



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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To: Authority Members

From: Mark Myrent, Associate Director
Research and Analysis Unit

Date: February 18, 2010

Re: Research and Analysis Unit Report for the March 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. Smarter Solutions for Crime Reduction: The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Strategic Planning Initiative

In November 2009, ICJIA initiated plans to convene a large group of criminal justice professionals, lawmakers, and policymakers from across Illinois at a September 2010 Criminal Justice Planning Summit. At this two-day event, ICJIA will review current challenges in the adult justice system based on the experiences of policymakers, practitioners, and others in the field, and on the latest research. Participants will then identify 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.

ICJIA is partnering 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.

ICJIA has initiated 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. ICJIA also is collecting 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.

The summit, and subsequent working sessions, will energize the justice community to contribute innovative ideas and partnership and planning principles that will reduce crime and improve public health and safety in urban, rural, and suburban jurisdictions across Illinois. It is hoped that this effort 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. In the end, this important initiative will result in a coordinated statewide, data-driven strategic approach to crime reduction and justice system investment.

B. Will County River Valley Detention Center (RVDC) Impact Evaluation

The Will County River Valley Detention Center is a Nationally Accredited 102 bed Juvenile Detention Center located in Joliet, Illinois. Developed as a joint venture between Will and Kankakee Counties, RVDC is a temporary placement center for juveniles, between the ages of ten and sixteen, 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. Admitted juveniles participate in a juvenile education program and are provided services mental health needs services based on evaluations.

ICJIA Research and Analysis Staff will work with program staff to develop the evaluation plan, including benchmarks and outcome measures, to conduct an impact evaluation to measure the extent to which programming within the RVDC resulted in a decrease in reoffending and readmission into the facility, and to contextualize the findings based on the data analysis.

C. 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 staff are working with the AROIB to draft the required standard planning document and ensuring the incorporation of existing legislated alternatives to incarceration programs in Illinois.

D. Adult Redeploy Illinois Website Data

As technical support for the upcoming Adult Redeploy Illinois program planning grant invitations to be issued by the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board, staff has developed a new website to simplify and standardize access to county-level data required for the planning process. It is anticipated that counties and judicial circuits interested in implementing Adult Redeploy Illinois pilot programs will use the county census and criminal justice system data available through the Authority's website to guide their identification of target populations eligible for the program, and a starting point for the community corrections and service gap analysis to be conducted in the planning process. Data for each county will be available as print-friendly PDFs and downloadable spreadsheets.

E. 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).

The recommendation for creating a Sentencing Policy Advisory Council (SPAC) came out of the work of the CLEAR Commission, which conducted a Criminal Code and Code of Corrections line-by-line edit of the Codes for better clarity and fairness. In their examination of the issue, it became evident that there are not enough regular sentencing data readily available to permit a timely and comprehensive analysis of the impact of sentencing in Illinois.

ICJIA Research & Analysis Staff will be assisting the SPAC in reviewing sentencing policies and practices and examine how these policies and practices impact the cost and management of the Illinois criminal justice system. Additionally, ICJIA will provide technical assistance to SPAC on the collection and reporting of criminal justice data and in conducting a gap analysis related to data these issues.

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

The Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) is an evidence-based practice for training law enforcement personnel in crisis de-escalation for individuals who are in mental health crisis. The philosophy of the program is that law enforcement's and citizen's public safety is enhanced when officers understand the signs and symptoms of mental illness and have the skills to safely and securely diffuse a crisis situation.

Although CIT is an established evidence-based practice when intervening with adults, the juvenile CIT model has not been implemented or assessed for fidelity. Therefore, ICJIA research and analysis staff will work in partnership with NAMI and CPD to craft a juvenile CIT pre- and post-test to assess the extent to which the training curriculum is administered as drafted; to assess participant's pre- and post-training knowledge, awareness, perceptions, and intentionality related to juveniles with serious mental disturbances; and to convey the findings to NAMI and CPD in a way that allows them to improve and enhance their training practices. This assessment offers ICJIA the opportunity to develop a new evidence-based training strategy for law enforcement that can be generalized and replicated to other police departments in Illinois and nationally.

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. Training and preliminary analyses are being conducted on the yearly CHRI data sets to develop the final audit proposal. 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).

Staff attended a training conducted by the Illinois State Police Bureau of Identification on February 4th, to learn about current CHRI processing procedures. Similar training regarding Automated (court) Disposition Reporting system will be requested from the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts (AOIC). It is anticipated that the audit proposal will be finalized and submitted to the State Police during March, with actual data collection and analysis to begin shortly afterwards.

H. Redesign of Criminal Justice DataNet

The Authority received \$58,000 in funding from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) to enhance web access and on-line presentation formats of the Authority's holdings of criminal justice and social risk factor data. An added feature of the project is enhancements to the

Federal Deaths in Custody Reporting process conducted by the Authority on behalf of Illinois law enforcement agencies.

During the last quarter, staff participated in a live video demonstration of the *InstantAtlas* mapping and graphing software product hosted by the developers in Scotland. It was determined that this product meets all of the project's technical needs at a considerable cost savings from the originally considered ArcGIS Server software. The Authority is in the process of procuring the software, which is also believed to enable substantial cost savings in the long run due to discontinuing elements and licenses of other software and a large reduction in the eventual programming required for deployment to the website.

At the same time, prototype templates of county level criminal justice data maps and graphs have been prepared using a free trial version. These will be posted on the Authority's website once the software is purchased. The templates that are part of the *InstantAtlas* product will allow on-line users (and Authority staff) to access the Authority's holdings of criminal justice data to create county maps and explore relationships among the various data sets. Staff is also developing an SQL database that will allow on-line users to generate answers more specific questions, such as, "which county has the highest violent crime rate?" The data holdings are also being prepared into spreadsheets that can be downloaded directly from the website, to allow users to perform their own analyses.

In tandem with this project, staff is also re-evaluating the Authority's current website, particularly with respect to the publications and data offerings. A web page specifically dedicated to the Research & Analysis Unit in its role as a State Statistical Center (SAC) is also being developed with the assistance of the Authority's webmaster and public information officer. This may become part of a second proposal to BJS for an additional SJS grant. A proposal to further enhance the Authority's data offerings on its website will be submitted mid-March.

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

Staff is working on 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 slated for completion in March.

J. 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, is in final review and will be published on the Authority’s website by the end of February. A second report, *Trends in Illinois Campus Crime at Four Year Colleges, 2005-2008*, is also being finalized and should be published by the end of March. In addition, staff is working on a 6-year trend analysis of campus crime among 2 and 4-year universities/colleges. Using the on-line Clery Act data submitted by each university/college, staff is analyzing the data to determine trends in the number of reported campus crimes occurring across Illinois universities/colleges. The report is slated for completion later this spring.

Other reports in the series include: arrests and referrals for school disciplinary action for weapons, drugs and alcohol offenses; and hate crime reported on college campuses.

K. Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice Recidivism study

Staff submitted a research proposal on recidivism for juveniles admitted to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice to the American Statistical Association/Bureau of Justice Statistics Small Grants program. This study will employ survival analysis techniques to examine the time between release from IDJJ custody and occurrences of recidivism. Recidivism will be measured both through readmission to 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. The study has already been presented to the Authority’s Institutional Review Board for approval. Notification of an award should be received in April.

L. Get the Facts

Staff are working to update 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 first publication of the series, juvenile arrests, was completed in December 2009. The second publication, juvenile pre-trial, was published in January 2010. The third publication in the series, juvenile court system, is in review and will be available February 2010.

M. 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, alternate private funding is now being sought for the study, and staff have begun to construct the data collection tools for the inventory.

N. Study of the Costs of the Illinois Death Penalty

Illinois Senate Resolution No. 297, which was also recently signed into law, directs the Authority to conduct a study of the costs of the death penalty in Illinois, including but not limited to the costs of seeking the death penalty, the costs of a capital trial, the costs of appeals, the costs of incarceration, and the costs of execution. In addition, the study is to provide parallel costs associated with sentencing persons convicted of first degree murder to life imprisonment, so as to provide a direct cost comparison on the same level of detail as the costs of the death penalty. This research is contingent on receipt of a state funding appropriation, which was not passed, Authority staff have begun, nonetheless, to prepare a preliminary outline of the scope of such a study, pending additional staffing resources. Staff are currently reviewing similar studies that have been carried out in other states – recording both the results of these studies as well as the cost estimation methodologies employed. It is anticipated that this preliminary exercise will yield summary findings of death penalty costs that may be somewhat comparable to those in Illinois while, at the same time providing a base of knowledge for determining the scope of work possible under varying funding scenarios. Funding for this work is being sought during the Fall 2009 Veto Session of the Illinois Legislature. If this funding is secured, a preliminary report on the average costs per capital case will be prepared for the Spring 2010 Session, with a final report due in Fall 2010.

O. Juvenile Justice Data Coordination Partnership

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

Data repository template. During discussions at meetings, it was determined that a data template, or a standardized local criminal justice data and risk factor analysis and graphical presentation tool, is needed in order to help local practitioners better understand the communities in which they work in

and the people with whom they work. As a result of numerous calls for technical assistance regarding proper data analysis as well as discussions within the various initiatives, it was determined that a uniform data template was something those participating in initiatives would benefit from.

During the last quarter the data template was modified by R&A staff with assistance from staff through the Juvenile Justice Initiative, the Pathways partners group and the Models for Change/DMC committee. Discussions at Pathways Group meetings have focused on the distribution and implementation of the template, as well as the need for technical assistance and training. Staff from the Illinois Department of Human Services has volunteered trainers to facilitate distribution and training on the data template once it is approved. Authority staff will assist in developing on-line training modules using Adobe Connect software to assist in this state-wide training effort. By the time this template is in wide use, over a third of the state will be using this tool for consistent data collection methods. The ultimate goal is to have it implemented statewide.

P. 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, 10 substantial requests for juvenile justice data and information were received and processed.

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

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

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

The IRB approved the initial application in June 2008. After lengthy negotiations with Authority legal counsel, IDOC legal counsel, and the IRB on the language in the consent form, the project restarted in January 2009. Staff finished the interviews and reviewing prison case files in June 2009. Staff have completed data analysis and have written the findings in a final report. A draft of the report has been reviewed by advisors and will be finalized in late February/early March 2010.

2. Safety Net Works – Implementation Evaluation

Authority staff has been evaluating the implementation of the Safety Net Works Initiative, a violence prevention and youth development program currently taking place across 14 community areas in Illinois. The primary purpose of this implementation evaluation will be to assess the extent to which project implementation is conducted in accordance with pre-operational expectations; to document the progress and limitations of the program's implementation; to provide recommendations and guide refinement of the project; and to inform and guide similar undertakings. Sources of data for the evaluation include surveys, interviews, meeting observations, and implementation and progress reports submitted by the sites.

The implementation evaluation is focusing on practical, management-oriented issues, as well as interpersonal and group dynamics. The methodology will include assessments of program set-up and development, the nature and extent of collaboration among participating agencies and organizations, program operations and service delivery and change since the beginning of the initiative. Each of the 14 sites is being evaluated on their program setup, collaboration, and service delivery to the target population.

A telephone interview protocol to be conducted with a total of 42 participants (program directors, coordinators and another partner entity at each of 14 sites) has been approved by the Authority's Institutional Review Board. Interviews are being scheduled. The information gathered will be used to provide context for all the other data collected on the project. A report to each site and a final project report will be completed this spring.

3. Elder Abuse Collaboration Technical Assistance

Supported by a grant from the federal government, staff is conducting a process evaluation of a 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 Office of Public Guardian, 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. ICJIA staff is in the process of writing an IRB application for the research proposed in the evaluation (including interviews).

4. Trends and Issues Updates

Trends & Issues Update reports are being drafted to highlight specific topics introduced in the main document include: drug crime trends in Illinois and nationally; trends in violent crime; and trends in offenses against school personnel. These are scheduled for publication in the spring.

5. 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 is currently under review. 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 will continue through August 2010 so that 2009 data may be included.

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

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

A one-year follow-up study to further assess the impact of the program began in January 2008. The report addresses whether the program reduced recidivism, and assisted the women in obtaining employment, housing, food and childcare. The study also focused on the third service provider that the program enlisted. Findings show that those in the program are more likely to receive services and referrals, including mental health services and employment services. While there were little differences in some outcome aspects between the women in the program and a control group, those in the program were less likely to have had a violation of probation filed or have their probation revoked. The final report will be made available on the website early spring 2010.

7. Capital Punishment Reform Study Committee

Loyola University Chicago was selected to continue research and conduct a survey regarding capital punishment in Illinois for the Capital Punishment Reform Study Committee. Work on this project began in October 2008 and a renewal to continue work was signed in October 2009. A final report will be available in June 2010.

8. 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 final report will be due in September 2010.

9. 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 edits have been sent on the final report.

- *A Study of Co-occurring Conditions and Treatment Coordination of Jail Detainees.* Conducted by the University of Illinois at Chicago, this study will select and interview 300 adult male and 150 adult female detainees in the psychiatric residential treatment units at the Cook County Department of Corrections jail facility. The project will seek to better understand the needs of this high-risk and resource-intensive population and provide a basis for developing better coordinated systems of care within the jail, community and transition to prison for those sentenced detainees. The final report has been reviewed and will be placed on our website in Spring 2010.
- *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. The project term is June 2009 thru May 2010.
- *Assessing Views of Critical Incident Prevention and Response* – Conducted by Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, this project will determine the attitudes and perceptions of students regarding campus safety initiatives and campus preparedness for critical incidents. The study will conduct surveys of students in six Illinois campuses regarding the perceived likelihood of an incident occurring, fear of incidents and past exposure to types of incidents or offenses. A meeting was held in August to discuss the methodology and survey design. The project term is June 2009 through May 2010.

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 September 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 are useful to practitioners and policy makers.

B. Program evaluation and research projects/ externally funded

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

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

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, the 2007 Annual Report, a compilation of county-level juvenile justice system and risk factor data, is complete. Like the 2006 report, this version also summarizes recent trends in these data over time and discusses emerging juvenile justice system issues in Illinois, including Balanced and Restorative Justice, the Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, Disproportionate Minority Contact, and Redeploy Illinois.

The report was published in December 2009. Two hundred copies of the report will be printed for distribution.

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

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, staff is currently working on a report of the results of a survey of the mental health screening and assessment practices in the Illinois juvenile justice system. The goal of the project is to determine what screening and assessment tools

are being used by whom, and at what point in the system. These data were gathered through a survey of all juvenile detention centers, juvenile probation and court service offices, juvenile correctional facilities, and the Juvenile Officers Association. The survey received a 59 percent response rate. This research will prove useful to juvenile justice practitioners, community-based mental health providers, and researchers who want to explore further the issue of screening and assessment in Illinois. In addition, it will guide them in the selection of the most current and appropriate tools for their facilities. Furthermore, the results of the study will inform future research in the area of mental health and juvenile justice.

A draft of this report is in review and a final report is expected to be available on the website March 2010.

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. Edits from these reviewers have been made an updated version of the report has been sent to external reviewers. The final report is expected to be submitted for review in March 2010.

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

In March of 2005, ICJIA research staff entered into a three-year cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) in the amount of \$194,232 to evaluate Illinois' Evidenced-Based Practices (EBP) Initiative. This project will assist local probation departments participating in the EBP Initiative by providing them with data and analysis that gauges performance before and during the implementation of evidence-based practices, and will establish a process and protocol for ongoing assessment of probation performance through an effective state and local partnership. All three waves of data collection (years 2002, 2005 and 2006) have been completed in all six participating counties: Lake, DuPage, Adams, Cook, Sangamon and the 2nd Judicial Circuit. Data analysis is currently being conducted and work on a draft final report has begun. The final report will be completed in Spring 2010.

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 1990-2007 has been created in formats that can be readily shared with researchers. This Archive currently holds close to a million records for each year of data.

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

During the last quarter, several CHRI User Agreements were processed, including those received from Mathematica, Inc., Loyola University, and the University of Cincinnati. Since the inception of the CHRI Ad Hoc Connection Partnership, a total of at least 40 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 Carnegie-Mellon University, MDRC, Loyola University, and the Disproportionate Justice Impact Study (DJIS) Commission.

Information requests answered using CHRI data. During the last quarter, all non-expunged arrests and associated arrest charges and court dispositions from 1999-2008 were loaded into a new SQL Server database to provide an immediate querying capability for these arrests, dispositions, and charges covering the entire ten year period. In combination with CHRI data already stored in SPSS files, these data were used to answer several media requests for criminal justice statistics.

A request for conviction data regarding drug possession was requested by the Illinois Department of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (DASA) for an impact analysis of HB 4678., as well as inquiries regarding the use of Illinois' identity theft statute, cyber-stalking statute, and aggravated transmission of HIV statute.

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. A paper on “Strangulation” was accepted for publication in *Violence Against Women* journal.

E. Chicago Women's Health Risk Study

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

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

III. ONGOING ACTIVITIES

A. Briefings/Presentations

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

- On November 10, staff attended a meeting of the Illinois Violent Deaths Reporting System (IVDRS) Advisory Committee in Chicago.
- On November 17, staff attended a meeting of the LEADS Advisory Policy Board, in Joliet.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Collaboration on Offender Reentry, Alternatives to Incarceration Committee on December 4 in Chicago.
- On December 4, staff presented "Prior victimization of incarcerated women in Illinois" to the Authority Quarterly Board meeting.
- Staff attended a meeting on December 4 with Models for Change sites and administrators regarding juvenile domestic violence data housed by the Authority to help determine the nature and extent of juveniles being charged with domestic-related offenses.
- Staff attended the 8th Annual Policy Conference of the Council of Advisors to Reduce Recidivism through Employment (CARRE) on December 7 in Chicago, hosted by the Safer Foundation at the UIC Forum.
- Staff attended the NCJA Workshop on Evidence Based Policy and Practice in Washington DC on December 9.
- Staff attended a site visit December 9 to the Cook County State's Attorney's office to discuss the services they provide and how those services should be counted on their monthly data reports.

- The assistant research director attended the NCJA conference on December 9 in Washington, DC with the executive director to identify additional themes and programs for the Fall 2010 criminal justice planning summit.
- Staff met at the Cook County Public Defender's Office on December 10 with Linda Utal and Miquel Lewis to discuss the CHRI data on juvenile warrants.
- On December 10, staff participated in a conference call to discuss edits to the *Illinois Juvenile Justice System: Procedures and processes* report with State's Attorney Tom Bilyk, Judge John Payne, and Judge George Timberlake.
- The research director and staff attended a meeting at Loyola University Chicago on December 11 to discuss the impending interviews with offenders who have violated terms of their release from Sheridan Prison Therapeutic Community.
- Staff continued to define the format and structure of the Fall 2010 criminal justice planning summit through an advisory meeting that was held on January 12.
- On December 12, staff attended and presented at the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission meeting.
- Staff participated in a web-based demo of Instant Atlas software on December 14.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Illinois Advisory Council on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependency on December 16 in Chicago.
- Staff attended the Collaborative on Reentry quarterly meeting on December 16 in Chicago to hear reports and recommendations regarding juvenile reentry. Staff developed juvenile justice data materials for presentation at the meeting.
- The research director met with officials from Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC) on December 17 at the Authority's offices to discuss research on disproportionate minority contact.
- Staff met with researchers from Southern Illinois University December 17 at the Authority's Offices to discuss an evaluation of Peoria Drug Market Intervention that is funded by the Authority.
- Staff attended the Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board meeting on December 18 in Chicago to discuss the Redeploy annual report.
- On January 7, staff hosted a meeting with Dr. Magnus Seng from Loyola University regarding availability of campus crime data. He was provided with updated I-UCR data.
- Staff attended a meeting with the Executive Director of the Chicago Council of Lawyers on January 11 to discuss diversion programs in Cook County.
- On January 12, staff participated in a Models for Change, DMC data committee meeting at Loyola University.
- Staff met with officials from IDOC, Loyola, and the Illinois Parole Board on January 15 to discuss the data needs for a study contracted by the Authority to study factors that predict recidivism by prison releases.
- A teleconference call was held January 19 with officials from NCJA to discuss technical assistance they can provide for the 2010 criminal justice planning summit.
- The research director and assistant research director attended the first meeting of the Illinois Sentencing Policy Advisory Council meeting on January 19 at the Authority's offices.
- Staff attended a meeting of the elder abuse pilot program, the Coordinated Response Initiative – Practice Team, on January 21 in Chicago. This is a pilot program where elder abuse service

providers, the Chicago Police Department, and other agencies are trying to provide a coordinated response to victims of elder abuse.

- Staff participated in a conference call with JRSA and BJS on January 22, to determine if Illinois can assist in a nation-wide recidivism study using individual states' criminal history records.
- Staff attended the Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board meeting on January 26 in Chicago at the DHS building.
- On January 27, staff met with the Juvenile Justice Initiative to discuss a final report to be written regarding public defenders and the new law requiring the presence of attorneys at detention hearings. Discussions were held with public defenders in 12 counties to identify the barriers that prevent suggesting appropriate alternatives to detention. Staff attended a lecture event on January 27 at the Adler School in Chicago on measuring police behavior.
- Staff coordinated and attended the Authority's IRB meeting scheduled on January 28 at the Authority offices.
- On January 28, staff attended a meeting with the technical staff at IDOC, to discuss data reporting issues and future upgrades to their MIS infrastructure.
- On January 29, staff attended the first meeting of the Adult Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board in Chicago.
- Staff presented project material at the Authority's Institutional Review Board (IRB) meeting on January 28 to review human subject protection issues associated with two new projects: "The Sheridan Correctional Center National Drug Prison and Re-entry Therapeutic Community Recidivism Study" and "A Detailed Examination of Juvenile Offender Recidivism".
- Staff contacted officials of the River Valley Detention Center on February 2 to commence an evaluation of their mental health assessment and treatment services.
- Staff attended a training at the Illinois State Police, Bureau of Identification in Joliet on February 4 on the compilation of criminal history record information.
- Staff hosted a meeting of the Criminal Justice Planning Summit Policy Group on February 10 at the Authority's offices.
- On February 16, staff participated in a Models for Change, DMC full committee meeting. at Loyola University.
- On February 16, staff participated in a call with Cook County Juvenile Probation, to discuss the collection of outcome measures in their data collection system.
- On February 17, staff attended the second Adult Redeploy Oversight Board meeting in Chicago.
- Staff held a phone conference with officials from the Illinois State Police to discuss law enforcement information sharing needs as a Planning Summit topic, and the role of I-CLEAR and I-CASE.

Additionally, staff conducted the following interviews with criminal justice professionals to solicit input on important themes for consideration for the 2010 Criminal Justice Planning Summit:

- 1/5/10: Judge Kathy Elliot, Kankakee County Domestic Violence Court
- 1/6/10: Judge Clark Erickson, Kankakee County Circuit Court
- 1/8/10: Carol Brook, President, Illinois Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- 1/8/10: Angela Ramage-Wolf, Director, Illinois Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- 1/11/10: Judge Janet Holmgren, Winnebago County Mental Health Court
- 1/11/10: Michelle Rock, Chair, Illinois Mental Health Court Association

- 1/13/10: Michael Freda, Director, Robert Young Center, Rock Island
- 1/14/10: Alicia Kusiak, Director of Adult Criminal Justice Services in Cook County, TASC
- 1/14/10: Judge John Hauptman, 14th Judicial Court
- 1/14/10: Becky Jansen, Circuit Clerk, Effingham County Circuit Court
- 1/20/10: Chief Eric Smith, Sherman, IL Police Department
- 1/21/10: Michael Pelletier, State Appellate Defender
- 1/22/10: Sheriff Gib Cady, President, Illinois Sheriff's Association
- 1/22/10: Frank Morelli, President, Illinois Court Services and Probation Association
- 1/26/10: David Beery, Chief of Probation, DeWitt County Probation
- 1/27/10: Sara Howe, CEO, Illinois Alcohol and Drug Dependence Association
- 1/28/10: Rachel Johnston, Director, Chicago Police Department, Research and Development Division
- 2/3/10: Anderson Freeman, Director of Forensic Services, Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health
- 2/3/10: Kathy Nee, Manager, Jail DataLink Project, Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health
- 2/5/10: Col. Greg Muller, ICLEAR, Illinois State Police
- 2/5/10: Boyd Butler, ICLEAR, Illinois State Police
- 2/8/10: M/Sgt. Joe Beliveau , Director Metropolitan Enforcement Group Southwestern Illinois (MEGSI), Illinois State Police
- 2/8/10: M/Sgt. John Biffany, Commander State Line Area Narcotics Task Force, Illinois State Police

B. Criminal Justice Information Clearinghouse

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

Many requests continue to come from government agencies (49 percent) and private citizens (28 percent). Other requests come from private agencies, researchers, students, news media representatives, legislators and prison inmates. Thirty percent of the requests originate in the Chicago metropolitan area, and another 36 percent originate in other states. All other requests for information were received from Illinois outside the Chicago metropolitan region, outside the United States, or unknown origin.

R&A published two research reports from staff and external researchers under contract to conduct research projects for the Authority during the first quarter of SFY 10 (July-September, 2009). The titles are listed in Appendix A. The volume of web users has remained at high levels. During this time period, there were 2,155,445 "hits" on our website and more than 82,229 visitors that remained

on the site for a period of time. There were 317,270 downloads of information or publications, a ten percent increase over the last quarter (*Table 2*). 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 October 2009 through January 2010.

**Top Downloaded Publications
October 2009 through January 2010**

Publication	Total Downloaded
Implementing restorative justice: A guide for schools (October, 2009)	10,146
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (January, 2008)	6,456
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Annual Report FY 2008 (April, 2009)	6,329
Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data 2007 Annual Report (December 2009)	6,130
Trends & Issues 2008 – Juvenile Justice Chapter (May, 2008)	3,635
Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data 2006 Annual Report (September 2009)	3,496
Cook County Profile of the Juvenile Justice and Risk Factors (March, 2003)	3,364
Trends & Issues 2008 – Juvenile Justice Chapter (May, 2008)	3,020
Implementing restorative justice: A guide of juvenile probation (May, 2006)	1,753
Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Annual Report 2008 (April, 2009)	2,194
Examining at-risk and delinquent girls in Illinois (May, 2009)	2,139
Domestic sex trafficking of Chicago women and girls (May, 2008)	1,931
Methamphetamine and violence in Illinois (June 2009)	1,855

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, in order to produce the CJ DataNet JUST THE FACTS web pages. Staff also began work on a comprehensive inventory and examination of sources of drug statistics and information, at the state, national, and international levels. This will result in several publications, including a *Trends & Issues Update*, and a report on drug data availability from various perspectives, spanning from surveys of drug usage in the general population to federal prosecution in Illinois of

high level drug traffickers. Gaps in knowledge will be highlighted, to inform future funding for data collection systems. Staff is also working with research staff within the Illinois Department of Corrections to receive updated juvenile and adult admissions, release and parole data.

During October, the Illinois State Police released the 2008 Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting (I-UCR) program data. Staff will begin updating data tables with the new offenses, arrests and population figures. In addition, staff have begun work on a Hate Crime Fact Sheet and Research Bulletin focused on I-UCR Supplemental Data. Refreshed data on all I-UCR Supplemental datasets (Hate Crimes, Crimes Against Children, Domestic Violence, and Crimes Against School Personnel) were received for the period 2005-2008. Other datasets acquired include drug seizures and submissions, elder abuse and jail average daily populations.

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; attend 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, the following partnership activities were conducted:

- On February 9, staff conducted a site visit to the Cook County State's Attorney's office, to conduct training on how to accurately complete monthly data reports.
- On February 11, staff conducted a site visit to the child advocacy center in Maywood to discuss discrepancies between their own system and those in the Authority's in-house Grants Information System.
- Staff developed the web-based online application form for the Authority's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (ARRA-JAG) Planning, Evaluation and Technology RFP application.
- Staff finalized data for the 2009 Annual S.T.O.P. VAWA Report.
- Staff reviewed the ARRA-VAWA applications and worked with FSGU staff and grantees regarding goals and objectives, making sure they are measurable.
- Staff trained new FSGU staff on data submissions and how to correct red flag items.

D. Technical Assistance

- Staff provided data analysis assistance to the IIJIS Project Manager regarding the IIJIS Survey response rates and open-ended responses regarding integration plans and needs.
- Staff provided an analysis of Cook County supplemental I-UCR domestic violence data for those under age 17 to Rick Valasquez,
- Staff from the Authority and others from the Juvenile Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board spent time this quarter compiling the Juvenile Redeploy Illinois Annual Report. Authority staff was responsible for analyzing Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice data, as well as providing feedback for other sections of the report.
- Staff analyzed and provided data on detention quarterly admissions to Models for Change for presentations.
- Staff provided and analyzed data on detention and corrections admissions to the National Center for Juvenile Justice.
- Staff continues to analyze and provide data to various State juvenile justice initiatives.
- Staff reviewed a background paper for the Chicago Taskforce on Violence against Girls and Young Women.
- 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 worked with staff from the office of IL Sen. John Cullerton to finalize language for the trailer bill SB 2109, which directs the Authority to oversee an inventory of employment restrictions for ex-offenders based on criminal history records.
- Staff began providing contractual research support for the Sentencing Policy Advisory Council.

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).

Summary data on death in law enforcement custody for the year of 2008 was submitted to BJS in July of 2009. Approval for the 2009 reporting form and eligibility was received in January and Authority staff has sent out all 2009 forms to law enforcement agencies to completion in early February. 2010 cases are also in the process of being identified and assessed for eligibility, which will continue throughout the year. 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 will be designed to facilitate reporting from law enforcement agencies, and a survey and/or information memo will be developed to determine a more efficient way to identify appropriate cases and collect medical examiner data on these incidents, including cause of death. Staff are examining the efficacy of using medical examiners as initial case identification partners over law enforcement.

F. Web-based applications

1. Adobe Acrobat Connect

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

Staff recorded and produced an ICJIA Monthly ARRA Report Webinar presentation. The Monthly ARRA Report Webinar is open to any grantee, subgrantee, or sub-subgrantee that is receiving American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds via the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA). ARRA has strict reporting requirements and ICJIA has created a simplified monthly report for use in collecting data. This webinar will walk grantees through completion of the monthly report. The webinar can be viewed on the ICJIA Public Website at <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/public/index.cfm?metaSection=Grants&metaPage=MonthlyARRAWebinar>

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 is currently developing 1 web-based online application forms for Grants Program that is administrated by the Federal State Grants Unit:

1. ICJIA RFP American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program Planning, evaluation and technology application.

3. Website Enhancements

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

Staff is currently developing the Illinois Statistical Analysis Center website for the Research and Analysis Unit. The website is currently under development/construction at <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/datanetdev5/>.

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.

G. Authority's Institutional Review Board (IRB)

A meeting of the IRB was held at the Authority on January 28, 2010. Two projects were presented for IRB approval: "Sheridan Correctional Center National Drug Prison and Reentry Therapeutic Community Recidivism Study", to be conducted jointly by Authority staff and staff from West Care, and; "A Detailed Examination of Juvenile Offender Recidivism", to be conducted by Authority staff. A third project, "Evaluation of Safety NetWorks Program" received expedited review and approval of minor changes to the telephone interview instrument.

All R&A staff were recertified as completing on-line training on the protection of human research participants, most through a course offered by the National Institutes of Health Office of Extramural Research. Materials were prepared for all IRB Board members regarding IRB regulations and training, as well.

IV. GRANT PROPOSALS

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

- A proposal for research on juvenile recidivism was submitted to the American Statistical Association/Bureau of Justice Statistics small grants program on January 15, 2010. The study received IRB approval on January 28, 2010. An award decision is expected in April, 2010.
- A proposal to BJS regarding an SJS grant to further enhance the Authority's website is being prepared for submission in March.

V. CONTINUING STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

- Staff attended training at the Illinois State Police Bureau of Identification regarding current processing procedures for criminal history record information on February 4, 2010.
- Staff attended Bureau of Justice Statistics/Justice Statistics Research Association pre-conference training session on program evaluation. in St. Louis on October 21, 2009.
- Staff attended a lecture on Mathematica software, a statistical software package that offers web-based analysis that may be useful for the Authority's website, on November 10, 2009.

cc: Jack Cutrone
Hank Anthony

Appendix A – Most recent publications

RESEARCH REPORTS

Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data 2007 Annual Report (December 2009)

**Juvenile Justice System and Risk Factor Data 2007 Appendix H: Data Table Section
(December 2009)**

GET THE FACTS

Juvenile Arrests (December 2009)

Juvenile pre-trial (January 2010)

Implementing Restorative Justice: A Guide for Schools (October 2009)

Appendix B – Information Request Handling Statistics

October 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009

ITEM	REQUESTS/Pct
Information requests handled:	41
Monthly average number of requests:	14
Geographic Origin of requesters:	
Chicago metropolitan area	5%
Other region of Illinois	15%
U.S. other than Illinois	29%
Outside the U.S.	5%
Unknown	146
Type of requester:	
Government agency	29%
Private agency	24%
Researcher	0%
Student	5%
Citizen	41%
Media	0%
Legislators	0%
Inmates	0%
Method of request:	
Telephone/fax	10%
Mail	0%
Email/Internet	0%
In-person	0%
ICJIA Website	90%
Publications disseminated:	
Mailed in response to requests	0
Downloaded from Website	382,838
Total	382,879

Appendix C – Authority Website Trends

www.icjia.state.il.us

October 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009

Month/Year	Hits		User Sessions			Visitors			File Downloads	CJ DISPATCH SUBSCRIBERS
	Entire Site	Average Per Day	Sessions	Average Per Day	Average Length (min)	Unique	One-Time	Repeat		
Oct-09	850,567	27,437	87,369	2,818	32	29,493	26,007	3,486	140,718	2,833
Nov-09	633,760	21,125	76,528	2,550	32	27,090	24,017	3,073	120,405	2,851
Dec-09	580,992	18,741	74,546	2,436	37	23,641	20,641	2,812	121,715	2,863
TOTAL	2,065,319	67,303	239,443	7,804	101	80,224	80,224	9,371	382,838	
MONTHLY AVERAGE	688,440		69,478			27,289	24,055	3,233	108,834	