

# **DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT IN IOWA'S JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM**

Taken from  
**JJDP Act Formula Grant Application**  
and  
**Three-Year Comprehensive Plan**

**April 2006**

Iowa Department of Human Rights  
Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning  
and  
Iowa's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council

## **Table of Contents**

1.	PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DMC REQUIREMENT .....	3
A.	UPDATED DMC IDENTIFICATION SPREADSHEETS .....	3
B.	DMC DATA DISCUSSIONS (SEE E - STATE AND F - LOCAL DMC SECTIONS) .....	6
C.	PROGRESS MADE IN FY 2005 (SEE E - STATE AND F - LOCAL DMC SECTIONS) .....	6
D.	DMC-REDUCTION PLAN FOR FY 2006-2008 (SEE "E" STATE AND "F" LOCAL DMC SECTIONS) .....	6
E.	STATE LEVEL DMC PLAN .....	6
1.	State DMC Data Discussions .....	6
F.	LOCAL LEVEL DMC PLAN .....	11
A.	BLACK HAWK COUNTY .....	11
B.	WOODBURY COUNTY .....	12
C.	POLK COUNTY .....	13

## i. Description of Report

This report was developed to provide summary information to allow state agency staff, practitioners and juvenile justice system officials to access a specific section of Iowa's Three Year Plan. It includes the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) section of Iowa's 2006 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act formula grant Three-Year Plan. The complete Three Year Plan serves as Iowa's application for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act formula grant funding. **The information included in this report serves as the plan for Iowa's DMC effort.** Separate reports related to this document have been created and include

- Delinquency Related Systems in Iowa – Substance Abuse, Mental Health, Education and Job Training;
- Delinquents in Iowa – Arrests, Services & Sanctions;
- The complete 2006 Three Year Plan.

The Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP) wrote Iowa's Three-Year Plan. CJJP is the state agency responsible for administering the JJDP Act in Iowa. Federal officials refer to state administering agencies as the state planning agency (SPA). The Plan was approved by Iowa's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council. That Council assists with administration of the JJDP Act, and also provides guidance and direction to the SPA, the Governor and the legislature regarding juvenile justice issues in Iowa. Federal officials refer to such state level groups as state advisory groups (SAG's). The acronyms SPA and SAG are used throughout this report.

This plan was developed and approved by Iowa's DMC Committee. The group includes members of the minority community, a broad base of juvenile justice system related staff, local planners, researchers, community activists, etc. The DMC Committee is a subgroup of the SAG, but many of its members are not on the SAG. The SPA provides the staff support for Iowa's DMC Committee.

## 1. PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE WITH DMC REQUIREMENT

The below information serves as the DMC section of Iowa's application for federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act formula grant funding (JJDP Act).

### A. Updated DMC Identification Spreadsheets

Matrices - The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act) requires states to submit matrices with their annual JJDP Act formula grant application. **The matrices are included as attachments at the end of this plan.** The matrices examine major court decision points and compare "relative rates" for minority youth based on comparison with incidence for White youth through calculation of a relative rate index (**RRI**) – the relative rate index is discussed below.

*Relative Rate Index* - The matrix uses RRI to compare processing rates of minority youth to White youth. The formula and an example from which the relative rate index was obtained is presented below:

Rate of Occurrence <b>(Afr. Amer. Youth)</b>	divided by	Rate of Occurrence <b>(White Youth) =</b>	Relative Rate <b>Index</b>
221.35/1000 arrests	divided by	54.67/1000 arrest	= 4.06 RRI

*In the example above, a relative rate index of 4.06 is obtained for arrests of African American youth. The data were taken from the arrests for African American youth reflected in the state level matrix (the state level matrix is included at the end of the section). The RRI from the statewide data reflect that for every "1" arrest report filed for White youth, "4.06" arrest reports are filed for African American youth. The arrest report rate for African Americans youth is considerably higher than that of White youth.*

*Individual Pages of the Matrices* – The following pages are included in a single matrix (see below).

- **Date Entry Page** - The first page in each of the matrices at the end of this section provides data (annualized data counts) for some of the major juvenile court decision making phases as well as data for some secure settings (juvenile detention & boys state training school), census data, and arrest data from the Iowa Uniform Crime Reports.
- **Race Specific Pages** - Additional pages of the matrix calculate the RRI by race/ethnicity (one page for each race/ethnicity White, African American, Hispanic/Latino, Asian, Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, Native American, Other/Mixed).
- **All Minority Population Page** - Another page of the matrix calculates the relative rate index for a combined population of “all minority” youth.
- **Summary Page** - A summary page lists RRI’s for all the different races at all of the different decision points.
- **Population Based Rates** - The final matrix page shows the cumulative effect of multiple decisions as the population based relative rate index.

*Different Rates at Different Stages* – The matrices calculate rates per thousand at some of the initial decision making stages (“arrest” and “referral to juvenile court”) because the numbers are sufficiently large at those points in the process. Rates per 100 are calculated for some of the deeper end system processing points such as “finding of delinquency” because relatively few youth advance to those points in the system.

*Statistical Significance* - The matrices also include a column related to statistical significance of the RRI - “YES” in the column indicates that the difference in rates between the groups is large enough to be statistically significant; “NO” indicates that there is no statistical significance between the groups. Due to the problem of small numbers, there are cases where a “NO” may appear in the significance column simply because the number of minority youth are insufficient to calculate statistical significance. Analysis performed in the matrices later in this plan generally address those data elements found to be of statistical significance.

*Identification Tool* - It should be noted that OJJDP officials view the matrix as an identification tool. It identifies differential processing rates. **It does not explain the reasons for differential rates (e.g. differential offending versus system bias)**. It is a tool that Iowa's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council and DMC Committee can utilize to help identify potential areas of focus for DMC related efforts.

*Iowa's Completion of the Matrices* - Provided below is a brief discussion related to information Iowa utilized to complete its matrices, as well as potential issues related to the use of that information.

*The majority of the data utilized for Iowa's completion of the matrices is from calendar year 2005 and was taken from its Justice Data Warehouse (JDW – JDW is discussed below). CJJP staff included only JDW decision making data that was the result of a complaint that occurred in CY 2005. For example, the matrices data for the decision making points of “referral”, “diversion”, “petition”, “delinquency finding”, “probation”, “juvenile correctional facility”, and transfer” have only been included if they are related to a “complaint” that occurred in CY 2005. State training school holds exclude those youth sent for 30 day evaluations – only boys state training school holds were included. Data for the decision points of “arrest” and “juvenile detention” were not taken from JDW - further discussion of the data from those decision points is included below.*

*Justice Data Warehouse* - Information to complete the matrices was taken, in large part, from Iowa's Justice Data Warehouse (**JDW**). JDW is a central repository of key criminal and juvenile justice information. Information for the warehouse is taken from the Iowa Court Information System (ICIS). ICIS is operated on 100 local data bases and is comprised of subsystems: juvenile court services, consolidated case processing, financial reporting, jury selection, appellate records management, scheduling, tickler system administration, etc. The overall mission of the JDW is to provide the judicial, legislative and executive branches of state government, and other entities, with improved statistical and decision support information pertaining to justice system activities.

For purposes of administration relating to Iowa's court system, Iowa's 99 counties are organized into eight judicial districts. Presently all eight judicial district are inputting and utilizing information from the ICIS. Information from each of those districts is available for analysis from the SPA's JDW.

The SPA has concluded work on a Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) grant. The project assisted in providing information to enhance Iowa's assessment and monitoring capabilities for the JJDP Act's DMC core requirement. Over the past four years the SPA has worked with a juvenile court services committee (ICIS User Group) and Iowa's Chief Juvenile Court Officers to create agreed upon procedures for data entry and analysis. Juvenile court officials have also provided feedback on design for a variety of standardized reports. The activities associated with the JRSA grant enhanced Iowa's ability to provide juvenile court processing and monitoring information that is being used for completion of OJJDP's DMC Matrices.

*Data Reconciliation* - Each month the SPA works with ICIS User Group staff to validate JDW data against county reports. The data used to complete the below matrices have been through that validation process. **Despite the validation efforts there are still data entry inconsistencies in certain jurisdictions for certain decision points.** Training efforts have continued to improve the quality of the data, and have targeted that specific issue. The SPA will continue discussions with local officials, particularly in those judicial districts where additional data verification is necessary, to determine if any additional training or technical assistance is needed.

*Adult Court Waiver* – The adult court waiver data reflected on the DMC matrices includes those incidents where the juvenile court has waived youth from the juvenile court to the jurisdiction of the adult criminal court. **The adult court waiver data in the matrices does not include information on those 16 and 17-year-old youth that end up under adult court jurisdiction due to statutory exclusion from juvenile court jurisdiction for the commission of certain serious offenses** (forcible felony offenses; certain drug, weapon or gang related offenses) – such statutory exclusion is detailed in Iowa Code Section 232.8(3).

*Arrest Data* - Data for completion of the matrices was taken from the Iowa Uniform Crime Report (UCR). The UCR is generated by the Department of Public Safety (DPS) from law enforcement agencies throughout Iowa that supply information to DPS regarding the numbers and types of arrests that they make every year.

DPS officials note that not all Iowa law enforcement agencies report arrest information, and that some agencies that are presently reporting arrest information under-report juvenile arrest statistics. It is important to note that the arrest rates reported by DPS are adjusted rates and were based on age-specific populations of those law enforcement jurisdictions reporting any data to DPS. If a law enforcement agency underreported data, but reported at least some data, both the arrest and population numbers from that jurisdiction were included in the calculation of the statewide rates reported by DPS. Assuming that the population numbers for given jurisdictions are accurate, and the number of arrests are less than what actually occurred, the actual statewide arrest rate would be greater than that reported below. Given current and past underreporting of juvenile arrests by some jurisdictions, CJJP believes that the arrest rates discussed below are lower than would be seen if all juvenile arrests were reported. The reader is strongly urged to refer to DPS's "2004 Iowa Uniform Crime Report" for more information on this topic.

*Other Data Sources* – As was mentioned briefly above, additional information for completion of the matrices was taken from a juvenile detention facility database that is maintained by the SPA for compliance monitoring for the JJDP Act. Additionally, information was provided from census sources maintained by OJJDP and its contractors. The data sources are noted at the bottom first page of each matrix.

*Incident Based data* – In large part the data reflected in the report are “incident-based,” not “youth-based.” For example, the statewide matrices reflect 19,915 “incidents” of arrest during the report period. That does not mean that there were 19,915 youth arrested; it means there were that many arrests reported. It is likely that an individual youth could have been reported through multiple arrests. Therefore, the number of youth who have been arrested is lower than the number of incidents reported – the data in the matrices reflect the number of incidents. Similarly, a single arrest incident for a given youth could include multiple offenses. The matrices reflect the number of arrests, not the number of offenses.

*Population Reflected on Matrix – Report Period* - The population group represented in the matrices is youth ages 10-17 (except for STS – only youth from 12-17 are admitted to that institution). The time period reflected for most of the decision points is calendar 2005 (1/1/05 thru 12/31/05). *Juvenile detention facility data has a report period of state fiscal year 7/1/04 through 6/31/05. Arrest data are from the Iowa 2004 Uniform Crime Reports.* Explanations at the bottom of the individual data entry sheets reflect the data source.

*Census Data (Estimates)* - When the SPA completed matrices for submission of its previous 3 year plan, the 2005 JJDP Act formula grant update, official census data from 2000 was used for completion of the matrices. Since then OJJDP officials have provided a variety of census estimate data. The SPA is resubmitting the matrices submitted with the 2005 three year plan utilizing 2003 census estimates. For completion of the matrices submitted with this plan the SPA is utilizing 2004 census estimate. *The matrices revised from the 2005 three year plan will hereafter be referred to as the 2005 matrices. The new matrices completed for submission of this plan will hereafter be referred to as the 2006 matrices.* OJJDP officials indicate is will be a while before 2005 census estimates are available.

*Geographic Area Targeted with the Matrices* - Much of Iowa's DMC effort focuses on providing technical assistance to three sites with high minority populations. The technical assistance sites include the following counties: Black Hawk, Polk, and Woodbury. The technical assistance is provided by the University of Iowa School of Social Work, National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice - the University serves as the state's DMC Resource Center (Resource Center). The Resource Center's efforts are discussed later in this plan. DMC Matrices have been completed for each of Resource Center's TA sites.

## **B. DMC Data Discussions (see E - STATE and F - LOCAL DMC sections)**

Iowa's DMC Approach is focused at both the "state" and "local" level. This DMC report is organized accordingly. The following state and local sections include information regarding (1)DMC Data Discussions, (2)Progress Made in FY 2005, and (3)DMC-reduction Plan for FY 2006-2008.

## **C. Progress Made in FY 2005 (see E - STATE and F - LOCAL DMC sections)**

Iowa's DMC Approach is focused at both the "state" and "local" level. This DMC report is organized accordingly. The following state and local sections include information regarding (1)DMC Data Discussions, (2)Progress Made in FY 2005, and (3)DMC-reduction Plan for FY 2006-2008.

## **D. DMC-Reduction Plan for FY 2006-2008 (see "E" STATE and "F" LOCAL DMC sections)**

Iowa's DMC Approach is focused at both the "state" and "local" level. This DMC report is organized accordingly. The following state and local sections include information regarding (1)DMC Data Discussions, (2)Progress Made in FY 2005, and (3)DMC-reduction Plan for FY 2006-2008.

## **E. State Level DMC Plan**

This section is Iowa's state level DMC plan. The plan includes analysis of data from Iowa's state-level DMC matrices for [2005](#) and [2006](#) (click year to access matrices).

### **1. State DMC Data Discussions**

#### **Quantifiable Documentation**

Adequate documentation exists for the development/maintenance of the state DMC plan.

#### **Discussion of State Relative Rate Indexes**

Provided below is analysis of Iowa's statewide matrices ([2005](#) and [2006](#)) *It should be noted that in Iowa the overall numbers of minority youth are small – the number has been listed for all analyses where the RRI is calculated on a number of less than 20. Analysis performed in the matrices discussed for local jurisdictions below references only those data elements found to be of statistical significance. It should be noted that analysis is provided on changes observed in the matrices between their submission with the prior 2005 three year plan and with this 2006 plan – the analysis only comments on changes of .5 or more. Analysis comparing changes between the 2005 and 2006 matrices submissions has not been provided in those circumstances where there were fewer than 25 cases for a given decision phase in a report year.*

- Based on the data in 2006 matrices, the RRI's for African American youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (4.05), "referral" (4.53), "detention" (1.71), and "petitioned" (1.63). The RRI's for African American youth at "arrest" and "referral" are higher than for any individual race/ethnicity category. The RRI's for African American youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision points of "diversion" (.68), "delinquency finding" (.96), "probation" (.93), and "transfer to adult court" (.57).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for African American youth decreased at the following decision making phases including "arrest" (2005=4.73 to 2006=.4.05), "diversion" (2005=1.24 to 2006=.68 ), "delinquency finding" (2005=2.10 to 2006=.96), "transfer to adult court" (2005=1.43 to 2006=.57 ).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for African American youth increased for the following decision making phases including "referral" (2005=3.91 to 2006=4.53), and "petition" (2005=.85 to 2006=1.63).
- Based on the data in the 2006 matrices, the RRI's for Hispanic/Latino youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (1.4), "referral" (1.36), "detention" (1.67), and "petitioned" (1.04). The RRI for Hispanic/ Latino youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision points of "diversion" (.85), and "probation" (.79).
  - There were no changes of .5 for Hispanic youth between the 2005 and 2006 and or the overall number were less than 25 for a given year.
- Based on the data in the 2006 matrices, the RRI's for Asian youth are higher than White youth at the decision point of "detention" (1.45). The RRI's for Asian youth are lower than that of White youth at the decision point of "arrest" (.61), "referral" (.62), 'diverted (.84), "delinquency finding" (.80), "probation" (.57, n=9) and "transfer to adult court" (.21, n=1).
  - There were no changes of .5 for Asian youth between the 2005 and 2006 and or the overall number were less than 25 for a given year.
- Based on the data in the 2006 matrices, the RRI's for Native American youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (2.15), "referral" (2.23), "detention" (2.77), "delinquency finding" (1.64) and "confinement in correctional facility" (4.18, n=7), and "transfer to adult court" (1.26, n=5). The RRI's for Native American youth at "secure correctional facility" and "detention" are higher than for any individual race/ethnicity category. The RRI's for Native American youth are lower than White youth at the decision points of "diversion" (.43), "petitioned" (.69), and "probation" (.79).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for Native American youth increased for the following decision making phases including delinquency finding (2005=.79 to 2006=1.64) (2005 n=46 and 2006 n=25).
- Based on the data in the 2006 matrices, the RRI's for all minorities are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (2.33), "referral" (2.61), "detention" (1.64), "petitioned" (1.38), and "juvenile correctional facility" (1.40). The RRI's for "all minorities" are lower than White youth at the decision making points of "diversion" (.73), "delinquency finding" (.98), "probation" (.88), and "transfer to adult court" (.66).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for all minorities decreased at the following decision making phases including delinquency finding (2005=1.59 to 2006=.98) and transfer to adult court (2005=1.25 to 2006=.66 ).

## **2. Progress Made at the State Level in 2005**

Listed below is an overview of Iowa's existing efforts to impact DMC. *The activities outlined below have been approved by the DMC Committee and the SAG.* It should be noted that the activities as well as specific goals and objectives are discussed as well in the section 6 of this plan.

*DMC Committee* - Iowa continues to maintain an active DMC Committee. The group has met approximately every other month for the past 6 years. The group includes members of the minority community, a broad base of juvenile justice system related staff, local planners, researchers, community activists, etc. The DMC Committee is a subgroup of the SAG, but many of its members are not on the SAG. The SPA provides the staff support for Iowa's DMC Committee.

### **DMC Committee Activities Implemented**

- Provide oversight for all the DMC related activities of the SAG.
- Assist in the planning and implementation of the DMC Resource Center
- Involved in the planning of Iowa's DMC Conferences in November 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005.
- Involved in providing a variety of information to local media.
- Involved in feedback and review of DMC Matrices.

### **DMC Committee Activities Not Implemented**

- Planned activities were implemented – committee continues to look for ways to modify efforts regarding use of information to broader audiences.

*DMC Resource Center* - In January of 2002 Iowa initiated its DMC Resource Center effort with the University of Iowa School of Social Work, National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice. The University has established a DMC Resource Center (Resource Center). The Resource Center concept was developed with consultation from OJJDP staff (Heidi Hsia) and technical assistance consultant (Randy Thomas). The Resource Center effort is considered one of Iowa's major DMC-related achievements. **The SAG has approved \$70,000 from this 2006 three year plan update funding (see budget section below) to continue its DMC Resource Center effort.**

### **DMC Resource Center Activities Implemented**

- Implementation support for annual DMC Conference. The annual conference averages 250 persons attending the late fall conference, which will be held this year on November 30 - December 1, 2006. The conference attracted attendees from at least 15 states and the District of Columbia including Midwest DMC Coordinators from surrounding states.
- Technical assistance to three local Iowa Sites – planning assistance, data analysis, training, local event facilitation, etc. (see detailed information regarding efforts in sites later in this report).
- Receive feedback from local DMC sites, DMC Committee and SPA to monitor the effectiveness of their efforts.
- Maintenance of State DMC Website - website contains information relevant to DMC ([http://www.uiowa.edu/~nrcfc/index\\_dmcrc.htm](http://www.uiowa.edu/~nrcfc/index_dmcrc.htm)).
- Work with state DMC Committee on various DMC-related activities.

### **DMC Resource Center Activities Not Implemented**

- All planned activities were implemented.

*Other State Level Efforts Implemented Related to DMC* – List below are a variety of other state activities with direct relevance to DMC.

- *Justice Data Warehouse* – An extensive discussion of the justice data warehouse (JDW) was provided at the beginning of the DMC plan. *JDW will continue to be a critical tool as Iowa moves forward with implementation of its DMC efforts.* It is a tool that will be accessed as Iowa updates its assessment process in select counties and works to develop a state detention risk assessment tool. Those efforts are discussed below in section 6.
- *Community Allocation Process* - As described earlier in the “three year program plan” section of this report, the SAG and the SPA are now in the fifth year of a process that utilizes a significant portion of JJDP Act Title II and V funds, enforcing underage drinking funds, and JAIBG funds through a community allocation process. The funds are allocated to local Decat Governance boards. Through the Decat process communities are allowed to prioritize funding to locally address the child welfare/juvenile justice issues of greatest importance. Some of the types of programming funded through the local allocation process with the potential to impact DMC include local conferences, substance abuse prevention activities, after school or summer school programs, specialized curriculum, tracking and monitoring, school based liaisons, day treatment, aftercare, etc. The allocation process has helped move decision making to the local level where it is believed that there is ultimately the greatest potential for impacting DMC. A vital role for the SPA staff and the DMC Resource Center will be to serve as a resource to assist local planning entities with information, training, local planning tools, programmatic information etc. *Over the upcoming year the DMC Committee and the Gender Specific Services Task Force will be meeting*

*with Chief Juvenile Court Officers and Department of Human Services Service Area Administrators to encourage Decats to expand local analysis to more fully include the needs of minority youth and girls. The SPA will also work with the DMC Resource Center to consider ways that they can assist the local planning and programming taking place with the allocation process.*

- *JJDP Act Secure Facility Compliance Monitoring* - A significant part of Iowa's compliance monitoring for the JJDP Act DMC requirement relates to its secure facility monitoring for other JJDP Act requirements such as jail removal, sight and sound separation, and deinstitutionalization of status offenders. As was described earlier in this report, the SPA has a fairly extensive compliance monitoring system. Virtually all of the state's compliance monitoring information is collected by race. *Iowa will continue to maintain that system.*
- *Updated Assessment Activities* – For over a year Michael Leiber, chair of Iowa's DMC Committee and a professor and researcher at the University of Northern Iowa, has been involved in a project that will allow for case specific tracking on a sample of youth in four Iowa counties, Black Hawk, Linn, Johnson and Scott. Dr. Leiber is utilizing information provided from JDW as he completes his assessment process. The effort has the goal of allowing the DMC Committee, the SPA, and the SAG to revisit an earlier assessment on juvenile court decision making that Leiber conducted in the early 90's. Leiber has concluded collection of data in those counties and is presently cleaning (verifying for accuracy) that data. It is anticipated that Dr. Leiber will have preliminary study information available to share with the SPA in the Spring of 2006. Dr. Leiber is performing the research with his own resources.
- *Local Assessment Study* – During the past year Michael Leiber collected information on a sample of cases for youth held in detention in Black Hawk County's juvenile detention facility. He has begun analysis and is expecting to release preliminary finding in the spring of 2006. He will work with the SPA for the release of that information.
- *Information Effort with the Iowa Department of Human Services* – In the spring and summer of 2004 and 2005 the DMC Committee and the Gender Specific Services Task Force released reports that provided county level state service and decision making information. Data from those reports are available on the SPA's website ([http://www.state.ia.us/dhr/cjpp/juve\\_delinq\\_data/juve\\_data.html](http://www.state.ia.us/dhr/cjpp/juve_delinq_data/juve_data.html)). Fairly extensive court processing/service information is provided by race and gender. The effort provides information regarding a variety of state DHS services (i.e. group care, family foster care, family centered services, shelter care, detention, state training school admission, etc.), and court decision making phases (referral, diversion, petition, consent decree, adjudication, etc.). The information has assisted a variety of state and local officials in their planning efforts.
- *Juvenile Detention Risk Assessment Effort* – At the November 2003 Iowa DMC Conference a number of the Resource Center's local technical assistance sites vocalized a desire for state/federal level support for a localized juvenile detention risk assessment process. Heidi Hsia from OJJDP attended the conference and offered technical assistance to support the effort. The SPA has received technical assistance from a researcher from the Washington State Institute for Public Policy. The goal is to provide a state-level tool that can be operated on the Iowa Court Information System (ICIS – state level mainframe systems that provides information for JDW). The SPA is working with Iowa's Chief Juvenile Court Officers (juvenile probation officers – Iowa has 8 chiefs – one in each judicial district) to implement the activity. A pilot detention screening tool is being piloted presently in three judicial districts. Iowa will be requesting additional technical assistance from OJJDP to assist with data analysis and other related issues as this project moves forward
- *Iowa DHS Effort to Impact on Needs of Youth of Color in the Child Welfare System* - As part of the DHS child welfare system redesign there was a specific desire to increase statewide awareness, examine decision-making, provide more cultural responsive services and improve outcomes for children of color. The redesign was discussed in the "system description" section of the three year plan. The child welfare redesign related to youth of color calls for a two-pronged approach consisting of 1) the initiation of local demonstration projects to impact on positive

outcomes for youth of color, and 2) and partnering with the existing efforts of the DMC Resource Center related to policy recommendations and site work (University of Iowa). Over the past 9 months the Resource Center has been involved in examining data on decision points (both quantitative data through the Child Welfare Information System and qualitative data collected through on-site shadowing at DHS offices), providing technical assistance to the two local sites involved in the DHS initiative (Woodbury and Polk Counties), and working to connect the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Both of the DHS sites are sites the Resource Center is working with for its juvenile justice related work with the SPA and the DMC Committee. The Resource Center has especially attempted to connect the DHS efforts with its juvenile justice related activities in those sites. DHS staff have also been serving on the SAG's DMC Committee. Funding from the DHS Children of Color effort helped support the DMC Committee's December 2005 DMC Conference.

- *Urban Children are Really Essential* (U.C.A.R.E.) – Urban Dreams, a local youth serving agency secured a federal grant that allows DMC related efforts in a number of Iowa communities. The DMC Committee is partnering with U.C.A.RE. to target efforts in some of the communities in which the DMC Resource Center is working or in other areas of the state with high minority populations.

### **3. DMC Reduction Plan for FY 2006-08**

Provide below is the state level reduction plan related to DMC.

#### **Overview of Activities, Timeline, & Identification of Efforts Supported with Formula Grant Related Funding**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Amount Formula \$</b>
<i>DMC Committee</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue Regular Meetings</li> <li>• Assist w/ Resource Center</li> <li>• Assist w/ Planning Conference</li> <li>• Information to Media</li> <li>• Feedback on Matrices</li> </ul>	Approx Every 2 Months Progress Reports – Applications Meetings & Subcommittee Mtgs Period Reports to Media Annual Review of Matrices	
<i>DMC Resource Center</i>		\$70,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue TA – 3 sites</li> <li>• Continue Annual Conference</li> <li>• Continue to provide Info.</li> </ul>	Visit Sites Quarterly Late Nov./Early Dec. 06 DMC Mtgs. – Website Postings	
<i>Justice Data Warehouse</i>	Annual Updates Matrices & Reports	
<i>Community Allocation Process</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information from prog rep.</li> <li>• Meet w/ Chiefs &amp; SAMS</li> </ul>	Fall 2006 Spring 06	
<i>Compliance Monitoring</i>	Annual OJJDP Schedule	
<i>Updated Assessment</i>	Results - Spring/Early Summer 06	
<i>Local Detention Assmt. Study</i>	Results - Spring/Early Summer 06	
<i>DHS Information Effort</i>	Updated Report – Spring 06	
<i>Detention Risk Assmt.</i>	Study Findings – Fall/Early Winter 06	
<i>Youth of Color – DHS</i>	Continued Throughout 06	
<i>U.C.A.R.E.</i>	Continued Throughout 06	

## **F. Local Level DMC Plan**

**Local Interventions** – Iowa has utilized a technical assistance effort which is being implemented through the DMC Resource Center. The Resource Center has in the past worked with at least nine Decat projects or other local planning entities to increase awareness and enhance their local data analysis, planning and policy efforts related to DMC. (Black Hawk, Polk, Woodbury, Hamilton/Humboldt/Wright, Muscatine, Scott, Webster, Linn and Johnson Counties). All of the sites have higher than average minority populations, express concern about over-representation and have significant over-representation related issues. Currently resources are only available to provide continuing targeted technical assistance to Black Hawk, Polk and Woodbury; however, contact is being maintained and some activity exists in the other sites. Matrices have been completed for each of the three Counties and are included at the end of this report as attachments (Black Hawk County Matrices -- [2005](#) and [2006](#), Woodbury County Matrices – [2005](#) and [2006](#), and Polk County Matrices -- [2005](#) and [2006](#)).

*It should be noted that DMC matrices have been completed for each of the above referenced target local intervention sites. Analysis performed in the matrices discussed for local jurisdictions below references only those data elements found to be of statistical significance. It should be noted that analysis is provided on changes observed in the matrices between their submission with the prior 2005 three year plan and with this 2006 plan – the analysis only comments on changes of .5 or more. Analysis comparing changes between the 2005 and 2006 matrices submissions has not been provided in those circumstances where there were fewer than 25 cases for a given decision phase in a report year.*

### **A. BLACK HAWK COUNTY**

#### **A1. Black Hawk County DMC Data Discussions**

##### **Quantifiable Documentation**

Adequate documentation exists for the development/maintenance of the state DMC plan. Matrices have been completed for Black Hawk County for [2005](#) and [2006](#) (click year to access matrices).

**Discussion of State Relative Rate Indexes** ([2005](#) and [2006](#)) (click year to access matrices).

- Black Hawk County has the highest percentage of African American youth (15%) in the state.
- Based on the data in the 2006 matrices, the RRI's for African American youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (3.75), "referral" (4.11), "detention" (1.64), "petitioned" (1.55), "delinquency finding" (1.09), "correctional facility" (2.62). The RRI's for African American youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision point of "diversion" (.66).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for African American youth increased for the following decision making phase: "referral" (2005=3.48 to 2006=4.11).

#### **A2. Progress Made in Black Hawk County in 2005**

##### **Black Hawk County Site Activities Implemented**

- Utilized visit by technical assistant/consultant Randy Thomas through OJJDP working in concert with Resource Center and SPA to build a coalition which remains intact and active.
- Continued efforts of local DMC Committee.
- Collected local data for use by Juvenile Court Services and the Committee analyzed by the DMC Resource Center.
- Actively participated in state DMC Conference, and state DMC Committee.
- Obtained staff support for local efforts through UCARE initiative sponsored by Urban Dreams, a non-profit agency in Des Moines, IA.
- With DMC Resource Center assistance identified funding opportunities.
- Actively participated in state DMC Conference, and state DMC Committee.

##### **Black Hawk County Site Activities Not Implemented**

- All planned activities were implemented.

### A3. DMC-Reduction Plan for Black Hawk County - FY 2006-08

#### Overview of Activities, Timeline, & Identification of Efforts Supported with Formula Grant Related Funding

Activity	Timeline	Amount Formula \$
Participate in State DMC Committee	Approx Every 2 Months	
Continue Participation of State Conf.	Late Nov./Early Dec. 06	
Participate in Local DMC Committee	Local Committee meets monthly	
Utilize DMC Res. Cntr.	Quarterly visits from Resource Center	
• Partic. of DMRC-Local Mtgs. • Analysis of UCARE Surveys • Analysis of JCS Data • Wraparound plan develop. • Info or UCARE – funding opps. • Support DMC Altern.	Continue funding for JCS/Decat	

## B. WOODBURY COUNTY

### B1. Woodbury County DMC Data Discussions

#### Quantifiable Documentation

Adequate documentation exists for the development/maintenance of the state DMC plan. Matrices have been completed for Woodbury County for [2005](#) and [2006](#) (click year to access matrices).

**Discussion of State Relative Rate Indexes** (Matrices have been completed for Woodbury County for [2005](#) and [2006](#) (click year to access matrices.)

- Woodbury County has the highest number of Native American youth (n=416 age 10-17) of all Iowa counties. It is one of Iowa's most diverse counties: Hispanic/Latino youth (14%), African American youth (4%), Native American youth (3%) and Asian youth (3%).
- Based on the data in the 2006 matrices, the RRI's for Native American youth are higher than White youth at the following decision points: "arrest" (3.01), "referral" (3.76), "secure detention" (1.80), "petitions" (1.08), "delinquency finding" (1.12). The RRI's for Native American youth are lower than White youth at the decision phase of "diversion" (.37).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for Native American youth increased for the following decision making phase: "referral" (2005=3.21 to 2006=3.76).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for Native American youth decreased at the following decision making phase: "arrest" (2005=4.02 to 2006=3.01).
- Based on the data in the 2006 matrices, the RRI's for African American youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (2.99), "referral" (3.21), "secure detention" (2.17), "cases petitioned" (1.05) "delinquent findings" (1.81) and "probation" (1.27). The RRI's for African American youth are lower than White youth at the decision phase of "diversion" (.61).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for African American youth increased for the decision making phase of "probation" (2005=.54 to 2006=1.27).
- Based on the data in the 2006 matrices, the RRI's for Hispanic youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (1.19), "referral" (1.71), and "secure detention" (1.49). The RRI's for Hispanic youth are lower than White youth at the decision phase of "petitioned" (.67).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for Hispanic youth increased for the decision making phase of "referral" (2005=1.07 to 2006=1.71).

## B2. Progress Made in Woodbury County in 2005

### Woodbury County Site Activities Implemented

- Conducted local level DMC Conference. Utilized federal TA providers as speakers at conference and for other local DMC issues.
- Actively participated in state DMC Conference, and state DMC Committee.
- Decat plans reflect that DMC is an issue facing community.
- Obtained staff support for local efforts through UCARE initiative sponsored by Urban Dreams, a non-profit agency in Des Moines, IA.
- Connected four local community groups targeting over-representation in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems and UCARE initiative.
- Conducted local training through DMC Resource Center and Minority Youth and Families Initiative - Iowa Department of Human Services.
- Actively participated in state DMC Conference, and state DMC Committee.

### Woodbury County Site Activities Not Implemented

- All planned activities were implemented.

## B3. DMC-Reduction Plan for Woodbury County - FY 2006-08

### Overview of Activities, Timeline, & Identification of Efforts Supported with Formula Grant Related Funding

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Amount Formula \$</b>
<i>Participate in State DMC Committee</i>	Approx Every 2 Months	
<i>Continue Participation of State Conf.</i>	Late Nov./Early Dec. 06	
<i>Coordinate Local DMC Committees</i>	Dec. 06	
<i>Utilize DMC Res. Cntr.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coord. Local DMC Conf.</li><li>• Partic. of DMCRC-Local Mtgs.</li><li>• Analysis of Local Data</li><li>• Coordinate w/ UCARE</li><li>• Provide CC Training</li></ul>	1/4 ly visits from Resource Center	

## C. POLK COUNTY

It should be noted that in July of 2002 Iowa initiated a DMC Diversion effort with Polk County. The diversion effort was been supported with feedback and participation from the DMC Committee, SAG, SPA, and OJJDP staff (Heidi Hsia). Polk County is also one of the technical assistance sites of the Resource Center. **Funding to support the DMC Diversion effort ended July 1, 2005 (the project received grants for two consecutive years of JJDP Act formula grant funds at 80,000/yr). In the federal fiscal year 2005 application process the SAG made a decision to discontinue funding for the DMC Diversion effort.** Information is provided below in a format similar to that of the other technical assistance sites discussed above.

## C1. Polk County DMC Data Discussions

### Quantifiable Documentation

Adequate documentation exists for the development/maintenance of the state DMC plan. Matrices have been completed for Polk County for [2005](#) and [2006](#) (click year to access matrices).

### Discussion of State Relative Rate Indexes (Matrices have been completed for Polk County for [2005](#) and [2006](#) (click year to access matrices))

- Polk County is the largest county in Iowa. It has the largest number of African American youth (age 10-17, n=3,222), Hispanic/Latino youth (age 10-17, n=2,884), and Asian youth (age 10-17, n=1,376) of any county in Iowa.

- Based on the data in 2006 matrices, the RRI's for African American youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (1.59), "referral" (3.97), "detention" (1.50), "petitioned" (1.40), and "delinquency finding" (1.22). The RRI's for African American youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision points of "diversion" (.84), "probation" (.98), "correctional facility" (.76) and "transfer to adult court" (.95).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for African American youth decreased at the decision making phase of "arrest" (2005= 3.37 to 2006= 1.59).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for African American youth increased for the decision making phase of "referral" (2005=3.21 to 2006=3.97).
- Based on the data in 2006 matrices, the RRI's for Hispanic youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "referral" (1.24), "detention" (1.46), and "petitioned" (1.82). The RRI's for Hispanic youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (.34), "diversion" (.85), and "delinquency finding" (.71).
  - Between 2005 and 2006 the RRI's for Hispanic youth decreased at the decision making phase of "arrest" (2005=1.01 to 2006=.34).
- Based on the data in 2006 matrices, the RRI's for Asian youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (.49), "diversion" (.83), and "detention" (.71).

## C2. Progress Made in Polk County in 2005

### **Polk County Site Activities Implemented**

- Actively participate in state DMC Conference, and state DMC Committee.
- *Detention Utilization Review Team (DRT)*- the review team has been meeting weekly since July of 2002 and meets specifically to review youth who have been detained for up to 7 days. Membership on the committee included the representatives from county attorney's office, Juvenile Court Services, juvenile detention, the schools, private providers, etc.
- *Diversion Programming* – Grant funding supported two diversion alternatives (tracking and monitoring and community service). Polk County also utilized or planned the use of a variety of other alternatives including shelter care, mentoring, school based services, intensive family foster care, aftercare, etc.
- *Implementation Support* - Assistance to implement the DMC effort was provided by the local Decat project and the DMC Resource Center. Polk County Decat is the major planning entity for the County's juvenile justice/child welfare initiatives. Decat's contribution to the DMC effort included staff participation at the Detention Utilization Review Team and other related meetings, grants administration and funding oversight, data collection and review, participation in the state-level DMC Committee, etc.
- *DMC Advisory Committee* – A local advisory Committee met a number of times following the conclusion of funding to provide general planning and direction for local efforts. The functional advisory Committee is now operated in conjunction with the UCARE project.
- *Special Technical Assistance* – Polk County has utilized federal technical assistance on a number of occasions to help further their DMC efforts and has engaged in intensive TA from the DMC Resource Center.
- *Data Assistance* – Polk County has worked with the DMC Resource Center for assistance on the collection and analysis of data related to their implementation effort and continues to provide data from the detention center for analysis.

### **Polk County Site Activities Not Implemented**

- All planned activities were implemented.

### **C3. DMC-Reduction Plan for Polk County - FY 2006-08**

#### **Overview of Activities, Timeline, & Identification of Efforts Supported with Formula Grant Related Funding**

<b><u>Activity</u></b>	<b><u>Timeline</u></b>	<b><u>Amount Formula \$</u></b>
<i>Participate in State DMC Committee</i>	Approx Every 2 Months	
<i>Continue Participation of State Conf.</i>	Late Nov./Early Dec. 06	
<i>Utilize DMC Res. Cntr.</i> • TA to DMPS • Data Analysis – Schools & UCARE • Coor. w/ UCARE • Coor. w/ MYFI	1/4 ly visits from Resource Center	