

## CATEGORICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRESS REPORT NARRATIVE

**Weed & Seed Grant Number: 2002-WS-QX-0118 (Supplement 01)**

**Progress Report Period: January 1, 2004 – June 30, 2004**

**Name of Weed and Seed Site, City, and State: Rockwood Weed & Seed (RWS), Gresham, Oregon**

**Name of person completing this report: Brenda Butler, Site Coordinator**

**The Site is in the 2nd Year of implementing the 5 Year Strategy.**

### 1. COLLABORATIONS

- Human Solutions, Inc. continues to be an active collaborator after reigniting their relationship with Rockwood Weed & Seed (RWS) in late 2003. They recently opened a new office in downtown Gresham to allow better access to their clientele. Human Solutions is a nonprofit organization that serves families by developing and managing affordable housing, helping people develop new skills to improve their own lives and providing energy assistance, homelessness prevention services and more.
- The Centennial Lions Club became a more active service organization throughout the community and in connection with RWS during this period. They held a welcoming and get-acquainted meeting to invite community members to assist in getting improvements accomplished in the Rockwood community.
- A Rockwood resident, who is also a volunteer children's advocate and leader within People for Parks, organized a "Treasures of Rockwood" Bus Tour. She invited and encouraged residents, community leaders, business representatives, faith-based leaders and social service representatives to unite and take a tour of Rockwood. Approximately 30 participants had the opportunity to network together and celebrate the great community opportunities. Further collaboration among all groups is developing.
- RWS and east Multnomah County advocates recognized the need to unite the faith leaders of our community to make known what each group is doing for the residents and to realize our collaborating potential. Plans are being developed for a gathering and various groups have mentioned interest in involvement: Freedom Foursquare Church, My Sister's House, and Metro Church of Christ.
- From July of 2003 through March of 2004, there were some changes in staffing of the Mental Health Consultants who serve the Gresham Community Court Project. Since March, however, the Court has seen the consistency and dedication of the same person to fulfill those duties.
- RWS advocates attended, along with other Weed & Seed site advocates, the regional/Oregon Weed & Seed Site meeting with the U.S. Attorney and other regional law enforcement contacts.
- Prepared with support from the Local Public Safety Coordinating Council for Multnomah County, various partners gathered to author "A Youth Gang Prevention Strategy" to help us address the rise in gang violence in East Multnomah County. The final report is a collective broad-based response.
- Reynolds School District continues to be 'at the table' and expressing interest in the community's development and the service of Rockwood Weed & Seed.
- RWS advocates, including Gresham Police Department Officers, attended a few conferences throughout this period: Application Kit Workshop and Power of Prevention Regional Meeting in Dallas, TX; Law Enforcement Coordination Workshop in Buffalo, NY; 2004 National MEChA Conference in Corvallis, OR and 2004 Weed and Seed Youth Summer Camp in Snowbird, UT. We find that these great opportunities allow for engaging more police officers and stakeholders in understanding and implementing RWS efforts. The residents and other RWS advocates who attended have been successful at bringing back information and inspiring energy to the Steering Committee table and the community.
- RWS is in contact with the USAO and the East Portland Neighborhood Office to understand how collaboration can be effective for Project Safe Neighborhoods. Gresham's previously-appointed Neighborhood D.A., a member of the RWS Steering Committee, is the D.A. for Multnomah County's PSN strategies. As the PSN prosecutor, he is assigned to conduct the vertical prosecution of juvenile gun crimes. The D.A.'s office contracts with El Programa Hispano (EPH), another RWS partner, to conduct a Latino community assessment about safety issues and gun crime as well as to organize information

exchanges to educate the Latino community about the legal system and the consequences of carrying guns. Two more information exchanges were conducted during this period, at which about 40 more surveys were conducted regarding safety issues in Rockwood. A survey results presentation was conducted for the community and 18 respondents expressed interest in participating in a Task Force to help address the concerns and solutions. The D.A.'s office and EPH are planning to hold youth focus groups to learn about their safety concerns, how much they know about law enforcement, consequences of gun crime and current state and federal gun laws. Also as part of PSN, EPH was subcontracted by the Portland Police Bureau to provide a bilingual safety advocate to work with victims of Domestic Violence in Portland (in neighboring RWS communities).

- Multnomah County (MC) officials established a new structure of aligning services through the County for children and families called the School Aged Policy Framework. This Framework was officially implemented in March 2004 and indeed affected the RWS stakeholders and the services they provide to Rockwood residents.
- EPH staff regularly used the equipment purchased by RWS to provide presentations of various themes. They have requested to borrow the equipment for the future as well.

**2. STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The RWS Steering Committee met five (5) times during this reporting period: January 15<sup>th</sup>, February 19<sup>th</sup>, March 18<sup>th</sup>, May 27<sup>th</sup>, and June 17<sup>th</sup>. The Executive Committee met regularly as well and the three Subcommittees also met periodically during this reporting period (Law Enforcement/ Community Policing, Prevention/Intervention/Treatment and Neighborhood Restoration.)

**3. AWARD BALANCES\***

Unobligated balance as of 7/31/03 is \$120,352 for grant #2002-WS-QX-0118, including Supplement 01.

\*These figures do not reflect the Budget Modification Request faxed to Robert Hendricks June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

|                       | <u>Amount Budgeted</u> | <u>Amount Used</u> | <u>Amount Left</u> |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Personnel             | \$155,566              | \$99,200           | \$56,366           |
| Fringe                | \$24,374               | \$21,233           | \$3,141            |
| Travel                | \$32,700               | \$32,700           | \$0                |
| Equipment             | \$50,360               | \$44,635           | \$5,725            |
| Supplies              | \$21,853               | \$14,426           | \$7,427            |
| Consultants/Contracts | \$82,679               | \$50,108           | \$32,571           |
| Other                 | \$25,235               | \$11,013           | \$14,222           |
| Indirect              | \$7,200                | \$6,300            | \$900              |

**4. SUSTAINABILITY**

The positive media coverage that Rockwood is receiving has helped us to continue getting recognition as a strategy in the area and will continue to help us in achieving sustainability. Rockwood/West Gresham Urban Renewal, Gresham Police Bike Patrol Unit's efforts, the awarding of Gresham's Citizen of the Year and Multnomah County's Heart of the Community, the Rockwood International Marketplace and Rock Soup and the creation of "La sombra" are just some of the highlights presented by the *Gresham Outlook*, *The Oregonian*, *El Hispanic News* and local television news broadcasts, including Multnomah Community Television's East Multnomah County News shown on cable access channels.

Funding was received by the Police Activities League (PAL) of Greater Portland for the National PAL Youth Enrichment Program through USDOJ. The program was implemented at the PAL Youth Center. In addition, PAL received word in June 2004 that it would receive a partnership grant with Camp Fire USA Portland Metro Council to bring Camp Fire PALs program to two elementary and one middle school in the Rockwood area. The goal of Camp Fire PALs is to improve the academic development and physical/social/emotional well being of participants so they are fully prepared for the opportunities and

challenges of adulthood. The grant is funded by the Children's Investment Fund which is from local tax dollars; the total value over two years is \$400,000.

The Gresham Police Department (GPD) agreed to provide 20% of the RWS Site Coordinator's salary through FY2002-2003. For FY2003-2004, as those same resources were no longer available, GPD partners of RWS agreed to include a portion of the Site Coordinator's salary to fall under the 'weed' category of the RWS budget.

MC Department of Community Justice (MCDCJ) agreed to provide an Opportunity Fund during Year 1. A mini-grant opportunity was presented to the community with these funds for projects that were consistent with our Weed & Seed strategies. During this reporting period, an afterschool tutorial program at a local apartment complex continued and four other projects were completed. Two Reynolds High School students (who are also Rockwood residents) chose a theme and produced a video documentary with support from Multnomah Community Television called "La sombra de la cocina" or "The Shadow of the Kitchen". A student landscape architecture project was enhanced with this award to assist in purchasing the materials and hiring professional architects for the students to acquire practical work experience with a hands-on project of landscaping of an area alternative high school's grounds and developing pride and ownership. "Rockwood Makes Me Wanna Go M.A.D. – Make A Difference" projects were implemented – including a park clean-up run by PAL kids and other community service projects. Mt. Hood Community College Early Head Start held two screening days to encourage local residents to learn more about Head Start services within the neighborhood. The Housing Authority of Portland AmeriCorps Members, stationed to provide early literacy education at a local apartment complex, coordinated a Day in Vance Park – to promote community service through community garden planting and creating playground artwork.

El Programa Hispano (Catholic Charities of Oregon) has a significant Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program that is available to residents throughout Multnomah County. It consists of crisis/short-term intervention, case management, support groups, sexual assault trauma intervention and advocates provide presentations to the community and other agencies about domestic violence in the Latino culture. El Programa Hispano receives funds from Multnomah County, Oregon Department of Justice, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), Victims of Crime Act, and Oregon Department of Human Services. In addition, recently, the Gresham Police Department was notified that they will receive a VAWA grant and the plan is to work with El Programa Hispano to provide advocacy to victims of sexual assault as well as coordinate training for the police officers on dealing with victims.

A previous donation by the Gresham Downtown Development Association (GDDA) of a remaining supply (which was originally donated by Tri-Met) of public transportation tickets to Rockwood Weed & Seed were distributed to area residents for access to health, dental and mental health services. GDDA also donated thirty basketballs and footballs to give to youth to play with at home or at Safe Havens.

PAL donated postage and access to van transportation during this period. The Rockwood Library, Portland Lutheran School, the PAL Youth Center, and City of Gresham donated access to meeting space.

Portland General Electric and Drake's Seven Dee's Nursery made monetary donations to the community event "Rock Soup" and several local Rockwood/Gresham businesses made merchandise and service donations to help in making the event a success. These include, but are not limited to, Kaiser Permanente, Mt. Hood Community College Workforce Connections, Gresham Firefighter's Union, Starbucks, Albertson's, Original Taco House, and Zara's Restaurant.

In April, RWS submitted a proposal to request placement of an AmeriCorps Member for 2004-2005 to assist with direct service and implementation of the strategies. However, that proposal was declined as only 50% of them could be due to limited funding to the Oregon State Service Corps. RWS will consider submitting a proposal again next year.

## 5. EVALUATION

Evaluation has been a collaborative effort through provision of data by the Gresham Police Department (GPD) and other local data sources, when applicable, led by Brian Renauer, Ph.D. Dr. Renauer is under contract to support the Rockwood Weed & Seed effort. Dr. Renauer has assisted us with obtaining the ability to review crime statistics in a manner which we will utilize to focus more centrally on the core problems of the neighborhood.

In January of 2004, Dr. Renauer discovered that data had been pulled differently than previous times when data was requested. This change exposed inadvertent omissions of some crimes and arrests that had occurred within our boundaries. Since this discovery, Dr. Renauer and the GPD have been working together to recompile data using the new method. We plan to review data all the way back to 2000.

Late in this reporting period, Dr. Renauer and the Steering Committee discussed how to move forward with our evaluation process. Those discussion notes are still to be compiled and reviewed in order to make a plan for implementation. Evaluation will stress outcome obtainment in its summative component and program re-design in its formative efforts. Evaluation will work closely with program designers to ensure the best possible program planning.

During this reporting period, Dr. Renauer and the GPD also assisted us with reporting the Weed & Seed Crime Pattern Data Collection for data before and after implementation of Weed & Seed strategy throughout our jurisdiction and within the site boundaries as requested by OWS/JRSA in June 2004. We may have to contact JRSA to change information that was provided previously due to the change in the compilation method mentioned above.

The GPD created a citizen survey that they began presenting to the public to complete at community events and through apartment managers in May. The survey asks residents what they think the biggest crime problem is in Gresham and other questions about their fear of crime and whether they would consider volunteering for a community action group. This survey was and continues to be presented in English and Spanish and the need for Russian is being explored. Dr. Renauer will work with us to set up a follow-up plan for this survey process.

RWS and GPD partners are also looking at improving the tracking method of overtime hour deployment. The Syracuse Police Department (NY) offered some advice on this at the Coordination Workshop in Buffalo, NY in May. We are reviewing those documents and considering their advice as we revise.

Plans are being developed to distribute the Rockwood Business Climate survey by the City of Gresham by fall 2004. Dr. Renauer may provide us with some advice on the survey distributed in the past in order to increase response and receive more valuable feedback on which we can develop some action plans for economic improvement for our community.

## 6. STATUS OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### CRIME ISSUES BEING ADDRESSED:

During this reporting period, there were no murders, one shooting and 18 rapes, one of which was domestic violence-related. However, for other violent crimes (simple assault, aggravated assault), a decrease in occurrences is apparent comparing to 2002, but there is a slight increase comparing this period to Jan-June 2003, including domestic violence-related aggravated assaults. The number of drug arrests decreased 9% comparing this period to Jan-June 2003. Codeine was added to the list of drugs for which people got arrested during this period as well. There was a slight increase in car prowls crimes this period compared to last year at this time but larceny crimes decreased about 9%. Once again, an increase that should be noted is that of arson crimes; in 2003, there were 26, indicating a 47% increase from previous years. And in the last six months, there were 16, almost as many as in the full year of 2002.

Effective July 2003, the Oregon Supreme Court changed the law of Criminal Trespass in the 2nd degree. A person who remains unlawfully upon premises can be served trespass exclusion. The GPD, especially the Gang Enforcement Team, found this statute alteration to be valuable in assuring that unwanted persons could be cited with a misdemeanor from even their homes, if applicable. As a result, Trespass crimes increased from eight in the first six months of 2003 to 47 for the last six months. There were 24 from January to June 2004.

In October of 2002, the GPD initiated a coding system for officer response to suspected gang-related crimes. This information will continue to help provide baseline data on gang-related activity. Then in October 2003, the GPD put a General Order in place and the Gang Enforcement Team can now call someone a gang member. The GPD & RWS face the challenge of establishing a system that all officers can use effectively – distinguishing gang violence (for which we currently do not have a UCR Code) from a gang member trespassing.

### **Law Enforcement/Corrections/Prosecution:**

*Reduce violent (gang, etc.) activity.*

- The Law Enforcement Subcommittee and the RWS Steering Committee have continued to see major challenges with how this goal was originally worded: “Reduce violent gang activity”. The Gresham Police Department (GPD) does not have a formal mechanism of tracking criminal activity that is gang-related. Therefore, the committees and stakeholders have opted to alter this goal slightly to be able to accommodate for more effective tracking in the future. However, the emphasis and support that is offered to the efforts of the Gang Enforcement Team will not change in any way.
- The Gang Enforcement Team (GET) of the GPD has continued with their efforts. It now includes three full-time officers and 6 half-time (other half on regular patrol) officers who have been trained to support anti-gang missions and combat gang violence and crime. The third full-time officer was added in May 2004.
- On regular duty (not RWS overtime), GET made 1574 contacts during this period. From April through June, at least 298 were contacts with suspected gang members. GET made 114 arrests, an average of 19 per month. 20 guns were recovered.
- GET Officers were scheduled on RWS overtime for mostly enhancement of patrol. Enhanced Patrol results included making contact with known and associate gang members as well as non-affiliated community contacts; arresting menaces with weapons; curfew or criminal trespass violations.
- Two Gang Violence Response Teams (GVRTs) were established. These teams each include four law enforcement officials and at least one on each team is bilingual in Spanish and English. When the street patrol come to a call that involves gang-related crime and known and/or possible gang affiliates or associates, a Team is paged out to assist in investigations.
- In October 2003, a GPD General Order became effective to assist the Oregon Department of Justice in identifying gangs and gang members to document all pertinent information regarding the gang members and their affiliations. The OR Dept. of Justice gang and gang member files is a statewide application that will provide officers with access to information on individual membership in known gangs. This Order also gives the GPD Officers a procedure to follow when documenting their gang contacts for local and statewide reference purposes. In February 2004, over 80 gang members were documented using these OR DOJ guidelines and the entire team began actively documenting gang members. 30 more gang members were documented through June 2004.
- The GPD regularly shares gang intelligence information with the Portland Police Bureau (PPB), Multnomah County (MC) Parole and Probation, Troutdale PD and Fairview PD. Due to unforeseen local budget cuts, a fully activated task force has not yet been formed. However, the effective collaborations among these agencies are listed throughout this document. The PPB’s East Precinct, which borders the RWS boundaries, implemented a two full-time person unit similar to GPD’s. However, it was mentioned in April that the MC Sheriff’s Office ‘released’ a deputy to fulfill his duty under the leadership of the GPD in conjunction with the GET. This did not come to fruition.
- The City of Troutdale arranged for a police officer to work with Gresham’s GET on the street

enforcement level related to gang crime every weekend throughout the summer. Fairview Police Department joins the efforts when coverage allows.

- The Gang/Graffiti Tip Hotline continues in full implementation. The GPD receives an average of two calls per week, increasing to four or five in the summertime. If a concerned community member has information regarding graffiti or gang-related crimes or issues, he/she can call the GPD to leave a message giving details of those concerns either anonymously or provide contact information.
- A Drug Activity Tip Hotline also continues in full implementation. Those tips are referred to the Special Investigations Unit, a MC Sheriff's Office entity to which one GPD Detective is assigned.
- During this reporting period, resource tools (pocket cards) continued to be distributed to gang-affected youth for the purpose of understanding who to reach out to in order to discuss alternatives to gang affiliation. The Officers themselves are also claiming to be more aware of the services available to our residents as a result of this tool's availability.

*Reduce the incidence of domestic violence, child abuse and recidivism.*

- Distribution of resource wallet cards entitled '*love shouldn't hurt*' continued -- to Rockwood, Gresham and East Portland agencies, businesses and other public establishments (bingo halls, grocery stores, etc.) for the purposes of information sharing and increasing awareness for community residents.
- Collaboration with the East County Community Against Domestic Violence (CADV) continues. Currently CADV is in the second year of a three-year marketing approach to educate the community about the group and services available. In order to bring the issue of domestic violence to the forefront, the "grassroots" approach needs to be given a boost in order to have community members recognize or be familiar with the resource tools available in East Multnomah County. The hope is to market well enough that when anyone is touched by domestic violence they know to whom to turn for help and understanding. Plans are formulating to be able to continue to provide a set of core services to anyone who wants to utilize them when they need it. This group has also formulated sub-groups focusing on partnerships with clergy, businesses and our educational service providers. We plan to develop trainings for interested parties related to dealing with DV in the workplace, etc.

*Reduce street level crimes.*

- The GPD now has 28 Certified Bike Patrol Officers; seven of them were trained and certified in May 2004 – two of these officers are members of the GET. With the new bicycles and equipment purchased by RWS last year, 10 Officers had the opportunity to work a total of 41 hours of RWS overtime throughout this reporting period. DUIIs, traffic violations, warrant arrests, and alcohol consumption in the parks were just some of the crimes addressed by the Bike Patrol. The Patrol was also asked to make public relations contacts with various apartment complexes' residents and managers. They also responded to a shots fired call and of the minimum 40 citizen contacts made, at least 16 were with suspected gang members.
- GPD staff continues to implement a car prowling project. At the beginning of this reporting period, the Community Safety Specialists fulfilled some RWS overtime detail working on the implementation of this project. They, including the Gresham Police Explorers, distributed pamphlets entitled "How Can I Reduce the Risk of my Vehicle Being Broken Into?" onto vehicles at an area athletic club and a couple apartment complexes. Plans are being developed to implement the project more extensively in the near future. This project's materials were originally developed and permission to distribute was given by the Portland Police Bureau.

*Reduce juvenile crime.*

- Of the 249 arrests within the RWS boundaries for juvenile crimes, Runaway, Liquor Law, Curfew, and Trespass were the more predominant crimes for which the juveniles were arrested in '03. Also, the counts of these arrests at least doubled during this reporting period in comparison to Jan-June '03.
- The formal diversion program was reduced at the County level due to budget cuts. Informally, Gresham Police Officers are referring youth who have not yet offended, but are in at-risk situations, to alternative programs including the PAL Youth Center, SUN Schools, Eastwind Center programs,

- El Programa Hispano and several other community-based organizations.
- The GPD GET provided 15 training sessions for area high school and middle school administration and staff, citizen groups, parole and probation, 911 dispatch and PAL staff regarding East MC Criminal Street Gangs, which are compiled of a large number of youth. More sessions are being planned for the near future. One of the citizen groups included residents of apartment complexes that were invited to a 'Foro Popular'. This was a popular education program hosted by the Latino Network for the Latino community on gang issues and included some role play presentations.

### **Community Policing:**

*Create an environment of mutual trust between the police and neighborhood residents.*

- Under the umbrellas of the Community Policing Consortium and Project Safe Neighborhoods, the Gresham Police Chief hosted a 'Community Engagement' session and invited various Rockwood stakeholders to unite and discuss additional solutions to the rising crime problems. Advocates will assure that momentum gained is not lost. Plans to facilitate 'Stop The Violence' meetings with known criminals are being considered.
- One half-time Gresham Police Officer was assigned to the Housing Authority of Portland which oversees several low-income housing complexes in Rockwood.
- The GPD continues to refer East Metro Mediation (EMM), mediation specialists, to help resolve conflicts among neighbors before they escalate into criminal activity. In June, at the suggestion of a police sergeant, EMM launched a pilot program for addressing conflicts involving youth. They trained teen mediators and adults to work together when teens are involved in the conflict. They are hoping to help the GPD with calls that do not require police intervention.
- GPD Officers and Community Safety Specialists were present at several community events throughout this reporting period: Día de Los Niños y Los Libros, Rock Soup and the Rockwood International Marketplace. These events enabled local police to interact with the community and make citizens aware of available resources to assist them in the prevention of crime.

*Create positive activities for youth. Create a safer and more livable community.*

- Safe Haven programming continued on a daily basis at the PAL Youth Center, SUN Schools, and through Eastwind Center and El Programa Hispano.
- GPD has certified 11 apartment complexes as part of the Enhanced Safety Properties program and two others are near certification. Community Safety Specialists provided one 8-hour landlord training (Phase I). Phase 2 is CPTED inspections: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. They also conducted about two Apartment Watch meetings (Phase 3) per month (less during the winter).
- GPD Community Safety Specialists, with support from other law enforcement partners, held a training for landlords called "Keeping Rental Properties Safe and Free of Illegal Activities". There were 45 attendees and the topics included: Warning Signs of Drug Activity and Gang Activity, Partnerships with Tenants, working with Housing Authority of Portland, Applicant Screening, Working with the Police, Chronic Nuisance Ordinance, CPTED, and Rental Agreements & Evictions.
- GPD GET Officers attended Apartment Watch and Neighborhood Association meetings with the Community Safety Specialists in order to provide support when the gang issue is addressed.

### **Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment:**

*Increase availability of services related to alcohol and drug use and abuse including, but not limited to, prevention, screening, assessments and treatment for Rockwood youth and adults.*

- Throughout Year 2, the Prevention/Intervention/Treatment Subcommittee and RWS Steering Committee have met and discussed the revision of the P/I/T goals due to such close similarities and the goal list being so extensive. We are not omitting any objectives, just compiling in order to formulate more manageability. This goal is the combination of our previous Goals 1, 2 and 3.
- An RWS partner and volunteer agreed to continue the development and implementation of a Comprehensive Prevention Program for area youth during this period. Development of various presentations is complete: Gangs-Spanish & English (S&E), Methamphetamines-S, Drinking &

Driving-S, Inhalants-S&E, Marijuana-S&E, and 'What Parents Can Do'-S&E. Presentation equipment that was purchased by RWS continued to be very useful. Presentations were made at two area middle schools for three classes of 30 youth each, mostly concerning alcohol and drug education in health classes. Presentations were also made to families of the Susannah Maria Gurule Foundation's and the MC Health Department Early Childhood's service groups. These groups have expressed interest in hearing the details of the 'Gangs' presentation. Young college students have participated as co-presenters and showed interest in continued involvement. The lead coordinator also facilitated a workshop at the National Conference of MEChA in Corvallis, Oregon.

- El Programa Hispano holds driver's education courses during which DUII education is provided by the MC Deputy District Attorney.

*Among Rockwood teens, reduce the number of pregnancies and the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco; improve the outcome of pregnancies by improving health behaviors and assisting new parents in providing more competent care for their children.*

- The P/I/T Subcommittee plans to review these issues during Year 2 in order to understand what the problem is within our community. (We have altered the wording of this goal slightly. Also, due to combination of Goals 1-3, this Goal 2 was previously Goal 4.)
- The FACTS Abstinence Curricula was presented at two local middle schools, through the partnership of El Programa Hispano and Northwest Family Services. Classes were held weekly and average attendance was 13 per session, 70% female. Thirty-five parents attended a meeting at each school plus one high school; the purposes were to explain the program, discuss the importance of this topic and how to address their children's questions and behavior.
- The Get a Clue & Get a Grip programs were offered by Eastwind Community Services. These programs are designed for girls and their moms who are having mother-daughter conflicts and who may have experienced trauma in their lives which is affecting their relationships. The programs' overall goal is to prevent teenage pregnancy.
- Eastside Teen Clinic and the Rockwood Neighborhood Health Access Center (both services of the MC Dept. of Health) remain open. Eastside is not located in Rockwood, but it is directly adjacent to a major transit center in East Gresham. Services are free or reduced for the uninsured and underinsured 12-20 year olds. The Health Access Center provides preventative health services for the uninsured and underinsured.

*Reduce gang activity, poverty and increase the assets of and opportunities for children and youth. Increase pro-social service and educational activities for youth and families.*

- Throughout Year 2, the Prevention/Intervention/Treatment Subcommittee and Steering Committee have met and discussed the revision of the P/I/T goals due to such close similarities and the goal list being so extensive. We are not omitting any objectives, just compiling in order to formulate more manageability. This goal is the combination of our previous Goals 5 and 7.
- Safe Haven activities were offered Monday through Friday in the after-school hours at the PAL Youth Center, HB Lee SUN School, Davis Elementary SUN School, and Alder Elementary SUN School. Weekend and evening activities were also offered by various other partners including Eastwind Center, MC Library, El Programa Hispano, and Metropolitan Family Services.
- The PAL Youth Center is a year-round recreational facility for youth ages 8-18; it is open Monday-Friday from 2:30pm-7:00pm during the school year and Monday-Friday from 10am-5pm during the summer and school breaks. The Youth Center, at the end of the 2004 school year, had a total membership of 547 youth (341 males, 206 females). 139 of these members have special needs. During this reporting period (108 days on which the Center was open), PAL had a total of 9,343 duplicated youth participating in a program at the Youth Center. The average daily attendance was 86 youth. Safe Haven activities include: basketball, soccer, billiards, foosball, ping pong, computer fun, board games, movies, music appreciation, arts and crafts programs, puzzle building, a snack program, several games room and gym tournaments and numerous local field trips.
- In partnership with El Programa Hispano, Multnomah County Department of Community Justice, Eastwind Center, Portland Police Bureau, Sherwood PAL, Molalla PAL and RWS, the PAL Youth

Center hosted *Safe Haven Spring Break* activities where a daily average of 149 youth attended to participate in a variety of activities from March 22-26.

- The annual PAL Summer Sports Camp was held at an area high school from June 21-June 25, 2004. The camp gave Police Officers and youth ages 8-14 a chance to interact with each other in a positive environment. The camp, while choosing from 14 different sports, also served as a recruiting device to invite youth to participate in other PAL and Safe Haven programs. There were over 400 youth who participated and approximately 75 Police Officers and volunteers who helped to coach the athletes.
- Special on- and off-site programs held at the PAL Youth Center during this reporting period include: Oregon State University Extension Services Nutrition Education Program, AKA Science, Homework Club, Supper Program, participation in a hockey league, UNO/ZAP Program, Rambunctious Readers and special trips to attend University of Portland basketball games.
- A second Safe Haven within the Rockwood boundaries is HB Lee Middle School, where SUN (Schools Uniting Neighborhoods) and MFS (Metropolitan Family Services) are organizing activities. The SUN winter and spring sessions began on January 20 and ended on June 10. This session included various extended day activities with academic, recreational, athletic, and social service components. The SUN after school activities for children and their families were held Monday-Thursday from 2:30 – 7:30 p.m. These activities include: Bike Safety Club, Book Club, Russian Girls' Group, Homework Club, Introductory Drama Club, Advanced Drama Club and a Latino community children's group. Adult English classes were held twice weekly. A total of 285 youth and 37 adults were served this reporting period through enrollment programming. 74 people (37 children and 37 adults) were served in non-enrollment activities this reporting period. Davis and Alder Elementary Schools are also inside the Rockwood boundaries and are also considered SUN Schools. Each school is on our Safe Haven list and provides similar activities.
- Eastwind Center provided an afterschool tutorial program and a youth night program, each held one day per week throughout the school year at a HUD apartment complex in Rockwood. The program's average attendance was 15 youth/week for each activity. Although there has been a change in staffing and many older students graduated from high school last year, new staff are setting up the programs to continue them as great support to the younger participants. Eastwind's program at this complex is also included on our Safe Haven list.
- PAL coordinates NYSP (National Youth Sports Program) for the Portland-Metro area. Even though the program is held at a site outside of the RWS boundaries, area youth were bussed with RWS funds.

*Increase access to health, dental and mental health services.*

- In December 2003, the Gresham Downtown Development Association donated a remaining supply (which was originally donated by Tri-Met) of public transportation tickets to RWS. A portion of them were given to the Head Nurse at the Rockwood Neighborhood Health Access Center, a clinic of the Multnomah County Health Dept. In four months, 100 tickets were distributed to patients who needed transportation assistance in arriving to other sites to receive additional medical, dental and mental health services. In May, RWS purchased more tickets and in turn, they were given to the Center's Head Nurse. 50 were again distributed within a little more than two months.

*Improve ethnic challenges and diminish discrimination.*

- With the performances and presentations celebrating ethnic diversity, "Rock Soup" 2004 and the Rockwood International Marketplace gave attendees the opportunity to experience some of the diverse cultural traditions within Rockwood's community. There were moments of building community pride in the celebration of our ethnic roots.

*Support youth and families with childcare and other critical services.*

- Multnomah Early Childhood Program and Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) Head Start offer early childhood services to Rockwood residents and MHCC's new facility is still running strong. This spring, they held two screening days to encourage local residents to learn more about Head Start services within the neighborhood.

- The RWS Site Coordinator is ‘certified’ as a back-up site supervisor for the Summer Food Program sites in the Rockwood area.
- Loaves & Fishes continues communication with RWS partners and other Rockwood stakeholders about the need to open a senior meal site and multi-service center in the Rockwood area. RWS will continue to be a link for Loaves & Fishes as the planning develops.

### **Neighborhood Restoration:**

*Improve the business vitality and image of the business community.*

- A number of community events were held during this reporting period. The Rockwood Library held their annual Día de Los Niños y Los Libros celebration. The second annual “Rock Soup” celebration was also a great success during this time period. This event, which about 200 people attended, allowed us to address developing leadership in the community and enhancing relationships among community members. The RWS Site Coordinator has also been involved in planning the 2004 Rockwood International Marketplace.
- Year two of “Rock Soup” brought some wonderful new things, which meant for new lessons and great excitement. More service providers participated and interest developed to bring additional services to Rockwood. The event brought new faces and energy to the table and community businesses assisted as sponsors/donors and they found the involvement to be a win-win situation.
- We heard and saw wonderful messages from our performers. During “Rock Soup” 2003, there was a semi-lag in stage action. This year, we had more entertainment than we could hope for. From Shout Out!, who provided energy and excitement, to the wonderful speakers whose messages helped us understand it all better, and the group of wee ones from the Pine apartments whose message and smiles were contagious – we remembered why Rockwood was a wonderful place and why “Rock Soup”’s message is so important.
- Laila Cully, of the State of Oregon Community and Economic Development Dept., was a speaker at the “Rock Soup” event, and used this forum to give information on starting small businesses, as well as passing out resource information.
- The Rockwood International Marketplace is a new outdoor bazaar featuring arts, crafts, food and music from many cultures. It was created to give Rockwood residents and others a new venue for supplemental household income as well as a safe, family friendly place to gather and play. The RWS Steering Committee, Rockwood Neighborhood Association, City of Gresham and the East County One Stop Career System have all contributed to the successful development of the marketplace. The Verizon Foundation assisted with a generous grant to help provide marketing materials. Two weekend markets took place in May and June with about 55 vendors participating. A weekend market is scheduled for each month of July, August and September. The Marketplace will be a weekly event beginning mid-May 2005.
- As RWS becomes more visible, those who are arranging their own events are consulting RWS for potential tie-in. Weed & Seed has been able to make recommendations of potential partnerships to avoid duplication of services and provide information on outreach needed.

*Improve Networking with all elements of the community. [Schools, churches, health care providers, neighborhood organizations, businesses, government entities, etc.]*

- As part of the goal to share the news of RWS to the community, the Site Coordinator presented to and attended meetings of the following organizations: Centennial Neighborhood Assoc., Community Against Domestic Violence, East County Caring Community, East County One Stop, Gresham Chamber of Commerce (and became a Chamber Member), Gresham Community Court, Human Solutions, Latino Network, Police Activities League, Rockwood Business Assistance Program, Rockwood Neighborhood Assoc., Rockwood Pastors and Russian Speaking Community Forum <sup>SM</sup>.
- RWS continues to contract with a webmaster to oversee the maintenance of the Oregon W&S website: [www.weedandseedoregon.org](http://www.weedandseedoregon.org). RWS Steering Committee members are consistently encouraged to provide feedback on the website and its contents.
- Plans are being developed for the means of keeping the community members connected: together and

to resources. Newsletter and community information phone lines are options that are being discussed. Challenge to address: What is the best way to communicate with such a diverse community? What is it that the residents want to know and want to hear about? What draws their attention?

*Increase community stability in Rockwood. Improve housing conditions. Develop leadership in the community. Decrease poverty/increase wealth.*

- RWS partners have been formulating plans to gather the managers of area complexes to ask them to discuss the issues they are facing within the properties.
- Making connections at neighborhood and apartment complex meetings as mentioned above is important to the development of establishing more leadership in Rockwood.
- A group called East Multnomah County Housing Advocates formulated and gathered periodically.
- El Comite de Padres de Reynolds (Reynolds High School Parents Association) was established during this period. The president attended La Raza Council Conference in Phoenix, AZ in June. El Programa Hispano (EPH) received a scholarship for her. She attended several workshops about leadership and community organizing. She returned full of enthusiasm and willing to 'go to work'. EPH and El Comite are planning a meeting in August to have a presentation about the "No Child Left Behind Act" so parents can learn more about this topic. In September, the plan is to do outreach to get more parents involved in El Comite.
- The City of Gresham Citizen Involvement Office hosted a 'Building Community' Workshop.

### **Special Emphasis Area: JUSTICE INNOVATIONS -- COMMUNITY COURT**

Gresham Community Court (GCC) is a highly collaborative program that relies on the coordination and partnership of at least nine core partners, including the Rockwood Weed & Seed site. This number does not include the secondary social service and community organizations that receive referrals from GCC social services program and the GCC judge. Due to this collaboration, the GCC has been able to achieve many of the law enforcement and community enrichment objectives envisioned when the program began. From Jan-June '04, approximately 270 pleaded guilty in GCC and received community service sentences.

*Apply above-mentioned goals and objectives to area offenders and their families in order to reduce the offenders' likelihood of re-offending and increase the likelihood of the offenders becoming more productive citizens in our community. The ultimate goal is to create a safer, more livable community. Establish and maintain successful completion rates of community court while helping to 'give back' to the Rockwood community.*

- During this reporting period, RWS provided Special Emphasis funding to support the work of a Social Services Case Manager (.25FTE) to perform preliminary intake interviews with GCC offenders and assist in determining recommendations for adjudication and the need for rehabilitation services and/or other applicable services. The Case Manager, a Dept. of County Human Services employee, is also assigned to the N/NE and SE (Portland) Community Courts and is funded through two other Weed & Seed sites.
- The Social Services Case Manager interviewed an average of 24 people per month and made an average of 29 referrals to a variety of social service agencies and resources including: employment, Hispanic services, Oregon Health Plan, food assistance, rent, utilities and other financial assistance, food stamps, emergency clothing, health and dental care, housing/homelessness, bus tickets and obtaining identification. Some defendants are aware of how to access these services, but many are not or will not. GCC seeks to facilitate linkages to social services in the defendants' community.
- The Case Manager also reports to the court on defendants' compliance with mandated services, such as the Mental Health Monitoring program and the Chemical Dependency Monitoring program.
- Another goal is to provide a Community Service Coordinator to assist the GCC in placing defendants in community agencies that needed assistance in the form of volunteer labor and also in assisting defendants in accessing social services. Both goals were implemented better than planned. Many of the agencies assisted were Weed & Seed partners and many of the defendants were either Weed & Seed residents, committed their crime in the Weed & Seed community or accessed services therein.

- The Police Activities League (PAL) hired the Community Service Coordinator and training for the position began in December of 2003. Supported by the Special Emphasis funds, she worked about ten hours/week beginning in January and continues to fulfill the duties of the Coordinator and reports to the RWS Site Coordinator, also an employee of PAL.
- During this reporting period, the GCC sentenced defendants to two different community service programs. Since January, the Community Service Coordinator assigned 195 people to complete their community service in local non-profit agencies. 23 people are still in progress, 115 successfully completed and 56 were unsuccessful. Out of the 195 placements, 153 were placed at agencies within the Gresham community. A total of 1968 hours were donated to the Rockwood/Gresham community for a value of \$13,874. This program enjoyed a 65% success rate.
- From January to June, approximately 70 Community Court defendants were sentenced to complete community service through the MC Alternative Community Service Program as well.
- GCC is meeting many of its important objectives. Case processing time is shorter than in the traditional system, defendants are connecting to social services, community service crews are providing valuable labor to the GCC communities and defendants are receiving treatment and providing service to the community in lieu of the more expensive option of jail. At the GCC, the funding of the Community Service Coordinator has greatly improved the ability of the court to place defendants in agencies that offer services that particular defendant needs. It has also been a boon to the Rockwood community agencies in need of community service help. Still the GCC could improve. Below are the primary areas that need improvement:
  - Move Community Courts back to community settings.
  - Permanent funding should be found for the Community Service Coordinator position temporarily funded by RWS Special Emphasis funds.
  - Non-compliance with sentence conditions needs to be more strictly sanctioned.
  - A better-funded social service system is necessary so that the Community Court social services case manager can more quickly and effectively access available services for defendants.

*Familiarize the offenders about the Community Court process; decrease the Failure-To-Appear rate.*

- The MC District Attorney's Office estimates that the Failure-To-Appear (FTA) rate still stands at approximately 60%. GCC Project Coordinators, Attorneys and RWS are developing a system and process to assist in decreasing this rate and simultaneously consider the liability ramifications of providing this assistance to the offenders. An intern assisted us for a couple months during this period to work out some of the logistics of this project. We are still unable to implement this project fully due to various barriers. One barrier: which agency should be the contact person to make this 'friendly reminder'? Many clients are represented by defense counsel; would this mean we would have to seek permission to make contact? Second barrier: any involvement related to a FTA charge may result in the contact person being required to testify; is this economically smart?

*Decrease the likelihood of re-offending among GCC clients by increasing access to strength based approach to alcohol and drug treatment, reducing alcohol and drug use in Rockwood as well as increasing access to health and mental health services and supporting families with other critical services.*

- The RWS Steering Committee, the Community Court Project Coordinator and the Social Services Case Manager have been actively developing a system and process for the Emergency Services Fund (ESF). We have established a piece of the system. Four GCC defendants who are either RWS boundary residents or committed their crime in the RWS community have received financial assistance to attend "Theft Talk"<sup>TM</sup> classes. "Theft Talk"<sup>TM</sup> is a counseling service that many judges mandate for minor theft and shoplifting offenses. "Theft Talk"<sup>TM</sup> representatives also decided to offer in-kind subsidizing for such referrals.
- It is important to the Steering Committee and the court (and the offenders) that the system and fund be flexible as well as follow a path of rapid response. The ESF has also provided public transport tickets for those defendants that may need help with transportation in getting access to services.