

Promising Partnerships



A Newsletter from the
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Martin O'Malley, Governor, Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
Gary D. Maynard, Secretary

Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions

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Advanced and Specialized Training Unit

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CSAFE Crime Trends

By Adam Starr, Administrator

Advanced and Specialized Training

As every HEAT Team member will tell you, Community Crime Trends is the first item on the HEAT Team Meeting Format. Sometimes there may be little to report or perhaps the officer may think his teammates have little use for the information. But exchanging crime trend information is critical.

Very often the law enforcement team member not only reports that crimes occur but they also provide information about suspects, vehicles, methods of operation, dates and times when crimes are occurring, types of property being taken and more. I have never seen an agent or counselor bored because they were getting too much information about crime. As every bookstore will tell you, crime is a best seller.

Also, reporting crime trend information is not a one-way street. Agents and counselors are additional sets of eyes for law enforcement. Their observations about the community, crime and suspects can be very valuable.

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We at AST encourage our officers and deputies to offer their teams current and detailed crime trend information. Ask your teammates what information would help them do their jobs more effectively and safely. We also ask our agents and counselors to ask questions. You may be surprised what your officer can tell you.



Members of the Cambridge HEAT and NST; Patricia Banks (DPP), Antoine Patton (Cambridge P.D.), Wendy Hughes (Local Management Board), and Cory Fink (DJS) shop for items to place in the Offender Re-Entry Baskets

Cambridge CSAFE Team Distributes "Offender Re-Entry Baskets"

By Cory Fink, Case Management Program Supervisor, Department of Juvenile Services

The Dorchester County CSAFE Neighborhood Safety Team recently approved the purchase of 25 "Offender Re-Entry Baskets" for individuals being released from the Division of Correction. The planning, purchasing, and distribution of the baskets has been a collaborative effort involving Christine Killmon (DPP), Pat Banks (DPP), Cory

Fink (DJS), Cpl. Antoine Patton (Cambridge PD), and Wendy Hughes (Local Management Board). The funds were made available through a grant awarded by the City of Cambridge. Items in the clothes basket include: a towel, washcloth, soap, deodorant, toothbrush and toothpaste, brush/combs, and other hygiene related products. Wal-Mart gift cards were purchased and included so offenders can purchase other materials that they may need to help aid in the transition back into our communities.

Criteria was established to aid in identifying those eligible participants; including that they reside in Dorchester County, were released from a DOC facility, employment status, and the condition that they be clean from drugs and alcohol. If the pilot phase of the program is a success, the team hopes to add more baskets and expand the criteria in the coming years.

“We simply must work together as public safety professionals in collaboration with our community partners. This is the most effective strategy to reduce crime, protect our communities and make our neighborhoods safer places to live, work and raise families.”

Pat Bradley, Executive Director, MPCTC

Women’s Development Day

*By Karen Fortune, Community Liaison
Advanced and Specialized Training*

On March 30, 2007, the East Baltimore North and the East Baltimore South CSAFE teams partnered with the Oliver Community Association and held a Women’s Development Day for the female clients of the Division of Parole and Probation. Guest speakers from the Re-Entry Center and Power Inside spoke about assisting the returning ex-inmate population. They also addressed the hopes and strengths to heal from incarceration, street life, and abuse.

Ms. Patricia Wilson, a motivational speaker from Reign on Me, Inc., gave an inspirational speech

and the women were provided with lunch, giveaways, and a folder filled with resource information. To end the day on a very high note, all of the women were treated to a Mary Kay makeover. The ladies truly enjoyed this event and gave very positive feedback.

The Pursuit of Happiness in Silver Spring, Maryland

*By Jennifer Beskid, Administrator
Training, Research & Development Unit*

On January 30, 2007, 164 homeless persons, who receive services in the Silver Spring area, were treated to a day at the movies. Ms. Tezzra Regester, Agent Senior, Division of Parole and Probation, identified individuals from her caseload to participate in this event which was hosted in the CSAFE area. Participants included clients of Montgomery County outreach programs as well as persons who receive services from both private/non-profit programs.

Many thanks to Majestic 20 Theaters, Starbucks, Chick-fil-a, Cordier Law Offices, Eggspectations, Panera Bread, Downtown Silver Spring Urban District, Community Vision (Progress Place) and the Montgomery County Police Department for coordinating this event. In addition to the movie, attendees received popcorn, coffee, and bottled water. Following the film, participants were treated to boxed lunches at Progress Place.

Although the wonderful weather and generosity of local businesses made this a wonderful experience, we hope that the uplifting message of the film motivates the attendees to move beyond their present circumstances.

The Value of Joint Home Visits

*By James R. Hedrick, Treatment Specialist
Advanced and Specialized Training*

During a recent home visit in the Harpers Choice CSAFE area of Howard County, Division of Parole and Probation Agent April Crandell and Howard County Police Officer Brad Cornwell

noticed two mini-bikes in the probationer's backyard. When asked, the probationer claimed ownership of both mini-bikes. However, when the police officer decided to "call in" the identification numbers, one of the mini-bikes was listed as stolen. An arrest was immediately made and the value of "joint home visits" was again demonstrated.

Pen Lucy/Waverly Basketball Tournament

By Karen Fortune, Community Liaison
Advanced and Specialized Training

On February 9, 2007, a "3 on 3 Basketball Tournament" was held at the Walter P. Carter Recreation Center in Baltimore City. Organizers and participants included the Pen Lucy/Waverly HEAT team, the Baltimore City State's Attorney's Coordinator, neighborhood youth, recreation center staff, and community leaders. The event offered the youth, who live in the Pen Lucy/Waverly area, the opportunity to play basketball in a safe environment. Trophies were awarded and all attendees received information on other youth activities in the area.



Baltimore City Police Officers Ryne Robinson and James Barnett, Division of Parole and Probation Agents Lynell Smith and Biola Oyefusi, Kent Way of the Department of Juvenile Services, and Community Coordinator Destini Bowman pause for a picture during the Pen Lucy/Waverly "3 on 3 Basketball Tournament."

The "T" in HEAT Stands for Treatment

By James R. Hedrick, Treatment Specialist
Advanced and Specialized Training

As I was writing this article, I thought about titling it – "Not your parent's marijuana." However, the implications for this may have a more negative impact than intended. I include this statement because there are ideas from previous generations' use of marijuana that still abound. How familiar does this sound: "it's harmless," "you can't get addicted," and "it takes the edge off."

According to The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program, marijuana continues to be the most available and frequently abused drug in the Baltimore/Washington area. The significance of this is not the availability but the potency of the domestic plants. A 2004 National Drug Treatment Assessment study reports that in 1974, the average THC content of illicit marijuana was less than 1% while in 2002; the average THC level was more than 6%.

Advanced hydroponics techniques at indoor growth sites are contributing to the increased potency. In 2006, law enforcement identified more than 29 businesses in Maryland and Northern Virginia that sell equipment used in the hydroponics procedures. As public safety officials, we want to familiarize ourselves with magazines and catalogs that sell this equipment, paying special attention to the pictures. Should we come across this type of paraphernalia or recognize the presence of this equipment in someone's home, we could then follow agency policies about how to share this information, promoting collaboration.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact me at 410-978-3253 or by email at jrhedrick@dpscs.state.md.us

*When you do the common things in life in an uncommon way, you will command the attention of the world."
George Washington Carver (1864-1943)*

Roper Victim Assistance Academy

By: Robert Ertter, Field Supervisor I
Division of Parole and Probation

The fourth annual Roper Victim Assistance Academy will be held at the Public Safety Education and Training Center in Sykesville, Maryland the week of June 4 – 8, 2007. The academy, modeled after the National Victim Assistance Academy, is a training and education program for professionals who assist victims of crime. Attendees will participate in an academic-based program designed to provide them with a fundamental overview of the entire field of victim advocacy, including workshops on victims' rights, compensation for victims, domestic violence, elder abuse, hate crimes, child victimization and much more.

The academy encourages the attendance of individuals from victim service agencies and other organizations that serve crime victims. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Dr. Debra L. Stanley, Academy Director, at dstanley@ubalt.edu. Interested individuals may apply through the website at www.rvaam.ubalt.edu.

TRAINING

CSAFE On the Job Training, & Key Indicator/Warrant Tracking Training

The above training will be held the following dates at the Public Safety Education & Training Center (PSETC) in Sykesville, MD

- Warrant Tracking & Key Indicator Training: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- On the Job Training: 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

DATES:

April 27, 2007	July 27, 2007
May 25, 2007	August 31, 2007
June 29, 2007	September 28, 2007

CSAFE Academy

A three-day Academy for members, who are new to HEAT teams in CSAFE areas, will be held May 1 – 3, 2007 at PSETC in Sykesville, MD. Participants are expected to complete On-the-Job Training, prior to attending the Academy.

In the event of inclement weather, any decision to reschedule a class will be made by 6:00 a.m. on the day of the class. Updated information is available by calling (410) 875-3783.

Please Help Us

Do you have a promising practice or notable accomplishment that you would like to share? You may email your comments to Susan Vandegrift at svandegrift@dpscs.state.md.us



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AST remains committed to saving trees; therefore, all editions of Promising Partnerships are available at
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