

ACF

Administration
for Children
and Families

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Administration for Children, Youth and Families**

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INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

TO: State Agencies Administering the Title IV-B Child and Family Services Program

SUBJECT: Family Preservation and Family Support Services and the Department of Justice's Weed and Seed Program

PURPOSE: The purpose of this memorandum is to provide updated information on the Department of Justice's Weed and Seed Program. This information may be helpful to State and local child welfare agencies as they carry out the planning, coordination, and consultation activities under the new Family Preservation and Family Support Services legislation.

DESCRIPTION OF THE WEED AND SEED PROGRAM

Background

STRATEGY: The Weed and Seed program, initiated in FY 1991 by the Department of Justice, is a focused, comprehensive effort to revitalize high-crime low-income neighborhoods. The goal is to "weed out" violent crime, drug use, and gang activity from selected neighborhoods, and then to help prevent crime from recurring by "seeding" those sites with a wide range of public and private efforts to empower and develop them.

The Weed and Seed strategy involves four basic elements:

- law enforcement efforts;
- community policing;
- prevention, early intervention, and treatment; and
- neighborhood revitalization.

It emphasizes:

- The importance of community involvement, both in terms of community policing and the development of social service and community revitalization needs and solutions;

- the importance of improved coordination among all levels of government, the community, and the private sector in dealing with the problems of targeted communities;
- the importance of coordinating law enforcement and neighborhood revitalization so that each reinforces the other; and
- the role of the U.S. Attorneys as coordinators of this effort, using their many contacts in law enforcement, government, and social services.

Number of Cities Participating

Currently, 21 cities are demonstration sites, an additional ten cities are "officially recognized" sites, and about 40 cities are awaiting official recognition. (See Attachment 1).

Funding

Funding for this program comes from three sources. The Department of Justice's Appropriation Act for FY 1994 provides over \$13 million; the Attorney General has made \$10 million in discretionary funds available; and \$8 million is contributed from asset forfeiture funds.

The Department of Justice recently solicited applications for continuation funding as well as funding for approximately ten new demonstrations.

These new sites will be selected from among those cities which are "officially recognized" and those which have applied for official recognition.

A basic site amount of up to \$750,000 will be made both to continuation and to new grantees. The majority of these funds must be pledged to seeding activities.

Training and technical assistance will be available to all sites.

RELATION TO FAMILY SUPPORT AND FAMILY PRESERVATION:

Family Preservation and Support Services and the Weed and Seed programs share common approaches and goals. Both efforts seek to:

- protect, strengthen, and help improve the lives of vulnerable children and families;
- target efforts on low-income communities whose residents have multiple needs;
- involve community residents in the overall plan for the activities that will be under taken to revitalize the community;
- involve community residents in the selection, design and operation of the specific services to meet community needs e.g., services that are culturally relevant, easily accessed, and familyfocused;
- utilize coordination and collaboration in their planning processes leading to more comprehensive, integrated services in the community; and
- seek to identify and coordinate resources available for services to avoid duplications.

We encourage State and local agencies to include representatives of the local Weed and Seed effort in their planning for family preservation and family support services. Attachment 2 is a list of contact persons in each of the demonstration and officially recognized sites.

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Attachments

[Attachment 1](#): List of Weed and Seed sites

[Attachment 2](#): List of contacts in each site

Attachment 1

LIST OF WEED AND SEED SITES

Atlanta, GA
Charleston, SC
Chelsea, MA
Chicago, IL
Denver, CO
Fort Worth, TX
Kansas City, MO
Los Angeles, CA
Madison, WI N.
Charleston, SC
Omaha, NE
Bradenton, FL
Clearwater, FL
Cocoa Beach, FL
Akron, OH
Benton Harbor, MI
Euclid, OH
Indianapolis, IN
Las Vegas, NV

DEMONSTRATION SITES

Philadelphia, PA
Pittsburgh, PA
Richmond, VA
San Antonio, TX
San Diego, CA
Santa Ana, CA
Seattle, WA
Trenton, NJ
Washington, DC
Wilmington, DE

BUSINESS ALLIANCE SITES

Ft. Myers, FL
Winter Park, FL

OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED SITES

Milwaukee, WI
Mobile, AL

Shreveport, LA
Springfield, IL
Wichita, KS

SITES AWAITING OFFICIAL RECOGNITION

California

San Jose
Fresno

Florida

Duval County/Jacksonville
Gainesville
Hialeah
Hillsborough County/Tampa
Miami/Dade County Lima
Lee County/Fort Myers
Manatee County/Bradenton
Marion County/Ocala Ohio
Orlando/Orange County
Polk County
Sarasota
Seminole/Brevard
Pinellas
Volusia County

Georgia

Savannah

Illinois

Austin (Chicago)

Maryland

Baltimore

New York

Brooklyn
Buffalo
Mott Haven (South Bronx)

Texas

Dallas

Ohio

Lima

Utah

Volusia County

Salt Lake City

CITIES INQUIRING/DEVELOPING WEED AND SEED STRATEGIES

ALABAMA

Birmingham

Jackson

Selma

ALASKA

Anchorage

ARIZONA

Phoenix

ARKANSAS

Little Rock

CALIFORNIA

Sacramento

E. Palo Alto

N. Richmond

Oakland

CONNECTICUT

Bridgeport

Hartford

New Haven

Norwalk

Waterbury
West Haven

FLORIDA

Melbourne
St. Petersburg/Clearwater/Tarpon Springs
Pensacola
Tallahassee

GEORGIA

Macon

INDIANA

Fort Wayne
Gary
Hammond
South Bend

IOWA

Cedar Rapids
Des Moines

KANSAS

Kansas City
Topeka

LOUISIANA

New Orleans
Baton Rouge

MAINE

Portland

MICHIGAN

Grand Rapids
Lansing
Muskegon

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis

MISSISSIPPI

Greenville

MISSOURI

St. Louis

NORTH CAROLINA

Durham

NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque

NEW YORK

Syracuse

OHIO

Cleveland
Columbus

OKLAHOMA

Tulsa

OREGON

Portland

PENNSYLVANIA

Harrisburg
Scranton
Wilkes-Barre
York

RHODE ISLAND

Providence

TENNESSEE

Chattanooga

Knoxville

Nashville

Memphis

TEXAS

Houston

VIRGIN ISLANDS

St. Thomas

WEST VIRGINIA

Wheeling

Charleston

**OPERATION WEED AND SEED
United States Department of Justice
FEB 1994**

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Demonstration and Officially Recognized

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