

**DMC Section from Iowa's
2007 STATE OF IOWA JUVNILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY
PREVENTION ACT FORMULA GRANT UPDATE**

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Notes Regarding Document Format and Iowa's Funding Distribution Cycle

This document is the DMC Section of Iowa's 2007 JJDP Act formula grant three year plan update. The bulk of this 2007 plan is an "update" of the program plan completed since submission of the original 2006 plan.

The Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning (CJJP) wrote Iowa's three year plan update. 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 developed and 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 through this report.

PLAN FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT (DMC) CORE 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). The format is largely similar to that submitted in the 2006 Three Year Plan. New information has been included immediately below regarding an updated DMC assessment.

A subgroup of the SAG that assisted in the development of the DMC Section of the Iowa Plan is the Disproportionate Minority Contact Committee – **DMC Committee** (the DMC Committee is discussed in some detail later in this DMC plan).

Updated Assessment Study

In August of 2006, Michael Leiber, Ph.D., released an assessment study examining the factors influencing decision-making in the juvenile courts in four Iowa counties (Black Hawk, Johnson, Linn, and Scott). The study documents include the full assessment, an executive summary, and an executive brief. Each of those documents is available at the listed web address (http://www.uiowa.edu/%7Enrcfcp/dmccr/news_and_report.shtml). The study involved case tracking on information available through Iowa's Justice Data Warehouse (JDW). JDW is discussed at some length later in this report. This recent assessment study was largely a replication of a study he had completed approximately ten years earlier.

Leiber studied a sample of 4,400 delinquent court referrals. The study population included a random sample of white youth, with African American youth and judicial disposition cases over-sampled to increase numbers in the study.

Assessment Study - Major Finding

Leiber concluded that there were "race effects" operating in these four counties. These were most consistently found at juvenile court intake, with African American youth more likely to be referred for further court proceedings than similarly-situated white youth. Consequently, it appears that both offending characteristics and racial bias seem to be contributing to African American overrepresentation in the juvenile justice system. This conclusion is consistent with Leiber's 1993 findings.

Leiber and colleagues also found in this current study that females were less likely than males to be referred to court for formal proceedings in two jurisdictions.

Note: Staff in the counties studied shared concerns regarding the finding that minority youth were treated more harshly at the decision-making phase of intake. They questioned whether or not the study group, a sample of cases reaching the court decision-making phase of disposition, may have contributed to the finding. After performing a test on an additional sample of cases at the decision making phase of intake, Leiber's conclusion pertaining to African American overrepresentation was unchanged.

Assessment Study Limitations:

- The study was based on an un-weighted sample that involved over-sampling of African American youth and cases that reached judicial disposition. A majority of the cases processed in the juvenile court are not African American and most cases do not reach judicial disposition. The sample of African Americans was chosen to

allow for greater numbers for the purpose of comparisons to whites and the back-end cases was chosen to provide analysis on cases at a number of the court's major decision making phases.

- JDW, the state-wide system from which the study data were taken, focuses on capturing information regarding the juvenile justice system's legal decision-making process. The system contains only limited information regarding family and school status information. This is a major weakness, as other studies have identified family and school factors as variables that influence detention decision-making.
- JDW is a statewide system that is the product of data input at the local level. There are inconsistencies regarding data entry in certain jurisdictions for certain decision points. Data entry for the decision phase of juvenile probation was being reported inconsistently in some of the jurisdictions during some of the years of the existing study. Similarly, JDW includes a screen that provides basic information regarding whether or not youth are being placed in juvenile detention facilities. A variety of research has demonstrated that minority youth are often overrepresented in juvenile detention compared to their representation in the general population. Unfortunately, Leiber's research found that local jurisdictions are not routinely completing the detention placement screen in the JDW, further limiting the data available in the research.

Assessment Study Recommendations

Leiber made five recommendations (listed below). The Leiber study has affected the efforts of Iowa SAG and DMC Committee. *We have reflected the recommendation in the activities taking place in the 2007 DMC reduction plan later in this section.*

Recommendation 1: Increase Structured Decision-Making at Intake

Recommendation 2: Continue to Require Decision-Makers to Participate in Race and Gender Cultural Sensitivity Training

Recommendation 3: Conduct Additional Research on DMC

Recommendation 4: Improve Upon Iowa's Justice Data Warehouse (JDW) System for Case Management and DMC

Recommendation 5: Expand Crime Prevention Programs

Assessment Study – Governor's Office

Iowa elected a new Governor, Chester Culver, who took office in January 2007. Staff from the SPA shared the Leiber study with Governor Culver, and in recent weeks the SPA has had two meetings with staff from that office. The Governor's Office has indicated it will be working with the SPA to bring together a Race and Detention Task Force (RDTF) to look at a variety of information related to detention reform. Information reviewed by the RDTF will include the Leiber study, data from the SPA's detention data base, JDW, etc. It is anticipated that the RDTF would also assist in helping Iowa become a site for the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative. JDAI has been one of a small number of initiatives that have been able to affect DMC in a number of sites across the country.

Assessment Study – Additional Activities

Leiber's is expanding his recent study to include site specific information for Polk and Woodbury Counties. Both of those were sites in his 1993 study, but not in the assessment in August 2006. Data from JDW regarding Polk and Woodbury Counties were shared with him in recent weeks. He will be writing and hopes to release the updated analysis sometime during 2007.

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 statewide matrices are available by clicking on the highlighted years within the following parentheses (2007, 2006, and 2005 matrices). Information regarding local matrices is available later in this report. 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 are presented below:

Rate of Occurrence	divided	Rate of Occurrence	Relative Rate
(Afr. Amer. Youth)	by	(White Youth) =	Index
289.39/1000 arrests	divided by	56.65/1000 arrest =	5.11 RRI

In the example above, a relative rate index of 5.11 is obtained for arrests of African American youth. The data were taken from the arrests for African American youth reflected in the 2007 state level matrix (the state level matrix is included as an attachment). The RRI from the statewide data reflects that for every “1” arrest report filed for White youth, “5.11” 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.

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 26 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.

Expanded ICIS Data - In the past year the ICIS system was updated to include a variety of new and expanded information. The SPA has had initial discussions with the Chiefs regarding potential reports to generate from the new information. The SPA has secured funding and is in the process of arranging for the transfer of the new ICIS data into JDW. It is anticipated the transfer of information to JDW will take place over 2007.

New ICIS Based Assessment Tool - Also, in the fall of 2006 Iowa Chief Juvenile Court officers began training on an assessment tool that is being maintained on the ICIS system. The tool is being used to assess youth needs at the decision point of "intake" in the juvenile court referral process. A similar, more comprehensive, tool is also being utilized for youth at more advanced stage in the decision making process. The SPA has had initial discussions with the Chiefs regarding potential reports to generate from the new information. The SPA will also be involved in the validation process for the new assessment tools. The SPA has secured funding and is in the process of arranging for the transfer of the new ICIS data into JDW. It is anticipated the transfer of information to JDW will take place over 2007.

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

JDW Data Sample Relative to Completion of Matrices - The information that the SPA has submitted on its DMC Matrices for the past two years included only JDW decision making data that was the result of a complaint that occurred in a given calendar year. 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 2006. What has been learned from recent analysis is that the JDW has been counting data for all prior complaints (regardless if it exists in the sample period) as we've attempted to count petitions, adjudications, and formal probations (consent decrees). What this means is that prior years matrices have been over counting petitions, adjudications, and probation (consent) decrees. The net result is that our counts for those decision points are considerably lower than what has been reflected in prior years.

Labeling of Matrices – This plan is Iowa 2007 formula grant update. The most recently updated matrices are referred to the "2007" matrices. Because of the JDW data issues identified above, matrices for "2006" and "2005" have been re-completed. The statewide matrices are available by clicking on the highlighted years within the following parentheses (2007, 2006, and 2005 matrices). Information regarding local matrices is available later in this report.

Other Data Source in Matrices - 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.

Over the past five 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. Those reports have 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 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 this decision point in 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 "2005 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 21,381 “incidents” of arrest during the report period. That does not mean that there were 21,381 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 2006 (1/1/06 thru 12/31/06). *Arrest data are from the Iowa 2005 Uniform Crime Reports.* Explanations at the bottom of the individual data entry sheets reflect the data source.

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. Organization of Iowa's Approach – State and Local

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 2006, and (3) DMC-reduction Plan for FY 2007-2009.

C. State Level DMC Plan

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. The matrices can be accessed by clicking on the highlighted years within the following parentheses (2007, 2006, and 2005 matrices). Information regarding local matrices is available later in this report. *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 2007 plan – the analysis only comments on changes of .5 or more. Analysis comparing changes between the 2005 and 2007 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 2007 matrices, the RRI's for African American youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (5.11), "referral" (4.58), "detention" (1.94), "petitioned" (1.27), "training school" (1.20), and "probation" (1.15). 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" (.64), and "transfer to adult court" (.72).
 - The RRI's for African American youth are at three year high's in 2007 for the decision phase of "arrest" (from 4.05 to 5.11), and "referral" (from 3.91 to 4.68).
 - The percentage of African Americans detained increased from 22% in 2005 to 26% in 2007.
- Based on the data in the 2007 matrices, the RRI's for Hispanic/Latino youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (1.47), "referral" (1.59), "detention" (1.55), "petitioned" (1.15), and "training school" (1.38). The RRI for Hispanic/ Latino youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision points of "diversion" (.81), and "probation" (.84).
 - The RRI for Hispanic/Latino youth is at a three year low in 2007 for the decision point of "transfer to adult court" (from 1.57 to .98).
- Based on the data in the 2007 matrices, the RRI's for Asian youth are higher than White youth at the decision point of "diversion" (1.12), and "detention". The RRI's for Asian youth are lower than that of White youth at the decision point of "arrest" (.69), "referral" (.60), and "petitioned" (.86).
 - There were no changes of .5 for Asian youth between the 2005 and 2007 report years, and/or the overall number were less than 25 for a given year.
- Based on the data in the 2007 matrices, the RRI's for Native American youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (2.78), "referral" (2.49), and "detention". The RRI's for Native American youth at "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" (.37), and "petitioned" (.79).
 - The RRI for Native American youth is at a three year low in 2007 for the decision point of "detention" (from 2.91 to 2.26).
- Based on the data in the 2007 matrices, the RRI's for all minorities are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (2.91), "referral" (2.83), "detention" (1.73), "petitioned" (1.35), and "state training school" (1.10). The RRI's for "all minorities" are lower than White youth at the decision making points of "diversion" (.70) and "transfer to adult court" (.72).
 - There were no changes of .5 for all minority youth between the 2005 and 2007 report years, and/or the overall number were less than 25 for a given year.

2. Progress Made at the State Level in 2006

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.*

DMC Committee - Iowa continues to maintain an active DMC Committee. The group has met approximately every other month for the past 7 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 2002 through 2006.
- Involved in a visit by the Annie E. Casey Foundation in December 2006 related to the potential Iowa becoming a Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative site.
- Reviewed and were involved in the release and planning related to Iowa's updated assessment study.
- Involved in providing a variety of information to local media.
- Involved in feedback and review of DMC Matrices.
- Involved in meeting with Chief Juvenile Court Officers to discuss the local Decat use of formula grant and furthering local Decat planning related to DMC.

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 SAG has approved \$70,000 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 multiple states 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).
- Involved in a visit by the Annie E. Casey Foundation's in December 2006 related to the potential Iowa becoming a Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative site.
- Reviewed and was involved in the release and planning related to Iowa's updated assessment study.
- 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/~nrcfcp/index_dmcr.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.

- *Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative* – In December 2006 representative from the Annie E. Casey Foundation visited Iowa to evaluate its potential as a Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative Site (JDAI). JDAI is a detention reform initiative that requires sites to study detention policies and to prioritize those youth they seek to detain, and to utilize alternatives for those youth that can best be served in alternatives. JDAI has been one of a small number of initiatives that have been able to affect DMC in a number of sites across the country. Casey has indicated that Iowa needs to further its dialogue at the state and local levels to be further considered as a site. The SPA is working with the Governor's Office to form its own state-level Detention Reform Task Force. The DMC Resource Center and the SPA will be supporting local DMC efforts in Black Hawk, Polk, and Woodbury Counties to further dialogue at the local level. It is hoped that Casey will be making a follow-up visit in the summer of 2007.

- *Justice Data Warehouse* – An extensive discussion of the justice data warehouse (JDW) is provided at the beginning of the DMC plan. New activities regarding the expansion of ICIS data and assessment tools being utilized by the Chiefs discussed there as well. *Given the expanded information available, 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.
- *Updated Assessment Activities* – The updated assessment study released by Dr. Leiber's in August 2006 is discussed at some length in the beginning of this section. Leiber's is expanding his recent study to include site specific information for Polk and Woodbury Counties. Both of those were sites in his 1993 study, but not in the assessment in August 2006. Data from JDW was shared with him in recent weeks. He will be writing and hopes to release the updated analysis sometime during 2007.
- *Local Detention Assessment Study* – During the past two years Dr. 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 2007. He will work with the SPA for the release of that information.
- *Committee to Dialogue With Decats* – In March 2007 the SAG formed a Committee to Dialogue With Decats (CDWD). The SAG seeks to utilize CDWD to learn from and share information with local Decats. Decats are the major recipient of JJDP Act related funding in Iowa. As part of those discussions the SAG hope to further Decat knowledge and activity regarding gender and DMC.
- *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 seventh 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 past year the DMC Committee and the Gender Specific Services Task Force met 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 result is that local assessments improved. There's more work to be done and discussions will continue in 2007.*
- *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.*
- *Information Effort with the Iowa Department of Human Services* – In the spring and summer of 2004, 2005, and 2006 the DMC Committee and the Gender Specific Services Task Force released reports that provided county level state service and decision making information. It is expect that another years data will be released within the next few weeks. Data from those reports are available on the website (http://www.state.ia.us/dhr/cjip/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 has received technical assistance from William Feyerherm, Ph.D., to assist with data analysis and other related issues as this project moves forward. A report from Dr. Feyerherm is expected in the spring of 2007.
- *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 jurisdictions the Resource Center is working with for its juvenile justice related work with the SPA and the DMC Committee. The Resource Center has specifically 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 & 2006 DMC Conferences.
- *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.R.E. 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 2007-09

Provide below is the state level reduction plan related to DMC. We have organized the reduction plan in a manner that connects reduction activities to recommendations in Dr. Leiber’s updated assessment study. We have restated Dr. Leiber’s assessment recommendations immediately below, and have also provided a time task plan, which lists activities and related Leiber recommendations.

Assessment Study Recommendations

Recommendation 1: Increase Structured Decision-Making at Intake

Recommendation 2: Continue to Require Decision-Makers to Participate in Race and Gender Cultural Sensitivity Training

Recommendation 3: Conduct Additional Research on DMC

Recommendation 4: Improve Upon Iowa's Justice Data Warehouse (JDW) System for Case Management and DMC

Recommendation 5: Expand Crime Prevention Programs

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

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Timeline</u>	<u>Amount Formula</u>
<i>DMC Committee</i>		
Related to All of Leiber's Recommendations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue Regular Meetings • Assist w/ Resource Center • Assist w/ Planning Conference • Information to Media • Feedback on Matrices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
Related to All of Leiber's Recommendations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue TA – 3 sites • Continue Annual Conference • Continue to provide Info. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visit Sites Quarterly Late Nov./Early Dec. 07 DMC Mtgs. – Website Postings 	
<i>Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative</i>		
Related to All of Leiber's Recommendations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene State Committee • Schedule Casey Return Visit • Work in local sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spring 2007 Summer 2007 Reflected in Local Site Section (below) 	
<i>Justice Data Warehouse</i>		
Related to Leiber Recommendations 1, 3, & 4		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates Matrices & Reports • Expanded Info and Validatn. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Throughout 2007 Summer Throughout 2007 	
<i>Committee to Dialogue With Decats</i>		
Related to Leiber Recommendation 2		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Meetings • Trainings to Decats 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Throughout 2007 Throughout 2007 	
<i>Community Allocation Process</i>		
Related to Leiber Recommendation 2 & 5		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information from prog rep. • Meet w/ Chiefs & SAMS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fall 2007 Fall 2007 	
<i>Compliance Monitoring</i>		Annual OJJDP Schedule and Other Reports
Related to Leiber Recommendation 3		
<i>Updated Leiber Assessment</i>		Results - 2007
Related to Leiber Recommendation 3		
<i>Local Leiber Detention Assmt. Study</i>		Results - Spring/Early Summer 07
Related to Leiber Recommendation 3		
<i>DHS Information Effort</i>		Updated Report – Spring 07
Related to Leiber Recommendation 3 & 5		

Activity	Timeline	Amount Formula
<i>Detention Risk Assmt.</i>		
Related to Leiber Recommendation 1		
• Feyerherm's Report	Spring 07	
• Draft Tool	Winter 08	
<i>Youth of Color – DHS</i>		
Related to Leiber Recommendations 2,3, & 5		
<i>U.C.A.R.E.</i>		
Related to Leiber Recommendation 2 and 5		

D. Local Level DMC Plan

Local Interventions – Iowa has utilized a DMC Resource Center to provide information and education, training, technical assistance and research and evaluation capacity for the state and local communities. The DMC 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 most of the other sites.

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 2007 plan – the analysis only comments on changes of .5 or more. Analysis comparing changes between the 2005 and 2007 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.

Earlier in the DMC Plan there is a fairly extensive discussion of the Iowa's activities to become a site for the Casey Foundations JDAI effort. In its December 2006 visit Casey officials indicated that to further its potential to become a JDAI site Iowa needs to undertake a data collection and analysis effort. The data effort should produce information to better describe local detention practices. The DMC Resource Center is pursuing this effort by conducting focus groups and interviews with key stakeholders in the three targeted sites (Black Hawk, Woodbury, & Polk Counties). Key stakeholders and key questions for this effort have been identified in collaboration with each of the district Juvenile Court Services Chiefs. Given the limited resources of the DMC Resource Center this work has been given priority until completion which is anticipated in spring 2007. Meanwhile, to the extent possible, local site activities identified in the original DMC Resource Center plan and developed in conjunction with the sites and submitted to the state in early December will continue, though perhaps at a less intense level pending completion of the JDAI data work. Within this context the activities of the local sites are discussed below.

1. BLACK HAWK COUNTY

D1. Black Hawk County DMC Data Discussions

Quantifiable Documentation

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

Discussion of State Relative Rate Indexes

Analysis regarding Black Hawk County's matrices is provided below. The matrices can be accessed by clicking on the highlighted years within the following parentheses (2007, 2006, and 2005 matrices). Information regarding state matrices is available earlier in this report.

- Black Hawk County has the highest percentage of African American youth (15%) in the state.
- Based on the data in the 2007 matrices, the RRI's for African American youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (4.71), "referral" (4.13), "detention" (1.62), and "state

training school” (2.15). The RRI’s for African American youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision points of “diversion” (.65), “delinquency finding” (.90), and “probation” (.87).

- The RRI’s for African American youth are at three year high’s in 2007 for the decision phase of “arrest” (from 3.65 to 4.71), and “referral” (from 3.48 to 4.13).
- The RRI for African American youth is at a three year low in 2007 for the decision point of “petition” (from 1.61 to .95).
- During the report years the overall number of detentions went from 254 in 2005 to 417 in 2007. The number of detention for African American youth went from 137 in 2005 to 222 in 2007.

D2. Progress Made in Black Hawk County in 2006

Black Hawk County Site Activities Implemented

- Conducted local level DMC Conference utilizing a visit by technical assistant Salome Raheim from the University of Iowa to address a community group in a one-day DMC Conference event, and working together with the DMC Resource Center, continued to raise awareness, build coalitions and maintain momentum in the county.
- Provided publications and information to the community in collaboration with the DMC Resource Center at the Black Hawk Co. DMC Conference.
- Continued efforts of local DMC Committee.
- Collected local data for use by Juvenile Court Services and the local DMC Committee analyzed by the DMC Resource Center.
- Actively participated in state DMC Conference, and state DMC Committee including speaking at the statewide conference.
- Continued 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 additional funding sources and opportunities.

Black Hawk County Site Activities Not Implemented

- All planned activities were implemented.

D3. DMC-Reduction Plan for Black Hawk County - FY 2007-09

The timeline and identification effort done for the state-level activities is organized in a manner that connects reduction activities to recommendations in Dr. Leiber’s updated assessment study. The below local timeline and identification does not specifically connect activities with the Leiber assessment. It should be noted, however that the overall activities planned in Black Hawk County for 2007 are viewed as consistent with the recommendations of the Leiber study.

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

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Timeline</u>	<u>Amount Formula</u>
<i>Assist JDAI Data Collection</i>	Spring 2007	
<i>Participate in State DMC Committee</i>	Approx Every 2 Months	
<i>Continue Participation in State Conf.</i>	November 29-30, 2007	
<i>Participate in Local DMC Committee</i>	Local Committee meets monthly	
<i>Utilize DMC Res. Cntr.</i>	site visits from Resource Center	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partic. of DMCRRC-Local Mtgs. • Analysis of UCARE Surveys • Analysis of JCS Data • Identification of funding sources • Info or UCARE – survey analysis • Continue funding for JCS/Decat 		

2. POLK COUNTY

D1. Polk County DMC Data Discussions

Quantifiable Documentation

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

Discussion of State Relative Rate Indexes

Analysis regarding Polk County's matrices is provided below. The matrices can be accessed by clicking on the highlighted years within the following parentheses (2007, 2006, and 2005 matrices). Information regarding state matrices is available earlier in this report.

- Polk County is the largest county in Iowa. It has the largest number of African American youth (age 10-17, n=3,288), Hispanic/Latino youth (age 10-17, n=2,872), and Asian youth (age 10-17, n=1,386) of any county in Iowa.
- Based on the data in 2007 matrices, the RRI's for African American youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (3.68), "referral" (3.92), "detention" (1.52), "state training school" (2.65), and "transfer to adult court" (1.48). The RRI's for African American youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision points of "diversion" (.75), "delinquency finding" (.79), and "probation" (.86).
 - The RRI's for African American youth is at a three year high in 2007 for the decision phase of "referral" (from 3.19 to 3.92).
 - The RRI for African American youth fluctuated significantly during the three year report period for the decision point of "arrest" (2005 - 3.36, 2006 – 1.58, and 2007 - 3.95).
- Based on the data in 2007 matrices, the RRI's for Hispanic youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of "referral" (1.37), "detention" (1.52), and "petitioned" (1.33). The RRI's for Hispanic/Latino youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (.66).
 - There were no changes of .5 for Hispanic/Latino youth between the 2005 and 2007 report years, and/or the overall number were less than 25 for a given year.
- Based on the data in 2007 matrices, the RRI's for Asian youth are higher than white you at the decision point of "diversion" (1.44). The RRI's for Asian youth are lower than those of White youth at the decision points of "arrest" (.95), "referral" (.57), "diversion" (.83), and "detention" (.71).
 - There were no changes of .5 for Asian youth between the 2005 and 2007 report years, and/or the overall number were less than 25 for a given year.

D2. Progress Made in Polk County in 2006

Polk County Site Activities Implemented

- Actively participated in state DMC Conference, and state DMC Committee.
- Polk County has served as the site of the statewide DMC Conference each year since 2002.
- A local DMC Committee is currently active though groups meet regularly about issues of disproportionality (Decat, Urban Dreams/UCARE etc.) and the DMC Resource Center is regularly present at community meetings.
- *Data Assistance* – Polk County has worked with the DMC Resource Center for assistance on the collection and analysis of data related to their implementation efforts and continues to provide data from the detention center for analysis.
- Ongoing DMC Resource Center TA on data analysis with the detention center and ongoing TA with the Des Moines schools on suspensions and expulsions and linkages among educational issues and over-representation in juvenile justice.
- Coordinated DMC efforts in Polk County with state-funded initiative to reduce disproportionality in child welfare (MYFI).

Polk County Site Activities Not Implemented

- All planned activities were implemented.

D3. DMC-Reduction Plan for Polk County - FY 2007-09

The timeline and identification effort done for the state-level activities is organized in a manner that connects reduction activities to recommendations in Dr. Leiber’s updated assessment study. The below local timeline and identification does not specifically connect activities with the Leiber assessment. It should be noted, however that the overall activities planned in Polk County for 2007 are viewed as consistent with the recommendations of the Leiber study.

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

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Timeline</u>	<u>Amount Formula</u>
<i>Assist JDAI Data Collection</i>	Spring 2007	
<i>Participate in State DMC Committee</i>	Approx Every 2 Months	
<i>Continue Participation of State Conf.</i>	November 29-30, 2007	
<i>Utilize DMC Res. Cntr.</i>	site visits from DMC Resource Center	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA to DMPS, UCARE • Data Analysis – Schools & UCARE • Coord. w/ UCARE • Coord. w/ MYFI 		

3. WOODBURY COUNTY

D1. Woodbury County DMC Data Discussions

Quantifiable Documentation

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

Discussion of State Relative Rate Indexes

Analysis regarding Woodbury County’s matrices is provided below. The matrices can be accessed by clicking on the highlighted years within the following parentheses (2007, 2006, and 2005 matrices). Information regarding state matrices is available earlier in this report.

- Woodbury County has the highest number of Native American youth (n=404 age 10-17) of all Iowa counties. It is one of Iowa’s most diverse counties: Hispanic/Latino youth (13%), African American youth (5%), Native American youth (3%) and Asian youth (3%).
- Based on the data in the 2007 matrices, the RRI’s for Native American youth are higher than White youth at the following decision points: “arrest” (4.46), “referral” (4.08), and “secure detention” (2.51).
 - The RRI’s for Native American youth are at a three year highs in 2007 for the decision phases of “arrest” (from 3.05 to 4.46), “referral” (from 3.25 to 4.05), and “detention” (from 1.65 to 2.51).
- Based on the data in the 2007 matrices, the RRI’s for African American youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of “arrest” (3.29), “referral” (2.82), “secure detention” (2.08), “cases petitioned” (1.21), and “delinquent findings”. The RRI’s for African American youth are lower than White youth at the decision phase of “diversion” (.54).
 - There were no changes of .5 for African American youth between the 2005 and 2007 report years, and/or the overall number were less than 25 for a given year.
- Based on the data in the 2007 matrices, the RRI’s for Hispanic/Latino youth are higher than White youth at the decision points of “arrest” (1.87), “referral” (1.58), “secure detention” (2.40), and “petitioned” (1.55). The RRI’s for Hispanic youth are lower than White youth at the decision phase of “diversion” (.75).

- The RRI's for Hispanic/Latino youth fluctuated during the three year report period for the decision points of "arrest" (2005 - 1.81, 2006 – 1.33, and 2007 - 1.87), and "diversion" (2005 - .71, 2006 – 1.38, and 2007 - .75).
- The RRI's for Hispanic/Latino youth are at three year highs in 2007 for the decision phases of "detention" (from 1.45 to 2.40), and "petition" (from .73 to 1.55).

D2. Progress Made in Woodbury County in 2006

Woodbury County Site Activities Implemented

- Conducted local level DMC Conference. Utilized federal TA provider to conduct site visit and serve as speaker at conference and for other local DMC issues.
- Actively participated in state DMC Conference, and state DMC Committee.
- Decat and other local plans reflect that DMC is an issue facing community.
- Obtained staff support for local efforts through local initiatives.
- Connected 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.
- Collected data
- Actively participated in state DMC Conference, and state DMC Committee.

Woodbury County Site Activities Not Implemented

- All planned activities were implemented.

D3. DMC-Reduction Plan for Woodbury County - FY 2007-09

The timeline and identification effort done for the state-level activities is organized in a manner that connects reduction activities to recommendations in Dr. Leiber's updated assessment study. The below local timeline and identification does not specifically connect activities with the Leiber assessment. It should be noted, however that the overall activities planned in Woodbury County for 2007 are viewed as consistent with the recommendations of the Leiber study.

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

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Timeline</u>	<u>Amount Formula</u>
<i>Assist JDAI Data Collection</i>	Spring 2007	
<i>Participate in State DMC Committee</i>	Approx Every 2 Months	
<i>Continue Participation of State Conf.</i>	November 29-30, 2007	
<i>Coordinate Local DMC Committees</i>	<i>local committees meet monthly</i>	
<i>Utilize DMC Res. Cntr.</i>	site visits from Resource Center	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coord. Local DMC Conf. • Partic. of DMCRS-Local Mtgs. • Analysis of Local Data • Coordinate w/ local initiatives • Provide CC Training 		