



U. S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Northern District of Illinois*

*Dirksen Federal Building
219 South Dearborn Street, Fifth
Chicago, Illinois 60604
Telephone: (312) 353-5300
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January 3, 2008

Dennis Greenhouse, Director
Community Capacity Development Office
Office of Justice Programs
Department of Justice
810 7th St. NW, 6th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20009

Re: City of Rockford, Ellis Heights, Letter of Commitment

Dear Director Greenhouse:

This letter is to certify that the Rockford, Illinois, Ellis Heights Weed and Seed site, suffers from consistently high levels of crime. Furthermore, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois is supportive of this community's efforts and actively involved in the site's ongoing implementation of its Weed and Seed Strategy.

We appreciate the opportunities the Community Capacity Development Office has given to the community of Rockford. Should you need additional information, please contact Kimberly Nerheim of my office at (312) 353-5489.

Sincerely,


PATRICK J. FITZGERALD
United States Attorney

2008 NATIONAL DIRECTORY UPDATE

PLEASE PROVIDE COMPLETE AND ACCURATE INFORMATION FOR THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTATIVES:

DATE: 01/14/08 NAME OF SITE: Rockford Ellis Heights SITE ID# (from site list): 589

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY	GRANTEE OFFICIAL POINT OF CONTACT
Name: Patrick Fitzgerald Title: U.S. Attorney District: Northern District Illinois Address: 219 S. Dearborn St., 5th Floor Chicago IL 60604 Phone: 312-353-5300 Fax: 312-353-2067 E-Mail: patrickfitzgeral@usdoj.gov	Name: Cynthia Frank Title: Director of Health Education Agency: Winnebago County Health Department Address: 220 S. Madison Street Rockford IL 61104 Phone: 815-720-4260 Fax: 815-968-1680 E-Mail: cfrank@wchd.org
USAO CONTACT	DAY TO DAY COORDINATOR
Name: John McKenzie Title: U.S. Attorney Agency: U.S. Attorney's Office Address: 308 West State Street, Room 300 Rockford IL 61101 Phone: 815-987-4444 Fax: 815-987-4236 E-Mail: jmckenzie@usdoj.gov	Name: Yanique Morson-Matra Title: Wees & Seed Coordinator Agency: Winnebago County Health Department Address: 1810 West State Street Rockford IL 61102 Phone: 815-703-0471 Fax: 815-968-1680 E-Mail: ymorson-matra@wchd.org (Important)
LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTACT	DEA CONTACT
Name: Chet Epperson Title: Chief of Police Agency: City of Rockford Police Dept. Address: 420 West State Street, Rockford IL 61101 Phone: 815-987-5866 Fax: 815-987-8281 E-Mail: chetepperson@ci.rockford.il.us	Name: Mark Giuffre Title: D.E.A. Agent Agency: Drug Enforcement Agency Address: 308 West State Street, Ste. 475 Rockford IL 61101 Phone: 815-987-4497 Fax: 815-987-4498 E-Mail: mark.c.giuffre@usdoj.gov

Definitions

- 1) **United States Attorney** - current United States Attorney serving the site's district.
- 2) **USAO Contact** - contact person at the U.S. Attorney's Office who provides assistance and support to the Weed and Seed site (e.g., LECC, Assistant U.S. Attorney, etc.)
- 3) **L.E. Contact** - person administering the law enforcement strategy in the designated area (e.g., Chief of Police or other law enforcement officer)
- 4) **Grantee Official Point of Contact** - person authorized to enter into grants/contracts for the agency and who is to be contacted on official matters involving this application (e.g., person who signs the application).
- 5) **Day to Day Coordinator** - person who handles the day-to-day operations and administrative requirements of the Weed and Seed strategy (e.g., coordinates Seeding and Weeding elements, prepares progress reports, organizes steering committee meetings, has continuous contact with CCDO on matters involving the grant and budget, etc.)
- 6) **DEA Contact** - Drug Enforcement Administration representative serving on the Weed and Seed Steering Committee who provides support to the Weed and Seed site.
- 7) (Please attach a separate sheet with additional names if necessary)

FY 2008 Technical Assistance (TA) Assessment

CCDO offers an array of TA services and Training to Weed and Seed communities to assist with successful implementation of the strategy. This form must be completed to assist CCDO in assessing the TA needs in Weed and Seed communities. CCDO will use the information provided to plan appropriate TA and training services.

1. Site Name Ellis Heights Weed & Seed City/State Rockford, IL Site ID 589

2. Are designated area residents involved in developing your goals and activities?

Yes X No

3. Does your site currently have sufficient resources available to achieve your goals?

Yes No X

If no, please provide a brief explanation: The site has not taken advantage of the additional technical assistance that is provided by CCDO. Taking advantage of the aforementioned will increase resources.

4. In what areas of your strategy do you need additional resources to address?

Circle all that apply.

A. Steering Committee Organization (*including site coordinator and sub-committee training/TA*)

B. Prevention, Intervention and Treatment Strategies

C. Coordination of Resources

D. Law Enforcement

E. Community Policing

[F.] Sustainability

[G.] Economic Development

[H.] Neighborhood Restoration

I. Financial Management

J. Other (specify) _____

5. Please provide a brief description of the challenges identified in question #4, if any.

Although the City committed to focusing on improving the area it continues
to be challenging to engage a large percentage of community residents, as it
relates to areas of sustainability, economic development and restoration.

6. Please indicate the type of technical assistance your site has been provided by CCDO and the date(s) received?

N/A

N/A X

7. Is your site interested in Peer Mentoring? Peer Mentoring is a TA service that CCDO started in 2005 to assist Weed and Seed sites in coordinating with other sites and coordinators that have been successful in implementing the strategy.

Yes X No _____

8. Has the site coordinator and/or the Steering Committee members participated in CCDO-sponsored trainings within the last 2 years? Yes X No _____

If yes, circle the relevant topic(s).

- A. Community Sustainability Institute
- B. Coalition Building
- C. Economic Development
- D. GIS Training and Crime Mapping
- E. Place-Based Training
- [F.] Site Coordinators Training
- G. Youth Development
- H. Working Effectively with Indian Tribes
- I. Other _____



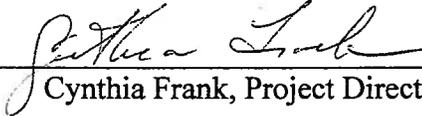
Winnebago County Health Department

Promoting a Safer and Healthier Community Since 1854

J. Maichle Bacon M.P.H., R.S.
Public Health Administrator

CONFIDENTIAL FUNDS CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by all of the conditions for confidential funds as set forth in the effective edition of the OJP's Financial Guide.

Date: 1-14-08 Signature: 
Cynthia Frank, Project Director

Grant No. 2008-W0127-IL-WS

Celebrating 150 Years and Beyond

Main Office - 401 Division Street Rockford IL 61104 (815) 720-4000 FAX: (815) 720-4001
North Main Annex - 2909 N. Main Street Rockford IL 61103 (815) 282-6667 FAX: (815) 282-5247
Millennium Center Annex - 220 S. Madison Street Rockford IL 61104 (815) 720-4000 FAX: (815) 962-1680

www.wchd.org



APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE		2. DATE SUBMITTED	Applicant Identifier
1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION Application Non-Construction	3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE		State Application Identifier
	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY		Federal Identifier
5. APPLICANT INFORMATION			
Legal Name Winnebago County		Organizational Unit Health Department	
Address 401 Division St Rockford, Illinois 61104-2506		Name and telephone number of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application Morson-Matra, Yanique (815) 703-0471	
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN) 36-4529968		7. TYPE OF APPLICANT County	
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION Continuation		9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY Community Capacity Development Office	
10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 16.595 CFDA TITLE: WEED AND SEED		11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT Ellis Heights Weed and Seed	
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT Rockford, IL 61101 and 61102 zip code areas			
13. PROPOSED PROJECT Start Date: October 01, 2008 End Date: August 30, 2009		14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF a. Applicant b. Project IL16	
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING		16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?	
Federal	\$150,000	Program is not covered by E.O. 12372	
Applicant	\$50,000		
State	\$0		
Local	\$0		
Other	\$0		

Program Income	\$0	17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?
TOTAL	\$200,000	N
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS REQUIRED.		

Close Window

1. Statement of problem:

Overview of Drug and Violent Crime Activity

A survey of residents conducted last year, found residents feel safer being out alone in their neighborhoods than they did a year ago. That is up from 69 percent of those who responded to a similar survey in January 2006, according to Health Systems research, a unit of the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford. Additionally, the survey conducted in September of 2007 found:

- 63% of respondents say they feel safer since Weed and Seed began
- 40.2 percent said they've seen less crime in the past year
- 51.5 percent said they've seen more police in the neighborhood in the past three months

"They are feeling better about their neighborhood, which supports our crime data," said Deputy Police Chief Michael Booker. Crime data collected the first eleven months of 2007, shows that offenses committed in the Weed and Seed area totaled 1,179 down from 1,585 (25.6% decrease) for the same period last year. This is an indicator that the Weed and Seed strategy is having a beneficial affect. However, crime is still a significant problem in the area. The information provided summarizes the criminal activities and related problems updated from the Ellis Heights Official Recognition Strategy.

An article in the *Rockford Register Star*, December 17, 2007, stated, "Of the 14 U.S. cities with populations between 148,000 and 161,000, Rockford, with a population of 153,738, ranked near the top in virtually every major crime category, except arson and auto theft. For murders, only Dayton, Ohio posted a higher rate." The population numbers were determined by the FBI (see chart below).

Crime Statistics 2006

Cities with comparable populations Crimes Against People

Rank-Total Crime in the FBI Categories	Total Crime In FBI Cat.	Population	Homicides	Rate	Rape	Rate	Aggr. Assault	Rate	Robbery	Rate
Springfield, MO	14,234	151,397	6	4.0	92	54/2	771	436.6	252	166.4
Chattanooga, TN	14,220	156,730	17	10.8	118	75.3	1,268	809.0	532	339.4
Dayton, OH	13,648	159,067	37	25.3	120	75.4	754	474.4	810	509.2
Rockford, IL	13,106	153,738	19	12.4	132	85.9	1,135	738.3	555	361.0
Springfield, MA	11,082	152,644	15	9.8	115	75.3	1,448	948.6	682	446.8
Tallahassee, FL	9,355	161,173	10	6.2	155	96.2	998	619.2	452	280.4
Salem, OR	9,012	151,190	9	6.0	74	49.0	479	316.8	129	85.3
Grand Prairie, TX	7,994	148,427	3	2.0	69	46.5	262	176.5	156	105.1
Vancouver, WA	7,179	160,199	4	2.5	103	64.3	352	219.7	139	86.8
Pomona, CA	6,504	155,172	19	12.2	17	11.0	755	486.6	464	299.0

Rockford was second in murder, rape, and burglary; and third in aggravated assault and larceny. Rockford was second in murder, rape, and burglary; and third in aggravated assault and larceny. Rockford was fourth on the list for total crimes for this size population at 13,106 crimes with a population of 153,738.

According to the State's Attorney Philip Nicolosi, there were 380 aggravated assaults with guns the first 11 months of 2007 and Winnebago County's crime rate, at 6,355 crimes per 100,000 population, was the highest in the state in 2006 for the sixth consecutive year. About seven of ten Winnebago County crimes take place in the City of Rockford. The chart below lists the crime rate for the Ellis Heights area (Rockford Police Sub beats 43 and 50) in comparison with the City of Rockford.

Ellis Heights Grant				
Population	3060		155,138	
2006	Weed & Seed		RKFD	
Offense	#	Rate 43 & 50	#	Rate RKFD
09 A-C Homicide Offenses	1	32.68	17	10.96
100 Kidnapping/Abduction/Unlawful Restraint	1	32.68	54	34.81
11 A-D Sex Offenses, Forcible	12	392.16	198	127.63
120 Robbery	20	653.59	587	378.37
13A Aggravated Assault	62	2,026.14	1,257	810.25
13B Simple Assault	234	7,647.06	5,211	3,358.94
13C Intimidation	9	294.12	564	363.55
200 Arson	1	32.68	26	16.76
210 Extortion/Blackmail	0	0.00	1	0.64
220 Burglary/Breaking & Entering	72	2,352.94	2,909	1,875.10
23 A-H Larceny/Theft Offenses	81	2,647.06	7,916	5,102.55
240 Motor Vehicle Theft	26	849.67	813	524.05
250 Counterfeiting/Forgery	4	130.72	642	413.83
26 A-E Fraud Offenses	4	130.72	481	310.05
270 Embezzlement	0	0.00	4	2.58
280 Stolen Property Offenses	8	261.44	116	74.77
290 Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	184	6,013.07	8,118	5,232.76
35 A-B Drug/Narcotic Offenses	61	1,993.46	2,120	1,366.53
36 A-B Sex Offenses, Non-Forcible	0	0.00	0	0.00
370 Pornography/Obscene Material	0	0.00	4	2.58
39 A-D Gambling Offenses	0	0.00	1	0.64
40 A-B Prostitution Offenses	1	32.68	211	136.01
510 Bribery	0	0.00	0	0.00
520 Weapon Law Violations	41	1,339.87	604	389.33
Total Group A	822	26,862.75	31,854	20,532.69
90B Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations	37	1,209.15	566	364.84
90C Disorderly Conduct	45	1,470.59	1,461	941.74
90D Driving Under the Influence	17	555.56	706	455.08

90F Family Offenses (Nonviolent)	97	3,169.93	2,556	1,647.57
90G Liquor Law Violations	29	947.71	712	458.95
90I Runaway	45	1,470.59	1,304	840.54
90J Trespass of Real Property	12	392.16	1,015	654.26
90Z All Other Offenses	571	18,660.13	10,834	6,983.46
Total Group B	853	27,875.82	19,154	12,346.43
Total A & B	1,675	54,738.56	51,008	32,879.11
Services/Non-Mapped Offenses	459	15,000.00	14,513	9,354.90
Total Offenses	2,134	69,738.56	65,521	42,234.01
** Sub Beats 43 & 50 population estimated using 2000 Census Tracts data.				
** Rate represents the Crime Rate of offenses per 100,000 in population.				
** These numbers reflect the number of total NIBRS Offenses in 2006.				
** These rates reflect the number of ALL offenses under NIBRS guidelines.				
** Data for the City was obtained on 01-24-07. Produced 01-02-08.				

An analysis of the data shows that the area still suffers from major crime. The rates of homicide for the area 32.68 vs. 10.96 for the City, sex offenses 392.16 vs. 127.63, robbery 653.59 vs. 378.37, aggravated assault 2,026.14 vs. 810.25 and simple assault 7,647.06 vs. 3,358.94 are major contributors to the overall high crime rate of the County.

Drug Use

In 2006, in the EHWS area, the rate of drug/narcotic offenses is 1,993.46 compared to 1,366.3 per 100,000 population for Rockford. Crack cocaine, marijuana, and heroin are the major drugs found in the area. According to the National Drug Intelligence Center *Illinois Drug Threat Assessment*, the availability of drugs in Illinois is high. Chicago, IL is a transportation hub and distribution center for illicit commodities in the Great Lakes Region and the Midwest, due in part to its geographic location and multifaceted transportation infrastructure. Rockford's proximity to Chicago (80 miles) makes drugs, gangs and neighborhood crime and fear a part of life in poor communities. Many local law enforcement experts believe that the rise in crime is partially contributable to the break-up of the Cabrini-Green housing project in Chicago as gang members and violent offenders related in Rockford and the surrounding areas.

African-American and Hispanic street gangs have a virtual stranglehold on street level distribution, which is their main source of income. Operating in the target area are Gangster Disciples, Vice Lords, and Latin Kings, and the Maniac Latin Disciples that control the distribution and retail sale of cocaine, heroin, crack and marijuana. According to the Rockford Police Department (RPD), most of the violent crime in the area is attributable to street gangs and drugs.

Prisoner Reentry

Prisoner re-entry remains a problem. Winnebago County ex-offenders face overwhelming barriers to self-sufficiency that contributes to high recidivism rates and devastating impacts on the Ellis Heights community. According to the Winnebago County Parole Office, approximately 60 prisoners return to our community each month that is 720 per year and the recidivism is approximately 73%.

A disproportionate number of parolees go back to low-income communities such as Ellis Heights. The majority of these ex-offenders have limited work histories, poor job skills, low education levels, unstable family situations, histories of substance, physical and sexual abuse, and physical and mental health issues. In addition, ex-offenders face a significant number of systemic barriers to employment: ex-offenders are barred from full access to public aid, food stamps, public/affordable housing, Supplemental Security Income, student financial aid and are discharged without the identification papers/cards they need to access services and employment, and often face mandated child support requirements.

Winnebago County has put in place a number of new initiatives to help ex-offenders. Although none are located in the EHWS area, there is an effort underway to connect ex-offenders to case management services in the community. Additionally, the Special Emphasis Initiative of the EHWS that began in October 2007 will subcontract with Rock River Training Corporation (the local Workforce Investment Act program) to provide the EHWS community with employment/training and case management services provided on site at the Weed and Seed office, 1810 W. State Street. A special emphasis of this program is to work with the “hard to place” client.

Juvenile Delinquency

Rockford has three of the 1,700 high schools in the United States that are labeled as “drop out factories” in the United States. Bob Balfanz, the John Hopkins University researcher who completed the study in 2007, uses the term to describe schools that graduate no more than 60 percent of the students who start as freshmen. One of these schools, Auburn, is the school attended by over 67% of the youth in the designated area. The average retention rate – the number of freshmen who make it from freshman to senior year – is 45 percent at Auburn. This high drop out rate increases juvenile crime. As youth, unoccupied and unconnected, become involved in gangs and other negative activities. In 2006, 297 youth were convicted of violent/weapon crimes and 60 were convicted of drug-related crimes. In 2007, a freshman youth was stabbed on school grounds at Auburn.

The Winnebago County Department of Juvenile Justice estimated that 30% of their probation caseload was gang affiliated. The primary gang affiliations were the Gangster Disciples, Vice Lords, Latin Kings, Surenos, Stones, Moes, Wacos and Unknowns. According to the Illinois Juvenile Probation Department, in 2006 and 2007, approximately 49% of the youth serviced by the Detention Center live in the Ellis Heights area.

Resource Needs and Gaps in Service

Resource needs and gaps in services for specific components of the strategy are outlined below.

Law Enforcement

- Increased crime identification and arrests of offenders
- Increased apprehension and prosecution of lawbreakers
- Make adjudicated defendants accountable for unlawful behavior
- Ongoing funding for vertical prosecution
- Ongoing law enforcement information sharing
- Identify, apprehend and prosecute gang offenders
- Alternative programming for gang members on probation

Community Oriented Policing

- Ongoing contact and communication with residents.
- Ongoing police presence in neighborhoods
- Increase number of neighborhood watch groups
- Increased prevention alternatives for youth at risk and ex-offenders

Prevention/Intervention/Treatment

- Enhance programs offered during after school, non school days and summer as a means to reduce crime
- Increase variety of programs offered through Safe Havens
- Programming provided for residents that address the underlining causes of crime (employment, education, family support) and increase self-sufficiency
- Employment programs for the “hard to serve” to provide support for ex-offenders and their families that will prevent their committing new crimes, returning to prison, and will equip them to support themselves and their families and others that are finding it difficult to find or job or are ill prepared for work.

Neighborhood Restoration

- Reduction in number of deteriorated and unsafe structures
- Homeowner/buyer and home maintenance classes offered to residents and landlords
- Beautification projects
- Use all legal means to remove code and law violations from the target area
- Increased use of nuisance abatement laws to remove drug dealers and prostitutes from housing
- Increase residents reporting of health code and city code violations
- Increased economic development activities

2. Program design and implementation:

a. Scope of Work: The following is the scope of work for year 3 of the 5-year cycle based upon the analysis provided in the “Goals” for each of the four strategy components.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Strategy: Law enforcement plans to coordinate with Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to combat drug and violent crime in the designated area, reduce violent crime, drug activity, and gang activity and increase prosecution of crimes committed with firearms, drugs and committed by repeat offenders.

Goal 1	Reduce violent crime and drug activity by 50%
Status	Total criminal offenses decreased by 25.6% in the first 11 months of 2007 vs. 2006. Special patrol of the area conducted by the Rockford Police Department (RPD) netted 17 arrests, which included 2 drug arrests. In response new residents' concerns, a new noise ordinance passed in Oct of 2007 which lets officers impound cars where drivers are blasting music too loud. Resident survey show residents feel safer.
Objective 1	Increase crime identification and arrests of offenders.
Status	In progress: New system in place allows for improved information sharing because of the accuracy of offense tracking. Winnebago County State's Attorney appointed special prosecutors to prosecute gun-related crimes. Police substation established and operational. Increased surveillance and patrol. Every 5 weeks all supervisors, detectives, and patrol officers assigned to area meet to share data. Increased details from 4/month to almost nightly. All arrests referred to State's Attorney's office to see if enhancements are available.
Objective 2	Increase apprehension and prosecution of lawbreakers and make adjudicated defendants accountable for their behavior.
Status	In progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A County Tactical Team is assigned to work with other law enforcement agencies in the target area. • Provide maximum police coverage in mutual enforcement zones. • Provide a Transport Team aimed at maintaining maximum law enforcement presence on the streets. • Provide 24-hour transport services from the arrest scene to the county jail. • Probation Officers will be located in high-risk neighborhoods. <p>RPD and Parole Officer jointly making frequent compliance checks on parolees and sex offenders – warrants obtained and arrests made if non-compliant. A Police substation was established in the target area</p>

	October, 2006. The building will house the Weed & Seed Coordinator.
Activity/Task/Project 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rockford City Police Department, FBI, DEA, Illinois State Police target narcotics traffickers through investigation, undercover and confidential informant buys. • Information is being shared by all law enforcement agencies. • Install surveillance cameras • Law enforcement agencies are conducting compliance sweeps and executing search warrants.
Activity/Tasks Project 2	<p>U.S. Attorney's Office and ATF will use Project Safe Neighborhoods to target offenders for Federal prosecution</p> <p>The Winnebago County State's Attorney's office will pay close attention to crimes committed in the area and charge at the highest level. State's Attorney's Office and Probation Department will coordinate filings.</p>
Implementation Plan	The Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office will oversee the implementation of this project in collaboration with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Rockford City Police Department, and the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office.
Outcome Measures	Crime reduced by 10%. Crime statistics for the area as well as surveys of the citizens to gauge the success of the strategy.
Funding Support	The project costs total \$18,750. Costs will be allocated as follows: Weed & Seed at 100%, Listed in budget detail Section A, B, C, D, G, H

Goal 2	Reduce gang activity in the target area by 50%
Status	<p>In progress:</p> <p>Collaborating with Rockford Reachout Jail Ministry – providing leadership training and mentoring for at-risk youth on site.</p> <p>RPD working on new database to better track gang members.</p> <p>The Winnebago County Juvenile Assessment Center's is maintaining the extension of their hours from midnight to 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights to allow law enforcement agencies the flexibility to handle juvenile offenders for extended periods of time. (on the two busiest nights of the week).</p>
Objective 1	Identify gang members, apprehend and prosecute gang offenders, provide services to gang members who are on Probation.
Status	In progress: Rockford City Police Department (RPD) set

	<p>up check points to address seat belts, DUI, illegal drugs – these activities are helping identify gang members and seizure of guns and drugs.</p> <p>RPD conducting frequent curfew details for day (truancy) and night curfew compliance.</p> <p>Winnebago County State’s Attorney’s Office will review and enhance charges to get the highest prosecution for gang crimes.</p>
Activity/Task/Project 1	<p>Cooperative efforts between the Winnebago County Task Force (Sheriff’s Dept., State Police, DEA, Rockford Police Department) to use confidential informants and citizens to identify gang members.</p> <p>The Illinois Juvenile Probation Department officials are working on making it mandatory that gang members, whose arrests for drugs, alcohol, or gang activity will have to enter mandatory substance abuse and anger management programs provided through the Winnebago County Probation Department.</p> <p>The Rockford City Police Department, Winnebago County Sheriff’s Department, Rockford Fire Department, Winnebago County Coroner’s Office, Rockford Park District, Drug Enforcement, Winnebago States Attorneys Office and Probation Department provide a Youth Academy.</p>
Implementation Plan	<p>Alternative program grants are offered through the Park District and were offered over the summer. Rockford City Police Department and Juvenile Probation will oversee the implementation of this project.</p>
Outcome Measures	<p>Gang related crime statistics, number of juvenile offenders, number of referrals made by Probation Officers to alternative/prevention programs, attendance/participation records for youth referred.</p>
Funding Support	<p>The project costs total \$18,750. Costs will be allocated as follows: Weed & Seed at 100%, Listed in budget detail Section A, B, C, D, G, H</p>

COMMUNITY POLICING

Strategy: Our overall strategy for community policing is to reduce fear of crime, improve communication and cooperation between the police, youth and residents of the area.

Goal 1	Reduce residents' fear of crime.
Status	<p>In progress: Rockford City Police Department began its community policing efforts in Ellis Heights in 2005. The police established a substation in the area in October of 2006.</p> <p>A survey of residents September 2007 found:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 63% of respondents say they feel safer since Weed and Seed began ➤ 40.2 percent said they've seen less crime in the past year ➤ 51.5 percent said they've seen more police in the neighborhood in the past three months
Objective 1	Law enforcement will improve contact and communication with residents
Status	<p>In progress: A Police substation was established and Community Police Officer Carla Redd stationed in substation. Officer Redd attends every neighborhood association meeting to facilitate crime-related reporting by residents.</p> <p>Three new neighborhood associations and one new neighborhood watch group established.</p> <p>An Ellis Heights Weed & Seed website was established. The Weed & Seed Committee publishes a quarterly newsletter.</p> <p>Because they feel more comfortable, residents are more willing to report crimes.</p>
Activity/Task/Project	<p>The Rockford City Police Department Community Police Officer, Carla Redd will develop and train 2 new neighborhood watch groups and provide resident education on crime prevention, including Crime Stoppers Hotline use, current crime patterns, how to reduce crime. The Rockford Fire Department and the Winnebago County Health Department will conduct 2 home surveys to make sure all residents in the target area have smoke detectors.</p>
Implementation Plan	Project period is October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009. Community Policing Coordinator will oversee development and training of Neighborhood Watch groups.
Outcome Measures	<p>Attendance at Neighborhood Watch groups.</p> <p>Conduct yearly neighborhood surveys to monitor how they perceive the safety of their neighborhood.</p> <p>Number of homes surveyed.</p>
Funding Support	The project costs total \$18,750. Costs will be allocated as follows: Weed & Seed at 100%, Listed in budget detail Section A, B, C, D, G, H

Goal 2	Improve communication and cooperation between the police, the youth, and residents of the area.
Status	In progress: According to the Resident Survey, 51.5% of residents have seen an officer in their neighborhood
Objective	Increase the number of youth participating in non violent activities such as Explorers, libraries, and Ellis School Arts Academy. Increase the participation of renters, landlords and property managers in neighborhood groups. Organize culturally diverse neighborhood groups to serve the citizens who are not currently being served by existing neighborhood groups within the area.
Status	Two Police Youth Academy sessions were conducted for 13-17 year olds to increase interaction and introduce students to the law enforcement community – 70 students participated. Cops & Kids program went to the 2 Head Starts in the W?S area – kids got to meet the cops, got 2 books and the officers' authographs, officers read a story to the kids.
Activity/Task/Project	The Rockford City Police Department Community Police Officer initiate neighborhood contacts, communicate with neighborhood groups and plan neighborhood events. The Cities Community Police Officer will be responsible for responding to requests, attending meetings, etc. Cops on the Block will be held at different units of the Rockford Park District to meet with kids to build better Relationships – cops will give treats to the kids. The Weed & Seed Coordinator will work with Rockford City Police Department and the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department, the three neighborhood schools, neighborhood ministers and residents to establish the Drug-Free coalition. Members of the Cherry Valley Drug Free Coalition will mentor the new coalition. The revised goal is to have the new coalition established by 2007. The Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office, Rockford City Police, and Winnebago County Sheriff's Department implementing a six-week police Youth Academy program for over 50 youth yearly. Sponsor 2008 National Night Out. Creating a GIS based statistical information system to map problems and assets.
Implementation Plan	Rockford City Police Department will oversee and

	establish neighborhood groups with P.I.T. Subcommittee. P.I.T. Subcommittee and W/S Coordinator oversee increasing quantity and quality of programming and monitoring attendance.
Outcome Measures	Attendance at neighborhood groups and the number of new neighborhood groups established. Attendance at neighborhood and community health fairs compared to 2006/07 numbers. Comparison of use of youth programs compared to 2006. Drug Free Coalition established. The number of youth attending the Police Youth Academy.
Funding Support	The project costs total \$18,750. Costs will be allocated as follows: Weed & Seed at 100%, Listed in budget detail Section A, B, C, D, G, H

PREVENTION/INTERVENTION/TREATMENT (P.I.T.)

Strategy: Our overall strategy for prevention/intervention/treatment is to provide opportunities for youth to engage in activities that are positive and a deterrent to drug use, gang involvement and violent behavior and to provide a safe haven where youth and adults can receive services. Our strategy to make annual progress towards achieving these goals is to work with social service organizations and faith-based groups to create innovative programs that address the underlying issues, such as unemployment and poverty that fosters crime.

Goal 1	Provide positive opportunities for youth as an alternative to drug use, gang involvement and violent behavior.
Status	In progress: The Rockford Park District provided \$2,500 in grants to the Ellis Heights Weed & Seed area for the Youth Police Academy Collaboration with the Rockford Reachout Jail Ministry for gang awareness program offered on site. Way to Peace Project (conflict resolution, responsibility programming), Youth Build offered at Ellis, a K-8 school.
Objective 1	To enhance programs offered during after-school, non-school days and summer
Status	In progress
Activity/Tasks	To coordinate with other organizations to facilitate a Garden Project/ Farmer's Market/ Cooking Classes To investigate the existing after-school, non-school and

	<p>summer programming in and around the area.</p> <p>To assist in the enhancement, and promotion of the existing after-school, non-school and summer programming in and around the area.</p> <p>To create an up-to-date list of resources or resource booklet of after-school, non-school and summer programming in and around the area. (audience: parents, caregivers, teacher, counselors, organizations servicing aforementioned)</p>
Objective 2	To provide youth with opportunities to create initiatives to deter youth from drug-use, gang-involvement and violent behavior and advocate for community change.
Status	In progress
Activity/Tasks	To create an Ellis Heights Youth Advisory Group
Objective 3	To collaborate and partner with existing coalitions and initiatives as a way to deter youth from drug-use, gang-involvement and violent behavior
Status	In progress
Activity/Tasks	<p>To leverage resources to support initiatives</p> <p>To participate in planning activities that address the drug-use, gang-involvement and violent behavior in the area</p>
Implementation Plan	The PIT Committee and WS Coordinator in collaboration with other organizations and schools.
Outcome Measures	<p>Gardens planted, regularly scheduled Farmer's Market, 2 cooking classes offered.</p> <p>To have a list of current programs available for residents.</p> <p>Flyers created regarding summer activities.</p> <p>Distribution of 2,000 resource booklets.</p> <p>Identify a suitable program</p> <p>Partnerships established to implement programs</p>
Funding Support	The project cost totals \$14,583.33. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 43%. WCHD, Rockford Police Department, Lewis Lemon, Salvation Army at 57%. Budget detail section A, B, C, D, E, H.

Goal 2	To have at least two Safe Havens for youth and adults in the target area that provide services that have been indicated by needs assessments.
Status	We now have two Safe Havens – Salvation Army and Lewis Lemon. Our goal now is to increase services and use of these facilities.
Objective 1	To increase community awareness of programming at area

	Safe Havens.
Status	In progress
Activities/Tasks/Projects	To coordinate with other Safe Havens to host Open House/ Informational each year To assist in the promotion of the existing, Safe Haven programming in and around the area. To create an Ellis Heights Youth Advisory Council
Objective 2	To enhance existing programs at the area Safe Havens
Status	In progress
Activities/Tasks/Projects	Assessment of existing programs *Indicators: Community resident and organizational feedback To further investigate ways to enhance existing, Safe Haven programs of need
Objective 3	To collaborate with Safe Havens to expand successful programs and initiatives.
Status	New
Activities/Projects/Tasks	Seeking additional funding collaboratively and/ or funding raising activities
Implementation Plan	W&S Coordinator will coordinate efforts with Safe Haven liaisons.
Outcomes	Memorandum of understandings signed, residents participating
Funding Support	The project cost totals \$14,583.33. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 43%. WCHD, Rockford Police Department, Lewis Lemon, Salvation Army at 57%. Budget detail section A, B, C, D, E, H.

Goal 3	To provide residents with services that will increase self-sufficiency.
Status	In progress: Through our Special Emphasis Initiative contracted Rock River Training Corporation to provide residents from the EHWS area with employment and training services on site. Services include skills assessments, access to job skills training, on-site computer skills training through Web-based e-learning that will lead to an internationally recognized credential, job vacancy information, on-the-job training and work experience with local employers, and English as a Second Language classes. This project began in 2007.

	A collaboration, Project Jumpstart, with Rock Valley Community College will begin 1/28/08. It will provide 45-60 unemployed and educationally disadvantaged adults with pre-employment skills training, job search, basic literacy upgrading two days a week at the Ellis Heights United Neighborhood Center (WS House).
Objective	To increase job-readiness and employment opportunities..
Status	In progress - see above
Activities/Tasks/Projects	<p>Referral system</p> <p>To leverage resources to support initiative.</p> <p>Workshops focusing on budgeting and saving (wealth)</p> <p>To participate in planning activities that address the drug use, gang involvement and violent behavior in the area.</p> <p>Entrepreneurship initiatives and education</p> <p>Job Fairs</p> <p>Employment Opportunities board –listing of current employment opportunities</p> <p>Create links with colleges, training institutions and GED programs (resource/ reference list)</p> <p>Investigate, promote and advocate for the existing vocational training opportunities at area high schools. (new, innovative career training opportunities) (Advocate for workforce preparedness in schools—</p> <p>Further investigate what currently exists.</p> <p>Apprenticeship training and opportunities ... mentorship</p> <p>Explore “Career Ladders” in partnership with area workforce organizations</p> <p>Expansion of Employment services</p>
Objective 2	To increase knowledge of child-care options (target and surrounding areas)
Status	New objective
Activity/Tasks/Projects	<p>Workshops focusing on child-care options and transitioning back to work</p> <p>To create an up-to-date list of resources or resource booklet of child-care options in and around the area. (audience: parents, caregivers, organizations servicing aforementioned)</p>

Objective 3	*Target: Seniors To provide seniors with opportunities to enhance quality of life and make impact on the youth residents and community overall.
Status	New
Activities/Projects/Tasks	To create a Seniors Group. To engage Seniors in regularly scheduled activities in the community To coordinate projects including both senior and youth population To create a resource list of volunteers for the purpose of assisting seniors with various needs (i.e. cleaning, shoveling, lifting, etc.)
Objective 4	To provide re-entry population with resources to deter recidivism
Status	New
Activities/Projects/Tasks	To assist and provide support in the distribution of an up-to-date list of resources or resource booklet of Re-entry services in and around the area. (audience: ex-offenders, families, organizations) To provide assistance with education and awareness opportunities specific to the Re-entry population.
Implementation plan	Weed & Seed Coordinator will work with social service agencies to coordinate activities.
Outcome measures	Youth advisory group developed 10 students attending Steering Committee subcommittee meetings 25 seniors attend senior group activities Printed resource list of seniors and youth Partnerships identified for career ladders, apprenticeships and mentorships 2 child care workshops held Distribution of 2,500 child care resource booklets Referral system created and coordinated 3 educational opportunities available to residents.
Funding Support	The project cost totals \$14,583.33. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 43%. WCHD, Rockford Police Department, Lewis Lemon, Salvation Army at 57%. Budget detail section A, B, C, D, E, H.

NEIGHBORHOOD RESTORATION

Strategy: Our overall strategy for Neighborhood Restoration is to improve housing stock in the area and increase access to opportunities for employment. Our strategy to achieve annual progress towards these goals include working with the city and county government offices to increase safety and sanitation compliance efforts, work with residents to increase their home buying and maintenance knowledge, and working with neighborhood groups to increase their ability to assess neighborhood needs and act on the results of their assessments.

Goal 1	Improve the appearance, quality and availability of housing within the target area.
Status	In January 2008, the Illinois Dept. of Transportation approved a \$30 million grant to expand West State Street. This will tremendously improve the designated area.
Objective 1	To reduce the number of unhealthy nuisance properties.
Status	In progress: Homes identified as needing repair. Two neighborhoods clean held in April, conducted with Juvenile Probation supplying labor for clean-ups. Through the Rockford Urban Ministries Association, a church youth group repaired 14 homes in the target area.
Activity/Tasks	Neighborhood sweep of one block per month. Citations written for all violations found during neighborhood sweeps. Enforcement of all violations found during neighborhood sweeps. Removal and/or restoration of 25% of previously identified Unhealthy nuisance properties. A problem property team was organized and they will prioritize list and make referrals to city officials. To further investigate the creation of a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO), assisted by the Community Development Department of Rockford. To investigate application for the area to be designated as a historic district. Facilitate quarterly meetings with the City of Rockford Departments of Community Development and Planning and

	the Rockford Housing Authority (RHA)
Implementation Plan	The project period is October 1, 2008 through Spetember 30, 2009. WS Coordinator and Neighborhood Restoration Subcommittee will oversee project in collaboration with the City of Rockford and the WCHD.
Outcome measures	Number of sweeps conducted Citations written for all violations found during sweeps Removal and/or restoration 25% of identified unhealthy nuisance properties. Amount of progress made in activities for long-term impact, e.g., CHDO and historic district designation. Number of meetings held with City and RHA.
Objective 2	To increase the number of beautification related neighborhood projects.
Status	In progress: Held one neighborhood clean-up with Juvenile Probation. "Make A Difference Day" – leading up to the day, had 5 days of planning and activities resulting in planting a garden and cleaning up the grounds of the Head Start facility in the area. Had 37 volunteers including residents, steering committee members, and City of Rockford administrators, Rockford Police and Fire Department staffers, State's Attorney's Office staffers. The City of Rockford has a graffiti removal project in place that rapidly responds to graffiti occurrences.
Activity/Tasks	Coordinate quarterly neighborhood clean-up (spring, summer, fall, winter). Coordinate yearly "Make A Difference Day " effort Collaborate with Urban Ministries to expand summer work camps. Coordinate a Garden Project/Farmer's Market with community partners - Klehm, Master Gardeners, YouthBuild, House of Refuse, Greater Emmanuel Baptist Church
Implementation Plan	The project period is October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009. WS Coordinator and Neighborhood Restoration Subcommittee will oversee project in collaboration with community partners.
Outcome measures	Participation of 25 community residents and 5 community organizations. Indicators: Change in community involvement, document educational opportunities provided to community, qualitative data to support betterment of neighborhood; qualitative data documenting visual difference in community; residents, business owners, City of Rockford Community Development staff interviews).

	Qualitative data documenting change (increase) in neighborhood pride.
Funding Support	Total project cost \$12,500. Weed & Seed – 100%. See Budget Sections A, B, C, D, E, G, H.
Goal 2	To improve the homeownership and rental opportunities within the target area
Status	New goal, revision of Goal 1 based on the International Economic Development Council 2007 Technical Assistance Report..
Objective 1	To increase awareness of home buying opportunities.
Status	In progress
Activity/Tasks	<p>To coordinate with other organizations to facilitate workshops and trainings specific to home-buying opportunities (enhance existing workshops and trainings)</p> <p>Develop partnership with Habitat for Humanity for 2 new homes to be built in the area.</p> <p>To distribute resources of existing home-buyer related opportunities.</p> <p>To further investigate the creation of a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) assisted by the City's Department of Community Development.</p>
Implementation Plan	The project period is October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009. WS Coordinator and Neighborhood Restoration Subcommittee will oversee project in collaboration with the City of Rockford.
Outcome measures	<p>Assessment of workshops and trainings provided in the year. Change in number of workshops and trainings offered. Locations of workshops and training provided. Organizations involved in coordinating and providing workshops and trainings.</p> <p>MOA developed with Habitat for Humanity.</p>
Objective 2	To increase awareness and education among property owners and/or landlords.
Status	In progress
Activity/Tasks	<p>To coordinate with other organizations to facilitate workshops and trainings specific to property owners and/or landlord opportunities.</p> <p>To distribute resources related to property maintenance, upkeep, attracting suitable renters to advocate for landlord and</p>

	renter certification program.
Implementation Plan	The project period is October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009. The WS Coordinator will oversee the implementation of these projects.
Outcome measures	Change in number of participants Change in organizations involved in the coordination of workshops and trainings. Creation of certification program.
Objective 3	To increase awareness and education for potential property owners and renters.
Status	In progress: City and Rockford Housing Authority now offering classes. Working to get classes offered in the designated area.
Activity/Tasks	To coordinate with other organizations to facilitate workshops and trainings specific to property ownership and renter-occupied housing opportunities (enhance existing workshops and trainings). To distribute resources of existing potential property owner and renter opportunities to lower vacancy rates.
Implementation Plan	The project period is October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009. The WS Coordinator will oversee the implementation of these projects.
Outcome measures	Change in number of participants Change in organizations involved in the coordination of workshops and trainings. Number of resources developed and distributed to lower the vacancy rates of existing housing units.
Funding Support	Total project cost \$12,500. Weed & Seed – 100%. See Budget Sections A, B, C, D, E, G, H.
Goal 3	To increase economic development within the target area
Status	New goal based on recommendations from the International Economic Development Council study.
Objective 1	To increase employment opportunities.
Status	Satellite job training/employment site established at the Weed and Seed house.
Activity/Tasks	Investigate “First Source Hiring and Community Benefits Agreements in Development Projects”
Implementation Plan	The project period is October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009. The WS Coordinator will oversee implementation in collaboration with Rock River Training and the City of Rockford.
Outcome measures	Number of workshops held and attendance, number of job

	fairs held and attendance, employment board kept up to date – number of jobs found, number of individuals enrolled in post-secondary training, number of new high school initiatives or progress made, quality of linkages with colleges and other post-secondary institutions, quality of investigations into First Source Hiring and Community Benefits.
Objective 2	To preserve existing retail.
Status	New objective
Activity/Tasks	City of Rockford complete assessment of economic development needs Provide support for the City’s initiatives to assist businesses in the area.
Implementation Plan	The project period is October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009. Implementation will be overseen by WS Coordinator in and Neighborhood Restoration Subcommittee in collaboration with City. .
Outcome measures	Assessment completed quality of support for City initiatives, impact of initiatives on designated area.
Funding Support	Total project cost \$12,500. Weed & Seed – 100%. See Budget Sections A, B, C, D, E, G, H.

3. Capabilities and Competencies

a. Management and Organizational Capability:

a) *Role and Responsibility of the Fiscal Agency*

The Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) will be the grant administrator and oversee the management, administration and budgeting for Weed and Seed. J. Maichle Bacon, WCHD Public Health Administrator will oversee all administrative and fiscal duties. He will be responsible for basic personnel issues – hiring/firing and performance appraisal. He will provide oversight, with DOJ-CCDO and the U.S. Attorney’s Office, of the Steering Committee. Along with the site coordinator, he will monitor any subgrantees. He will work to resolve any program and problematic issues. Mr. Bacon will ensure that the implementation plan, reports and evaluation of the Weed & Seed Strategy are performed as outlined in the OR.

b) *Role and Responsibility of the Steering Committee*

The Ellis Heights Weed & Seed Steering Committee has established policies and procedures to govern its actions. (See attached) The Steering Committee provides a governing structure for Ellis Heights Weed and Seed. It convenes key stakeholders, identifies the areas of greatest need, facilitates the collaboration of the stakeholders through the Steering Committee and subcommittees, develops a strategic plan, identifies

the roles and commitments of the partners, mobilizes new and existing resources to implement goals and objectives, establishes and tracks accountability measures, balances weeding and seeding efforts, and provides oversight and leadership for the Weed and Seed strategy. The Steering Committee Subcommittees will carryout the day-to-day tasks as set forth by the Steering Committee. The Subcommittee will provide the structure for building a commitment to Weed and Seed and coordinating efforts towards common goals during their monthly meetings.

c) Steering Committee

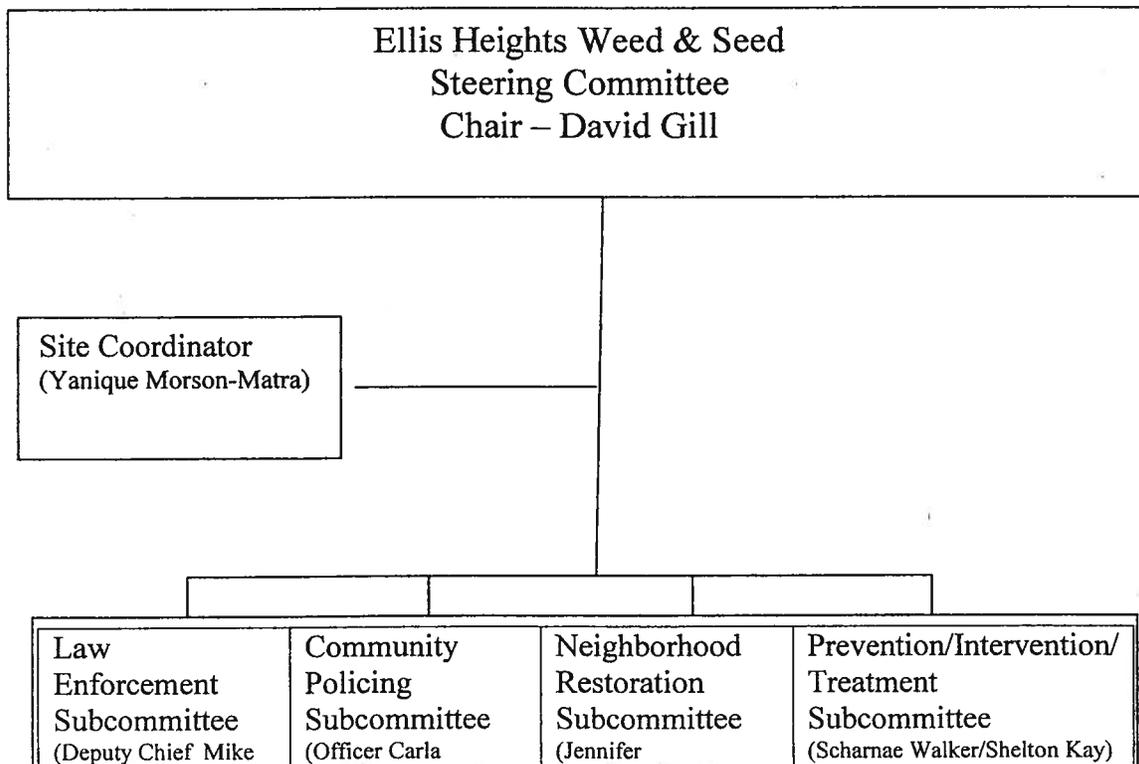
Steering Committee/Resources

Name	Title	Organizational Affiliation	Phone Number	Contribution
John McKenzie	U.S. Attorney	U. S. Attorney's Office	815-987-4444	Provide program oversight; coordinate Project Safe Neighborhood
David Gill	Assistant States Attorney	Winnebago County State's Attorney Office	815-987-3160	Organize all 4 subcommittees; Coordinate State's Attorney efforts
*Dr. Patrick Hardy	Principal	Ellis School	815-966-3909	Education and meeting place; host site for youth/police life skills program
*Mike Campbell	Principal	Lewis Lemon	815-967-8000	Safe Haven/after school program; host site for youth/police life skills program
Mike Booker	Deputy Chief	Rockford City Police Department	815-987-5800	Create the law enforcement implementation plan/oversee community policing effort.
Paul Pinzaome	Master Sgt.	Illinois State Police	815-987-7560	Serve on Law Enforcement committee/Safety Belt Check Points
Chet Epperson	Chief of Police	Rockford City Police Department	815-987-5839	Serve on Law Enforcement Committee
G. B. Jones	Agent	FBI	312-421-6700	Law Enforcement Coordinate FBI efforts for Weed & Seed area
James Suggs	Executive Director	Salvation Army	815-963-2480	Safe Haven activities
Mark Jiuffie	Resident Agency in Charge	Rockford Resident Office of the U.S. DEA	815-987-4494	Law Enforcement Coordinate DEA efforts for Weed & Seed area
Vicki Manson	Program Manager, Community Dev.	City of Rockford	815-987-5694	Serves on Neighborhood Restoration committee
Reid Montgomery	Community & Economic Dev. Dir.	City of Rockford	815-987-5600	Advisor for Neighborhood Restoration Committee and code enforcement
*Shelton Kay	Resident	Crusader Clinic	815-490-1600	Member neighborhood watch/AIDS Program Dir. /

*Glendall Parham	Resident		None	Member Neighborhood Watch; mentoring new neighborhood watch groups
Deputy Sheriff Donny Parham	Winnebago County Sheriff's Police	Winnebago County Sheriff's Police	815-335-2351	Law Enforcement; coordinate Sheriff's Department efforts for Weed & Seed area
*Kim Philbrook	Resident	Co-chair Neighbor Restoration	None	Member neighborhood group; member PIT group; helps with communication
*Alberta Jones	Resident		815-964-4395	Member neighborhood group; mentoring new neighborhood watch groups
*Glenn Thronson	Resident		815-963-9982	Member neighborhood group; helps organize neighborhood cleanups
*Amy Hill	Resident		815-395-1072	Help organize the neighbors for clean ups and beautification efforts
*Willie Ashford	Resident		815-968-8684	Help organize site church functions in support of Weed & Seed
*Zina Horten	Resident		815-963-0306	Member neighborhood group; helps with planning and implementation efforts
*Marlett Thronson	Chair Neighborhood Group and Resident		815-963-9982	Member Neighborhood group/helps out at Police sub-station
Beulah Triplett	Activities Director	Rockford Housing Authority	815-987-3830	Link public housing residents to opportunities
Dick Harvey	Juvenile Justice Coordinator	Winnebago County Juvenile Justice	815-987-3180	Links youth on probation to services; plan and implement services for probationers and parolees; assist with sustainability efforts
Jennifer Cacciapaglia	City Attorney	City of Rockford	815-987-5540	Code enforcement Housing development Develop goals and objectives and allocate \$ to the Weed and Seed project
Sheila Hill	Admin.	Winnebago County Animal Services	815-720-4000	Assist with problems regarding animals in the site
Larry Swacina	Winnebago County Environmental Health Director	Winnebago County Health Department	815-720-4160	Code enforcement; Coordinates Health Department efforts to Conduct health inspections and enforce County Health Codes.
Patrick Hampton	Volunteer Services Coordinator	Youth Build	815-963-6236	Member Prevention/Intervention Assisting with youth programming; coordinate Youth Build projects to rehab homes

Sgt. Marc Welsh	Sargeant	Rockford Police Department	815-987-5041	Co-chair Law Enforcement and Community Policing Committee; assist in coordinating community policing efforts
William Chatman	Board member	Community Foundation	815-962-2110	Member PIT; assist with sustainability efforts
Mark Murray		Winnebago County Court Services	815-987-2550	Member PIT; assist With planning and Implementation efforts regarding victim services
Yanique Morson-Matra	Coordinator	Winnebago County Health Department	815-720-4130	Organize teams to start programs
Scharnae Walker	Branch Director	Rockford Public Library	815-962-4767	Member PIT; helps plan and implement services at the Library located in the site
Michael Williams	Executive Director	Rock River Training Corp.	815-229-2770	Member PIT
*John Evans	Pastor	House of Refuge	815-968-0026	After school activities; host Weed and Seed meetings and neighborhood activities
Darcy Buchholtz	Executive Director	Boone/Winnebago Workforce Board	815-229-2770	Member PIT Committee; coordinate employment services for the site
*Kim Kerley	Resident		815-968-4645	Helps organize the neighbor for events
*Annie Davis	Pastor	Greater Emmanuel Church	815-963-6161	Provides youth activities

d) Organizational Chart



Process by which a program is chosen to be funded and how decisions are ratified by the Steering Committee

The Rockford Steering committee has established Policies and Procedures governing the awarding of grant funds. The Winnebago County Health Department will be the fiscal agency to administer the grant funds. When the Committee receives approval of Weed & Seed grant funds, we will make an announcement of the availability of such funds within 30 days to all pertinent agencies and in the local media. We will make the announcement in the form of a Request for Proposal designed to meet our goals and objectives. Once locals are notified of funding availability, we will conduct a training session on how to write a grant proposal/application

After grant applications are received, they are reviewed and critiqued by the Grant Review Subcommittee. The subcommittee utilizes a critique form that assigns points (totaling 100) to critical elements of an application submission. Such elements include budget, problem statements, goals and objectives, activities and timetables, etc. The Grant Review Subcommittee makes recommendations to award, deny or table an application. The applications are then forwarded to the full Steering Committee for review and final determination on all grant applications. Each applicant is then notified of the decision of the Rockford Ellis Heights Weed & Seed Steering Committee. Applicants awarded funds receive training for the management of grants.

b. Coordination

The Federal Role

The U.S. Attorney's Office has two representatives that are members of the Steering Committee. The local United States Attorney's Office (USAO) is a voting member of the Ellis Heights Weed and Seed Steering Committee. The local USAO must give approval of a candidate for the site coordinator position before he/she is hired. The Rockford USAO will coordinate Project Safe Neighborhoods and Weed and Seed efforts to the fullest extent possible. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide commitment to reduce gun crime in America by networking existing local programs that target gun crime and providing these programs with additional tools necessary to be successful. Through this grant, the USAO's office will support investigations of crimes, provide training to law enforcement and develop and promote community outreach efforts as well as support other gun violence reduction strategies in the designated area. The DEA is a voting member on the Ellis Heights Weed and Seed Steering Committee. The DEA will participate in coordinated efforts of law enforcement to weed out drugs and crime.

Collaborations

Winnebago County Health Department is also funded through Illinois Department of Public Health to offer programs to increase African-Americans' and other low-income citizen's access to health care. The Black Health Care Initiative program is located in the Ellis Heights area. Contribution: Provides health fairs in the EHWS area, health

screenings, and health-related information that contribute to the self-sufficiency by keeping residents healthy. Agency contact: Alphonso Goode. Estimated in-kind resources - \$7,000 in marketing and testing supplies and analysis.

Workforce Investment Board – includes Rock River Training Corporation and Rock Valley Community College provides site services through the Special Emphasis Initiative and through Project Jumpstart funded through Rock Valley College. Rock River Training provides employment and training services; Project Jumpstart provides literacy and ESL services. Agency contact: Rock River Training – Michael Williams; Project Jumpstart – Luevinus Muhammad. Estimated in-kind resources - \$15,000 for administrative oversight and services.

The Rockford Park District has designated the Ellis Heights Weed & Seed area for special funding for the Youth Police Academy programming to assist with juvenile delinquency and gang prevention. Contact: Laura Lang. Estimated cash contribution: \$4,500.

Lewis Lemon Elementary School is our safe haven and provides adult and youth programming. Contact person: Michael Campbell. Estimated in-kind resources: \$11,063.50.

The law enforcement/community policing contributors include the Rockford Police Department, the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department, Illinois State Police, City of Rockford Legal Department/Neighborhood Standards/Building Department, Winnebago County Board members, FBI, United States Attorney, a neighborhood group, the 17th Judicial Family Violence Coordinating Council, the two alderwomen from the target area and six residents. The joint funding initiatives are the Rockford Park District's community policing grant, Project Safe Neighborhoods (contact: USAO John McKenzie), and Winnebago County State's Attorney (contact: David Gill) special prosecutorial efforts. Estimated in-kind contribution: \$50,000.

The Salvation Army is our second safe haven. The Salvation Army provides youth programming until 9 p.m. each evening. Contact name: J. Suggs. Estimated in-kind resources \$11,063.50

The City of Rockford's Community Development Director is heading the Neighborhood Restoration subcommittee. The Weed & Seed Strategy is aligned with the City's 2010 Plan. The City's Legal Department will work with the Winnebago County Health Department's Environmental Division and the City of Rockford Housing Division to perform health and housing inspections in the target area. In 2007, \$100,000 was set aside from City of Rockford funds to improve the area. Contact: Vicki Madsen

The designated area does not have a federal or local designation related to economic development. However, the Westside of the City of Rockford, of which the area is a part, is included in the West State (the main thoroughfare in Rockford) Corridor Plan of the City. West State divides the Ellis Heights area. The State of Illinois will provide \$30

million to improve West State Street (Business 20). It is believed this will spur new business development and remove much of the blight on West State Street and the immediate area. The area immediately adjacent to the Ellis Heights neighborhood is an Enterprise Zone. Because of this designation, the City of Rockford established a Shopstead Program in the area. The Shopstead Program provides forgivable loans and buildings to incubate new businesses. The Shopstead Program has created four new businesses over the past five years. The City of Rockford has established a TIF district on West State Street.

5. Impact/Outcomes and Evaluation:

a. Evaluation

We are contracting with the University Of Illinois College Of Medicine Health Systems Research for evaluation of our Weed & Seed strategy. Our Weed and Seed strategy evaluator, Karen Lytwyn, is an Information Service Specialist at Health Systems Research. Karen will collaborate with decision-makers on an ongoing basis to identify and prioritize information needs.

We will use as baseline measurements, all the data collected to create the strategy and submitted in the OR. Of particular importance of the Rockford Police Annual Report for 2004 and 2005 (The Rockford City Police Department began in 2005 collecting data on calls, response to calls, etc. for evaluation purposes), and the City of Rockford Community Development Department statistical information regarding boardups and code violations, resident surveys/focus groups.

To gather information, we are using the tool designed by the Department of Justice (Evaluation of Safe Streets Now!), adapted to our objectives/strategies to conduct neighborhood surveys. We will use churches and schools as sources to encourage people to fill out the surveys. Subcommittee reports will be generated monthly. Process and Outcomes Reports will be generated quarterly.

The goal of the evaluation of the Ellis Heights Weed & Seed Strategy is to assess the impact of this strategy in achieving its stated goals and objectives. The evaluation of Ellis Heights Weed & Seed will focus on:

- Documenting changes in the level of crime in the designated neighborhood that result from Ellis Heights Weed & Seed (Process Evaluation)
- Documenting the benefits of Ellis Heights Weed & Seed strategy to residents in the neighborhood (Outcome evaluation).
- Other indicators of improvements in the neighborhood, e.g. new businesses, fewer home vacancies.

Research Questions/Measurable Outcomes

Consistent with our goals, Ellis Heights Weed & Seed has four basic research questions that will guide the evaluation procedures, design and measures. These research questions are outlined below.

1. Process Evaluation: What has Rockford's Ellis Heights Weed & Seed provided to our target community?

Ellis Heights Weed and Seed (EHWS) will be to work with police, criminal justice, neighborhood associations and other resources to affect policies, procedures and build capacity to weed out crime and provide prevention, intervention and treatment services. EHWS will keep track of the changes in policies, procedures and capacity of these agencies that result from involvement with EHWS.

These changes will be monitored via meeting minutes, official documents, agency memos, attendance rosters and regular assessments of procedures and capacity. Agencies/organizations will provide annual self-assessments of services provided in the area. Steering Committee membership will be monitored by minutes of meetings, rosters, actions taken and self-analysis.

2. Weeding Efforts: Has Rockford's Ellis Heights Weed & Seed reduced crime and increased residents' feelings of safety?

- A. Law Enforcement – EHWS have started to reduce crime and increase residents' feelings of safety by increasing the presence and policing effort of the Rockford Police Department and increasing community policing.

Data to be collected include comparisons of crime bi-annually to identify changes in activity, reports from residents, police assignment records, and police meetings with residents.

Data to be collected to evaluate feelings of safety include surveys of residents' perception of safety compared to previous year, proposed or implemented changes in police policies and procedures, police/city responsiveness to complaints.

- B. Improve police/residents relations – EHWS will attempt to build communication between the police and residents. Data collected will include survey of residents, neighborhood meeting minutes, interview of residents, community pride activities, block party activities, and neighborhood association activities.

3. Prevention/Intervention/Treatment - Are existing services and/or needed services supplied that meet the needs of the residents?

- A. Rockford's Ellis Heights Weed & Seed will provide positive activities for youth that prevent their joining gangs, using drugs, being involved in negative activities.

- B. Data to be collected include re-survey of services presently offered, were

recommended services implemented in the community, enrollment records, evaluations of services offered, residents' perception of services offered, decreases in crime and other indicators, Safe Havens developed, youth council rolls and minutes of meetings, evidence of collaborations.

4. Neighborhood Restoration Strategy – Did the strategy improve the appearance of the neighborhood?

A. Increase the number of homes and lawns in good repair through neighborhood partnerships and coalitions.

Data to be collected include number of youth signed up to help with maintenance, number of homes/lawns worked on by neighborhood groups and others, repairs made by the City of Rockford and others, code violations reported compared to previous year, and code violations complied with compared to previous year.

A series of evaluation reports will be developed by the evaluator to document the results of the first five years of Weed & Seed in the target area. The plan calls for both process and summative evaluation data collection. Karen Lytwyn from Health Systems Research will complete the first report during the first quarter of 2008.

The Steering Committee will provide planning and oversight to the Weed & Seed evaluation plan and evaluation activities.

b. Sustainability:

Finding and keeping resources for the Weed and Seed Strategy will be a constant challenge for this community. However, our goal is to continue the Strategy until we are able to realize our dreams of improving this community for those who live and work there. This includes finding the financial and non-financial resources. The Weed and Seed Coordinator, under the direction of the Steering Committee and the Subcommittees will aggressively carry out our sustainability plan. Ellis Heights Weed and Seed will leverage its considerable resources of people and agencies to increase the attention that the target area receives. Ellis Heights Weed & Seed will empower the residents to create new strategies to improve their neighborhood.

Rockford's Ellis Heights Weed & Seed Strategy's plan for sustainability includes:

- Marketing our organization in such a way that it will attract commitment, in-kind donations, policy changes, funding and volunteers. Our marketing efforts include brochures, community events, special celebratory events and fund raising events. This includes media attention, such as public service announcements and the attention of lawmakers.

- Building strong collaborations that will promote the sharing of resources among the key players in the Weed & Seed Strategy. Collaboration opportunities including sharing technology, space and staff.
- Collaborating with community organizations to provide needed services in the area that are currently not available.
- Building on our relationships with current partners that are sharing resources informally now that will lead to our being included as a line item.
- Applying for government grants at the local, state and federal levels and foundation and corporate grants nationwide.
- Soliciting churches and other membership organizations for money and in-kind donations.
- Tapping into personnel resources. Trying to arrange with schools, businesses and other organizations agreements to share resources, such as time-share positions, volunteers
- Becoming a Vista or Americorps or college internship site to attract long-term, committed volunteers.
- Developing and implementing community fundraisers.
- Soliciting in-kind support – goods, services, and people.
- Co-host resource workshops with federal, state, and local public and private organizations and foundations or technical assistance organizations to assist smaller groups in applying for resources to carry out “seeding” work.

Rockford’s Ellis Heights Weed & Seed can leverage a diverse funding base by utilizing, building upon, and expanded funded programming, which already exists in the jurisdiction. Many of the partners bring a wide array of in-kind resources in the form of staff and programming, whose operating monies originate from Federal, state, and local funding as well as grants from private foundations and institutions. Leveraged funding dedicated to the Weed and Seed designated neighborhood(s) include, but are not limited to the following:

Rock River Training Corporation (WIA funding) - \$15,000
 Rockford School District - \$11,063.50
 City of Rockford - \$100,000
 Winnebago County Health Department – \$7,000
 Project Safe Neighborhood - \$50,000
 Salvation Army - \$11,063.50

Total leveraged funding to date: \$194,127

Ellis 10/01/2008-09/30/2009
 OMB Approval No. 1121-0188 Expires 5-98
 (Rev. 12/97)

Budget Detail Worksheet

Please bear in mind that this sample budget is designed under the assumption that all items listed will be paid directly by the grantee organization; i.e., a municipality. Non-profit organizations, etc., that serve as fiscal agents need to ensure that all items that are not direct expenditures of the organization are detailed under the Contractual category (section G.). For example, the police overtime costs would not be direct expenditures of a non-profit organization.

Purpose: The Budget Detail Worksheet may be used as a guide to assist you in the preparation of the budget and budget narrative. You may submit the budget and budget narrative using this form or in the format of your choice (plain sheets, your own form, or a variation of this form). However, all required information (including the budget narrative) must be provided. Any category of expense not applicable to your budget may be deleted.

Personnel - List each position by title and name of employee, if available. Show the annual salary rate and the percentage of time to be devoted to the project.

<u>Name/Position</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1) Weed and Seed Coordinator (TBD)	\$44,990/year @ 100%	\$ 44,990
2) Police Overtime (Joint task Force)	\$45/hr. @ 62 hrs x 12 officers	\$33,480
3) Code Enforcement Officer	\$36,000yr x 35%	\$12,600 (match)
Total		\$91,070

D. Equipment - List non-expendable items that are to be purchased. (Note: Organization's own capitalization policy for classification of equipment should be used). Expendable items should be included in the "Supplies" category. Applicants should analyze the cost benefits of purchasing versus leasing equipment, especially high cost items and those subject to rapid technical advances. Rented or leased equipment costs should be listed in the "Contractual" category. Explain how the equipment is necessary for the success of the project. Attach a narrative describing the procurement method to be used.

TOTAL: \$00

NOTE: Equipment purchases all relate back to the program narrative which supports purchases.

E. Supplies - List items by type (e.g., office supplies, postage, training materials, copying paper, and other expendable items such as books, hand held tape recorders) and show the basis for computation. Generally, supplies include any materials that are expendable or consumed during the course of the project.

<u>Supply Items</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1) Weed and Seed Office Supplies	\$173.67/mo. @12 months	\$2,084
File folders and accessories @ \$15 each		(\$89 req/\$1,995 match)
Rollerball Pens @ \$10 per pack		
Microcassette tapes @ \$20		
Printer cartridges @ \$40 ea		
Multipurpose copy paper @ \$30		
Misc items @ \$18.92 (e.g., scissors, staples, correction fluid, paper clips, glue, tape, markers)		
2) Postage to mail out correspondence and newsletter (varies with postage and size – at least 20,000 newsletters, letters, notices, etc.)		600 (match)
3) Newsletters printed quarterly at a cost of \$.03 x 5,000 x 4x per year		600
4) Police Youth Academy		\$ 4,825

Item	Qty	Unit Price	Total
Ball caps	50	8.60	430 Issued to youth
Tshirts	50	8.80	440 issued to youth
Flashlight	50	9.50	475 issued to youth
Staff shirts	10	24.50	245 for instructors
Supplies – pens, paper	1	120	120 for activities, lessons
Printing – awards, fliers	1	100	100 several categories for youth awards
Fatal Vision Goggle Pack	2	300	600 DUI Demonstrations
Golf Cart Rental	1	225	Activities at Patriots Gateway
Bus Transportation	2	100	To transport youth to tours and fire department
Meals	2	100	4 nights - \$8/child (\$5 meal and \$3 drink) 1 night – parent night (extra 60 attendees including Sheriff, Chief of Police and Mayor)

5) Crimeview Software \$51,404 x 49%	\$25,370
6) Crime View Multi Housing Training Expense Room rental - \$250 Giveaway Items - \$500 Pamphlets and advertising items - \$250 Miscellaneous office supplies for seminar - \$125 Attorney to speak on Landlord/Tenant rights - \$125	\$1,250
7) ATN Night Vision Monoculars \$650 x 2	\$1,300

8) Police bicycles 5 @ \$1,000 each	\$5,000
9) Food for Youth Advisory Meetings @ \$52.50 x 8 meetings	420 (match)
10) Public relations publications – flyers to inform community of services Available at Safe Havens 1,160 @ .50 each	580

TOTAL: \$42,029

F. Construction - As a rule, construction costs are not allowable. In some cases, minor repairs or renovations may be allowable. Consult with the program office before budgeting funds in this category.

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Description of Work</u>	<u>Cost</u>
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****Please note that construction costs are not allowable with Executive Office for Weed and Seed funds. Minor renovation (i.e., to restore to original state) may be allowable if justified and approved in advance by the Executive Office for Weed and Seed.**

TOTAL: \$0

G. Consultants/Contracts - Indicate whether applicant's formal, written Procurement Policy or the Federal Acquisition Regulations are followed.

Consultant Expenses: List all expenses to be paid from the grant to the individual consultant in addition to their fees (i.e., travel, meals, lodging, etc.)

Consultant Fees: For each consultant enter the name, if known, service to be provided, hourly or daily fee (8-hour day), and estimated time on the project. **Consultant fees in excess of \$450 per day require additional justification and prior approval from OJP.**

Contracts: Provide a description of the product or services to be procured by contract and an estimate of the cost. Applicants are encouraged to promote free and open competition in awarding contracts. A separate justification must be provided for sole source contracts in excess of \$100,000.

<u>Name of Consultant</u>	<u>Service Provided</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1) Karen Lytwyn	Evaluation	\$390/day x 5 days	1,950

<u>Contracts/Item</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1) Computer for coordinator (lease)	\$38.416/mo x 12 mos.	\$461 yr. lease
3) Internet Service Provider	\$100/mo x 12 mos.	1,200 (match)

TOTAL: \$3,611

H. Other Costs-list items (e.g., rent, reproduction, telephone, janitorial or security services, and investigative or confidential funds) by major types and the basis of the computation. For example, provide the square footage and the cost per square foot for rent, and provide a monthly rental cost and how many months to rent.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Computation</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1) Office Space Rental (Joint Task Force)	\$1.5/sq. ft x 400 sq ft - \$600 mo. X 12	\$7,200 (match)
2) Space at Safe Haven for youth and Adult activities, classes,	\$2 sq. ft. x 921.95 = \$1843.916 x 12 = \$22,127	\$22,127 (match)

3) Cellular monthly service for Weed & Seed Coordinator

\$35/mo x 12 mos. - \$420

\$420

TOTAL: \$29,327**I. Weeding/Seeding Budget Summary (Federal Request Only)**

<u>Budget Category A.</u>	SEED	WEED
	CCDO Core	Law Enforcement
Personnel	44,990	33,480
B. Fringe	24,024	2,561
C. Travel	3,836	0
D. Equipment	\$0	0
E. Supplies	\$1,269	37,009
F. Construction	\$0	\$0
G. Consultants/Contracts	\$ 461	1,950
H. Other TOTAL DIRECT COSTS:	\$ 420 \$75,000	\$ 0 \$75,000

Budget Summary - When you have completed the budget worksheet, transfer the totals for each category to the spaces below. Compute the total direct costs and the total project costs. Indicate the amount of Federal requested and the amount of non-Federal funds that will support the project.

<u>Budget Category</u>	<u>Federal Request</u>	<u>Non-Federal Match</u>	<u>Total Budget</u>
A. Personnel	\$78,470	\$12,600	\$91,070
B. Fringe	\$26,585	\$ 3,122	\$ 29,707
C. Travel	\$ 3,836	\$	\$ 3,836
D. Equipment	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 0
E. Supplies	\$ 38,278	\$3,751	\$ 42,029
F. Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0
G. Consultants/Contracts	\$ 2,411	\$1,200	\$ 3,611
H. Other	\$ 420	\$29,327	\$ 29,747
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS:	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$ 200,000
I. Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS:	\$150,000	\$50,000	\$ 200,000
Federal Request	\$150,000		
Non-Federal (Match)	\$50,000		

Budget Narrative

The purpose of the Budget Narrative is to present clear justification for all expenses outlined in the Budget Detail Worksheet. Thorough justifications ensure timely processing of grant applications. Narratives should address each of the major cost categories (personnel, fringe benefits, travel, equipment, supplies, and consultants). Applicant should provide brief descriptions of the duties of all positions, justify all equipment purchases, and explain how contracts will help achieve goals and objectives of the Officially Recognized strategy.

Personnel (\$91,070)

- 1) A request of \$44,990 will cover personnel costs for the full-time Weed and Seed Coordinator, Yanique Morson-Matra.
- 2) A request of \$33,480 will cover the cost for hiring back retired officers and pay overtime for Officers involved in a Joint Law Enforcement Operation within the designated area. This will be a combined effort to saturate the area with joint agencies.
- 3) A match amount of \$12,600 will cover the personnel cost for a Code Enforcement Officer.

Fringe (\$28,739)

- 1) A request of \$23,056 will cover the cost of FICA, retirement, life, and health insurance benefits for the Weed and Seed Coordinator, Yanique Morson-Matra. Winnebago County will provide \$968 in matching funds to pay for her unemployment and workers compensation. Please note, for the State of Illinois, unemployment compensation is computed on the first \$10,000 of income only. The breakdown of the rates is included in the Budget Detail Worksheet.
- 2) A request of \$2,561 will cover the employer cost for OT of police officers
- 3) A match amount of \$2,154 will cover the fringe benefits for the Code Enforcement Officer..

Travel (\$3,836)

A request of \$1,988 to cover the costs to travel to Weed and Seed conferences and meetings. We estimated the cost of CCDO-sponsored conference travel to be approximately \$994 per trip for the Coordinator. For one regional/statewide meeting, we estimate 2 people traveling. We realize that prior to any travel, the site needs pre-approval by CCDO. Travelers will be Weed & Seed Coordinator or a representative and a law enforcement officer. A request of \$455 is made to cover the cost of the W&S Coordinator's local travel to attend meetings and conduct coordinating activities.

Equipment (\$0)

Supplies (42,029)

- 1) A request of \$89 and a match of \$1,995 will cover supply costs for the Coordinator in the Weed and Seed office and printing flyers.
- 2) A match of \$600 will cover mailings of newsletters and correspondence.
- 3) A request of \$600 will cover the cost of newsletters covering activities concerning law enforcement and resources.
- 4) A request of \$4,825 will cover the Police Youth Academy. The Academy is a week

long program for at-risk youth and at-risk tcens. The youth are placed with officers in a fun, educational and day-camp setting. Camp runs from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. during the summer months. Dinner and snacks are provided as part of the program. Parties involved include the Winnebago County Sheriff's office, County Coroner, Rockford Fire Department, Rosecrance Substance Abuse Treatment Center, Neighborhood Associations, Rockford Park District, and the Rockford Police Department.

- 5) A request of \$25,370 will pay part of the cost of the Crime View Community software. This software provides summary data over the internet and enables community to view crime. The total cost is \$51,404. We split the cost between the Kishwaukee Weed & Seed grant and the Ellis Heights Weed & Seed grants.
- 6) A request of \$1,250 is made to purchase Crime Free Multi Housing Training. The Rockford Police Department will train landlords and the community regarding crime awareness.
- 7) A request of \$1,300 is made to purchase a 3X Magnification Generation II for use of Narcotic investigations to assist with night time surveillance. The total cost is \$2,600 and we split it between the Kishwaukee Weed & Seed grant and the Ellis Heights Weed & Seed grants.
- 8) A request of \$5,000 will cover the cost of bicycles for community policing.
- 9) A match of \$420 will be provided to cover the cost of food for the Youth Advisory Council meetings.
- 10) A request of \$580 will cover the cost of public relations publications including flyers to inform the community of services.

Contracts/Consultant (\$3,611)

- 1) Karen Lytwyn, Health Systems Research, will conduct evaluation of first year's activities. Costs are estimated at \$390/day for 5 days. Ms. Lytwyn will design and conduct surveys and interviews to determine changes in residents' perception of crime, increased law enforcement visibility, etc. A request of \$1,950 is made to cover evaluation services.
- 2) A request of \$461 will cover a year's computer lease for the Weed and Seed Coordinator to conduct Weed and Seed business via e-mail, Internet, etc., to help prepare required reports to the Office of Justice Programs, and to prepare newsletters for residents in the designated area. It is the policy of the Winnebago County Health Department to lease all of our computers so we can upgrade software, etc. to continue to meet the needs of all programs.
- 3) A match of \$1,200 will pay for the Internet for the Crime Analyst and Joint Task Force to run an individual secure server and the cost of the Internet for the Weed & Seed Coordinator.

Other (\$29,327)

- 1) A match of \$7,200 will be provided for office space needed for the Joint Law Enforcement Task Force. The nature of an undercover task force causes the need for separate meeting space to ensure the integrity of the operation is not compromised (\$600 per month for 12 months)

2) A match of \$22,128 will cover the cost of space at the Safe Havens for programming at Lewis Lemon and the Salvation Army.

3) A request of \$420 will cover one year's cost of base monthly service for a cellular phone for the coordinator.

ELLIS HEIGHTS WEED AND SEED SITE SUMMARY

1. SITE NAME, CITY, COUNTY, AND STATE:

Site/Neighborhood Name: Ellis Heights Weed and Seed
 City: Rockford
 State: IL

2. BACKGROUND:

WHEN THE SITE WAS INITIATED AND RECEIVED OFFICIAL RECOGNITION:

The site was initiated in 2004 and received Official Recognition in May 2006.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DESIGNATED (TARGET) AREA

The Ellis Heights Weed and Seed area is located in Rockford, Illinois in Winnebago County. It is not a rural area or federally recognized American Indian/Alaskan Native Tribal Area. The area has not been expanded since the initial recognition.

Approximate size of site: 5.6 square miles **Population:** 7,234.

Specific boundaries of the designated focus area:

West Boundary: Johnson Avenue
 East Boundary: Kilburn Street
 South Boundary: Cunningham Road
 North Boundary: School Street.

Census tract #s included in the site:

Complete CTs: 25 and 26

Police District: Rockford Police Department

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Led by a 38- member Steering Committee. The Steering Committee members provide a governing structure for Ellis Heights Weed and Seed (EHWS). The Steering Committee performs the following duties: day-to-day decision making on administrative responsibilities, fund-raising, budgeting and management of the weed and seed initiative, implementation, marketing, support, maintaining and preserving the Weed and Seed strategy.

Steering Committee/Subcommittee Structure: The Steering Committee consists of residents and stakeholders in the community, church, school, business, and agency

representatives and not-for profit organizations that provide services in the community. The Steering Committee's role is to develop the work plan and strategy, oversee the implementation of the plan and authorize program expenditures. The Fiscal Agent is the Winnebago County Health Department.

3. OVERALL STRATEGY GOALS FOR EACH COMPONENT

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Goal 1: Reduce violent crime and drug activity by 50%

Goal 2: Reduce gang activity in the target area by 50%

COMMUNITY POLICING

Goal 1: Reduce residents' fear of crime.

Goal 2: Improve communication and cooperation between the police, the youth, and residents of the area.

PREVENTION/INTERVENTION/TREATMENT

Goal 1: Provide positive opportunities for youth as an alternative to drug use, gang involvement and violent behavior.

Goal 2: To have at least three Safe Havens for youth and adults in the target area that provides services that have been indicated by needs assessment.

Goal 3: Residents provided with services that increase their self-sufficiency.

Safe Havens:

Lewis Lemon School: 1993 Mulberry Street, Rockford. Programs offered include Computer Technology classes, access to technology, YMCA and Rockford Park District after school, out-of-school hours (e.g. school holidays, teacher institute days, summer) program – providing childcare, homework assistance, recreation, sports, arts, and parent involvement activities. Hours: 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Salvation Army: 210 Kilburn Street, Rockford. Programs offered included: Computer literacy and tutoring. Hours: 5:30-9:00 p.m.

NEIGHBORHOOD RESTORATION

Goal 1: Improve the appearance, quality and availability of housing within the target area.

Goal 2: Increase the quality of housing by enforcing city and county codes and ordinances.

Goal 3: Residents will have improved opportunities for employment.

4. SPECIAL INITIATIVES AND OR OTHER FEDERALLY FUNDED PROGRAM

Federally-Funded Programs

- The USAO Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) program will be an integral part of the Weed and Seed effort. Through multi jurisdictional cooperation among local, state, and federal law enforcement, the PSN strategy will greatly assist moving violent felons who possess firearms off the street.
- Winnebago County Health Department (WCHD) was awarded a \$1.2 million dollars HUD Lead Safe grant in January 2007 to make 100 housing units lead safe for children. The Ellis Heights Weed & Seed area is one of the designated areas for lead safe housing.

State Partnerships/Collaboration:

- WCHD is funded through Illinois Department of Public Health to offer programs to increase African-Americans' and other low-income people's access to health care.
- WCHD School-Linked Clinic, which provides medical, dental, and mental health services to children who attend two of the schools in the target area and their siblings up to age 18 regardless of ability to pay. Funded by IL Department of Human Services.

Local Partnerships/Collaboration:

- The City of Rockford is providing code enforcement and weatherization services to houses in the target area through its Community Development Block Grant.
- Workforce Investment Act board working to establish satellite office for employment and training.
- Project Jumpstart (a collaboration of Rock Valley College, Crusader Clinic, La Voz Latina, Fatherhood Family Initiative, Rockford Housing Authority, Rockford Reach-out Jail Ministry, the Literacy council and the Workforce Connection) will identify and serve unemployed and educationally disadvantaged adults with pre-employment and literacy training needs.

Private Partnerships/Collaboration:

- Lewis Lemon School will provide programming space for Weed and Seed activities
- Salvation Army will provide afterschool services to children

5. EVALUATIONS COMPLETED OR UNDERWAY/EVALUATION PLANS

Karen Lytwyn of Health Systems Research (HSR), a division of the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Rockford, conducted a resident survey of the Ellis Heights Weed and Seed in August 2007. The survey was similar to the resident survey conducted in January of 2006. Residents were asked to complete the questionnaire and return them to HSR in a self-addressed envelope. A total of 800 surveys were mailed out and 97 were returned. The following is a summary of the survey:

- How satisfied are you with your neighborhood? somewhat satisfied (45.4%), very satisfied (16.5%). 1 in 10 is very dissatisfied. These results are somewhat of an improvement from the 2006 study where 16.8% of residents were very dissatisfied.
- Have you heard of Weed and Seed before being given the survey? All but five people (94.8%) responded they knew about the initiative compared to 59.8% in 2006.
- Of the 92 residents who had heard of Weed and Seed, 63% said they feel safer in their neighborhood since the Weed and Seed initiative began.
- Respondents were questioned about their perceived safety being out alone in their neighborhood, both during the day and at night. The majority of individuals feel safe walking in their neighborhood during the day. Over three-fourths (78.8%) feel either somewhat or very safe during the day, rising from 69% in 2006. At night, 46.4% reported feeling very or somewhat safe. In 2006, 41.9% of the participants felt very unsafe out alone at night, and just 27.1% felt very or somewhat safe.
- When asked if they have noticed a change in the amount of crime in the neighborhood during the past year, 40.2% answered that less crime currently exists. One in nine (11.3%) respondents perceives more crime in the area, while 44.4% believe the level of crime is the same.
- 45% of survey participants believe the police are doing a better job of making the neighborhood safe. Just 4% think the police are doing a worse job.
- About one in four individuals has seen a police officer walking around in the neighborhood. About one in four individuals has seen an officer chatting with residents or has noticed a police officer patrolling in alleys and yards.

The Weed and Seed Coordinator, and the Steering Committee have collected data since the inception of the Weed and Seed strategy. This data is being delivered to Ms. Lytwyn. We anticipate having our second report by December 31, 2008.