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SEWARD COUNTY
Three-Year Juvenile Services Plan
January 2009-December 2011

NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON
LAW ENFORCEMENT AND
CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Contact Information

Person responsible for completing the plan and team coordinator:

Lisa Bennett
216 South 9th St.
Seward, NE 68434
(402) 643-2981
sewardcountybridges @ yahoo.com

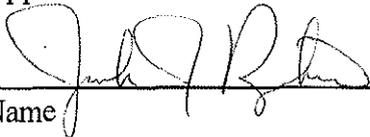
County team chair:

Tammy Stuhr
216 South 9th St.
Seward, NE 68434
(402) 643-2981
tstuhr2 @unl.edu

County board chair:

Joe Ruzicka
Seward County Courthouse
Seward, NE 68434
643-6262

Approved:


Name

12/23/2008
Date

II. Community team

- A. The team name is Seward County Juvenile Services Plan Committee. Seward County Bridges implemented a Government Task Force in 2001 to begin the development of the Pretrial Diversion Program in Seward County. Once the diversion program was developed, the team began forming a countywide juvenile services plan to improve the quality of life for youth and families in Seward County. Included in this plan was mentoring and after school programs; increased use of the Seward Youth Center; connection of services and agencies within the county; improved statistical information from law enforcement agencies; and better communication between schools, agencies, the county attorney and law enforcement.

In 2004, requirements from the Nebraska Crime Commission led to the formation of a new committee to begin crafting a new plan according to the commission's template. The group held monthly meetings to develop and implement the plan. In 2006, the committee submitted its formal plan to the commission.

Also in 2006, the committee began meeting three times a year to analyze how county programs are progressing toward the stated strategies. In 2008, the committee participated in the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Analysis Tool, and held three planning sessions in anticipation of the 2009-2011 plan rewrite. The committee held its final session in November 2008. Bennett and Stuhr are co-authoring the new plan based on input received from committee members and other statistical data. The committee will meet twice yearly in 2009 and 2010, then based on commission requirements begin the rewrite for 2012.

Current team structure is a chairperson (Stuhr), coordinator (Bennett), and a four-person leadership team (Stuhr, Bennett, Denise Janssen and Derek Effle). The leadership team will bring together agencies and individuals needed to carry out specific strategies.

B. Team members

Name, phone and e-mail	Agency and address
Gail Brand 643-2981 gbrand@unl.edu	UN-L Extension in Seward County Educator 216 South 9 th Seward, NE 68434
Denise Janssen 643-3055 sewardcountydiversion@windstream.net	Seward County Pretrial Diversion Director Seward County Courthouse Seward, NE 68434
Lisa Bennett 643-2608 sewardcountybridges@yahoo.com	Seward County Bridges Manager 216 South 9 th Seward, NE 68434
Laura Vandenberg 643-3343 lvandenberg@bvbh.net	Blue Valley Behavioral Health Counselor 459 S. Sixth Seward, NE 68434
Jaime Hopp 643-2795 jaimehopp@hotmail.com	Seward County Attorney's Deputy Seward County Courthouse Seward, NE 68434
Gerald Rouse 643-3214 grouse@neb.rr.com	Seward County Court Judge Seward County Courthouse Seward, NE 68434
Tina Matulka 643-4578 matulkatina@hotmail.com	Seward County Sheriff Deputy 261 South 8 th Seward, NE 68434
Alan Baldwin 643-2579 adb416@hotmail.com	Seward Police Chief 148 South 1st Seward, NE 68434
Kevin Wingard 761-3321 kwingard@esu6.org	Milford Public School Superintendent 1200 West 1 st Street Milford, NE 68405
Chad Denker 643-2988 Chad.denker @connectseward.org	Seward High School Principal 532 Northern Heights Seward, NE 68434
Lana Rourke 525-4891 lzumbrunn@sewardcountyed.com	Seward County Economic Development PO Box 205 Seward, NE 68434
Bob Fish 534-2321 Bob.fish @centennialpublic.org	Centennial Public School Counselor 1301 Centennial Utica, NE 68456

Tammy Stuhr 643-2981 tstuhr2@unl.edu	UNL Extension and 4-H 216 South 9 th Seward, NE 68434
Shane Stutzman 643-2562	Seward County Probation Officer Seward County Courthouse Seward, NE 68434
Connie Miller 643-6614 connie.miller@dhhs.ne.gov	Health and Human Services 3477 Redwood Rd. Seward, NE 68434
Jack Carlson 643-3343 jcarlson@bvbh.net	Blue Valley Behavioral Health Counselor 459 S. 6 th Seward, NE 68434
Jonathan Jank 643-3695 sewardcountycasa @windstream.net	Seward County CASA Director Seward County Courthouse Seward, NE 68434
Mary Koci 643-6476 Huskers8 @alltel.net	Seward County Commissioner Seward County Courthouse Seward, NE 68434
Greg Barnes 643-2941 greg.barnes@connectseward.org	Seward Public Schools Superintendent 410 South St. Seward, NE 68434
Chantel Denker 643-2991 chantel@ hughesbros.com	Hughes Brothers Human Resources Director 210 N. 13 th Seward, NE 68434
Derek Effle 441-4343 deffle@region5systems.net	Region V Prevention Coordinator 1645 N Street Lincoln, NE 68508

III. Juvenile Justice System Analysis tool . Document follows.

Community Planning Decision Point Analysis

Data Points	Total Population (*2000)	Juvenile Population (**2006)
Total Population	16,496	1788
Male	8,379	920
Female	8,117	868
White	16,174	1757
Black/African American	47	20
Asian	48	7
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	8	Not Reported
American Indian	34	4
Hispanic	179	40
Juveniles Arrested		72
Juveniles Detained		1
Juveniles Prosecuted		63
Juveniles Placed in Diversion		80
Number of Juveniles Adjudicated		63
Number of Juveniles placed on Probation		37
YRTC-Kearney commitments		1
YRTC-Geneva commitments		0

Sources:

*2000 U.S. Census Data

**2006 OJJDP website and 2006 NE Crime Commission online data (Ages 10-17)

System Decision Point: Arrest/Citation: Police/Law Enforcement

Decision: *Whether an information report should be filed, or what offense, if any, with which juvenile should be cited or arrested*

Formal Determining Factors

- Sufficient factual basis to believe offense committed
- Underlying support for a particular offense

Informal Determining Factors

- Youth's prior incidences with law enforcement
- Degree to which parent pushes a case to not be filed
- Frustration of lack of parental accountability
- School do not have school resource officers

Decision: *Whether to cite or arrest juvenile for juvenile or adult offense*

Formal Determining Factors

- Seriousness of offense

Informal Determining Factors

- Age

- Age

- Typically do a juvenile citation

Decision: *Whether to take juvenile into custody or to cite and release*
(NRS § 43-248(1), (2); § 43-250(1), (2), (3))

Formal Determining Factors

- Violation of state or municipal law in the presence of law enforcement
- A felony has been committed and law enforcement has reason to believe that the juvenile committed such offense
- Law enforcement believes the juvenile may be mentally ill
- Reasonable grounds to believe the juvenile as run from his parent (s), guardian, custodian

Informal Determining Factors

- Immediate risk to juvenile
- Immediate/short term risk to public
- Seriousness of perceived offense
- Extent to which parent or other responsible adult available to take responsibility for juvenile
- Pre-adjudication detention have limited options of placement

System Decision Point: Initial Detention: State of Nebraska Probation

Decision: *Whether juvenile should be detained or released*

Formal Determining Factors

- Risk assessment outcome
- Accessibility of placement options: parent's/guardians, emergency shelter, staff secure facility, secure detention facility

Informal Determining Factors

- Using assessment tool to actually determine placement of juvenile
- Interviews are being conducted over the phone and in person
- Seward County has a contract with Lancaster County, but Lancaster County is not accepting any OJS violation cases at this time

System Decision Point: Charge Juvenile: County Attorney

Decision: *Whether to prosecute juvenile*

Formal Determining Factors

- Likelihood of successful prosecution
- Factors under NRS § 43-276

Informal Determining Factors

- Has a formal diversion program- acceptance dependent on previous criminal history, age, crime
- County is seeing younger offenders committing more crimes with lack of resources for this age

Decision: *Whether youth should be prosecuted as juvenile or adult*

Formal Determining Factors

- Seriousness of offense

Informal Determining Factors

- County Attorney files most cases in juvenile court

Decision: *Offense for which juvenile should be charged*

Formal Determining Factors

- As alleged evidence provides for such statutory charges

Informal Determining Factors

- Law enforcement informs juveniles that County Attorney holds the final discretion on what charges will be filed

System Decision Point: Pre-adjudication detention: Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether juvenile detained at the time of citation/arrest should continue in detention or out-of-home placement pending adjudication*

Formal Determining Factors

- Whether there is an "immediate and urgent necessity for the protection of such juvenile"
- Whether there is an "immediate and urgent necessity for the protection of . . .the person or property of another"
- Whether the juvenile is likely to flee the jurisdiction of the court

Informal Determining Factors

- Unique to each case, but judge is open to suggestions of County Attorney as to proper placement
- Options for placement are limited to the detention centers in Lincoln or Madison and with Lincoln not taking OJS violation cases anymore, more resources for community based placements are needed

System Decision Point: Probable Cause Hearing: Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether State can show that probable cause exists that juvenile is within the jurisdiction of the court*

Formal Determining Factors

- After a detention or continued placement order in put into place, is there enough probable cause to continue holding the juvenile past the initial 48 hours

Informal Determining Factors

- No factors discussed

System Decision Point: Competency Evaluation: Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether juvenile is competent to participate in the proceedings*

Formal Determining Factors

- Juvenile is competent to participate in court proceedings

Informal Determining Factors

- Evaluations have been completed especially with younger offenders or specific cases like sexual assaults

Decision: *Whether juvenile is "responsible" for his/her acts*

Formal Determining Factors

- "Complete evaluation of the juvenile including any authorized area of inquiry requested by the court."
- Opinion of physician, surgeon, psychiatrist, community mental health program, psychologist

Informal Determining Factors

- No factors reported

System Decision Point: Adjudication: Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether the juvenile is, beyond a reasonable doubt, "a person described by § 43-247"*

Formal Determining Factors

- Legal sufficiency of evidence presented during adjudication hearing
- Whether juvenile admits the allegations of the petition (or, "pleads to the charges")
- Residency
- Age

Informal Determining Factors

- Most cases have a determined plea at the time of adjudication

Decision: *Whether to order probation to conduct a pre-disposition investigation (statutory authority unclear--see also: § 29-2261 (2))*

Formal Determining Factors

- Statute is based off adult PSI statute for offenders

Informal Determining Factors

- PDI's are usually conducted on first time offenders with the YLS/CMI as an additional assessment

Decision: *Whether to order OJS evaluation*

Formal Determining Factors

- NRS § 29-2204 (3): "Prior to making a disposition which commits the juvenile to the Office of Juvenile Services, the court shall order the juvenile to be evaluated by the office if the juvenile has not had an evaluation within the past twelve months.

Informal Determining Factors

- An OJS evaluation is ordered at the time of a more serious offense or multiple times through the system

Decision: *Whether to order a PDI and an OJS Evaluation*

Formal Determining Factors

- If the juvenile is adjudicated under any sub-section of 43-247, the court shall allow a reasonable amount to prepare a proper disposition

Informal Determining Factors

- Seriousness of offense
- If County Attorney knows about family will recommend proper disposition
- Long history with the court will prompt the respective assessment

System Decision Point: Disposition: Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether to place juvenile on probation*

Formal Determining Factors

- When adjudicated under 43-247, the court can continue disposition and place the juvenile on probation in order to complete community service hours, pay restitution, or any other form of rehabilitation

Informal Determining Factors

- If placed on probation, order usually contains community service hours, curfew, education class (ex. Decision making, alcohol education), counseling ect.

Decision: *Whether to commit juvenile to the Office of Juvenile Services*

Formal Determining Factors

- Whether juvenile is at least twelve years of age

Informal Determining Factors

- If juvenile is need of services that parent or community cannot provide will place with OJS

Decision: *Whether to place juvenile on probation and commit juvenile to HHS or OJS*

Formal Determining Factors

- No apparent authority for delinquent in the legal custody of parents/guardian

Informal Determining Factors

- Judge does not do any dual supervision cases

System Decision Point: Administrative Sanctions: Probation

Decision: *Whether to impose administrative sanctions on a probationer*

Formal Determining Factors

- Probation officers has reasonable cause to believe that probationer has committed or is about to commit a substance abuse violation or a non criminal violation
- Substance abuse violation refers to a positive test for drug or alcohol use, failure to report for such a test or failure to comply with substance abuse evaluations or treatment

Informal Determining Factors

- Probation is using for juvenile offenders

System Decision Point: Motion To Revoke Probation: County Attorney

Decision: *Whether to file a motion to revoke probation*

Formal Determining Factors

- If the juvenile is on probation or under the supervision of the court and there is an allegation that the juvenile may have violated the court order, an order shall be served to all persons involved in allegations

Informal Determining Factors

- if the violation involves a new case, then there is a new petition filed on the new case in addition to the motion to revoke

System Decision Point: Modification/Revocation of Probation: Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether to modify or revoke probation*

Formal Determining Factors

- If the juvenile is found to have violated the terms and/or conditions of the court order then the court may modify, extend or enter any new order which may be different from the original order

Informal Determining Factors

- Judge will modify or revoke as appropriate to the case

System Decision Point: Setting Aside Adjudication: Juvenile Court Judge

Decision: *Whether juvenile has satisfactorily completed his or her probation and supervision or the treatment program of his or her commitment*

Formal Determining Factors

- Juvenile's post-adjudication behavior and response to treatment and rehabilitation programs
- Whether setting aside adjudication will depreciate seriousness of juvenile's conduct or promote disrespect for the law
- Whether failure to set aside adjudication may result in disabilities disproportionate to the conduct upon which the adjudication was based

Informal Determining Factors

- Judge sets a determinate duration of a probation order.
- Will revoke, but does not do unsuccessful termination of cases

Decision: *Whether juvenile should be discharged from custody and supervision of OJS*

Formal Determining Factors

- Presumably same as those for probation

Informal Determining Factors

- No factors reported

Summary and recommendations:

Seward County has a current plan on file with the Nebraska Crime Commission, however, when the format requirements changed three years ago, it failed to complete the system analysis tool. On April 10, 2008, members of the Seward County juvenile justice committee met to have a facilitated discussion about the system points as they pertain to the respective county.

Persons present at the meeting included members from law enforcement, county attorney, diversion, 4-H, extension, schools, community providers (Bridges, Blue Valley Mental Health, Girl Scouts), county commissioners, economic development, and health and human services.

Recommendations based on our discussion are as follows:

- 1) Seward County has a diversion program that is utilized for first time non-violent offenders. This program is obviously keeping the number of juvenile offenders who enter the system to those who should be properly handled by that intervention. Diversion should continue to be a priority for Seward County with the possibility of researching a more objective tool to assess the juveniles that are being considered for the diversion program such as the YLS/CMI which is currently already being utilized by probation and HHS/OJS.
- 2) Seward Public Schools indicated that it does not have any anti-drug or alcohol groups at its schools. It is the fear of many that there is a social acceptance of drinking by teenagers in the community. It would be recommended that the school system advocate for starting specific groups for teenagers with an anti-drug and alcohol message.
- 3) Seward County Bridges continues to be a central agency for services and advocacy for juvenile justice and prevention. This agency needs to continue to be priority agency for this community.
- 4) Parents' involvement in their child's lives especially when their child is in the justice system seems to be a continuing struggle for communities. Programs offered in Seward County are attempting to facilitate parenting classes in order to bridge the gap in juvenile services, and the inability to hold the parent accountable in the court system.
- 5) Due to limited resources regarding pre-adjudicated detention options, the county may benefit by looking into finding resources that could provide electronic monitoring for this specific population. This could reduce the cost the county is paying out in detention, travel and law enforcement's time when taking a juvenile into custody and further remaining in detention.
- 6) Alcohol-related offenses continue to be one of the top cited offenses. An additional sanction that could help with monitoring this specific related offense is SCRAM. This is an alcohol detection device which functions similar to electronic monitoring where it detects alcohol through the skin.

IV. Community socio-economics

The main economic activities in Seward County are manufacturing, retailing, medical services, education, farming, cattle, hog and sheep feeding, trucking, printing, banking and agricultural research. The City of Seward has approximately 6,800 residents, and the City of Milford approximately 2,100. Smaller towns and villages in the county are Beaver Crossing, Bee, Cordova, Garland, Goehner, Pleasant Dale, Staplehurst and Utica.

A recent county draft plan projected the county's estimated population growth at 17,198 persons in 2010; 18,243 persons in 2020; and 19,353 persons in 2030.

The Burlington Northern Santa Fe serves Seward County with 65 freight trains daily. East-west U.S. Highway 34 and north-south Nebraska Highway 15 intersect in downtown Seward. Interstate-80 is five miles south of the City of Seward and runs the full length of the county, approximately 27 miles. Interstate 29 is 80 miles east of Seward.

Seward Municipal Airport is located two miles south of Seward with hard-surfaced and lighted runways. The longest one is 3,601 feet. The airport sells fuel and provides aircraft maintenance. The facility houses about fifteen private airplanes in several hangars.

Lincoln Municipal Airport is approximately 25 miles east of Seward. Both United Airlines and Northwest Airlines have daily flights from Lincoln.

Seward has three public school systems, an alternative high school and four parochial grade schools. Located in Milford, Educational Service Unit Six provides special education, preschool, workshops and educational assistance to all county schools. Also in Milford is Southeast Community College, a technical and technology two-year institution. Seward is home to Concordia University, a private Christian liberal arts college with an enrollment of approximately 1,000.

Seward County has many out-of-school opportunities as well including: Seward and Beaver Crossing youth center; 4-H Afterschool Clubs in all three public districts; summer clubs in all three districts and at Concordia; 40 faith-based youth groups; city park and recreation programs; four public swimming pools; Boy Scouts; Girl Scouts; Key Club; Builders Club; and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Other key social, geographic and economic data follows in the United States Census Quick Facts table.

Seward County, Nebraska

People QuickFacts	Seward County	Nebraska
Population, 2006 estimate	16,835	1,768,331
Population, percent change, April 1, 2000 to July 1, 2006	2.1%	3.3%
Population, 2000	16,496	1,711,263
Persons under 5 years old, percent, 2006	5.7%	7.2%
Persons under 18 years old, percent, 2006	21.7%	25.2%
Persons 65 years old and over, percent, 2006	14.8%	13.3%
Female persons, percent, 2006	48.9%	50.4%
White persons, percent, 2006 (a)	97.8%	91.8%
Black persons, percent, 2006 (a)	0.4%	4.4%
American Indian and Alaska Native persons, percent, 2006 (a)	0.3%	1.0%
Asian persons, percent, 2006 (a)	0.7%	1.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander, percent, 2006 (a)	0.1%	0.1%
Persons reporting two or more races, percent, 2006	0.8%	1.2%
Persons of Hispanic or Latino origin, percent, 2006 (b)	1.4%	7.4%
White persons not Hispanic, percent, 2006	96.6%	84.9%
Living in same house in 1995 and 2000, pct 5 yrs old & over	55.2%	54.7%
Foreign born persons, percent, 2000	1.7%	4.4%
Language other than English spoken at home, pct age 5+, 2000	4.0%	7.9%
High school graduates, percent of persons age 25+, 2000	87.5%	86.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher, pct of persons age 25+, 2000	22.6%	23.7%
Persons with a disability, age 5+, 2000	1,775	250,534
Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16+, 2000	19.9	18.0
<hr/>		
Housing units, 2006	6,815	774,843
Homeownership rate, 2000	72.0%	67.4%
Housing units in multi-unit structures, percent, 2000	14.0%	20.0%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2000	\$88,100	\$88,000
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Households, 2000	6,013	666,184
Persons per household, 2000	2.53	2.49
Median household income, 2004	\$47,309	\$42,166
Per capita money income, 1999	\$18,379	\$19,613
Persons below poverty, percent, 2004	7.0%	10.0%
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Business QuickFacts	Seward County	Nebraska
Private nonfarm establishments, 2005	454	51,440 ¹
Private nonfarm employment, 2005	5,262	773,082 ¹
Private nonfarm employment, percent change 2000-2005	-9.5%	2.9% ¹

Nonemployer establishments, 2005	1,099	116,210
Total number of firms, 2002	1,392	145,380
Black-owned firms, percent, 2002	F	1.4%
American Indian and Alaska Native owned firms, percent, 2002	F	0.3%
Asian-owned firms, percent, 2002	F	1.0%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander owned firms, percent, 2002	F	0.0%
Hispanic-owned firms, percent, 2002	F	1.4%
Women-owned firms, percent, 2002	S	26.6%
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Manufacturers shipments, 2002 (\$1000)	109,753	30,610,970
Wholesale trade sales, 2002 (\$1000)	56,481	26,155,770
Retail sales, 2002 (\$1000)	97,044	20,249,200
Retail sales per capita, 2002	\$5,833	\$11,729
Accommodation and foodservices sales, 2002 (\$1000)	12,848	2,088,710
Building permits, 2006	76	8,230
Federal spending, 2004 (\$1000)	79,717	11,794,834 ¹
	Seward	Nebraska
Geography QuickFacts	County	
Land area, 2000 (square miles)	574.75	76,872.41
Persons per square mile, 2000	28.7	22.3
FIPS Code	159	31
Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Area	Lincoln, NE	Metro Area

1: Includes data not distributed by county.

(a) Includes persons reporting only one race.

(b) Hispanics may be of any race, so also are included in applicable race categories.

D: Suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information

F: Fewer than 100 firms

FN: Footnote on this item for this area in place of data

NA: Not available

S: Suppressed; does not meet publication standards

X: Not applicable

Z: Value greater than zero but less than half unit of measure shown

Source U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts. Data derived from Population Estimates, Census of Population and Housing, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, State and County Housing Unit Estimates, County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, Economic Census, Survey of Business Owners, Building Permits, Consolidated Federal Funds Report
Last Revised: Friday, 25-Jul-2008 15:42:48 EDT

V and VI. Identified priority areas and strategies

Statistical data supporting our priorities is from the 2007-08 Nebraska Risk and Protective Factors Survey results. Following are several tables with areas of concern noted: where youth are obtaining alcohol; where youth are consuming alcohol; adults are present when youth consume alcohol; been passenger with drinking driver; community disorganization; laws and norms favor drug use; perceived availability of drugs; poor family management; parent attitudes favor drug use; low commitment to school.

The team also uses anecdotal data obtained from educators, mental health professionals, health care professionals, law enforcement, county government, youth workers, health and human services workers and others. The team has documented the data in the records of its planning sessions. Other statistical data supporting our priorities is the results of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Analysis Tool.

Data Tables

Table 13. Sources and Places of Student Alcohol Use*

When I drank alcohol during the past year I...	Grade 6		Grade 8		Grade 10		Grade 12	
	County 2007	State 2007						
Sample size**	8	453	35	1813	73	3801	96	4472
Bought it in a store such as a liquor store, gas station, or grocery store	0.0	3.1	2.9	2.3	0.0	3.4	3.1	7.1
Bought it at a restaurant, bar or club	0.0	2.4	0.0	2.0	0.0	2.7	2.1	5.4
Bought it at a public event	0.0	2.4	2.9	3.0	2.7	3.3	3.1	6.0
Gave someone I know money to buy it for me	0.0	5.1	25.7	16.2	41.1	41.2	52.1	62.9
Gave a stranger money to buy it for me	0.0	2.2	0.0	4.3	12.3	9.5	11.5	16.9
Got it from a brother or sister	0.0	9.5	17.1	17.4	28.8	23.0	29.2	23.6
Got it from a parent or guardian	37.5	46.1	45.7	33.0	24.7	21.1	20.8	18.5
Got it from another relative	12.5	23.4	40.0	27.7	30.1	26.3	27.1	23.4
Got it from a friend	12.5	15.9	45.7	49.3	64.4	71.6	71.9	79.0
Got it from someone I did not know at a party or event	0.0	6.0	11.4	12.2	11.0	23.1	19.8	32.0
Took it from home without my parents' permission	12.5	14.1	42.9	25.8	32.9	24.3	17.7	19.3
Took it from a store or shop	0.0	1.5	5.7	2.0	2.7	3.8	1.0	4.1
Got it some other way	37.5	20.8	11.4	19.9	16.4	17.7	14.6	17.0
During the past year, I drank alcohol at...	Grade 6		Grade 8		Grade 10		Grade 12	
	County 2007	State 2007						
Sample size**	8	457	36	1830	76	3822	97	4481
At my home	50.0	56.9	63.9	55.9	60.5	51.9	50.5	53.4
At someone else's home	25.0	33.7	66.7	60.1	69.7	78.3	81.4	86.4
At a restaurant, bar, or club	0.0	5.0	2.8	4.7	3.9	5.4	4.1	11.9
At a public event such as a concert or sporting event	0.0	2.6	5.6	6.1	5.3	9.5	13.4	18.4
At an open area like a park, lake, field, or a street corner	25.0	10.7	22.2	19.3	32.9	31.8	38.1	41.4
In an empty building or a construction site	0.0	2.8	8.3	5.1	2.6	7.5	7.2	9.8
In a car	0.0	7.0	16.7	17.3	27.6	35.3	42.3	51.0
At a hotel/motel	0.0	2.6	11.1	7.6	13.2	10.7	10.3	19.0
On school property	0.0	1.1	11.1	3.1	2.6	6.0	7.2	8.4
At some other place not listed	25.0	22.1	25.0	27.4	27.6	27.4	26.8	31.7
One or more adults present at last day of alcohol use	0.0	7.0	16.7	17.3	27.6	35.3	42.3	51.0

* 2003/05 NRPFS measured alcohol sources/places data which were not comparable to 2007 data due to changes in the questionnaire.

** Sample size represents the number of youth who answered the question. (Students reporting no drinking in the past year were directed to skip the question.) In the case of smaller sample sizes, caution should be exercised before generalizing results to the entire community.

Data Tables

Table 10. Percentage of Students Reporting Risk

Risk Factor	Grade 6				Grade 8				Grade 10				Grade 12			
	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007
Community Domain																
Community Disorganization	28.0	32.1	38.5	34.9	33.7	13.6	39.2	39.2	37.1	37.0	43.0	43.3	44.2	38.1	44.1	44.5
Laws & Norms Favor Drug Use	40.5	35.7	38.8	31.7	37.4	17.0	28.2	27.1	32.2	29.2	24.9	28.9	48.9	38.8	33.3	39.8
Perceived Availability of Drugs	59.0	29.6	28.6	39.0	30.0	24.4	23.6	27.5	44.4	30.0	24.2	31.4	51.6	35.1	25.4	35.3
Perceived Availability of Handguns	30.8	25.9	16.0	21.3	48.3	31.8	34.3	32.4	33.3	21.8	18.0	24.8	29.9	30.2	25.8	28.2
Family Domain																
Poor Family Management	31.9	38.5	42.2	39.2	32.2	23.5	30.3	29.7	17.0	23.7	14.1	18.6	32.0	37.0	29.9	27.2
Parent Attitudes Favor Drug Use	13.7	17.9	10.6	11.3	26.1	36.0	23.0	22.1	48.3	40.2	39.4	37.2	42.6	48.5	37.0	38.0
School Domain																
Academic Failure*	n/a	n/a	12.2	12.9	n/a	n/a	18.3	19.8	n/a	n/a	13.8	23.9	n/a	n/a	27.9	22.1
Low Commitment to School	60.5	45.0	56.7	40.2	66.0	34.8	37.6	41.8	61.1	54.0	47.7	45.6	64.6	49.6	43.7	42.0
Peer-Individual Domain																
Early Initiation of ASB	16.8	9.8	14.4	14.7	39.2	23.3	18.9	20.8	17.9	23.8	15.2	26.0	18.4	22.9	21.7	26.2
Early Initiation of Drug Use	36.5	29.3	15.5	21.5	42.3	39.6	24.6	27.4	20.2	30.6	24.4	30.4	54.6	39.3	30.1	38.8
Attitudes Favorable to ASB	49.0	27.5	36.3	35.2	32.7	22.7	22.9	27.2	35.1	35.3	37.2	38.5	51.5	42.6	38.0	42.2
Attitudes Favorable to Drug Use	24.0	17.5	9.6	13.4	38.8	18.6	25.1	23.4	38.9	31.1	31.0	36.0	55.1	47.7	36.1	43.2
Low Perceived Risk of Drug Use	39.2	42.5	47.2	40.5	31.3	30.2	31.2	27.8	41.5	34.8	39.9	41.2	43.3	45.6	33.9	40.9
Gang Involvement	8.2	9.8	5.1	6.9	8.1	4.0	6.8	8.3	8.4	13.1	13.4	10.0	8.2	11.9	13.7	10.0

Table 11. Percentage of Students Reporting Protection

Protective Factor	Grade 6				Grade 8				Grade 10				Grade 12			
	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007
Community Domain																
Opportunities for Prosocial Involvement	84.9	92.3	81.8	77.6	84.4	95.3	87.5	82.8	89.9	84.8	84.8	83.6	87.5	91.7	86.1	84.9
Family Domain																
Family Attachment	77.8	58.3	65.9	65.8	69.0	78.7	75.1	71.5	75.3	69.5	74.6	65.7	67.0	68.5	72.8	68.6
Opportunities for Prosocial Involvement	70.8	68.0	57.0	65.5	71.3	79.6	70.2	68.7	64.0	68.3	63.6	59.1	49.5	60.9	58.7	58.7
School Domain																
Opportunities for Prosocial Involvement	64.6	75.6	57.2	67.2	73.7	90.0	83.9	79.6	73.7	72.3	74.7	77.2	65.3	66.2	76.6	76.5
Peer-Individual Domain																
Belief in the Moral Order	57.7	73.8	78.1	77.0	66.7	84.0	74.3	74.1	54.7	57.1	61.1	56.4	45.9	52.2	55.4	50.8

*Academic Failure was not measured prior to 2007.

● areas of concern

Data Tables

Table 7. Percentage of Students With Heavy ATOD Use

Heavy Use		Grade 6				Grade 8				Grade 10				Grade 12			
		County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007
Binge Drinking	How many times have you had 5 or more alcoholic drinks in a row in the past 2 weeks?	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.7	6.1	2.0	4.8	4.7	12.8	20.0	9.9	14.7	38.5	37.1	19.0	26.8
One-Half Pack of Cigarettes/Day	During the past 30 days, have you smoked a half a pack of cigarettes a day or more?	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.6	1.1	6.5	1.0	2.7	13.5	8.2	6.6	6.2

Table 8. Percentage of Students With Antisocial Behavior in the Past Year

How many times in the past year (12 months) have you: (One or more times)		Grade 6				Grade 8				Grade 10				Grade 12			
		County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007
Been suspended from school		4.1	0.0	2.8	4.1	4.0	2.0	5.6	7.0	6.3	7.6	4.1	7.0	5.2	6.6	3.3	6.3
Been drunk or high at school		5.2	0.0	0.6	0.7	4.0	0.0	4.5	4.0	5.3	7.1	8.2	10.0	16.3	18.1	16.4	14.1
Sold illegal drugs		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	2.0	0.0	1.1	1.3	2.1	3.0	4.6	4.5	10.3	6.9	4.9	7.0
Stolen or tried to steal a motor vehicle		3.1	0.0	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.0	2.8	1.7	3.2	3.1	1.5	2.5	1.0	4.6	2.7	2.0
Been arrested		3.1	0.0	1.1	0.9	3.1	2.2	2.8	2.9	3.2	4.3	4.1	4.6	5.1	4.7	3.3	4.9
Attacked someone with the idea of seriously hurting them		11.5	2.5	2.2	6.0	13.1	2.0	7.8	8.4	5.3	7.3	5.6	8.8	7.2	6.9	8.7	7.6
Carried a handgun		8.2	7.3	5.0	4.8	22.7	2.1	7.3	5.2	7.4	9.0	5.1	6.2	5.2	8.2	5.5	6.3
Carried a handgun to school		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.3	1.1	1.2	1.0	0.4	1.0	3.1	0.5	0.7
Driven after drinking alcohol		5.2	2.6	0.6	1.4	2.1	6.8	3.4	3.4	9.6	12.1	10.2	10.2	43.3	39.7	20.7	31.5
Been a passenger with drinking driver		30.5	20.0	17.9	21.9	30.9	41.3	29.4	28.5	27.7	39.2	26.5	35.6	52.1	57.5	34.2	43.0

Table 9. Percentage of Students Gambling in the Past Year

How many times in the past year (12 months) have you: ('A few times' or more)		Grade 6				Grade 8				Grade 10				Grade 12			
		County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007	County 2003	County 2005	County 2007	State 2007
Gambled in the past year		n/a	39.0	34.8	48.2	n/a	60.8	52.8	51.8	n/a	45.1	43.4	52.6	n/a	54.4	39.3	50.6
Gambled at a casino		n/a	0.0	1.1	0.5	n/a	0.0	0.0	0.6	n/a	0.0	2.0	0.9	n/a	1.5	0.5	0.9
Played the lottery		n/a	27.8	5.6	16.1	n/a	15.9	16.1	17.4	n/a	12.7	10.6	16.9	n/a	21.5	8.8	16.8
Bet on sports		n/a	22.2	15.5	19.5	n/a	24.4	27.8	24.4	n/a	16.4	22.2	25.0	n/a	23.2	14.9	24.0
Bet on cards		n/a	13.5	3.3	12.7	n/a	17.1	17.2	19.1	n/a	26.9	16.2	24.5	n/a	32.2	19.2	27.5
Bet on horses		n/a	2.7	2.8	3.1	n/a	6.7	2.8	3.4	n/a	2.6	3.6	3.9	n/a	5.6	1.6	3.6
Played bingo for money		n/a	25.0	16.3	29.1	n/a	41.7	32.8	28.6	n/a	23.0	19.2	25.3	n/a	22.0	18.1	19.7
Gambled on the internet		n/a	0.0	0.6	2.7	n/a	2.3	1.7	3.7	n/a	7.5	3.5	5.0	n/a	7.0	1.6	4.8
Bet on dice		n/a	0.0	0.6	4.1	n/a	2.3	2.8	5.1	n/a	3.1	4.5	5.3	n/a	4.0	1.7	5.4
Bet on games of skill		n/a	10.8	8.5	14.2	n/a	11.9	12.3	17.5	n/a	17.2	16.7	20.4	n/a	20.8	15.3	20.3
Gambled at a community event		n/a	2.9	2.3	6.7	n/a	4.9	7.8	9.5	n/a	7.6	6.6	10.5	n/a	10.2	6.1	10.9

* Gambling data were not collected prior to 2005

Priority one

Educate, engage and involve parents and other adults as role models in the lives of county youth and in youth programs.

Strategy one: Use environmental approaches such as public relations campaigns, town hall meetings and hands-on projects that will result in changes to laws, policies and practices.

Resources:

- ❖ **Increased Web presence with resources for parents on school and Bridges' Web Sites.** Who: UN-L Extension, Bridges, schools. Timeline: Fall 2009 and ongoing. Results: Parents will have access to research-based data relevant to priority one.
- ❖ **Safe Homes Campaign.** Who: Juvenile Diversion, Bridges, Extension, parents. Timeline: Spring 2009. Partners will implement into already existing programs. Results: Parents and neighborhoods will build a drug-free environment for youth.

Strategy two: Provide educational opportunities for parents and adults to increase 40 Developmental Assets in youth.

Resources:

- ❖ **Family Nights.** Who: Extension, Bridges St. John Child Development Center, Memorial Health Care Systems, schools, churches, Concordia University. Timeline: Fall 2009 and ongoing. Results: Parents will strengthen their skills in establishing positive family relationships and improving family communications.

Program will schedule ten Seward programs and quarterly Milford programs in 09-10. Public school and Concordia student organizations will provide child care. Extension will coordinate registration. Churches and schools will provide facility and meal preparation. Schools and Extension will schedule presenters. Extension will meet with Centennial School District in spring 2009 to begin plans for Utica program. All partners will assist with public relations.

- ❖ **Diversion support group.** Diversion and St. John will host a parent support group for parents who have participated in diversion classes and desire ongoing support. Parents will meet regularly. Group begins December 4, 2008 and ongoing. Results: Parents will continue to support one another, and share experiences and expertise.

Extension and diversion will host four-week sessions for parents of adolescents and teens. Extension will teach. Economic development director will assist with public relations by marketing to local employers. Chamber will assist by marketing through its newsletter. Schools will post on Web sites. Newspaper will publish news releases.

- ❖ **40 Developmental Assets training.** Extension will continue to train professional and volunteer youth workers on the assets. Timeline: Ongoing. Results: Participants will learn the common sense, positive experiences and qualities that help influence choices young people make and help them become caring, responsible adults.

Extension and Bridges will collaborate to teach assets to those programs receiving county aid funds. Timeline: Spring 2009 and annually.

Extension will publish in newspaper “asset rich community” series of articles from the Search Institute. Timeline: 2009-011.

Strategy three: Build volunteer network and adult role model network.

Resources:

- ❖ **Mentoring.** Timeline: 2009-11. Results: Mentors will inspire youth to reach their full potential. TeamMates in all three school districts will increase the number of current mentors. TeamMates coordinators will begin asking local employers to allow employees time off for mentoring. Seward County Young Professionals is also a partner in this resource.

Probation, Health and Human Services, diversion and schools will research opportunities for a mentoring program with more specialized training for youth in the court system or receiving services. Research will begin in 2009 with implementation scheduled for 2011.

- ❖ **Afterschool clubs.** Timeline: Ongoing. Results: Program provides youth with opportunity for positive, creative, character-building activities after the school bell rings and on school days off. Partners are extension, Bridges, schools and volunteers. Program will recruit 30-40 volunteers to provide youth with positive, character-building classes, an ATOD prevention component and community service opportunities.
- ❖ **CASA.** Timeline: 2010. Results: Youth will experience caring community and local support system. Businesses and Region V will provide transition services for youth aging out of the foster care system including classes and mentoring such as PALS.

- ❖ **Volunteer network.** Timeline: 2010. Results: Project will connect those organizations seeking volunteers and those individuals seeking to volunteer. Bridges partners with an entity such as the Seward County Independent or Four Corners to hire a Concordia intern to establish and maintain a Web site. Bridges works with Concordia's career services. Seward County Economic Development is also a partner in this resource.

Strategy four: The court system will require that divorcing couples attend Parents Forever or similar curriculum, and strongly suggest that parents whose children are in juvenile diversion participate in diversion classes.

Resources:

- ❖ **Parents Forever and similar curriculum.** Timeline: 2009 and ongoing. Results: Parents maintain family bonds and communication, and youth seek out parents' advice and counsel. Extension provides classes every other month.
- ❖ **Diversion classes.** Timeline 2009 and ongoing. Results: Same as above. Diversion will meet with parents upon intake into program and inform them of available opportunities.

Priority two

Advocate against social acceptance of underage drinking and drug use.

Strategy one: Provide opportunities after the school bell rings and on school days off for youth to engage in positive, not risky, behaviors.

Resources:

- ❖ 4-H Afterschool Clubs. Timeline: 2009 and ongoing. Results: Program will instill youth with strong character traits, decision-making abilities and usable technical skills. Program will offer 48 clubs per year in all three public school districts.
- ❖ Youth centers Seward and Beaver Crossing. 2009 and ongoing. Results: Program provides youth with a safe, alcohol and drug-free after-school environment to engage in positive and supervised activities and community service opportunities.
- ❖ Increase attendance and participation in extracurricular activities. This resource will target youth not currently engaged, and provide financial assistance where needed. 2009 and ongoing. Results: More youth will participate in extracurricular activities than currently participate. Schools will collaborate with Bridges on a survey to identify interest areas, and schedule activities to coincide with those interest areas. Schools will continue to support existing activities such as sports, music and drama. Other partners include parents, Afterschool, community libraries and youth centers.

Strategy two: Use environmental approaches to advocate against underage drinking and drug use.

Resources:

- ❖ Parents Who Host Lose the Most. Timeline: Spring 2009. Results: Program will educate parents about the risks and dangers of underage alcohol consumption, and about the state's social host liability legislation. Bridges will coordinate the project with assistance from all team members and their organizations.
- ❖ Increased Web presence on school and Bridges Web sites. Timeline: Spring 2009 and ongoing. Results: Parents and youth will have access to research-based data concerning priority two. All team partners will be provide useful resources to Bridges and school technical coordinator for posting.
- ❖ Risk and Protective Factors mailing. Timeline: January 2009. Results: Project will educate the community about last school year's survey results.
- ❖ Establish anti-ATOD school club, or incorporate into existing club. Timeline: Fall 2009. Results: Program will establish a greater anti-ATOD presence and message

in public schools. Existing clubs such as FFA, FCCLA, Key Club and student councils will host activities. In cooperation with Region V, Afterschool will schedule an environmental scan project to identify sites where retailers and others exhibit alcohol advertising.

Priority three

Enhance Seward County Pretrial Diversion and Probation services and programs.

Strategy one: Implement electronic monitoring and alcohol detection programs

Resources:

- ❖ Electronic monitoring. Timeline: ongoing. Results: Program will allow probation to more easily communicate with parolees, and will also save the county detention costs. Who: Probation, sheriff, Health and Human Services, diversion. Program currently share monitors but may need to purchase additional units.
- ❖ SCRAM. Timeline: 2009. Results: Program increases public safety by more efficient monitoring of individuals convicted of alcohol related offenses. Probation and diversion will utilize the tool for juvenile offenders in their programs.

Strategy two: Implement new program evaluation tool.

Resources:

- ❖ YLS/CMI. Timeline: 2009 and ongoing. Results: Program has an accurate means of evaluating young offenders and determining rehabilitation needs. Who: Diversion, Probation, Health and Human Services.

Priority four

Seward County Bridges will continue to be the central and priority agency for juvenile justice and prevention.

Strategy one: The county will contract with Bridges to coordinate efforts around the juvenile plan, and obtain supplemental funding for county juvenile services programs.

Resources:

- ❖ Juvenile Services Planning team. 2009 and ongoing. Results: Program will compose, utilize and implement a meaningful plan whose strategies and resources benefit county youth. Who: Bridges and all team members and their organizations. Team will meet twice yearly to monitor plan compliance and adjust as needed. Bridges will submit needed update to the commission.
- ❖ Grant writing. 2009 and ongoing. Results: All programs will see increased sustainability as funds are secured. Bridges is the central agency to ensure that programs attain their proposed solutions. Who: Bridges with support of all team members and their organizations.
- ❖ Grant management and fiscal agent services. 2009 and ongoing. Results: Programs receiving grant funding will be in compliance with all funder requirements, and Bridges will provide oversight and accountability in all financial transactions. Who: Bridges.
- ❖ Bridges' operations sustainability. 2009 and ongoing. Results: Bridges will have sufficient operating funds. Who: Bridges and all team partners.