



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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Memorandum

To: Authority Members

From: Janice A. Cichowlas, Associate Director
Research and Analysis Unit

Date: November 10, 2005

Re: Research and Analysis Unit Report for the December 2, 2005 Authority Meeting
(September – November, 2005)

This memorandum highlights some of the work performed by staff of the Research and Analysis Unit since the Authority's last quarterly meeting. Please note that the Office of Public Information is now under the Office of General Counsel and will be reported in that section.

The Research and Analysis Unit has embarked on a year-long planning process to determine the criminal justice research needs in the State of Illinois. From this assessment, goals will be established with the Planning and Research Committee of the Authority Board, and then presented for consideration to the Budget Committee. The Planning and Research Committee of the Board met on September 22, 2005, and will be meeting quarterly to assist with this process. An in-depth needs assessment instrument has been sent to key criminal justice agencies and organizations in the state. A general website solicitation has been posted for input through December 31, 2005. In the next calendar year, the findings and recommendations will be reported.

I. ONGOING ACTIVITIES

A. Publications

New publications since the last Authority Board meeting include:

Research Bulletin: "Elder abuse rapidly increasing as Illinois population ages"

Research at a Glance: “Reported elder abuse cases on the rise in Illinois”

Research Bulletin: "Children’s risk of homicide: Victimization from birth to age 14, 1965 to 1995"

Research Bulletin: "A decade of trends in Illinois crime: 1995-2004"

Research Bulletin: "The impact of methamphetamine on Illinois communities"

Evaluation Summary: “Community Mobilization: Best practices and lessons learned”

Evaluation Summary: “Evaluation of the Jackson County School-Based Probation Program”

Risk factors for femicide-suicide in abusive relationships: results from a multi-site case control study,” which will be published in *Violence and Victims*.

Comparison of official and unofficial sources of criminal history record information

Other publication releases slated for completion before the meeting include:

- Research Report: Methamphetamine: Quick Facts – Trends in Measures of Methamphetamine Activities in Illinois’ Eighth Judicial Circuit
- A series of seven guidebooks on balanced and restorative justice.
- Research Bulletin: Screening for Serious Mental Illness Among Offenders

B. Briefings/Presentations

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

- Homicide Research Working Group.
- Illinois Governor’s Statewide Community Safety and Reentry Working Group.
- Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board.
- Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice Initiative.
- AOIC’s Evidence-Based Programming Initiative Statewide Policy Group.
- AOIC’s Evidence-Based Programming Initiative Research Subcommittee.
- Office of the Attorney General Methamphetamine Healthcare Advisory Committee research working group.
- Southern Illinois Methamphetamine Awareness Conference.
- Statewide Epidemiologic Workgroup of the Strategic Prevention Project.
- Illinois Methamphetamine Advisory Committee.
- Illinois Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council and Grant Review Committee.

- Crime Analysts of Illinois Association meetings.
- Chicago Crime Commission Child Exploitation and Prostitution Coalition Meeting.
- Office of the Attorney General Illinois Youth Court Association Advisory Board.
- Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives grant sites meeting.
- Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives partners meeting.
- LiveScan User's Meetings, sharing of information regarding the funding of LiveScan via the Authority and benefits of participating with the CHRI audit project.
- Jail/Mental Health Training Curriculum Development Subcommittee Meeting.
- Illinois Association of Drug Court Professionals.
- The Tina Ball Memorial DUI Taskforce, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County.
- Domestic Violence Curriculum and Training Task Force Meeting.
- Illinois State Bar Association Special Committee Planning Conference on Overrepresentation of Minorities in the Juvenile Justice System.
- Law Enforcement Agency Data System (LEADS) Advisory Board Meeting.
- Midwest Criminal Justice Association Conference
- Chicago State University: Introduction to Restorative Justice
- Citywide [Chicago] BARJ Committee
- Community Corrections Research Network
- Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) Annual Conference
- JRSA Annual Business Meeting
- Physicians for Human Rights: Beyond the Walls: Promoting Health and Human Rights of Youth in the Justice System
- The University of Illinois' Jane Addams Substance Abuse Research Collaboration Group
- The University of Illinois' Jane Addams College of Social Work monthly staff meeting

C. Criminal Justice Information Clearinghouse

The Authority serves as a statewide clearinghouse for statistics and other information about the criminal justice system. Between July 1 and September 30, R&A staff responded to 270 requests from people seeking information — an average of 90 requests per month. Most came from the general public (36 percent) and other governmental agencies (34 percent). Other requests came from private agencies (16 percent), researchers (9 percent), students (3 percent), news media representatives (1 percent), and prison inmates (1 percent). About 26 percent of the requests originated in the Chicago metropolitan area. Forty percent originated in other parts of the state. All other requests for information were received from outside Illinois (17 percent) and unknown areas (17 percent). R&A distributed 18,633 Authority publications during this period. *[TABLE 1 (attached) provides statistics for the latest state fiscal year quarter.]*

D. Website Development

R&A staff continued development of the Authority's website (www.icjia.state.il.us). During the past quarter, staff have begun to add archived publications to the website. We also continue to actively gather user satisfaction information and other feedback online. The site averaged more than 2,018 daily user sessions during this period, and 1,921 registered users currently receive the e-mailed *CJ Dispatch*, automatically alerting them to the latest 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.]*

The Authority's website administers the CWHRS Forum, focusing on research and policy issues related to the risk of intimate partner homicide. The CWHRS Forum has 81 registered users. The forum requires little staff time, but members say that it is very useful to them.

Authority staff are also in the initial stages of developing web-based on-line training for a variety of Authority projects, including INFONET.

E. 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 and, upon FSGU request, produced program status reports and/or profiles assessing performance over a given period of time. *[Table 3 (attached) presents FSGU support statistics for the latest state fiscal year quarter.]*

F. Technical Assistance

R&A staff are frequently asked to provide a variety of technical assistance on extra-agency research and evaluation, and program implementation projects. 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 continued 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 Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, on the impact of gun violence on people of color.
- Staff provided technical assistance to the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts Illinois Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (IJDAI) regarding the collection of performance measurement data from IJDAI pilot sites.
- Staff reviewed research articles submitted for publication to Justice Quarterly.
- Staff met with Lori Crowder, UIC Jane Addams School of Social Work, to discuss collaborative research.
- Staff continued to serve on an advisory board for the National Violent Injury Statistics System (NVISS), Harvard University, and Centers for Disease Control, consulting on how to make NVISS data accessible to a practical audience.
- Staff continued 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, and National Criminal History Record Improvement program funds.
- Staff continued to participate with and support the Illinois Attorney General's Methamphetamine Healthcare Advisory Committee's Research Working Group.
- Staff continued to serve on an advisory committee for the Illinois Violent Death Reporting System, a joint project of the City of Chicago Mayor's Office, the city's Department of Public Health, Illinois Department of Public Health, Chicago Police Department, and Cook County Medical Examiner's Office to develop better data regarding violent deaths in Illinois.
- Staff continued to serve on the Illinois Methamphetamine Advisory Panel, a joint project of the Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Attorney's Office, Illinois Attorney General's Office, Illinois State Police, Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, Illinois Sheriff's Association, Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police, and Illinois Drug Officer's Association to discuss the growing threat of Methamphetamine abuse in Illinois.
- Staff participated on the advisory board for the evaluation of the Domestic Violence Helpline, administered by the City of Chicago Mayor's Office on Domestic Violence.
- The SSN has been accepted for inclusion in an archive of scales, the HaPI (Health and Psychosocial Instruments) database. Staff have been working with the Department of Human

and Community Development at the University of Illinois and the Harvard Medical School, and the Department of Human and Community Development at University of Illinois, Urbana.

- Staff continued to advise users of the Chicago Homicide Dataset and the Chicago Women's Health Risk Study dataset, both of which are archived in the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data.
- Staff served on the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County Tina Ball Memorial DUI Taskforce.
- Staff provided technical assistance to the International Association of Women Judges, on results of the CWHRs that have practical implications to the courts.
- Staff provided technical assistance to the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence, in their annual Homicide Report.
- Staff is working with the Illinois State Police to develop policy and processes that will facilitate efficient dissemination of criminal history record information for research purposes.
- Staff is serving on the advisory board for the National Institute of Justice supported research project entitled “Providing a citywide system of single point access to domestic violence information, resources, and referrals to a diverse population: an evaluation of the city of Chicago domestic violence help line” conducted by staff from the City of Chicago’s Mayor’s Office on Domestic Violence and Loyola University’s Center for Urban Research and Learning.

G. 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:

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

Retrospective summary data on deaths in law enforcement custody during the period of January 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004 were submitted to BJS in the fall of 2004. Since then, Staff have been reporting quarterly data on death in law enforcement custody to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Reports for the third quarter of 2005 were the most recent submitted.

II. CURRENT PROJECTS

A. Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Implementation Guides

R&A staff are finalizing a series of profession-specific BARJ implementation guides for law enforcement, prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, and probation officers. These five guides will be published by ICJIA through December 2005. Additional guides for corrections, detention centers, parole and schools are planned.

B. Commitments to the Juvenile Division of the Illinois Department of Corrections

This is a short-term research project intended to describe the characteristics of youth who have been committed to Illinois Youth Centers in 2004. Data analysis is under way and a final draft of the Research Bulletin is expected to be completed in Fall 2005.

C. 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. Staff are awaiting the release of data from IDOC. The final report on this project is scheduled for 2006.

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 improvement.

The current audit project is winding down. Auditors conducted site visits in 13 counties and collected arrest, submission, and charging data from each county. The data has been analyzed to determine the timeliness of reporting and entry into the central repository, accuracy of arrest information and completeness of repository records for agencies using electronic reporting methods. The draft text of the final report is being refined in preparation of inter-agency review and edit.

As electronic reporting becomes more common for criminal justice agencies, more states are publishing related audit methods and findings information. Auditors have begun the information gathering phase of planning a complimentary audit project that will examine electronic reporting of court and custodial data.

Audit center staff continue to provide technical support to the Authority's Federal and State Grants Unit (FSGU). Staff provide CHRI data quality and reporting information, along with data interpretation to assist grants staff in making LiveScan or other CHRI-related funding recommendations.

Illinois Intergrated Justice Information Systems Project. Audit staff currently chair the Booking/Rap sheet Sub-Committee of the Illinois Integrated Justice Information Systems (IIJIS) Planning and Policing Committee. The sub-committee has completed a draft business plan which identifies the issues associated with standardized rap sheets and booking data. The goal of the standardization is to facilitate electronic integration for data sharing within or between agencies.

In addition to the sub-committee duties, audit staff has provided assistance to the IIJIS project during the search for a new project director.

CHRI Data Ad Hoc Connection. The CHRI data ad hoc connection 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. Staff are working to develop procedures and policies for data use and sharing, standardized queries, and documentation of the elements, accessible via the ad hoc data connection.

F. Chicago Homicide Dataset Update Project

In close cooperation with the Chicago Police Department, the R&A Unit maintains the Chicago Homicide Dataset, a comprehensive database containing information on every homicide that occurred in the City of Chicago between 1965 and 1996. In August 2005, staff completed a long-standing effort to update the dataset through 2000.

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. 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 continue to collaborate with selected researchers on projects involving use of the Chicago Homicide Dataset. A product of one of these collaborations, "Children's Risk of Homicide: Victimization Rates from Birth to Age 14, Chicago, 1965 to 1995" has just been published as an ICJIA Research Bulletin. Other CHD collaborations include the following:

- ~ "An evaluation of arson-associated homicide in Chicago," with Dallas Drake, a retired firefighter, submitted to Homicide Studies.
- ~ "Patterns and contextual characteristics of fatal and nonfatal violence against the elderly," with Ronet Bachman, an expert on national elderly victim data, will be presented at the ASC in November.
- ~ "Street gang-related homicides in Chicago, 1965 to 2004," with Tim Lavery and Megan Alderden of the Chicago Police Department.
- ~ "Killing little girls: homicides of girls aged infant to 14, Chicago 1965-1995," with Kim Vogt, University of Wisconsin.
- ~ "Murder of newborns and infants in Chicago: patterns and implications for prevention," with Kim Vogt, University of Wisconsin.
- ~ "Homicides Committed by Children: Offenders under age 15 in Chicago, with Kim Vogt, University of Wisconsin, will be presented at the ASC in November.

G. Statewide Crime Victimization Survey

Growing out of recommendations in the *State Criminal Justice Plan*, staff completed 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 series of shorter and more issue-specific Research Bulletins based on these data are planned.

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 scheduled for the end of the year.

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. Other evaluation and research efforts supported by the Authority include:

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 reconnection 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. It is currently available on our website. A Program Evaluation Summary of the full report is undergoing final 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. 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 by the end of 2005.

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, is finalized. The third report is being reviewed by ICJIA, and a fourth report will follow shortly.

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 draft on the study was received in August and is under review.

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

The Urban Institute developed four policy briefs 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 briefs, Health & Prisoner Reentry, Employment & Prisoner Reentry, Reentry & Residential Mobility and Treatment Matching are available on the ICJIA and Urban Institute web sites. Past reports, available on the Urban Institute's website (www.ui.urban.org), include: *A Portrait of Prisoner Reentry in Illinois*, and a Research Brief entitled, *Illinois Prisoners' Reflections on Returning Home*. The most recent report, *Chicago Prisoners' Experiences Returning Home*, was made available in December 2004.

8. 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 are currently implementing. The final report is due at the end of December 2005.

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

This project was 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 used existing Cook County PROMIS data and supplemental data collected from case records on men participating in the Domestic Violence Intervention Program. Researchers collected 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 also contributed important information to the larger criminal justice and violence against women communities about the effectiveness of justice-based intervention with batterers. A final report on this project is on the Authority website and a Program Evaluation Summary of this report is in review.

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

The third evaluation report on the status of the new information technology enterprise system under development by the Chicago Police Department (CPD) is now available on the Authority web site. The state-of-the-art integrated criminal justice information system, "Citizen and Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting (CLEAR)," is designed to provide anytime, anyplace access to vast repositories of centralized, relational data. The data warehouse is the engine that powers the numerous interrelated applications that comprise CLEAR. This report describes all CLEAR initiatives, the "launch procedures" that lie behind them and their impact on policing. The report describes this ongoing process through October 2004 and details 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 program evaluation summary has been drafted and is currently awaiting publication. A separate report on CPD's efforts against violent crime is available on our website.

11. 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 have also collaborated with external researchers on two projects that 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 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 under review.

Also, a request for proposals was developed for the analysis of other datasets 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. They include:

- "Analysis of Crime Victimization Data – Rate and Nature of Victimization and Utilization of Resources," by Dr. Amanda Mathias Humphrey of Southern Illinois University Carbondale. The study on the CVS data determines the level of victimization in Illinois, differences in victimization, reporting practices and demographic differences, use of services and demographic differences in service utilization. The report is awaiting final edits.
- "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. This report was received in September and is under review.
- "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. This report was received in October and is under review.

12. Safe Haven Domestic Violence Program evaluation project

Staff are 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 has identified the following priority areas of the evaluation: interviews with visitation center directors and staff and interviews with the Local Consulting Committee members (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 interviews can help determine how accurately these forms reflect what happens during visits. Other client information found in their files can help 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.), focus groups to be held with family court attorneys (to help determine how the referral process works and help identify problems or barriers that occur in the courtroom) and surveys that will be distributed to family court judges (to determine what they know about supervised visitation and how they determine who is eligible or will benefit from these services.) Staff have completed IRB applications and hope to begin data collection this winter.

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. The survey was released in September.

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 2004/2005 school years. 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 the literature examining restorative justice and related programming. A draft report is awaiting final edits and will be available this fall. A follow-up evaluation was approved and began October 1.

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

Research & Analysis staff are continuing to support the operation of the Sheridan Correctional Center through a process and impact evaluation. Open since January 2004, Sheridan operates as a fully dedicated therapeutic community for inmates in need of substance abuse treatment. Sheridan is the largest treatment prison in the county. The evaluation of Sheridan is a collaborative effort between the Authority and the Illinois Department of Corrections, and is guided by an Evaluation Advisory Committee. The process and impact evaluation involves 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 released in October 2004 as a Program Evaluation Summary report, and Authority staff have made numerous presentations regarding the evaluation findings.

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. A Program Evaluation Summary of the final report is awaiting publication.

17. Evaluation of Redeploy Illinois sites

A request for proposals 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 Second 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-based research and consulting firm, was awarded the contract to evaluate both Redeploy sites. The project was initiated in March and

data collection and meetings between the evaluators and program personnel from both sites continue.

18. 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 12-month began in May 2005.

19. Requests for Proposals

Three requests for proposals were issued this quarter. These include: Analysis of ICJIA datasets; Program Evaluations of Lake County Services for Female Offenders; Program Evaluations of Cook County Social Services for Female Offenders. A fourth RFP, investigator initiated research of priority issues, will be released this winter.

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. Chicago Women's Health Risk Study (CWHRS)

Funded by NIJ with substantial in-kind support from the Authority and other collaborating agencies, 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. A number of reports, journal articles and other publications have been developed from the research. 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. Current collaborations on reports from CWHRS include:

- ~ "Risk Factors for Serious Injury or Death in Intimate Partner Violence for Latina/ Hispanic Women" (with Eva Hernandez and Sara Naureckas).
- ~ "Intimate Partner Femicide Against Older Women" (with Yvonne Campbell Ulrich, Jacquelyn C. Campbell and Linda Teri).
- ~ "Are Stepchildren in the Home a Risk Factor for Intimate Partner Homicide?" (with Todd Shackelford).
- ~ "Intimate Partner Violence During Pregnancy: Outcomes for Mother and Child " (with Phyllis Sharps and Kathryn Laughon).
- ~ "Forced Sex and Leaving an Abusive Relationship" (with Walter DeKeseredy and Martin Schwartz).
- ~ "PTSD in Battered African American Women" (with Esther Jenkins).
- ~ "Risk of Women Becoming an Offender in Intimate Partner Homicide" (with Esther Jenkins).
- ~ "Strangulation as a Risk Factor for Attempted and Completed Intimate Partner Femicide" (with Nancy Glass, Kathryn Laughon, Jacquelyn C. Campbell and Ginger Hanson), will be published in Violence and Victims (June, 2006).
- ~ "A Comparison of African-American and Latina Women's Decisions about Help-Seeking for intimate partner violence" (with Heather Bourne).
- ~ "Seeking Help from the Criminal Justice System: Battered Women's Decisions and Experiences" (with Kim Davies and Jacquelyn Campbell), has been submitted as a chapter in a book on women and the criminal justice system
- ~ "Intimate Partner Violence and Miscarriage: Examination of the Role of Physical and Psychological Abuse and PTSD" (with Leslie A. Morland, Gregory A. Leskin, Jackie Campbell and Matthew J. Friedman).
- ~ "The Prevalence of PTSD among Women Experiencing Intimate Partner Violence Depends on Seriousness, Continuation and Social Support Network" (with Gregory A. Leskin and Jacqueline Campbell).

2. Juvenile justice system and risk factor data: 2003 Annual Report

Supported by a grant from the Illinois Juvenile Justice Commission, R&A staff are compiling county-level juvenile justice system and risk factor data into a single data report. This report will also briefly summarize recent trends in these data over time. An additional feature of this report is an emphasis on 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 final report will be completed in Fall of 2005.

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

R&A recently 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.

K. New Projects (Clearinghouse)

Web-based training curriculum (Breeze)

Staff continue 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.

Web-based Application for methamphetamine lab reporting

Staff received a SAC grant to develop a web-based application that would provide technical assistance to local law enforcement agencies in Illinois to allow on-line reporting of clandestine methamphetamine laboratory seizure data.

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.

IV. ONGOING STAFF DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING

- Staff continue 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, Photoshop, Illustrator, among other topics; and (e) human subject research issues/concerns and practices.
- 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.
- At each monthly R&A Unit meeting, staff or guest speakers present summaries of projects for which they are involved in order to keep abreast of current research efforts in the R&A Unit.
- Staff will attend training workshops to improve mapping skills. Efforts are being made for a training workshop on ArcView Mapping.

- All R&A staff have successfully completed a “Human Participants Protection Education for Research Teams” online, in order to better understand the role of the Institutional Review Board in the research process.
- Staff are participating in a voluntary Brown Bag Journal Club lunch meeting. Staff take turns presenting a summary of a current journal article or pertinent research in the field on the third Tuesday of every month.

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

Janice A. Cichowlas

Cc: Lori G. Levin
Hank Anthony
R&A Supervisory Staff

TABLE 1. Information Request Handling Statistics

ITEM	SECOND QUARTER 10/1- 12/31/2004	THIRD QUARTER 1/1-3/31/2005	FOURTH QUARTER 4/1- 6/30/2005	FIRST QUARTER 7/1- 9/30/2005	FISCAL YEAR TO DATE
Information requests handled:	259	351	246	270	1,126
Monthly average number of requests:	86	117	82	90	94
Pct of requests completed within two days:	77%	74%	91%	83%	81%
Geographic Origin of requesters:					
Chicago metropolitan area	20%	15%	22%	26%	21%
Other region of Illinois	36%	51%	38%	40%	41%
U.S. other than Illinois	23%	14%	18%	17%	18%
Outside the U.S.	3%	2%	2%	<1%	2%
Unknown	18%	17%	20%	17%	18%
Type of requester:					
Government agency	32%	38%	28%	34%	33%
Private citizen	26%	25%	38%	36%	31%
Private agency	18%	15%	13%	16%	15%
Researcher	10%	6%	11%	9%	9%
Student	7%	9%	6%	3%	6%
Media	4%	4%	4%	1%	3%
Legislators	1%	-	-	-	<1%
Inmates	2%	3%	<1%	1%	2%
Unknown	-	-	-	-	-
Method of request:					
Telephone/fax	39%	38%	43%	44%	41%
Mail	3%	5%	2%	2%	3%
Email/Internet	37%	37%	38%	37%	37%
In-person	10%	-	1%	2%	4%
ICJIA Web site	11%	20%	15%	15%	15%
Publications disseminated:					
Mailed in response to requests	28,541	16,909	79,669	18,633	143,752
Downloaded from Web Site	96,593	76,751	58,323	70,719	302,386
Total	125,134	93,660	137,992	89,352	446,138

TABLE 2. Web Site Traffic Report

	SECOND QUARTER 10/1-12/31/2004	THIRD QUARTER 1/1-3/31/2005	FOURTH QUARTER 4/1-6/30/2005	FIRST QUARTER 7/1-9/30/2005	YEAR TO DATE
Hits for Home Page	1,866,210	2,020,352	1,955,186	2,038,277	7,880,025
Number of User Sessions	144,356	170,187	169,220	185,454	669,217
Average Hits Per Day	20,299	22,459	21,497	22,171	21,607
Average User Sessions Per Day	1,569	1,892	1,860	2,018	1,835
Average Use Session Length (minutes)	18	15	15	18	17
Unique Visitors	65,762	76,751	74,028	77,947	294,488
Visitors Who Visited Once	54,892	63,536	61,898	65,644	245,970
Visitors Who Visited More Than Once	10,870	13,215	12,130	12,303	48,518
Persons Registered for CJ Dispatch (Email notification of updates)	1720	1,774	1,809	1,887	1,887

TABLE 3. FSGU Support Requested: Statistics

Activities Requested by Federal and State Grants Unit	PROGRAM	SECOND QUARTER 10/1-12/31/2004			THIRD QUARTER 1/1-3/31/2005			FOURTH QUARTER 4/1-6/30/2005			FIRST QUARTER 7/1-9/30/2005			YEARTO DATE		
		REQUESTED	COMPLETED	PENDING	REQUESTED	COMPLETED	PENDING	REQUESTED	COMPLETED	PENDING	REQUESTED	COMPLETED	PENDING	REQUESTED	COMPLETED	PENDING
PROGRAM NARRATIVE REVIEW	ADAA	6	6	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	6	6	0	14	14	0
	JAIBG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	VOCA/VAWA	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	4	4	0
	MVTPC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	8	8	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	7	7	0	18	18	0
DATA REPORT DEVELOPMENT	ADAA	11	11	0	3	3	0	1	1	0	6	6	0	21	21	0
	JAIBG	31	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	31	31	0
	VOCA/VAWA	3	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	4	0
	MVTPC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	45	45	0	3	3	0	2	2	0	6	6	0	56	56	0
DATA REPORT ENTRY (Number of projects for which monthly/quarterly data reports were computerized)	ADAA	79	79	0	79	79	0	79	79	0	79	79	0	316	316	0
	JAIBG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	VOCA/VAWA	Not applicable			Not applicable			Not applicable			Not applicable			Not applicable		
	MVTPC	21	21	0	21	21	0	21	21	0	21	21	0	84	84	0
	Other: MEG/TF	20	20	0	20	20	0	20	20	0	20	20	0	80	80	0
	Total	120	120	0	120	120	0	120	120	0	120	120	0	480	480	0
PROJECT STATUS REPORT (Number of assessments completed)	ADAA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	JAIBG	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	VOCA/VAWA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-
	MVTPC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
PROGRAM PROFILE (Number of profiles)	ADAA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	JAIBG	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
	VOCA/VAWA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	MVTPC	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	4	4	0