



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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To: Authority Members

From: Mark Myrent, Associate Director
Research and Analysis Unit

Date: November 15, 2010

Re: Research and Analysis Unit Report for the December 2010 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. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Strategic Planning Initiative – Summit Follow-up

On September 22nd and 23rd, 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 plan will be released in July 2011.

B. 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.

C. 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. During the reporting period 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) will be issued with the goal of selecting an instrument for implementation by April 2011.

D. Policies and Procedures of the Illinois Criminal Justice System

Staff have begun work on 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 report is expected to be complete by May 2011.

E. 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. An application to be submitted to the Institutional Review Board has been drafted and a meeting of the board to review the research will be scheduled for December 2010. A final report will be completed after a year of program operations and is estimated for January 2012.

F. Inventory of Employment Restrictions on Persons with Criminal Records

Illinois House Bill 2474, 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. This research project is contingent on receipt of a state funding appropriation, which was not passed. However, the Authority has reached an agreement with officials from the Safer Foundation to collaborate on this work, which will commence in December 2010.

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 2010 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 conducted preliminary analyses of CHRI data for the years 2005-2009, to identify potential counties of interest for the 2010 audit, particularly those found to have higher-

than-average numbers of missing court dispositions. Ten counties consistently ranked as those with the highest proportion of missing court dispositions. Analyses of these missing dispositions by court charge class of offense were also conducted, to further refine the extent of missing dispositions for felony cases. Discussions were also held with Illinois State Police Staff as to the availability of court disposition data before it is processed by the CHRI system, which looks like a highly promising approach. It is anticipated that the audit proposal will be finalized and submitted to the State Police during the next quarter, with actual data collection and analysis to begin shortly afterwards.

H. 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. The target publication date of this report is early 2011.

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. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Victimization among Adult Female Inmates in the Illinois Department of Corrections

In 2009, ICJIA interviewed 163 female inmates housed in the Illinois Department of Corrections. Researchers gathered information on prior help seeking strategies, substance use, and physical and sexual abuse during the course of the person's life history. The findings in a report, *Victimization and Help Seeking Behaviors Among Incarcerated Women*, released April 2010. Study participants were also administered the PTSD Symptoms Checklist (PCL) to gauge PTSD symptoms. A second report will share the level and correlates of PTSD symptomology of female inmates. The report will help inform prisons and parole agents on the level and correlates of PTSD symptomology to better assist women housed in prisons and those released from prison deal with this problematic mental illness which can impact basic functioning including the ability to hold a job, have healthy relationships, and avoid the abuse of drugs and alcohol. The IRB approved the research as exempt as it uses existing data. A draft of the report is in final review. The report is slated for completion by December 2010.

2. 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 began October 2010 and a final report is estimated to be completed in Spring 2011.

3. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)/Chicago Police Department (CPD) Juvenile Crisis Intervention Training Fidelity Assessment

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 (a) identify signs and symptoms of mental illnesses and (b) exercise skills to defuse crisis situations. 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 training curriculum is helpful for officers, as they respond to situations involving youth in crisis. The evaluation project has 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. The evaluation project was approved by the Authority's Institutional Review Board (IRB) in June 2010; data collection began shortly after. The evaluation project will be completed by June 2013. The findings will be conveyed to the Juvenile—CIT, training staff in a way that allows them to improve and enhance their training practices.

4. 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 has 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 the evaluation project will be completed by September 2013.

5. 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 early 2011.

6. 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).

ICJIA Research & Analysis Staff began assisting the SPAC in reviewing Illinois criminal justice data availability for sentencing policy research. A presentation was made to the Council regarding these issues, and a larger report that documents current data collection practices and examine information gaps at each stage of the system was completed in July. This document was produced in partnership with the Illinois State Police, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts, and the Illinois Department of Corrections. The report is currently being updated by staff to include information on potential local-level data sources for use by SPAC. It will be made available on the ICJIA's website www.icjia.state.il.us.

During this quarter, ICJIA staff participated in a SPAC strategic planning session aimed at developing a short-term work plan, as funded by a FFY09 Justice Assistance Grant from ICJIA, as well as longer-term activities that will take the SPAC Council up to its sunset date of December 31, 2012. It was determined that R&A staff would contribute to an Illinois "portrait" of historic trends in criminal justice indicators to inform SPAC of how previous sentencing laws have contributed to the current corrections populations. It is hoped that this Portrait could be ready in time to distribute to legislators at the beginning of the legislative session in January.

7. 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 will 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 are working 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.

ICJIA staff will guide the development of program performance measures, and begin to craft an implementation analysis in partnership with the AROIB.

8. Adult Redeploy Illinois Website Data

As technical support for the Adult Redeploy Illinois program, planning grants issued by the Adult 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).

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Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board (ARIOB), 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 has provided technical support regarding data interpretation and identification of target populations for participating counties. Staff also worked with IDOC staff to verify the methodology used to determine the corrections information available on the website, so that counties would obtain the same numbers regarding potentially eligible Adult Redeploy participants from either IDOC or the Adult Redeploy website.

9. 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. The report is in executive review and is slated for publication by the end of the year.

10. 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 by the end of the year.

Staff participated in a roundtable discussion on campus crime data quality and usefulness at the Justice Research and Statistics Association annual conference in October.

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

11. 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, and the rights of crime victims are in Executive review and will be available in November. Other still under development are adult pre-trial procedures and the expungement of juvenile records.

12. Juvenile Justice Data Coordination Partnership

Staff participate 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 have 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 has been asked to develop new data reporting form for the Juvenile Redeploy Illinois Program. Staff will also develop the policy around submission of the report. The data reports will be 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 will begin January 2011.

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.

13. 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.

14. 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.

During the last quarter, staff participated in meetings conducted by the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority (IVPA) regarding the next year of funding through state general revenue funds. A final project report on the implementation process of the SNW programs was completed and is in Executive review.

15. 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.

16. 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 gauge 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 2007 report has been updated with 2008 data and will be released in June of 2010 pending DOC's approval. Findings indicate that as a result of the treatment services and aftercare received, those inmates released from Sheridan had a 20 percent lower likelihood of being returned to prison after three years in the community than a statistically similar comparison group released from Illinois' prisons during the same time period. 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. 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 continues through 2010 so that 2009 data may be included. A draft was sent to IDOC for review in October and we anticipate that the report will be made available publically in December.

17. 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. A short extension was processed to all the team to complete data collection and a final report will be due in December 2010.

18. 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 are in progress or near completion.

- *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 was received in September.

- *A Study of Co-occurring Conditions and Treatment Coordination of Jail Detainees.*
Conducted by the University of Illinois at Chicago, this study interviewed approximately 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 identified ways 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 has been reviewed and is available on our web site.
- *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. The report was revised in 2010 and the final version is available on our website.
- *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 delays in obtaining DOC parole data, the project was extended through May 2011. Urban Institute staff received data on May 7 but the project is experiencing delays in enrollment. A further extension into early 2012 is being considered.
- *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. Staff from SIUC presented the findings to Authority staff on April 20 and the final report is now available on our website.

An additional Investigator Initiated Research RFP in the amount of \$150,000 was issued in September 2009. Two projects were selected and began in December 2009.

- *Systematic Evaluation of the Peoria Drug Market Intervention* - Conducted by Southern Illinois University, this project seeks to assess the approach and effectiveness of a strategy to combat open air drug markets in the City of Peoria. The Peoria Police Department (PPD) is in

the process of implementing a proactive policing strategy in response to open-air drug markets in a high crime neighborhood. The PPD more specifically is implementing 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 will assess the implementation and preliminary impact of the effort. A report is due November 30, 2010

- *Growth of Illinois Prison Population and Assessment of Risk and Recidivism Among Prison Releasees* - Conducted by Loyola University, this multi-tiered project will examine trends in prison admissions, end of year populations, and prison exits. Using existing data available from IDOC and CHRI system, the proposed research will examine, 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 will be a specific emphasis on the similarities and differences between female versus male inmates and releasees. The proposed research seeks to further the understanding within Illinois regarding the risk and recidivism of those released from prison, and assess the utility if 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 goal of the research is to examine post-prison recidivism of offenders using the most current and appropriate statistical techniques, while ensuring that the findings and results useful to practitioners and policy makers. A number of presentations have been given on findings to date - most recently a presentation to the annual Justice Research and Statistics Association conference held this past October. The report will be available on our website in the late 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. Redesign of Criminal Justice DataNet

The Authority received continued funding for this project, in the amount of \$68,000, bring the total award to \$126,000 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 June 30, 2011.

Two Flash-based Instant Atlas applications for the Strategic Planning Initiative became live and available for the public. This application will be used as a prototype for upcoming applications to be included in the SAC website. 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. Usability testing will be conducted on a sample of ICJIA staff and likely website users to obtain feedback and refine the application. A more advanced area profile was also prototyped for the Adult Redeploy Initiative to examine multiple indicators at once. Instant Atlas applications were demonstrated at the Strategic Planning Initiative as well as the JRSA annual conference.

Staff redesigned and updated the Illinois Criminal Justice Statistics Fact Sheets with new data and a new template. The goal of the fact sheet is to provide a geographic display of data for the latest year, a trend chart for the past ten years, and summary information related to the specific data being analyzed. The fact sheets are in pdf format and are currently available on the Authority's website: www.icjia.state.il.us. New features on these fact sheets include hyperlinks to data sources as well as improved accessibility and file size.

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 has cleaned the data, has received census data, and is working to clean and combine the data sets.

3. Illinois Juvenile Justice System Walkthrough

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, staff developed a step-by-step walkthrough of the general practices, processes, and procedures of the Illinois juvenile justice system, from arrest through community supervision. The report was sent to an advisory committee around the state including juvenile court judges, attorneys (both private defense attorneys and state's attorneys), police officials, probation officers, and other juvenile justice system experts to review for accuracy. The report was published in August 2010.

4. Elder Abuse Collaboration Technical Assistance

Supported by a grant from the federal government, staff is conducting a process evaluation of 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 is to provide a coordinated response ensuring that victims receive needed services while abusers are held accountable in the criminal justice system. A final report will be completed by the end of the year.

In preparation for the evaluation, staff continues to attend monthly policy team meetings in order to gauge the progress of the project. Metropolitan Family Services will present an outline of this project at the Governor's Conference on Aging December 8-10, 2010. Research continues to be done on reviewing successful multidisciplinary team models dealing with elder abuse, particularly those involving partnerships between police and social service agencies. This project has become a model of successful coordination between R&A staff and the FSGU grant monitor.

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 is nearing completion. The final report will be completed and available in early 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, several new CHRI User Agreements were processed, including those received from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, and the University of Chicago. Since the inception of

the CHRI Ad Hoc Connection Partnership, at least 46 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 those from the Disproportionate Justice Impact Study (DJIS) Commission, Loyola University, University of Chicago, and DuPage County Probation.

Information requests answered using CHRI data. During the last quarter, updating of all non-expunged arrests and associated arrest charges and court dispositions from 1999-2009 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, domestic violence convictions in McHenry County, and a request regarding drug arrests for the DEA.

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.

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 CWHR 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 CWHR Forum, housed on the Authority's web site, currently has 209 members, most of them practitioners or researchers in the field. The CWHR 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.

III. ONGOING ACTIVITIES

A. Briefings/Presentations

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

- On August 16 staff met with executive director of SPAC to discuss ICJIA workplan
- On August 18 and 19, staff participated in Victim Services Planning Ad Hoc committee meetings at the Authority offices.
- On August 20 the IRB forms revision internal working group met to discuss final changes to the IRB forms
- Staff attended a demo of the Illinois State Police I-CASE system at the Authority's offices on August 20.
- Staff attended the August 23 meeting, "Determining Realistic Actions for Transforming Systems & Services for Justice Involved Individuals with Mental Illness" sponsored by the Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Mental Health in Oak Brook.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Elder Abuse Policy Team, part of the Coordinated Response Initiative project, on August 25.
- Staff presented the River Valley Juvenile Detention Center Mental Health Program Evaluation project to the IRB committee on August 25.
- Staff attended the Institutional Review Board (IRB) meeting on August 25 at the Authority's offices and presented information about the River Valley Detention Center Mental health Program Evaluation and review proposed changes to the IRB application.
- On August 26 staff attended the Assessment Tools Workgroup for the DJJ/DCFS merger.
- Staff attended the Juvenile Redeploy Oversight Board meeting on August 27 in Chicago to present the monthly data report that the sites will submit and the policy that goes with it (rules for submitting, consequences for non-compliance, use of the data, etc.).
- Staff met with Steve Karr of IDOC on August 30 at the Authority's office to receive training on use of various correctional data sets.
- Staff conducted a conference call meeting with Kathy Saltmarsh, Executive Director of the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC) on August 30 to discuss the SPAC work plan.
- Staff attended the Risk, Assets, and Needs Assessment (RANA) Task Force meeting in Chicago on September 1.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC) in Chicago on September 2. The research director presented an update on the Risk, Assets, and Needs Assessment (RANA) Task Force.

- Staff traveled to the Kankakee juvenile probation department on September 2 for a data collection meeting and visiting the River Valley Juvenile Detention Center.
- Authority staff presented a review of the Criminal Justice Planning Summit Website at the September 3 Authority Board meeting.
- On September 3, staff attended a meeting of the PROMISE (Partnership to Rescue our Minors from Sexual Exploitation) task force meeting.
- On September 3 staff attended a meeting at IYC-Chicago with Dr. Olson and Dr. Cara Murphy to discuss IDJJ data and research.
- Staff visited the River Valley Juvenile Detention Center on September 7 for a data collection meeting regarding the River Valley Juvenile Detention Center Mental Health Program Evaluation.
- Staff met on September 7 with officials from Protestants for the Common Good to discuss ex-offender employment issues, the impact of drug convictions on employment, and the potential advantages and disadvantages of cannabis decriminalization.
- Staff attended a presentation of findings for the *Evaluation of the Sheridan and Southwestern Illinois Correctional Centers* from Dr. David Olson of Loyola on September 9 at the Sheridan Correctional Center.
- On September 10 staff attended the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board meeting
- On September 14, staff participated in a meeting of the CHRI background Check Task Force, in Downers Grove, IL.
- Staff had a telephone conference with Illinois Department of Corrections officials on September 15 to discuss the access to IDOC automated data files.
- On September 15, staff attended a Sex Trafficking Conference at DePaul University School of Law.
- Staff had a telephone conference with Illinois Department of Corrections officials on September 15 to discuss the access to IDOC automated data files.
- Staff attended the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board meeting on September 16 in Chicago.
- The research director and executive director attended a meeting of the Steering Committee for the Crime Reduction Act and Sentencing Policy Advisory Council on September 16 in Chicago.
- On September 17, staff attended a Juvenile Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board meeting in Chicago.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Disproportionate Justice Impact Study (DJIS) Commission on September 21 in Chicago.
- On September 22, staff presented at Loyola Center for Human Rights national conference on human trafficking.
- Staff participated in the ICJIA Criminal Justice Planning Summit on September 22 and 23.
- On September 27 in Springfield, staff attended the statewide College Town Summit meeting hosted by the Illinois Liquor Control Commission. They provided a summary and handout detailing the campus data available from the U.S. Department of Education on alcohol arrests and referrals for disciplinary action (in-school process), and how these data can be used to gauge the nature and extent of alcohol violations on campuses as well as inform policy and practice.
- Staff met with Chicago Police Department officials on September 28 at CPD headquarters to discuss a proposed evaluation of officer training on Methamphetamine enforcement.
- On September 29 staff met with Dr. Gipsy Escobar and Dr. Dave Olson of Loyola University to discuss the juvenile recidivism study.

- On October 5, staff attended a SPAC Strategic Planning meeting in Chicago.
- The research director and executive director met on October 6 with officials from IDOC and the Risk, Assets, and Needs Assessment (RANA) Task Force to discuss the future funding of assessment tools.
- Staff attended the Safety Net Works Steering Committee meeting on October 7 in Chicago, and providing an update on evaluation efforts.
- On October 12 staff met with First Defense Legal Aid to discuss an evaluation study
- On October 12, staff participated in a conference call with the Models for Change Disproportionate Minority Contact Advisory Committee.
- Staff met with Judge Elizabeth Robb from McLean County on October 13 to discuss analysis of court data.
- On October 15, staff member met with (via phone) with the National Council of La Raza, to discuss juvenile race/ethnicity data in Illinois.
- Staff met with Randall Strickland (the Illinois Models for Change MDC coordinator) on October 18 to discuss data available that would help determine the nature and extent of disproportionality across the juvenile justice system in Illinois.
- Staff attended the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board meeting in Chicago on October 21.
- On October 21 staff attended the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board, Performance measures subcommittee meeting
- Staff attended the Adult Redeploy Oversight Board meeting on October 21 in Chicago.
- Staff met with judges and officials with IDHS Division of Mental Health to discuss developing a Center of Excellence to promote best practices in the criminal justice response to offenders with mental health and substance abuse disorders.
- On October 26, staff attended a meeting of the Illinois CHRI Background Check Taskforce meeting at State Police District 15 Headquarters in Downers Grove.
- Staff attended the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) conference in Maine October 27 – 29. A number of staff presented and hosted round tables on the topics of: Campus Crime Data, SAC / SAA partnerships, and Criminal Justice Data Tools.
- On November 1 staff attended a meeting with the PEW foundation to discuss CBA
- On November 5, staff attended a meeting of the PROMISE (Partnership to Rescue our Minors from Sexual Exploitation) task force meeting.
- Staff attended a meeting of SPAC (Sentencing Policy Advisory Council) on November 5 in Chicago.
- On November 8, staff attended the Juvenile Court Research Consortium at Cook County Juvenile Court in Chicago.
- On November 8 staff attended a meeting with First Defense Legal Aid to discuss their database system
- On November 9, staff attended a meeting of the Illinois CHRI Background Check Taskforce meeting at State Police District 15 Headquarters in Downers Grove.
- On November 9, staff collected data for the Sheridan evaluation project at Stateville Correctional Center.
- Staff attended the RANA Task Force meeting in Chicago November 10.
- Staff attended the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission meeting on November 10 in Chicago.
- Staff attended the Collaborative on Reentry meeting on November 12 in Chicago. The final report of the collaborative was presented, and several report recommendations called for ICJIA staff to

perform analyses. These include a gap analysis of diversion opportunities in the state, a comprehensive system mapping exercise of the Illinois criminal justice system and its diversion opportunities, and a flowchart for the Illinois juvenile justice system.

- Staff attended the meeting of the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board on November 12 in Chicago.
- On November 19, staff attended a Juvenile Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board meeting in Chicago, where the final draft of the monthly report will be discussed.
- Staff met with their legislative lobbyist on November 15 in Chicago to discuss potential legislative action steps that may be included in the statewide criminal justice strategic plan.

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 (21 percent) and private citizens (56 percent). Other requests come from private agencies, researchers, students, news media representatives, legislators and prison inmates. Fifteen percent of the requests originate in the Chicago metropolitan area, and another 35 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 two research reports and XXX Criminal Justice Fact Sheets during the period August through October, 2010. The titles are listed in Appendix A.

Website

The volume of web users has remained at high levels. Using a new website analytics tool (Google Analytics), it was determined that the website had 8,408 new visitors, and that all new and returning visitors viewed 22,156 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 2010 through April 2010.

Table 1
Top Downloaded Publications
August 2010 through October 2010

Publications	Downloads
Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data 2007 Annual Report (December 2009)	10,524
Mental health screening and assessment practices in the Illinois juvenile justice system (March 2010)	7,058
An Evaluation of the Moral Reconciliation Therapy of the Franklin/Jefferson County Evening Reporting Center Program (April 2005)	6,208
Implementing Restorative Justice: A Guide for Schools (October 2009)	4,945
2009 ICJIA Annual Report (March 2009)	4,248
Victimization and help-seeking behaviors among female prisoners in Illinois (April 2010)	4,222
Policies and Procedures of the Illinois Juvenile Justice System (August 2010)	3,693
Illinois College Campus Safety: History and Development of Campus Safety Planning (March 2010)	3,429
Student Perceptions of Campus Safety Initiatives: Assessing Views of Critical Incident Prevention & Response (July 2010)	3,177
The commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth in Illinois (January 2008)	2,591
Examining At-Risk and Delinquent Girls in Illinois (June 2009)	2,155
The Little Village Gang Violence Reduction Project in Chicago (March 2004)	2,078
Trends & Issues 2008 Chapter - Juvenile justice (May 2008)	2,072
PROTOCOL FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT: Responding to Victims of Elder Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation (September 2008)	1,812
Assessing Illinois' Metropolitan Enforcement Groups and Task Forces: A Profile of the South Central Illinois Drug Task Force (March 2004)	1,760
Get The Facts: Juvenile Corrections (June 2010)	1,743
Implementing Balanced and Restorative Justice: A Guide for Juvenile Probation (May 2006)	1,632
Domestic sex trafficking of Chicago women and girls (May 2008)	1,603
A Grant Proposal Guidebook: Planning, Writing and Submitting a Grant Proposal (September 2002)	1,584
Get The Facts: Juvenile Court (March 2010)	1,583
A Study of Co-occurring Health Conditions and Treatment Coordination for Adult Jail Detainees in Residential Psychiatric Treatment (September 2010)	1,553
An Impact Evaluation of Specialized Sex Offender Probation Programs in Coles, Vermilion, and Madison Counties (December 2002)	1,528
Get The Facts: Juvenile Sentencing (June 2010)	1,527
2009 Annual Report: Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council (March 2009)	1,424

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 DASA data, Illinois Board of Education data, and Jail and Detentions Standards data. Staff is also working with research staff within the Illinois Department of

Corrections to document updated juvenile and adult admissions, release and parole data that were received earlier this year.

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

During the last quarter, staff assisted extensively on the development of materials for the VAWA Implementation plan and the VOCA annual report (submitted to the Office of Victims of Crime) Activities included:

- Pulling crime data to determine trends/location/severity of violent crime in Illinois (focus on domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse, and violent crime) (VAWA implementation plan)
- Determining the location of service providers statewide which, in conjunction with the crime data, helps determine needs and gaps in services. (VAWA implementation plan)
- Analyzing program data to show who VOCA programs serve and the services they receive for the VOCA annual report.
- Comparing funding trends with crime trends to determine gaps and the need for services statewide for the VAWA implementation plan.
- Assisting the Associate Director of Research in the development of a presentation on the Illinois SAC/SAA partnership for the JRSA national conference, held in October.

D. Technical Assistance

- As planning an 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 released a CLARIS update that allows the tracking of ISP use of NPLEX (meth purchase tracking software) in their meth lab reduction efforts. The release also makes some technical changes to the method of reporting incidents to EPIC. Another release is in progress to make repository lab bust entry easier for the officers.

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).

Cases occurring in 2010 are in the process of being identified and assessed for eligibility, which will continue throughout the year. Forms are being sent to law enforcement as cases shortly after cases are identified. BJS has officially closed all cases in Illinois for 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, 2003-2006, 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.

Staff has created and launched a SurveyGizmo survey to gain input from participants of the Strategy 2010 Summit Re: Smarter Solutions for Crime Reduction: the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Strategic Planning Initiative, the current surveyed can be viewed at the following website:

http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/strategy2010/survey/Strategy_2010_survey.htm.

3. CJ Dispatch

CJ Dispatch is an e-mailing that we send out to subscribers to announce and highlight ICJIA publications, Request for Proposals for grants that ICJIA administrates, and other newsworthy items. There are currently 2,947 subscribers.

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 textbased 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 have currently beta testing MailChimp an e-mail marketing service 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 *Smarter Solutions for Crime Reduction: The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Strategic Planning Initiative Summit* Website. This website provides details about the ICJIA September 22-23, 2010 Summit an invitation-only, two-day summit in Schiller Park, IL to share local-level strategies with justice and human services professionals for possible replication in Illinois jurisdictions and to identify strategies to inform ICJIAs research, policy, and funding agenda. Visit the Smarter Solutions for Crime Reduction Initiative website

<http://www.icjia.org/strategy2010>.

Staff also created and launched the following interactive data website, *Overview Achieving Maximum Impact: County Prevalence of Justice and Health and Human Services Involvement for the Smarter Solutions for Crime Reduction: The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Strategic Planning Initiative Summit* website.

The Authority recognizes that the drain on resources is experienced most heavily on counties, and maximum impact across the State can only be achieved by addressing local health and justice challenges. To this end, the Authority identified the top quarter (27 counties) of counties with the highest "prevalence" of justice and health and human services involvement. Using available data, the Authority examined nine core indicators in each of the 102 Illinois counties, including:

- Violent Crime Offenses
- Property Crime Offenses
- Drug Crime Arrests
- Percent Indicating Poor Health
- Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health State Hospital Admissions for "Unfit to Stand Trial"
- Domestic Crime Offenses
- Felony Crime Filing
- Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions
- Illinois Department of Corrections Court Commitments

Based on an aggregate score of all nine indicators, twenty-seven counties emerged as being most impacted by crime and related health and human services involvement. View full table for all 27 High Impact Counties and Statewide county comparisons visit the following website at:

<http://www.icjia.org/public/strategy2010/countymap.cfm>

Staff has created and launched the *Adult Redeployed Illinois Website*. The purpose of the Adult Redeploy website is to provide applicants preparing an Adult Redeploy Illinois Local Plan access

to county-level criminal justice data relevant to their planning process. A county profile of demographic factors, criminal justice system indicators, and information on program eligible populations. Staff also created an easy access to county-level data elements that will be useful for preparing the Standard Plan for the Adult Redeploy Illinois Program. There is an interactive County map that displays data which includes county demographics, criminal justice system indicators, and a detailed breakdown of Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) admissions information for suggested "program eligible" individuals, as interpreted by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. It should be noted that these data are provided for planning purposes only. Visit the Adult Redeployed Illinois data website at: website <http://www.icjia.org/redeploy>

Staff has created and launched the *Sentencing Policy Advisory Council Website*. The Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC), created by Illinois Public Act 96-0711, draws on criminal justice information collected by other agencies to explore sentencing issues and practices and how they impact the criminal justice system as a whole. SPAC is charged with objectively informing sentencing and corrections policy decisions. To perform this function, the SPAC is responsible for collecting and analyzing data, conducting correctional population projections based on simulation models, and producing fiscal impact statements for the legislature. In addition, SPAC is charged with ensuring that effective evidence-based practices are used in policy decisions and within the criminal justice system. SPAC will report in writing annually to the General Assembly, the Governor and the Supreme Court. Visit the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council website at <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/index.cfm?metasection=spac>.

Staff has created and launched the *College Campus Safety Resource Center Website*. The purpose of this website is to showcase the availability of the first in a series of reports on college crime and safety issues, *Issues in Illinois College Campus Safety: History and Development of Campus Safety Planning*. Other reports on the topic of college crime and safety issues are also highlighted. Visit the College Campus Safety Resource website at <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/index.cfm?metaSection=Publications&metapage=campuscrimehome>.

Staff is currently developing 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 has also created and launched the *Illinois County Queries Website*. The Illinois County Queries Data Center is an interactive enabled website clearinghouse of criminal justice statistics about Illinois counties. These statistics can be used to go research broad issues facing the criminal justice system or to simply examine crime problems in the 102 county regional areas of Illinois. This webpage will be an upgrade to the CJ DataNet and will the part of the Illinois Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) Website. Visit the website at: http://www.icjia.org/public/sac/cq_test2.cfm

Staff is currently developing a new redesign of the Illinois Integrated Justice Information System (IIJIS) Website to enhance web access to further the mission of the IIJIS Implementation Board. IIJIS 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.

Staff also will be developing a new redesign of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority main public website and associate websites (Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council website, InfoNet website, and the Capital Punishment Reform Study Committee website).

G. Authority's Institutional Review Board (IRB)

Staff received Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval August 25 to begin work on an evaluation of the River Valley Detention Center mental health assessment and treatment services. The IRB also approved changes to the IRB Approval Application, Renewal Request, and Amendment Application. These new forms were developed by staff. The purpose of these revisions and modifications is to provide a clearer and more streamlined process for IRB review. The two revised forms are the initial IRB application and the renewal application. The new form is for amendments to the original IRB approval.

Initial IRB application

The initial IRB application was revised to clarify some form questions, combine others, and streamline the components for easier reading. The proposed form utilizes components from existing university IRB applications and these components were modified to fit the needs of the Authority. The proposed form was also vetted to ensure it followed protocols outlined in the *Code of Federal Regulations* regarding research involving human subjects.

IRB renewal application

The renewal application was modified to mirror the proposed changes to the initial application. It begins with a brief project summary and then requests answers to: amendments made, subject recruitment and retention, special populations, and written consent.

IRB amendment application

The IRB amendment application is a newly created form. This form covers any substantive changes to the approved research that might affect previously approved components, including changing investigators or project staff, or project start or end dates. This form emulates the proposed initial application form and is split into nine sections: investigator changes; protocol changes; consent procedures; consent documents; project sites and study participants; changes in confidentiality, privacy or security; funding or sponsorship; start or end dates; or changes not otherwise specified. A final section asks all requests for amendments to complete a risk/benefits assessment.

IV. GRANT PROPOSALS

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

- A proposal to BJS regarding an SJS grant to further enhance the Authority's website, in the amount of \$68,000, was awarded in August 2010.

V. CONTINUING STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

- Staff attended free on-line training sessions to learn ARC-GIS software for the creation of statistical maps.
- Staff attended a Webinar hosted by NCJA on Evidenced based practices.
- Staff toured Stateville Prison, as part of the Sentencing Policy Analysis Council (SPAC) initiative.

VI. AWARDS

Two Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority publications were honored with awards from the Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA). The Authority received Phillip Hoke Awards for Excellence in Analysis in the area of Statistical/Management for its *Juvenile Justice System & Risk Factor Data 2007 Annual Report*, written by Research Analyst Lindsay Bostwick, and in the area of Research/Policy Analysis for *Victimization and Help-Seeking Behaviors Among Female Prisoners in Illinois*, a report by Senior Research Analyst Jessica Reichert, and research analysts Sharyn Adams and Lindsay Bostwick. The Hoke Award recognizes outstanding efforts to apply empirical analysis to criminal justice policymaking in the states. JRSA is a national organization of state criminal justice planning and research agencies.

VII. 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: Jack Cutrone
Hank Anthony

Appendix A – Most recent publications

RESEARCH REPORTS

Research Report: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Victimization among Adult Female Inmates in the Illinois Department of Corrections (11/10)

Research Report: A Study of Co-occurring Health Conditions and Treatment Coordination for Adult Jail Detainees in Residential Psychiatric Treatment (9/2010)

Research Report: Policies and Procedures of the Illinois Juvenile Justice System (8/2010)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATSTICAL FACT SHEETS

Violent Offense Trends Fact Sheet

Property Offense Trends Fact Sheet

Index Offense Trends Fact Sheet

Violent Arrest Trends Fact Sheet

Property Arrest Trends Fact Sheet

Index Arrest Trends Fact Sheet

Drug Arrest Trends Fact Sheet

Drug Treatment Admissions Trends Fact Sheet

Elder Abuse Trends Fact Sheet

Domestic Violence Trends Fact Sheet

Criminal Case Filings Trends Fact Sheet

Adult Probation Trends Fact Sheet

Appendix B – Information Request Handling Statistics

July 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010

ITEM	REQUESTS/Pct
Number of information requests handled:	57
Monthly average number of requests:	19
Geographic origin of requesters:	
Chicago metropolitan area	23%
Other region of Illinois	32%
U.S. other than Illinois	18%
Outside the U.S.	0%
Unknown	28%
Type of requester:	
Government agency	19%
Private agency	16%
Researcher	2%
Student	9%
Citizen	53%
Media	2%
Legislators	0%
Inmates	0%
Method of request:	
Telephone/fax	40%
Mail	0%
Email/Internet	40%
In-person	2%
ICJIA Website	18%

Appendix C
www.icjia.state.il.us
August 1, 2010 through October 31, 2010
Google Analytics

Months	Visitors			Page Views			
	Total Visits	New Visitors	Returning Visitors	All Visit Page Views	Page Views New Visits	Page Views Return Visits	Average Page Views
Aug-10	9,414	7,475	1,939	19,951	14,757	5,194	2.12
Sep-10	9,033	7,311	1,722	18,624	14,616	4,008	2.06
Oct-10	9,516	7,834	1,682	19,898	15,560	4,338	2.09
TOTAL	27,963	22,620	1,781	58,473	44,933	13,540	2.09
MONTHLY AVERAGE	9,321	7,540	1,781	19,491	14,978	4,513	2.09