



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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To: Authority Members

From: Mark Myrent, Associate Director
Research and Analysis Unit

Date: August 20, 2007

Re: Research and Analysis Unit Report for the September 2007 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. CURRENT PROJECTS

A. 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. Evaluation and research efforts supported, conducted or monitored by R&A staff include:

1. Illinois Going Home Program Evaluation

The University of Chicago is conducting an implementation and preliminary impact evaluation of the Illinois Going Home Program. 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 completed a one-year interim report in September. This report identified a number of recommendations for increasing enrollment that Going Home staff is currently implementing. The report is now undergoing final revisions.

2. Reports on the analysis of datasets maintained/available through the Authority

In addition to collaborative research projects using the Chicago Homicide Dataset or the Chicago Women's Health Risk Study, R&A staff has also collaborated with external researchers on projects that focus on the analysis of our in-house data.

This data includes InfoNet, which is a database that maintains information from victim service providers and agencies, and data from the Illinois Crime Victimization Survey and the 2000 Probation Outcome Study.

- *Analysis of Methamphetamine and Domestic Violence in Illinois* under the direction of Dr. Gaylene Armstrong, formerly at Southern Illinois University, now at Sam Houston University. This project measures the impact of methamphetamine on domestic violence across Illinois counties. State and regional trends in meth use are detailed, as well as a descriptive assessment of statewide and regional trends in domestic violence. In addition, the study examines the effect of meth use indicators on variations in domestic violence, while controlling for other county level characteristics. This report has been reviewed and we are awaiting final revisions.
- *Victim Characteristics and Reporting Violence to the Police* (Illinois Crime Victimization Data) under the direction of Dr. Callie Rennison of the University of Missouri at St. Louis. This project examines how victim's characteristics influence the decision to contact the police following violence. The study is based on Illinois 2002 crime victimization survey data. This report is undergoing final revisions.
- *Comparing Risk Factors Associated with Violent and General Recidivism while on Probation and After Discharge – Implications for Risk Management* under the direction of Dr. Loretta Stalans and Dr. Paul Yarnold. This study will address several issues in the identification of risk factors that contribute to violent and non-violent recidivism after discharge from probation. In addition, the study will address what types of offenders show evidence of refraining from new crimes for a longer-term period after they have successful treatment completion. They study will also test whether family only and generalized aggressors have unique risk factors associated with recidivism. This report was received in May and is under review.

3. Safe Havens Domestic Violence Program evaluation project

Staff is 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 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. Staff identified the following priority areas of the evaluation: interviews with visitation center directors and staff (to determine changes in practice in policy and roles as collaborators), the issue of case termination (to determine why cases come to a close and what can be done in cases where visits should continue, but do not), observation forms used by staff at visitation centers during visits as well as other data collected in client files (Data from these forms, together with data collected through the interviews helped determine how accurately these forms reflect what happens during visits. Other client information found in their files helped identify who is referred to visitation services from court, how rule violations are handled, and in terms of termination, whether or not clients fail to show up for services, if

they terminate visits due to court order, etc.). Also included in the final report are findings from an evaluation completed on a judicial training for judges in the Cook County Family Court division that focused on domestic violence in relation to custody and visitation rights. Staff distributed a pre-survey, a survey at the training itself, and a post-survey to determine whether or not the training had an affect on judges' beliefs or actions in the courtroom. The final draft of the report is in the process of being reviewed, and publication is expected this fall.

4. Criminal justice agencies Needs Assessment Survey project

Orbis Partners was assigned to conduct a criminal justice needs assessment in Illinois and the Authority has recently received the results of the survey in a draft report. 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. The study's secondary purpose 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 were surveyed on topics such as workload demands, training needs, staff retention, information systems and programming. The needs assessment involved the distribution of surveys to approximately 1,700 practitioners in the Illinois criminal justice system, and included court clerks, detention center administrators, judges, police chiefs, probation, public defenders, state's attorneys, and victim service providers. While the surveys for each agency contained some of the same sections, the surveys were also tailored to address those issues that pertain specifically to the component of the system being surveyed. For example, the survey for detention centers offered questions regarding security issues, medical care and in-house programs; while the probation survey offered questions on assessment tools and supervision.

After multiple strategies were employed to encourage participation, a total of 602 questionnaires were returned for an overall response rate of 38.6%. Results indicate that law enforcement feel that domestic violence crimes, property crime and juvenile crime are the most significant contributors to their workload. Law enforcement also noted a need for resources and training related to methamphetamine investigations. Respondents from probation and court services indicated that in addition to supervision duties, pre-sentence investigations comprise a significant part of their workload, as do working with clients that present treatment and drug or alcohol use issues.

Drug cases comprised a significant portion of the workload for both public defenders and state's attorneys, as did domestic violence and juvenile crime cases. Additional or timelier crime lab processing was also noted as factor in the efficient movement of cases. The need for drug treatment, employment opportunities and youth prevention programs was noted by both the prosecution and defense sides, as well as victim service providers, as actions that may reduce drug use or violence.

Many of the respondents also noted the need for increased resources to combat identity theft, an increased need for bi-lingual personnel or language translation, and the need for better access to computerized information or information sharing systems. While the final results are still being studied, the responses and the final report have become an integral part of the JAG planning process. The report is on our website. An overall summary was written. The results were presented at the March 2, 2007 Authority Board meeting. A series of summaries describing results by criminal justice component are planned.

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 has operated since reopening in January 2004 as a fully dedicated therapeutic community for inmates in need of substance abuse treatment. Sheridan is currently the largest correctional facility in the country that is entirely committed to substance abuse treatment and is considered a national model. The prison has also been upgraded with a new facility designed to house and treat methamphetamine users beginning in FY2008, aiming to reduce the recidivism of the emerging population of releasees incarcerated for meth-related offenses. The evaluation of Sheridan is a collaborative effort between the Authority, Loyola University, and the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Using methods approved by an Evaluation Advisory Committee, the process and impact evaluation involves extensive quantitative data collection and qualitative information from 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 most relevant findings are the impact of the program on recidivism after release. Extensive analyses of aftercare services available to releasees, a factor that research has consistently found to reduce recidivism over several years, is currently underway.

A summary of the project was released in October 2004 as a *Program Evaluation Summary* report, and Authority staff has completed analyses assessing program impact after two years of operation. A second *Program Evaluation Summary* report was completed in March 2006 reporting recidivism and post-release employment outcomes in addition to information contained in the first *Program Evaluation Summary* report. The Authority continues to assist the evaluation team in updating recidivism figures on a continuous basis. Research will continue throughout 2007. A comprehensive program evaluation report and a third program evaluation summary is expected to be published this year, as well as additional publications intended for scholarly journals at a later date regarding the long-term impact of the program and the characteristics of participants that influence success in the program.

6. An evaluation of Illinois-Citizen Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting (I-CLEAR)

The evaluation of I-CLEAR has been awarded to Northwestern University. The evaluation will assess the statewide implementation of the CLEAR reporting system operating under the Chicago

Police Department. I-CLEAR will offer a statewide criminal justice information system that is accessible to all of Illinois' criminal justice agencies. The two-year assessment began in May 2005. The final report was received May 2007 and is under review.

7. 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 evaluation began in January 2006 and data collection and interviews are progressing. The final report was received May 2007 and is under review.

8. Cook County Social Services, Transitional Services for Female Offenders

Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, under the direction of Dr. Gaylene Armstrong, was awarded a grant to evaluate the Cook County Social Service Department program that provides specialized services to women probationers that are convicted of DUI. The final report has been received and is available on the website.

9. Investigator Initiated Research

Projects funded under an Investigator-initiated RFP address research in our priority areas of interest. The following two proposals were selected for funding:

- *Corrections to Community: The collective reentry experience of juvenile offenders.* This study, under the direction of the University of Chicago, will examine a number of factors that play into the reentry experience of juveniles released from Illinois correctional facilities between 1996 and 2002. The final report is due in September.
- *Analysis of Domestic Violence Service Data.* Under the direction of Loyola University, this study will examine InfoNet service data to describe victim service use patterns over time and describe the characteristics of victims and their service needs. The report was reviewed by staff, and we are awaiting final revisions.

An additional Investigator-initiated RFP was issued in July 2006 and we received a number of well-qualified proposals. Reviewers elected to fund the following:

- *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 12-month project began January 2007. A report has been received and is under review.

- *A Study of Co-occurring Conditions and Treatment Coordination of Jail Detainees.* Conducted by the University of Illinois at Chicago, this study will select and interview 300 adult male and 150 adult female detainees in the psychiatric residential treatment units at the Cook County Department of Corrections jail facility. The project will seek to better understand the needs of this high-risk and resource-intensive population and provide a basis for developing better coordinated systems of care within the jail, community and transition to prison for those sentenced detainees. This 12-month project began in October 2006 and is in progress.

An additional Investigator-initiated RFP was issued in June, and four new projects have been selected for funding, pending final contract negotiations.

10. Capital Punishment Reform Study Committee

Legislation has passed both the Illinois House and Senate to establish a Capital Crimes Database to be overseen by the Authority. Staff had previously assisted the Capital Punishment Reform Study Committee in the development of an RFP to secure a vendor for the development of a survey regarding capital punishment in Illinois. Loyola University was the selected Vendor. Staff is now working with the vendor to determine data collection strategies and feasibility, as well as a framework for analysis under various data collection scenarios.

B. 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 the criminal history record information reported to the state repository maintained by the Illinois State Police, and to recommend strategies for improvement.

The 2008 CHRI Audit methodology development is currently underway.

CHRI Ad Hoc Data Connection Partnership. The Authority has entered into a data sharing partnership with the Illinois State police, whereby CHRI data is made available to us via a permanent on-line connection. All data entered on state "rap sheets", as housed on the State Police Computerized Criminal History system, are accessible to staff in electronic format. These data provide a unique resource for answering information requests from legislators, the media, and other interested parties, in-house research projects and studies being conducted by others around the country. A CHRI Ad Hoc Data Archive of all criminal history records from 1990-2006 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, user agreements were executed with researchers from University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago, Loyola University and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Several others are pending approval. Since the inception of the CHRI Ad Hoc Connection Partnership, a total of twenty-two 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.

Recidivism of Sex Offenders Released from the Illinois Department of Corrections. Staff continues to work on this multi-state research project examining the rate of recidivism of violent sex offenders released from prison. A sample of approximately 1,100 sex offenders has been identified from a data file of year 2001 exits received from the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC), along with a control group of violent non-sex offenders. Recidivism rates for new offenses (for sex offenses and all other types of offenses) are being determined from CHRI data. The project is slated to be completed by September 30, 2007.

Uniform Conviction Information Act (UCIA) Cost Survey. The Authority is statutorily mandated to periodically assess if the maximum allowable fee charged for conviction information requests made by the private citizens adequately covers the costs incurred. Approximately 300 law enforcement agencies were mailed a brief survey. Results of the survey are currently being tabulated. Any recommendations for changes in the maximum allowable fee will be reported to the Authority Board.

C. Chicago Homicide Dataset Update Project

The Chicago Homicide Dataset 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. The updated dataset is currently being archived with the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, to allow wider access to the data for research.

Staff continues to collaborate with selected researchers on projects involving use of the Chicago Homicide Dataset.

D. Externally-funded research and evaluation projects

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. Chicago Women's Health Risk Study (CWHRS)

Funded by NIH with substantial in-kind support from the Authority and other collaborating agencies, 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 goal of the CWHRS project is now 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 90 members, most of them practitioners or researchers in the field, plus 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.

2. Juvenile justice system and risk factor data: 2005 Annual Report

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, R&A staff is in the process of completing work on the 2005 Annual Report, which is a compilation of county-level juvenile justice system and risk factor data. Like the previous reports, 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 comprehensive report, which contains over 200 pages of juvenile justice information, is scheduled for completion this fall and will be available on the Authority website. Staff will also publish a *Research at a Glance* focusing on system and risk factor trends in rural counties.

3. 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. The first wave of data collection has been completed in all six participating counties:

Lake, DuPage, Adams, Cook, Sangamon and the 2nd Judicial Circuit. The second wave of data collection has been completed in the 2nd Judicial Circuit, has begun in Lake County and will begin in late 2007 at the remaining sites. Partnership agreements have been executed for Sangamon, Cook, DuPage and the 2nd Judicial Circuit.

4. Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth Research Grant

On September 18, 2006, the Authority was awarded a Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grant to conduct research on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth (award # 2006-JP-FX-K057). The overall goal of the research is to gain a better understanding of the commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth (CSEC). A final report will be completed in September 2007. The study utilizes three research methods: focus groups, interviews, and arrest records. The research will:

Professionals from entities with experience in the area of CSEC serve as an advisory group to help Authority staff plan the focus group project. Researchers had a meeting with the advisory board in November 2006. On January 25, 2007, a sub-contract was signed with Claudine O'Leary to serve as a national consultant on the project. On February 28, 2007, a sub-contract was signed for Young Women's Empowerment Project (YWEP), a non-profit agency in Chicago, to recruit focus group participants and moderate the focus groups.

On March 2, 2007, the Institutional Review Board (IRB) application was signed by the ICJIA IRB. One focus group was held on March 21, 2007 and one on May 9, 2007. Participants were adults over 18 years old who as juveniles were involved in the sex trade. The focus groups were audio-taped and each participant was paid a stipend of \$50. Both focus group sessions were transcribed. From April to August 2007, a total of ten federal and local law enforcement officers working in the Chicago Metropolitan area were interviewed on CSEC for this study from the following: Federal Bureau of Investigations, Office of the Attorney General, Chicago Police Department, Cook County State's Attorney's Office, Cook County Sheriff's Department, and suburban Cook County police departments.

A review of the literature was completed with over 70 reference notes in the final report draft. The final report and a research bulletin will be completed by October 2007.

5. 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. Through an examination of existing data collected during the Reception and Classification process at the Dwight Correctional Center, the research team will determine the prevalence of these forms of prior victimization, examine those inmate characteristics correlated with prior victimization (i.e., demographic, socio-economic, criminal and substance abuse history, and mental health), and gauge the access to IDOC services among those with histories of victimization. Data has been obtained from IDOC and preliminary analysis has begun.

6. CLARIS Web-based Application for methamphetamine lab reporting

The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) has asked each state to identify a single agency to be responsible for collecting monthly information regarding meth lab seizure incidents. The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority has been identified as the agency to collect this information.

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority applied for and received a U.S. Department of Justice grant to develop CLARIS, a web interface and database to allow Illinois law enforcement agency personnel to enter meth lab seizure data, access these data, and extract these data from customized queries. It was originally designed as a tool to supplement ISP and EPIC data by providing a mechanism to electronically “push,” or share, the collected data with EPIC and also share these data with the Illinois State Police, the key feature and hidden by-product of the database. CLARIS allows us to ensure that the agencies using it submit required data both to EPIC and also supply any additional information required by ISP.

The database has been completed and ICJIA has received clearance from EPIC to send data. ICJIA staff has transmitted over 40 newly entered meth lab seizure incidents to EPIC through the CLARIS system in the four weeks since EPIC was able to receive these incidents. Staff also transmitted over 50 previously entered incidents (entered while CLARIS was in operation but EPIC was unable to receive incidents.) Because this is a transition period, these figures indicate the capability of CLARIS to handle a variety of lab seizure incidents successfully, but should not be used to estimate the number of meth labs being seized in Illinois this summer. Staff are working with ISP, Meth Response Team (MRT) members, and members of ISP drug task forces and metropolitan enforcement groups to ensure consistent input of meth related data into CLARIS. All ISP monthly internal meth data reporting is now handled in a paperless manner through CLARIS.

On August 10, 2007 staff provided a CLARIS demonstration in Marion, Illinois to approximately 25 local police officers as they were recertified as meth lab responders.

II. ONGOING ACTIVITIES

A. Briefings/Presentations

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

- Staff attended LEADS Advisory Board meeting on Tuesday, May 15.
- Staff met with Jody Rafael of DePaul University to discuss research project on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children the week of May 14.

- Staff participated in a Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) Partners meeting on Thursday, May 17.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Illinois Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board on May 18.
- Staff attended a JJ Fall Conference Planning Meeting on May 18.
- Staff attended a Mental Health/Juvenile Justice Partners meeting May 21 to discuss the next steps following the colloquium that was held April 13.
- Staff held a meeting with Rev. Charles Collins of the state initiative on Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) and Sally Wolf of the Illinois Balanced & Restorative Justice (I-BARJ) initiative on May 29 regarding the Fall 2007 collaborative juvenile justice conference.
- Staff met with Charles Loeffler, a researcher from Harvard University the week of May 28, regarding his research on court case outcomes in Cook County. Discussions were held about possible data linkages between CHRI data from the State Police, the Cook County Court Clerk's administrative data, and employment data from the Illinois Department of Employment Security".
- On June 4, staff participated in planning sessions for the collaborative juvenile justice conference to be held in Fall 2007.
- On June 7, staff participated in an Office of the Attorney General, Illinois Youth Court Association Board meeting.
- On June 8, staff participated in a PROMISE task force meeting.
- Staff attended the Juvenile Justice Commission Retreat in Bloomington next week.
- Staff attended the Capital Punishment Reform Study Group Full Committee meeting on June 4th.
- Staff attended the Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition meeting June 5th.
- Staff attended the Illinois Department of Human Services Rescue and Restore Steering Committee meeting on June 12.
- Staff met with State Police Quality Assurance Unit, Bureau of Identification staff the week of June 14 regarding recently identified data quality issues within the Computerized Criminal History System.
- Staff met with officials from the Cook County Public Defender's Office to discuss data analysis strategies for their in-house prosecution case management records.

- Staff attended a planning meeting for the Juvenile Justice Collaborative conference on June 18. The conference will be held Oct. 30 – Nov. 2 in Springfield and address collaborative planning in connection with JDAI, Redeploy Illinois, DMC, BARJ, and Models for Change.
- The Research Director met with Board member Barbara Engel on June 19 to discuss the scheduling of an Authority Research Committee meeting, including membership composition and agenda items.
- The Research Director attended a Transitional Jobs Reentry Demonstration conference call on June 20 with Director Levin, Janine Zweig of the Urban Institute Justice Policy Center, and Cindy Redcross from MRDC.
- Staff attended a meeting of the Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board on June 22.
- Staff attended the IIJIS Summit in Springfield on June 25.
- The Research Director attended a planning meeting on June 27 for juvenile justice collaborative planning conference.
- Staff held a teleconference meeting with Col. Michael Snyders of the Illinois State Police on June 28 to review work on the criminal history record system audit, and the use of criminal history information for research and statistics.
- Staff met with DePaul Law School researcher Jody Rafael on July 2 for the collaborative Human Trafficking project.
- Staff attended a juvenile justice conference planning meeting in Bloomington on July 6.
- Staff met with DHS on July 10 to discuss juvenile justice research collaboration for FY '08.
- Staff attended a Safe Havens meeting on July 19 to discuss the evaluation report. Staff will provide the Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence a rough draft of the evaluation.
- Staff attended a PROMISE anti-trafficking task force meeting on July 27.
- Staff attended a Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative partner's meeting, as well as a JDAI sites meeting July 25 in Matteson.
- Staff attended a planning meeting on July 26 for the Juvenile Justice Conference, "Connecting the Pathways" being held this fall in Bloomington.
- Staff attended the National Institute of Justice Research and Evaluation conference July 23-25 in Washington, DC.
- Staff attended IDHS Rescue and Restore our Minors from Sexual Exploitation Steering Committee on July 27.

- Staff met with IRB members on August 2 to discuss the Jail Data Link evaluation.
- Staff met with Cook County Juvenile Probation Department on August 2 to discuss Redeploy Illinois, and to obtain information for an upcoming edition of *The Compiler*.
- The Research Director, along with the Executive Director, met with the Presiding Judge for the Juvenile Division of the Cook County Circuit Court on August 8 to discuss his prospective membership on the Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition (JCEC) Advisory Board and other juvenile justice issues.
- Staff attended an SPSS Seminar regarding new statistical software products.
- The research director met with representatives from Singapore and officials from various state and county criminal justice agencies, and Loyola University to discuss day reporting centers and other alternatives to incarceration.
- Research staff presented information on juvenile justice and risk factor trends to the Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition (JCEC) at their August 17th meeting.
- Staff presented findings from the Safe Havens Supervised Visitation Initiative Evaluation at an event scheduled for August 30 at Hotel Allegro in Chicago.

B. Criminal Justice Information Clearinghouse

The Authority serves as a statewide clearinghouse for statistics and other information about crime and the criminal justice system. Many requests continue to come from governmental agencies (28 percent) and private citizens (38 percent). Other requests came from private agencies, researchers, students, news media representatives, legislators, and prison inmates. Twenty-four percent of the requests originate in the Chicago metropolitan area. Forty-one percent originate in other parts of the state. All other requests for information were received from outside Illinois, outside the United States, and unknown areas. R&A distributed over 4,295 Authority publications during the fourth quarter of SFY 07, not including those downloaded from our Website (292,458) [TABLE 1]. The volume of web users has continued to remain at high levels. For the fourth quarter of SFY 07, there were 2,129,845 “hits” on our website and more than 95,000 visitors (users that remained on the site for a period of time.) There were 292,458 downloads of information or publications for the fourth quarter of SFY 07 [TABLE 2]. The website continues to be a valuable resource for our constituents. Appendix A lists the publications that have been recently posted on the website since the last Authority Board meetings.

C. 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. R&A staff continued 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 not only for VAWA and JAIBG, but also ADAA/JAG, VOCA, MVTPC funds. Upon FSGU request, staff produce program status reports and/or profiles assessing performance for each of these funding areas over a given period of time.

The research director is now working with staff to refine protocols for this R&A partnership with FSGU.

D. Technical Assistance

- Provided technical assistance regarding juvenile arrest data to the Juvenile Justice Initiative on May 14 and 21.
- Provided technical assistance to TASC, Inc. regarding available meth statistics in the 9th Judicial Circuit on May 14 and 21.
- Staff met with personnel from the Cook County Public Defender's Office the week of June 4 to determine how historical administrative data could be structured to answer research questions.
- Staff traveled to LaSalle County detention center on August 16 with JDAI staff to provide technical assistance regarding data collection and analysis.
- Staff gave a CLARIS demo to over 25 state and local Illinois police officers in Marion, IL, (John A. Logan College) on August 10.

E. Balanced and Restorative Justice Trainings:

Staff continues to plan seminars to give juvenile justice practitioners, policymakers, counselors, and treatment providers the tools they need to incorporate the balanced and restorative justice (BARJ) philosophy and its practices into juvenile substance abuse treatment to maximize the potential for rehabilitation. Topics include: delivering restorative substance abuse treatment, using BARJ to maximize offender rehabilitation potential, helping juvenile methamphetamine offenders, imparting empathy with victim impact panels, and the benefits and implementation of juvenile drug courts.

On August 16, 2007, staff is holding a one-day seminar on "BARJ and Juvenile Substance Abuse" in Bloomington for juvenile justice professionals. Previously held in 2006, evaluation results showed that participants rated the seminar as "very good" and 90 percent felt that the seminar's content was suitable to their background and experience. The agenda will be altered slightly based on the comments provided from participant evaluations. Dee Bell, a well-known national speaker on the

topic of BARJ affiliated with the Department of Justice-funded National BARJ Project, will present on the topic. These seminars will help courts, probation, and service providers incorporate the principles of BARJ in their work with young offenders. The seminar will build on other prior statewide ICJIA sponsored events: the BARJ summit held in Fall 2003 and the conference, “Juvenile Justice in Illinois: Implementing Restorative Justice in Your Community” held in Spring of 2005. In addition, seminar participants will build on the information obtained from the ICJIA’s BARJ implementation guides.

On October 15 and 16, 2007, staff will be holding a two-day seminar on “BARJ and Crime Victims” in Bloomington, Illinois for juvenile justice professionals. The seminar will build on previous statewide ICJIA sponsored events: the BARJ Summit held in Fall 2003, the conference, “Juvenile Justice in Illinois: Implementing Restorative Justice in Your Community” held in Spring of 2005, and the nine BARJ practices trainings held over the past two years in Illinois. In addition, training participants will build on the information obtained from the ICJIA’s BARJ implementation guides. In 1998, Illinois’ Juvenile Court Act was revised to include a purpose and policy statement adopting BARJ for all juvenile delinquency cases. Many jurisdictions have not complied with provisions of the Act. This seminar will help service providers incorporate the principles of BARJ in their work with crime victims.

F. Deaths in Custody Reporting

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

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

Summary data on death in law enforcement custody for the year of 2005 was submitted to BJS in July 2007. Once their records are finalized, BJS will be able to move forward with a special three-year (2003-

2005) study of arrest fatalities in the United States. The report, Arrest-Related Deaths in the United States, 2003-2005, is expected to be released in October 2007.

As of May 2007, data collected for 2007 can be submitted to BJS either annually or quarterly; with a deadline of March 2008.

G. Web-based training curriculum (Breeze)

Staff continues to explore development of a web-based application that will serve as a medium to users to present interactive training curricula for criminal justice practitioners, social service professionals, and the general public.

III. NEW PROJECTS

Data on Victims of Human Trafficking

Staff is participating in an initiative by the Illinois Department of Human Services to expand the scope of data collection, management, and reporting on victims of human trafficking. Staff will examine existing data sources, and make determinations regarding possible enhancements to those systems as well as the initiation of new data capture strategies.

IV. GRANT PROPOSALS

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

DePaul Law School Human Trafficking Research Project

The DePaul University College of Law's Family Law Center asked the Authority to conduct data entry and analysis for a research project on human sex trafficking. Ms. Jody Raphael, Senior Research Fellow, received a grant from the Chicago Foundation on Women for this research. The project will administer questionnaires to 80 girls and women currently in the sex trade industry (ages 13-25) to gain information about local trafficking, how the industry works, and how to better reach these particular victims. Data is being collected and entered, and will be analyzed in late summer/early fall 2007.

V. CONTINUING STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND 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) training classes including basic SPSS use and the use of

mapping software. Most recently, staff attended an in-house training on InfoNet, the reporting and database system that a number of victim service agencies in Illinois utilize.

- Several R&A staff are actively pursuing advanced academic degrees in graduate programs and post-graduate programs. Some also serve as adjunct faculty in criminal justice and other social science programs.
- Internship program. Under the direct supervision of a senior staff member in the Research and Analysis Unit, interns have been hired to perform a variety of information functions relating to critical issues facing the Illinois criminal justice system. These might include, for example, assembling data for analysis and writing a summary of results, developing data collection instruments and collecting data, writing press releases or editing documents for publication, converting spreadsheet data to web-friendly formats, assisting with the development of on-line training, staffing committees, or other tasks as appropriate. There is no compensation for these positions, but interns may be able to use the experience as course credit.

Cc: Lori G. Levin
Hank Anthony

Appendix A

Publications

Research Bulletins

State survey results quantify crime victimization pattern (March, 2007)

Program Evaluation Summary

Peoria, St. Clair counties initiate Redeploy Illinois youth program (May, 2007)

Research at a Glance

Corrections data illustrate juvenile incarceration trends in Illinois (March, 2007)

The Compiler

The fight against human trafficking (Winter/Spring 2007)

**TABLE 1. Information Request Handling Statistics
April 1, 2007 – June 30, 2007**

ITEM	REQUESTS/Pct
Information requests handled:	192
Monthly average number of requests:	64
Geographic Origin of requesters:	
Chicago metropolitan area	24%
Other region of Illinois	41%
U.S. other than Illinois	19%
Outside the U.S.	2%
Unknown	14%
Type of requester:	
Government agency	28%
Private agency	19%
Researcher	8%
Student	5%
Citizen	38%
Media	1%
Legislators	<1%
Inmates	<1%
Method of request:	
Telephone/fax	47%
Mail	1%
Email/Internet	14%
In-person	1%
ICJIA Website	35%
Publications disseminated:	
Mailed in response to requests	4,295
Downloaded from Website	292,453
Total	296,748

Table 2. Authority Website Trends

www.icjia.state.il.us

April 1, 2007 – June 30, 2007

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		
Apr-07	729,961	26,388	97,481	3,249	16	31,828	26,520	5,308	103,828	2,322
May-07	703,900	25,652	100,389	3,238	14	31,722	26,300	5,422	95,713	2,334
Jun-07	695,984	23,199	119,382	3,979	14	31,650	25,255	6,395	92,912	2,350
TOTAL	2,129,845	25,079	317,252	3,488	15	95,200	78,075	17,125	292,453	
MONTHLY AVERAGE	709,948		105,751			31,733	26,025	5,708	97,484	