



**ILLINOIS  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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# Memorandum

**To:** Authority Members

**From:** Phillip Stevenson  
Research and Analysis Unit

**Date:** February 14, 2005

**Re:** Research and Analysis Unit Report – March 4, 2005 Authority Meeting

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

## **I. ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

### **A. Publications**

Since the last Authority meeting, R & A staff updated the criminal and juvenile justice system profiles for each of the 102 counties in Illinois. The intent of these publications is to put the data that describes each county's criminal and juvenile justice activity into the hands of Illinois' criminal justice policymakers in a useful summary format. In addition to providing policymakers with an overview of activities across the components of the justice system in their county (law enforcement, courts and corrections), the profiles also provide perspective by including trends experienced in counties with similar population sizes.

In addition to the 102 county profiles, the Research and Analysis Unit has also published:

- The Impact of Methamphetamine on Illinois Communities: An Ethnography

Finally, from time to time R&A staff publish work outside of the ICJIA publication series. During the second quarter of SFY 2005 the following publications were written by R&A staff:

- Ashley, Jessica. 2004. "Youth Courts: An Urban Perspective." In *Session: A Publication of the National Youth Court Center*. Volume 4: Number 4.
- Block, Carolyn Rebecca. 2004. "Where in Chicago is the Chicago School? Principles for Practice, Policy-Making and Problem-Solving." In V. Pottie Bunge, C.R. Block and M. Lane (eds.) *Linking Data to Practice in Violence and Homicide Prevention: Proceedings of the 2004 Meeting of the Homicide Research Working Group*. Chicago, IL HRWG.

- Glass, Nancy, Jacquelyn C. Campbell, Carolyn Rebecca Block, Jane Koziol-McLain, Daniel Webster, and Ginger Hanson. 2004. "Strangulation as a Risk Factor for Intimate Partner Femicide: Summary Report." In V. Pottie Bunge, C.R. Block and M. Lane (eds.) Linking Data to Practice in Violence and Homicide Prevention: Proceedings of the 2004 Meeting of the Homicide Research Working Group. Chicago, IL HRWG.
- Jenkins, Esther J., Carolyn Rebecca Block and Jacquelyn C. Campbell. 2004. "Risk of Death or Serious Injury for Abused African-American Women. In V. Pottie Bunge, C.R. Block and M. Lane (eds.) Linking Data to Practice in Violence and Homicide Prevention: Proceedings of the 2004 Meeting of the Homicide Research Working Group. Chicago, IL HRWG.

## **B. Office of Public Information**

The Office of Public Information (OPI) designs, edits and publishes the Authority's written materials, including: press releases; the agency's annual report; the agency's newsletter called, "The Compiler"; and other publications such as research reports, research bulletins, and evaluation summaries. OPI staff also respond to information and assistance requests from the public, the media, and others.

**Press Releases.** OPI staff published three (3) press releases since the last Authority meeting. The releases, which are available on the Authority's website, are summarized below:

- **Nov. 19, 2004: Illinois Criminal Justice information authority receives Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Public innovator Award**  
CHICAGO — The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority's InfoNet project received the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Public Innovator Award today.
- **Nov. 22, 2004: Governor announces more than \$530,000 for legal services to domestic violence victims**  
CHICAGO — Gov. Rod R. Blagojevich today announced more than \$530,000 in grants for civil legal services to domestic violence victims. Programs funded with these grants help unserved and underserved victims obtain orders of protection from the courts free of charge.
- **Feb. 14, 2005 – Governor announces more than \$68,000 for juvenile crime prevention and intervention**  
CHICAGO – Gov. Rod Blagojevich today announced a \$68,329 grant for Will County's Juvenile Crime Prevention and Intervention program, an assessment and therapeutic counseling program. This grant will help provide early intervention to youth who are either at risk of entering or progressing deeper into the juvenile justice system.

*Other releases that are slated for publication before the meeting include:*

- **ICJIA to host conference on implementing restorative justice practices in the community**  
CHICAGO — The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) will present "Juvenile Justice in Illinois: Implementing restorative practices in your community," a conference on balanced and restorative justice (BARJ) March 2-4 in Springfield. The conference aims to provide juvenile justice practitioners in Illinois practical guidance on the programmatic application of the BARJ philosophy.

○ **Victim services, public safety among governor's key initiatives for Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority**

SPRINGFIELD – Governor Rod Blagojevich announced today the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority will continue its efforts in support of elderly victims and elder abuse prevention, public safety initiatives, and vehicle theft prevention, with the assistance of federal grants and state funding.

○ **ICJIA announces release of the 2004 Illinois County Profiles**

CHICAGO — The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) announces the release of the 2004 Illinois County Profiles. These profiles detail recent and historical levels of criminal and juvenile justice system activities in each of Illinois' 102 counties.

### **Other OPI Activities**

- Initiated compilation, drafting, editing, and design of ICJIA FY04 Annual Report.
- Edited five balanced and restorative justice guidebooks, and coordinated template design for guidebook project.

### **C. Briefings/Presentations**

Since the last Authority meeting, R & A staff made presentations at and/or attended meetings of the:

- National Institute of Corrections Evidence-Based Programming Initiative;
- Governor's Juvenile Justice Reform Initiative;
- Annual Conference of the Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois;
- Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Initiative;
- Illinois Dept. of Employment Security Re-Entry Employment Services Meeting;
- Sheridan Correctional Center Immersion Training;
- Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Council;
- AOIC's Evidence-Based Programming Initiative Statewide Policy Group;
- AOIC's Evident-Based Programming Initiative Research Subcommittee;
- Mayor Daley's Policy Caucus on Prisoner Reentry;
- Illinois Going Home project executive committee;
- Attorney General Madigan's Methamphetamine Healthcare Advisory Committee research working group;
- Southern Illinois Methamphetamine Awareness Conference;
- Statewide Epidemiologic Workgroup of the Strategic Prevention Project;
- IIJS Summit Publicity and Promotions Committee;
- Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition;
- Illinois Methamphetamine Advisory Committee;
- Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council and Grant Review Committee;
- Crime Analysts of Illinois Association meetings;
- Illinois State Police's Electronic Recording of Interviews Training;
- Illinois Youth Court Association;
- Chicago Public Schools Peer Jury Training;
- University of Chicago's Incarceration Research Group;
- North Lawndale's Disproportionate Minority Confinement Initiative Advisory Board meeting.
- Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, Terrorism Private Sector Subcommittee;
- Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives grant sites meeting; and,
- Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives partners meeting.

#### **D. Criminal Justice Information Clearinghouse**

The Authority serves as a statewide clearinghouse for statistics and other information about the criminal justice system. During the second quarter (10/1/04- 12/31/04) of SFY05, R&A staff responded to 259 requests from people seeking information — an average of 86 requests per month. Most came from other governmental agencies (32 percent) and the general public (26 percent). Other requests came from private agencies (18 percent), researchers (10 percent), students (7 percent), news media representatives (4 percent), and prison inmates (2 percent). About 20 percent of the requests originated in the Chicago metropolitan area. Thirty-six percent originated in other parts of the state. All other requests for information were received from outside Illinois (26 percent) and unknown areas (18 percent). R&A distributed 28,541 Authority publications during this period. *[TABLE 1 (attached) provides statistics for the latest state fiscal year quarter.]*

#### **E. Web Site Development**

R&A staff also contributes toward the continued development of the Authority's Web site ([www.icjia.state.il.us](http://www.icjia.state.il.us)). We continue to expand the criminal justice data and information available on the site. New features entitled, *News Digest Summary* and *National Law Enforcement and Corrections Training Center News* have been added to the publications section of the website which provide visitors a variety of Web links to other criminal justice articles and publications. We also continue to actively gather user satisfaction information and other feedback "on-line." The site averaged over 1,569 daily user sessions during this period, and we now have 1,720 registered users of the Authority's email program (called "CJ Dispatch"), which automatically alerts Web site visitors to new information added to the site. Staff continue work on database applications and new software for the site which will allow visitors to download, display and graph data in a variety of formats. *[Table 2 (attached) presents website statistics for the latest state fiscal year quarter.]*

#### **F. FSGU Support Efforts**

Upon request, R&A staff review and comment on proposed program narratives submitted by potential grantees to FSGU. The focus of R&A comments are in the areas of proposed objectives, goals, and performance measures. FSGU staff also request R&A assistance in the development of data reports for proposed programs. During the second quarter of SFY05, R&A staff continue to work with FSGU staff responsible for the VAWA and JAIBG funds to develop data reports for grantees that include the federally mandated performance measures. This effort will allow federal agencies to improve their reporting of the performance of these grant programs at the state and federal level. R&A staff has also assumed responsibility for the computerization of some program performance data and, upon FSGU request, produced program status reports and/or profiles assessing performance over a given period of time. Staff also accompany FSGU staff on grant monitoring site visits and twice this quarter provided training to VOCA grantees on objectives, performance measures and designing data reports to capture that information. *[Table 3 (attached) presents FSGU support statistics for the latest state fiscal year quarter.]*

## **G. Technical Assistance**

R & A staff are frequently called on to provide a variety of technical assistance on extra-agency research and evaluation, and program implementation projects. For example, since the last Authority meeting:

- Staff continued to provide limited assistance to several third-party research projects involving studies of individuals' criminal history records;
- Staff continue working with the Illinois Department of Correction's Going Home Program's Reentry Steering Committee;
- Staff provided technical assistance to Illinois' Disproportionate Minority Contact coordinator regarding the collection and interpretation of juvenile justice criminal history record information;
- Staff provided technical assistance to the Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative sites regarding the collection and analysis of data;
- Staff are participating in a working group to advise the Harvard Injury Control Research Center and the Centers for Disease Control on the best way to report homicide data for practical use at the local level;
- Staff continue to collaborate with FSGU staff on the research, development and testing of alternative funding formulas for the allocation of federal monies to Illinois' multijurisdictional drug enforcement units;
- Staff continue to participate with and support the Illinois Attorney General's Methamphetamine Healthcare Advisory Committee's Research Working Group;
- Staff have joined an advisory committee for the Illinois Violent Death Reporting System (IVDRS), a joint project of the City of Chicago Mayor's Office, the city's Department of Public Health, the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Chicago Police Department, and the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office to develop better data regarding violent deaths in Illinois;
- Staff have joined the Illinois Methamphetamine Advisory Panel, a joint project of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), U.S. Attorney's Office, Illinois Attorney General's Office, Illinois State Police, the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, the Illinois Sheriff's Association, the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Illinois Drug Officer's Association to discuss the growing threat of methamphetamine abuse in Illinois;
- Staff are participating on the advisory board for the evaluation of the Domestic Violence Helpline, City of Chicago Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence.

## **H. Deaths in Custody Reporting**

The Deaths in Custody Reporting Act (P.L. 106-297, effective 10/13/2000) 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 persons 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 now 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. In March 2004, the Research and Analysis Unit accepted the responsibility for the compilation and quarterly submission of information related to deaths that occur while in police custody or in the process of arrest, in part, due to the Authority's role as Illinois' administering agency for the Violent Offender Incarceration / Truth in Sentencing (VOI/TIS) federal grant program which requires States accepting VOI/TIS funds to participate in the Deaths in Custody reporting program. Beginning July 1, 2004, R&A staff are 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 "process of arrest" is defined to include:

- In the physical custody, or under the physical restraint, of law enforcement officers, even if the person was not formally under arrest;
- Any 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;
- Killed by any use of force by law enforcement officers prior to booking;
- At a crime/arrest scene or medical facility prior to booking;
- In transit to or from law enforcement facilities;
- Confined in lockups or booking centers (facilities from which arrestees are usually transferred within 72 hours and not held beyond arraignment).

## **I. Awards**

In January, R&A research analyst Jessica Ashley received the distinguished service award from Attorney General Lisa Madigan for her work as the former coordinator of the Illinois Youth Court Association.

## **II. CURRENT PROJECTS**

### **A. County Profiles**

The short-term project resulted in the production of reports detailing recent and historical criminal and juvenile justice system activity levels across the components of the justice system (i.e., law enforcement, courts, and corrections) for each of Illinois' 102 counties.

### **B. Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Implementation Guides**

R&A staff are developing a series of profession-specific BARJ implementation guides. Currently being developed are BARJ implementation guides for law enforcement,

prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, and probation officers. These five guides will be published by ICJIA in early Spring 2005. Additional guides for community-based agencies, victim advocates, offender advocates, governmental agencies, youth and schools are planned.

### **C. Factors that Put Youth at Risk for Delinquency**

This is a short-term research project intended to describe Illinois data on “risk factors” associated with juvenile delinquency. Data has been collated at the county and state levels on a number of recognized risk factors. Analysis will be initiated shortly. A Research Bulletin is planned for publication in Spring 2005.

### **D. Illinois Substance Abuse Monitoring Network**

R&A staff, in collaboration with the Department of Human Services’ Office on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse established an Illinois Substance Abuse Monitoring Network. This group functions as a special workgroup to facilitate the exchange and analysis of information regarding the nature and extent of drug use, drug abuse, and drug markets in Illinois. The group has met twice and the next meeting is being planned.

### **E. Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Audit**

The unit’s Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Audit Center is an ADAA-funded in-house effort to continuously examine the accuracy, completeness and timeliness of this information, and to recommend strategies for its improvement.

**2004 CHRI Audit.** Staff completed site visits and interviews at the sample of sheriff’s departments and state’s attorney’s office around the State. Local agency records have been received. This data collection supports an analysis of the timeliness, accuracy and completeness of electronically reported criminal history information. Audit staff are finalizing the analysis of timeliness of receipt and posting of local arrest data. Preliminary analysis of record completeness and data entry for the accuracy analysis continues. The final audit report is scheduled to be completed in early Spring 2005.

**CHRI Improvement Plan.** Staff continue to work with the CHRI Improvement Workgroup to develop and submit an updated CHRI Improvement Plan. The plan is necessary to meet funding requirements from the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs relative to national criminal history record improvement grant funding. The workgroup includes representatives from Illinois’ local and state criminal justice agencies. The full report is currently undergoing final review.

**Juvenile Criminal History Reporting Study.** Staff has completed an analysis of the reporting of juvenile arrest, charge, and disposition information mandated under 1998 reforms to the Illinois Juvenile Court Act. A final report has been drafted and is undergoing internal review. Portions of the report will be included in a soon to be published report tentatively titled, “*Juvenile Justice and Risk Factor Data for Illinois: 2003 Annual Report.*”

**CHRI Data Mine.** The CHRI Data Mine is an electronic connection to criminal history record information housed by the Illinois State Police. Access to CHRI data allows ICJIA to

query the data housed on the computerized criminal history database. Currently, ICJIA research and legal staff are working to develop procedures and policies for data use and sharing, standardized queries, documentation of the data elements, and a publication format for the reporting of aggregate data available in the CHRI Data Mine.

#### **F. Chicago Homicide Dataset Update Project**

The R&A Unit maintains a comprehensive database containing information on every homicide that occurred in the City of Chicago between 1965 and 1996. This information is culled from Chicago Police Department files following a long-standing collaborative process developed with the department's Detective Division. Staff is completing an effort to update the dataset with information for the years 1997 through 2000, and will soon begin collecting 2001 data. A variety of research products from this dataset have been developed and an archive version for use by other researchers has been submitted to the University of Michigan's National Criminal Justice Data Archive. Staff also continues to collaborate on various third-party projects involving use of the Chicago Homicide Dataset. Current collaborations include:

- Child homicide victims in Chicago (Kim Vogt, University of Wisconsin)
- An evaluation of arson-associated homicide in Chicago (Dallas Drake)
- Couple age discrepancy and risk of intimate partner homicide (Todd Shackelford, Florida Atlantic University)

#### **G. Statewide Crime Victimization Survey**

Growing out of recommendations in the *State Criminal Justice Plan*, staff initiated a state crime victimization survey modeled on the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics' Crime Victimization Survey, and similar efforts in other states. A final report is complete and will be published soon.

#### **H. Managing Offenders with Serious Mental Illness**

This collaboration with University of Illinois-Chicago and Dr. James Swartz on a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation involves our distribution of a series of reports on managing offenders with serious mental illness. The first report, regarding the screening for mental illness among offenders is currently being reviewed and should be available later this winter.

#### **I. Program Evaluation and Research Projects**

The R&A Unit pursues an aggressive program evaluation and research agenda through an in-house ADAA-funded grant program. Current/ongoing evaluation and research efforts supported by the Authority include the following:

##### **1. Evaluation of the Jackson County School-Based Probation Program**

Staff from the Center for the Study of Crime, Delinquency and Corrections at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale completed the evaluation of this probation project in

September. The report provides an overview of the project and cites a number of issues and considerations that must be addressed by jurisdictions interested in implementing school-based probation. A final report has been received and a program summary describing the findings of the evaluation is complete and awaiting final review before publication.

**2. Evaluation of Moral Reconciliation Therapy in the Franklin/Jefferson County Evening Reporting Center Program**

Staff from the Public Administration and Policy Analysis Department at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville completed the evaluation of this probation project in October. The final report contains an overview of the implementation of the projects in the two counties and documents their respective strengths and weaknesses. The report is currently under review.

**3. Lake County Domestic Violence Probation Program Evaluation**

This is an impact evaluation of a specialized probation program in Lake County focused on domestic violence offenders, and is being carried out by Justice Research Associates (JRA). The project is a follow-up to an implementation evaluation recently completed by JRA and is focusing on the outcome differences between the program participants and a comparison group. A final report is due shortly.

**4. Study of Disproportionate Incarceration of Minorities for Drug Crimes**

This project is a collaboration between the Authority and Loyola University Chicago, The John Howard Association and TASC, Inc. The study is examining the impact of sentencing laws and practices on the minority community, particularly in response to convictions for drug related crimes. Research bulletins planned include reports on national trends, drug law changes, the nature of addiction and treatment, the Illinois perspective on minority incarceration and policy recommendations. The first report in the series, dealing with the national perspective on the issue, has been published. The second report, describing significant changes in state and federal statutes, has also been submitted and is under review. The third and fourth reports are expected to be completed soon.

**5. Reintegration of Gang Offenders in the Community Study**

In collaboration with DePaul University's Department of Sociology, the Illinois Department of Corrections, and the Attorney General's Gang Crime Prevention Center, a small-scale, pilot study of the reintegration process is being conducted. The study is largely qualitative, examining how gang & non-gang offenders go about reintegrating into their communities of origin. A final report on the study is due late Spring 2005.

**6. Community Mobilization: Best Practices and Lessons Learned**

This project involves the development of a series of four research briefs on different aspects of the Attorney General's Gang Crime Prevention Center Community Mobilization Program. The first of four research briefs is available on the topic of resident decision making versus representativeness in the community. The remaining report topics include the evolution of

program implementation, resident involvement/coalition building and integration into the surrounding community. These reports are available and staff have completed a summary report that is awaiting final review prior to publication.

7. **Returning Home: Understanding the Challenges of Prisoner Reentry in Illinois.**

This project will be carried out by The Urban Institute. It will involve development of a policy briefing synthesizing findings from four waves of prisoner interviews, interviews with family members, focus groups with residents, and interviews with stakeholders to present the first systematic understanding of the process of prisoner reentry and the specific issues and challenges associated with reentry in Chicago. The report will be due in April 2005. Past reports, available on the Urban Institute's website ([www.ui.urban.org](http://www.ui.urban.org)), include: *A Portrait of Prisoner Reentry in Illinois*, and a research brief entitled, *Illinois Prisoners' Reflections on Returning Home*.

8. **Illinois Going Home Program Evaluation**

An implementation and preliminary impact evaluation of the Illinois Going Home Program is currently being conducted by the University of Chicago. The program is a major offender reentry effort funded through a partnership of contributing federal agencies and in concert with a number of Chicago-area government, community and faith-based organizations. The evaluation will determine if the program was implemented as designed, how it worked in the field and the effectiveness of the program. Evaluators recently completed a one-year interim report in September. This report identified a number of recommendations for increasing enrollment that Going Home staff are currently implementing.

9. **Circuit Court of Cook County, Department of Social Service, Domestic Violence Intervention Program**

This project is being conducted by University of Illinois at Chicago under the direction of Larry Bennet and the West Side Domestic Abuse Project (WSDAP) in collaboration with the Social Service Department of the Circuit Court of Cook County. In 1999, UIC and WSDAP developed an assessment tool for batterers aimed to increase the safety of victims and improve the ability of staff to identify men who are at high risk and intervene to reduce their risk by assertive case management. This project will use existing Cook County PROMIS data and supplemental data collected from case records on men participating in the Domestic Violence Intervention Program. Researchers will be able to collect longitudinal data on predictors of attrition and outcomes for men who batter that can be used by policy makers and staff to improve intervention services. Researchers will also be able to contribute important information to the larger criminal justice and violence against women communities about the effectiveness of justice-based intervention with batterers. Researchers are now examining data on nearly 11,000 male domestic violence clients. A final report on this project is due this winter.

10. **An Evaluation of the Chicago Police Department's CLEAR Initiative – Phase II**

The continued evaluation of CLEAR, the Citizen and Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting project, is scheduled to continue with a grant to the University of Illinois at Chicago. CLEAR is a major initiative of the Chicago Police Department to integrate information systems and processes within the department. The continued evaluation will focus on the efforts aimed at the introduction of high-priority applications, and the resources and processes needed to develop and implement the major components of CLEAR. A full draft report was made available to ICJIA staff in December 2004 and a final report is expected by the end of February 2005.

## **11. Analysis of Datasets Maintained/Available Through the Authority**

R&A staff have collaborated with external researchers on two projects that will focus on the analysis of InfoNet data. InfoNet is a database that maintains information from victim service providers and agencies:

- The first project, under the direction of Loyola University's Dr. Susan Grossman and Dr. Marta Lundy, focuses on the analysis of sexual abuse data and will provide much needed information on those that seek help and services for sexual assault in Illinois. The research questions focus on the adult survivors and victims of sexual assault and abuse and will detail the following: basic demographics and income sources, relationship between the client and abuser, characteristics of the abuser, issues and circumstances of the abuse/assault, special needs, referral sources, experience with medical services, intensity and duration of support and social services, and legal actions taken in response to the abuse/assault. In addition, this project will generate a template for victim service centers to use so that they can complete a center-level analysis based on the study's statewide and regional analyses. This report is currently under review.
- An additional project under the direction of Dr. Karla Fischer will focus on information on those that seek help for domestic violence in Illinois. The study will include a profile of victims, offenders and children, and the types of services they seek and ultimately receive. The profiles will be generated on three levels—the individual service providing agencies, communities and the state. The findings will aid in identifying underserved populations and unmet social service needs in the area of domestic violence services. The draft report has been received and is currently under review.

Also, a Request for Proposals (RFP) was developed to seek proposals for the analysis of other datasets currently available through the Authority. Three small-scale research projects seek to answer research questions on data from the Illinois Crime Victimization Survey and the 2000 Probation Outcome Study.

- Analysis of Crime Victimization Data – Rate and Nature of Victimization and Utilization of Resources by Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Dr. Amanda Mathias Humphrey will conduct a study of the CVS data to determine the level of victimization in Illinois, differences in victimization, reporting practices and demographic differences, use of services and demographic differences in service utilization.
- Analysis of Crime Victimization Data – Violent Crime and Victim's Gender by Dr. Callie Rennison of the University of Missouri St. Louis. This analysis will address whether individual and family level correlates of nonfatal victimization differ by gender, whether these correlates differ by type of nonfatal violent crime and whether they differ depending on the victim and offender relationship.

- Analysis of Drug Use, Treatment and Probation Outcomes by Dr. Beth Hueber of the University of Missouri at St. Louis. This project will identify the characteristics of drug-involved probationers, the prevalence of participation in treatment and the effect of treatment on probation outcomes.

## **12. Safe Haven Domestic Violence Program Evaluation Project**

Staff are currently evaluating the Chicago Safe Havens demonstration site, a project funded under the Supervised Visitation and Safe Exchange Grant Program. The Safe Havens Program was established by the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 to provide an opportunity for communities to support supervised visitation and safe exchange of children, by and between parents, in situations involving domestic violence, child abuse, sexual assault, or stalking. The project enables custodial parents to drop off their children for court ordered visits and exchanges, without having to face the non-custodial parent. The visit with the non-custodial parent takes place at a visitation center, with social service staff observing and monitoring the visit. The purpose of the supervised visitation program is to enable custodial parents to comply with court ordered visitation, without having to fear that they or their children will be re-victimized. ICJIA research staff are serving as local evaluators for the demonstration initiative.

## **13. Criminal Justice Agencies Needs Assessment Survey Project**

Orbis Partners has been selected to conduct a criminal justice needs assessment in Illinois. The primary purpose of this study is to supply information that will demonstrate the needs of criminal justice organizations, and identify areas that need improvement. The information will also be used to guide decision-making regarding where to best allocate resources. A secondary purpose of this study is to provide information that outlines if, and how, the needs of criminal justice organizations have changed over time by comparing the data collected as part of this study to the results of a needs assessment survey conducted in 1996. Major components of the criminal justice system will be surveyed on topics such as workload demands, training needs, staff retention, information systems and programming. A project kickoff meeting between R&A staff and Orbis Partners was held on November 16, 2004. Data collection is expected to begin in March of 2005. The assessment and final report will be completed by the end of calendar year 2005.

## **14. Chicago Public School Peer Jury Program Evaluation Project**

Florida Atlantic University has been selected to evaluate the Chicago Public School's Peer Jury Program and its operation and development during the 2003/2004 and 2005/2005 school year. The study will focus on three schools that implemented the program, but will also involve the collection of some general descriptive data pertaining to the program as a whole. The evaluation will assist program practitioners and technical support staff in improving the program, and assist Chicago Public School's administrative staff in making future decisions regarding the program. In addition, the study will contribute to bodies of research examining restorative justice and programming for minors.

## **15. Evaluation of IDOC's Sheridan Correctional Center Therapeutic Community Program**

Research and Analysis staff are participating in the development and evaluation of the recently opened Sheridan Correctional Center. Open since January, Sheridan operates as a fully dedicated therapeutic community for inmates in need of substance abuse treatment. Sheridan will provide all participants access to a wide array of services, including substance abuse treatment, education and vocational programming. The program will also prepare inmates for release into the community and provide access to services and support following their release. In addition to Authority staff, a number of organizations assisted in the development of Sheridan, including treatment agencies, governmental agencies, community organizations, national experts and inmates. The prison will operate at a capacity of 1,300 inmates and include males that are projected to serve between 6 and 30 months, be eligible for placement in a medium security facility and be in need of substance abuse treatment. Sheridan is the largest treatment prison in the county. The evaluation of Sheridan will be a collaborative effort between the Authority and the Illinois Department of Corrections, and will be guided by an Evaluation Advisory Committee. The process and impact evaluation will involve extensive quantitative data collection and qualitative information from focus groups and interviews with staff and participants. The evaluation will seek to measure changes in participant attitudes, beliefs and psychological functioning, in addition to participants' preparedness for release. The study will also examine the extent and nature of institutional violations and measures of recidivism after release. Employment and access to services will also be studied. A summary of the project was recently released as a Program Evaluation Summary report.

**16. The Impact of Methamphetamine on Illinois Communities: An Ethnography**

A final report by Dr. Ralph Weisheit of Illinois State University was submitted in October. The report documents site visits and interviews that examine the effects of methamphetamine in Edgar and Clark counties. The report address several research questions, including: What is the impact of methamphetamine on rural communities?; What resources in rural communities can be brought to bear on the problem of methamphetamine?; and, What additional resources might facilitate an effective response to the problem? The report was made available on the ICJIA website in December of 2004.

**17. Evaluation of Redeploy Illinois Sites**

A Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued in November for the evaluation of two Redeploy Illinois sites. The first site, in Macon County, provides a series of services and treatments in an effort to keep juveniles in the community and out of the Illinois Department of Corrections. The second site, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit, also employs treatment and includes Multi-Systemic Therapy, Functional Family Therapy and Aggression Replacement Training to keep youth in the community. Powered Performance, a Wheaton, IL based research and consulting firm was awarded the contract to evaluate both Redeploy sites. Negotiations are underway and the project is expected to officially start in early March.

**J. Externally-Funded Research and Evaluation Projects**

R&A staff have 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. NIJ Chicago Women's Health Risk Study (CWHRS) Follow-Up**

The Chicago Women's Health Risk Project is a continuing collaboration of Chicago 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. Project research included detailed interviews with abused women sampled as they entered a hospital, clinic, or health center for treatment, as well as interviews with people who knew victims of intimate partner homicide. By comparing data on abused women with similar data on people who have been killed by an intimate partner, the project helps agencies develop collaborative ways to identify and respond to potentially life-threatening intimate violence situations. A follow-up study looked at the effects of community capacity to determine whether the violence stopped or declined in the abused women's neighborhoods. The research provides vital information to beat officers, clinical staff, and other decision-makers in the field. The Chicago Women's Health Risk Project was supported with grants from the National Institute of Justice, the Authority, and other agencies. A number of reports, journal articles and other publications have been developed from the research. Staff continues to be solicited for presentations and briefings on the research and project tools, and data continue to be requested for use by other researchers. Most recently, Carolyn Rebecca Block was asked to present relevant findings as part of in-service training efforts in the Chicago Police Department. Current collaborations on reports from CWHRS include:

- *Risk Factors for Latina Women.* Eva Hernandez and Sara Naureckas.
- *Intimate Partner Violence and Miscarriage.* Gregory Laskin, Leslie Morland, and M.J. Friedman.
- *Social Support Network and Abuse.* UIC Ph.D. Dissertation, Perla Ilagan.
- *Seeking Help From the Criminal Justice System: Battered Women's Decisions and Experiences.* Kim Davies and Jacquelyn Campbell.
- *Domestic Violence Help Seeking: Implications for Intervention.* Michelle Fugate, Leslie Landis, Kim Riodan, Sara Naureckas and Barbara Engel.
- *Female Perpetrated Femicide and Attempted Femicide.* Nancy Glass, Jane Koziol McLain and Jacquelyn Campbell. *Violence Against Women Journal*, June 2004, pp. 606-625.
- *Ethnic Differences in Intimate Partner Violence and PTSD.* Gregory Laskin and Jacquelyn Campbell.
- *Intimate Partner Femicide Against Older Women.* Yvonne Ulrich and Jacquelyn Campbell.
- *Risk Factors for Femicide-Suicide in Abusive Relationships: Results from Multi-Site Case Control Study.* Jane Koziol-McLain, Daniel Webster, Judith MacFarlane, Yvonne Ulrich, Nancy Glass, and Jacquelyn Campbell.
- *Strangulation as a Risk Factor for Intimate Partner Femicide.* Nancy Glass, Jacquelyn Campbell, Jane Koziol-McLain.
- *Risk of Death or Serious Injury for Abused African American Women.* Esther Jenkins.
- *PTSD in Battered African American Women.* Esther Jenkins and Gregory Laskin.

Staff also continues to operate The CWHRS Forum, a listserv focused on research and policy issues related to the risk of intimate partner homicide. It allows members to easily share information and technical assistance.

## **2. IJJC Study of Disproportionate Minority Representation in the Cook County Juvenile Justice System**

This project is funded by the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission (IJJC) utilizing U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) funds. It is a study of disproportionate minority representation among juveniles in the Cook County Juvenile Justice System. Staff has completed the collection and analysis of aggregate data from various juvenile justice system contact points, and has presented a draft of those findings at a meeting of the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission. Staff collected case-level data on a sample of juveniles to measure the possible influence of specific factors on decisions made as the juveniles are processed through the system. A final report was approved by the Commission and added to the Authority's website. A *Research Bulletin* drawing from these findings is also planned.

### **III. GRANT PROPOSALS**

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

1. *Awarded* – Supported by a \$68,000 grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission through the Illinois Department of Human Services, R&A staff are producing a data report on Illinois' Juvenile Justice System.
2. *Submitted* – Staff collaborated with Dr. Kimberly A. Vogt of the University of Wisconsin on an application to the National Institute of Justice for a grant to support a study of homicides of infants and toddlers.
3. *Submitted* – Staff collaborated with JRSA on an application to the National Institute of Justice for a grant to support a multi-state study of the impact of methamphetamine on local criminal justice and social service systems.
4. *Submitted* – Staff collaborated with the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts on a grant from the National Institute of Corrections to provide research support for the AOIC's Evidence-Based Practices in Probation project. The initial grant proposal was accepted with a request for revisions to address specific questions of reviewers and to incorporate program activities that utilize an additional \$100,000 being offered to the Research and Analysis Unit.
5. *Under development* – Staff is consulting with JRSA on the submission of study proposals to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) that may involve several other states in an examination of the impact of methamphetamine abuse on local criminal justice systems.

#### **IV. ONGOING STAFF DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING**

- Staff continues to conduct and/or take part in a variety of staff development and training programs and projects. These include: (a) observations/site visits to several key criminal justice agencies; (b) peer review process for project development and pre-publication; (c) partnerships with the academic community; (d) development of specific training classes including ArcView mapping, multivariate statistical analysis, basic SPSS use, data availability in criminal justice, among other topics; and (e) human subject research issues/concerns and practices.
- Several R&A staff persons are actively pursuing advanced academic degrees in graduate programs and post-graduate programs. Some staff also serve as adjunct faculty in criminal justice and other social science programs.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like further information on any of these activities.

PJS:r

Cc: Lori G. Levin  
Robert P. Boehmer  
R&A Supervisory Staff

**TABLE 1. Information Request Handling Statistics**

ITEM	FIRST QUARTER 7/1-9/30/2004	SECOND QUARTER 10/1-12/31/2004	THIRD QUARTER 1/1-3/31/2005	FOURTH QUARTER 4/1-6/30/2005	FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
<b>Information requests handled:</b>	329	259			588
<b>Monthly average number of requests:</b>	110	86			192
<b>Pct of requests completed within two days:</b>	87%	77%			82%
<b>Geographic Origin of requesters:</b>					
Chicago metropolitan area	24%	20%			22%
Other region of Illinois	40%	36%			38%
U.S. other than Illinois	13%	23%			18%
Outside the U.S.	4%	3%			3%
Unknown	19%	18%			19%
<b>Type of requester:</b>					
Government agency	35%	32%			33%
Private citizen	31%	26%			29%
Private agency	14%	18%			16%
Researcher	10%	10%			10%
Student	3%	7%			5%
Media	4%	4%			4%
Legislators	-	1%			-
Inmates	2%	2%			2%
Unknown	-	-			-
<b>Method of request:</b>					
Telephone/fax	42%	39%			40%
Mail	3%	3%			3%
Email/Internet	35%	37%			36%
In-person	1%	10%			5%
ICJIA Web site	12%	11%			11%
<b>Publications disseminated:</b>					
Mailed in response to requests	11,643	28,541			40,184
Downloaded from Web Site	81,353	96,593			177,946
Total	92,996	125,134			218,130

**TABLE 2. Web Site Traffic Report**

	FIRST QUARTER 7/1-9/30/04	SECOND QUARTER 10/1-12/31/2004	THIRD QUARTER 1/1-3/31/2005	FOURTH QUARTER 4/1-6/30/2005	FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
<b>Hits for Home Page</b>	1,649,239	1,866,210			3,515,439
<b>Number of User Sessions</b>	134,798	144,356			279,154
<b>Average Hits Per Day</b>	17,937	20,299			19,118
<b>Average User Sessions Per Day</b>	1,465	1,569			1,517
<b>Average Use Session Length (minutes)</b>	15	18			17
<b>Unique Visitors</b>	61,628	65,762			127,390
<b>Visitors Who Visited Once</b>	51,084	54,892			105,976
<b>Visitors Who Visited More Than Once</b>	10,544	10,870			21,414
<b>Persons Registered for CJ Dispatch (Email notification of updates)</b>	1,627	1720			1,720

**TABLE 3. FSGU Support Requested: Statistics**

Activities Requested by Federal and State Grants Unit	PROGRAM	FIRST QUARTER 1/1 – 3/31/2004			SECOND QUARTER 4/1-6/30/2004			THIRD QUARTER 7/1-9/30/2004			FOURTH QUARTER 10/1/04-12/31/2004			CALENDAR YEAR TO DATE		
		REQUESTED	COMPLETED	PENDING	REQUESTED	COMPLETED	PENDING	REQUESTED	COMPLETED	PENDING	REQUESTED	COMPLETED	PENDING	REQUESTED	COMPLETED	PENDING
<b>PROGRAM NARRATIVE REVIEW</b>	ADAA	-	-	-	6	6	0	8	8	0	6	6	0	20	20	0
	JAIBG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	VOCA/VAWA	7	7	0	1	1	0	-	-	-	2	2	0	10	10	0
	MVTPC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>DATA REPORT DEVELOPMENT</b>	ADAA	9	9	0	10	10	0	6	6	0	11	11	0	36	36	0
	JAIBG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	31	0	31	31	0
	VOCA/VAWA	11	11	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	3	3	0	17	17	0
	MVTPC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>DATA REPORT ENTRY (Number of projects for which monthly/quarterly data reports were computerized)</b>	ADAA	79	79	0	79	79	0	79	79	0	10	10	0	247	247	0
	JAIBG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	VOCA/VAWA	Not applicable			Not applicable			Not applicable			Not applicable			Not applicable		
	MVTPC	7	7	0	7	7	0	7	7	0	-	-	-	21	21	0
	Other: MEG/TF	20	20	0	20	20	0	20	20	0	20	20	-	80	80	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>PROJECT STATUS REPORT (Number of assessments completed)</b>	ADAA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	JAIBG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	VOCA/VAWA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	MVTPC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>PROGRAM PROFILE (Number of profiles)</b>	ADAA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	JAIBG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	0
	VOCA/VAWA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	MVTPC	-	-	-	2	2	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	0
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>