

**NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON
LAW ENFORCEMENT AND
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

2013 ANNUAL REPORT





NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

FROM THE DIRECTOR:

MISSION

The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice fulfills a leadership role in the statewide coordination of the criminal Justice System.

As the state's justice advocate, the Commission:

- develops comprehensive plans
- facilitates the improvement of criminal and juvenile justice administration
- provides a forum for discussion and problem solving among state, federal, local, and private agencies

VISION

The Crime Commission will strive to be a leader in criminal and juvenile justice progress through the dedication of forward-thinking staff, services provided with integrity, and leadership in the spirit of cooperation.



As Executive Director, I am pleased to present the 2013 Annual Report of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

We remain committed to our Vision Statement which "strives to be a leader in criminal and juvenile justice progress through the dedication of forward-thinking staff, services provided with integrity, and leadership in the spirit of cooperation."

The Nebraska Crime Commission is proud of our accomplishments and collaborations within Nebraska and nationally. I commend the staff of the Crime

Commission and our commission and coalition members for their dedication and service to the State of Nebraska.

It is my pleasure to work with a very competent and professional staff who are dedicated to fulfilling our statutory mission and our own mission statement which states how the Crime Commission 'fulfills a leadership role in the statewide coordination of the criminal justice system.' We could not be successful without working in partnerships with allied state agencies, law enforcement, victim advocates and juvenile coalitions from across Nebraska. For all of these groups and individuals, I am extremely grateful. I also want to extend my gratitude to members of both the Executive and Legislative branches for their continued support.

I hope you find the 2013 Annual report a valuable resource which promotes confidence in our ability to serve our great State of Nebraska.

Respectfully,

Darrell Fisher
Executive Director

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CRIME COMMISSION APPROPRIATIONS FY 13/14

The Crime Commission’s budget is divided into ten budget programs, with a total staffing in Lincoln of 26.0 positions and 18.0 in Grand Island. The following pages contain a brief description of each budget program, as well as a breakdown by type of funds, operations, and aid.

JUVENILE SERVICES

General Funds, Operations	114,378
General Funds, Aid	587,812
Total General Funds	702,190

These funds are distributed to local communities for programs which provide alternatives to juvenile incarceration. The Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice (Committee) makes decisions on awarding these funds, the County Juvenile Services funds, and the federal Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Funds.

VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE

General Funds, Operations	3,871
General Funds, Aid	52,559
Total General Funds	56,430
Federal Funds, Operations	126,172
Federal Funds, Aid	2,681,929
Total Federal Funds	2,808,101

The Commission provides funding for local victim assistance and domestic violence centers. These centers provide follow-up support services to crime victims and witnesses as they proceed through the criminal justice system. Partial funding is provided for 37 centers across the state.

CRIME VICTIMS’ REPARATIONS

General Funds, Operations	7,837
General Funds, Aid	20,000
Total General Funds	27,837
Cash Funds, Aid	194,000
Federal Funds, Aid	121,980

Funding is provided from this budget program to compensate victims of crime who receive bodily injuries and do not have funds available from other sources to pay medical expenses. Funeral costs and lost wages not covered by insurance are also reimbursed. All claims are examined by Commission staff and approved or denied by the Executive Director.

AGENCY SUMMARY

General Funds	7,647,788
Cash Funds	1,618,363
Federal Funds	9,194,542
Total Appropriation	18,460,693

COMMUNITY-BASED JUVENILE SERVICES AID

General Funds, Aid	3,000,000
General Funds, Operations	284,979
Total General Funds	3,284,979

These funds assist counties in providing services identified in their comprehensive juvenile services plan. Programs funded include diversion, delinquency prevention, intensive juvenile probation, shelter care, assessment/evaluation, and family support services.

JAIL STANDARDS

General Funds, Operations 296,693
 The Jail Standards Board is responsible for the enforcement of minimum standards for the operation and construction of local jails. Staff from this budget program conduct annual inspections of local jails and juvenile detention facilities and also provide technical assistance.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM (CJIS)

General Funds, Operations 144,919
 Federal Funds, Operations 810,634
 The CJIS Advisory Committee has developed a statewide strategic plan for improving the exchange of information among criminal justice agencies. Appropriated funds are used to implement those projects identified in the CJIS strategic plan.

CRIME COMMISSION APPROPRIATIONS FY 13/14

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

General Funds, Operations	485,551
General Funds, Aid	13,457
Total General Funds	499,008

Cash Funds, Operations 38,796

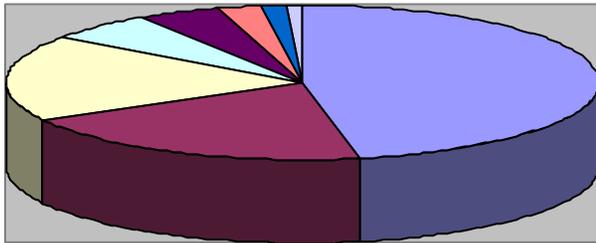
Federal Funds, Operations	874,282
Federal Funds, Aid	4,520,673
Total Federal Funds	5,394,955

This budget program provides the central administrative services for the agency. It also includes most of the major federal grant programs administered by the Crime Commission.

FUNDED PROGRAMS

- Uniform Crime Reporting
- Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
- Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant
- Statistical Analysis Center
- Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Funds
- Violence Against Women Act Funds
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment
- Sexual Assault Service
- John R. Justice Loan Program
- VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday)
- Hate Crimes Reporting
- Racial Profiling Reporting
- Statewide Crimestoppers Aid

**Crime Commission Grant Programs
Federal Funds 2013/2014
\$5,727,031**



- Victim Assistance \$2,681,929
- Byrne Justice Assistance Grants \$1,154,758
- Violence Against Women \$1,028,517
- Juvenile Justice Title 2 \$343,951
- Sexual Assault Services \$247,664
- Juvenile Accountability Incentive \$150,877
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment \$70,791
- John R. Justice Loan Program \$48,544

**Crime Commission Grant Programs
General Funds 2013/2014
\$3,640,371**



- Community-Based Juvenile Services \$3,000,000
- Juvenile Services \$587,812
- Victim Assistance \$52,559

THE GRANTS DIVISION

The grants division manages 12 different federal and state grant programs. The grants division in 2013 awarded 192 grant programs for a total amount of \$8,097,043. The grant programs administered by the Crime Commission include:

JOHN R. JUSTICE

The John R. Justice Student Loan Repayment Program is a federal program that encourages lawyers to enter and be retained as full-time public defenders and public criminal prosecutors. Selected applicants receive educational loan repayments if they promise to remain employed as a public prosecutor or defender in Nebraska for at least three years. For FY 2013, a total of **\$48,544** was awarded to **12** individual applicants to assist in student loan repayment. In adherence to JRJ Federal guidelines and procedures, JRJ applicants were awarded based upon income to student loan debt ratio. In addition, applicants were awarded to ensure a fair distribution between urban and rural geographic representation.

DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT (DMC)

The state of Nebraska strives to reduce and eliminate the disproportionate amount of contact with the juvenile justice system known as DMC or disproportionate representation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system. Nebraska has taken major steps to address this increasing plight. Cherry, Colfax, Dakota, Dawes, Dawson, Douglas, Hall, Lancaster, Madison, Platte, Sarpy, Saunders, Scottsbluff, and Thurston Counties are the 14 counties that were designated and tracked for DMC in 2013.

In 2013 the State DMC subcommittee appointed new committee chair **Symone Sanders** began to recruit new members.

In 2013 the State Subcommittee held a training and technical assistance webinar/conference call facilitated by OJJDP National DMC Coordinator **Andrea Coleman** for the purposes of:

- Reviewing the background and purpose of the DMC core requirements
- Exploring OJJDP’s DMC Reduction Model and discussing Nebraska’s Relative Rate Index (RRI) data
- Learning about OJJDP’s Community and Strategic Planning (CASP) Project and becoming familiar with OJJDP tools/resources to reduce DMC

Utilizing recommendations from the 2012 DMC Subcommittee retreat, goals were set to accomplish the following:

- Develop Language Access Plan to ensure meaningful access to court services for those with Limited English Proficiency
- Develop an education plan to expand knowledge among juvenile justice system stakeholders about DMC and should coordinate the provision of cross-agency training opportunities to improve cultural competence
- Evaluate discretion points for the purpose of appropriately replacing subjective processes with race neutral, objective decision making criteria
- Develop and implement a plan to improve diversity of the juvenile justice workforce; and

Discuss and adopt uniform definitions for each system point in the RRI. A unified system, with common definitions.

RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

This pass-through grant is a federal program that provides support for the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment programs housed within the correctional facilities. The Nebraska Department of Corrections has with these funds, established a comprehensive treatment program for offenders prior to their parole eligibility. A total of **549 inmates** in 2013 entered the program, and **344 of that total completed it**.

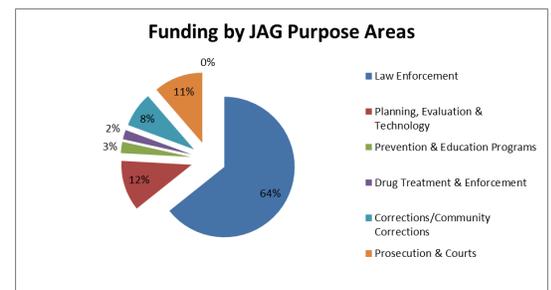
JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

This federal grant program promotes partnership amongst federal, state and local criminal justice entities in addressing the state’s drug and violent crime issues.

In 2013, five local Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces, a statewide Drug and Violent Crime Task Force; the Drug and Violent Crime Prosecution Unit with the Attorney General’s Office; a Program Manager with the Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System, and technical assistance for the Department of Corrections for investigative software, benefited with the support provided by these funds.

2013 JAG funds were awarded to fund Evidence Based projects such as the “Many Nations Counseling Project” with the Indian Center. Many Nations Counseling is a Trauma-Informed Substance Abuse Treatment program that implements evidence-based practices that are trauma sensitive and recommended when working with individuals currently at risk of incarceration.

2013 JAG funds were also granted to Sarpy County for start-up funding to implement a program whose purpose is to provide assistance to incarcerated individuals with mental illnesses within the criminal justice system. This program provides intensive case management services designed to help these individuals establish independent living skills, manage their mental illness, and reduce future contacts with law enforcement.



VICTIMS OF CRIME ASSISTANCE

This grant program ensures that crime victims have access to direct services at no cost. Funded through fines and penalties paid by convicted offenders, this program receives federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds, and a limited amount of state funds. Since 2002, state funds allocated to the Assistance to Crime victims have been **\$52,559, annually**. A total of 38 projects in 2013 received funding. And of those 38 projects, 14 were Victim Assistance Units; 20 were Domestic Violence and/or Sexual Assault programs; two (2) Child Advocacy Centers, and two (2) statewide projects, which are VINE (Victim Information & Notification Everyday), and the Nebraska Attorney General's Office for a Statewide Victim Services Advocate. It is estimated that 86,485 victims (maybe duplicated across projects) received 429,961 units of service. Amongst them, were 1,898 victims who received over 30,400 nights of shelter, and 3,884 victims were assisted with 8,915 Protection Orders. These numbers do not include the 10,829 new registrations for VINE notifications. Other important services provided are advocacy, information and referrals, assistance with filing for compensation benefits, crisis counseling, transportation and emergency financial assistance.

STATE JUVENILE SERVICES CRIME VICTIM'S REPARATIONS

In 2013, 30 juvenile programs were funded; 35 applications were received. Programs across the state included mentoring programs, child advocate programs, reporting centers, shelter projects, prevention/intervention programs, truancy abatement, gender specific programs, after school programs, academic improvement, and diversion services. A total of \$587,812 was awarded.

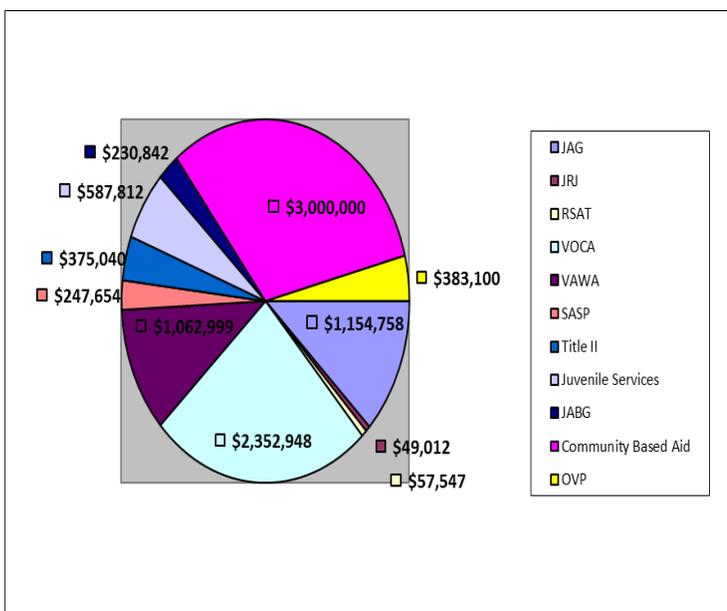
This program, administered by our Budget and Accounting Division, provides financial assistance for victims of crime who suffer physical injuries. With the passage of LB 510 in 2010, more general and cash funds are available for the Crime Victim's Reparations program. The amount of federal matching funds will increase as a result. We anticipate processing 150 claims per year starting in 2012. In years prior to 2012 we were processing 70 claims per year.

STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT (VAWA)

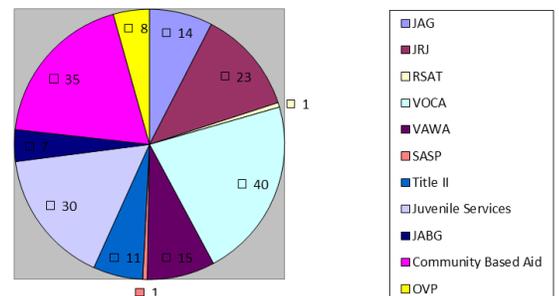
The purpose of this federal grant program is to create comprehensive and positive changes in the response of the criminal justice system to women who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. Nebraska's distribution of these federal funds ensures that 25% of funds support law enforcement efforts, 25% prosecution efforts, 5% courts and 30% for victim services of which 10% is dedicated to culturally specific services. Amongst the priorities for these funds are underserved populations such as minorities; those living in rural or remote areas; the elderly; victims who speak limited English, immigrants and undocumented victims and members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community.

In 2013, 15 programs received VAWA funding. And of the 15 programs, two (2) were statewide projects; the Nebraska State Patrol; the Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation and the Attorney General's Office. All of the 13 local projects are supporting Coordinated Response Teams across the state including each of ten largest communities in the state. Through these teams, effective partnerships exist between the criminal justice system and victim advocacy organizations. For women who are victims, these partnerships ensure that communities are leveraging resources in ways that support best practice strategies to address the multitude of issues associated with violent crimes against women.

FY 2013 AWARDED AMOUNTS BY PROGRAM



FY 2013 NUMBER OF PROJECTS AWARDED BY PROGRAM



JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION TITLE II

This federal program has a broad scope with 34 purpose areas. 11 juvenile programs were funded in 2013; 12 applications were received. Statewide initiatives funded included a Juvenile Compliance Monitor, a Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator, and a Community Planning Coordinator.

Across the state, a variety of programs for juveniles were funded including diversion services, gender specific programs, culturally specific programs, restorative justice, alternatives to detention, and risk/needs assessments. A total of \$375,040 was available to award.

JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK GRANT

This federal Grant program has seventeen (17) Purpose Areas to address the growing problem of juvenile crime by encouraging accountability-based reform at the state and local level.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) determine which cities and counties are eligible to apply for predetermined levels of funding. This funding determination is based on Nebraska's juvenile population and crime data. Cities and Counties eligible to apply for the predetermined 2013 amounts included Douglas County/City of Omaha (\$55,989), and Lancaster County/City of Lincoln (\$35,667). A total of \$91,656 was awarded to the predetermined cities and counties. Additionally, remaining local dollars were available on a competitive basis in the amount of \$85,035. The amount \$34,851 in carryover monies from 2012 were added to the competitive funds available for 2013. State retained funds were used to fund a youth treatment and counseling center, Juvenile Justice Center, and alternatives to detention. Other counties funded in 2013 were Hall, Sarpy, and Sherman.

SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM

This federal program is designed to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services and related assistance to those victimized by sexual assault. The Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition is the pass-through grant agency for SASP funds. Nebraska's network of domestic violence/sexual assault programs use SASP funding to enhance goals and strategies for working with sexual assault victims, including people who are victims of sexual assault within the context of domestic violence.

In 2013, with SASP funding network programs provided services to over 376 primary victims and 41 secondary victims of sexual assault, and received over 1,041 hotline calls from primary victims. (Note: These statistics only reflect people who received services through SASP funding. The actual number of sexual assault victims that received services from the programs is much greater.) Network programs also used SASP funds to develop 16 new products to describe and promote sexual assault services. These included brochures, booklets, manuals, posters, and Public Service Announcements.

In most programs, SASP funds support sexual assault victim advocates. In many cases, these positions would not exist without this funding or services would be much more limited. These advocates provide medical accompaniment and advocacy, legal accompaniment and advocacy, assistance with protection orders, transportation, crisis counseling and referrals to other resources. These programs also use these funds for support groups and mental health counseling for victims of sexual violence.

JUVENILE COMPLIANCE MONITORING

Under the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, Nebraska is required to maintain an adequate system of compliance monitoring for the four core requirements of the Act. These requirements are: 1) removal of status and non-offenders from secure detention facilities; 2) separation of adult and juvenile offenders; 3) removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups; and 4) disproportionate minority contact. The Crime Commission's full-time juvenile compliance monitor is responsible for overseeing the compliance monitoring program including the development of policies and procedures, classification and inspection of secure and non-secure facilities, and data collection and verification on all juveniles confined or securely detained. Nebraska continues to maintain compliance with the JJDP Act. Compliance with the Act resulted in Nebraska's eligibility for the full Title II federal award of \$600,000 in 2013. Noncompliance with one or more of the four core requirements would result in the state losing 20% of the allocation for each requirement not found in compliance. Compliance equates to a significant amount of dollars for the state and, more importantly, it means that Nebraska has raised its standards with respect to youth treatment within the juvenile justice system. To promote and maintain Nebraska's compliance with the JJDP Act, the Nebraska Crime Commission staff work actively with local jurisdictions to remedy potential noncompliance issues through technical assistance, training, juvenile justice planning, and ongoing monitoring. Twenty-seven compliance monitors were complete as of December 31, 2013 with all facilities found to be in compliance.

In 2013, we began increasing our presence and strengthening our relationship with Law Enforcement for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Core Requirements. In the past, the Juvenile Compliance Monitor presented at the Law Enforcement Training center annually. However, in 2013 we have increased our number of visits to at least four times a year.

In 2013, we worked to improve our Compliance Monitoring Summary Results form and utilized electronic methods of collecting information.

JAIL STANDARDS DIVISION

The primary responsibility of the Jail Standards Division is the implementation and administration of the Jail Standards program. Major activities related to this function in 2013 are listed below.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Jail Standards staff provide assistance, where possible, to assist jails in meeting Standards. During 2013, technical assistance was provided in the following areas:

- The Division has the responsibility for review of plans and specifications in jail facility construction and renovation. The Board must give final approval for all projects before they can be built. Staff establishes ongoing working relationships with architects, consultants and local officials through the duration of such projects, providing input into needs assessment, preliminary planning, pre-architectural programming and design development. Lancaster County, Antelope County, Red Willow County, Richardson County, Jefferson County, Washington County, Custer County and Thurston County currently have new facilities under construction or in planning.
- The Division regularly provides problem solving and technical assistance to jails related to provision of medical services, policy and procedure development and legal issues.



DATA COLLECTION

In 2013, the Division continued to collect data on the characteristics and flow of inmates through local jails. This provides an ongoing database that is critical to both state master planning and planning at the local facility level. For communities planning construction of new jail facilities, this data is essential in determining appropriate size and design characteristics.

THE JAIL STANDARDS BOARD

The Jail Standards program as established in 1975 under Chapter 83, Sections 4,124 - 4,134 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska, provides for an eleven-member Jail Standards Board appointed by the Governor. This Board is responsible for the promulgation and enforcement of minimum standards for adult and juvenile detention facilities and for the maintenance, operation and construction of all local criminal detention facilities. Staff support to the Board is provided by the Jail Standards Division of the Nebraska Crime Commission. The Board meets quarterly to consider inspection reports, address local facility requests and consider approval of facility construction or renovation plans.

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Staff continually develop and update resource documents, prepare reports, respond to information requests and sponsor workshops related to relevant topics such as Inmate Behavior Management, sharing of inmate medical information and policy and procedure development. Some resources that were provided during 2013 include:

- Model Policy and Procedures
- Model Jail Records
- Policy and Procedure Resource Manual and Inmate Handbook
- The Jail Planning and Construction Manual
- Jail Bulletin Training Modules
- And a wide variety of National Institute of Corrections materials.

ANNUAL INSPECTIONS

Staff completed an annual inspection of all 68 adult jails and four juvenile detention centers in the state during 2013. Written reports of these inspections were prepared and submitted to the Jail Standards Board for review and official action on a quarterly basis. At the end of 2013, five detention centers in Nebraska were officially out of compliance with the Standards. Adult facilities are inspected for compliance with Standards regulating personnel, records and statistics, admission and release of inmates, classification, security and control, library materials, rehabilitative services, mail, visiting and telephone service, health services, food services, inmate's rights, inmate behavior, discipline and grievance processes and existing and new facility design and construction. Staff are in the process of preparing to begin inspections of the staff secure facilities in 2014.

JAIL STANDARDS DIVISION (CONTINUED)

TRAINING

Jail Standards staff provide a variety of training opportunities for detention facility staff across the State.

- In 2013, Jail Standards staff participated in providing Initial Jail Training for 187 new detention center staff in jails throughout Nebraska. This included training at the Law Enforcement Training Center, Hall County, Scottsbluff County, Lancaster County, Platte County, Buffalo County and Dawes County.
- In 2013, staff continued an update of the curriculum materials for the Juvenile Detention Caregivers Initial Training for staff who serve juveniles and for the Initial Jail Training Program for new employees of adult jails.
- In conjunction with the Nebraska Correctional Administrators and Managers Association, Jail Standards staff presented the 15th Annual Spring Conference for detention and corrections professionals. The 2013 Conference, held in Kearney, included 231 participants, 30 vendors and two full days of excellent and relevant presentations designed to continue the professionalization of corrections and detention in Nebraska.
- In 2013 staff provided a Training-for-Trainers course for 14 new jail training officers.
- In 2013 staff provided training on the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) to 121 participants at 5 sites around the state.

INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION

The Information Services Division consists of six individuals. They provide support in three primary areas: research and statistics, support of criminal justice integration and meeting the agency's internal IT needs. Given the advances in technology, the power of automation and the goal of reducing redundancy for our agency as well as the many entities that the Crime Commission works with, there is a great deal of interaction in the projects and duties addressed by the Division. Statistical projects overlap with local law enforcement automation. Data integration provides opportunities for data collection. These efforts help make for cost effective, long term solutions instead of stand-alone projects.



NEBRASKA CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM (NCJIS)

NCJIS is a secure portal providing access to a variety of data to certified users. It provides a cornerstone for sharing data among agencies as searches allow users to see all activity related to a particular individual. In 2013,

- There were 8,558 users from 429 agencies.
- 6,558,361 searches were conducted across criminal histories, probation, corrections, jail, court and other systems;
- 1,289,310 court pages were displayed;
- 1,780,406 DMV driver histories were viewed
- New services were added including online reporting of statistics.

Information Services staff are continually working to increase the collection and sharing of data among criminal justice and related agencies. Accomplishments include:

1. Operating NCJIS (Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System), a secure internet based data portal providing access to criminal justice and related data.
2. Providing NDEN (Nebraska Data Exchange Network) as a resource with limited views of NCJIS, primarily non-restricted data, to non-criminal justice users. Over 1,200 Department of Health and Human Services users access NDEN. Also, users from the Child Advocacy Centers use this tool to help in the investigation of child abuse cases.
3. Providing victim notification and detainee information through VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday), a service available since May 2000. Individuals can either obtain information on someone being held in jail or prison or request to receive information by phone or email of a release. In 2013, there were 8,599 new registrations by people wanting to be notified of the release of an arrestee or offender, an average of over 900 people per month, an increase of more than 25% over 2012. The public can call or check online for the status of an offender, saving calls that otherwise may have gone directly to County Attorneys or corrections staff. Over 272,000 online searches for offender information were also conducted.
4. Increasing online access to data by providing both reports and searchable data on the Crime Commission website. This includes details on crimes as well as about 500,000 traffic stops in Nebraska. People are able to create their own queries to get detailed information about either statewide or city and county level detail on reported offenses, arrests, juvenile court data and crime rates.

INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION (CONTINUED)

Data is produced in various forms and is also available for user defined searches on the Crime Commission website. Statistics and research programs include:

- UCR/NIBRS (Uniform Crime Report / Nebraska Incident Based Reporting System) - These provide the basis for looking at reported crime and arrests by law enforcement.
- Traffic Stops - Law enforcement contacts are collected to provide an annual report relating to the nature of stops and the possibility of racial profiling.
- Jail Holds - Data from local facilities is gathered to support the needs of the Jail Standards Division as well as local planning.
- Juvenile Court Reporting
- Offender Populations - The Crime Commission provides statistical support for the Community Corrections Division.

Data integration efforts of the CJIS Advisory Committee focus on two main areas.

1. Increased access to data - This is driven by NCJIS, a secure data portal providing access to a wide variety of justice and related datasets to users at their desks, in their cars or using mobile devices. Data includes criminal histories, jail and corrections holds, probationers, court cases and mug shots. NDEN provides a limited view of NCJIS for non-criminal justice entities such as juvenile service providers and schools.
2. Improved data through the criminal justice cycle - Efforts to help local automation have included sponsoring local automation for law enforcement, jails, electronic citations and prosecutors. After the data is captured locally, it is also being moved across agencies, such as from the prosecutors to the courts, to improve availability as well as eliminate duplicate data entry.

NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER (NLETC)

Mission

The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center is dedicated to educate, train, and evaluate law enforcement officers; as well as regulate statewide training academies and mandated programs, to ensure all meet state certification requirements as established by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice through the Police Standards Advisory Council.

Vision

To be the premier law enforcement training facility with highly qualified instructors and staff capable of meeting the needs and expectations of the Citizens of Nebraska for developing highly trained and competent law enforcement officers.



The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center (NLETC) was created by Nebraska State Statute 81-1402 to (1) test all law enforcement candidates on behalf of the Police Standards Advisory Council to ensure that they meet pre-certification and certification requirements, (2) oversee and monitor other training schools and training academies to ensure that they meet pre-certification and certification requirements, and (3) conduct certification programs and advanced law enforcement training as directed by the Council.

The Training Center is under the supervision and control of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (81-1403 & 81-1406). The Training Center Director (81-1404) is directly responsible to the Executive Director for compliance with the duties prescribed in the statutes and reports on all activities pertaining to the Training Center.

The Police Standards Advisory Council (81-1403) provides recommendations to the Commission and the Training Center Director on all matters pertaining to Center operations. The Council, subject to review by the Commission, promulgates rules for the operation of the Training Center. Additionally, the Council promulgates rules for certification and training requirements for all law enforcement officers in the State of Nebraska. The Council serves as a fact-finding board for officer revocation actions and it makes recommendations pertaining to an officer's certification status to the Commission. The Commission reviews the Council's recommendation and makes a final determination regarding the officer's certification status. Through the efforts of the Director, Executive Director, Council and Commis-

sion, the public is assured that Nebraska Law Enforcement officers are competent and professional.

The Training Center is home for two law enforcement academies. The Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy (NLETA) services every Nebraska agency requiring law enforcement certification training except the Omaha and Lincoln police departments who operate their own academies under the guidance of the Council in their respective jurisdictions. The Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy (NSPTA) is collocated at the Training Center with the NLETA. The NSPTA trains both entry-level law enforcement troopers as well as in-service and training for all NSP sworn and civilian employees.

The Training Center is located on a 40 acre campus adjacent to the Grand Island Airport. The two academies share administrative office and classroom space, 104 double-occupancy dorm rooms, a driving track, outdoor firearms range, police service dog facility, carrier enforcement training building, on-site dining facilities, and a host of other police training facilities. The budget of the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center as administered by the Commission, supports both the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Academy and the Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy.

NLETC TRAINING FOR 2013

A total of 133 courses were offered with nearly 2,049 students and 74,607 training hours delivered in calendar year 2013.

SPECIALIZED COURSES (64 COURSES OFFERED, 725 STUDENTS, TRAINING HOURS 15,200)

Specialized offerings included: Basic Dispatcher, Child Death Investigations, Defensive Tactics Instructor & Recertification, Emergency Medical Dispatcher, Emergency Vehicle Operations Instructor, PPCT-GAGE Instructor, NCIC Telecommunicator, Sheriffs Continuing Education, NSP Post Crash Inspection, Police Service Dog, Patrol Rifle & Shotgun Instructor Course, Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events, SHARP Instructor Recertification, Basic Spanish.

HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT COURSES (53 COURSES OFFERED, 984 STUDENTS, TRAINING HOURS 12,510)

Under the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety Grant, regional and NLETC hosted training including, Advanced Accident Investigation, CAD Zone Basic & Advanced, Emergency Vehicle Operations, Intermediate Accident Investigation, In-Car-Video, Laser Radar, DataMaster Breath Testing, Preliminary Breath Testing, Radar Instructor and recertification, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, and Technical Traffic Crash Investigation.

BUILDING DIVISON

Administrative Services crew taking care of NLETC was recognized in Lincoln in October for having run a very successful 309 construction project with respect to the \$4m HAVC project that concluded this year. In addition to all the coordination and support offered by our crew, they exploited the opportunity to complete a wide range of tasks that were not covered by the project. Where the project paid to refinish one wall in a room affected by the new lighting or heating and air conditioning system installation, our crew went in and painted the remaining three while the room was still out of service. They followed this course in hallways and classrooms as well. This project ran smoothly and hiccups were addressed professionally. The crews' manager, Kerry Rodysill, was recognized by Governor Dave Heineman as a State of Nebraska Supervisor of the Year.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

.NLETC has implemented human trafficking training for all basic students as recommended by the Nebraska Human Trafficking Task Force that was formed by action of the 102nd Legislature in 2012.

DRUG GRANT COURSES (6 Courses offered, 83 students, training hours 895)

Under the Crime Commission drug grant, offerings included: Criminal Interdiction & Patrolling, Knife Defense Instructor, Low Light Instructor Course and MILO regional training.

REVOCATIONS

Total of six (6) previous law enforcement officers who have been convicted of felonies had their law enforcement certificates revoked under the new NAC Title 79, Chapter 9's *automatic revocation* processes as outlined in section 005.09. This, added to five others, brings the 2013 number of revocations to 11.

NEW LICENSES ISSUED

149 New Law Enforcement Certificates were issued in 2013

Lincoln Police Academy	23
NLETC Basic Academy	78
Reactivation	5
Reciprocity	6
Police Service Dog	24
Police Narcotics Dog	43
Reserve Officer	4
Licenses Revoked	11



Photo by Steven Gehl

Mandatory Courses (16 courses, 46,002 training hours, 210 graduates)

Basic Officer Certification (608 hours, 14 weeks, training hours 39,828)

Three basic sessions were held, starting with 140 students and graduating 78 (47 still in class and will graduate in 2014)

Basic Jail Certification (80 hours, 2 weeks, training hours 2,240)

Two basic jail sessions were held, graduating 28

Management Certification ((36 hours, 4.5 days, training hours 1,152)

Two Management sessions were held, graduating 32

Reciprocity/Reactivation/Reserve/Tribal Certification (180/212 hours, most via online, hours 1,414)

Two sessions held, starting with 24 seats and graduating 15

Supervision Certification (24 hours, 3 days, training hours 1,368)

Two sessions were held, 57 graduates

WILLIAM WHITE APPRECIATION



William "Bill" White stepped down as a Crime Commission member and liaison to the Police Standards Advisory Council in December. Bill has served since 1986 and was instrumental in implementing the structure for the Council as it now exists. His role as Council historian will be sorely missed.

NEBRASKA LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER (NLETC)

NLETC FY 13/14 BUDGET

General Funds, Operations	1,891,878
Cash Funds, Operations	966,930
Federal Funds, Operations	58,486

The NLETC, located in Grand Island, is administered by the Crime Commission. The Police Standards Advisory Council is consulted on all matters pertaining to the Training Center and acts as a subcommittee of the Crime Commission governing body. A renovation and expansion of the Training Center facility was completed in 2005 at a cost of \$11,385,000. This project added classrooms, a gymnasium, weight room, dorm rooms, office space, a firearms simulator, a vehicle inspection building and a dog kennel. In addition, the dining room and kitchen were expanded, and improvements made to the firearms range, driving track, and student lounge. The State Patrol Training Academy is now co-located at the expanded Training Center facility.

IMPLEMENTATION OF LB 538

(EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014)

With the passage of LB 538 in 2013, the Legislature has mandated that law enforcement agencies report any officer separated from their agency due to a *physical, mental or emotional incapacity* to the Police Standards Advisory Council (PSAC). This notice will cause PSAC to suspend the officer's law enforcement certificate. The suspension would remain in effect until such incapacity no longer prevents the officer from performing the essential duties of his or her position. The bill clarified that an officer would not be deemed incapacitated if he or she remained employed in a restricted or limited duty status with the agency.

To capture this information, the Council has modified the Personnel Change-In-Status report (TC-001). Under section 7, there will be a new box called *Medical and/or Retirement Incapacity Separation*. Checking this box will cause the Training Center to notify the officer of the certificate suspension. Once suspended, the officer could petition the Director of the Training Center at a later date to prove that the underlying condition has abated and that he or she now meets requirements for lifting the suspension. The decision of the Director would be appealable to the Council.

JOB TASK ANALYSIS PROJECT 2013

With the start of the 186th Basic on May 19th, 2013 we implemented the new JTA Curriculum of 2012. New students are now tested on physical tasks of the law enforcement officer position in order to graduate. The curriculum continues to evolve with another 40 hours of physical fitness being eliminated with the first Basic in 2014 due to a new entrance physical standard that will be tested the first day of Basic. The entrance test protocols can be viewed from our website.

Basic students now receive training in law enforcement patrol rifle and active shooter tactics. The standardization of training is what is required when multiple agencies converge on these scenes during a time of crisis. The basic academy is now providing this standardized training to officers so they are prepared for their first day of duty and whatever they may encounter. Nebraska is one of only a handful of state academies in the nation that offers this training in its Basic course.

A reminder that it is important for administrators to look at our training calendar to see when the next basic is planned and no longer assume that there is a winter, summer and fall basic as is in years past.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The 102nd Legislature passed LB 817 (rolled into LB 1046) that mandates all Nebraska law enforcement officers receive a minimum of 20 hours of continuing education annually starting in 2013.

PSAC promulgated NAC Title 79, Chapter 17 to implement the law.

The law requires all Nebraska certified and reserve officers to obtain a minimum of 20 hours of continuing education in the areas of criminal justice or law enforcement annually. This includes Nebraska agencies that use special state deputy sheriffs. The reporting period will run from January 1 to December 31 each calendar year. The law stipulates that only 10 hours of continuing education credit from "the internet" can be counted towards the 20 hour minimum. See updated information on our webpage at www.nletc.state.ne.us

During March, the NLETC Director conducted 19 meetings throughout the state with over 114 law enforcement agency heads concerning the new continuing education law, the new basic academy curriculum, and the recently enacted revocation chapter, NAC Title 79, Chapter 9. Host cities were Auburn, Beatrice, Broken Bow, Chadron, Columbus, Fremont, Gering, Grand Island, Hastings, Holdrege, McCook, Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha, O'Neill, Sidney, South Sioux City, York, and Valentine. Director Muldoon also presented two informational sessions on the new law enforcement continuing education program for the benefit of city clerks, city administrators and mayors at the Mid-Winter Conference in Lincoln.



OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION

The primary responsibility of the Office of Violence Prevention is to help promote and assess statewide violence prevention programs in the State of Nebraska.

The Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) aids privately funded organizations, local government subdivisions, and other community leaders and advocacy groups in developing proven and cutting-edge Prevention, Intervention, and Enforcement theories and techniques.

Through a competitive grants process administered by the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (Crime Commission), the OVP recently awarded \$350,000 to eight separate organizations in Nebraska that have shown a history of documented success in helping to reduce violent crime in Nebraska.

The grant recipients are required to develop goals, objectives and performance indicators in order to help evaluate the success of the financial distribution. Upon awarding of the funds, grantees will be required to submit quarterly activity and cash reports to the Office of Violence Prevention/Crime Commission. Also, grantees will be required to provide an evaluation report and a portion of the grant funds will be used for a professional evaluator. The report must provide a comprehensive review of the program’s overall effort, and measurable results during the grant cycle. Those results are provided to the Office of Violence Prevention.

OBJECTIVES

One of the objectives of the office is to break down the issues regionally throughout Nebraska. A goal of the Office of Violence Prevention is to help outline the project operation for organizations throughout Nebraska that work in the areas of crime prevention, intervention, enforcement and diversion.

Another objective is to establish sustainability in order to aid communities throughout Nebraska into the future. To accomplish this goal, the OVP is also seeking to develop continuous and reliable funding sources that will aid in continuing this collaborative effort.

THE OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

In May of 2009, the Nebraska Legislature passed LB 63, establishing the Office of Violence Prevention within the Nebraska Crime Commission. A provision within LB 63 provided for the establishment of the Advisory Council to the Office of Violence Prevention. The Council is to meet quarterly and is directed to recommend – to the Crime Commission – rules and regulation regarding fundraising, program evaluation, coordination of programs, and criteria used to assess and award funds to violence prevention programs.

General Funds, Operations	\$104,166
Cash Funds, Operations	\$10,500
General Funds, Aid	\$350,000

ESTABLISHING A BLUEPRINT FOR SUSTAINABILITY

"Prevention is an active process of creating conditions and fostering personal attributes that promote the well-being of people." (Lofquist, 1989) To that end, the Office of Violence Prevention has been working to foster local community collaborative initiatives that address the risk and resiliency factors related to violence based on the Collective Impact Model. Communities such as Dawson County, Hall County, Platte County, and the City of Omaha have submitted grant applications to establish broad-cross sector partnerships and implement measurable strategies to address their specific community needs. Previous OVP grantees, who have employed similar efforts, have seen marked decreases in delinquency behaviors in targeted populations.

Mirroring efforts to encourage local collaboration to address violence, the Office of Violence Prevention has been partnering with other Nebraska state agencies such as the Department of Education, Health and Human Services, State Patrol, Game and Parks Commission, and the University of Nebraska– Omaha.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS DIVISION

After the major changes in 2012, the Community Corrections Division in 2013, continued to work toward fulfilling their core mission which remains unchanged: To promote the establishment and use of community corrections programs as alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders.

The primary mandate of the Division is to support the continued development and implementation of a statewide network of community corrections programs as a means to reduce prison overcrowding. This is part of a collaborative effort involving both criminal justice agencies and community stakeholders. The role of the Division in this effort is to evaluate and recommend improvements to existing community corrections programs, improve the data collections and analysis capabilities of community corrections programs, and provide objective research and information on community corrections issues to policy-makers, stakeholders and the public.

The development of an integrated community corrections data system, public education, and program evaluation are three priorities the Division identified with the primary focus being data collection and analysis. Grants from the Uniform Data Analysis Fund continue to fund the development of improved case management systems for Probation, Parole and Specialized Courts which are essential to program evaluation and making the case that these programs work. The Community Corrections Division received positive feedback on the 2012 Community Corrections Conference, From Arrest to Re-entry: Evidence based decision making across criminal justice and behavioral health systems. Due to the positive response, the Community Corrections Division, began planning for a community corrections conference for 2014 which will again target policymakers, criminal justice agencies and substance abuse treatment providers.

The final responsibility of the Division is to report annually to the Governor and the Legislature on the development and performance of community corrections facilities and programs. The report is to include a description of community corrections programs which includes the following: the target populations and geographic area served, eligibility requirements, number of offenders using the facility, services provided, total cost to operate the program and the cost per offender, funding sources, recidivism rates and outcome data. The Division is continuing to work toward preparing a comprehensive report detailing progress in expanding community corrections statewide, analyzing the need for additional community services and evaluating the impact of community corrections programs on the inmate population within the Department of Correctional Services.

The Community Corrections Division has the following budget.

Breakdown of Funds	
General Funds, Operations	289,688
Cash Funds, Operations	408,137

Standing Committees:
Crime Victim's Reparations Committee
Education/Research/Planning Committee
Grant Review Committee
Data Processing Committee
Task Force on Human Trafficking
Police Standards Advisory Council

Advisory Groups:
Coalition for Juvenile Justice
County Attorney Standards Advisory Council
Criminal Justice Information Systems
Advisory Committee
Office of Violence Prevention Advisory
Council
Racial Profiling Committee

Jail Standards Board
Budget/ Administration

**The Crime Commission staff
provides support for**

Law Enforcement Training Center
Fiscal Planning and
Administrative Support

Community Corrections Division
Budget/Administration

Office of Violence Prevention
Budget/ Administration

LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO CRIME COMMISSION STATUTES - 2013**LB 99**

- (1) Requires law enforcement agencies to provide a copy of their written policy on racial profiling to the Crime Commission prior to January 1, 2014.
- (2) The Crime Commission may develop and distribute a suggested model written racial profiling prevention policy for use by law enforcement agencies.
- (3) Removes the sunset clause for collecting and reporting motor vehicle stops to the Crime Commission. The sunset date was January 1, 2014.
- (4) Provides that the Crime Commission staff, within the limits of its existing appropriations provide for an annual review and analysis of motor vehicle stops that may involve racial profiling. Also gives the Crime Commission the authority to inquire and study individual cases where racial profiling may have occurred.
- (5) Any law enforcement officer, prosecutor, defense attorney, or probation officer, unless restricted by privilege, who becomes aware of incidents of racial profiling by a law enforcement agency, shall report such incidents to the Crime Commission within thirty days of becoming aware of such incident.
- (6) Eliminates the requirement for Crime Victim's Reparations (CVR) claims that the victim incurs an economic loss which exceeds ten percent of his or her net financial resources.
- (7) Eliminates the requirement for our biennial CVR report to include the names of CVR claimants, the facts in each case, and the amount awarded.

Effective Date: September 6, 2013

LB 255

Requires the Task Force on Human Trafficking to (1) utilize information and research available from the Innocence Lost National Initiative and (2) research and recommend a model of rehabilitative services for victims of human trafficking.

Effective Date: October 1, 2013

LB 429

Effective July 1, 2014 the State Treasurer's website that contains expenditures by each state agency shall contain a link to the DAS website.

All state agencies will provide DAS with an electronic copy of all contracts that are active on or after January 1, 2014. The DAS website is accessible by the public and the contracts posted there will be searchable by vendor, agency, and the dollar amount of the contract. There are exceptions for certain contracts.

Effective Date: July 1, 2014

LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO CRIME COMMISSION STATUTES - 2013**LB 538**

- (1) Contains a definition of incapacity for a law enforcement officer.
- (2) When a law enforcement officer is separated from his or her agency due to physical, mental, or emotional incapacity, the law enforcement agency shall report the separation to PSAC and the officer's law enforcement certificate shall be suspended pursuant to rules and regulations adopted by PSAC.
- (3) When the officer demonstrates to PSAC that the incapacity no longer prevents the officer from performing the essential duties of his or her position, then the law enforcement certificate will be reinstated.

Effective Date: January 1, 2014

LB 561 (includes LB 86)

- (1) Adds two new positions to the Crime Commission at the Division Chief level. The two positions are (a) Director of Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program and (b) Director of Juvenile Programs. The duties of each position are specified in the bill.
- (2) Adds three members to the Coalition for Juvenile Justice: (a) a member with data analysis experience, (b) the Foster Care Review Director, and (c) a member of a regional behavioral health authority.
- (3) The County Juvenile Services Aid Program is retitled the Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid Program. There are new criteria specified for what types of projects may be funded.
- (4) The aid funds are increased from the current \$1,477,575 to \$3,000,000 in FY 13-14 and \$5,000,000 in FY 14-15.
- (5) Adds a new member to the Crime Commission. This person shall be the chairperson of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice.
- (6) Requires the establishment through the use of technology of an information-sharing process to support and enhance the exchange of information between HHS, the Probation Administration and the Crime Commission. Also, there is intent language that \$250,000 is to be appropriated to the Probation Administration to facilitate this process.
- (7) Provides a definition of staff secure juvenile facility. The Jail Standards Board is required to develop standards for staff secure juvenile facilities and the staff of the Jail Standards Division are required to inspect these facilities.
- (8) Adds a new member to the Jail Standards Board. This person shall be an administrator of a staff secure juvenile facility.

Effective Date: May 29, 2013

All of these legislative bills may be found on the Unicameral 's website:

www.nebraskalegislature.gov



<http://www.ncc.ne.gov>

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