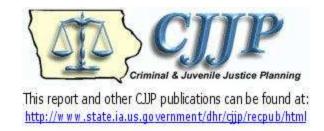# Juvenile Justice System Evaluation Capacity-Building in Iowa

A Report From The
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning and
Statistical Analysis Center

June 2002

Introduction

Like most states, Iowa has an ongoing interest in improving the quality and availability of juvenile justice data, enhancing the use of information in state and local planning, program development and evaluation activities, and providing meaningful service and program outcome information. Whenever possible, the Iowa Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning and Statistical Analysis Center (CJJP) attempts to assist such efforts. Some of CJJP's efforts in this area were recently supported with a grant from the national Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA). JRSA, in partnership with the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, is assisting states enhance their juvenile justice system's research and evaluation capacities through a Juvenile Justice Evaluation Center. This report is a description of two interrelated Iowa efforts that benefited from this Center's assistance:

- Outcomes Initiative of the National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice
- Iowa's Youth Development Results Framework

Outcomes Initiative of the National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice

One of CJJP's goals for its use of the JRSA evaluation capacity-building support was to assist a program outcome research effort already underway through the work of the University of Iowa's National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice (NRC). The Iowa Department of Human Services and CJJP had been contracting with NRC to provide technical assistance to communities in the identification, analysis, and reporting of Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare program outcomes[1]. Working with a number of Iowa's Decategorization Governance Boards (aka Decat -- local planning and funding administration entities), the NRC was focusing its efforts on selected communities and their efforts to provide child welfare and juvenile justice services. The capacity-building funding provided to CJJP by the JRSA allowed CJJP staff to provide assistance and consultation to the NRC as is carried out its work and its attempts to help participating communities develop sustainable outcome monitoring processes for their programs.

The NRC initiative centered on the use of "logic models" designed to assist the defining and integration of outcomes with programs. The logic model was intended to simplify how outcomes would be measured. Alter and Murty (1997) reported that logic models "break down an intervention or program into parts, [and] they inform evaluators about the kind of results and evaluation data available." Logic models were also intended to address multi-systemic projects defining measures of outcomes at a number of levels (e.g., individual, family, community) and address outcomes measuring short-term, intermediate, and long-term effects. Many agencies, including CJJP, have begun looking to logic models to be included in proposals and progress reports.

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[1] A detailed description of this effort is provided in a document entitled *"Local Outcomes Technical Assistance Project"* authored by Brad Richardson and Nancy Graf (NCR), and David Huff (CJJP), released in 2001.

The promise of the logic model was that it would improve accountability by utilizing outcome measures in order to simplify evaluation results for decision-making. A logic model also guides agencies in articulating their underlying beliefs and "theory of change" (Weiss, 1972; Fulbright-Anderson, Kubisch, and Connell, 1998; Hernadez, 2000). Alter and Murty provide limited details specific to using outcomes in decision-making. However, they do provide a discussion of some challenges related to utilizing evaluation results in the decision-making process and suggest one way to achieve their inclusion is a more active role for the evaluator serving in the capacity of facilitator for projects with whom they work.

The key questions in outcome research are: Did the program or service make a difference? And, a difference compared to what? Determining the answer to those questions is the first step in using outcome measures to aid in making decisions about social service program implementation. There are several traditional approaches to evaluation designed to help answer the question: "compared to what?" such as pre/post test designs (where the same subjects are compared before and after the program), experimental designs (where subjects are randomly assigned to different groups that are exposed to different programs); and quasi-experimental designs (where different groups are exposed to different programs, but the assignment is not random). The NRC, in their work, began with a simple set of outcomes that addressed goals of particular child welfare and juvenile justice funding. The NRC approach to outcome measurement was geared toward assisting decision-makers by providing some systematic information on the results being achieved by local programs.

By working with community groups and "walking" them through the logic model process to identify process and outcome measures, it became apparent to the NRC that communities wanted measures that they could immediately use. The technical assistance and consultation services provided to the communities included, but were not limited to:

- Identification of relevant issues and initiatives requiring outcomes development,

- Review and comment on existing Decat outcomes and annual plans,

- Development of an evaluation framework(s) specific to each program which identifies program activities, components, and process measures for internal monitoring of desired outcomes and specific measures of those outcomes,

- Preparation of program outcomes matrix specific to each community,

- Consultation related to each program's development of computerized databases, data collection methods, data extraction and analysis methods, internal and external reporting methods, and useful results from computerized data files.

A menu of items categorized by child welfare domains (e.g., permanency and stability, safety [child and community], health [physical and emotional], self sufficiency, and education) and items was created through a collaborative process and was intended to incorporate goals and objectives of the various funding streams such as state and federal child welfare programs, Empowerment (early childhood programs), and juvenile justice programs and grants. The NRC

worked with the programs and communities to identify community-specific outcomes that became the menu of items most appropriate for the circumstances of the local projects (see Appendix A for an example menu). The NRC developed measurement items that were then cross-referenced under goals of other funding streams so that comparisons of performance measures could be made. The menu system was set up with the understanding that new outcomes could be defined and added for data processing purposes.

Outcome measures can be changed in scale scores, for example, attitudes measured at two points in time, or they can be dichotomous measures of status at a given point in time (e.g. whether or not in out-of-home placement). For reporting purposes, it was decided to collect data on whether or not the desired result was achieved (e.g., positive change in attitudes, not using drugs or alcohol). While records may need to be maintained to provide supportive documentation, the only numbers necessary for reporting are 1, indicating the desired result was achieved, and 0, indicating the desired result was not achieved. There appears to be a high level of validity and reliability with this measurement system.

An important and integral component to this initiative was the technical assistance provided in analyzing the data and helping Decat coordinators to interpret and utilize it. A datasheet for reporting outcomes was provided along with the menu. The column of abbreviated names for the outcomes on the menu corresponds to column headings or titles on the data-reporting sheet. To begin, projects were instructed to select a primary and secondary outcome and report only those outcomes on a case-by-case basis on a data-reporting sheet. Columns were added for client identifier (for the purpose of tracking outcomes of ongoing cases), county and project codes, and four items required for CJJP purposes; race, gender, ethnicity, and new or not new client being served. This system was designed to be adapted to meet specific local needs. While additional information may have been collected, it was strongly encouraged that sites begin with the fundamental design and then expand and adapt the system over time. For example, demographics and service utilization measures may be added as additional columns, or larger projects may choose to report more than two outcomes.

Based on the items selected, an Excel spreadsheet was created for data reporting and then data gathering began. Excel spreadsheets were found to be the easiest and most frequently available software for transmitting these data from the projects to a central point. These data were then sent to NRC where the data were processed. The NRC added column headings that correspond to those listed in the menu along with codes to identify specific projects, counties, race, ethnicity, gender and whether the client is a new or ongoing case.

The NRC chose Excel since its files can be easily combined and imported into SPSS (statistical analysis software) for analysis. While some analyses could be performed using Excel, SPSS was employed under the assumption that the utility of the data collected is directly tied to the ability to compare outcomes, both over time for projects, between projects from various funding streams, and among geographical and other configurations. Initially these data were sent to the National Resource Center where the data was processed and data tables generated for the Decats' use.

While the NRC had assumed that the statistical analysis procedures, once set up, were quite simple, this became a major issue and obstacle for some of the coordinators. The use of SPSS became an issue in that it is a fairly sophisticated program and the licenses and technical support are relatively expensive. Processing of the data involves successive pasting of data into a single spreadsheet. Spreadsheets could then be directly read by SPSS and tabular results could be produced. Many Decat coordinators did not have staff proficient in SPSS and had not budgeted any funds for SPSS or data analysis. The National Resource Center offered to do the statistical analysis and reporting for one year from initial involvement after which the programs were expected to begin doing the analysis themselves or finding other alternatives.

The NRC had noted early on in their endeavor that in order to be effective and operating statewide, this needed to be a multi-year project. It was anticipated that a couple of years were needed to get all of the sites on board as well as a year of statistical analysis and technical support provided by the NRC (provided one year or so beyond their initial involvement) to assist communities and help them use the outcomes for planning, administrative, and other purposes. There were some expected and unexpected setbacks in some areas of the state (e.g., declining to participate, local staff turnover) that limited the continuation or expansion of the effort across the state.

In addition, the State of Iowa began experiencing severe revenue shortfalls and related budget cuts as well as major state agencies' reorganizations and layoffs at about the same time that the funding for the NRC effort was ending. CJJP spent considerable time attempting to help state and local program staff and system officials identify methods and resources to transition and maintain the data analysis capacity that NRC had initiated. Despite the identification of numerous approaches to consider, few of the participating Decat sites were able to marshal the resources that would have been needed to continue the effort as it was originally designed.

While this joint initiative of NRC, CJJP and DHS did not realize its goal of achieving sustained outcome monitoring activities in all parts of the state, it is being viewed as a positive example of state agencies and researchers working with local communities to identify, analyze, and use outcome measures in planning, grant applications, and service delivery. The NRC initiative has been useful to the overall evaluation capacity building efforts in the state by getting many communities to begin thinking about and using outcomes in measuring the effectiveness of their juvenile justice and child welfare programs. It was also a useful step in finding ways to conceptualize local program outcomes around state-level goals a common result framework. Some of the other ways in which the NRC effort has been beneficial are in the lessons learned in areas such as the need for local officials' buy-in, ease of information access, local data analysis capacities, collaboration among state agencies, funding constraints, responding to others' fear of the unknown and anticipating unintended consequences and difficult to predict public budget developments levels.

Despite this efforts' overall lack of actualization, the groundwork it laid in many communities was of direct benefit to CJJP's ability to report on the performance and outcomes of one of its grant programs' delinquency prevention components. CJJP's grantees are required to list goals and objectives and provide base line data when available during the grant application process. This information has been seen as important data in communicating the effectiveness of

the programs to the Iowa General Assembly and others. The most recent report prepared by CJJP to report its grant program outcomes (see Appendix B) contained many program outcome measurements that were originally identified and tracked through the NRC initiative.

Although the analysis and outcome reporting protocols envisioned through the NRC initiative were not realized, CJJP has continued to seek ways of assisting its grantees report outcome information in a manner similar to the way that the Decats were hoping to be able to proceed under the NRC effort. To this end, CJJP has created a draft form that grantees will be asked to complete and report as a part of their program reporting process (see Appendix C). In addition to the outcome information, CJJP would expect the programs to continue describing the participants and the program (e.g., demographics, numbers attended or participated).

While a program using this draft form would be able to select result areas and items that best reflect the program's goals and objectives, the hope is that the use of such a form also will allow comparisons across programs and regions of the state for those grantees/programs that select the same indicators. The grantee would be required to fill out one line for each outcome. CJJP is currently considering limiting the grantees to a maximum of two outcomes per program or service. The goal is to have all the programs reporting via a web-based application within the next two years.

Iowa's Youth Development Results Framework

Much of Iowa's efforts to improve its juvenile justice system evaluation capacity have historically focused on evaluating and developing outcome-based measures for a specific program (e.g. County X Drug Court), or for types of programs (e.g. school-based juvenile court liaison programs). More recent efforts are emphasizing a need to structure the planning and evaluating of such services and programs within a broader youth development context that recognizes common youth-related goals, services and activities across a variety of systems, including the juvenile justice system. The capacity-building funding provided to CJJP by the JRSA allowed CJJP staff to provide assistance and consultation to a multi-agency initiative to develop and make use of a results framework designed as a tool for program coordination and alignment as well as for ongoing program planning and outcome monitoring.

In 1999, Iowa formed the Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development (ICYD). The ICYD is a dynamic, evolving partnership of state and local entities concerned about youth and youth policies. This interagency initiative is designed to better align state policies and programs and to encourage collaboration among multiple state and community agencies on youth-related issues. The goals of the initiative are to promote the use of positive youth development principles in state policies and programs and to facilitate the use of effective youth development practices in communities throughout Iowa. The lead agency for this initiative is CJJP. It includes more than a dozen state agencies, representatives from several community and statewide youth organizations, local agencies and research institutions.

Since its founding in 1999, representatives from state and local agencies and private organizations have been meeting to discus youth development issues, to build consensus on a youth development framework, and to promote youth development principals and practices. The ICYD has pursued three broad objectives:

1. Better coordinate and align state policies and programs related to youth using a positive youth development framework;

2. Identify or develop resources for use at the community level to promote youth development and to facilitate planning and implementation of effective youth development programs; and

3. Increase youth involvement in state and local level policy discussions and decision-making.

The ICYD has used several prominent youth development models and research, most notable the Social Development Strategy and Risk and Protective Factors identified by Developmental Research and Programs (Hawkins and Catalano) and the Developmental Assets Framework used by the Search Institute, to analyze the causes and conditions related to youth development in Iowa. Risk and protective factors and assets related to family and community conditions, as well as youth specific characteristics and conditions were identified. These factors became the basis for Iowa's Youth Development Results Framework.

The Iowa Framework organizes causes and conditions related to youth development into five broad result areas. The Results Framework is designed to be used across systems and agencies at both the state and community levels to identify youth issues and to monitor youth development outcomes. This framework consists of the following five result areas:

- Families are secure and supportive
- Communities and schools are safe and supportive
- Youth are engaged in and contribute to the community
- Youth are healthy and socially competent
- Youth are successful in school and prepared for adulthood

Operational components were identified for each result area to provide more definition and clarity to the youth development results Iowa has identified (see Appendix D). In addition, more than one hundred potential indicators have been identified that can measure status and progress within the five result areas. For these indicators, information sources were researched to assess their ability to provide data of local relevance.

CJJP has provided numerous hours of technical assistance and consultation to communities and agencies to identify or develop data sources, protocols and processes that can be tied to the youth development results framework and used to both plan community and program initiatives and to monitor and evaluate planning and service outcomes. The ICYD website (www.icyd.org) further describes the results framework and contains links to a wide variety of data sources that provide local-level information. Also, Appendix B can be referenced

as an example of how one state program's community-specific service outcomes can be conceptualized and reported using this framework.

Appendix A: An Example Menu

PROJECT OUTCOMES AND GOAL AREAS	MEASURES	
Permanency/Stability		
% of children not placed out-of-home	1=out-of-home placement did NOT occur	0=out-of-home placement did occur
% of children in foster care/treatment who are reunified with their families	1=reunification occurred	0=reunification did NOT occur
Safety (Child)		
% of children who do not experience founded child abuse or neglect	1=NO founded abuse or neglect report	0=founded abuse or neglect
% of parents/adults completing child development classes	1=parents completed child development class	0=parents did NOT complete child development class
Safety (Community)		
% of adjudicated children completing court ordered community service	1=completed court ordered service	0=did NOT complete court ordered service
% of children adjudicated delinquent	1=child NOT adjudicated delinquent	0=child adjudicated delinquent
Health (Physical)		
% with early prenatal care (first trimester)	1=early prenatal care (1st trimester)	0=No early prenatal (1st trimester) care
% of births where families receive "new baby" / wellness visits	1=birth, and family received new baby visit	0=birth, and family did NOT receive new baby visit
% of children and families with insurance	1=child and family with insurance	0=child and family without insurance
Health (Emotional)		
% Youth perceiving that they can change their own futures	1=perception that you can change own future	0=perception that youth CANNOT change future
% Youth who report their families provide high levels of love and support	1=youth reports high level of love and support	0=youth reports NO high level of love and support
Self-Sufficiency		
% of families offered financial planning and goals education	1=family offered financial planning/education	0=family NOT offered financial planning
% of program participants attaining full employment	1=participant employed	0=participants NOT employed
Education		
% improvement in grade point average	1=improved GPA	0=did NOT improve GPA
% of youth graduating	1=youth graduated	0=youth did NOT graduate

Appendix B

EXCERPT FROM:

JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COMMUNITY GRANT FUND OUTCOMES REPORT

and

FY 2002 JUVENILE JUSTICE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SUMMARY*

January 2002

OVERVIEW

This document contains two related, but separate reports. The Juvenile Crime Prevention Community Grant Fund Outcomes Report is a summary of outcomes from services and activities funded through the Juvenile Crime Prevention Community Grant Fund in FY2001. The Juvenile Justice Youth Development Program Summary describes Iowa communities' current prevention and sanction programs supported with funding from the Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP) during FY2002.

The material in Juvenile Crime Prevention Community Grant Fund Outcomes Report is presented in response to a legislative mandate to report specific prevention outcomes for the Community Grant Fund. It includes a brief description of a Youth Development Results Framework established by the Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development. Outcomes are reported using this results framework, which was developed by a number of state agencies as a common tool for various state programs involving youth development related planning and funding processes. Included in this report is a description of outcomes from the prevention activities funded, all or in part, by the Community Grant Fund, as reported by local communities.

The program summaries presented in the Juvenile Justice Youth Development Program Summary provide an overview of local efforts to implement their 2002 Juvenile Justice Youth Development plans and include prevention and sanction programs funded through the combined resources of the State Community Grant Fund and the Federal Title V Prevention, Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Act Formula Grant and Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant programs. These combined funds are referred to in this document as the Juvenile Justice Youth Development (JJYD) funds.

To administer the JJYD funds, including funds from the Community Grant Fund, CJJP partners with local officials to facilitate a community planning process that determines the communities' priorities for the use of the funds. The local planning is coordinated by the Iowa's Decategorization Boards (Decats). These local officials and/or their staff have been leaders in providing oversight or staff support to a variety of local planning initiatives (e.g. child welfare, Comprehensive Strategy Pilot Projects, Empowerment, other) and bring child welfare and community planning experience to the table for the creation of comprehensive community long-term planning efforts. The allocation of these combined funds and the technical assistance received by the Decats from CJJP is believed to have helped enhance both child welfare and juvenile justice efforts locally and has provided for the recognition and establishment of connections for joint child welfare/juvenile justice planning.

The allocation and local planning approach has allowed funding from CJJP to be "blended" or "braided" with other local, state, and federal dollars that flow to communities as a result of their local planning responsibilities. The program descriptions provided in this document reflect services and activities supported with JJYD funds. In many cases, however, additional funding sources have been used to fully fund the programs. Most of the information in this document's two reports was submitted to CJJP by the communities through an on-line planning and reporting process established jointly by the DHS and CJJP.

JUVENILE CRIME PREVENTION COMMUNITY GRANT FUND OUTCOMES

INTRODUCTION

The Juvenile Crime Prevention Community Grant Fund is established in Iowa Code 232.191 to provide local communities with state funding to prevent juvenile crime. It is combined with federal funding from the U.S. Department of Justice's Title V Delinquency Prevention Program and allocated to Iowa's 39 Decategorization Boards (Decat), which use the funds to plan and establish programs and services in the counties they represent.

The information presented in this report comes from the local officials who receive Community Grant Fund allocations. The Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP) and the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) jointly funded an outcomes technical assistance effort through a contract with the Center for Family Centered Practice out of the University of Iowa School of Social Work. This effort assisted officials in many of the local Decat's begin a process of compiling statistics and measuring results and outcomes from year to year and across programs designed to produce some common results or outcomes.

This report describes outcomes for the 2001 state fiscal year when the Community Crime Prevention Grant Program provided $1.6 million to local communities.   Many of these outcomes will not be tracked in subsequent years due to the major alteration or discontinuation of program efforts as the $1.6 million of state funds was reduced to the $725,000 available for the 2002 fiscal year (see Attachment A). As might be expected, the results-monitoring process local officials were initiating last year was affected by the reduced funding.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

The outcomes featured in the following section of this report follow the format of a Youth Development Results Framework (see Attachment B) established by the Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development (see www.icyd.org) . This framework represents a portion of the work-in-progress of a number of state and local agencies to align and better coordinate the planning, activities and goals of otherwise separate programs affecting youth. The results framework can be viewed as a guide through which major programs of a number of state agencies (Public Health, Human Services, Education, Human Rights, Management, Workforce Development and others) can be organized and coordinated at the state and local levels.

Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development Result Framework

Result Areas	Operational Components
Family: Families are Secure and Supportive	Economic security; Basic Needs (housing, food, etc.); Positive Relationships with Family Members
Community: Communities and Schools are Safe and Supportive	Safe Communities; Safe and Effective Schools, Quality Youth Programs and Opportunities; Positive Connections with Adults; Continuum of Effective Services and Interventions
Youth: Youth are Engaged in and Contribute to the Community	Civic Engagement (voting); Community Involvement; Youth Leadership
Youth are Healthy and Socially Competent	Physical and Mental Health Status; Lifestyle Choices (e.g., avoidance of risky behaviors); Personal and Social Development; Pro-social peer relations
Youth are Successful in School and Prepared for a Productive Adulthood	School Attachment; Academic Achievement; Vocational and Career Awareness; Employability Skills; Self Sufficiency and Life Skills

The use of the Youth Development Results Framework to help describe the outcomes of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Community Grant Fund is a "first-step" in reporting a state program's outcomes using a framework designed to represent common goals among multiple state programs. As may be noted below, there are overlaps among result areas, and the various community programs' components can be seen as contributing to more than one type of desired result. For example, a school-based mentoring program may be improving school safety while

also helping youth to become more socially competent and to succeed in school. That many of the project's outcomes contribute to more than one of the "result areas" is believed to illustrate the many facets and strengths of community youth development programs and initiatives, and CJJP's attempts to connect a given community outcome to only one result area in this section is not intended to minimize the impact that these community efforts have had on multiple desired results.

Iowa's Community Grant Fund was established to assist communities prevent juvenile crime. Each community receiving these funds is attempting to impact on juvenile crime through their efforts to achieve one or more of the results described in the above table. What follows are examples of how the planning and decisions of these communities' led to services that are producing the results that they seek.

LOCAL RESULTS

FAMILY

Working toward the desired result that all "Families are Secure and Supportive" involves policies and programs that help families meet their basic needs, achieve and maintain economic security, enjoy positive relationships with family members and assure appropriate parent behaviors and attitudes. Examples where the Community Grant Fund has contributed to successes in achieving such results include:

Clinton/Jackson Counties' "Families and Schools Together (FAST) program where 80% of the families are graduating from the program with a 30% reduction of anti-social behaviors in participating children and 70% of the parents reporting an increase in family cohesion.

Polk County's Boy Scout Diversion Program involved 33 youth, 10 participated in UA testing, 26 attended the Anger Management program, and 13 attended the Shoplifting Prevention Program. Of the participating families, 91% reported an increase in positive family communication, a decrease in family conflict, and an increase in positive behavior of the youth in and out of school.

Lee/VanBuren Counties' Multi-Systemic Family Therapy Program serves families with children at high risk of out-of-home placement. Eighty percent of the youth served were able to stay at home with their families. During the report period, none of the youth or their family members received additional delinquent or criminal charges of any kind.

Calhoun/Pocahontas/Webster Counties' POWECA-KIDS reports that 93% of the families that participated in the program did not experience an out of home placement and 96% of youth involved reported positive, improved relationships with adults and peers.

Polk County's SE Polk Central Place program served 23 students in its AM tutoring program with15 sets of parents involved in the program's parent support group. The parents reported an increase in positive family communications at a rate of 87% over the year. Also, 72% of the students demonstrated a decrease in self-destructive behavior, suicidal ideation, substance abuse, impulsive behavior, and excessive internalization and/or externalization of emotions.

COMMUNITY

Working toward the desired result that the "Community and its Schools are Safe and Supportive" involves policies and programs to help communities and their schools improve the safety of their environments, establish a continuum of effective services that increase opportunities for youth and provide positive connections between youth and adults. Examples where the Community Grant Fund has contributed to successes in achieving such results include:

Buena Vista/Crawford/Sac Counties' School Liaison Project grew over the year from 29 students to 121 with a 48% reduction in disciplinary actions, a 19% reduction in truancy and a 25% improvement in grades for the youth served.

Allamakee/Clayton/Howard/Winneshiek Counties' Violence Prevention Project experienced a 25% increase in knowledge of assault prevention strategies among approximately 1,364 grade school students. This project also reported a 25% increase in knowledge of mediation and conflict management skills among 25 students in grades 6-8 and fifty children completed or revised safety plans for themselves.

Jasper/Marion Warren/Madison' School Resource Officer Program in Newton reported their results as including a reduction in school violence, an improved student role in problem-solving, communication improvement among school, police, and students, reduction of juvenile criminal activity during the summer, reduction of underage smoking, increased bicycle helmet use to youth through specific SRO projects, and an improved understanding of police operations through positive programming.

Jefferson/Keokuk/Washington Counties' First Resources Corporation provided mentoring services to youth in the three-county area with a noted reduction in delinquency and recidivism for the youth being mentored.

Black Hawk County's Safe Schools Suspension Program provides an out-of-school consequence for students who demonstrate or verbalize violent behavior. This program has led to over 800 fewer behavior referrals in the school during a one-year period.

Black Hawk County's Youthful Offender Program reported that 70% of its participating youth improved school attendance, 60% showed a reduction in discipline referrals and 70% did not recidivate.

Floyd/Mitchell/Chickasaw Counties' Building Bridges Intervention Center reported that over 95% of the suspended students it served in a given quarter were successfully returned to their schools in the minimum number of days possible.

Jones County's Juvenile Court School Liaison for Anamosa saw 67% of the students involved with the program increase positive behaviors with a 33% decrease in suspensions. Eighty-three percent of the students experienced an increase in attendance and 60% increased their grade point average.

Jefferson/Keokuk/Washington County's First Resources Corporation reported a reduction in delinquency and recidivism for the 26 youth receiving the program's mentoring services.

Des Moines/Henry/Louisa Counties' Juvenile Diversion Project participants have had no additional truancies or referrals to juvenile court since starting the program. The program has been recognized nationally by the Boy Scouts of America and locally by the Iowa Association of Counties.

YOUTH

The youth result area includes three sub-categories: Youth are Engaged in and Contribute to the Community; Youth are Healthy and Socially Competent; and, Youth Succeed in School and are Prepared for Productive Adulthood. Working toward these results involves community programs and policies that increase or improve youths' community involvement, leadership skills, physical and mental health, lifestyle choices, personal and social development, peer relations, school attachment, academic achievement, career awareness, employability skills, and self-sufficiency and life skills. Examples where the Community Grant Fund has contributed to successes in achieving such results include:

Youth are Engaged in and Contribute to the Community

Polk County's DMARC-Mentor Coordination Program helped its youth participants put on a citywide mentoring conference and complete a mentoring directory for their community. The youth made over 59,000 contacts during the course of their work. Polk County's Mentor Iowa Program successfully matched over 98 youth with mentors. Also, their Big Brother/Big Sister Program reported that of the 62 youth who had been matched with a mentor, 75% showed improvement with their self-confidence and personal relationships.

Johnson County's Big Brothers/Big Sisters Mentoring program served 70 children using 47 volunteers. Participants were connected with community resources such as libraries or recreation centers that they could later use on their own. The program surveyed the children and more than two/thirds of respondents said they now feel better about themselves.

Boone/Dallas Counties' Community Service program helped delinquent youth contribute over 700 hours of community service work to Boone County nonprofit agencies. None of the youth re-offended while in the program.

Cherokee/Lyon/Plymouth/Sioux Counties' Community Service Coordinator Program had a 100% completion rate for its 37 youth participants which meant they all had successfully completed their community service assignments.

Clay/Dickinson/O'Brien/Osceola Counties' Community Service Coordinator Program has seen many of its youth participants continue volunteering after the completion of their required community service obligations. The youth take great pride in their work and have been recognized by city leaders for installing a privacy fence around their work facility.

Linn County's Peer Review Court saw all of its defendants successfully complete the program with over half going on to serve as Peer Review Court volunteers. No former defendants have re-offended.

Youth are Healthy and Socially Competent

Boone and Dallas Counties' "The Prevention Company" has continued to meet the goal of having 99% of its participants remain alcohol free until they reach the age of 21.

Cedar County's Resource And Prevention Program has received much verbal praise from law enforcement officers and parents. All the youth in the program have stayed out of trouble with law enforcement, have gotten jobs, worked on their community service hours, improved relations with their parents, reduced or stopped the amount of substances they were using and are interacting with peers in a positive, non-threatening way.

Clarke/Decatur/Ringgold/Wayne Counties' Juvenile Court Coordinator Program reported that for 73 youth in a given quarter, eighty-eight substance abuse screens were given with over 87.5% negative results (no drug use). There has been a steady decline in the number of youth suspected of using drugs while on probation.

Polk County's funding support to Camp Fire resulted in close to 200 youth participating in summer or day camps. Of these youth, 92% demonstrated an increased ability to avoid negative situations including crime, alcohol and drug use and negative peer pressure.

Woodbury County's ACTION Programs provided a variety of after school programs in a number of schools using volunteers and Americorp participants. Staff from all the schools reported that the majority of participating students had improved their behavior and attitudes as well as their social skills, self-esteem, listening skills/attention span and self confidence.

Youth Succeed in School and are Prepared for Productive Adulthood

Benton/Tama/Poweshiek/Tama Counties' after-school program saw a 65% decrease in tardiness, a 60% increase in attendance and a 35% improvement in overall grades for the participating youth. Also, in these counties' Juvenile Justice Project (Amana Clear Creek), 61% of the student participants achieved a higher grade point average.

Buchanan/Delaware/Fayette Counties' after-school programs at Independence and Oelwein middle schools report an increase in school attendance as well as grade improvement for participating students. Responses from parents also indicated an increase in positive behaviors in the home setting for all students participating.

Dubuque County's Truancy Program helped 66 youth from 44 Dubuque County families this past school year. Those students showed a 75 percent success rate, measured by increased attendance and improved homework. The attendance rate at Dubuque Senior High has grown to 93 percent.

Polk County's support to Children and Families of Iowa resulted in 60 volunteers and 379 tutors helping 419 students. All of the students receiving tutoring services demonstrated compliance with school rules as measured by no record of suspensions.

Scott County's Alternative for School Suspension program reported that over 95% of participating students completed the program and were successfully placed back in the school.

Story County's After-School Study Session Program averaged twenty to twenty-three 5th through 8th graders during a given quarter. Forty-three percent of these students improved their academic status or were able to exit the program because of good grades.

The introduction of the Youth Development Results Framework in this report was meant to test its usefulness and invite comments and suggestions. CJJP is continuing its efforts to work with local communities and other state agencies to refine and make use of this program planning and results-monitoring tool. Due to the recent reduction in state funding in the Community Grant Fund, FY2002 has become a transition year for the local communities receiving these funds as well as for CJJP as it continues its efforts to administer its programs and monitor their results.

As CJJP moves forward through this transition it also will be implementing the recently passed Iowa Accountable Government Act. During this time, it is expected that CJJP, working with other state agencies and the local communities with which it interacts, will find ways to improve system outcome reporting and that the Youth Development Results Framework will be further refined.

Juvenile Justice Youth Development Program Outcome Report
DRAFT --Outcomes Report Form –DRAFT

Program Name _____   County _____

Report Date _____   Reporting Period _____

Item Identifier (combination of results area and item number)	Program Code	Targeted Outcomes	# of Clients Observed	# with Targeted Outcomes	% Achieving Target Outcomes

Results Area Code:
A = Family: Families are secure and supportive
B = Community: Communities and schools are safe and supportive
C = Youth: Youth are engaged in and contribute to the community
D = Youth: Youth are healthy and socially competent
E = Youth: Youth are successful in school and are prepared for a productive adulthood

Item Code
Forthcoming to include operational components of each result area

Program Code
A   Family/Parenting Education
B   Substance Abuse Prevention/Education
C   Before- and After-School Programs
D   Mentoring/Tutoring Programs
E   Youth Leadership Programs
F   Violence Prevention Education
G   Employment/Community Service Training
H   Community Mobilization
I   Neighborhood Empowerment Projects
J   Truancy Monitoring
K   Life Skills Education Programs
L   Alternative School
M   Police/School Liaison
N   Teenage Pregnancy/Parenthood Prevention

Appendix D

IOWA YOUTH DEVELOPMENT RESULTS FRAMEWORK				
RESULT AREAS				
FAMILY	*COMMUNITY*	*YOUTH*		
Families are Secure and Supportive	Communities and Schools are Safe and Supportive	Youth are Engaged in and Contribute to the Community	Youth are Healthy and Socially Competent	Youth Succeed in School and are Prepared for Productive Adulthood
OPERATIONAL COMPONENTS				
Economic security Positive relationships with family members Basic needs (housing, food, etc.)	Safe communities Safe and effective schools Quality youth programs and opportunities Positive connections w/ adults Continuum of effective services and interventions	Civic Engagement (voting, public policy involvement) Community Involvement Youth Leadership	Physical and Mental Health Status Lifestyle Choices (e.g., avoidance of risky behaviors) Personal and social development Prosocial peer relations	School attachment Academic achievement Vocational and Career awareness Employability skills Self-Sufficiency and life skills
POTENTIAL INDICATORS (examples only)				
Pop. receiving public assistance Child poverty rate Child abuse rate Domestic abuse Single parent families Foster Care placement rate Child support payments Homelessness (children/families) Parental Involvement in School	Crime rate Suspensions/ Expulsions from School Availability of structured youth programs Availability of health services (physical, mental, and substance abuse treatment) # and length of out of home placements Delinquency recidivism	% of 18 - 25 year olds voting Membership in youth organizations # of active local government youth advisory councils # of youth participating on state boards and commissions % of youth involved in service learning Religious attendance among youth	Health insurance coverage of children & youth % youth reporting regular physical exercise Teen suicide rate Alcohol, tobacco and other drug use among youth Adolescent pregnancy/teen births Juvenile Arrests Life Goals Positive peer influences	Truancy Absenteeism Reading/Math Proficiency Graduation or high school completion rate % hs grads entering post-secondary ed or military Unemployment rate among young adults