



Edward Byrne Memorial
Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)
Effectiveness Study

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Effectiveness Plan

Overview:

The Madera County JAG Program is a multi-agency project. The goal of the program is to reduce drug use in the community. The JAG Program is housed with the Madera County Sheriff's office. However, the Madera Drug Suppression Steering Committee (MDSSC) will include designees from the Madera Police Department, Madera Behavioral Health, Chowchilla Police Department, Madera District Attorney, Madera Probation, California Highway Patrol, Madera Public Health Director and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Target Population

- Non-using youth ages 13-18
- Drug Endangered Children ages birth-8
- Non-using adults ages 18-32
- User Adults
- Drug Producing Adults

Effectiveness Study

Introduction

This is the follow-up effectiveness study for this grant. This study includes information from several different entities including, law enforcement suppression operations, drug court/probation, and law enforcement services within the schools and community. Information for this effectiveness study was gathered from these participants. Many of the goals outlined initially were fully or at least partially completed. Information about how the goals have been met, or at least partially completed, is included in this study. This effectiveness study includes statistics from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.



Process and Outcome Goals

Initially the process evaluation focused on the following goals listed below. In some cases, the data was not collected or not available, including referrals to the hospital for domestic violence, drug overdose referrals, and psychiatric mental health evaluation referrals. Data was collected on law enforcement referrals to CPS.

Goal One: Drug Aversion Community Education and Resource Referrals

- It was initially proposed to provide the public with drug use reduction information. Information was to be provided in a number of different forums and formats. Initially it was proposed to provide additional information, such as pamphlets and brochures within school settings. Permission was not provided by the school system to do this during the 2017 funding cycle. Originally, six morning bulletins on the dangers of drug use were to be announced over the course of the school year. Again, permission to provide this education was not authorized. This goal was addressed at the first quarterly Interagency meeting and it was determined that it was not feasible at this time.

Update-this goal was discussed at the interagency meeting and it was decided that the community education component would be better addressed at community events.

- Brochures and comment cards were to be handed out at community events and distributed to local agencies. Brochures were handed out at several community events, but not at school sites. Comment cards were not made available at community events nor at the school sites. This was discussed at the first quarterly Inter-Agency Meeting in terms of whether or not this was feasible and still a goal of the committee.
- **Update:** The committee decided that community education remained a priority. The Sheriff and Community Service Officers attended a total of 10 community events and handed out approximately 1049 educational brochures. Approximately 4,500 children and adults were contacted during community and school events
 - Gold Rush Days (4 staff)- 18 contact hours
 - National Night Out (15 staff) 75 contact hours
 - Kids' Day with Neighborhood Watch (3 staff) 9 contact hours



- Madera Fair (5 staff) 110 contact hours
- Oakhurst Elementary Spirit Night (3 staff) 9 contact hours
- Coarsegold Village Country Fair (3 staff) 15 contact hours
- Family Fun Day Festival (4 staff) 20 contact hours
- Oakhurst Fall Festival (10 staff) 60 contact hours
- North Fork Fall Festival (4 staff) 12 contact hours
- Trunks and Treat (4 staff) 8 contact hours
- For this funding cycle, community drug aversion messaging by Community Service Officers totaled 291 hours. This was less than the 360 hours initially outlined in the grant, but significantly increased during this reporting period (291 versus 100 for the first three quarters of the 2016 report).
- It was projected that the Public Health Department would provide 240 hours of drug aversion messaging. No data was provided on the hours of drug aversion messaging provided by the public health department. During the first quarterly Inter-Agency Meeting, this was addressed in terms of whether or not this was still a goal of the committee.

Update: No information has been provided by the Public Health Department for the initial evaluation nor the current evaluation.

Goal Two-Restorative Justice, Drug Court Services

- Probation statistics included how many people attended drug court and how many people successfully completed drug court. Successful completion of drug court meant that participants successfully completed the measures requested of them by the Drug Court Judge. These measures were individually tailored by the Judge for each participant. There was likely to be overlap in participants over the year reporting period. Evaluations and rating cards were not distributed.
- As noted above, the number of participants in the drug court program was significantly lower than expected due to the implementation of the Prop 47 diversion program throughout the State. The average number of participants in 2017 was 13, this was a significant decrease from the average last year which was 36. The Judge and Probation handed out a total of 13 gift cards as incentives, which was an increase from last year where 6 gift cards were handed out. In 2017, 3 participants successfully graduated from this program.



- Pre and post evaluations were not provided to drug court participants.
- Other support service statistics were not provided during the 2017 cycle. This included services provided by Madera Behavioral Health-Supportive Counseling Services for youth or adults struggling with drug abuse issues.
 - Update: This goal was removed from the evaluation plan because Behavioral Health was unable to provide requested information.
- Note: Recent changes in the law (Prop 47) have altered the number of arrests made in conjunction with drug-related crimes. Therefore, it was projected that 35 people, who were referred to the Drug Court Diversion Program, would successfully complete the program each year. Successful completion would be measured by determining whether or not the participant successfully completed the individual treatment plan outlined by Probation and the Drug Court Judge, and if the participant's drug charges were dropped at the completion of the program. During 2017, 3 participants successfully completed the program.

Felony Drug Court-January 7-April 7-2017

- Enrolled in Felony Drug Court Program (FDC)-30
- New Participants-0
- Defendants Reinstated-3
- Defendants-Probation Revoked-5
- Defendants Successfully Completed-4
- Defendants Who Have Been Terminated-0
- Defendants Placed on Bench Warrant Status-2
- Defendants who received Flash Incarceration as alternative sanction-1
- Defendants who received an Incentive as a positive reinforcement by the Judge-1
- Defendants who graduated during this period-2
- Number of buccal swabs used which reported negative-7
- Number of buccal swabs used which reported positive-0

FDC-Felony Drug Court-April 7, 2017-December 7, 2017

- Defendants in FDC program -13
- Defendants as new participants in FDC program-3
- Defendants reinstated in FDC program-4
- Defendants probation revoked in FDC program-1
- Defendants successfully completed FDC program-1
- Defendants terminated from FDC program-0
- Defendants placed on Bench Warrant Status-2



- Defendants who received Flash Incarceration as alternative sanction-3
- Defendants who received an Incentive as a positive reinforcement by the Judge-10

Goal Three: Reducing Drug Availability-Law Enforcement Drug Suppression Activities

- During the 2017 funding cycle, the goal was to investigate 100 drug-related cases. There were 138 new investigations during this funding cycle.
- MADNET was responsible for tracking and providing the evaluation team with outcome numbers for this study. During 2017 funding cycle a total of 138 drug related arrests were made. A total of 6 of these arrests included child endangerment. No DEC training was provided during the 2017 funding cycle. There was a total of 87 drug related investigations referred for prosecution in the first three quarters of 2017, fourth quarter statistics on referrals for prosecution were not available.
- The following is the quarterly breakdown of the activities of law enforcement during 2017.

First-Quarter Reporting:

Law Enforcement Activities

- Drug enforcement
- Education
- One full-time MDS deputy
- One full-time MDS documentation program assistant
- Funding paid for task force activity-1096 hours
- New drug investigations 37
- Investigations closed 0
- Cases targeted for prosecution-28
- Number of cases also prosecuted for child endangerment-4
- Community meetings-None
- Felony arrest-28
- Conducted social media activity-weekly
- Community Events-Felony Drug Force Graduation Ceremony



Second-Quarter Reporting:

Law Enforcement Activities

- Involvement in community activities
- Hosted community meetings-monthly
- Attended community meetings-monthly
- Distributed a newsletter, email, or other bulletin-monthly
- Attended community events-monthly
- Conducted social media activities-weekly
- Funded one full-time MDS deputy sheriff
- Funded one full-time documentation program assistant
- Funding was used for community outreach events
- Funding is used for drug task force
- New investigations – 43
- Investigations drug-related – 43
- No investigations were completed during this quarter
- Cases received for prosecution-33
- Cases that included child endangerment charges-0

Third-Quarter Reporting:

Law Enforcement Activity

- Hosted community meeting-monthly
- Attended community meetings-monthly
- Attended community events-weekly
- Conducted social media activities-weekly
- Conducted outreach to minority populations-monthly
- Grant funds were used for drug enforcement and education
- Training on Use of Force, Racial and Ethnic Bias, and De-escalation of Conflict
- Drug Task Force Training-4 Deputies
- Grant funds used to fund two Program Assistants
- Grant funds used to fund one full-time Deputy
- New investigations-35
- Investigations related to drug activity-35
- Investigations closed during this quarter-0
- Community meetings held-3 (Sheriff's Drug Enforcement Presentations)
- Number of cases targeted for prosecution-26



- Number of cases that involved child endangerment-2

Fourth-Quarter Reporting:

Law Enforcement Activity

- Hosted community meeting-monthly
- Attended community meetings-monthly
- Attended community events-quarterly
- Conducted social media activities-weekly
- Training-MDS project staff-training, “Drug Endangered Child Education” seminar-attended by 40 people
- Grant funds were used for drug enforcement and education
- Drug Task Force Training was provided for 6 people
- New investigations-33
- Investigations closed-0
- Investigations targeted for prosecution-information not available

Community Education-Process Evaluation

Educational literature on the effects drug use and addiction were distributed at a number of community events. Confidential comment boxes were not placed in the local schools or school counselor offices. However, the brochures and educational handouts were distributed at 10 community events.

Update: The committee decided that drug education brochures would be distributed, but the comment boxes would not be implemented at this time.

School and Community Education-Outcome Evaluation

Community resource officers were responsible for tracking the total number of both youths and adults contacted through community events, and the number of informational brochures provided. In 2017, 4500 youth and adults were contacted through community events.

Drug Suppression Activities-Outcome Evaluation

In 2017 there were 138 drug related cases investigated. In 2016, for the first three quarters there were 71 drug related investigations. Even with averaging in additional cases for the fourth quarter of 2016, this appears to be a significant increase in drug related investigations for the 2017 reporting period.



Summary

The Madera Drug Suppression Project proposed to accomplish the following goals:

The goal to increase community awareness was to be accomplished by distributing drug aversion literature to adults and youth in the community. However, community feedback was not collected. Comment cards were not placed in schools and at booths during community events. However, a total of 291 hours of drug education services were provided by CSO's during 2017. Over 4,500 children and adults were contacted through 10 community events. During those community events, approximately 1049 drug aversion brochures and educational handouts were handed out to local citizens. Statistics on Public Health Department drug aversion messaging was not made available by the Behavioral Health Department.

The initial goal for the Drug Court was that 35 Participants would successfully complete the Drug Court Diversion Program, thereby reducing the long-term effects of drug use on the family, schools, and the community. Successful completion meant that the individual completed the individualized treatment plan set forth by probation in collaboration with the Drug Court Judge. Further, it meant that the individual graduated from Drug Court after successful completion of the individualized treatment plan. During 2017, 3 people successfully completed the Drug Court Diversion Program. It is estimated that another 13 people will graduate in 2018. A total of 13 incentive cards were distributed by Probation and the Drug Court Judge. Pre and post evaluations were not provided.

The goal for Law Enforcement Suppression was to increase drug suppression activity thereby reducing drug sales and drug use in the community. In addition, other goals included to increase the training of law enforcement personnel on the dangers of child-drug exposure, drug avoidant education for the community, reduction in child exposure to drugs, increase in community awareness of the dangers of drug exposure, pro-active referrals to mental health services, CPS, drug treatment, domestic violence treatment, and other county and private agencies. Training was conducted, referrals to services for suicide evaluations, domestic violence treatment, and drug overdose hospital referrals were likely made but were not tracked. There was a total of 138 drug related arrests made, 6 calls included child endangerment issues. A total of 21 cases were reported to Child Protective Services during the 2017 reporting period. During 2017 a total of 111 cases were closed compared to 21 cases for the first 3 quarters of the 2016 reporting period.



Evaluation Feedback

This evaluation study will be presented to the MDSSC during their quarterly meetings in 2018. An overview of the information provided in this report will be made available for all committee members.