

ECSAAG Data Sub-committee
Meeting Notes for March 2, 2006
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Eaton County Information Systems Office

Present: Jeanne Wright, Ronda Rucker, Polly Brainerd, Robert Sobie, Jeff Parshall, Anne Barna, Sara Lurie

The data sub-committee met with Bob Sobie and Jeff Parshall of Eaton County Information Systems to see if it was possible for Information Systems to assist the coalition in getting the local data we requested. Bob and Jeff had several questions and issues for the sub-committee to address:

- What specific information did we need for each set of data (i.e. address, zip code, charge code, age)
- What is the benefit to collecting arrest data rather than data from Prosecutor or Court?
 - The arrest data will give us one picture of substance abuse offenses. The data from district court would give us the charges. Not all those arrested will receive charges.
 - The arrest data is easier for Information Systems to get because Information Systems currently has access to it.
 - The Prosecutor and Courts are on the State Court Administrative Systems. Information Systems does not have access to that data.
- As much as Information Systems would like to assist us, the reality is they recently had to lay off a programmer due to county budget deficits. We are asking them for assistance on a project for which they don't receive funding.
- The coalition will need to prioritize the data we are requesting so that if we can't get all of the data we want, Information Systems can at least provide us with the data most important to us.
- We will need to get MIP data from district court for youth 17-21. Data for youth 16 and under is available through Juvenile Court.
- Information Systems will automate the data collection process so that we can update it annually.
- Information Systems expects that the county will lose "control" of the data within the next few years as more data systems will be supported by private vendors. It is likely to be stored in a format Information Systems will not be familiar with and they won't have access to it. It is likely the data would only be available to our coalition (or anyone for that matter) for a fee.
- Bob suggested that while we have the endorsement from the Board of Commissioners for our efforts to collect data, we should also get letters from Sheriff Raines, Prosecutor Sauter, Judge Eveland and the Court Administrators authorizing Information Systems to provide us with the data requested.

Bob Sobie agreed to let Eric Daley help with Meth GIS Map update and with the alcohol mapping project. Bob shared that Information Systems will be showing the Meth map to an upcoming meeting of the Commissioner's Finance Committee meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m. Next meeting to be scheduled.