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Chicago Part of Nationwide TASC Evaluation

by M. Douglas Anglin, Ph.D.
Executive Director
UCLA Drug Abuse Research Center

A new and important study of the TASC model is underway. Funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, this three-year study will describe the effects of TASC participation on offender drug use, crime, AIDS risk behaviors, and other outcomes. The study will also develop manuals that describe successful program policies and practices.

Chicago TASC is one of five participating programs. The others are in Birmingham, Alabama; Canton, Ohio; Orlando, Florida; and Portland, Oregon. These programs were asked to join the study because they appear to be outstanding examples of the TASC model and serve large and varied groups of clients.

The nationwide TASC study is a response to changing priorities in local criminal/juvenile justice systems. Programs originally designed to serve the needs of heroin addicts, for example, have had to adjust in order to serve the recent influx of crack users. Programs must now also confront the AIDS epidemic, as greater numbers of clients are HIV-positive and require a wide range of medical and mental health services. All

Continued on page 5

Focus on: Research

From state and federal prisons to county jails, many entities that are experiencing overcrowding are beginning to explore the development and/or expansion of alternative sentencing options, particularly for drug-abusing offenders. This issue of TASC Reports will introduce you to a few of the major research projects and reports that have recently been released or are currently in process which we feel will drive policy and program development in the future.

Melody M. Heaps
Melody M. Heaps, President

GAO Report Lauds TASC Programs but Identifies Funding, Implementation Problems

A recent report from the federal General Accounting Office (GAO) found that TASC programs are effective in reducing drug-related crime, but inconsistent funding and limited resources have hampered the expansion and potential impact of TASC. The report calls for leadership from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) in establishing and funding TASC and TASC-like programs throughout the nation.

Key points in the report include:

- The GAO found that TASC contains specific features found to contribute to effective drug treatment.
- Criminal justice officials reported to the GAO that TASC enhanced their ability to assess the needs of drug-using offenders who could benefit from treatment, match offenders with appropriate

treatment, and provide increased supervision of offenders.

- The GAO stated that "TASC is a cross-cutting program embracing elements of the criminal justice and drug treatment systems and involving federal, state and local interaction."

- It was found that funding problems, especially due to the

Continued on page 6

Inside -

- Substance Abuse Remains Prevalent Among Offenders Page 2
- Governor's Task Force on Crime and Corrections Page 6
- Substance Abuse Intervention Project Update Page 7
- TASC Leadership Award Reception on June 29 Page 7
- What is a "TASC Success"? Page 8

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February 1993

DRUG CONTROL

Treatment Alternatives Program for Drug Offenders Needs Stronger Emphasis



NATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF TASC PROGRAMS

file - "Drug Courts"
under Crime Bill



May 21, 1993

Ms. Clarissa Cerda
Assistant Counsel to the President
Office of the Counsel
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Cerda:

I write to you at the suggestion of Ms. Melody Heaps. As you know, Ms. Heaps is the President of TASC, Inc. (Illinois); she is also the Vice-President for Criminal Justice at the National Consortium of TASC Programs (NCTP).

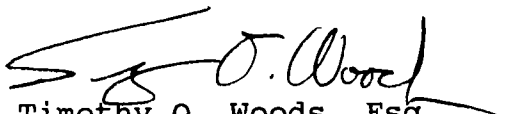
Ms. Heaps requested that we provide you with a copy of the recently released U.S. General Accounting Office study on TASC (Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime) programming: "Drug Control: Treatment Alternatives Program for Drug Offenders Needs Stronger Emphasis."

We would very much like to share with you information on future developments of importance in national TASC programming, but we are not unmindful of the many other issues which require your attention. Accordingly, if our suggestions and concerns on the role of TASC in Administration policy should be addressed to someone other than yourself, we would be most appreciative if your office could convey this information to us.

We do hope, however, that you will have the opportunity to read this brief GAO Report, which speaks in very promising terms about TASC's "unrealized" potential for positively impacting the crime and drugs problem besetting the nation.

Thank you for your time and consideration; and, should you have questions about TASC or the National Consortium of TASC Programs, we would welcome the opportunity to address them with you.

Sincerely yours,


Timothy O. Woods, Esq.
Acting Executive Director

cc: Matthew Cassidy, NCTP President
Jane Kennedy, NCTP President-Elect
Melody Heaps, NCTP Vice-President



National Assn. of Drug Court Professionals

File - Crime B. N.
(Drug Court)

701 N. Fairfax Street • Alexandria, VA 22314

(703) 706-0563 • (703) 706-0565 FAX

June 16, 1995

NADCP LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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Timothy Murray
Director, Metro Dade Office
of Substance Abuse Control
Miami, Fla.

House Appropriations Committee to Vote on 1996 Drug Court Funding This Month

The good news is that the Clinton Administration has requested \$150 million in Drug Court funding for 1996. Over 130 jurisdictions have applied for 1995 drug court funding through the office of Justice Programs, proving there is extraordinary nationwide interest in the establishment of Drug Courts.

The bad news is the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and Judiciary, which will vote on 1996 Drug Court funding this month, previously recommended the virtual elimination of all Drug Court funds for 1995.

It is critical that we educate the members of this subcommittee and the full House Appropriations Committee of the importance of federal funding for Drug Courts.

Explain to legislators that Drug Courts are made up of the courts, law enforcement, treatment, education, corrections, and other system partners. A block grant approach that forces Drug Court systems to compete with their component agencies for funding will destroy the coordination that makes them effective while denying them any significant funding.

PLEASE CALL/WRITE ANY HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS MEMBERS FROM YOUR STATE (AS WELL AS YOUR CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVES) AND URGE THEM TO SUPPORT DRUG COURT FUNDING FOR 1996.

If you do not know the phone/fax number for your Senator or Representative, call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and they will connect you.

[OVER]

**Affiliated with
Community Anti-Drug
Coalitions of America**

The members of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Judiciary are:

Republicans: Chairman - Harold Rogers (KY), Jim Kolbe (AZ), Charles H. Taylor (NC), Ralph Regula (OH), Michael P. Forbes (NY)

Democrats: Chairman - Allan Mollohan (WV), David Skaggs (CO), Julian Dixon (CA)

The members of the Full House Appropriations Committee are:

Republicans: Chairman - Robert Livingston (LA), Joseph McDade (PA), John Myers (IN), CW Bill Young (FL), Ralph Regula (OH), John Lewis (GA), John Porter (IL), Harold Rogers (KY), Joe Skeen (NM), Frank Wolf (VA), Thomas DeLay (TX), Jim Kolbe (AZ), Barbara Vucanovich (NV), Jim Lightfoot (IA), Ronald Packard (CA), Sonny Callahan (AL), James Walsh (NY), Charles Taylor (NC), David Hobson (OH), Ernest Istook (OK), Henry Bonilla (TX), Joseph Knollenberg (MI), Dan Miller (FL), Jay Dickey (AR), Jack Kingston (GA), Frank Riggs (CA), Rodney Frelinghuysen (NJ), Roger Wicker (MS), Michael Forbes (NY), George Nethercutt (WA), Jim Bunn (OR), Mark Neumann (WI)

Democrats: David Obey (WI), Sidney Yates (IL), Louis Stokes (OH), Tom Bevill (AL), John Murtha (PA), Charles Wilson (TX), Norman Dicks (WA), Martin Sabo (MN), Julian Dixon (CA), Vic Fazio (CA), Bill Hefner (NC), Steny Hoyer (MD), Richard Durbin (IL), Ronald Coleman (TX), Alan Mollohan (WV), Jim Chapman (TX), Marcy Kaptur (OH), David Skaggs (CO), Nancy Pelosi (CA), Peter Visclosky (IN), Tom Foglietta (PA), Esteban Torres (CA), Nita Lowey (NY), Ray Thornton (AR)

Please send a copy of any letter of support for Drug Court funding to:

Theresa McAuliffe

Staff Assistant

**House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, State, & Judiciary**

(202) 225-1808 fax

NADCP LEGISLATIVE UPDATES NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH E-MAIL

You can now send us information on your legislative activities including suggestions, comments, strategies and progress reports through e-mail. Also, if you send us your e-mail address we will e-mail legislative alerts, updates and important drug court news items as they happen:

NADCP @ aol.com



NADCP GOES ONLINE IN JULY

Starting in July, NADCP's Education and Training Institute in collaboration with *JOIN TOGETHER ONLINE will provide Drug Court Informational services.

Timely legislative updates, publications, documents, NADCP membership news and other Drug Court related Information will be available through the Internet at:

<http://www.jointogether.org/jointogether.html>
(see National Forum/NADCP)

or via

America Online:

Internet Connection/gopher/health/JoinTogether/
National Forum/NADCP

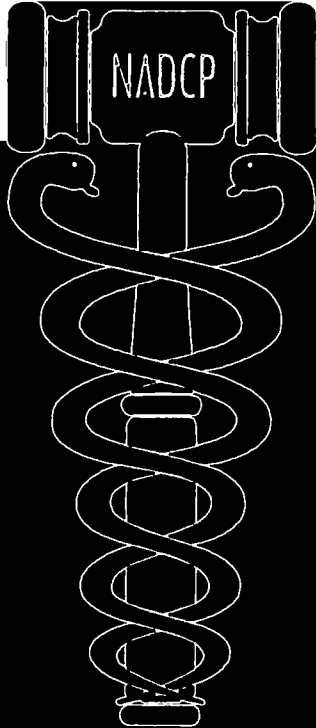
You may also contact NADCP directly by e-mail at:

NADCP @ aol.com

For information on how to get online, contact:

Join Together at (617) 437-1500

**Join Together Online is a project of Join Together, a national resource center for communities and organizations fighting substance abuse, funded by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to the Boston University School of Public Health.*



The NADCP logo combines the gavel of the Judicial System with the medical snake or "Caduceus" of the healing professional; symbolizing the merging of rehabilitation and criminal justice communities into a single organization capable of reflecting the common interests and goals of each partner and bringing together the special abilities and expertise of each.

Join Today!

Name _____

Position _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

FAX _____

Category of Membership

_____ *Individual (annual dues \$50)*

_____ *Organization (annual dues \$200)*

Please mail a check with this form to:

NADCP
701 N. Fairfax Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

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NADCP NEWS

June, 1995 Volume 1, No. 2

National Association
Drug Court Professionals



Published by the National Association
of Drug Court Professionals

HIGHLIGHTS

- Drug Czar Lee Brown addresses 1st annual conference
- NADCP plans Education & Training Institute
- NADCP drafts "Drug Court Critical Elements"
- LA receives \$420,000
- An interview with Tim Murray, Drug Court Office acting director

President's PERSPECTIVE

FROM JEFFREY TAUBER

NADCP: The First Report Card



A year ago, Drug Court leaders from around the country met in Alexandria, Va., the national headquarters of Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA). We hoped to form an organization that could assist jurisdictions that were considering implementing Drug Courts. We had no resources, no funds, no facilities — just the idea that the practitioners who had created Drug Courts should continue to provide the primary leadership and assistance to the field.

During our first year, NADCP

See President, page 8

1995 Drug Court Funding Saved as President Vetoes Rescission Bill

FUNDING for Drug Courts in 1995 received a big boost when President Clinton vetoed the 1995 Rescission Bill last week, restoring '95 Drug Court funding to its full appropriation of \$29 million.

Over the past three months, full rescission of that \$29 million appropriation appeared imminent on more than one occasion — first, when the House Appropriations Committee rescinded all but \$1.5 million from the 1995 appropriations and then when the Senate Appropriations Committee recommended a similar rescission.

It was only after serious efforts by Drug Court practitioners from around the country to educate their senators as to the importance of categorical funding that the full Senate restored an additional \$10 million by voice vote on the Senate floor. Finally, a Conference Committee split the difference between the two houses' recommendations, restoring \$5 million for a total \$7.5 million appropriation for 1995. With the President's veto, that restoration of Drug Court funds, while significant, may now be moot.

At this time, it is unclear whether a compromise might resurrect the "Rescission Bill." However, what is clear is that the educational efforts of NADCP and others have had a significant effect on the debate as the fight for 1996 appropriations, and the larger struggle to save the full six year, \$1 billion authorization under the '94 Crime Act, heats up (See Legislative Update, enclosed). ■

Crime Bill Modification Not Likely This Year: '94 Drug Court Authorization Safe For Time

WHAT started out as a rush to modify the 1994 Omnibus Crime Bill has slowed to a crawl as interest in anti-terrorist measures have taken center stage for the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Over the first four months of the year, the House Judiciary Committee moved quickly to consolidate community policing, Drug Courts, and Drug Prevention monies into a single \$10 billion dollar block grant available to localities.

In response, Judges Richard Gebelein of Wilmington, Del.; Harl Haas of Portland, Ore.; Braxton Kittrell of Mobile, Ala.; Jack Lehman of Las Vegas; Tomar

See Crime Bill, page 3