

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency is pleased to provide the following information to update the 2006 Annual Report and to represent the 2006-2007 Fiscal Year.

There are no updates to the content on pages 1 through 3.

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***Building Healthy and Safe Communities - Pennsylvania Weed And Seed:
Reclaiming Neighborhoods and Lives***

So far, PCCD has invested more than \$37 million in Pennsylvania's 15 Weed and Seed sites. More than 170,000 citizens living in the target areas are working hard to reclaim their neighborhoods.

| CITY | 2006 – 2007 FISCAL YEAR Funding |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Aliquippa | \$190,000 |
| Allentown | 240,000 |
| Chester | 239,986 |
| Coatesville | 240,000 |
| Easton | 240,000 |
| Eric | 240,000 |
| Harrisburg | 233,125 |
| Lancaster | 210,000 |
| McKeesport | 240,000 |
| New Kensington/Arnold | 240,000 |
| Norristown | 240,000 |
| Reading | 239,497 |
| Sharon/Farrell | 240,000 |
| Wilkinsburg | 240,000 |
| York | <u>240,000</u> |
| TOTAL | \$3,512,608 |

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Investing In Proven Prevention Strategies

More than 100 communities across Pennsylvania have implemented the Communities That Care prevention planning process through the efforts of PCCD. In 2007, PCCD awarded approximately \$1.9 million to help sustain these efforts.

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Helping Youth Offenders Grow Into Law Abiding Citizens - Restoring Victims And Communities

In 2006, youth offenders performed more than 566,000 hours of community service, paid nearly \$2.4 million in restitution to their victims, and contributed an additional \$346,149 to the state Victims Compensation Assistance Program. In addition, 87 percent of the youth offenders whose cases were closed last year successfully completed their supervision, 94 percent completed their community service projects, and 85 percent made full restitution to their victims.

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Investing In Proven Prevention Strategies

There are no updates to the content on this page.

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Aftercare Strategies Help Create Transition to Success

PCCD's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee identified aftercare as one of the biggest challenges confronting the juvenile justice system. As a result, it is working with the state Department of Public Welfare, Juvenile Court Judges' Commission, state Department of Education, Juvenile Law Center, the National Center for Juvenile Justice, the Pennsylvania Council of Chief Juvenile Probation Officers and others to develop better aftercare programs. The project got a huge boost in 2004, when Pennsylvania was the first state chosen to participate in Models for Change, a national juvenile justice reform project funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The intent of Models for Change is create a more effective and fair juvenile justice system nationwide. The MacArthur Foundation promised to spend \$10 million over five years helping Pennsylvania strengthen its juvenile justice system, including its aftercare services.

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Youth Survey Guides Program Development

There are no updates to the content on this page.

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Empowering Victims to Restore Their Lives

There are no updates to the content of this page.

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Overcoming the Financial Burden of Crime

Aubria Cleckley was gunned down by an abusive ex-boyfriend in December 2000 shortly after she broke up with him. Despite efforts to save her life, Aubria, 21, died the next morning at a Pittsburgh hospital. As if the murder of her only daughter wasn't devastating enough, Pauletta Vaughn was confronted with another heartbreak: She didn't have the funds to bury Aubria and pay the enormous medical bills. Pauletta and her husband sought help from family and friends, and tried unsuccessfully to cash out a retirement fund. Then a victim advocate told her about PCCD's Victims Compensation Assistance Program (VCAP), which reimburses victims for certain out-of-pocket expenses. "Without the fund, I don't know what I would have done," Pauletta said. "VCAP was the biggest help and the people were so kind and compassionate."

To many victims, the financial impact of crime is almost as devastating as the crime itself. PCCD's Office of Victims' Services administers VCAP to help ease the financial burden resulting from a crime and allow a victim to focus on recovery and healing. VCAP covers a variety of expenses incurred by victims, including medical and counseling expenses, loss of earnings, loss of support, stolen cash, relocation or funeral expenses, and crime-scene clean-up. Advocates throughout the state work closely with victims to determine if they meet the eligibility requirements of the program.

The program was established in 1976. That year, 199 claims were filed, \$90,000 was paid out and it took an average of 44 weeks to process a claim. In 2006 – the program's 30th anniversary – VCAP celebrated significant progress. Last year, 7,569 claims were filed, \$12 million was paid out and the average claims processing time was eight weeks.

VCAP continuously strives to identify ways to improve the compensation process and is nationally recognized for its innovations. One of the most significant enhancements was streamlining the process through DAVE (Dependable Access for Victimization Expenses), an automated information and tracking database system. Victim service providers use DAVE to file compensation claims electronically and monitor the status. Claimants can access DAVE, online, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to check claim status, payment history and view a list of outstanding documents that need to be submitted. To ensure that all victims know about VCAP, the Office of Victims' Services works diligently to provide outreach and training to individuals and agencies that serve or have contact with victims of crime, including police departments, hospitals and medical organizations, victim service agencies, prosecutors, social service agencies, and funeral directors. "When you lose a child to violence, it's hard enough to deal with the loss, let alone trying to figure out how you are going to pay for the funeral and burial. It's all so overwhelming," Pauletta said. "We were so grateful for the compensation program. It allowed us to give Aubria the beautiful service and burial that she so deserved."

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PA's Victims Compensation Assistance Program - Celebrated 30 Years in 2006

The number of claims submitted to the program has increased more than 3,500 percent since 1976.

| | |
|------|--------------------|
| 1976 | 199 claims filed |
| 1986 | 2,234 claims filed |
| 1996 | 2,468 claims filed |
| 2006 | 7,569 claims filed |

The program has seen a continuous increase in money paid to and on behalf of crime victims.

| | |
|------|--------------------|
| 1976 | \$90,000 paid |
| 1986 | \$2.8 million paid |
| 1996 | \$4.2 million paid |
| 2006 | \$12 million paid |

The average time it takes to process a claim has decreased dramatically.

| | |
|------|----------|
| 1976 | 44 weeks |
| 1986 | 52 weeks |
| 1996 | 26 weeks |
| 2006 | 8 weeks |

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Enhancing Justice Through Technology: Success Continues for Protection Order Project

Last year marked the 10th anniversary of the Protection From Abuse Database (PFAD) project, created by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence using federal funds awarded by PCCD.

PFAD is an electronic repository of pleadings and orders in protection from abuse cases, available statewide to authorized user groups: prothonotaries, domestic violence advocates, court administrators, courts, law enforcement, magisterial district justices and private attorneys. Sixty-four of Pennsylvania's sixty-seven counties are currently connected to PFAD, with over 10,500 authorized users. PFAD archives pleadings and orders in full text form. It provides authorized users with an electronic copy of the document, which can be printed for distribution where a hard copy is necessary, including for pleadings and other court purposes. The database now houses over 223,949 filed temporary and final orders. PFAD provides critical statewide data for analysis by the courts and law enforcement; creates and disseminates the PSP Protection From Abuse Summary Data Sheet, which is required for inclusion in the PSP Registry, and is in turn entered in NCIC/CLEAN. The database also contains all standardized PFA forms approved by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court as well as other forms necessary for protection from abuse cases. Records from PFAD are immediately available 24 hours a day/365 days a year to authorized users via a secured Internet website. Authorized users can also access the PFAD database via the Pennsylvania Justice Network (JNET).

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PFAD has also developed and is currently implementing an automated process for enforcement of protection orders. Enforcement is accomplished via contempt hearings in the county where the violation occurred. PFAD developed electronic forms for Indirect Criminal Contempt and the Civil Contempt process. There are over 6,547 Indirect Criminal Contempt dispositions presently filed in PFAD.

PFAD is critical to saving the lives of victims of domestic violence. Orders are clear and more easily enforced because of PFAD. It ensures the dissemination of timely, accurate information to law enforcement personnel across the state and it facilitates coordination of services at the local level. It is also an on-going goal of PFAD to achieve consistent use of the system for enforcement purposes by ensuring statewide access and appropriate training for law enforcement and court personnel whose roles put them in direct contact with batterers.

PCCD looks forward to working with PCADV and PSP as two more counties-Lehigh and Bucks-develop data transfer capabilities to participate in PFAD in 2007.

Online Grants Management Improves Information Floe

There are no updates to the content in this section.

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Electronic Fingerprints, Photos Helps Police Identify Offenders

PCCD also funds the creation of central booking centers to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of offender identification and processing. A central booking center is a location that serves multiple police departments and includes CPIN, AFIS and video arraignment, where the offender and district magisterial judge can see and talk with each other via a television monitor. Central booking centers save time and money for law enforcement agencies because when police arrest someone, instead of spending hours processing the offender themselves, they simply drop the suspect off at the central booking center and head back to the streets. The booking center's staff fingerprints and photographs the offender, and holds that person until arraignment before a district magistrate. Pennsylvania was one of the first states in the nation to combine these technologies and as of today, PCCD has coordinated and funded more than 142 central booking centers across Pennsylvania.

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Reducing Recidivism Among Adult Offenders - Treatment Courts Combine Justice With Treatment

Treatment courts (adult and juvenile drug courts, family treatment courts, mental health courts, and DUI courts) are specialty courts that oversee cases involving non-violent offenders with substance abuse problems. The goal of these courts is to reduce recidivism by addressing the offender's substance abuse problems and mental health issues that likely contributed to the crime.

“Problem-solving courts were developed as an innovative response to deal with offenders’ problems, including drug abuse, mental illness, and domestic violence and in doing so, break the cycle of criminal behavior,” said Karen Blackburn, Problem-Solving Courts Coordinator for the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts. “These courts are designed to provide positive case outcomes for victims, society and the offender by reducing recidivism and creating safer communities.”

PCCD coordinates and funds treatment courts across the state. Philadelphia’s treatment court, founded in 1997 by Judge Louis Presenza, was the state’s first drug court. Today, there are 17 adult drug courts, seven juvenile drug Courts, seven DUI courts and five adult mental health courts in Pennsylvania. Many other counties are planning to establish treatment courts. Treatment courts provide comprehensive supervision, screening and assessment for substance abuse and/or mental illness, treatment services, and immediate sanctions and incentives. Participants are strictly monitored and held accountable through frequent court appearances, drug testing, work and school performance, participating in counseling sessions and attendance at Alcohol Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous meetings.

“We know what they are doing at every turn,” said Shea Madden, executive director of West Branch Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission, which oversees the treatment court for Lycoming County. “It’s not an easy program—more than one person has turned it down and told us it’s easier to go to jail.”

In Lycoming County, the drug court offers many levels of care to offenders – both inpatient and outpatient. The program typically takes 18 months to complete and six months of sobriety are required to graduate. The program boasts a 60 percent graduation rate. Some participants have returned for additional help instead of returning to criminal behavior. The program works with individuals as long as they show a willingness to change, Madden said. This community-based alternative helps to alleviate prison overcrowding by freeing up jail cells for more serious or violent offenders. It can also save money. For example, in Lycoming County, it costs an average of \$8,100 per participant in drug court, whereas a year in the Lycoming County Prison is nearly \$17,000.

Treatment courts work best for people who want to change but need additional structure to do so, Blackburn reported. Many treatment courts offer ancillary services, such as assistance with employment, housing and family issues.

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A 2006 National Institute of Justice study, “Drug Courts: The Second Decade,” states that drug courts have coerced an impressive number of substance-involved offenders – many of whom have co-occurring mental, emotional and physical health problems – to receive treatment, counseling and other services that they need if they are to lead productive and law-abiding lives. Furthermore, a 2004 National Drug Control Strategy Update hailed drug courts as “one of the most promising trends in the criminal justice system.”

Counties With Treatment Courts:

Operational Adult Drug Courts

Allegheny
Berks
Blair
Bradford
Chester
Cumberland
Erie
Indiana
Lackawanna
Lancaster
Luzerne
Lycoming
Montgomery
Northumberland
Philadelphia
Washington
York

Operational DUI Courts

Allegheny
Berks
Blair
Lackawanna
Lycoming
Northumberland
Philadelphia

Operational Adult Mental Health Courts

Allegheny
Erie
Lackawanna
Northumberland
York

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Program Offers Treatment, Hope for Non-Violent Offenders

There are no updates to the content on this page.

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Helping Adult Offenders Re-enter Their Communities

Of the nearly 80,000 adult offenders who are incarcerated in state and county prisons across Pennsylvania, more than 90 percent someday will be released back into society. One of the commonwealth's top criminal justice priorities is reducing the likelihood that these offenders will commit new crimes.

PCCD is uniquely positioned to aid in reentry efforts for two reasons. First, it has the funds to launch pilot projects, monitor the success, and, when they are effective, to replicate them statewide. In counties across Pennsylvania, PCCD is working with agencies including probation and parole, educators, employers, social services, and drug and alcohol treatment providers on new programs designed to reduce recidivism. For example, in Philadelphia, PCCD is funding a program that provides intensive mental health and substance abuse treatment to offenders with both disorders who are reentering their communities. In Adams County, it is funding transitional housing and aftercare programs for female offenders who are being released from the county jail and need somewhere to live. Indiana County's Locked In With Keys program, funded by PCCD, helps inmates obtain an education and employment so they can be successful upon their release. Another way that PCCD is positioned to help state and county agencies reduce recidivism is through the development of county criminal justice advisory boards. "It makes sense to engage criminal justice advisory boards because everyone who needs to be involved in reentry efforts is already at the table," said Jim Strader, PCCD's deputy director of the Office of Criminal Justice System Improvements. "These advisory boards put counties in a position where they can develop a comprehensive strategy for reintegrating state and county inmates."

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Responding To Needs Through Innovation - Putting More Officers On The Streets

Amid the growing gun violence that was claiming so many lives in many Pennsylvania communities this past year, Governor Edward G. Rendell in July announced \$10 million in state funding for a program to put more police officers on the streets. He called the program Police on Patrol, and assigned the task of administering it to PCCD. By September, more than \$9.6 million in grants was on its way to 15 communities, giving them the resources to hire 195 new officers. In November, a second wave of grants totaling \$300,000 was announced, with the funds going to five additional communities to hire a total of six new officers. “With this money, our cities and communities will have more police officers to stop gun traffickers who terrorize our neighborhoods and streets,” Governor Rendell told a Philadelphia audience when announcing the grants. “Additional officers are needed to stop gun violence because they can stop gun traffickers.” Under the guidelines for the new program, communities had to illustrate how the new officers would be used to reduce violent crime. Each community that was awarded a grant was given \$50,000 per police officer per year – above budgeted planned hires – for three years, and they had to commit to funding the position for three years after the Police on Patrol grant expired. “It is critical that we support cities as they work to reduce crime, gun trafficking and street violence,” Governor Rendell said. “The Police on Patrol program helps communities hire additional police officers to work in problem neighborhoods, improving safety and enhancing the quality of life for people who work or do business there.”

Funding has been approved for year two.

The following communities were awarded funds:

| Community | Amount | Number of Officers |
|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Philadelphia | \$4,905,840 | 100 |
| Pittsburgh | 2,000,000 | 40 |
| Reading | 250,000 | 5 |
| Allentown | 250,000 | 5 |
| Chester City | 250,000 | 5 |
| Harrisburg | 250,000 | 5 |
| Erie | 250,000 | 5 |
| Altoona | 250,000 | 5 |
| Wilkes-Barre | 250,000 | 5 |
| Bensalem Township | 250,000 | 5 |
| Pottstown | 200,000 | 4 |
| Williamsport | 150,000 | 3 |
| Chester Township | 150,000 | 3 |
| York | 150,000 | 3 |
| New Castle | 100,000 | 2 |
| Bethlehem | 100,000 | 2 |
| Coatesville | 50,000 | 1 |
| Hazleton | 50,000 | 1 |
| Shamokin | 50,000 | 1 |
| Darby Borough | <u>50,000</u> | <u>1</u> |
| Total: | \$9,955,840 | 201 |

New Notification System Could Save Lives

Pennsylvania's new Statewide Automated Victims Information and Notification system (PA SAVIN) is proving its value as a new tool for victim services and communities. PA SAVIN was first activated in Erie County and is now in place in five counties. It will be available in 15 counties by the end of 2007. PCCD is working with the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Institute to deploy PA SAVIN statewide. The system will notify interested persons – including crime victims and law enforcement officers-when an offender is released or escapes from a county prison. PA SAVIN operates around the clock. The system was made possible by a \$1.25 million grant awarded to PCCD from the U.S. Department of Justice. Recently, PCCD was awarded an additional grant to extend PA SAVIN to include the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections.

The system is a huge boost to public safety in Pennsylvania because it will notify interested residents – including crime victims and law enforcement officers – when an offender is back in the community. Right now, notifications are made by victim advocacy organizations that are often understaffed and overwhelmed. Some notifications are not taking place in a timely manner. “SAVIN complements the good work already underway in Pennsylvania by victim advocacy organizations. It relieves some of their burden when it comes to notifying victims and their families that an offender is back on the streets, and allows them to focus their efforts on helping victims stay safe in those situations.” And SAVIN is not just limited to victims. “SAVIN is available to everyone,” said PCCD Chairman Walter Phillips. “For example, if someone in your neighborhood has been arrested for selling drugs or molesting a child, you can sign up to be notified when that person is released from the county jail.” PCCD, working with the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Institute, will continue to coordinate the development of SAVIN statewide, which will operate around the clock when completed.

The SAVIN system was created after Mary Byron was shot to death in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1993 by her ex-boyfriend three days after he was released from jail. The ex-boyfriend had been serving time for stalking, assaulting and raping the 21-year-old woman. No one ever notified Byron that he was being released from prison. In response, local, state and federal officials joined forces to develop an automated system that provides victims and others with immediate notification when an offender moves through the system.

Content for Pages 17 and 18 continues.

Responding To Needs Through Innovation - Putting More Officers On The Streets

Criminal Justice Advisory Boards Coordinate Programs, Projects The first time Delaware County's criminal justice advisory board saved the county money – not to mention potentially bad publicity – was nearly 10 years ago, when the county was in the midst of building a new prison. Already one of the more technologically advanced counties, Delaware County court officials relied heavily on videoconferencing for arraignments, preliminary hearings and other court appointments. “We were at a criminal justice advisory board meeting and they were talking about the progress in building the new prison and someone asked if it was going to be equipped for videoconferencing,” said Phil Damiani, court executive director. “Had that question not come up at that time, and if we had to retrofit the prison to accommodate videoconferencing, it would have cost so much more money.” Today – nearly 15 years after Delaware County launched its criminal justice advisory board – that's just one of many examples Damiani cites when asked how the board has influenced criminal justice policy and practice over the years. “The concept of a criminal justice advisory board is fairly simple,” said Jim Strader, a deputy director at PCCD who helps counties to create the boards. “Key players in the county's criminal justice system come together to improve the effectiveness and quality of justice, be that through reformed policies and practices, enhanced coordination among agencies, new technologies or improved gathering of data.” Nearly 40 counties now have criminal justice advisory boards, although many are new and still evolving. All are comprised of policy-level administrators including judges, county commissioners, prosecutors, police chiefs, the jail warden, chief probation officers, public defenders, directors of health and human services, victim service professionals, substance abuse providers and others who work to administer justice within a county. For the past 15 years, PCCD has awarded grants and provided technical assistance to counties to foster the development of these boards. In 2006, it hosted a conference on criminal justice advisory boards. “From PCCD's perspective, criminal justice advisory boards provide the foundation for our agency to work with counties on problems impacting the county and local criminal justice system and strategies to address these problems,” Strader said. “From a county's perspective, the boards provide individuals who work within the criminal justice system with enhanced access to judges and commissioners, and also provide a forum for a wide range of voices when planning for future needs.” Damiani agreed. His county's board recently played a key role in helping Delaware County improve services to offenders with mental health and/or substance abuse issues. “Our board has subcommittees that tackle different issues and one of them addresses behavioral health,” Damiani said. “We were looking for a way to provide better services for people with mental health or substance abuse problems because so often, they fall through the cracks.”

PCCD offered funding to counties that could demonstrate a need within the criminal justice system. Delaware County, through its advisory board, was able to illustrate that the hiring of court liaisons to evaluate all offenders admitted to the county prison would result in the identification and more timely treatment of those with substance abuse and mental health issues. PCCD awarded the county funds for the liaisons. “This has been a tremendous help to our courts because there's better connectivity, better transition into the community after incarceration, and better information during court proceedings,” Damiani explained. “Now we don't have people sitting around in jail with nothing happening. Now, they are getting treatment.”

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More Than Eight Million Americans Were Victims of Identity Theft in 2005

There are no updates to the content on this page.

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Evaluating The Effectiveness of Our Programs – Research & Evaluation Drive Programs, Priorities

Here is a brief overview of research projects funded by PCCD that were completed in late 2006 and early 2007.

Validation of Risk/Needs Assessments in the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections

The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (PDOC) receives approximately 8,000 new admissions per year to its correctional institutions. In an effort to enhance its classification procedures, the PDOC implemented a standardized assessment protocol that consists of a broad based risk/needs measure (Level of Service Inventory-Revised; LSI-R) and a specialized measure of criminal attitudes (Criminal Sentiments Scale-Modified; CSS-M) and anger/hostility (Hostile Interpretations Questionnaire; HIQ). There was no information on the technical integrity of these instruments among PDOC offenders.

This project sought to examine the psychometric properties and reliability and validity of the LSI-R, CSS-M, and HIQ among PDOC offenders. The evaluation methodology employed to address this issue consisted of a statistical examination of archival data drawn from the records of the PDOC. The data sample consisted of 1034 offenders selected from 21 institutions who were assessed during a one-year period between June 2003 and July 2004. A variety of social-demographic (e.g., age, gender, race, etc.) and criminal history (e.g., prior offenses, recidivism, etc.) data were available for the validation process. Data were also available on the inter-rater reliability of the LSI-R, which was collected by way of two LSI-R assessments of the same offender (one completed by PADO staff and one by the Principle Investigator).

The results of the research showed that overall, the PADO is subscribing to contemporary correctional practice by using standardized assessment instruments in the decision making of offenders. The LSI-R, CSS-M, and HIQ are appropriate and relevant instruments for this purpose and the results of the present project confirm the technical integrity of these instruments among PDOC offenders.

The Law Enforcement – Education Partnership to Promote LifeSkills Training (LEEP – LST)

The purpose of this exploratory pilot study was to investigate the efficacy of using police officers to implement a proven-effective school based drug prevention curriculum, LifeSkills Training (LST). The study trained 7 police officers and 6 classroom teachers in the program and compared the quality and fidelity of program implementation in 5 socio-economically and ethnically diverse middle schools. The aim was to determine whether or not individual or organizational characteristics of police officers differentiated them from classroom teachers in a way that would prevent officers from effectively delivering a quality school based prevention program.

Baseline assessment of the officers and teachers showed greater similarities than differences. The key differences found related to classroom teaching experience and comfort, level of education, organizational and collegial support, and personality type, all of which favored teachers. However the police officers showed a greater knowledge of general prevention science at baseline. A post training assessment of the officers' and teachers' understanding of the curriculum showed very similar scores for both groups.

The findings support the use of police officers as deliverers of classroom drug prevention curricula, but also reinforce the need for more proactive technical assistance and monitoring of implementation fidelity as effective prevention programs go to scale.

For more information on these projects, please visit the Research Section of the PCCD website.

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Reducing Crime Through Training And Education - Training Police Officers To Help Citizens Improve Safety

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Understanding and Recognizing Signs of Terrorism

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Training Deputy Sheriffs

Training Deputy Sheriffs State law requires that all deputy sheriffs in Pennsylvania complete an initial 760 hours of basic training in order to be certified, and 20 hours of continuing education every two years to maintain their certification.

State law requires that all deputy sheriffs in Pennsylvania complete an initial 760 hours of basic training in order to be certified, and 20 hours of continuing education every two years to maintain their certification. PCCD oversees this training. In 2007, basic training was held three times at Penn State University and was completed by 61 deputy sheriffs. The training included classes in civil and criminal law, prisoner transport, courtroom security, use of force, crisis intervention, first aid, firearms, defensive tactics, custody and emergency vehicle operations, investigations, motor vehicle code, and terrorism indicators.

New deputy sheriffs who previously worked in law enforcement and had already completed a basic training comparable to the 760-hour course can attend waiver training, an abbreviated, two-week basic training course to achieve certification. In 2007, 142 deputy sheriffs underwent waiver training. Another 813 deputies completed their required continuing education during 2007, which, in the last two-year cycle, included courses on infectious disease prevention, drug detection, domestic violence, and cultural diversity. For those deputies who want to further their education, PCCD oversees merit courses, some offered online, on topics such as advanced security, health and wellness, and criminal law. These courses are optional but offer deputy sheriffs the opportunity to enhance their skills and professionalism.

The Deputy Sheriffs' Education and Training Board provides PCCD with recommendations regarding training issues and needs affecting the state's 2,068 deputy sheriffs.

Training Constables and Deputy Constables

PCCD, by law, oversees the training and certification of Pennsylvania's nearly 1,200 constables and deputy constables. In order for constables or deputy constables to perform judicial duties, they must complete an 80-hour basic training that includes courses on civil and criminal law, mechanics of arrest, courtroom security, prisoner transport and custody, crisis intervention and use of force. Annual recertification requires that they complete an additional 20 hours of continuing education.

In 2007, PCCD offered a total of 170 training courses for constables and deputy constables, with 118 constables/deputy constables completing basic training and an additional 1,174 constables and deputies completing their continuing education to qualify for recertification. Also, all constables and deputy constables who want to carry a firearm must pass an initial 40-hour firearms course, as well as an annual 20-hour firearms continuing education course. In 2007, 968 constables and deputy constables were certified to carry a firearm through the firearms courses. The Constables' Education and Training Board provides training recommendations to PCCD regarding the training of constables and deputy constables.

PCCD's Web site includes a "constable finder," which enables citizens to verify the certification status of constables and deputy constables.

Shaping Criminal Justice Policy and Legislation

PCCD's Policy and Legislative Affairs office advises the agency, the Rendell administration and state legislators regarding the impact of bills, amendments and public policy on Pennsylvania's criminal and juvenile justice systems.

One of the office's primary functions is to serve as a watchtower over the nearly 6,000 bills introduced by legislators each year. The office tracks the bills that affect the state's quality of justice and, when passed by both chambers of the General Assembly, provides a detailed analysis to the Governor's office and other state agencies.

"Sometimes, a well-intentioned bill can have unanticipated effects that a lawmaker may not have realized," said Dennis Hoyle, director of the Policy and Legislative Affairs office. "Our job is to evaluate the impact of potential legislation for all who are involved in the drafting process and, when appropriate, to lend assistance in crafting that legislation so that it achieves the overall goal."

The office also helps to identify and resolve issues with current state and federal legislation. For example, the office works with units within PCCD to ensure that State law is in line with requirements of federal funding sources.

The office also serves as the principal point of contact between the members of the General Assembly, their constituents and PCCD. The office's response to these inquiries can result in significant benefits to Pennsylvania's citizens. For example, PCCD receives dozens of calls from legislators' offices on behalf of constituents who are crime victims. The appropriate referral to PCCD's Office of Victims' Services can mean the difference between a crime victim obtaining help to overcome trauma or continuing to live with frustration and fear. Other calls might involve disseminating information about PCCD's training or grant programs.

During 2005-2006, the office handled more than 150 telephone information requests from members of the PA General Assembly, their constituents, and members of the U.S. Congress. The policy role of the office is to coordinate program and policy development, and to recommend changes to existing policies that affect the agency and those involved in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

In 2006, PCCD's chairman, Walter Phillips, at the direction of Governor Rendell, championed legislation and policy designed to make the commonwealth a safer place to live by embarking on a media campaign to advocate for gun laws that could curb the epidemic of gun violence. Most notably, he worked to educate citizens about the importance of legislation that would limit the number of handguns someone could purchase to one a month. Research shows this legislation could curb what's known in law enforcement circles as "straw purchases," which are guns purchased legally by someone who then turns around and sells them illegally to someone else – often convicts who are not permitted to purchase guns.

In September 2006, the state House of Representatives voted not to pass One Handgun A Month legislation, but even so, Chairman Phillips, along with anti-gun violence advocates statewide, was able to increase dialogue on the issue.

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As the Policy and Legislative Affairs office looks forward to 2007, it has made it its mission to increase its effectiveness as an integral conduit of information flow between and among PCCD, the Governor's office, the General Assembly, other state agencies, and stakeholder constituencies. As such, it will become an asset to each. To that end, it will embark on a range of efforts to increase the proficiency of staff and raise the profile of the office and PCCD. Three top priorities for the office are to:

- Review all enabling, and governing statutes relevant to PCCD's operation, identify faults and omissions and make recommendations for corrective legislation;
- Develop and maintain personal relationships with key legislators and/or their staff, and to;
- Formally present PCCD vision, mission and operations, as defined by the Governor, the chairman and the executive director, to the General Assembly and other state agencies.

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PCCD Grant Funding

| <u>State*</u> | <u># Grants</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Blueprints for Safer Philadelphia | 11 | \$10,824,020 |
| Violence Reduction | 4 | 1,000,000 |
| Intermediate Punishment | 56 | 3,354,338 |
| Drug Education and Law Enforcement (D.A.R.E.) | 296 | 2,074,609 |
| Partnership for Safe Children | 47 | 5,016,000 |
| Penn Violence Reduction Partnership | 1 | 250,000 |
| Police on Patrol Program | 18 | 9,742,649 |
| Research-Based Delinquency and Violence Prevention | 38 | 4,790,000 |
| Restrictive Intermediate Punishment-Drug & Alcohol | 26 | 15,825,000 |
| Substance Abuse Education & Demand Reduction | 17 | 4,042,823 |
| Victim/Witness Services (1/1/06 - 12/31/06) | 72 | 7,635,297 |
| Victims of Juvenile Offenders | 142 | 3,358,000 |
| Weed and Seed | <u>36</u> | <u>3,128,423</u> |
| Total State | 764 | \$71,041,159 |

* State funded awards made from SFY 2006-2007 appropriations

State Funding Streams

Penn Violence Reduction Partnership funds are awarded to evaluate intensive community supervision and treatment as a strategy for preventing violent offenses by high-risk adults on local probation and parole. Police on Patrol Program funds are awarded to directly enhance local law enforcement resources by increasing the number of local police on patrol within communities. The impact of this funding is intended to enhance local efforts to investigate and interdict the commission of violent crimes.

| <u>Federal**</u> | <u># Grants</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program | 84 | \$7,442,643 |
| Drug Control & System Improvement | 70 | 4,263,891 |
| Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Block Grant | 3 | 808,510 |
| Juvenile Accountability Block Grant | 45 | 2,076,122 |
| Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act | 6 | 1,331,354 |
| National Criminal History Improvement Program | 2 | 778,153 |
| National Forensic Science Improvement Act | 7 | 423,929 |
| Project Safe Neighborhoods-Middle District | 8 | 179,227 |
| Project Safe Neighborhoods-Middle District Anti-Gang | 16 | 185,790 |
| Project Safe Neighborhoods-Western District | 7 | 324,985 |
| Project Safe Neighborhoods-Western District Anti-Gang | 4 | 202,649 |
| Protection From Abuse Order Enforcement | 1 | 712,500 |
| Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program | 3 | 956,696 |
| Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act | 5 | 2,213,112 |
| Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification | 1 | 1,250,000 |
| STOP Violence Against Women | 49 | 4,174,550 |
| Victims of Crime Act (24 month grants) | <u>149</u> | <u>\$29,211,252</u> |
| Total Federal | 460 | \$56,535,363 |
| | | |
| Total State and Federal | 1224 | \$127,576,522 |

** Federal funds awarded by the Commission between 7/1/06 and 6/30/07

Federal Funding Streams

Protection From Abuse funds are awarded to ensure the development of effective protocols for the enforcement of protection orders and arrests that are responsive to the needs of victims of domestic violence. Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification (SAVIN) funds are awarded to implement an automated, integrated, statewide system of identifying and notifying victims of crime, law enforcement and the community-at-large of the status of criminal offenders.

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