

CATEGORICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRESS REPORT NARRATIVE

Weed & Seed Grant Number: 2002-WS-QX-0118

Progress Report Period: July 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003

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. became a more active collaborator during this reporting period. Moreover, they opened a satellite office in the Rockwood neighborhood. 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 much more.
- Freedom Foursquare Church, located within the RWS boundaries, also became a more active collaborator during this period. A church member was approved as a new Steering Committee Member and RWS was involved with a community event sponsored by the church.
- The Latino Network also became a more active collaborator during this reporting period. They received funding from the Center for Disease Control to hire Community Health Workers, two of which are focusing on the Rockwood neighborhood. Connections through RWS were made to assist in their popular education curricula instruction.
- The PAL (Police Activities League) Youth Center hired a person to re-fill the Safe Haven Coordinator position. He started his employment simultaneously with the previous Coordinator's completion, so there was no delay in the services being provided to the Safe Haven youth.
- 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.
- RWS advocates (including Gresham Police Department Officers) attended a variety of conferences throughout this period: National Gang Violence Conference in Anaheim, CA; United Bicycle Institute in Ashland, OR; The Oregon Methamphetamine Summit in Portland, OR; OJJDP's Comprehensive Gang Model Training in Portland, OR; National Crime Prevention Council Conference in Washington, D.C. We find that these great opportunities allow for engaging more police officers and stakeholders in understanding and implementing RWS efforts.
- A Kaiser Permanente-Rockwood representative, a member of the RWS Steering Committee, arranged for their building site to be donated as the location for the 2004 Rockwood International Marketplace. The Marketplace is an open air, weekend bazaar being developed to celebrate the many cultures that enrich the West Gresham/Rockwood community. The Marketplace will feature arts, crafts, music, children's activities and an International Food Court. This is a new and growing market designed to create earning opportunities for vendors; an exciting sense of place in Rockwood; and a vital new retail market that will attract customers from throughout the metro region.
- 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, was appointed the D.A. for Gresham's and Northeast Portland's PSN strategies. As the PSN prosecutor, he is assigned to conduct the vertical prosecution of juvenile gun crimes. The Multnomah County D.A.'s office contracts with El Programa Hispano, 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. Seven information exchanges were conducted during this period, at which about 150 surveys were conducted regarding safety issues in Rockwood. More community exchanges are being planned.

Also as part of PSN, El Programa Hispano 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 will officially be implemented in March 2004 but has already begun to affect the RWS stakeholders and the services they provide to Rockwood residents.
- Connections were made with managers of local Safeways and Albertson's, RWS and the Gresham Police Department. Further collaboration possibilities are being evaluated and considered.

2. **STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The RWS Steering Committee met five (5) times during this reporting period: July 17th, August 21st, September 18th, October 16th, and November 20th. 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 12/31/03 is \$219,823 for grant #2002-WS-QX-0118.

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

	<u>Amount Budgeted</u>	<u>Amount Used</u>	<u>Amount Left</u>
Personnel	\$155,566	\$67,479	\$88,087
Fringe	\$24,374	\$14,951	\$9,423
Travel	\$32,700	\$22,464	\$10,236
Equipment	\$50,360	\$35,933	\$14,427
Supplies	\$21,853	\$9,258	\$12,595
Consultants/Contracts	\$82,679	\$23,772	\$58,907
Other	\$25,235	\$4,640	\$20,595
Indirect	\$7,200	\$1,647	\$5,553

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, Winter Wonderland Walk, Winter Fair, the presentation of the 2004 Rockwood Community Pride Calendar and the completion of a mural displaying Latino community pride of the Rockwood neighborhood have been just some of the highlights presented by the *Gresham Outlook*, *The Oregonian* and local television news broadcasts, including Multnomah Community Television's East Multnomah County News shown on cable access channels.

The long-term goal of the RWS site is to site permanent essential services in Rockwood which include: maintaining a police presence, health care, and employment and training. Additional goals include: to change community norms regarding alcohol and drug abuse, to diminish discrimination and to provide sufficient opportunities for young people in the area so they are able to succeed as adults. If we are successful in achieving these goals, we will be less reliant on outside financial support. Oregon has suffered more than any other state in the nation in this recent downturn in our economy and local resources have been drastically reduced. As a consequence, we will be reliant on outside sources of support and local in-kind contributions until Oregon recovers. We remain guardedly optimistic that with cooperation, coordination and sufficient advocacy, we will be able to overcome even these obstacles.

Funding was received by the Police Activities League of Greater Portland for the National PAL Youth Enrichment Program through USDOJ. The program was implemented at the PAL Youth Center.

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 (MCDJC) agreed to provide an Opportunity Fund during this project year. A portion of these funds served as an opportunity for the creation of a mural presenting highlights of the Latino culture and was painted in the heart of Rockwood. A group of area youth committed much of their summertime to creating and completing the mural and covering up graffiti within the neighborhood. A mini-grant opportunity was presented to the community with the remaining funds for projects that were consistent with our Weed & Seed strategies. During this reporting period, three (3) community events were supported with this fund as well as an afterschool tutorial program at a local apartment complex. Students from Reynolds High School MEChA organized 'Dia de los Muertos' (The Day of the Dead) celebrations. Volunteers of People for Parks held a Winter Wonderland Walk in a Rockwood park, which included the presentation of at least 1,000 luminaries. El Programa Hispano staff and volunteers coordinated a second 'Las Posadas' (The Inns) celebration which took place throughout the week before Christmas at six (6) different apartment complexes on four different days. Over 500 gifts were given to young children and 20 piñatas full of candies were broken during the events.

The Gresham Downtown Development Association donated a remaining supply (which was originally donated by Tri-Met) of public transportation tickets to Rockwood Weed & Seed and they are being used by residents to access health, dental and mental health services.

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

Several local Rockwood/Gresham businesses made merchandise and service donations to help in making various community events a success, including Rockwood National Night Out. The GPD donated two used Bike Patrol bicycles to area youth who participated in a RWS-sponsored community event.

5. EVALUATION

Evaluation has been a collaborative effort through provision of data by the Gresham Police Department 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.

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.

It is important to RWS to understand the language needs of the community. We are collaborating with the OR Employment Department to define better the population who speak languages other than English in their homes. This will assist us in successful distribution of community newsletters and information.

6. STATUS OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Law Enforcement/Corrections/Prosecution:

Collaborations and coordinated efforts to support the Gresham Police Department Gang Enforcement Unit's missions, enforcement efforts and intervention, outreach and education to victims of domestic violence are functioning effectively. MCDJC still has some funding available to apply to the diversion

program. The Latino Gang Violence Prevention Task Force continues to evaluate the current services being provided as well as the needs and gaps of the Multnomah County community.

CRIME ISSUES BEING ADDRESSED:

During this reporting period, there were no murders or shootings, but there were again 17 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, including domestic violence-related aggravated assaults. The number of drugs arrests increased 27% from 2002 to 2003; the most significant increase being for heroin. However, Synthetic Drugs (including methamphetamines, demerol, etc.) have the highest number of arrests at 90. There was a decrease in car prowls and larceny crimes in 2003 compared to 2002. 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.

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 Unit, 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 five in the first six months of 2003 to 47 for the last six months.

The GPD recently put the General Order in place and the Gang Enforcement Unit can now call someone a gang member, even though G-codes were applied to the tracking system in October 2002. 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.

Reduce violent gang activity.

- The Gang Enforcement Unit of the Gresham Police Department (GPD) has continued with their efforts. It includes 2 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.
- Gang Enforcement Unit officers were scheduled on RWS overtime for a variety of missions and details but mostly to enhance patrol. Enhanced Patrol results included making contact with known and associate gang members; arresting ‘taggers’ or menaces with weapons; towing suspicious vehicles for violations or implementing exclusion notices; curfew or criminal trespass violations.
- A park mission was written and implemented by the Gang Enforcement Unit in collaboration with GPD Detectives, GPD Bike Patrol and the Portland Police Bureau GET unit. The goal of this mission was to address, identify and document criminal/gang activity associated with the Rockwood Central Park located within the RWS boundaries. The mission resulted in 37 gang member contacts, 5 arrests, 13 MIP’s (Minors in Possession), 2 ordinance tows, 6 juveniles transported to New Avenues For Youth, 1 adult transported to MC Dept. of Corrections and an ongoing felony marijuana investigation. One individual, who had been very active in the leadership of one of our local gangs, was detained that evening on a Probation Violation – to federal prison for three years.
- Additional Gang Enforcement Unit overtime duty was provided through curfew sweep detail and park patrol. At times, the Unit was approached by citizens thanking them for helping to clean up the area.
- The GPD initiated a coding system (in October of 2002) for officer response to suspected gang-related crimes. This information will help provide baseline data on gang-related activity. The coding system is still in its initial phase.
- 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.

- Gresham's Gang Enforcement Unit continues to work with the City of Troutdale's Police Department on the street enforcement level as part of the follow-up from the grant that Troutdale received to support training opportunities related to gang crime.
- The GPD regularly shares gang intelligence information with the Portland Police Bureau, 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.
- During this reporting period, a resource tool (pocket cards) was created to distribute to gang-affected youth for the purpose of understanding who to reach out to in order to discuss alternatives to gang affiliation. Distribution by GPD Officers took place during this reporting period. 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.

- In collaboration with MC Domestic Violence Coordinator's Office, 32,000 resource wallet cards entitled '*love shouldn't hurt*' were printed in English, Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese and were distributed 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. Printing was funded by RWS. City Council's Police Advisory Committee and the Rockwood Business Assistance Program assisted with distribution.
- Collaboration with the East County Community Against Domestic Violence (CAD-V) continues. CAD-V and RWS formed a partnership during this reporting period. Currently CAD-V 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.
- MCDCJ offered one session of Cognitive Behavioral Change classes for 8 adult offenders under supervision in apartment complexes within the Rockwood area in Spanish. The crimes that these offenders committed are related to domestic violence, drug or theft offenses.

Reduce street level crimes.

- The GPD has 21 Certified Bike Patrol Officers. With the new bicycles and equipment purchased by RWS, 10 Officers had the opportunity to work a total of 55 hours of RWS overtime throughout this reporting period. Stolen vehicles, traffic violations, PCS and 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 within various apartment complexes' residents and at public transport platforms.
- GPD staff began to implement a car prowling 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.
- A GPD Officer continues to assist on the metro-wide Auto Theft Task Force.

Reduce juvenile crime.

- The formal diversion program was reduced at the County level due to budget cuts and now first-time offenders are only receiving a letter rather than a direct link to services. 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 Gang Enforcement Unit provided a training session for an area high school administration and staff regarding East MC Criminal Street Gangs, which are compiled of a large number of youth. More similar sessions are being planned for the near future.

Community Policing:

Collaborations and coordinated efforts to support the GPD's Bike Patrol and Community Safety Specialists' efforts are functioning effectively. Graffiti removal and enhancing positive activities for youth have been important focuses. GPD representatives have been consistently available and present at various community events and meetings to help in establishing the environment of mutual trust. The Code Enforcement Section of the GPD is a committed department to improving the livability of the City. However, the staff consists of about half as many employees as a city of comparable size.

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

- The GPD Gang Enforcement Unit had a regular presence in Rockwood including attending key community-supported meetings. One meeting, which was organized by the RWS Site Coordinator and the complex manager, was held at a Rockwood apartment complex. The goal was to gather law enforcement representatives and social service providers to inform complex residents about the services available to them, what is being done to improve Rockwood and ways they can be empowered to assist. Many RWS collaborators and about 20 residents attended and shared information, including their danger and crime fears of the area. As a result, and in order to meet their community health strategies, the Latino Network, MCDCJ, MC Health Dept., MC District Attorney's Office, the GPD and RWS are collaborating to provide more informational sessions for residents.
- The Chief of GPD introduced and held a community involvement program entitled "Citizen Solutions." The purpose of this program is to implement a series of informal, constructive interactions with those that live and/or work in Gresham. The program agenda consists of a short presentation intended to familiarize attendees with the daily function of their police department. This will include the Department's goals, objectives, and vision for the future. Time was then dedicated to responding to questions, comments, and detailed concerns related to specific neighborhoods or issues. Three sessions were held at local schools during this reporting period.
- 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, mediation specialists, to help resolve conflicts among neighbors before they escalate into criminal activity.
- GPD Officers and representatives were present at a number of community events throughout this reporting period: National Night Out, Celebration of Cultures, Back To School Fair, Winter Wonderland Walk, Winter Fair. These events enabled local police to interact with the community and make them aware of available resources to assist them and the prevention of crime within the community.

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.
- PAL and other RWS partners organized a National Night Out 2003 community event for Rockwood. Neighbors enjoyed a day of food and fun at a 'Going Away Party for Crime & Drugs'. The Gresham Police Dept., Fire Dept. and OR National Guard brought their vehicles, including a helicopter, for residents to see and climb aboard (but no personal flights!). Safety and crime prevention materials were available and there were raffles for bicycle helmets and McGruff posters.
- GPD staff organized a National Night Out event (on a separate day, outside of RWS boundaries) at which RWS partners were present to spread the word about the good things going on in Rockwood.

- For the final 2003 National Night Out event, an apartment complex manager organized a safety ‘fiesta’ for his residents. Many children and their families came to eat, drink and break piñatas. Safety information and crime prevention-related children’s activities were provided by GPD & RWS.
- Winter Fair 2003 provided positive activities for youth. The 700 adults and children who attended/participated in the event enjoyed a community celebration of Rockwood’s diversity with storytelling, music, dance, craft, food, and ‘ice fishing’ for prizes. GPD & RWS assisted.
- At Gresham’s National Night Out event, the GPD Chief announced a Graffiti Busters program. The Graffiti Busters conducted clean-ups this fall on four different days, cleaning 20 sites. Plans are being developed to conduct more when weather allows in early spring. One of the groups has adopted an area to maintain and the hope is to establish more. 32 hours of RWS OT were used by Community Policing Officers and Community Safety Specialists to conduct graffiti clean-ups.
- GPD has certified 10 apartment complexes as part of the Enhanced Safety Properties program. 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 Gang Enforcement Officers attended Apartment Watch meetings with the Community Safety Specialists in order to provide support when the gang issue is addressed.
- GPD staff began uniting with a manager of a particularly tattered apartment complex. Plans are to continue these meetings to discuss the gang issues and necessary diligence of the screening process.

Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment:

Collaborations and coordinated efforts to supporting the Safe Havens, the Rockwood Neighborhood Health Access Center and residents’ ability to gain adequate access to health care are functioning effectively. We are currently focusing on implementing a Comprehensive Prevention Program. The provision of prevention services in East Multnomah County may be challenged by the changes at the county level with the School-Aged Policy Framework.

Provide both universal and selective alcohol and drug prevention services. Reduce teen pregnancy, the use of alcohol and drugs and tobacco; improve the outcome of pregnancies by improving health behaviors, assist new parents in providing more competent care for their children.

- An RWS partner and volunteer agreed to develop and implement a Comprehensive Prevention Program for area youth (to then implement as mentors for younger 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 ‘How to Help your Kids’-S. Presentation equipment was purchased by RWS. Presentations were made at two area middle schools for eight classes of 30 youth each. Recruitment of older youth to become the presenters is being finalized. Collaboration partnerships were confirmed with Latino Leadership. The lead coordinator has been accepted to present a workshop at the National Conference of MEChA.
- 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. Ten parents attended a parenting skills class at one middle school.
- Eastside Teen Clinic (MC Dept. of Health) opened during this period. It is not located in Rockwood, but 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.

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.

- 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, as of December 31st, has a total membership of 355 youth (250 males, 125 females). 86 of these members have special needs. During this reporting period (111 days on which the Center was open), PAL had a total of 8,213 duplicated youth participating in a program at the Youth Center. The average daily attendance was 74 youth. Safe Haven activities include: basketball, football, hockey, dodge ball, billiards, foosball, ping pong, homework club, computer work, internet searches, board games, movies, arts and crafts programs, weight lifting, music appreciation, puzzle building, a snack program and several local field trips.
- Special on-site programs held at the PAL Youth Center during this reporting period include: Oregon State University Extension Services Nutrition Education Program, Role Model Day, Lights On Afterschool, Robotics, Extra Hour for Extra Action and Rambunctious Readers.
- 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 fall session began on September 22 and ended on December 18th. This session included 15 extended day activities with academic, recreational, athletic, and social service components. The SUN after school activities for children are held Monday-Thursday from 2:00 – 3:45 p.m. These activities include: Bike Safety Club, Drama Club, Latino Soccer Club, Girls' Group, Homework Club, Latina Girls' Group, Martial Arts Club, Math Club, Newspaper Club, Painting Class, Skateboarding Club, and three service activity days. Adult English classes were held Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:00-7:30 p.m. A total of 230 youth and 23 adults were served this reporting period through fall enrollment programming. Additionally, 225 youth and 87 adults participated in SUN non-enrollment activities. These activities included a community health fair, a Lights On Afterschool Celebration, and a Thanksgiving Holiday Food basket distribution. Davis and Alder Elementary Schools are also inside the Rockwood boundaries and are also now considered SUN Schools. Each school is on our Safe Haven list and provides similar activities.
- Eastwind Center provided an afterschool tutorial and activities program two days 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. Eastwind's program at this complex has also been added to our Safe Haven list. In addition, soccer teams of Latino youth living in the Rockwood area created a positive and active environment for 12 youth during the summer and fall months. Eastwind's Summer Day Camp (June 9th - Aug 22nd) served 276 school-aged children.
- Eastwind Center offered specialized programs for youth to participate in which included girls groups with the Girls' Initiative Network, Latina Girls Group, and skill building groups for boys as well as counseling services, support groups and educational groups for parents and family activities.
- 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.
- Winter Fair 2003 was held at the Rockwood Library during this reporting period. The event was first projected by the RWS Steering Committee as a storytelling event, which was broadened to include the celebration of Rockwood's diverse ethnicity with a focus on wintertime holidays. Programming included a professional storyteller, performers and crafters revealing traditions from Russia, Mexico and Latin America, Africa, Asia and the United States. During this five-hour event, 700 adults and children attended, participated and enjoyed a community celebration of Rockwood's diversity with storytelling, music, dance, craft, food, 'ice fishing' for prizes, along with the opportunity to wear various ethnic costumes and interact with one another.

Increase access to health, dental and mental health services.

- In June 2003, the Gresham Downtown Development Association donated a remaining supply (which

was originally donated by Tri-Met) of public transportation tickets to RWS. In July, 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 two months, fifty tickets were distributed to patients who needed transportation assistance in arriving to other sites to receive additional medical, dental and mental health services. In December, GDDA donated more tickets and in turn, they were given to the Center's Head Nurse. Distribution will continue as well as the logging process.

Improve ethnic challenges and diminish discrimination.

- With the programs celebrating ethnic diversity, Winter Fair 2003 gave participants the opportunity to reveal some of the diverse cultural traditions within Rockwood's community. Latinos, Asians, Africans, African-Americans and Anglos danced to African drums. Russians who had enjoyed their own folksongs stayed for the Mariachi performance, while many participated in the storytelling presentation and in various crafts including Philippine Lantern making. Some participants also came in ethnic dress. It was a moment 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 in November, they opened a new facility, Yamhill House. This facility also shares space with a new city park, Yamhill Neighborhood Park.
- The RWS Site Coordinator acted as a back-up site supervisor at a few Summer Food Program sites: HB Lee Middle School, PAL Youth Center and The Pines Apartment Complex. HB Lee and Oregon Hunger Relief Task Force coordinated a special "Celebrate Summer Food" event at which RWS provided games and activities for the participants.
- Loaves & Fishes began communication with RWS partners and other Rockwood stakeholders about the need to open a senior meal site in the Rockwood area. RWS will continue to be a link for Loaves & Fishes as the planning develops.

Neighborhood Restoration:

Collaborations and coordinated efforts to improve the image of the neighborhood, job and training opportunities and develop leadership in Rockwood are functioning effectively. Plans to assist in the improvement of housing conditions are being developed. Improving the communication among the residents and networking the elements is a very important objective of this component, however, services cannot be donated as originally anticipated.

Work crews of the Alternative Community Service (ACS) project of MCDCJ were called to provide restoration and revitalization (clean-up) services to various sites in Rockwood on seven different dates. People for Parks and SnowCAP made these requests and agencies were encouraged via the *Gresham Outlook* to contact ACS with more. The crews helped with projects which included set-up and take-down for community events, clearing overgrown sidewalk areas and stocking a food pantry for the low-income.

Improve the business vitality and image of the business community.

- The Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) is a vital resource and have a satellite office located in the center of Rockwood. This center offers bilingual, bicultural support for local start-up and active businesses. Services include business management assistance, technical assistance, marketing and matching of business opportunities, access to capital, administrative support and networking activities, special support for young entrepreneurs and the facility includes a conference room. OAME held the grand opening of the OAME Rockwood Business Center during this period. The Center includes businesses such as a beauty salon, computer store, grocery market with a Latino emphasis, housing authority satellite office, social services satellite office and a printing shop. Managers of the Center's businesses also agreed to allow for a community event, Back To School Fair, to take place in their parking lot during this period.
- A number of community events were held during this reporting period. Many of them are mentioned

throughout this report. The RWS Site Coordinator was involved in the planning of and presenting the 13th Annual Celebration of Cultures at Vance Park, located within the RWS boundaries.

- Many RWS partners (and some funds) organized a Back To School Fair for students and their families to unite and receive free school supplies, gift cards for purchasing supplies, books, backpacks, treats and immunization information. At least 500 people attended.
- Freedom Jam 2003 was held at Freedom Foursquare Church, inside of the RWS boundaries. Freedom Jam included food, games, music, clowns, inflatables and prizes for neighborhood families. The RWS Site Coordinator was there to talk with participants about their neighborhood and their safety issues. Free all-age reading books were provided by Lisa Libraries.
- 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. RWS continues to be present and participatory for the development of projects such as the Rockwood International Marketplace and those spearheaded by People for Parks.
- During this reporting period, the citizens of Gresham voted to pass the measure of the Rockwood/West Gresham Urban Renewal Plan. In addition to supporting the development of businesses that create well paying jobs and advancing the quality of housing for current and future residents, a “Rockwood Commons” facility, which could house a number of community uses, could be a long-term result of the Plan and this facility would have a positive impact on the Weed & Seed strategy by bringing a central focus to a number of community uses.

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 Association, East County Caring Community, East County One Stop, Gresham Chamber of Commerce, Gresham City Council, Gresham City Council’s Police Advisory Committee, Gresham Community Court, Human Solutions, Loaves & Fishes, MC Mental Health & Addictions Services Division of the Department of County Human Services, People for Parks, Police Activities League, Rockwood Business Assistance Program, Rockwood Neighborhood Association and the Rockwood Pastors.
- RWS contributed to the creation of the 2004 Rockwood Community Pride Calendar, allowing for an increase in the amount of calendars distributed from previous year. Kaiser Permanente participated as the printing sponsor. The City of Gresham Rockwood Business Assistance Program commissioned a professional photographer to develop a photo essay on the Rockwood community which in turn was used to create the calendar. Other than the fabulous photos depicting the diverse community, the calendar includes: public safety tips for Rockwood businesses and residents, a quick reference guide to businesses in Rockwood, a local community resource guide to public services, and a listing of special events happening in the Gresham area throughout the year. RWS also assisted with distribution of the 3,000 free calendars.
- RWS continues to contract with a webmaster to oversee the maintenance of the Oregon W&S website: 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. Improvements/Changes Needed: The initial funding estimates were prohibitive for addressing this goal effectively without the large donation of services which was not available. Therefore, RWS Neighborhood Restoration Subcommittee is evaluating other less cost prohibitive methods to reach the multilingual community such as a multilingual/multifunction phone information line. Additional funding to address this lower cost alternative still needs to be addressed.

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. Members have also been working as advocates to assist an area church in acquiring an abandoned home, once a drug house.
- Making connections at neighborhood and apartment complex meetings as mentioned above is important to the development of establishing more leadership in Rockwood.
- Plans were developed to distribute the Rockwood Business Climate survey by the City of Gresham in Feb. '04, with responses expected to be available by mid-March '04. The business database is managed and updated on a regular basis by the City of Gresham through the Rockwood Business Assistance Program.
- The Youth Employment Institute has a representative responsible for developing youth employment, academic enrichment and job development services for the youth in Rockwood and surrounding area.

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 9 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 July thru Dec '03, approximately 540 defendants were cited to appear in GCC. About 240 pleaded guilty in GCC and received community service sentences. There are currently about 25 cases in progress.

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 Core funding as well as Special Emphasis funding to support the work of a Social Services Case Manager (.2-.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 37 people per month and made an average of 33 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.
- One goal is to maintain a social service presence at the GCC to assist defendants in making connections to needed social services. The case manager also reports to the court on defendants' compliance with mandated services. This goal was met during the reporting period. Although the position funded by this grant was not always filled, due to county budget cuts, the GCC's supervising Case Manager carried out the grant's goals as best as possible.
- 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.

- During this reporting period, the GCC sentenced defendants to two different community service programs. From Oct. to Dec. '03, the Community Service Coordinator supported by this mini-grant assigned 53 people to complete their community service in local non-profit agencies. 16 people are still in progress, 35 successfully completed and 2 were unsuccessful. At least three people found jobs at the agencies where they performed their community service. A total of 456 hours were donated to the Rockwood/Gresham community for a value of \$3146. This program enjoyed a 95% success rate.
- From July to December, approximately 240 Community Court defendants were sentenced to complete community service through the MC Alternative Community Service Program. Of these cases, there are currently 25 cases in progress. Approximately 60% of the defendants successfully completed their community service sentences. 1920 hours of community service were completed, at a value of \$13,248 (at 2003 Oregon minimum wage of \$6.90/hr).
- The Community Service Coordinator supported by the Special Emphasis funds was an employee of the MC District Attorney's Office and was assigned to the SE and Gresham Community Courts. The Lents/Brentwood-Darlington Weed & Seed site supported approximately .5FTE of this position for the entire reporting period. The Rockwood Weed & Seed site dedicated a portion of its funding to support approximately .5 FTE of the position from October through December, 2003.
- Due to a change in staffing, PAL agreed to hire the Community Service Coordinator and training for her position began in December of 2003.
- 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 a RWS Special Emphasis funds.
 - Non-compliance with sentence conditions needs to be more strictly sanctioned.
 - Better communication with the community should occur.
 - 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 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.

Decrease the likelihood of re-offending among the Community Court 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, including the Community Court Project Coordinator and the Social Services Case Manager, has been actively developing a system and process for the Emergency Services Fund. We anticipate the system to be established and ready to implement no later than March, 2004. 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.