staff provided Peoria County juvenile justice and risk factor data to the Peoria chief probation officer.
- Staff analyzed Redeploy Illinois data from the nine sites for the Redeploy Annual Report.
- Staff provided analysis of criminal history data to the Illinois State Police to simulate anticipated changes in data trends that may occur when the Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR) program rules are changed in January 2010.
- Staff provided technical assistance to the Illinois State Police regarding completion of the federally mandated State Estimates of Available Records Information Collection Project.

- Staff participated in and prepared materials for a March 20 meeting of the sub-group of Pathways. Staff developed a data tool kit for local practitioners that included a template, along with other materials (a how-to excel manual, a racial coding manual, instructions for the template, data collection reports used by various agencies, etc).
- The Executive Director, and staff attended a meeting with the South Shore Safety Net Works Coalition on March 27 in Chicago.
- The Research Director attended a Technical Assistance meeting at the Grand Boulevard site for Safety Net Works on April 1 in Chicago.
- Staff met with the Illinois State Police Bureau of Identification staff, in Joliet on April 16, to discuss data that needs to be compiled as part of the NICS Improvement Program.
- On April 20, staff attended a meeting with the Illinois State Police at the Authority regarding the potential impact of changes to Illinois' Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR) Program.
- Staff met with the Illinois State Police officials on April 22 in Chicago to discuss strategies for improving the quality of Uniform Crime Reports offense and arrest data.
- Staff attended a Pathways meeting in Bloomington on April 24 to present the juvenile justice data template staff developed. The goal was to map out a training schedule and determine the best way to distribute the template to local users.
- Staff attended a Illinois Student Safety and Security Conference in Rosemont on April 29 to present crime trends at campuses on Illinois and show the session participants how to download and analyze their own campus data.
- On May 21 staff assisted at the Chicago Public Schools Peer Jury Recognition Event at Northwestern Law School.

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:

- o 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.
- o 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.
- o Those killed by any use of force by law enforcement officers prior to booking
- o People who died at a crime/arrest scene or medical facility prior to booking.

- o Deaths occurring in transit to or from law enforcement facilities.
- o Deaths of those confined in lockups or booking centers (facilities from which arrestees are usually transferred within 72 hours and not held beyond arraignment).

Summary data on death in law enforcement custody for the year of 2007 was submitted to BJS in October of 2008, and data for 2008 and 2009 is continuously being collected. 2008 data is expected to be submitted to BJS in mid 2009. 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, 2003-2005, was released in October 2007.

As part of the SJS grant received from the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics, a new DICRA web page will be designed, and a survey will be developed to determine a more efficient way to collect medical examiner data on these incidents, including cause of death.

F. Web-based applications

1. Webboard

Webboard is an integrated discussion boards, online conferencing, it is also for online classes, providing threaded discussions, chat and the ability to post and download data, this message board tool allows valuable ideas and comments to be shared and stored.

Staff is currently developing the launch of a redesigned WebBoard Chicago Women's Health Risk Study (CWHRS) Forum. The CWHRS Forum is a discussion and information-sharing site for people interested in reducing levels of death and serious injury from intimate partner violence. Forum members are trying to apply findings from the Chicago Women's Health Risk Study (CWHRS) and similar research to practical situations in the field. The WebBoard CWHRS Forum can be viewed at <http://webboard.icjia.org/WB/default.aspx?boardid=CWHRS>

Staff is currently developing the WebBoard INFONET Forum. The InfoNet (information network) is a web-based data collection system used by victim service providers in Illinois. The development and implementation of the system was a collaborative effort between the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, the Illinois Coalition against Sexual Assault (ICASA) and the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV). The WebBoard INFONET Forum can be viewed at <http://webboard.icjia.org/WB/default.aspx?boardid=INFONET>

During the last quarter, staff developed the WebBoard GOTO2040 Forum. The GOTO2040 Forum is a discussion and information-sharing site for advisory committee members to discuss Crime and Justice topical areas of the larger planning process being conducted by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) as the co-lead agency with the University of Illinois at Chicago with the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, in conjunction with the Chicago Community Trust. The project will focus on the Chicago metropolitan region (the seven counties of Cook, DuPage, Lake, Kane, Kendall, McHenry and Will). The purpose is to create a plan for an effective and coordinated crime and justice system in the region by the year 2040. The WebBoard GOTO2040 Forum can be viewed at <http://webboard.icjia.org/WB/default.aspx?boardid=GOTO2040>

Staff is also developing the WebBoard CJ ACADEMIC Forum. The CJ ACADEMIC Forum will be a discussion and information-sharing site which will enable the Research and Analysis Unit to communicate with the academic community on criminal justice research issues and topics that practitioners and others can use in their work within Illinois and from the national perspective.

The WebBoard CJ ACADEMIC Forum can be viewed at

<http://webboard.icjia.org/WB/default.aspx?boardid=CJACADEMIC>

2. Adobe Acrobat Connect

Adobe Acrobat Connect is software used to create information and general presentations, online training materials, web conferencing, learning modules, and user desktop sharing applications.

Staff is currently developing INFONET User Training using this software, as well as developing other Research and Analysis Unit and other agency on-line applications.

3. 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.

Staff has developed a web-based online application form for the law enforcement equipment grant for FFY05 and FFY06 Justice Assistance Grants Program which is administrated by the Federal State Grants Unit.

Staff has developed a web-based online application form for websites visitors to provide feedback, comments, or suggestions about our website. The web-based online application form can be viewed at

<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/index.cfm?metasection=forms&metapage=Comments>

4. Website Enhancements

Staff has developed a GOTO2040 Website for advisory committee members to have access to the CMAP Home page, information related to: CJ Issues and Topics, Population Projection, Advisory Committee Surveys, Advisory Committee information, such as Scheduled Meetings, Meeting Materials, Meeting Minutes, Next Steps for CJ Advisory Council, GoTo2040 E-News Archive, a link to LOGIN to the WebBoard GoTo2040 Forum, and details on How To Use the WebBoard Forum?. The website can be viewed at

<http://www.icjia.state.il.us/GoTo2040>

Staff is currently developing a new INFONET Website in order provide INFONET Users with access to: Security Software (SmartPass) Information, Tech Support, FAQs, Training Calendar, Training Manuals, Service Definitions, INFONET Data Collections Forms, User Groups information, listing of INFONET User Agencies, an INFONET Publications Section, and setting up a INFONET EMAIL Distribution Lists for the Child Advocacy Centers, Domestic Violence

Centers, and Sexual Assault Centers. The website is currently under construction at <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/infonets>

Staff is currently developing a new redesign of Criminal Justice DataNet Website to enhance web access and on-line presentation formats of the Authority's holdings of criminal justice and social risk factor data. The website is currently under construction at <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/cjdatanet>

Staff is currently developing a new Grants Website to enhance web access and to assist grantees quickly locate information about criminal justice related grants and grant programs administrated by the Federal State Grants Unit. The website is currently under construction at <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/grants>

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.

IV. GRANT PROPOSALS

R&A staff routinely pursues discretionary grants to support data collection, research, and evaluation activities. Frequently these projects involve collaborations with universities and/or other criminal justice agencies.

V. CONTINUING STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

- On March 20, staff attended a training on commercial sexual exploitation of children and child sex tourism at University of Illinois, Chicago.
- On April 9, staff attended an in-house training on internet safety by the Office of the Illinois Attorney General's Cybercrime Unit.

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.

cc: Lori G. Levin
Hank Anthony

Appendix A – Most recent publications

RESEARCH REPORTS

Critical Incident Preparedness and Response on Campus (February 2009)

TRENDS & ISSUES

Trends and Issues Update: Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Planning Materials - Illinois Crime and Criminal Justice Trends, 1997 – 2007 (March 2009)

Appendix B – Information Request Handling Statistics

January 1, 2009 to March 31, 2009

ITEM	REQUESTS/Pct
Information requests handled:	76
Monthly average number of requests:	23
Geographic Origin of requesters:	
Chicago metropolitan area	10%
Other region of Illinois	25%
U.S. other than Illinois	26%
Outside the U.S.	4%
Unknown	35%
Type of requester:	
Government agency	22%
Private agency	10%
Researcher	1%
Student	4%
Citizen	61%
Media	1%
Legislators	0%
Inmates	0%
Method of request:	
Telephone/fax	5%
Mail	0%
Email/Internet	36%
In-person	0%
ICJIA Website	59%
Publications disseminated:	
Mailed in response to requests	0
Downloaded from Website	288,817
Total	288,886

Appendix C – Authority Website Trends

www.icjia.state.il.us

January 1, 2009 to March 31, 2009

Month/Year	Hits		User Sessions			Visitors			File Downloads	CJ DISPATCH SUBSCRIBERS
	Entire Site	Average Per Day	Sessions	Average Per Day	Average Length (min)	Unique	One-Time	Repeat		
Jan-09	613,752	19,798	55,576	1,792	31	26,433	23,519	2,914	87,254	2,684
Feb-09	596,722	21,313	53,852	1,923	39	26,218	23,345	2,873	82,429	2,703
Mar-09	1,200,016	38,710	61,822	1,996	39	31,390	27,874	3,516	119,134	2,733
TOTAL	2,410,490	79,821	171,250	5,711	109	84,041	74,731	9,303	288,817	
MONTHLY AVERAGE	803,497		57,083			28,014	24,910	3,101	96,273	