

FY 2005 CASOM Project Summaries

Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections

The Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections (DPSC) received a Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management planning grant in 2001 to focus on adult offenders. Their team met frequently in order to establish rules of operation, define vision and mission statements, develop research questions, and construct survey instruments. The team assessed current practices and developed goals and objectives. LA Department of Public Safety and Corrections will use grant funds to execute their goals and objectives by implementing the plan that was developed as a result of the planning process.

In addition to working with adult sex offenders, the DPSC project will work with Louisiana Department of Youth Services to enhance community-based services to juvenile sexual offenders in Louisiana by implementing and evaluating a comprehensive community-based "best practices" model in a five (5) parish (county) region of the state. Ultimately, the successful components of the pilot project will be replicated across the state. The proposed "best practices" model reflects multi-systemic, social-ecological intervention principles and juvenile sex offender-specific legal and clinical programming. Refinements to the "Louisiana Florida Parishes' Juvenile Sex Offender Management System" will be made and implemented in the first year of operation and critical outcome studies will be conducted. During the second year of the grant, LSUHSC will provide comprehensive training and consultation to the multi disciplinary team representing five (5) parishes in support of the model's implementation.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, NV

The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) will use grant funds to conduct a study to identify sex offender management needs in Clark County and develop and implement a strategic plan to address those needs. LVMPD will partner with the members of two Clark County Sex Offender Management Teams in this project: the Clark County Sex Offender Management Task Force, established in 2004, and the Juvenile Sex Offender Task Force, established in 2000. Both task forces are composed of representatives of local Law Enforcement, the Judiciary System, Juvenile Court, Parole Board, Treatment Providers, Corrections, Parole and Probation, Victim's Rights, Polygraphists and other interested parties. The goal of this partnership is to develop a comprehensive, multidisciplinary system to manage adult and juvenile sex offenders in Southern Nevada in order to protect the public.

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

The direct service population to be served in this grant is all juvenile and adult offenders sentenced to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR). The DCR will use funds to develop a statewide, comprehensive sex offender strategic plan and policy that will provide a blueprint for the management, supervision and treatment of all sex offenders committed to the DCR. Currently in California, the state juvenile and adult institutions and parole departments act independently, and with little standardization. This new model will include nationwide best practices, standards and trends in the treatment, supervision and management of sex offenders. A collaborative team comprising of representatives from the courts, probation, corrections, mental health, victims organizations and other professional associations will be involved in the development of this strategic plan.

New York State Unified Court System – Nassau County

Of the over 200 sex offense arrests made in Nassau County each year, only 30% are incarcerated. The remaining 70% receive split sentences, probation, or other non-jail sentences. To ensure that all offenders are effectively supervised, team members propose to design and implement the Nassau County Sex Offender Court and Community Management System. Since 1998 Nassau County has been working to develop innovative approaches to managing sex offenders by through the Nassau County Sex Offender Task Force which includes criminal justice practitioners, victim advocates, and treatment providers. While this multi-agency effort has resulted in improved supervision of sex offenders in Nassau County, it has also revealed some important obstacles to the consistent application of best practices. The New York State Unified Court System seeks to create a specialized sex offender court and a community management system with sex offender specific treatment, clinical polygraph, training for court personnel and specialized probation officers. This specialized sex offender court will enhance Nassau County's already remarkable commitment to collaborative community management.

Ohio Department of Youth Services

The Ohio Department of Youth Services will focus on the juvenile population. The target community for this project will include all 88 counties of Ohio and include 18 congressional districts. The Ohio Department of Youth Services (ODYS) will use grant funds to improve victim advocacy, assessment, treatment, re-entry, supervision, registration, and community notification as it relates to sex offender management. Initially, ODYS will establish a multidisciplinary policy team that represents the agencies, organizations, and others involved in the prosecution, adjudication, care and treatment of juvenile sex offenders in Ohio. Once the collaborative team is solidified, ODYS will establish processes, structures, and appropriate staff support for conducting the assessment of Ohio's current system of managing sex offenders. The current sex offender management policies and practices and legislative requirements will be examined against what is known about the components and fundamental principles of the comprehensive approaches to sex offender management. Subsequently, ODYS will implement the proposed strategy under the direct oversight of the multidisciplinary team to address any gaps identified during the assessment process.

Delaware County Department of Social Services, NY

For over a year, the key stakeholders from Catskill region (New York State) have worked collaboratively toward the development of a comprehensive approach to sex offender management. The Catskill Region Coalition for Sex Offender Management (CRCSOM) team consists of all four Commissioners of Social Services, all four Directors of the county probation departments, and all four Directors of Community Mental Health Centers, as well as representatives from other disciplines including law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, defense counsel, sex offender treatment providers, hospital personnel and victim advocates. The funding will allow for research to inform the team about how to enhance the investigation, prosecution, community supervision and treatment of juvenile and adult sex offenders, all within a victim-centered framework. The grant will also allow for the creation of two agency-operated therapeutic foster homes for juvenile sex offenders which, when developed, will provide effective treatment and ensure the sustainability of the CRCSOM project by saving the four counties an estimated one million dollars per year.

Red Lake Board of Chippewa Indians, MN

The Red Lake Board of Chippewa Indians will use grant funds to execute a two phased approach in improving its current sex offender management practices. The Phase I assessment and planning portion of the proposed project will involve research and assessment of how Red Lake manages both juvenile and adult sex offenders along the spectrum of a sexual assault case from report to reentry. However, Phase II of the project proposes to focus solely on juvenile offenders as it develops an implementation plan to address gaps in the current strategy.

Kentucky Department of Corrections

The Kentucky Department of Corrections is committed to the safety of the community, while addressing the needs of adult sex offenders. The Kentucky Department of Corrections, in collaboration with other stakeholder agencies and individuals, will use funding to evaluate current sex offender management practices in Kentucky, address gaps in offender management, and implement programs or policies to address these gaps. Additionally, further evaluation will be conducted upon completion of the initial implementation phase to determine if gaps were appropriately addressed, and if further problems arose from strategies that were instituted.

Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

Florida Department of Juvenile Justice's (DJJ) proposal reflects a vision for a statewide juvenile sex offender policy and resource analysis, which has not to date been conducted in Florida, that leads to selection of one or more demonstration sites. The demonstration project and analyses will provide a blueprint for policymakers in Florida to begin shifting to an evidence-based continuum of services model for juvenile sex offenders. The primary goal of this project is to achieve sustainable, statewide change by demonstrating to policymakers that the provision of a comprehensive, graduated continuum of juvenile sex offender services is more cost-effective than the current system. Currently in Florida, most publicly funded treatment services for juveniles who sexually offend are available only in high-security residential settings. This scope of this project encompasses the entire state of Florida as the juvenile sex offender management jurisdiction. The Florida DJJ administers the statewide continuum of juvenile justice services and either operates or contracts for all community and residential delinquency prevention and delinquency services.