

6.0 Effects of Weed and Seed

6.1 Analysis of Crime Data

Incident-level police data provided by the Manatee County Sheriff's Office were used to analyze the trends in crime rates before and after the implementation of Weed and Seed.²¹ In interpreting these data, it is important to note that any observed changes in crime rates in the target area during this time period might reflect factors other than Weed and Seed. For instance, changes in crime reporting may cause the reported crime rates to rise or fall independently of any shift in the true crime incidence. Changes in the regional or national economic context may also affect local crime trends.

Additionally, an observed reduction in crime for the target area may occur through displacement of crime to adjacent or nearby areas, where crime rates would rise. It is also important to remember the Manatee/Sarasota Weed and Seed effort allocated resources across six different target areas; we are examining crime trends in only two of these areas.

District identifiers in the incident-level crime data were used to identify crime incidents reported in the North and South Manatee target areas. The rest of the county provides a logical comparison area, in which to monitor possible changes in local crime reporting, shifts in local economic conditions or other contextual factors, and the possibility of crime displacement to other areas within the county.

Although the Weed and Seed program officially began in North and South Manatee in October 1994, there was an intensive pre-Weed and Seed crackdown in the target areas from October 1992 to January 1993, as discussed in section 5.5, Approach to Weeding. Exhibit 6.1 displays the number of Part 1 crimes per 1,000 residents in the two target areas and in the rest of the county from October 1993 through September 1996—a period spanning 1 year before and 2 years after the official commencement of Weed and Seed. The table also shows data for 11 months of 1997. Using monthly data for per capita Part 1 crimes, exhibit 6.2 shows the monthly rates with a fitted curve that expresses the historical trend in the target areas and the rest of the county during the period January 1993 through August 1997.

As exhibit 6.2 illustrates, crime was already trending downward and had stabilized in both target areas prior to Weed and Seed, following the period of the intensive pre-Weed and Seed crackdown (October 1992 through January 1993). As discussed in section 5.5, this crackdown concentrated on North Manatee, reflected in the more precipitous decline in crime there. Since the official implementation of Weed and Seed in October 1994, Part 1 crimes resumed a downward trend in North Manatee, declining an average of 10.6 percent in the first year of Weed and Seed and 8.2 percent in the second year.

In the South Manatee target area, however, Part 1 crimes increased by an average of 6 percent in the first year of Weed and Seed and then declined 3.9 percent in the second year. (According to the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, during the first months of Weed and Seed, the anticrime unit was

21 Manatee County data includes all areas under the jurisdiction of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, which includes an area with an estimated population of 154,000. Other law enforcement agencies in Manatee County include the Bradenton City Police Department, Palmetto City Police Department, Holmes Beach Police Department, and Bradenton Beach Police Department.

reduced by half in South Manatee due to deployment to other projects.) Over this same 2-year interval, Part 1 crimes steadily increased in the rest of Manatee County—3.1 percent during the first year of Weed and Seed and 4.7 percent during the second year.

The trend in Part 1 crimes is generally mirrored by the trend in Part 1 arrests over this interval. (See exhibit 5.1, Part 1 Arrests per Capita by Month, in section 5.5, Approach to Weeding.) Drug arrests, the focus of VCTF, increased relatively more steeply following the implementation of Weed and Seed, particularly in North Manatee. Drug arrests subsequently declined in North Manatee with the decline in crime there. In South Manatee, drug arrests ascended steeply from late 1996 through mid-1997, with a corresponding plunge in crime.

Exhibit 6.1
Part 1 Crime Data, Manatee County

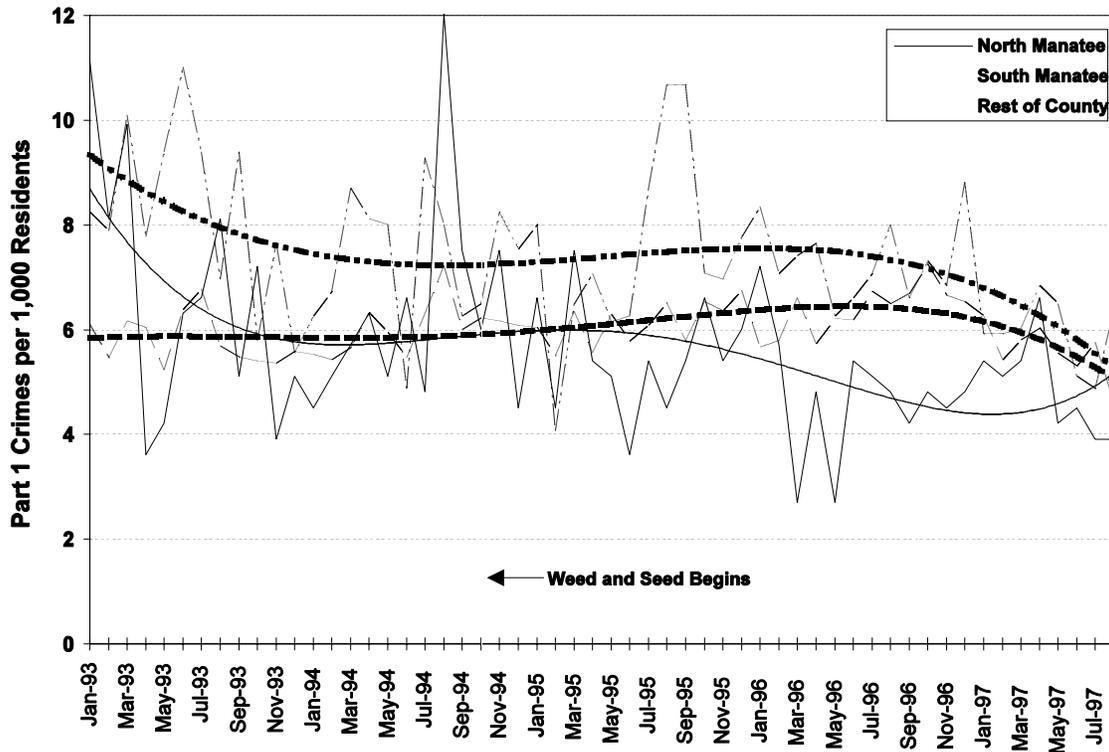
Time period	Total number of Part 1 crimes	Average Monthly Part 1 crimes per 1,000 residents	Percentage change from preceding year
North Manatee Target Area			
10/93–9/94	246	6.2	--
10/94–9/95	220	5.5	-10.6
10/95–9/96	202	5.1	-8.2
10/96–8/97 (11 mos.)	177	4.8	--
South Manatee Target Area			
10/93–9/94	735	7.1	--
10/94–9/95	779	7.5	+6.0
10/95–9/96	749	7.2	-3.9
10/96–8/97 (11 mos.)	608	6.4	--
Rest of County			
10/93–9/94	9,981	5.9	--
10/94–9/95	10,285	6.0	+3.1
10/95–9/96	10,766	6.3	+4.7
10/96–8/97 (11 mos.)	9,262	5.9	--

Source: Manatee County Sheriff's Department.

Note: The Weed and Seed program was implemented in the North and South Manatee target areas in October 1994.

In January 1993—the beginning of the interval analyzed in exhibit 6.2—there was still a wide gap in crime levels between the target areas and the rest of the county, although crime had already declined substantially following the pre-Weed law enforcement efforts. (In North Manatee, there were 546 Part 1 crimes in 1992; by 1996, this declined by half, to 274.) Following the implementation of Weed and Seed, crime levels declined even further in North Manatee, to levels below the rest of the county, while crime levels in South Manatee began to converge with the rest of the county. By mid-1997, there was an overall convergence of crime rates between the target areas and the rest of the county.

Exhibit 6.2
Part 1 Crimes per Capita by Month



6.2 Survey of Community Residents

Survey methods used in 1995 and 1997

In each of the eight sites participating in the national evaluation, a survey of target area residents was conducted at two separate time intervals. During March through July 1995, the Institute for Social Analysis conducted 1,531 interviews among the 8 sites. In December 1997 through January 1998, Abt Associates conducted 1,995 interviews with a separate group of residents in the same 8 target areas. In the following material, we refer to these data collection efforts as the 1995 and 1997 surveys.

General survey design and operations

The objective of the survey data collection and analysis was to measure changes in citizens' awareness of the Weed and Seed program and their opinions about police activity, crime, public safety, and the general quality of life in their neighborhoods. In the interest of comparing the findings obtained from the two surveys, the 1997 survey was designed with the following features:

- For each site, the geographical boundaries of the survey area were the same in 1995 and 1997. For Manatee/Sarasota, the boundary was the original North Manatee target area, which was the area surveyed by the Institute for Social Analysis in 1995.
- The verbatim wording of questions from the 1995 survey was retained in 1997. For selected items, additional response categories were added in 1997, to provide a more complete range of possible responses. For these items, care was taken in the analysis to aggregate responses in ways that would preserve the comparability of the findings across the surveys.²²

However, there were some notable differences in the methods used in the two surveys, as follows.

- The 1995 survey consisted of inperson interviews, based on city-provided address lists. The 1997 interviews were conducted by telephone, based on listed telephone numbers for residential addresses within the survey area.
- The 1995 survey consisted of 83 substantive items. The 1997 survey included only a subset of these, 31 substantive items. (For both surveys, the count excludes items related to respondent demographic characteristics and other basic interview data.) The 1995 interviews required 30 to 40 minutes. The 1997 interviews typically lasted 12 to 15 minutes.

The decision to proceed in 1997 with telephone interviewing and a shortened instrument was based on the difficulties experienced in 1995 in completing the targeted number of 400 interviews per site. In none of the sites was this target reached. The 1997 survey design called for 300 completed interviews per site. In 6 of the 8 sites, all but Hartford and North Manatee, 300 or more interviews were completed. In North Manatee, 137 interviews were completed in 1997. The smaller number of completed interviews in North Manatee in 1997 was due to the methodology of using only listed telephone numbers, which limited the available sample in a target area as small as North Manatee. The 1995 inperson interviewing allowed the inclusion of households with unlisted phone numbers and those without phones.

22 For example, in questions on "how good a job are the police doing" in different aspects of law enforcement, the 1995 survey allowed the respondent to indicate "a very good job, a good job, a fair job, or a poor job." The 1997 survey allowed the respondent to also indicate "a very poor job." The findings below have aggregated the "poor job" and "very poor job" responses for 1997 before comparing the pattern of responses with 1995.

In interpreting the survey findings, it is important to remember that the Weed and Seed program was officially implemented in Manatee about a year prior to the first survey, and pre-Weed and Seed targeted enforcement had begun in the target areas in October 1992—3 years prior to the first survey. Consequently, the first survey cannot serve as a baseline measure but can be used to assess changes between the 2 survey periods.

Selected survey findings are highlighted in the text below. Seven survey exhibits illustrate the responses to the different survey questions and the statistical significance of any changes in response patterns between the first and second surveys.

Demographic characteristics of North Manatee survey respondents (Exhibit 6.3)

- Most respondents in 1995 and 1997 were long-term residents, having lived in North Manatee (the Washington Park or Memphis areas of the county) for 2 or more years (91 percent in 1995 and 88 percent in 1997). The average age of target area residents was 49.8 years in 1995 and 53.1 years in 1997.
- Incidence of unemployment among respondents was 4 percent in both survey years, and individuals working either full or part time accounted for more than half of respondents. A fair number of respondents indicated that they were “retired or otherwise not looking for work.” The remaining responses were distributed among a large number of homemakers in 1997 (differences in survey methodology and question structure affected the reported number of homemakers), the disabled, and students (who made up a small percent in both survey years).²³
- Respondent households were predominantly black (96 percent in 1995 and 91 percent in 1997), typically composed of one or two adults with no children. A higher percentage of those surveyed in 1997 did not have children in the household—70 percent in 1997 compared with 54 percent in 1995. Gender representation was about the same—65 percent of respondents were female in 1995 and 66 percent in 1997.

23 Please note that in 1997, respondents who said they were unemployed and not looking for work were asked to indicate all subcategories that apply to them, including homemaker, disabled, student, and so forth.

**Exhibit 6.3: Demographic Characteristics of Survey Respondents
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a
<i>Age of respondent (in years)</i>	n = 336	n = 137
18–29	39 (12%)	10 (7%)
30–39	43 (13%)	18 (13%)
40–49	61 (18%)	21 (15%)
50–59	57 (17%)	33 (24%)
60 or older	119 (35%)	53 (39%)
Other	17 (5%)	2 (1%)
Total	100%	100%
Mean Value (in years)	49.8	53.1
<i>Employment status</i>	n = 336 ^b	n = 137 ^b
Working full time	155 (46%)	60 (44%)
Working part time	28 (8%)	12 (9%)
Unemployed and looking for work	15 (5%)	6 (4%)
Retired or otherwise not looking for work	78 (23%)	49 (36%)
Homemaker	8 (2%)	93 (68%)
Disabled	29 (9%)	22 (16%)
Full-time student	7 (2%)	7 (5%)
Part-time student	0 (0%)	3 (2%)
Other	60 (19%)	9 (7%)
Refused	0 (0%)	1 (<1%)
Don't know	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

**Exhibit 6.3: Demographic Characteristics of Survey Respondents
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a
<i>Number of people in household less than 18 years old</i>	n = 336	n = 137
0	183 (54%)	96 (70%)
1-2	113 (34%)	18 (23%)
3 or more	40 (12%)	10 (7%)
Total	100%	100%
Mean Value	1.0	0.6
<i>Number of people in household more than 18 years old</i>	n = 336	n = 137
0	3 (1%)	1 (1%)
1-2	240 (71%)	108 (79%)
3 or more	93 (28%)	28 (20%)
Total	100%	100%
Mean Value	2.1	2.2
<i>Ethnic identity</i>	n = 336	n = 137
Black	324 (96%)	124 (91%)
White	1 (<1%)	5 (4%)
Hispanic	6 (2%)	3 (2%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
American Indian	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Something else	5 (1%)	3 (2%)
Refused	0 (0%)	2 (1%)
Don't know	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Total	100%	100%
Mean Value	1.0	1.7

**Exhibit 6.3: Demographic Characteristics of Survey Respondents
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a
<i>Gender</i>	n = 336	n = 137
Male	113 (34%)	46 (34%)
Female	219 (65%)	91 (66%)
Other	4 (1%)	0 (0%)
Total	100%	100%

^a Columns may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

^b Respondents were allowed to make more than one selection.

Perceptions of the neighborhood (Exhibit 6.4)

- The proportion of respondents who were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the neighborhood remained about the same across survey years (87 percent in 1995 and 90 percent in 1997); however, the level of satisfaction declined, with 10 percent fewer respondents reporting that they were “very satisfied” with their neighborhood as a place to live (declining from 60 percent in 1995 to 50 percent in 1997). The level of those respondents “somewhat dissatisfied” declined slightly and those “very dissatisfied” remained the same at 4 percent.
- Reported feelings of safety both during the day and after dark did not change significantly between the two survey years, with approximately 88 percent of 1997 respondents feeling “very safe” or “somewhat” safe out alone in the day and 57 percent feeling that way after dark. The sentiment among 1997 respondents was that their neighborhood remained “about the same” (62 percent) as a place to live as it was in the 2 years prior to the survey; the proportion feeling that the neighborhood had become a worse place to live declined from 22 percent to 15 percent.
- When asked about concerns about specific types of crimes, 1997 respondents reported significantly reduced concerns across almost all areas. In 1997, 17 percent fewer respondents thought that “drug dealers on the streets” were a “big problem”; 8 percent fewer thought that drug sales out of homes were a “big problem,” with 13 percent more respondents perceiving “no problem”; and 22 percent fewer respondents perceived drug use as a “big problem.” Concerns about burglary and property crime also declined, with 16 percent fewer people perceiving such crimes as a “big problem.” The proportion of respondents perceiving robbery and other street crimes as a “big problem” likewise declined by 18 percent and perceptions of violent crimes as a “big problem” declined by 17 percent. Reported concerns about gang activity remained about the same across survey years, with 8 percent perceiving such activity as a “big problem” in 1997.

**Exhibit 6.4: Perceptions of the Neighborhood
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>In general, how satisfied are you with this neighborhood as a place to live?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = **$
Very satisfied	202 (60%)	68 (50%)	
Somewhat satisfied	91 (27%)	55 (40%)	
Somewhat dissatisfied	26 (8%)	8 (6%)	
Very dissatisfied	15 (4%)	5 (4%)	
Don't know	2 (1%)	0 (0%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	1 (1%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>In general, how safe do you feel out alone in this neighborhood during the day? Do you feel...</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Very safe	219 (65%)	82 (60%)	
Somewhat safe	78 (23%)	39 (28%)	
Somewhat unsafe	24 (7%)	12 (9%)	
Very unsafe	11 (3%)	3 (2%)	
Don't know	4 (1%)	0 (0%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	1 (1%)	
Total	100%	100%	

**Exhibit 6.4: Perceptions of the Neighborhood
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>In general, how safe do you feel out alone in this neighborhood after dark? Do you feel...</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Very safe	91 (27%)	36 (26%)	
Somewhat safe	82 (24%)	42 (31%)	
Somewhat unsafe	55 (16%)	13 (9%)	
Very unsafe	58 (17%)	19 (14%)	
Don't go out at night	46 (14%)	26 (19%)	
Don't know	4 (1%)	1 (1%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>In general, in the past 2 years, would you say this neighborhood has become a better place to live, a worse place to live, or stayed about the same?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = **$
Better	72 (21%)	27 (20%)	
Worse	74 (22%)	20 (15%)	
About the same	162 (48%)	85 (62%)	
Did not live here 2 years ago	20 (6%)	4 (3%)	
Don't know	8 (2%)	1 (1%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

**Exhibit 6.4: Perceptions of the Neighborhood
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>Do you think drug dealers on the streets, or in other public places are a big problem, small problem, or no problem in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = ***$
Big problem	189 (56%)	53 (39%)	
Small problem	37 (11%)	37 (27%)	
No problem	83 (25%)	44 (32%)	
Don't know	27 (8%)	3 (2%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>Do you think drug sales out of homes or apartments are a big problem, small problem, or no problem in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = **$
Big problem	84 (25%)	23 (17%)	
Small problem	43 (13%)	31 (23%)	
No problem	86 (26%)	54 (39%)	
Don't know	123 (37%)	29 (21%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

**Exhibit 6.4: Perceptions of the Neighborhood
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>Do you think burglary and other property crimes are a big problem, small problem, or no problem in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = ***$
Big problem	107 (32%)	22 (16%)	
Small problem	93 (28%)	49 (36%)	
No problem	107 (32%)	62 (45%)	
Don't know	29 (9%)	4 (3%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>Do you think robbery and other street crimes are a big problem, small problem, or no problem in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = ***$
Big problem	97 (29%)	24 (18%)	
Small problem	57 (17%)	38 (28%)	
No problem	125 (37%)	65 (47%)	
Don't know	57 (17%)	10 (7%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

**Exhibit 6.4: Perceptions of the Neighborhood
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>Do you think violent crimes (such as shootings, assault, and so forth) are a big problem, small problem, or no problem in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = ***$
Big problem	94 (28%)	25 (18%)	
Small problem	57 (17%)	41 (30%)	
No problem	160 (48%)	69 (50%)	
Don't know	25 (7%)	2 (1%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>Do you think gang activity is a big problem, small problem, or no problem in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Big problem	31 (9%)	11 (8%)	
Small problem	45 (13%)	22 (16%)	
No problem	188 (56%)	95 (69%)	
Don't know	72 (21%)	9 (7%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

**Exhibit 6.4: Perceptions of the Neighborhood
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>Do you think drug use is a big problem, small problem, or no problem in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = ***$
Big problem	168 (50%)	39 (28%)	
Small problem	34 (10%)	43 (31%)	
No problem	91 (27%)	41 (30%)	
Don't know	43 (13%)	14 (10%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

^a Columns may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

^b Significance of differences between 1995 and 1997 in the distribution of responses for each survey question.

*** Statistically significant at 1-percent level

** Statistically significant at 5-percent level

* Statistically significant at 10-percent level

n.s. Not statistically significant

Victimization (Exhibit 6.5)

- The percentage of respondents who said they or family members were victimized decreased from 1995 levels. Although reported theft by force or threat of force remained the same at 6 percent, respondents reporting home break-ins declined by 11 percentage points, and reported attacks and beatings dropped to 0 from the 4 percent reported in 1995. Respondents reporting being victims of knifings and shootings declined slightly to 2 percent in 1997.

**Exhibit 6.5: Victimization
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey ^a	1997 Survey ^a	Chi Square Statistic ^b
<i>In the past 2 years, has anyone broken into your home, garage, or another building on your property in this neighborhood to steal something?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = **$
Yes	87 (26%)	21 (15%)	
No	243 (73%)	116 (85%)	
Don't know	6 (2%)	0 (0%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>In the past 2 years, has anyone stolen something from you or a member of your family by force or by threat of force in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Yes	20 (6%)	8 (6%)	
No	309 (92%)	129 (94%)	
Don't know	7 (2%)	0 (0%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

**Exhibit 6.5: Victimization
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey ^a	1997 Survey ^a	Chi Square Statistic ^b
<i>Other than the incidents already mentioned, in the past 2 years, have you or a member of your family been beaten up, attacked, or hit with something such as a rock or bottle in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = **$
Yes	12 (4%)	0 (0%)	
No	318 (95%)	137 (100%)	
Don't know	6 (2%)	0 (0%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>Other than the incidents already mentioned, in the past 2 years, have you or a member of your family been knifed, shot at, or attacked with some other weapon by anyone at all in this neighborhood to steal something?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Yes	10 (3%)	3 (2%)	
No	320 (95%)	134 (98%)	
Don't know	6 (2%)	0 (0%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

^a Columns may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

^b Significance of differences between 1995 and 1997 in the distribution of responses for each survey question.

*** Statistically significant at 1-percent level

** Statistically significant at 5-percent level

* Statistically significant at 10-percent level

n.s. Not statistically significant

Police response (Exhibit 6.6)

- Overall, perceptions of police responsiveness changed in two ways. In 1997, 13 percent more respondents reported that the police in their neighborhood were doing a “very good job” of keeping order on the streets and sidewalks. Police were also doing a better job, according to 1997 respondents, of controlling “the street sale and use of illegal drugs,” with 13 percent more respondents perceiving that the police were doing a “good job” or “very good job.” There were no significant changes in respondents’ perceptions of police visibility or responsiveness.

**Exhibit 6.6: Police Response
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>In general, how good a job are the police doing to keep order on the streets and sidewalks in this neighborhood these days? Would you say they are doing a...</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = ***$
Very good job	42 (13%)	35 (26%)	
Good job	105 (31%)	46 (34%)	
Fair job	98 (29%)	43 (31%)	
Poor job	54 (16%)	4 (3%)	
Very poor job	Not a response category	7 (5%)	
Don't know	37 (11%)	2 (1%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>How good a job are the police doing in controlling the street sale and use of illegal drugs in this neighborhood these days? Would you say they are doing a...</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = **$
Very good job	46 (14%)	24 (18%)	
Good job	81 (24%)	45 (33%)	
Fair job	90 (27%)	37 (27%)	
Poor job	78 (23%)	13 (9%)	
Very poor job	Not a response category	6 (4%)	
Don't know	41 (12%)	10 (7%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	2 (1%)	
Total	100%	100%	

**Exhibit 6.6: Police Response
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>During the past month, have you seen a police car driving through your neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$x^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Yes	297 (88%)	118 (86%)	
No	36 (11%)	16 (12%)	
Don't know	3 (1%)	3 (2%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>During the past month, have you seen a police officer walking around or standing on patrol in the neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$x^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Yes	39 (12%)	21 (15%)	
No	293 (87%)	114 (83%)	
Don't know	4 (1%)	2 (1%)	
Refused	0 (0%)		
Total	100%	100%	
<i>During the past month, have you seen a police officer patrol the back alleys or the backs of buildings in your neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$x^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Yes	69 (21%)	32 (23%)	
No	263 (78%)	99 (72%)	
Don't know	4 (1%)	6 (4%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

**Exhibit 6.6: Police Response
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>During the past month, have you seen a police officer chatting/having a friendly conversation with people in the neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	x ² = n.s.
Yes	144 (43%)	66 (48%)	
No	187 (56%)	70 (51%)	
Don't know	5 (1%)	1 (1%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>In general, how responsive are the police in this neighborhood to community concerns? Are they...</i>	n = 336	n = 137	x ² = n.s.
Very responsive	135 (40%)	57 (42%)	
Somewhat responsive	127 (38%)	55 (40%)	
Somewhat unresponsive	23 (7%)	6 (5%)	
Very unresponsive	12 (6%)	5 (4%)	
Don't know	30 (9%)	14 (10%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

^a Columns may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

^b Significance of differences between 1995 and 1997 in the distribution of responses for each survey question.

*** Statistically significant at 1-percent level

** Statistically significant at 5-percent level

* Statistically significant at 10-percent level

n.s. Not statistically significant

Community involvement (Exhibit 6.7)

- In 1997, a significantly higher proportion of respondents participated in activities related to community improvement. Attendance or participation increased at least 10 percent in the following areas: antidrug rallies; vigils or marches; neighborhood watches; and neighborhood cleanups.

**Exhibit 6.7: Community Involvement
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey ^a	1997 Survey ^a	Chi Square Statistic ^b
<i>During the past 2 years, have you attended or participated in an antidrug rally, vigil, or march in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = ***$
Yes	12 (4%)	21 (15%)	
No	318 (95%)	116 (85%)	
Don't know	6 (2%)	0 (0%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>During the past 2 years, have you attended or participated in a citizen patrol in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = *$
Yes	9 (3%)	8 (6%)	
No	321 (96%)	129 (94%)	
Don't know	6 (2%)	0 (0%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>During the past 2 years, have you attended or participated in a neighborhood watch program in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = ***$
Yes	38 (11%)	31 (23%)	
No	293 (87%)	106 (77%)	
Don't know	5 (1%)	0 (0%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

**Exhibit 6.7: Community Involvement
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey ^a	1997 Survey ^a	Chi Square Statistic ^b
<i>During the past 2 years, have you attended or participated in a neighborhood cleanup project in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = ***$
Yes	42 (13%)	31 (23%)	
No	288 (86%)	105 (77%)	
Don't know	6 (2%)	1 (1%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

^a Columns may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

^b Significance of differences between 1995 and 1997 in the distribution of responses for each survey question.

*** Statistically significant at 1-percent level

** Statistically significant at 5-percent level

* Statistically significant at 10-percent level

n.s. Not statistically significant

Perceptions of social services and other programs (Exhibit 6.8)

- While reported satisfaction with social programs and services increased between 1995 and 1997, the changes were not statistically significant.

**Exhibit 6.8: Perceptions of Social Services and Other Programs
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey ^a	1997 Survey ^a	Chi Square Statistic ^b
<i>In general, how satisfied are you with the availability of sports, recreation, and other programs for youths in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Very satisfied	51 (15%)	31 (23%)	
Somewhat satisfied	111 (33%)	40 (29%)	
Somewhat dissatisfied	49 (15%)	23 (17%)	
Very dissatisfied	75 (22%)	32 (23%)	
Don't know	50 (15%)	10 (7%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	1 (1%)	
Total	100%	100%	
<i>In general, how satisfied are you with the availability of drug treatment services in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Very satisfied	30 (9%)	22 (16%)	
Somewhat satisfied	86 (26%)	35 (26%)	
Somewhat dissatisfied	47 (14%)	20 (15%)	
Very dissatisfied	63 (19%)	20 (15%)	
Don't know	110 (33%)	38 (28%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	2 (1%)	
Total	100%	100%	

**Exhibit 6.8: Perceptions of Social Services and Other Programs
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>In general, how satisfied are you with the availability of job opportunities in this neighborhood?</i>	n = 336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = \text{n.s.}$
Very satisfied	37 (11%)	21 (15%)	
Somewhat satisfied	77 (23%)	41 (30%)	
Somewhat dissatisfied	66 (20%)	17 (12%)	
Very dissatisfied	91 (27%)	34 (25%)	
Don't know	65 (19%)	24 (18%)	
Refused	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
Total	100%	100%	

^a Columns may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

^b Significance of differences between 1995 and 1997 in the distribution of responses for each survey question.

*** Statistically significant at 1-percent level

** Statistically significant at 5-percent level

* Statistically significant at 10-percent level

n.s. Not statistically significant

Perceptions of the Weed and Seed program (Exhibit 6.9)

- The proportion of respondents recognizing the Weed and Seed program by name increased from less than one quarter in 1995 to more than half in 1997. Neighborhood-specific programs also had high name recognition among 1997 residents. (Please note that residents were not asked about specific neighborhood programs in the 1995 survey.) The percent of respondents aware of specific Weed and Seed programs was as follows: programs for parents and children through the Anna Gayle Center, 78 percent; the summer youth job training program through the Anna Gayle Center, 62 percent; Youth Crime Stoppers 4H, 42 percent; the summer youth recreation program at the Police Athletic League, 68 percent; and Neighborhood Crime Watch or Neighborhood Action Teams, 53 percent.

**Exhibit 6.9: Perceptions of the Weed and Seed Program
North Manatee**

	1995 Survey^a	1997 Survey^a	Chi Square Statistic^b
<i>Have you heard of a program called Weed and Seed?</i>	n=336	n = 137	$\chi^2 = ***$
Yes	78 (23%)	73 (53%)	
No	253 (75%)	63 (46%)	
Don't know	5 (1%)	1 (1%)	
Total	100%	100%	

1997 Respondents Only^a

<i>Are you aware that the following programs are available in this neighborhood?</i>	Yes	No	Don't know	Total
				n = 137
Programs for parents and children through the Anna Gayle Center	107 (78%)	30 (22%)	0 (0%)	100%
Summer youth job training program through the Anna Gayle Center	85 (62%)	50 (37%)	2 (2%)	100%
Youth Crime Stoppers 4H	58 (42%)	77 (56%)	2 (2%)	100%
Summer youth recreation program at the Police Athletic League	93 (68%)	44 (32%)	0 (0%)	100%
Neighborhood Crime Watch or Neighborhood Action Teams	73 (53%)	62 (45%)	2 (2%)	100%

^a Columns may not total 100 percent due to rounding.

^b Significance of differences between 1995 and 1997 in the distribution of responses for each survey question.

*** Statistically significant at 1-percent level

** Statistically significant at 5-percent level

* Statistically significant at 10-percent level

n.s. Not statistically significant

General observations on the survey findings

In interpreting survey findings, it would be incorrect to attribute any observed changes solely to Weed and Seed. The measured changes may, in part, be the result of the different survey methods used in 1995 and 1997. While observed changes in residents' attitudes may indeed have resulted from Weed and Seed and various community changes set in motion by the program, other factors, such as the national economy, may also have influenced changes. It is also important to keep in mind that when the first survey was conducted in 1995, the Weed and Seed program had already been operational for a year (with targeted enforcement prior to that).

In general, respondents in 1997 perceived crime to be less of a problem in North Manatee than did respondents in 1995. A higher proportion of respondents in 1997 also felt that the police were effective in controlling crime. Nevertheless, reported feelings of safety remained unchanged across survey intervals.

In 1997, a higher proportion of respondents participated in activities to improve the neighborhood, and the majority were aware of key seeding programs of Weed and Seed. Reported satisfaction with programs and services in the neighborhood did not change between 1995 and 1997, however, and the reported level of satisfaction with the neighborhood declined somewhat. (While 10 percent fewer respondents said they were "very satisfied," the total proportion of respondents either "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" remained about the same, 90 percent in 1997.) Possible factors to consider in interpreting the survey findings include the demographic profile of respondents, who were slightly older in 1997 (with a mean age of 53, compared with 50 in 1995) and less likely to have children, who are the beneficiaries of many of the seeding programs. (In 1997, 70 percent of respondents had no children in the household, compared with 54 percent in 1995). If neighborhood conditions did objectively improve, another factor could be rising expectations of residents; as the neighborhood has become safer and offers more services, expectations rise. Finally, some of the Weed and Seed programs were already implemented at the time of the first survey.

6.3 Seeding Program Participant Perceptions

To learn the perspective of individuals in the community who were direct beneficiaries of seeding programs, interviews were conducted among 40 participants across 5 seeding programs. It is important to note that the seeding program participant interviews are not intended to be representative of participants at large, as interviewees were selected at the discretion of program managers, based on their availability. Nonetheless, participants' perceptions, described below, illustrate the types of benefits the programs confer and convey participants' feelings about their experiences.

One important outcome of participation in these programs was that children subsequently participated in additional education and civic programs offered through the Anna Gayle Center safe haven. The programs there also kept parents involved. In general, participants reported the following types of benefits from program participation:

- **Youth Crime Stoppers 4H.** Participants felt that this program fostered academic success and encouraged their active involvement in the community through service projects. The middle school-age children tutored younger children and also enjoyed social and cultural activities with their peers in a supervised environment. Parents felt that Crime Stoppers helped their children academically and made them aware of the dangers of drugs.
- **Summer work program.** Parents and participants were enthusiastic about this program, which gave many youths their first work experience and a chance to earn and save their own money.
- **Educational consulting and tutoring.** Participating parents felt that the educational consultant helped them resolve their children's problems in school and coordinated appropriate intervention. Improved school performance was also reported as a result of the tutoring programs.
- **Police Athletic League summer program.** Participants in the summer program benefitted from the structured activities and the positive role models. Scholarships to participate in this program were funded by Weed and Seed, and some participants have become involved in other Weed and Seed programs.

Below is a detailed summary of the participant interviews.

Educational Consultants Consortium (ECC) programs

ECC programs included the Youth Crime Stoppers 4H; tutoring services; summer work program; and Iron Sharpening Iron, educational consulting services.

Approximately 11 parents or grandparents and 6 youths came to the Anna Gayle Center in North Manatee to talk about their family's participation in programs offered by the Educational Consortium Group. Three group interviews were conducted, two with parents and one with the youths.

Most of the parents had children who participated in multiple programs offered by ECC through the Anna Gayle Center, including Crime Stoppers 4H, the reading program, the summer work program for middle school-age children, and the year-round tutoring for elementary school-age children. Two of the families had received consulting services for their children's problems at school. The youths who were interviewed were active in the Crime Stoppers program and had initially become involved through the summer work program.

Youth Crime Stoppers 4H

The youths interviewed participated in the Crime Stoppers for 1–2 years. They said they held monthly meetings to plan their activities, such as community cleanups and providing food baskets to the needy for Thanksgiving. Approximately 20 youths regularly attended the Crime Stoppers meetings at the Anna Gayle Center. They had an agenda for each meeting and voted on their activities; they had to plan for parental chaperones. Their favorite part of the program was seeing their friends and participating in the trips.

One of the participants said she used to be active in the YMCA and Boys and Girls Club, which focused more on sports and recreation. The participants pointed out that with this program they were more involved with the community, which changed their point of view. Before, they did not know where the drug dealers were and now they are active in drug prevention. The police assist their group, including helping with transportation arrangements. Participants said they now try to make a difference with younger children. They emphasized that anyone can join Crime Stoppers, but members must maintain good grades. They said the program provides academic help to those who need it and inspires the children to keep up in school. Parents of participants are pleased with the Youth Crime Stoppers Read-Write project, in which Crime Stoppers' participants tutor younger children in reading and are themselves encouraged to read with their parents.

Parents interviewed felt that the Crime Stoppers program helped the children to be well-rounded because they interacted with a variety of other kids in a more relaxed setting than school. They participated in different activities that kept them constructively engaged. Parents felt the program made their children more aware of drug problems in the neighborhood and how to avoid them.

One parent has a daughter in middle school who is a Crime Stopper 4H and tutors younger children. Her mother said that Crime Stoppers is intended to keep kids steered in the right direction—making them aware of drugs and proper behavior to stay out of trouble, including avoiding peer pressure. She or her husband try to attend the Crime Stoppers monthly meetings, during which the parents meet first and then the children meet separately. At meetings, parents were made aware of the drug free week and wearing the red ribbons; they also discussed future activities, such as Kwanza celebrations, and elected officers.

For one mother, the most important benefit was the increased time she spent with her child. "For me, it's the time I spend with my child because the more he becomes involved with the program, the more I am involved. We are together because we have to go together." If she didn't have to rush home from work, pick up her child and go to these programs with him, she would be doing other things at home not involving her child. "The less time he has on his own, the less time he has to get in trouble." She intends to stay involved. They talk about the activities together, and it brings them closer, she said. It gives the child something to look forward to other than watching television at home.

One parent said that, before, there were not enough activities for children outside of school. She knew of no other organized programs or activities to engage children. The children would play outside on the playground and hang out with older kids, who could be a bad influence.

Summer work program

Some Youth Crime Stoppers had participated in the summer employment program and spoke enthusiastically about their work experiences. One young woman worked at a rural health center and hospital for the elderly; her job was to help the patients and act as a companion. Many of the other girls had worked at a local health center, and this was generally their first work experience. They seemed proud of their work and indicated that it was a learning experience. They emphasized that they made a contribution in helping people at the hospital. All were also very pleased to earn some

money. Job activities of other youths, ages 12–13, included working at the Boy’s Club as a group leader, serving patrons at a public library, and performing administrative and support work at the Police Athletic League office. For many youths, this was their first job. After work, the children also attended academic classes every day for about 2 hours.

One parent said her daughter enjoyed the work—in-home child care—and appreciated receiving training from the woman who owned the business. She also took the summer classes that showed her how to present herself in job interviews and how to dress. She was even quoted in the newspaper about her job experiences.

Parents felt their children had very positive work experiences and learned responsibility, including budgeting the money they earned. One parent said her child started a savings account with her earnings; another child bought his first pair of sneakers with his earnings.

Parents said the experience was important in building their children’s skills and confidence. The youths who worked at the Boys Club attended their leadership training program first; he continues to work with the Boys Club as a result of his summer experience. The boy who worked at the public library got his first work experience, performed very well, and received many compliments, according to his mother. Parents also felt it was important to keep the children engaged in organized activities rather than hanging out.

Tutoring services

Parents reported the primary benefit of the tutoring programs to be improved school performance. One woman’s elementary school-age daughter gets tutored twice a week by a Crime Stopper 4H youths at the Anna Gayle Center. The year before, her daughter had to repeat a grade in school and was having severe difficulties. Her mother said that with the one-on-one tutoring in reading and math, her daughter is doing much better and has a great report card now. She said, “I’m very impressed with this program. ... I was proud of her report card this time.”

Iron Sharpening Iron, educational consulting

Parents said that the educational consulting services, with the parent-teacher meetings, helped them resolve their children’s problems in school; previously, they felt they could not resolve them alone. The consultants had the experience to offer good advice, make themselves heard by school administrators, and arrange for appropriate interventions. As a result, the children did better in school.

One mother who was interviewed had a son who was having problems in middle school. The director of ECC went to the school, sat down with the teacher, principal, and parents, and helped diagnose the problem. The mother said it was good to have someone who was familiar with the school system helping and whom school authorities respected. The parents felt more comfortable knowing they were not alone. Previously, the mother received conflicting stories from her son and his teacher, and things have improved since they all sat down together.

Another mother said she had contacted the director of ECC because the school was going to put her daughter in a special class due to her performance at the kindergarten level. The director talked with the school and persuaded them to give the daughter another chance. They got her one-on-one tutoring, and the daughter is doing great; the director has continued to work with the school. The daughter also now participates in Crime Stoppers and its reading program.

One woman's grandson fell behind in school. The family got in touch with the director to get tutoring for two grandchildren. Both children are doing great. The grandmother would like them to get involved in Crime Stoppers, too. Another woman's daughter was not performing in school but now gets A's and B's, and her son is doing better with tutoring in math and reading.

The Educational Consulting Consortium and participating families are working to get computers and a cooking class for children to teach them skills.

Police Athletic League and Drug Free Communities Summer Program

Two families were interviewed separately, including three adults and two children.

First family: The mother interviewed had two children who received scholarships to participate in the Police Athletic League Summer Program. Without the scholarships provided by Weed and Seed, her children could not have participated; she was a widow and on a fixed income. She said there was nothing for the children to do in the summer, and they lacked male role models at home. At the PAL program, the children had structure and discipline. She said it built their self-esteem and kept them out of trouble.

Activities in PAL included sports and exercise, art classes, talent shows, games, and occasional field trips. The children said they liked the field trips best. The field trips were a treat to these children, who normally did not do such things as bowling, swimming, and visiting museums. The little girl said she was able to get out of the house and not be so bored. Both children said they also got to know some of the police officers; the little girl said that, before, she was more nervous around the police, and now she is comfortable.

Participation in the PAL Summer Program led to other activities for these children. The girl is on the basketball team with PAL/Drug Free Communities, and the son attends the PAL Academy Charter School. Now he has good grades, whereas before he was failing in school.

The mother felt that the summer program was important to engage her children constructively and avoid the trouble other kids have who are on the street with nothing to do.

Second family: This mother had two daughters, ages 10 and 12, in the PAL Summer Program. She said the program "has been great" for her children. She had previously tried the YMCA and Boys and Girls Clubs, but felt they were not accomplishing what she wanted for her children. The mother had suffered a stroke and was concerned about her children being idle while she recuperated. She wanted her children engaged in more structured and productive activities and felt they lacked supervision in the other programs. At PAL, were male and that the children stay on their toes because of the officers' authority and uniforms.

She said her children have really grown since participating in PAL. Before, her daughters were harder to manage and were fussy and bored. Her eldest daughter only wanted to hang out with her peers and was starting to go “the wrong way.” Now her daughters have “totally changed” their attitudes and have higher morale. She said her oldest daughter, who is an artist, participated in the summer art program and received an outside art scholarship through staff assistance. She also became an A student and joined the PAL Academy instead of public school. The youngest daughter is now on the PAL basketball team and loves sports; before, she did not want to do anything, according to her mother. The mother knows the police officers who work with her daughters at PAL and has received valuable advice from staff members. She said, “I don’t think I could have made it through without having their support.”

7.0 Future Directions and Degree of Institutionalization

- Current seeding activities are likely to continue after Weed and Seed funding ends in three of the target neighborhoods—North and South Manatee and greater downtown Sarasota—because local leaders and community organizations are well established there. Weed and Seed provided a vehicle for the development of community-based leaders, and such leadership may not have surfaced without the resources and opportunities that Weed and Seed provided. For example, the Educational Consulting Consortium group—a network of retired educators who provide most of the activities at the Anna Gayle safe haven—got its start with Weed and Seed funds. Many of these community organizations seem to have the capacity to raise funds and run programs independently now. Seeding efforts in North and South Manatee have depended somewhat heavily on leadership of one key individual in each neighborhood, however. If these individuals leave, some of the seeding efforts could encounter difficulties. (Greater downtown Sarasota, on the other hand has a broader leadership infrastructure.²⁴)
- The Violent Crimes Task Force would likely continue after Weed and Seed funding ends, but possibly with less Federal support and leadership. The FBI has recently withdrawn one of its two agents assigned to the task force (reassigned to white-collar crime investigation), which may indicate reduced FBI support for the task force. Still, the four local agencies will likely continue to work together much more than in the past. Weed and Seed, through VCTF, changed the way the four local law enforcement agencies operate, toward much more collaboration and less concern over turf issues.
- The Weed and Seed program also built stronger relationships between the four local law enforcement agencies and a wide spectrum of the community, including the nonprofit organization Drug Free Communities, seeding providers, community leaders, residents, and other stakeholders (such as landlords and property managers). While all of these new

24 The other three sites (Central Bradenton, Laurel/Nokomas, and Newtown) would probably experience less seeding after Weed and Seed because of lack of community-based leaders and organizations. Central Bradenton is in a better position, as long as the Manatee County Sheriff’s Office PAL Academy remains there and provides a focal point for a variety of seeding-type programs. The other two sites would probably really struggle.

relationships may not survive the end of Weed and Seed funding, some will. This is especially likely since the Weed and Seed program also seems to have spurred interest among these agencies in community policing and encouraged them to take further steps toward its wider implementation.

- Although Weed and Seed provided the impetus for the first community oriented policing program in Manatee County and substantial benefits have been realized, without grant funding, the capacity of the sheriff's office to continue much of its community policing efforts may be questionable. The Manatee County Sheriff's Office currently depends on grant funding (more on COPS than Weed and Seed).
- Drug Free Communities (DFC) itself currently depends on funding from Weed and Seed and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, which provide the bulk of DFC's funding. The CSAP grant, which Drug Free Communities has relied on since 1989, was due to expire in 1998.
- Beyond the target areas, Weed and Seed advanced efforts in the city of Sarasota toward not only community policing but also community-oriented government. Weed and Seed coincided with developments already under way in that city and gave those efforts a substantial boost.

About the National Institute of Justice

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ), a component of the Office of Justice Programs, is the research agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. Created by the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended, NIJ is authorized to support research, evaluation, and demonstration programs, development of technology, and both national and international information dissemination. Specific mandates of the Act direct NIJ to:

- Sponsor special projects, and research and development programs, that will improve and strengthen the criminal justice system and reduce or prevent crime.
- Conduct national demonstration projects that employ innovative or promising approaches for improving criminal justice.
- Develop new technologies to fight crime and improve criminal justice.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of criminal justice programs and identify programs that promise to be successful if continued or repeated.
- Recommend actions that can be taken by Federal, State, and local governments as well as by private organizations to improve criminal justice.
- Carry out research on criminal behavior.
- Develop new methods of crime prevention and reduction of crime and delinquency.

In recent years, NIJ has greatly expanded its initiatives, the result of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (the Crime Act), partnerships with other Federal agencies and private foundations, advances in technology, and a new international focus. Some examples of these new initiatives:

- New research and evaluation are exploring key issues in community policing, violence against women, sentencing reforms, and specialized courts such as drug courts.
- Dual-use technologies are being developed to support national defense and local law enforcement needs.
- The causes, treatment, and prevention of violence against women and violence within the family are being investigated in cooperation with several agencies of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- NIJ's links with the international community are being strengthened through membership in the United Nations network of criminological institutes; participation in developing the U.N. Criminal Justice Information Network; initiation of UNOJUST (U.N. Online Justice Clearinghouse), which electronically links the institutes to the U.N. network; and establishment of an NIJ International Center.
- The NIJ-administered criminal justice information clearinghouse, the world's largest, has improved its online capability.
- The Institute's Drug Use Forecasting (DUF) program has been expanded and enhanced. Renamed ADAM (Arrestee Drug Abuse Monitoring), the program will increase the number of drug-testing sites, and its role as a "platform" for studying drug-related crime will grow.
- NIJ's new Crime Mapping Research Center will provide training in computer mapping technology, collect and archive geocoded crime data, and develop analytic software.
- The Institute's program of intramural research has been expanded and enhanced.

The Institute Director, who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, establishes the Institute's objectives, guided by the priorities of the Office of Justice Programs, the Department of Justice, and the needs of the criminal justice field. The Institute actively solicits the views of criminal justice professionals and researchers in the continuing search for answers that inform public policymaking in crime and justice.