

**REPORT OF THE  
FISCAL YEAR 2003-2004  
EVALUATION OF THE SOUTHSIDE WEED AND SEED  
PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY  
THE SPARTANBURG PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT**

**OCTOBER 15, 2004**

**Evaluation Conducted by SWS, Inc.  
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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Weed & Seed is a community based multi-agency approach to law enforcement, community policing, prevention, intervention and treatment and neighborhood restoration. The goals of Weed & Seed are to, first, control violent crime, drug trafficking and drug-related crime in high-crime neighborhoods and, second to provide a safe environment free of crime and drug use for residents of the neighborhood. The targeted area for the Spartanburg Weed & Seed project is the south-side of the city, which includes the Highland Community, Crescent Hills Apartments, Forest Park and Spartanburg County's Arkwright Community. This area includes three Public Housing projects and two subsidized apartment complexes that have a number of Section 8 rental assistance units. This area has many pressing health and safety issues. There are approximately 6,200 residents in this area of 3.12 square miles.

There are four broad areas within the Spartanburg Weed & Seed initiative. These are: Law Enforcement; Community Policing; Prevention, Intervention and Treatment; Neighborhood Restoration. Each of these areas has strategies, goals and objectives, activities/tasks, implementation plans, and measurable expected outcomes. All these together form the strategic plan. The success of carrying out the strategies, of meeting the goals and objectives, carrying out the activities/tasks and implementation plans, and the achievement of outcomes, form the basis for the evaluation.

There are three parts to the methodology for the evaluation. The first two of these are aimed at gathering data on the implementation of the strategic plan and the goals and objectives. The third is to use the data to reach conclusions and make recommendations. These three parts are: Determine how completely the strategies, goals and objectives were carried out through the implementation activities and implementation plans; measure the progress made towards meeting the desired outcomes of the strategic plan; and develop an evaluation report.

Twelve conclusions were reached in the evaluation. These are:

1. All strategies of the Weed and Seed project have been implemented.
2. A comparison of the community survey conducted in 2003 to the survey conducted in 2004 clearly indicates that residents have noted improvements in crime and in the general conditions of the Southside community.
3. The Safe Havens have been successful in providing afterschool services that keep children safe and prepare them for greater achievement in school.
4. Community meetings and community input into policy decisions regarding the Southside have greatly increased.
5. PACT scores have improved and students reported on surveys a desire to remain in school.
6. Burglary and breaking and entering incidents have increased while arrests have decreased in the Weed and Seed area.
7. The number of drug-related incidents has decreased.
8. The number of domestic violence cases has decreased. The number of domestic violence victims receiving services has also decreased.

9. Efforts to improve the physical nature of the area through enforcement of building codes, development of new housing and so on is well underway in terms of planning and the securing of resources.
10. Health care has been brought to the area through a full-service, free standing clinic.
11. The intensified community policing has given residents a greater sense of safety and has created a presence that reinforces the concept of zero tolerance for crime.
12. Data that might be helpful to the planning and operations of the project is not kept in a form that is readily accessible to everyone involved in the project, including the community.

Five recommendations are made in the report. These are:

1. Work with the city and county magistrates' offices and the solicitor's office to track a crime from arrest through prosecution.
2. Work on centralizing all data and making it available to the community.
3. Follow through on the efforts to improve the physical appearance and infrastructure of the Southside.
4. Continue and enhance the coordination among ReGenesis projects, the Housing Authority projects, the Safe Havens, School District 7, the law enforcement functions, and work being conducted in the Southside under other grants.
5. Continue and enhance the participation of the residents of the community in Weed and Seed activities.

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# **INTRODUCTION**

## **Weed & Seed Initiatives**

The City of Spartanburg has had a Weed & Seed grant for about two years. Weed & Seed is a grant program initiated by the US Department of Justice in 1991. Weed & Seed is administered through the Executive Office of Weed & Seed. Weed & Seed is a community based multi-agency approach to law enforcement, community policing, prevention, intervention and treatment and neighborhood restoration. The goals of Weed & Seed are to, first, control violent crime, drug trafficking and drug-related crime in high-crime neighborhoods and, second to provide a safe environment free of crime and drug use for residents of the neighborhood.

The weed part of Weed & Seed organizes federal, state and local crime-fighting agencies, social service providers, representatives of the public and private sector, prosecutors, business owners and neighborhood residents to weed out violent crime and gang activity. At the same time, these same groups seed back into the community social service and economic revitalization.

## **Weed & Seed in Spartanburg, South Carolina**

The targeted area for the Spartanburg Weed & Seed project is the south-side of the city, which includes the Highland Community, Crescent Hills Apartments, Forest Park, and Spartanburg County's Arkwright Community. This area includes three Public Housing projects and two subsidized apartment complexes that have a number of Section 8 rental assistance units. This area has many pressing health and safety issues. There are approximately 6,200 residents in this area of 3.12 square miles.

The City of Spartanburg acts as the fiscal agent for the funding. The Spartanburg Public Safety Department has responsibility for the fiscal accounting (along with the Finance Department) of the project and supervises the Weed & Seed Coordinator. The Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the approved activities of the Weed & Seed Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee is responsible for developing strategies for both the "weed" and the "seed" activities. This includes active participation in receiving community input on areas of concern, deciding whether or not the areas of concern fall under the jurisdiction of the Weed & Seed strategy, and collaboratively working with community members, local government, and law enforcement to devise a solution.

Two other grants are coordinated with the Weed & Seed Grant. The first is a Drug Free Communities Grant to reduce drug, tobacco and alcohol use in the Southside Community. The second is a Title II, Part B Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Grant that is designed to allow the Weed & Seed community to improve school performance and community activities of community youth. The combination of the three grants provides a powerful attempt to make major, lasting changes for the residents. The three projects complement one another and together can accomplish more than each individually can accomplish. There is full cooperation and inter-support among the three projects.

# Spartanburg Weed & Seed Goals and Objectives

There are four broad areas within the Spartanburg Weed & Seed initiative. These are:

- Law Enforcement
- Community Policing
- Prevention, Intervention and Treatment
- Neighborhood Restoration

Each of these areas has strategies, goals and objectives, activities/tasks, implementation plans, and measurable expected outcomes. All these together form the strategic plan. The success of carrying out the strategies, of meeting the goals and objectives, carrying out the activities/tasks and implementation plans, and the achievement of outcomes, form the basis for the evaluation. The strategies and the goals, objectives and outcomes are therefore stated in this section.

## Law Enforcement

**Strategy 1:** Law enforcement plans to coordinate federal, state, and local officials to combat street-level drug sales. The community will be encouraged to participate. The project will work to enhance the prosecution of crime.

### Goal

- To eliminate street-level drug sales within the target area.

### Objectives

- To identify offenders and locations responsible for the defined criminal activity.
- To establish a clear and increased police presence.
- To institute proactive enforcement measures to eliminate drug dealers.
- To foster a closer relationship with the community to facilitate more effective problem solving techniques to destroy the site's drug trade.
- To build community cohesiveness and sustain maintenance capabilities.

### Outcome Measures for this strategy

- Number of drug and drug-related arrests.
- Number of prosecutions and convictions of drug offenders.
- Number of street-level enterprises.

**Strategy 2:** Law enforcement will coordinate activities with other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to address youth gang activities and eliminate the crime associated with gang activities. Enhanced prosecution will be used to eliminate the criminal activity.

### Goal

- To eliminate youth gang affiliations and eliminate the crime associated with gang organizations.

### Objectives

- To identify offenders and locations responsible for gang related criminal activity.
- To establish a clear and increased police presence.
- To institute proactive enforcement measures to remove gangs from the targeted area.
- To foster a closer relationship with the community to facilitate more effective problem solving techniques to identify and locate the site's violent offenders.
- To build community cohesiveness and sustain maintenance capabilities

### Outcome measure for this strategy

- Number of arrests for gang related activities.

**Strategy 3:** Law enforcement will coordinate with the crime analyst to establish trends in the community. The prosecutor's office will work to prosecute all cases.

### Goal

- To reduce the number of burglaries in the area.

### Objectives

- To identify areas of the designated neighborhood with higher rates of burglaries.
- To establish a clear and increased police presence.
- To institute proactive enforcement measures to eliminate drug dealers.
- To foster a closer relationship with the community to facilitate more effective problem-solving techniques to identify and locate problem areas.
- To build community cohesiveness and sustain maintenance capabilities.

### Outcome Measures for this strategy

- Number of arrests for burglaries.
- Reduction in the number of burglaries.

## **Community Policing**

**Strategy 1:** Community Policing Officers will work with neighborhoods to encourage their involvement in working with law enforcement to reduce the street-level drug sales. Residents will be encouraged to work with police to identify issues.

### Goals

- To reduce street-level crimes and maintain peace in the neighborhood.
- To regain control of the neighborhood parks and encourage families to use these facilities.
- To educate citizens on the role of law enforcement and the need for citizen involvement.
- To implement partnerships for shared responsibilities in conjunction with law enforcement functions.

### Objectives

- To increase the number of problem solving/community police officers and crime prevention officers working in the area.

- To develop communication with residents to gain intelligence information.
- To coordinate neighborhood watch programs with officers in the target area.
- To eliminate drug houses by reporting intelligence information to law and code enforcement components and surrounding homeowners.

#### Outcome Measures for this strategy

- Declines in street-level drug sales
- Declines in drug-related crimes
- Increased mobilization of residents

**Strategy 2:** Community Policing Officers will work with neighborhoods to decrease crime, which will begin to reduce residents fear and bring business to the community. The accomplishment in reducing crime will be shared at neighborhood watch meetings and the Weed & Seed Steering Committee meetings.

#### Goals

- To reduce street-level crimes and maintain peace in the neighborhood.
- To increase citizens' perceptions of safety which will reduce citizens' fear of victimization.
- To regain control of the neighborhood parks and encourage families to use these facilities.
- To educate citizens on the role of law enforcement and the need for citizen involvement.
- To implement partnerships for shared responsibilities in conjunction with law enforcement functions.

#### Objectives

- To increase the number of problems solving/community police officers and crime prevention officers working in the area.
- To develop communication with residents to gain intelligence information.
- To coordinate neighborhood watch programs with officers in the target areas.
- To increase accessibility to police and create a partnership with the neighborhood residents.
- To identify specific citizens' concerns and gain commitment of residents and business leaders willing to actively participate in reclaiming control of the targeted area.
- To provide assistance to residents who are victims or who have fear of becoming victims.
- To increase public awareness through National Night Out and Crime Prevention Programs.
- To provide police assistance in the development of new Neighborhood Watch Groups.
- To improve community relations with residents through problem solving/police sponsorship and participation in neighborhood event activities, meetings and recreation programs for youth.

#### Outcome Measures for this strategy

- Enhance perception by the community about the reduction of crime and fear of crime in the neighborhood.
- Number of neighborhood clean up projects and number of residents participation.
- Number of community meetings attended and held by community policing officers.
- Number of community activities in the parks.
- Level of resident attendance and participation in Neighborhood Watch Programs.

## **Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment**

**Strategy 1:** With the increase in collaboration of residents parental involvement and help from public and private agencies should improve.

### Goal

- To improve the school performance of area students including increasing graduation rates, performance on standardized tests, less disciplinary problems in schools.

### Objective

- To develop and establish Safe Havens throughout the targeted neighborhoods to address the educational issues among students.

### Outcome Measures for this Strategy

- Number of students completing school.
- Improved standardized test scores.
- Increase in drop-out prevention programming.
- Increase in activities available after school.
- Less disciplinary problems.

**Strategy 2:** ReGenesis will continue to operate their newly opened health center and will begin work on another one. These health centers will continue to use a sliding fee scale and remain economical as they serve the residents in the target Weed & Seed area.

### Goal

- To bring affordable health and human services, especially for medical problems to the area and counseling related to family violence.

### Objectives

- To increase the availability of resources and funding to implement desired programs.
- To develop and establish Safe Havens throughout the targeted neighborhoods.
- To provide affordable and accessible health care to persons in the designated neighborhoods.
- To increase the opportunity for affordable out-patient health care for persons in the area through the establishment of a health facility in Arkwright.
- To educate residents on disease prevention, control and treatment.

### Outcome Measures for this strategy

- An increase in health and human services offered within the neighborhood.
- An increase in the victims receiving counseling for exposure to family violence.
- An increase in persons receiving education related to family violence.

**Strategy 3:** We will continue to seek funding that is targeted at the workforce, while working with PCA in developing the existing programs in anticipation of making them available at the Safe Havens.

#### Goal

- To develop the target area workforce potential.

#### Objectives

- To develop and/or enhance services at one Safe Haven and establish a second Safe Haven in the community.
- To increase the availability of resources and funding to implement desired programs.
- To assist high school students in developing a career plan.
- To provide vocational training for residents.
- To develop an alliance of business to train and employ students.
- To provide GED and other job readiness training.

#### Outcome Measures for this Strategy

- Number of GED's earned.
- Decrease in unemployment.
- Job placements.

**Strategy 4:** Safe Home Rape Crisis Coalition will continue to coordinate with the city of Spartanburg to bring education on violence issues and parenting classes to all of the Safe Havens.

#### Goal

- To educate individuals throughout the community about the seriousness of domestic violence and to inform them about local resources available, with a goal of reducing the incidents of domestic violence along with other related criminal activity.

#### Objective

- To make homes in the community safer places for children to be in as well as a place they find comfort and love.

#### Outcome Measures for this strategy

- Decrease in domestic violence as is recorded by Spartanburg Public Safety Department and Spartanburg County Sheriff's Department.

## **Neighborhood Restoration**

**Strategy 1:** The Weed & Seed partners will work together to reduce street-level drug sales and chronic crime through environmental changes, such as removing old houses, code enforcement, and cleaning up neighborhoods.

#### Goals

- To discourage illegal drug activity throughout the target area.
- Reduce the percentage and type of criminal activity.
- To develop a comprehensive strategy that will stabilize the residential neighborhood.
- To provide a safe quality living environment for all residents.

## Objectives

- Eliminate all illegal drug activity from the target area.
- Preserve and protect the desired quality living environment.
- Enhance the partnership between residents and government, collaborating ways and actions in resolving problems.
- Provide decent, safe and well managed rental units.
- Eliminate the use of private property for illegal activities.

## Outcome Measures for this Strategy

- Visible change to street level drug activity.
- Increase in drug-related arrests, prosecutions and conviction.

**Strategy 2:** Through the implementation of the City and County Comprehensive Redevelopment Plan and their commitment to this area, the availability of resources will improve and redevelopment and revitalization will continue.

## Goals

- To preserve the residential housing stock.
- To improve the economic viability of the neighborhood.
- To develop a comprehensive strategy that will stabilize the residential neighborhood.
- To provide a safe quality living environment for all residents.

## Objectives

- Preserve and protect the desired quality living environment.
- Enhance the partnership between residents and government, collaborating ways and actions in resolving problems.
- Facilitate affordable homeownership and rental opportunities.
- Provide decent, safe and well managed rental units.
- Provide a desired mix of shopping opportunities attractive to our diverse community.
- Increase the availability of resources and funding to implement desired programs.
- Eliminate the use of private property for illegal activities.

## Outcome Measures for this Strategy

- Reduction in number of properties cited under the Code Enforcement process.
- Increase in number of business licenses issued in the target area.
- Visible change to street level drug activity.
- Decline in number of places where illegal drug activity appears welcomed.
- Percentage of owner-occupied houses.
- Diversity of retail and grocery shopping opportunities located within the area.
- Number of new homeowners associations organized.

**Strategy 3:** The partnerships that exist to redevelop and restore this area of the city will continue. The city's commitment is shown, as they are currently seeking letters of intent to co-anchor a large shopping center in this area.

## Goals

- To improve the economic viability of the neighborhood.
- To encourage new and sustain existing minority business opportunities.
- To increase the number of resident-owned businesses.
- To develop a comprehensive strategy that will stabilize the residential neighborhood.

## Objectives

- Preserve and protect the desired quality living environment.
- Enhance the partnership between residents and government, collaborating ways and actions in resolving problems.
- Develop job training and apprenticeship programs with public and private sector employers.
- Increase the availability of resources and funding to implement desired job training and job readiness programs.

## Outcome Measures for this strategy

- New businesses in area.

**Strategy 4:** The Weed & Seed Steering Committee, ReGenesis, and local government will continue to encourage partnerships and collaborations involving residents. The residents will continue to be involved and have a voice in what occurs in the community.

## Goal

- To encourage resident involvement in all aspects of community improvements.

## Objectives

- To help residents create and influence policy.
- To create a community voice.
- Enhance the partnership between residents and government, collaborating ways and actions in resolving problems.
- Communicate and collaborate with residents on a regular basis.

## Outcome Measures for this strategy

- Increase in resident involvement in community planning.
- Increase in resident involvement in community restoration volunteer efforts.
- Increase in number of neighborhood associations and organizations.

# METHODOLOGY

## Introduction

Data was collected by the project during the first year of funding, and continues to be collected. This data was utilized by SWS in conducting the evaluation. This data was augmented by additional data gathered by SWS, especially in the Safe Havens.

There are three parts to the methodology for the evaluation. The first two of these are aimed at gathering data on the implementation of the strategic plan and the goals and objectives. The third is to use the data to reach conclusions and make recommendations. These three parts are:

Part 1 – Determine how completely the strategies, goals and objectives were carried out through the implementation activities and implementation plans.

Part 2 – Measure the progress made towards meeting the desired outcomes of the strategic plan.

Part 3 – Develop an evaluation report.

It should be noted that the award of the contract to conduct the evaluations did not occur until April 2004. SWS was therefore unable to influence the gathering of data, design of instruments, and so on until the project was two-thirds complete for the year. This timing placed some limitations on the evaluation, which will be stated below. However, the program personnel were very cooperative and helpful, and willing to support SWS in completing this evaluation, which made the task doable.

## **Part 1 – Determine how completely the strategies, goals and objectives were carried out**

The proposal for the Weed & Seed grant includes implementation activities and plans for each of the sets of goals and objectives. Carrying out these activities and plans are the ways the writers of the grant believed were the best ways to meet the goals and objectives, and, ultimately, achieve the outcomes. The process of carrying these out is also important to building a sense of community and bringing the different groups working in the community together. Both of these are important to achieve the strategic plan of the project.

Learning how this process went, and learning the lessons about what worked best and what might work better next time, is essential to the evaluation. Initially, it was planned to gather qualitative data through focus groups with program personnel in each of the four areas of the program. Since the contract was not awarded until two-thirds of the year had passed, making the organization of focus groups difficult, a series of individual interviews with key personnel were held instead. In addition, the minutes of the advisory group were read. Interviews were conducted with people involved in each of the four major areas in the project (law enforcement, community policing, prevention, intervention and treatment and community restoration.)

## **Part 2 – Measure the Progress Made**

There are 37 desired outcomes for the Spartanburg Weed and Seed project. These can be divided into two types of measures - quantitative and qualitative. The quantitative measures are ones that can be counted, like number of drug arrests. There are 27 quantitative outcome measures. The qualitative measures are ones that are a matter of perception, like decline in number of places that appear to welcome drug activity. There are ten of these.

SWS gathered the data through four avenues. First, the data that the Weed & Seed program has already collected was examined to get as many of the measurements as possible. Second, for quantitative outcome data that are not already collected, the place where the data can be found was identified and the data requested. Third, to gather the qualitative data, a community survey conducted by the community policing officers was utilized. Fourth, pre- and post-tests were administered to young people in the four Safe Havens to measure their progress.

The outcomes that were measured are:

- Number of drug and drug-related arrests
- Number of prosecutions and convictions of drug offenders
- Number of street-level enterprises
- Number of arrests for gang related activities
- Number of arrests for burglaries
- Reduction in the number of burglaries
- Declines in street-level drug sales
- Declines in drug-related crimes
- Increased mobilization of residents
- Enhance perception by the community about the reduction of crime and fear of crime in the neighborhood
- Number of neighborhood clean up projects and number of residents participating
- Number of community meetings attended and held by community policing officers
- Number of community activities in the parks
- Level of resident attendance and participation in Neighborhood Watch Programs
- Number of students completing school
- Improved standardized test scores
- Increase in drop-out prevention programming
- Increase in activities available after school
- Less disciplinary problems
- An increase in health and human services offered within the neighborhood
- An increase in the victims receiving counseling for exposure to family violence
- An increase in persons receiving education related to family violence
- Number of GED's earned
- Decrease in unemployment
- Job placements
- Decrease in domestic violence as is recorded by Spartanburg Public Safety Department and Spartanburg County Sheriff's Department

- Reduction in number of properties cited under the Code Enforcement process
- Increase in number of business licenses issued in the target area
- Visible change to street level drug activity
- Decline in number of places where illegal drug activity appears welcomed
- Percentage of owner-occupied houses
- Diversity of retail and grocery shopping opportunities located within the area
- Number of new homeowners associations organized
- New businesses in area
- Increase in resident involvement in community planning
- Increase in resident involvement in community restoration volunteer efforts
- Increase in number of neighborhood associations and organizations

### **Part 3- Develop an Evaluation Report**

There are five parts to developing the evaluation report. 1) A database was developed into which all of the data gathered was placed. 2) Statistical and qualitative methods were used to analyze the database, creating a description of the project, its successes and its weaknesses. 3) The findings of the analysis were put into charts, tables and written form that is understandable and usable. 4) Written conclusions were drawn from the findings and reported. 5) Written recommendations were developed.

The final report will include a description of the grant and its strategic plan and goals and objectives; the findings; the conclusions; and the recommendations. This will result in a detailed, written discussion of how well the strategic plan and goals and objectives are being met. The report will be completed by October 5, 2004.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIES

The Weed and Seed project in Spartanburg South Carolina was first funded for Federal Fiscal Year 2002. The first year of the project was spent planning, organizing and beginning the implementation of community interventions for both the Weed and the Seed sides of the project.

Policy and guidance are provided to the project by a Steering Committee composed of community members. The Steering Committee is co-chaired by the Assistant U.S. Attorney and a City of Spartanburg resident who owns property in the Weed and Seed area. The organizational meeting for the Steering Committee was held on January 17, 2002. The Committee was an integral part of developing the application for the Weed and Seed grant. The Weed and Seed Steering Committee meets monthly to receive progress reports, develop policies, and provide guidance for the project.

The Steering Committee is very active in developing the strategies that guide the weed and the seed activities. The Steering Committee, operating within specific policies and procedures, actively receives community input, determines if concerns fall within the Weed and Seed overall strategy and works with community members, local government and law enforcement to develop solutions to the concerns.

Agencies and organizations submit proposals for Weed and Seed funding based on Requests for Proposals that are developed when the federal funding is received. The responses to the Requests are reviewed by a Grant Review Committee of the Steering Committee. The recommendations of the Grant Review Committee are presented to the Steering Committee for final approval.

*A review of the minutes of the Steering Committee meetings since the first meeting confirms that the Steering Committee is active, responsive to the community, and meeting its obligations.*

The City of Spartanburg provides administrative and fiscal oversight of the project. *The City has been diligent in maintaining the administrative functions through the active participation of the Operations Analyst at the Department of Public Safety.*

The Weed and Seed Coordinator is an employee of the Department of Public Safety. She staffs the Weed and Seed Steering Committee and coordinates the day-to-day operations of the programs funded by Weed and Seed that are not within the purview of the law enforcement coordinator.

*The Weed and Seed coordinator is staffing the Steering Committee fully. She actively coordinates the operations of the programs funded by Weed and Seed that are not within the purview of the law enforcement coordinator.*

The Weed and Seed programs fall under one of four task teams - a Weed Task Team; a COP Task Team; a Prevention, Intervention and Treatment Team; and a Community Development Team.

The Weed Task Team is primarily responsible for overseeing the carrying out of the Law Enforcement strategies. The first strategy is: "Law Enforcement plans to coordinate federal, state and local officials to combat street level drug sales. The community will be encouraged to participate. The project will work to enhance the prosecution of crime."

*It is clear from physical observations of the evaluators that law enforcement officials are coordinating their activities. The evaluators also observed heavy patrolling in the Weed and Seed area. The minutes of the Steering Committee indicate a law enforcement presence and interactions at the meetings.*

The second strategy is, "Law enforcement will coordinate with other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to address youth gang activities and eliminate the crime associated with gang organizations. Enhanced prosecution will be used to eliminate the criminal activity."

*There is a task force working in this area. However, no information was made available to the evaluators other than the fact that a task force exists.*

The third strategy is "Law enforcement will coordinate with the crime analyst to establish trends in the community. The prosecutor's office will work to prosecute all cases."

*The crime analyst at the Department of Public Safety has provided law enforcement with crime trends in the targeted area using software available for these purposes. The prosecutor's office reports that they are prosecuting cases made by law enforcement; however, the office is somewhat hampered in providing full information because of an antiquated reporting system.*

The COP Task Team oversees the community policing strategies. The first of these is, "Community Policing Officers will work with neighborhoods to encourage their involvement in working with law enforcement to reduce the street level drug sales. Residents will be encouraged to work with police to identify issues."

*The Spartanburg Public Safety Department has provided overtime for community policing officers to allow a greater presence in the community. The officers are meeting with the Neighborhood Watch groups in the community on a monthly basis.*

The second Community Policing strategy is, "Community Policing Officers will work with neighborhoods to decrease crime, which will begin to reduce residents fear and bring business to the community. The accomplishments in reducing crime will be shared at neighborhood watch meetings and the Weed and Seed Steering Committee."

*The crime statistics are shared with Neighborhood Watch meetings and meetings of the Weed and Seed Steering Committee. Officers have also organized and conducted four Community Clean-ups during the year and have been conducting community surveys. A fourth Neighborhood Watch was established during the fiscal year.*

The third Community Policing strategy is, “Community Policing Officers will work with the communities by coordinating activities, neighborhood watch meetings, and to add new neighborhood watch meetings when necessary.”

*The community policing officers are attending neighborhood watch meetings along with the Program Coordinator. Community policing officers are visible in the neighborhoods, are involved in development of a Youth Apprenticeship Program, take part in neighborhood Clean-ups and continuously generate communication with the citizens of Southside.*

The Prevention, Intervention and Treatment Task Team is primarily responsible for overseeing the carrying out of the prevention, intervention and treatment strategies. The first of these is, “With the collaboration of residents, increased parental involvement, and help from public and private agencies, the educational performance should improve.”

*Four Safe Havens have been established in the Weed & Seed area. These are located at Crescent Hill Apartments, Bethlehem Center, Community Baptist Church and CC Woodson Recreation Center. All four Safe Havens provide after school programs that include homework assistance, computer labs and tutoring. Two of the Centers (Community Baptist Church and CC Woodson) added the computer labs and tutoring during the 2003-2004 fiscal year. Also during the fiscal year, additional funding from grants was developed to enhance the existing programming and add new programming. Attention was especially paid to at-risk youth and the involvement of parents and community residents as volunteers.*

The second prevention, intervention, and treatment strategy is “ReGenesis will continue to operate their newly opened health center and will begin work on another center. These health centers will continue to use a sliding fee scale and remain economical as they serve the residents in the target Weed & Seed area.”

*ReGenesis Community Health Center opened on March 31, 2003. ReGenesis offers health care for many uninsured patients and offers a sliding scale fee. In addition, mental health, substance abuse and counseling services, as well as case management services are available through ReGenesis. ReGenesis has recently received Brownfields grants to clean up two areas in the Southside community, which will improve the community’s health picture. ReGenesis is developing a second medical care site in the Arkwright neighborhood.*

The third prevention, intervention, and treatment strategy is “We will continue to seek funding that is targeted at the workforce, while working with PCA in developing the existing programs in anticipation of making them available at the Safe Havens.”

*The Piedmont Community Actions, Inc. has been active in the Safe Havens, helping to develop jobs related programs. School District 7 provides a comprehensive set of services to prepare youth for job seeking, job finding and job retention.*

The fourth prevention, intervention, and treatment strategy is, “Safe Home/Rape Crisis Coalition will continue to coordinate with the city of Spartanburg to bring education on violence issues and parenting classes to all of the Safe Havens.”

*During the fiscal year, Safe Homes/Rape Crisis Coalition provided education at all four of the Safe Havens: Crescent Hills Apartments, Bethlehem Center, C.C. Woodson, and Community Baptist Church.*

The Community Development Team is primarily responsible for overseeing the carrying out of the Neighborhood Restoration strategies. The first of these is, “The Weed and Seed partners will work together to reduce street-level drug sales and chronic crime through environmental changes such as removing old houses, code enforcement, and cleaning up neighborhoods.”

*The physical environment of the community is being changed through several different efforts. The Brownfields Grant mentioned above is cleaning up chemical and petroleum pollution sites. Community Policing Officers are noting private property that appears to not be up to code, especially that that appears to be used for illegal purposes, and are providing that information to the Code Officer for action to be taken. A Community Development plan for the Arkwright Community is being implemented. And a consortium of agencies is working to bring new business and housing to the community. A \$10 million Hope VI Grant has been received by the Spartanburg Housing Authority, part of which will provide new housing in the Southside. A total of \$85 million will be spent to provide better housing over the next several years in Spartanburg, part of which will go to the Southside area.*

The second Neighborhood Restoration strategy is, “Through the implementation of the City and County Comprehensive Redevelopment Plan and their commitment to this area, the availability of resources will improve and redevelopment and revitalization will continue.”

*The actions described above are, in part, the result of the implementation of the City and County Comprehensive Redevelopment Plan. The Plan continues to be implemented, with work being done to bring new commercial activities to the area.*

The third Neighborhood Restoration strategy is, “The partnerships that exist to redevelop and restore this area of the city will continue. The city’s commitment is shown, as they are currently seeking letters of intent to co-anchor a large shopping center in this area.”

*See above.*

The fourth Neighborhood Restoration strategy is, “The Weed and Seed Steering Committee, ReGenesis, and local government will continue to encourage partnerships and collaborations involving residents. The residents will continue to be involved and have a voice in what occurs in the community.”

*Residents are fully involved in the planning and operations of the Weed and Seed Steering Committee, ReGenesis and local government efforts.*

## PROGRESS TOWARD DESIRED OUTCOMES

Progress toward desired outcomes was evaluated using two types of information. The first type of information is quantitative data gathered by the Crime Analysis Division and Narcotics/Vice Unit of the Spartanburg Department of Public Safety, the Spartanburg Sheriff’s Office, the County Magistrate’s Office, the Community Development Office, the Spartanburg Solicitor’s Office, the SC Department of Education Website, the Community Development Division of the City of Spartanburg, and the Project Coordinator for the Weed & Seed grant. The second type of information is qualitative data gathered from face-to-face and telephone interviews with key personnel and stakeholders within the Spartanburg community. This information was then divided and analyzed according to each strategy under the Weed & Seed grant.

For purposes of this analysis, the year that the interventions occurred in is considered to be September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2004 and the baseline year for comparison is considered to be September 1, 2002 to August 31, 2003.

### Law Enforcement

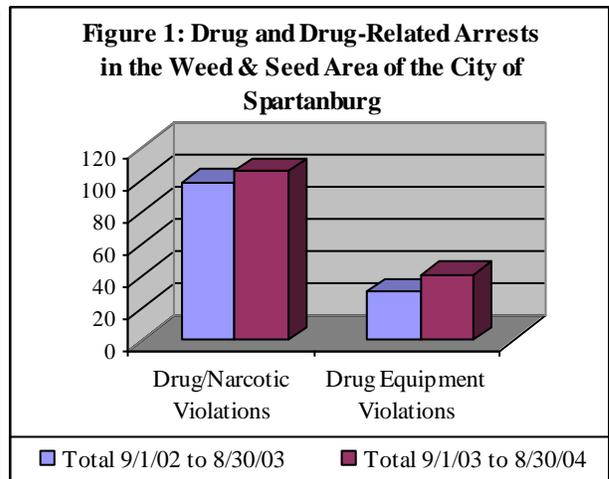
#### Strategy 1: Combat Street-Level Drug Sales

This strategy focuses on combating street-level drug sales through coordination among federal, state, and local officials. The progress toward achieving the goals set forth in this strategy is evaluated by reviewing the number of drug and drug-related arrests, the number of prosecutions and convictions of drug offenders, and the number of street-level enterprises.

#### Number of Drug and Drug-Related Arrests

Arrests for Drug/Narcotic Violations within the Weed & Seed area of the City of Spartanburg have increased by 7% from last year (9/1/02 to 8/31/03) to this year (9/1/03 to 8/31/04). Arrests for Drug Equipment Violations within the Weed & Seed area of the City of Spartanburg have increased by 37% from last year to this year. (See Table 1 and Figure 1.)

<b>Table 1: Drug and Drug-Related Arrests in the Weed &amp; Seed Area of the City of Spartanburg</b>		
	Drug/ Narcotic Violations	Drug Equipment Violations
Total 9/1/02 to 8/31/03	98	30
Total 9/1/03 to 8/31/04	105	41
% Change	7%	37%



The County Sheriff's Office is in the process of updating their data management system. Therefore, a complete set of data on the arrests for drug and drug-related crimes in the Weed & Seed area within the county was not available at the time of this evaluation. It is known that six arrests for drug/narcotic violations were made in the Weed & Seed area of Spartanburg County from January through April of 2004.

### **Number of Prosecutions and Convictions of Drug Offenders**

A number of issues arose when attempting to gather data on the prosecution and conviction of drug offenders in the Weed & Seed area. The first issue is that prosecution of drug offenders is split between the city and county magistrates' offices and the solicitor's office according to the severity of the crime. The second issue is that in all of these offices, the disposition reports are geared toward the defendant's address and not toward the location of the arrest. The third issue is that cases can take anywhere from a month to several years to be resolved. These three factors make it very difficult to determine the rate at which those being arrested in the Weed & Seed area are being convicted.

It is known that between January 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004, 79 criminal cases with defendants living in the 29304 zip code were moved, of which the majority were on drug and forgery warrants. Furthermore, during this time nearly 70 General Court criminal charges have been filed against defendants in the 29304 zip code. A representative from the Solicitor's Office noted that their records reflect a lot of police work since the beginning of the study period.

It is also known that between October 1, 2002 and August 31, 2004, 18 persons living in the Weed & Seed area were convicted for simple possession of marijuana in the Spartanburg County Magistrate Courts. Data on simple possession of marijuana convictions was not available from the City of Spartanburg Magistrate Courts.

### **Number of Street-Level Enterprises**

Changes in street-level enterprises can be viewed from two perspectives: from those policing the area and from those residing in the area. Reports from the Weed & Seed policing unit provide insight into how the special policing unit has affected street-level enterprises both qualitatively and quantitatively. Secondly, a community survey conducted in the Highland and Liberty areas provides insight into how residents view this problem. A copy of this survey is included in Appendix One.

#### Patrols in the Weed & Seed Area

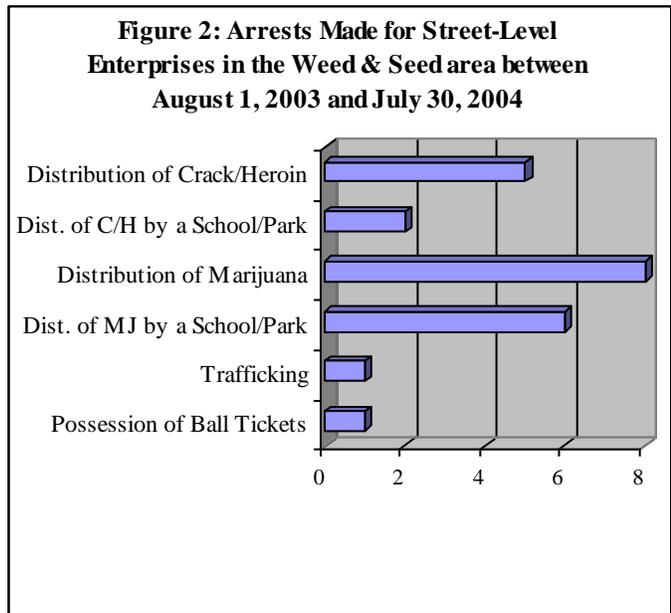
Police reports offer both opinions from officers on how their patrols are affecting the community and evidence of their increased presence by way of arrests for street-level enterprising.

Overall, the police officers feel that their patrols are affecting the community. Several officers noted a decrease in activity during the known policing hours; however they feel that these offending residents return to their normal behavior as soon as the officers leave the Weed & Seed area. The police reports note the identification of individuals and methods of distribution which are contributing factors to the level of drug activity within the Weed & Seed area. Although they

have encountered difficulty acquiring the evidence necessary to press charges, officers report a belief that arresting these individuals would decrease the level of drug activity within the Weed & Seed area. A large number of high-level drug investigations are currently underway in the Weed & Seed area, which the police feel have slowed the number of high-level distributors residing in the area. Police sources indicate, however, that the large-scale dealers are moving their bases of operation just outside the City Limits.

Specifically, the Narcotics Division has made 23 arrests for street-level enterprise crimes in the Weed & Seed area during August 1, 2003 to July 31, 2004. Five of these were for distribution of crack or heroin (two of which were within ½ mile of a school or park). Eight of these were for the distribution of marijuana (six of which were within ½ mile of a school or park). One arrest was for trafficking, and one arrest was for the possession of ball tickets. (See Table 2 and Figure 2.)

<b>Table 2: Arrests for Street-Level Enterprise Crimes in the Weed &amp; Seed Area</b>	
<b>Arrest</b>	<b>Number</b>
Distribution of Crack/Heroin	5
Dist. of C/H by a School/Park	2
Distribution of Marijuana	8
Dist. of MJ by a School/Park	6
Trafficking	1
Possession of Ball Tickets	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>



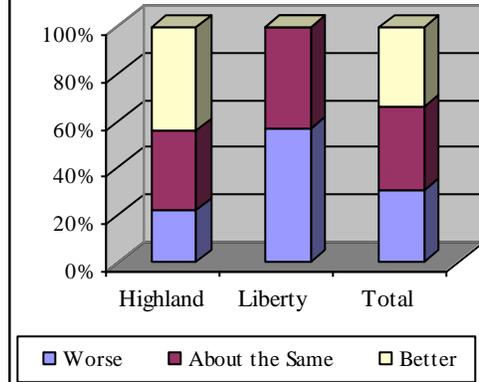
The Weed & Seed Community Survey

Two questions from the Weed & Seed Community Survey address street-level enterprises (specifically drug related enterprises) within the community. The first question is “[Compared to two years ago, would you say the problem with] Drug dealers on streets, street corners, or in other public places [has gotten better, worse, or stayed the same?]” Of the 50 Highland residents who responded to this question, 40% felt that the situation has gotten better, 30% felt that the situation has stayed about the same, 20% stated that the situation has gotten worse, and 10% did not know. Of the 17 Liberty residents who responded to this question, 47% stated that the situation has gotten worse, 35% stated that the situation has stayed about the same, 18% did not know, and none of the residents felt that the situation has gotten better. (See Table 3 and Figure 3) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and the survey in the Highland area was done in 2004.

**Table 3: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Drug dealers on streets, street corners, or in other public places."**

	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Better	20	40%	0	0%	<b>20</b>	<b>30%</b>
Worse	10	20%	8	47%	<b>18</b>	<b>27%</b>
About the Same	15	30%	6	35%	<b>21</b>	<b>31%</b>
Don't know	5	10%	3	18%	<b>8</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Figure : Residents' Opinions on the Status of the Problem with Drug Dealers**

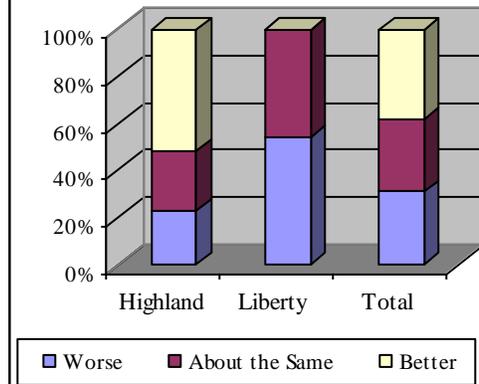


The second question from the survey is “[Compared to two years ago, would you say the problem with] Drug sales out of home or apartments [has gotten better, worse, or stayed the same?]” Of the 50 Highland residents who responded to this question, 32% felt that the situation has gotten better, 16% felt that the situation has stayed about the same, 14% stated that the situation has gotten worse, and 38% did not know. Of the 17 Liberty residents who responded to this question, 35% stated that the situation has gotten worse, 29% stated that the situation has stayed about the same, 35% did not know, and none of the residents felt that the situation has gotten better. (See Table 4 and Figure 4.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and the survey in the Highland area was done in 2004.

**Table 4: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Drug sales out of homes or apartments."**

	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Better	16	32%	0	0%	<b>16</b>	<b>24%</b>
Worse	7	14%	6	35%	<b>13</b>	<b>19%</b>
About the Same	8	16%	5	29%	<b>13</b>	<b>19%</b>
Don't know	19	38%	6	35%	<b>25</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Figure : Residents' Opinions on the Status of the Problem with Drug Sales out of Homes**

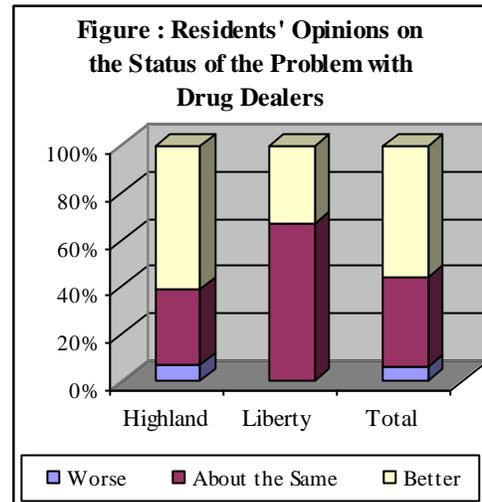


## Strategy 2: Eliminate Gang Activities and Crime Associated with Gangs

This strategy focuses on eliminating youth gang affiliations and eliminating the crime associated with gang organizations. The outcome measurement for this strategy is the number of arrests for gang-related activity. Due to on-going investigations on these matters, data for this measurement was not available at the time of this evaluation. The community survey, however, does provide information on how residents feel toward changes in gang activity. A copy of this survey is included in Appendix One.

The question asked of residents was “[Compared to two years ago, would you say the problem with] Gang activity [has gotten better, worse, or stayed the same?]” Very few residents felt that this problem has gotten worse (4% in Highland and 0% in Liberty), and 13 felt that the situation has stayed about the same (18% in Highland and 12% in Liberty). Unlike what would be found in most surveys, the majority of residents did not know if gang activity was getting better or worse (43% in Highland and 65% in Liberty), leaving 35% of Highland residents and 12% of Liberty residents who thought the situation was getting better. (See Table 5 and Figure 5.)

	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Better	17	35%	2	12%	19	29%
Worse	2	4%	0	0%	2	3%
About the Same	9	18%	4	24%	13	20%
Don't know	21	43%	11	65%	32	48%
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>



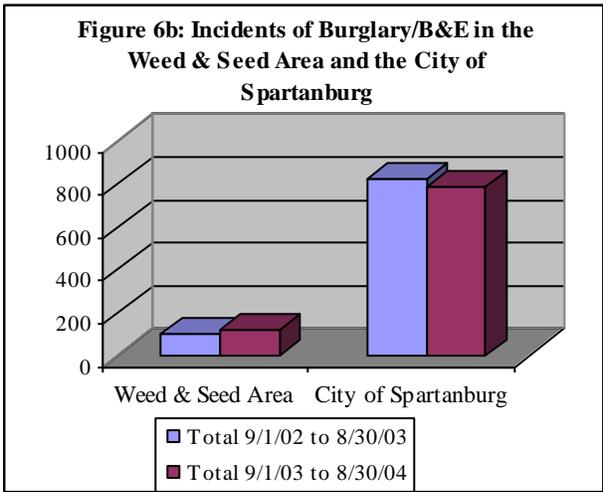
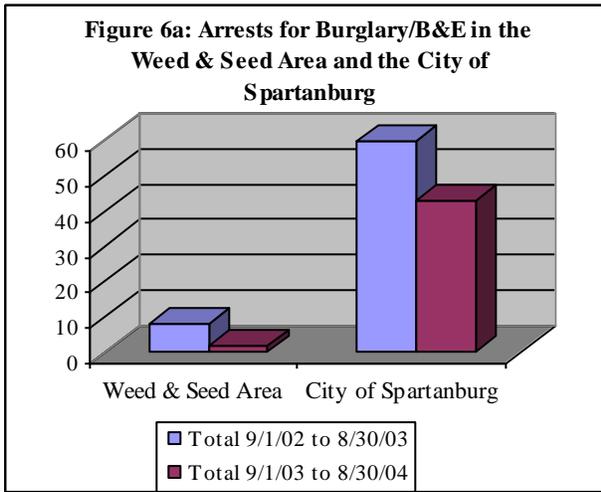
## Strategy 3: Reduction of Burglaries

This strategy focuses on reducing the number of burglaries in the Weed & Seed around through coordination with the Spartanburg Department of Public Safety crime analyst to establish trends in the community, increased police presence, and building a closer relationship with the community. The outcome measurements for this strategy are a reduction in the number of burglaries and an increase in the number of arrests for burglaries.

### Number of Burglary Incidents and Arrests in the City Weed & Seed

In the Weed & Seed area of the City of Spartanburg, arrests for burglary/breaking and entering have decreased by 75%, compared to a 19% increase in incidents. Comparatively, in the City of Spartanburg, arrests for burglary/breaking and entering have decreased by 28% and incidents have decreased by 4%. (See Table 6 and Figures 6a and 6b.)

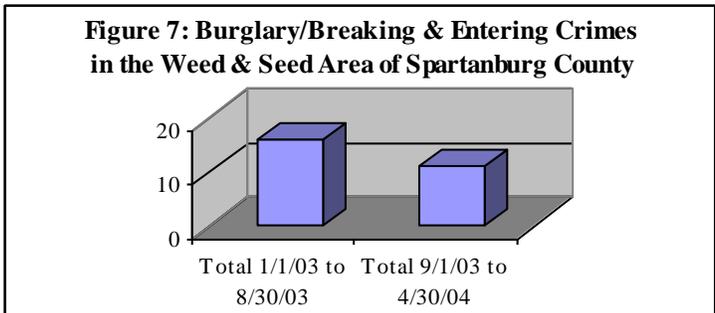
<b>Table 6: Burglary/Breaking &amp; Entering Arrests and Incidents for the Weed &amp; Seed Area and the City of Spartanburg</b>				
	City Weed & Seed Area		City of Spartanburg	
	Arrests	Incidents	Arrests	Incidents
Total 9/1/02 to 8/31/03	8	102	60	824
Total 9/1/03 to 8/31/04	2	121	43	790
<b>% Change</b>	<b>-75%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>-28%</b>	<b>-4%</b>



**Number of Burglary Incidents in the County Weed & Seed**

In the Weed & Seed area of Spartanburg County, the incidents of burglary/breaking and entering have decreased by 31%. (See Table 7 and Figure 7.) It must be noted, however, that this table may be biased in that data was only available for 16 of the 24 months included in the evaluation. Therefore, these 16 months were divided into two for comparison. These two comparison periods may be unequal in that they cover different months of the year and therefore other immeasurable factors besides police presence may have caused the decrease in burglaries. Furthermore, data on the number of arrests and data for the county as a whole were not available for this evaluation.

<b>Table 7: Incidents of Burglary/Breaking and Entering in the County Weed &amp; Seed</b>	
Total 1/1/03 to 8/30/03	16
Total 9/1/03 to 4/30/04	11
<b>% Change</b>	<b>-31%</b>



## Community Policing

### Strategy 1: Resident Involvement in Reducing Street-Level Drug Sales

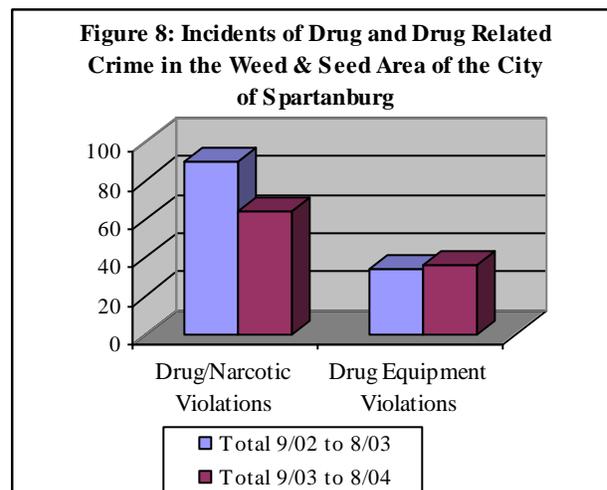
This strategy focuses on encouraging neighborhood involvement in working with law enforcement to identify issues in reducing street-level drug sales. The outcome measurements for this strategy are declines in street-level drug sales, declines in drug-related crimes, and increased mobilization of residents.

#### Declines in Street-Level Drug Sales and Drug Related Crimes

As previously discussed and shown in Table 2 and Figure 2, the Narcotics/Vice unit of the City of Spartanburg Department of Public Safety is working to decrease street-level drug sales and drug related crimes in the Weed & Seed area. The incidents of Drug/Narcotics Violations and Drug Equipment Violations may provide insight on whether or not decreases in street-level drug sales and drug related crimes have occurred. It must be noted, however, that drug/narcotic violations include both possession and distribution.

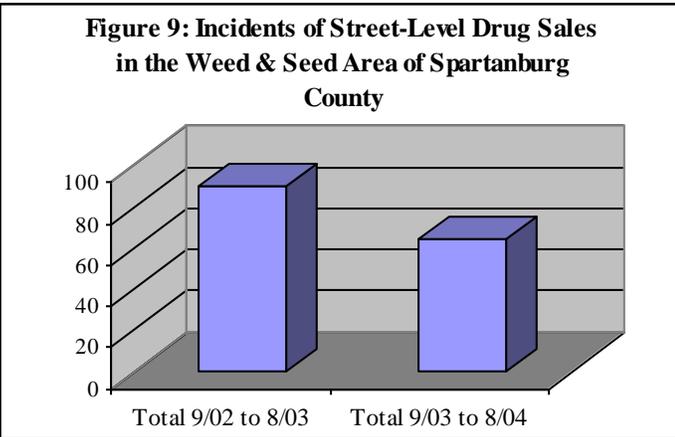
Drug/Narcotic violations in the Weed & Seed area of the City of Spartanburg have decreased by 29% from the baseline year to the current year. Drug equipment violations have increased by 6%. (See Table 8 and Figure 8.)

	Drug/ Narcotic Violations	Drug Equipment Violations
Total 9/02 to 8/03	90	34
Total 9/03 to 8/04	64	36
% Change	-29%	6%



Data for this measurement from the County Weed & Seed area was only available for street-level drug sales in 2002 and 2003. In 2002, there were eight incidents of arrests for distribution or intent to distribute in the Weed & Seed area of Spartanburg County. In 2003, there were seven incidents of arrests for distribution, intent to distribute, or trafficking in the Weed & Seed area of Spartanburg County. This is a decrease of 13%. (See Table 9 and Figure 9.)

<b>Table 9: Incidents of Arrests for Street-Level Drug Sales in the Weed &amp; Seed Area of Spartanburg County</b>	
Total 9/02 to 8/03	8
Total 9/03 to 8/04	7
% Change	-13%

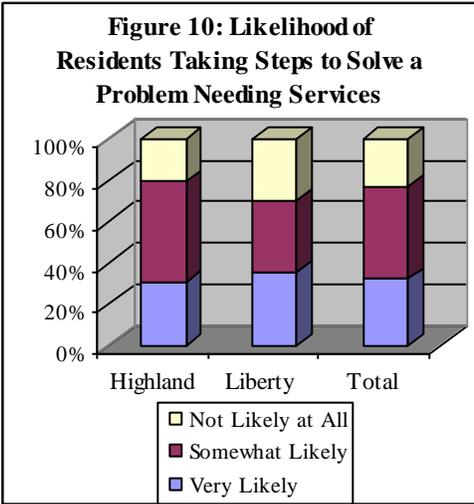


**Increased Mobilization of Residents**

Resident mobilization can be measured in terms of participation in Steering Committee meetings, Neighborhood Watch organizations, and Neighborhood Clean-up activities. According to interviews with key personnel, there were only a few key residents who were very involved in the activities planned through the Weed & Seed grant. A fairly representative group of residents did participate in the Neighborhood Watch programs for which meetings were held once a month in each area of the community.

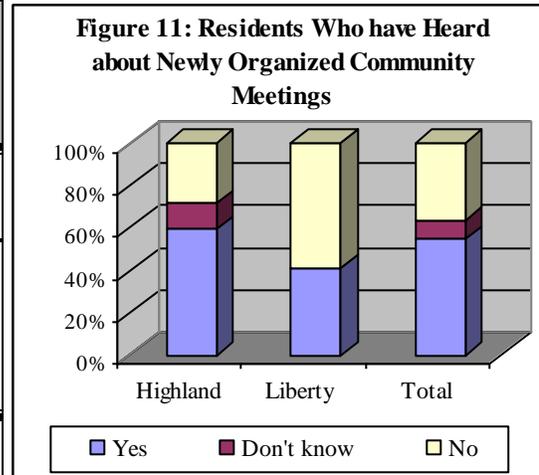
In addition, there are three questions on the Weed & Seed Community Survey that provide information on resident mobilization. A copy of this survey is included in Appendix One. The first question is, “Today, if there was a problem needing some services from a city agency, how likely is it that residents in this neighborhood would take steps to get the problem solved?” Respondents were pretty evenly divided between saying that this was very likely (27%), somewhat likely (37%) and not likely at all (19%). An additional 16% of respondents did not know how to answer this question. (See Table 10 and Figure 10.)

<b>Table 10: Residents' Opinions on the Likelihood of Residents Taking Steps to Solve a Problem Needing Services from a City Agency</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Very Likely	12	24%	6	33%	18	27%
Somewhat Likely	19	39%	6	33%	25	37%
Not Likely at All	8	16%	5	28%	13	19%
Don't know	10	20%	1	6%	11	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>



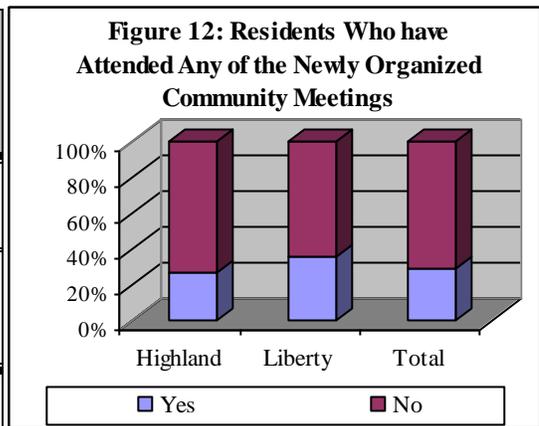
The second question is, “During the past year, have you heard about any community meeting *newly* organized to deal with local problems?” Just over half of respondents (55%) stated that they had heard of a newly organized community meeting and 36% stated that they had not. The remaining 9% of respondents did not know how to answer this question. (See Table 11 and Figure 11.)

<b>Table 11: Residents Who have Heard about Newly Organized Community Meetings</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	29	59%	7	41%	<b>36</b>	<b>55%</b>
No	14	29%	10	59%	<b>24</b>	<b>36%</b>
Don't know	6	12%	0	0%	<b>6</b>	<b>9%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>



The third question is, “Have you attended any of these [newly organized community] meetings?” Only around one third of respondents (29%) stated that they had attended one of the newly organized community meetings and 71% stated that they had not. (See Table 12 and Figure 12.)

<b>Table 12: Residents Who have Attended Any of the Newly Organized Community Meetings</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	13	27%	6	35%	<b>19</b>	<b>29%</b>
No	36	73%	11	65%	<b>47</b>	<b>71%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>



## **Strategy 2: Police Will Work with Neighborhoods to Decrease Crime**

This strategy focuses on decreasing the residents’ fear of crime, increasing businesses in the area, and increasing participation in neighborhood clean up projects and community meetings. The outcome measurements for this strategy are: community perception of crime and fear of crime, neighborhood clean-up projects and resident participation, community meetings attended and

held by community policing officers, community activities in the park, and resident attendance and participation in Neighborhood Watch programs.

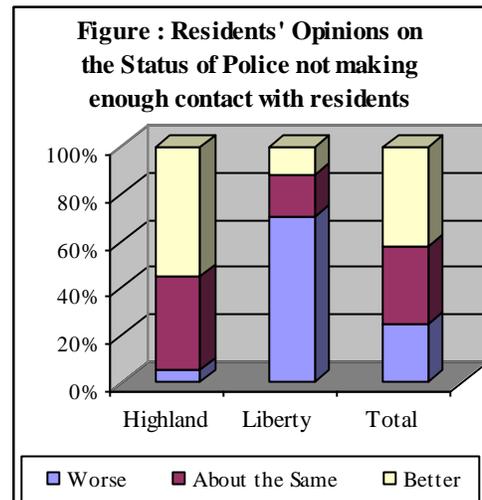
### Community Perception of Crime and Fear of Crime

There are several different aspects of the community’s perception and fear of crime. These aspects are captured by eight questions from the Weed & Seed Community survey. These questions can be divided into the following four categories: Police Presence, Disruptive Activities, Feelings of Safety, and Overall Satisfaction with Neighborhood. A copy of this survey is included in Appendix One.

#### Police Presence

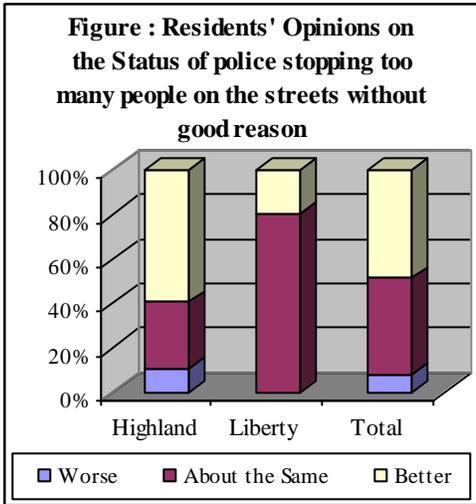
The first question in this category is “[Compared to two years ago, would you say the problem with] police not making enough contact with residents [has gotten better, worse, or stayed the same?]” Of the 50 Highland residents who responded to this question, 44% felt that the situation has gotten better, 32% felt that the situation has stayed about the same, only 4% stated that the situation has gotten worse, and 20% did not know. Of the 18 Liberty residents who responded to this question, 67% stated that the situation has gotten worse, 17% stated that the situation has stayed about the same, 6% did not know, and only 11% felt that the situation has gotten better. (See Table 13 and Figure 13.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and the survey in the Highland area was done in 2004.

<b>Table 13: Residents Opinions on the Status of “Police not making enough contact with residents.”</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Better	22	44%	2	11%	<b>24</b>	<b>35%</b>
Worse	2	4%	12	67%	<b>14</b>	<b>21%</b>
About the Same	16	32%	3	17%	<b>19</b>	<b>28%</b>
Don't know	10	20%	1	6%	<b>11</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>100%</b>



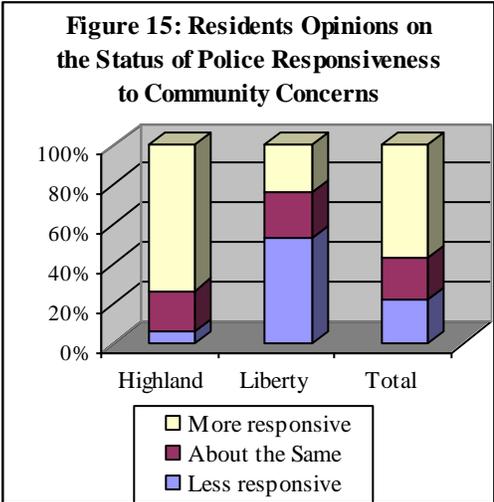
The second question in this category is “[Compared to two years ago, would you say the problem with] police stopping too many people on the streets without good reason [has gotten better, worse, or stayed the same?]” Of the 49 Highland residents who responded to this question, 33% felt that the situation has gotten better, 16% felt that the situation has stayed about the same, 6% stated that the situation has gotten worse, and 45% did not know. Of the 18 Liberty residents who responded to this question, none stated that the situation has gotten worse, 44% stated that the situation has stayed about the same, 44% did not know, and 11% felt that the situation has gotten better. (See Table 14 and Figure 14.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and the survey in the Highland area was done in 2004.

<b>Table 14: Residents Opinions on the Status of "police stopping too many people on the streets without good reason."</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Better	16	33%	2	11%	<b>18</b>	<b>27%</b>
Worse	3	6%	0	0%	<b>3</b>	<b>4%</b>
About the Same	8	16%	8	44%	<b>16</b>	<b>24%</b>
Don't know	22	45%	8	44%	<b>30</b>	<b>45%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>



The third question in this category is "Compared to two years ago, are the police in this neighborhood today more or less responsive to community concerns?" Of the 48 Highland residents who responded to this question, over half (52%) felt that the police have become more responsive in the past two years, 32% felt that the situation has stayed about the same, only 4% stated that the situation has gotten worse, and 20% did not know. Of the 18 Liberty residents who responded to this question, 67% stated that the situation has gotten worse, 17% stated that the situation has stayed about the same, 6% did not know, and only 11% felt that the situation has gotten better. (See Table 15 and Figure 15.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and the survey in the Highland area was done in 2004.

<b>Table 15: Residents Opinions on the Status of Police Responsiveness to Community Concerns</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
More responsive	25	52%	4	22%	<b>29</b>	<b>44%</b>
Less responsive	2	4%	9	50%	<b>11</b>	<b>17%</b>
About the Same	7	15%	4	22%	<b>11</b>	<b>17%</b>
Don't know	14	29%	1	6%	<b>15</b>	<b>23%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>



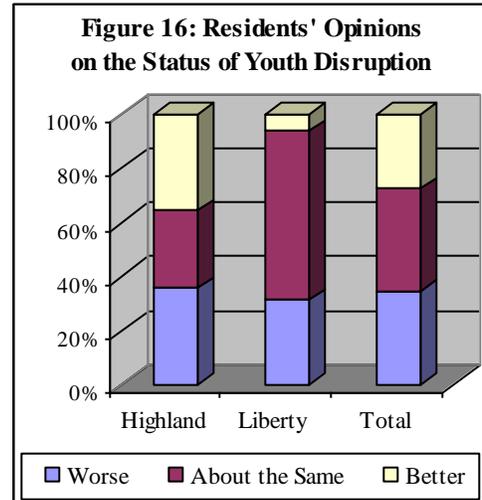
Disruptive Activities

The first question in this category is "[Compared to two years ago, would you say the problem with] youth disruption – young people hanging out, vandalizing, making noise [has gotten better,

worse, or stayed the same?]" Almost the same percentage of residents in Highland and in Liberty felt that youth disruption has gotten worse in the past two years (31% in Highland and 29% in Liberty). On the other hand, 31% of Highland residents felt that the situation has gotten better and only 6% of Liberty residents felt it was getting better. (See Table 16 and Figure 16.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and the survey in the Highland area was done in 2004.

**Table 16: Residents Opinions on the Status of "Youth Disruption."**

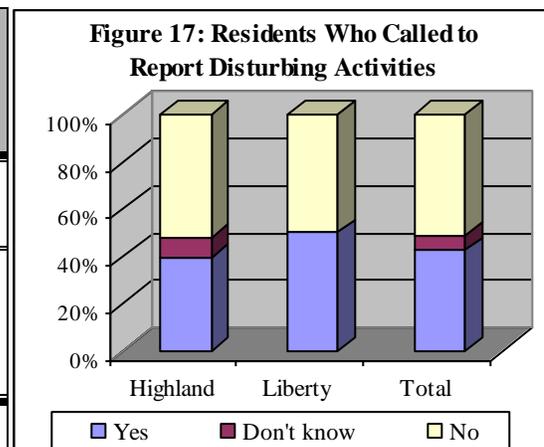
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Better	15	31%	1	6%	16	25%
Worse	15	31%	5	29%	20	31%
About the Same	12	25%	10	59%	22	34%
Don't know	6	13%	1	6%	7	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>



The second question in this category is "In the past two years, have you called the police to report a problem or disturbance (not a crime) in your neighborhood?" Almost half of residents in both areas stated that they had not called the police to report a disturbance (52% in Highland and 50% in Liberty). A smaller percentage of Highland residents (40%) stated that they had called to report a disturbance than Liberty residents (50%). This is due in part to the fact that 8% of Highland residents stated that they do not know and none of the Liberty residents stated they do not know. (See Table 17 and Figure 17.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and the survey in the Highland area was done in 2004.

**Table 17: Residents Who Called to Report Disturbing Activities**

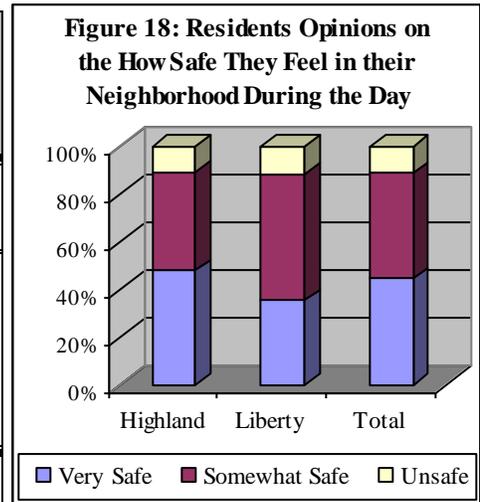
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	19	40%	9	50%	28	42%
No	25	52%	9	50%	34	52%
Don't know	4	8%	0	0%	4	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>



Feelings of Safety

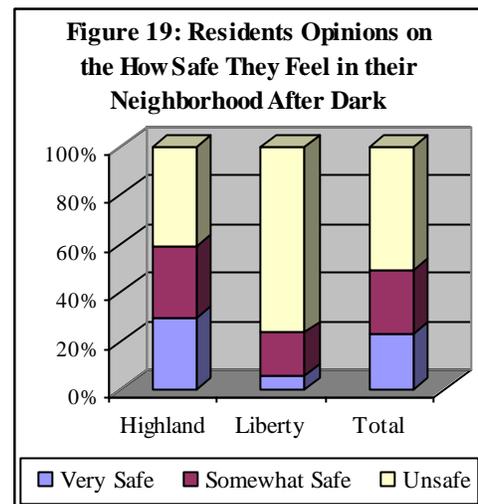
The first question in this category is “Today, how safe do you feel out alone in this neighborhood during the day?” The majority of residents in both areas feel either very safe (42%) or somewhat safe (42%) in their neighborhood during the day. Only 10% of residents stated that they do not feel safe in their neighborhood during the day, and 6% did not respond. (See Table 18 and Figure 18.)

<b>Table 18: Residents Opinions on the How Safe They Feel in their Neighborhood During the Day</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Very Safe	22	45%	6	33%	28	42%
Somewhat Safe	19	39%	9	50%	28	42%
Unsafe	5	10%	2	11%	7	10%
Don't know	3	6%	1	6%	4	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>



The second question in this category is “Today, how safe do you feel out alone in this neighborhood after dark?” Almost half of all respondents (48%) stated that they do not feel safe in their neighborhood after dark. The residents of Highland, however, are more evenly split between feeling very safe (28%), feeling somewhat safe (28%), and feeling unsafe (6%) than are the residents of Liberty. The majority of Liberty residents stated that they feel unsafe (72%), whereas only 6% stated they feel very safe and 17% stated they feel somewhat safe. (See Table 19 and Figure 19.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and the survey in the Highland area was done in 2004.

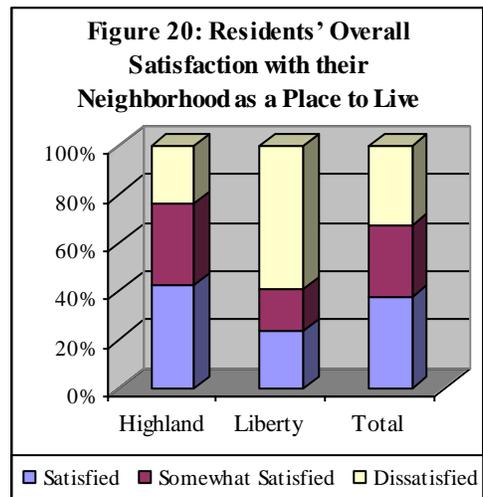
<b>Table 19: Residents Opinions on the How Safe They Feel in their Neighborhood After Dark</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Very Safe	13	28%	1	6%	14	22%
Somewhat Safe	13	28%	3	17%	16	25%
Unsafe	18	38%	13	72%	31	48%
Don't know	3	6%	1	6%	4	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>



### Overall Satisfaction with Neighborhood

The only question in this category is “Today, how do you feel about this neighborhood as a place to live?” Of the 48 Highland residents who responded to this question, 42% stated that they are satisfied with their neighborhood, 33% stated that they are somewhat satisfied with their neighborhood, 23% stated that they are dissatisfied with their neighborhood, and 2% did not know. Of the 17 Liberty residents who responded to this question, 59% stated that they are dissatisfied with their neighborhood, 29% are somewhat satisfied, and 24% are satisfied. (See Table 20 and Figure 20.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and the survey in the Highland area was done in 2004.

	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Satisfied	20	42%	4	24%	<b>24</b>	<b>37%</b>
Somewhat Satisfied	16	33%	3	18%	<b>19</b>	<b>29%</b>
Dissatisfied	11	23%	10	59%	<b>21</b>	<b>32%</b>
Don't know	1	2%	0	0%	<b>1</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>



### Neighborhood Clean-up Projects and Resident Participation

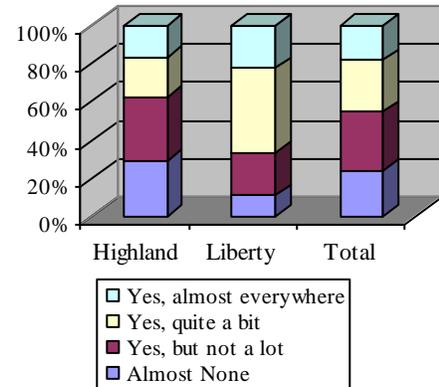
Four neighborhood clean-up projects have been held in the Weed & Seed area during the year covered by the evaluation. These projects were attended by residents who were identified by staff as being very involved in their community. Several questions on the Weed & Seed Community Survey exhibit results from those clean-up projects. A copy of this survey is included in Appendix One.

The first question from the survey is “Is there garbage or broken glass in the street or on the sidewalk?” Of the 48 Highland residents who responded to this question, 62% stated that they saw almost none or some but not a lot and 38% stated that they saw quite a bit or some almost everywhere. Of the 18 Liberty residents who responded to this question, 66% stated that they saw quite a bit or some almost everywhere and only 33% stated that they saw almost none or not a lot. (See Table 21 and Figure 21.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and was therefore conducted prior to or immediately after the Neighborhood Clean-up Projects.

**Table 21: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Garbage or Broken Glass in the Street or on the Sidewalk."**

	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Almost None	14	29%	2	11%	<b>16</b>	<b>24%</b>
Yes, but not a lot	16	33%	4	22%	<b>20</b>	<b>30%</b>
Yes, quite a bit	10	21%	8	44%	<b>18</b>	<b>27%</b>
Yes almost everywhere	8	17%	4	22%	<b>12</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Figure : Residents' Opinions on the Amount of Garbage/Broken Glass in the Street**

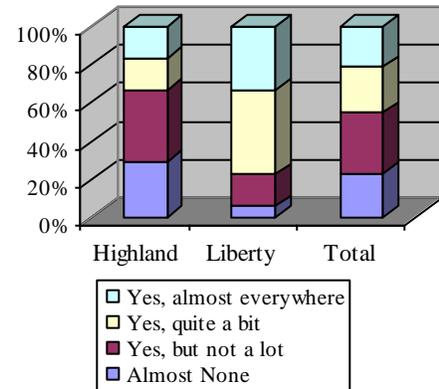


The second question from the survey is “Is there paper trash, litter, or junk in the street or on the sidewalk?” Of the 48 Highland residents who responded to this question, 67% stated that they saw almost none or not a lot and 34% stated that they saw quite a bit or some almost everywhere. Of the 18 Liberty residents who responded to this question, 77% stated that they saw quite a bit or some almost everywhere and only 23% stated that they saw almost none or not a lot. (See Table 22 and Figure 22.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and was therefore conducted prior to or immediately after the Neighborhood Clean-up Projects.

**Table 22: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Paper Trash, Litter, or Junk in the street or on the sidewalks."**

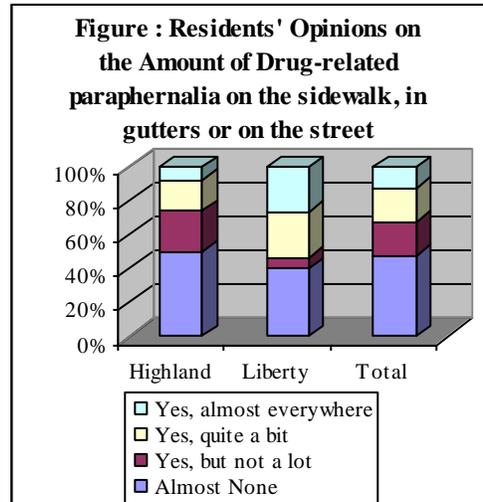
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Almost None	14	29%	1	6%	<b>15</b>	<b>23%</b>
Yes, but not a lot	18	38%	3	17%	<b>21</b>	<b>32%</b>
Yes, quite a bit	8	17%	8	44%	<b>16</b>	<b>24%</b>
Yes almost everywhere	8	17%	6	33%	<b>14</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Figure : Residents' Opinions on the Amount of Paper Trash, Litter, or Junk in the Street**



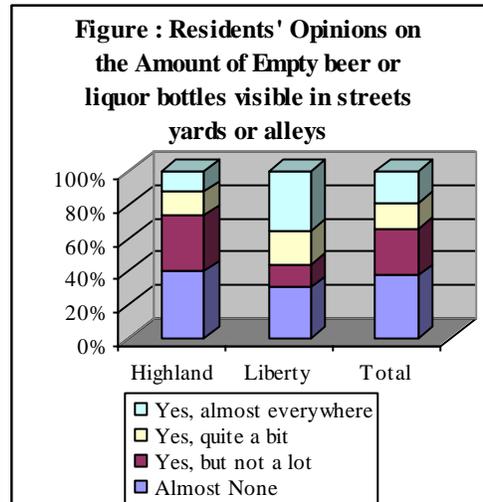
The third question from the survey is “Are there any drug-related paraphernalia on the sidewalk, in gutters, or on the street?” Of the 50 Highland residents who responded to this question, 74% stated that they saw almost none or not a lot and 26% stated that they saw quite a bit or some almost everywhere. Of the 15 Liberty residents who responded to this question, 54% stated that they saw quite a bit or some almost everywhere and 47% stated that they saw almost none or not a lot. (See Table 23 and Figure 23.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and was therefore conducted prior to or immediately after the Neighborhood Clean-up Projects.

<b>Table 23: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Drug-related paraphernalia on the sidewalk, in gutters or on the street."</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Almost None	25	50%	6	40%	<b>31</b>	<b>48%</b>
Yes, but not a lot	12	24%	1	7%	<b>13</b>	<b>20%</b>
Yes, quite a bit	9	18%	4	27%	<b>13</b>	<b>20%</b>
Yes almost everywhere	4	8%	4	27%	<b>8</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>



The fourth question from the survey is “Are there empty beer or liquor bottles visible in streets, yards or alleys?” Of the 50 Highland residents who responded to this question, 64% stated that they saw almost none or not a lot and 36% stated that they saw quite a bit or some almost everywhere. Of the 17 Liberty residents who responded to this question, 76% stated that they saw quite a bit or some almost everywhere and only 24% stated that they saw almost none or not a lot. (See Table 24 and Figure 24.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and was therefore conducted prior to or immediately after the Neighborhood Clean-up Projects.

<b>Table 24: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Empty beer or liquor bottles visible in streets yards or alleys."</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Almost None	11	22%	1	6%	<b>12</b>	<b>18%</b>
Yes, but not a lot	21	42%	3	18%	<b>24</b>	<b>36%</b>
Yes, quite a bit	10	20%	5	29%	<b>15</b>	<b>22%</b>
Yes almost everywhere	8	16%	8	47%	<b>16</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>

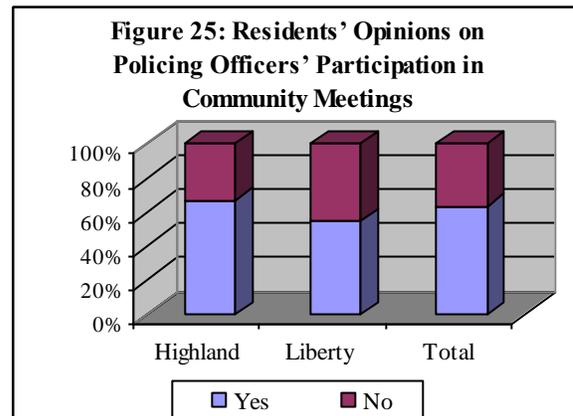


### Community Meetings Attended and Held by Community Policing Officers

One to two community policing officers attended the monthly Neighborhood Watch program meetings in each of the four communities in the Weed & Seed area. One question from the Weed & Seed Community Survey provides insight into residents’ opinions of the participation of police officers.

This question stated, “Was anyone from the police department at any of these [newly organized community] meetings?” The majority of residents in both areas stated that they have seen someone from the police department at these meetings (76% in Highland and 55% in Liberty). (See Table 25 and Figure 25.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and was done in the Highland area in 2004.

<b>Table 25: Residents’ Opinions on Policing Officers’ Participation in Community Meetings</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	18	67%	6	55%	<b>24</b>	<b>63%</b>
No	9	33%	5	45%	<b>14</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>100%</b>



### Community Activities in the Park

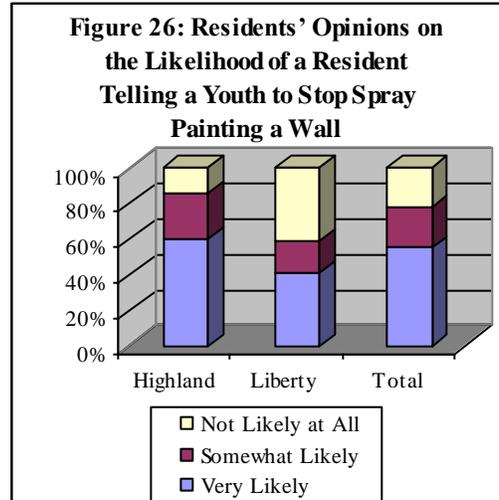
One of the priorities of Spartanburg City Parks and Recreation is to provide more opportunities for youth development. They are upgrading the parks in the area so that more use can be made of them for those purposes, cleaning up the parks, and preparing them to have more community activities. Parks and Recreation is upgrading at the request of the community and steering committee.

### Resident Attendance and Participation in Neighborhood Watch Programs

As stated previously, a fairly representative group of residents participated in the Neighborhood Watch programs. These meetings were held once a month in each of the four neighborhoods of the Weed & Seed area. During this grant period, the number of Neighborhood Watch programs in the Weed & Seed area increased from three groups to four. In addition, there are two questions from the Weed & Seed Community Survey which provide insight into how active residents are in “watching over” their neighborhood. A copy of this survey is included in Appendix One.

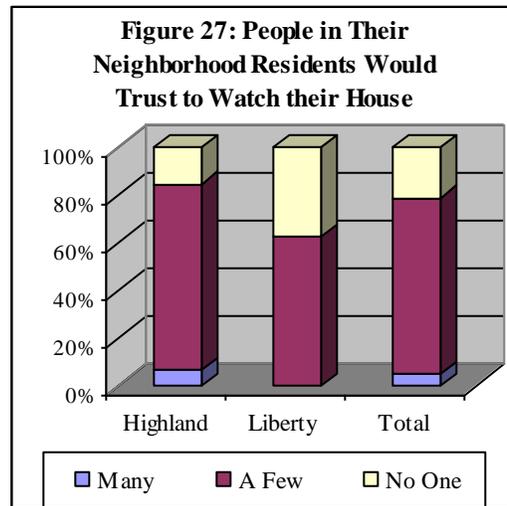
The first question asks, “Today, if some 12 year old youth were spray painting a wall in this neighborhood, how likely is it that a resident would tell them to stop?” Over half of Highland residents (53%) stated that it is very likely that someone would tell the youth to stop, and only 12% stated that it is not likely at all. Liberty residents, on the other hand, were equally split between thinking it very likely (39%) and not likely at all (39%) that someone would tell the youth to stop. (See Table 26 and Figure 26.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and was done in the Highland area in 2004.

<b>Table 26: Residents' Opinions on the Likelihood of a Resident Telling a Youth to Stop Spray Painting a Wall</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Very Likely	26	53%	7	39%	<b>33</b>	<b>49%</b>
Somewhat Likely	11	22%	3	17%	<b>14</b>	<b>21%</b>
Not Likely at All	6	12%	7	39%	<b>13</b>	<b>19%</b>
Don't Know	6	12%	1	6%	<b>7</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>



The second question asks, “How many people in this neighborhood do you know and trust well enough to ask them to watch your house when you are gone?” The majority of residents in both areas stated that they can only trust a few people (69%). Another 20% of residents stated that they have no one that they can trust. No one in the Liberty area and only 6% of residents in the Highland area stated that they have many people they can trust. (See Table 27 and Figure 27.) It must be noted, however, that the community survey conducted in the Liberty area was done in 2003 and was done in the Highland area in 2004.

<b>Table 27: Residents' Opinions on the Amount of People in their Neighborhood They Would Trust to Watch their House When They are Gone</b>						
	Highland		Liberty		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Many	3	6%	0	0%	<b>3</b>	<b>5%</b>
A Few	35	71%	10	63%	<b>45</b>	<b>69%</b>
No One	7	14%	6	38%	<b>13</b>	<b>20%</b>
Don't Know	4	8%	0	0%	<b>4</b>	<b>6%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>



### Strategy 3: Coordinating Activities and Neighborhood Watch Meetings

This strategy focuses on having community policing officers work with communities to coordinate activities, neighborhood watch meetings, and to add new neighborhood watch meetings when necessary. The outcome measures for this strategy are the number of officers attending and participating in community meetings as well as the increased participation of housing participants. These outcome measures were discussed in the previous section.

# Prevention, Intervention and Treatment

## Strategy 1: Increase Parental Involvement in Educational Performance

This strategy focuses on increasing the collaboration of residents and parental involvement with help from public and private agencies to improve educational performance. The outcome measurements for this strategy are the number of students completing school, improved standardized test scores, increase in drop-out prevention programming, increase in activities available after school, and less disciplinary problems.

For the purposes of this evaluation, Spartanburg School District 7 is considered to be the District most impacted by the activities of the grant. Therefore, data from this district will be used in determining progress toward the educational outcomes.

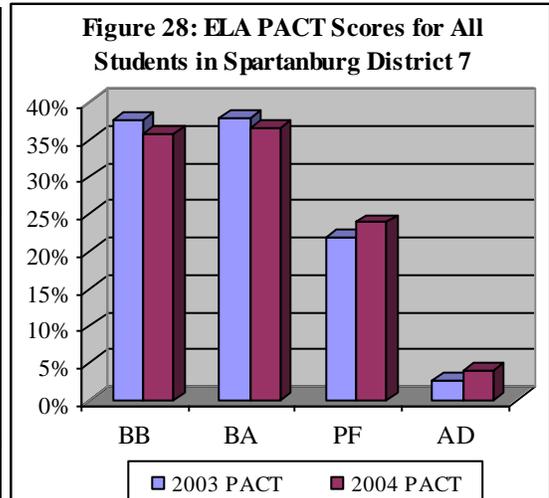
### Number of Students Completing School

In the 2002-2003 school year, 75.7% of high school seniors completed high school. This data is not available for the 2001-2002 school year, however, it is known that the promotion rate from one grade to another has decreased slightly from 96.4% in 2001-2002 to 96% in 2002-2003. Data on these rates is not yet available for the 2003-2004 school year.

### Improved Standardized Test Scores

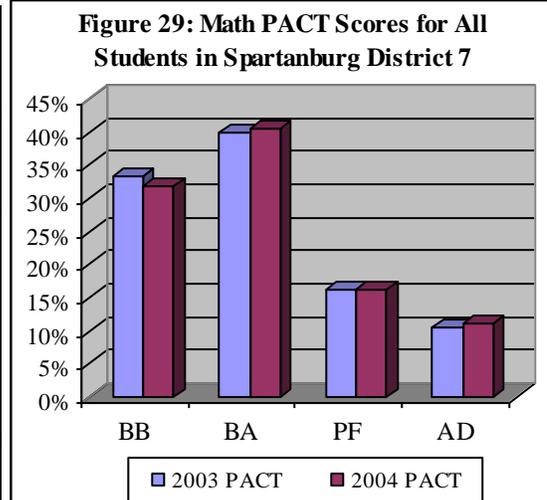
There are four subjects tested by the PACT standardized test. These subjects are English/language arts (ELA), math, science, and social studies. In Spartanburg School District 7, students' ELA scores have improved. The percentage of students scoring below basic (BB) has decreased from 37.6% in 2003 to 35.7% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring basic (BA) has also decreased from 37.9% in 2003 to 36.4% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring proficient (PF) has increased from 21.8% in 2003 to 23.9% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring advanced (AD) has increased from 2.7% in 2003 to 4.1% in 2004. (See Table 28 and Figure 28.)

<b>Table 28: ELA PACT Scores for All Students in Spartanburg School District 7</b>				
	<b>2003 PACT</b>		<b>2004 PACT</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Below Basic (BB)	1484	37.6%	1348	35.7%
Basic (BA)	1497	37.9%	1376	36.4%
Proficient (PF)	859	21.8%	902	23.9%
Advanced (AD)	107	2.7%	154	4.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3947</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3780</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



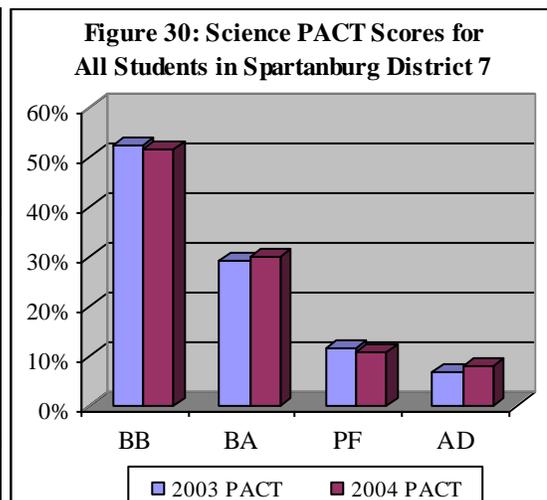
Students' math scores have improved slightly. The percentage of students scoring below basic (BB) has decreased from 33.3% in 2003 to 31.8% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring basic (BA) has increased slightly from 40% in 2003 to 40.6% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring proficient (PF) has remained about the same at 16.2% in 2003 and 16.3% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring advanced (AD) has increased slightly from 10.5% in 2003 to 11.2% in 2004. (See Table 29 and Figure 29.)

<b>Table 29: Math PACT Scores for All Students in Spartanburg School District 7</b>				
	<b>2003 PACT</b>		<b>2004 PACT</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Below Basic (BB)	1337	33.3%	1212	31.8%
Basic (BA)	1605	40.0%	1548	40.6%
Proficient (PF)	651	16.2%	623	16.3%
Advanced (AD)	420	10.5%	428	11.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4013</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3811</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



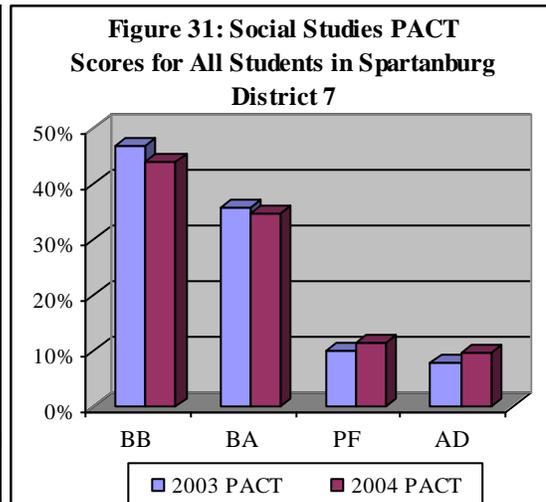
Students' science scores have also improved slightly. The percentage of students scoring below basic (BB) has decreased from 52.4% in 2003 to 51.5% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring basic (BA) has increased slightly from 29.3% in 2003 to 30% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring proficient (PF) has decreased from 11.6% in 2003 to 10.7% in 2004; however, the percentage of students scoring advanced (AD) has increased from 6.7% in 2003 to 7.8% in 2004. (See Table 30 and Figure 30.)

<b>Table 30: Science PACT Scores for All Students in Spartanburg School District 7</b>				
	<b>2003 PACT</b>		<b>2004 PACT</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Below Basic (BB)	2146	52.4%	2020	51.5%
Basic (BA)	1197	29.3%	1178	30.0%
Proficient (PF)	474	11.6%	418	10.7%
Advanced (AD)	275	6.7%	307	7.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4092</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3923</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



Students' social studies scores have improved. The percentage of students scoring below basic (BB) has decreased from 46.9% in 2003 to 44.2% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring basic (BA) has decreased from 35.6% in 2003 to 34.7% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring proficient (PF) has increased from 9.8% in 2003 to 11.4% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring advanced (AD) has increased from 7.7% in 2003 to 9.7% in 2004. (See Table 31 and Figure 31.)

<b>Table 31: Social Studies PACT Scores for All Students in Spartanburg School District 7</b>				
	2003 PACT		2004 PACT	
	#	%	#	%
Below Basic (BB)	1916	46.9%	1731	44.2%
Basic (BA)	1457	35.6%	1360	34.7%
Proficient (PF)	399	9.8%	448	11.4%
Advanced (AD)	315	7.7%	378	9.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4087</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>3917</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

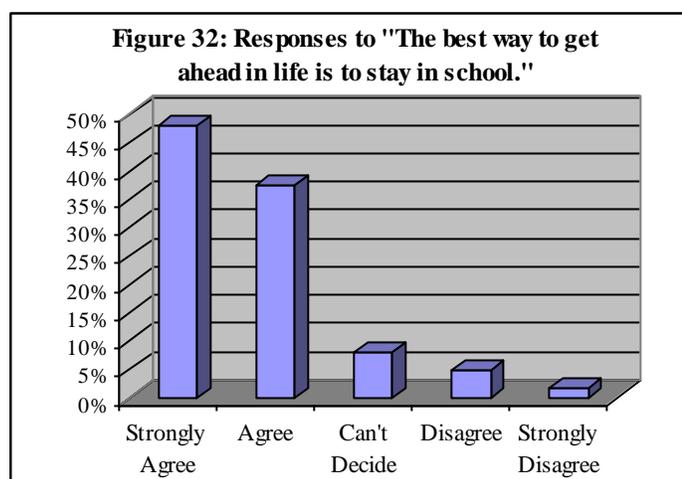


### Increase in Drop-out Prevention Programming

Drop-out prevention programming has been administered to students through the afterschool programs at the Safe Havens. These programs are geared toward teaching students the importance of staying in school. An attitude pre- and post-test was conducted on students participating in the program which shows the progress this programming has made toward teaching students the importance of staying in school. A copy of this survey is included in Appendix Two.

The eighth question on this survey states, "The best way to get ahead in life is to stay in school." The majority of students (85.6%) either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement, 8% could not decide, and 6.4% disagreed or strongly disagreed. (See Table 32 and Figure 32.)

<b>Table 32: Responses to "The best way to get ahead in life is to stay in school."</b>		
	#	%
Strongly Agree	60	48.0%
Agree	47	37.6%
Can't Decide	10	8.0%
Disagree	6	4.8%
Strongly Disagree	2	1.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



It must be noted that this survey is designed to be a pre-post test; however due to the timing of the evaluation contract, the survey was not administered until the end of the afterschool programming. Therefore, it can only be determined what the students' attitudes were at the end of the program and not the extent to which these students' attitudes have changed as a result of being in the program.

### **Increase in Activities Available After School**

There are several activities available after school for students in the target Weed & Seed area. Each of the four Safe Havens operates an After-School program which is funded in part by the Weed & Seed grant. These afterschool programs give students the time and extra tutoring necessary to do their homework from the regular school day. In addition, these centers have Computer Lab programs and time planned for outdoor and extracurricular activities. A total of 124 youth participated in programming at Bethlehem center, which operated for 166 days during the grant period. A total of 389 youth participated in the program at Crescent Hills, which operated for 152 days during the grant period. Approximately 42 youth participated in programming at Community Baptist, which operated for 42 days during the grant period. In addition, 72 different youth participated in programming at CC Woodson, which operated for 110 days during the grant period. It must be noted that this information summarizes only those reports that were obtained from the Safe Havens, and therefore may not be completely representative if the center did not submit reports for all months during the grant period.

### **Less Disciplinary Problems**

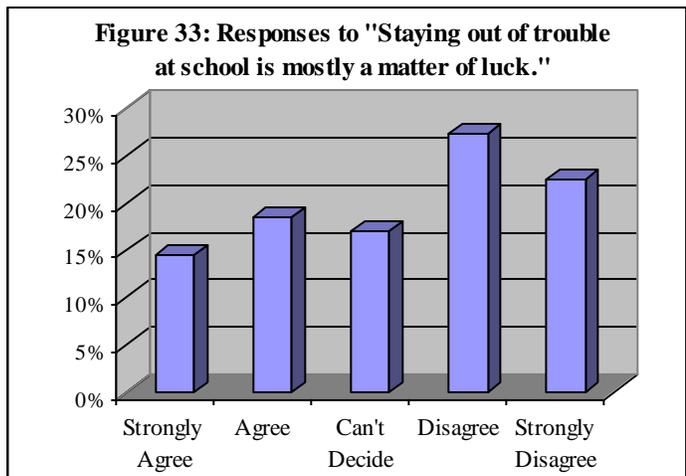
During the 2001-1002 school year, 1.4% of 8,542 students in Spartanburg School District 7 were suspended or expelled from school. During the 2002-2003 school year, only 1% of 8,482 students were suspended or expelled from school.

Programming to improve attitudes toward school and staying out of trouble has been administered to students through the after school programs at the Safe Havens. An attitude pre- and post-test was conducted on students participating in the program which shows the progress this programming has made toward improving students' attitudes and behavior. A copy of this survey is included in Appendix Two.

It must be noted that this survey is designed to be a pre-post test; however due to the timing of the evaluation contract, the survey was not administered until the end of the afterschool programming. Therefore, it can only be determined what these students' attitudes were at the end of the program and not extent to which these students' attitudes have changed as a result of being in the program.

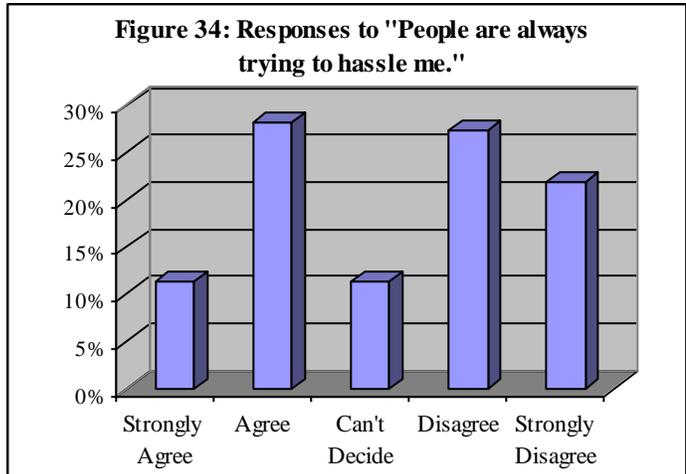
The first question on this survey states, "Staying out of trouble at school is mostly a matter of luck." Half of the respondents either disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement. On the other hand, 33% agreed or strongly agreed. The remaining 16.9% could not decide. (See Table 33 and Figure 33.)

<b>Table 33: Responses to "Staying out of trouble at school is mostly a matter of luck."</b>		
	#	%
Strongly Agree	18	14.5%
Agree	23	18.5%
Can't Decide	21	16.9%
Disagree	34	27.4%
Strongly Disagree	28	22.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



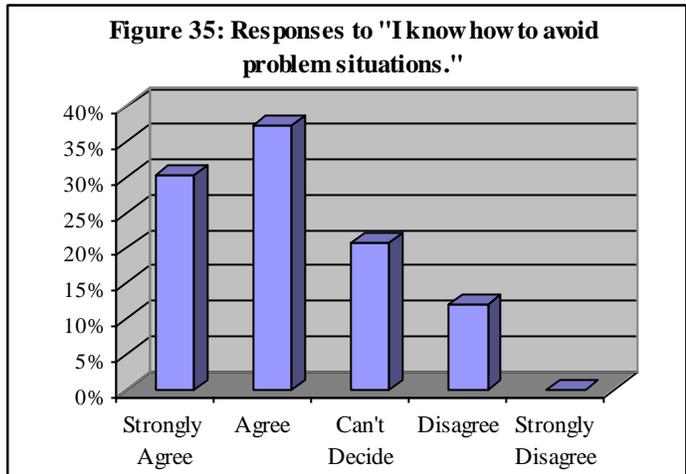
The second question on this survey states, "People are always trying to hassle me." Almost half of the respondents (49.2%) either disagreed or strongly disagreed with this statement. On the other hand, 39.5% agreed or strongly agreed. The remaining 11.3% could not decide. (See Table 34 and Figure 34.)

<b>Table 34: Responses to "People are always trying to hassle me."</b>		
	#	%
Strongly Agree	14	11.3%
Agree	35	28.2%
Can't Decide	14	11.3%
Disagree	34	27.4%
Strongly Disagree	27	21.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



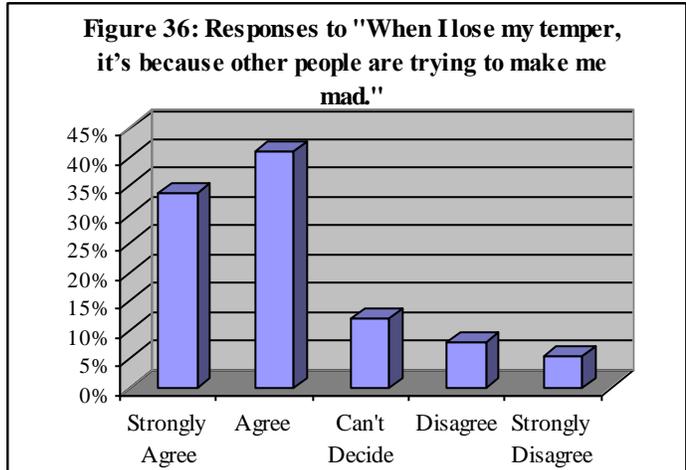
The third question on this survey states, "I know how to avoid problem situations." The majority of respondents (67.5%) either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. On the other hand, 11.9% disagreed and none of the respondents strongly disagreed. The remaining 20.6% could not decide. (See Table 35 and Figure 35.)

<b>Table 35: Responses to "I know how to avoid problem situations."</b>		
	#	%
Strongly Agree	38	30.2%
Agree	47	37.3%
Can't Decide	26	20.6%
Disagree	15	11.9%
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



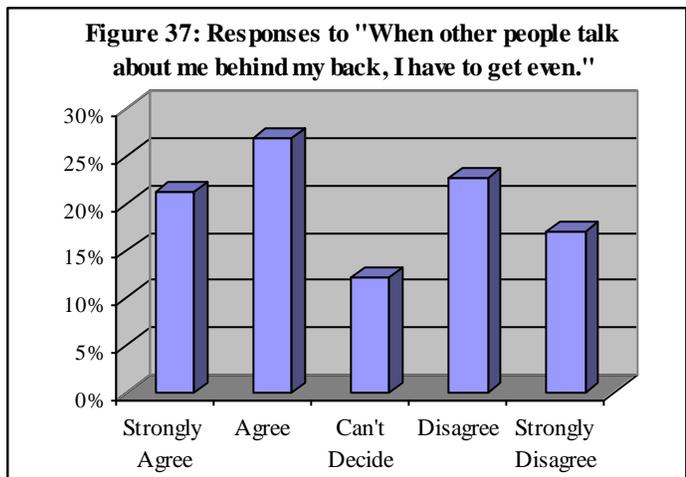
The fourth question on this survey states, "When I lose my temper, it's because other people are trying to make me mad." The majority of respondents (74.4%) either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. On the other hand, 13.6% disagreed or strongly disagreed. The remaining 12% could not decide. (See Table 36 and Figure 36.)

<b>Table 36: Responses to "When I lose my temper, it's because other people are trying to make me mad."</b>		
	#	%
Strongly Agree	42	33.6%
Agree	51	40.8%
Can't Decide	15	12.0%
Disagree	10	8.0%
Strongly Disagree	7	5.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



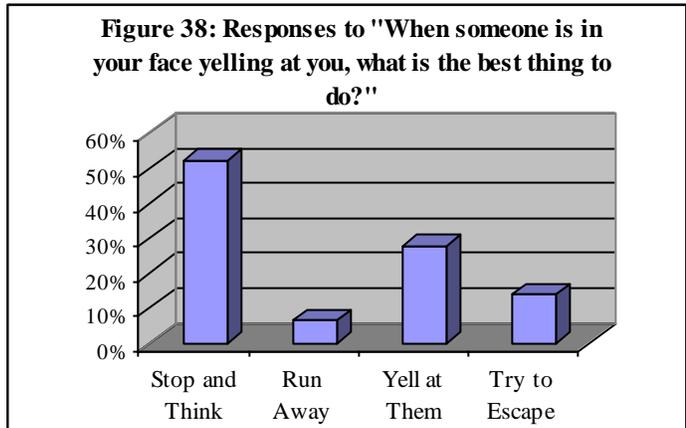
The fifth question on this survey states, "When other people talk about me behind my back, I have to get even." Almost half of the respondents (47.9%) either agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. On the other hand, 39.9% disagreed or strongly disagreed. The remaining 12.2% could not decide. (See Table 37 and Figure 37.)

<b>Table 37: Responses to "When other people talk about me behind my back, I have to get even."</b>		
	#	%
Strongly Agree	26	21.1%
Agree	33	26.8%
Can't Decide	15	12.2%
Disagree	28	22.8%
Strongly Disagree	21	17.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



The sixth question on this survey asks, "When someone is in your face yelling at you, what is the best thing to do?" More than half of the respondents (52%) stated that the best thing to do is "Stop and Think." Another 27.6% stated that they should "Yell at Them" and 13.8% stated that they should "Try to Escape." The remaining 6.5% stated that the best thing to do is to "Run Away." (See Table 38 and Figure 38.)

<b>Table 38: Responses to "When someone is in your face yelling at you, what is the best thing to do?"</b>		
	#	%
Stop and Think	64	52.0%
Run Away	8	6.5%
Yell at Them	34	27.6%
Try to Escape	17	13.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



## Strategy 2: Serving the Southside with Health Centers

This strategy focuses on serving the residents in the Weed & Seed area with health centers that use a sliding fee scale in order to remain economical. ReGenesis was to continue to operate their newly opened health center and begin to work on opening another center. The outcome measurements for this strategy are an increase in health and human services offered within the neighborhood, an increase in the victims receiving counseling for exposure to family violence, and an increase in persons receiving education related to family violence.

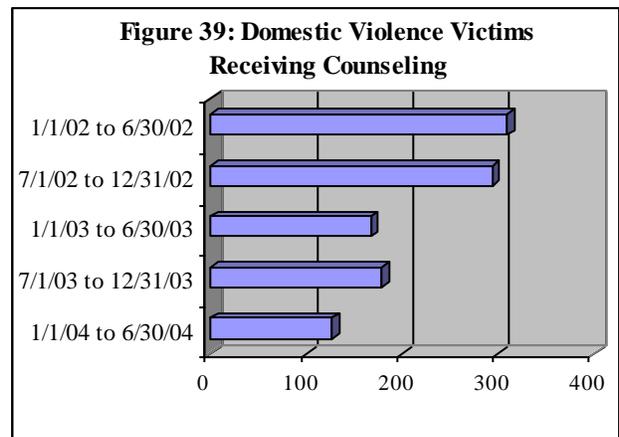
## Increase in Health and Human Services Offered

The ReGenesis Community Health Center, which opened in March 2003, strives to provide healthcare to all citizens in the community, especially “the community’s most vulnerable citizens.” The services they provide include: family medicine, pediatric, women’s health, environmental medicine, holistic healthcare, case management, outreach, social/behavioral healthcare, pharmaceuticals, home visits, and mental health. They utilize a sliding scale fee schedule and allow payments through Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance companies, contract healthcare, and self-pay.

## Increase in Victims Receiving Counseling for Exposure to Family Violence

The total number of victims receiving counseling for exposure to family violence has steadily decreased since 2002. In the first half of 2002, 310 victims received counseling. During the second half of 2002, this number dropped by 4.8% to 295 victims receiving counseling. During the first half of 2003, this number dropped again by 43.1% to 168 victims receiving counseling. The number of victims receiving counseling increased slightly by 6.5% during the second half of 2003; however, it decreased again by 29.1% during the first half of 2004. (See Table 39 and Figure 39.)

	Number	% Change
1/1/02 to 6/30/02	310	--
7/1/02 to 12/31/02	295	-4.8%
1/1/03 to 6/30/03	168	-43.1%
7/1/03 to 12/31/03	179	6.5%
1/1/04 to 6/30/04	127	-29.1%



## Increase in Persons Receiving Education Related to Family Violence

Two out of the four Safe Havens provide educational programs on domestic violence. These classes are conducted by the Safe Homes/Rape Crisis Coalition. During the summer of 2003, these centers conducted three classes for youth and two classes for adults. A total of 91 youths and 18 adults participated. During the summer of 2004, these centers conducted four classes for youth and two classes for adults. A total of 53 youths and four adults participated.

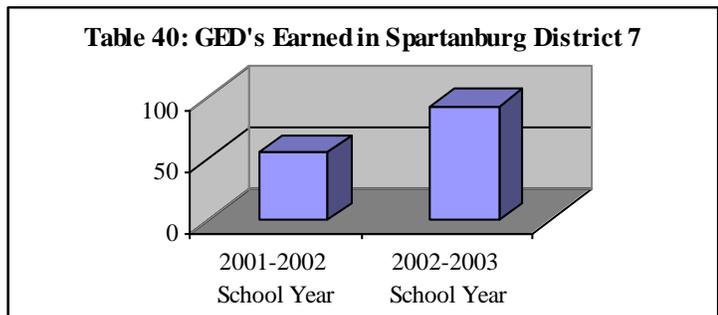
### Strategy 3: Developing the Target Area Workforce Potential

This strategy is focused on seeking funding that is targeted at the workforce within the Weed & Seed area, while working with PCA in developing the existing programs in anticipation of making them available at the Safe Havens. The outcome measurements for this strategy are the number of GED's earned, a decrease in unemployment, and some job placements.

#### Number of GED's Earned

The number of persons who have completed adult education GED programs or diploma programs has increased from 55 persons in the 2001 to 2002 school year to 92 persons in the 2002-2003 school year. (See Table 40 and Figure 40.)

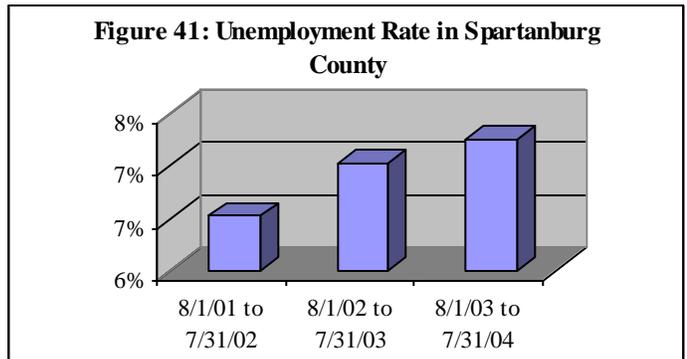
Table 40: GED's Earned in Spartanburg School District 7	
	N
2001-2002 School Year	55
2002-2003 School Year	92



#### Decrease in Unemployment

The unemployment rate in Spartanburg County continues to increase; however, the rate by which it is increasing has slowed. The average unemployment rate for August 2002 through July 2003 was 7.03%, an increase of 0.51% over the previous year. The average unemployment rate for August 2003 through July 2004 was 7.25%, an increase of 0.22% over the previous year. (See Table 41 and Figure 41.)

Table 41: Unemployment Rate in Spartanburg County		
	Rate	Change
8/1/01 to 7/31/02	6.52%	--
8/1/02 to 7/31/03	7.03%	0.51%
8/1/03 to 7/31/04	7.25%	0.22%



#### Job Placements

Due to the wide variety of businesses in the Spartanburg area, it is difficult to determine the exact number of persons in the Weed & Seed area who have found employment since the

beginning of the grant period. It is known, however, that ReGenesis has plans to bring in a new environmentally safe manufacturing plant to the area. This new plant will provide a wealth of job opportunities to the residents in Spartanburg.

It is also known that Piedmont Community Actions, Inc. provides employment training to lower income residents of Spartanburg at no charge. This Employment Training Program not only helps its clients overcome barriers to self-sufficiency, but also attempts to find employment for their clients that pays above minimum wage and provides benefits.

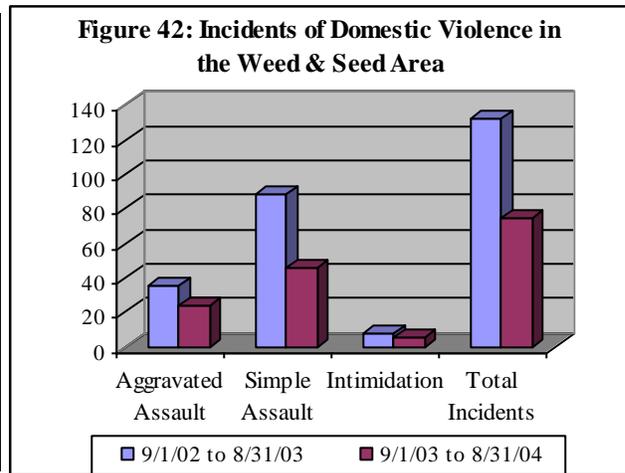
### Strategy 4: Bring Education and Parenting Classes to Safe Havens

This strategy focuses on educating individuals in the community about the seriousness of domestic violence in order to make homes in the community a safer place. The outcome measures for this strategy are a decrease in domestic violence as recorded by the Spartanburg Public Safety Department and Spartanburg County Sheriff’s Department and by the number of educational programs targeted toward decreasing abuse.

#### Decrease in the Incidents of Domestic Violence

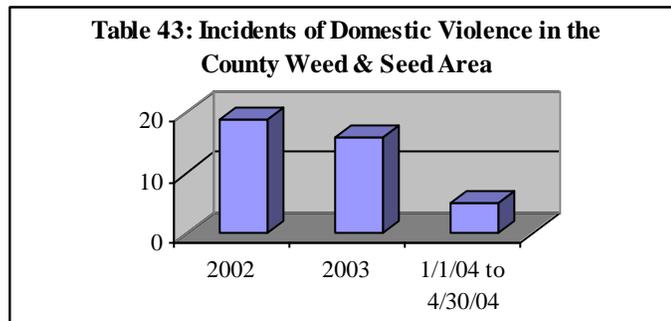
The number of incidents in the Weed & Seed area of the City of Spartanburg has dropped by 43% from last year to this year. Between September 1, 2002 and August 31, 2003, 132 incidents of domestic violence were reported. Of these, 27% were aggravated assault, 67% were simple assault, and 6% were intimidation. Between September 1, 2003 and August 31, 2004, 75 incidents of domestic violence were reported. Of these, 32% were aggravated assault, 61% were simple assault, and 7% were intimidation. (See Table 42 and Figure 42.)

<b>Table 42: Incidents of Domestic Violence in the Weed &amp; Seed Area of the City of Spartanburg</b>				
	9/1/02 to 8/31/03		9/1/03 to 8/31/04	
	#	%	#	%
Aggravated Assault	35	27%	24	32%
Simple Assault	89	67%	46	61%
Intimidation	8	6%	5	7%
<b>Total Incidents</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100%</b>



The number of incidents of domestic violence in the County portion of the Weed & Seed area also appears to be decreasing. A total of 19 incidents were reported in 2002, 16 incidents were reported in 2003, and five incidents were reported for the first four months of 2004. (See Table 43 and Figure 43.)

<b>Table 43: Incidents of Domestic Violence in the Weed &amp; Seed Area of Spartanburg County</b>	
2002	19
2003	16
1/1/04 to 4/30/04	5



### **Number of Educational Programs Targeted toward Decreasing Abuse**

This outcome was discussed previously under Strategy 2 of this Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment section.

## **Neighborhood Restoration**

### **Strategy 1: Reduce Crime through Environmental Changes**

This strategy focuses on the collaboration of Weed & Seed partners to reduce street-level drug sales and chronic crime through environmental changes such as removing old houses, code enforcement, and cleaning up neighborhoods. The outcome measurements for this strategy are a visible change to street-level drug activity, an increase in drug-related arrest, prosecutions and convictions. These measurements were discussed previously under Strategy 1 of the Law Enforcement section and Strategy 1 of the Community Policing section.

### **Strategy 2: Improving Resources, Redevelopment and Revitalization**

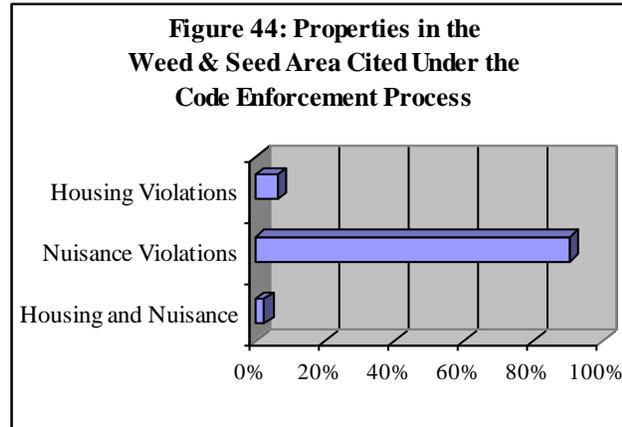
This strategy focuses on the implementation of the City and County Comprehensive Redevelopment Plan and their commitment to this area, which will improve the availability of resources and maintain the redevelopment and revitalization of the area. The outcome measurements for this strategy are a reduction in the number of properties cited under the Code Enforcement process, an increase in the number of business licenses issued, a visible change to street level drug activity with a decline in the number of places illegal drug activity appears welcomed, the percentage of owner-occupied homes, the diversity of retail and grocery shopping opportunities, and the number of new homeowners associations organized.

### **Properties Cited under the Code Enforcement Process**

Between June 1, 2003 and May 30, 2004, 628 property owners were cited for nuisance violations, 48 property owners were cited for housing code violations, and 20 property owners were cited for housing and nuisance violations simultaneously. Housing code violations include things such as structural deficiencies, unsanitary conditions, interior trash and debris, HVAC problems, minimal space, paint weatherization, plumbing, and electrical issues. Nuisance violations are for problems such as overgrown weeds and/or grass, junk, trash, debris, graffiti, and abandoned vehicles. (See

Table 44 and Figure 44.) During this same time, 28 properties in the Weed & Seed area were labeled as being condemned, meaning that they are unfit for human habitation.

<b>Table 44: Properties in the Weed &amp; Seed Area Cited Under the Code Enforcement Process</b>		
	#	%
Housing Violations	48	6.9%
Nuisance Violations	628	90.2%
Housing and Nuisance	20	2.9%
<b>Total Properties Cited</b>	<b>696</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

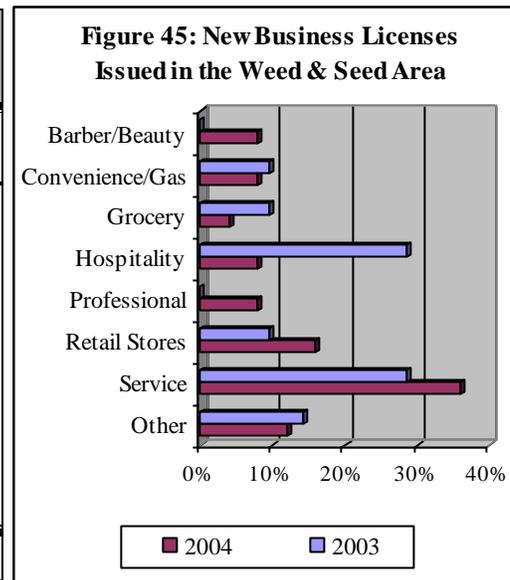


### Number of Business Licenses Issued

A total of 21 new businesses were issued licenses in the Weed & Seed area in 2003. Of these, 28.6% were businesses in the hospitality industry, such as restaurants, hotels, and entertainment and recreation centers, and 28.6% were businesses in the service industry. Licenses were also issued to two convenience stores/gas stations, two grocery stores, and two retail stores. The remaining 14.3% fit into the “other category” which were places such as a manufacturing plant, boarding houses, auto repair, and contractors.

During the first nine months of 2004, 25 new businesses were issued licenses in the Weed & Seed area. This is an increase of 19% over the previous year. Of these 25, 36% were businesses in the service industry, 16% were retail stores, 8% were businesses in the hospitality industry, 8% were barber shops or beauty shops, 8% were retail stores, one store (4%) was a grocery store, 8% were professional agencies, and 12% fit into the “other category.” (See Table 45 and Figure 45.)

<b>Table 45: New Business Licenses Issued in the Weed &amp; Seed Area</b>				
	2003		2004	
	#	%	#	%
Barber/Beauty Shop	0	0.0%	2	8.0%
Convenience/Gas Station	2	9.5%	2	8.0%
Grocery Stores	2	9.5%	1	4.0%
Hospitality Industry	6	28.6%	2	8.0%
Professional Agencies	0	0.0%	2	8.0%
Retail Stores	2	9.5%	4	16.0%
Service Industry	6	28.6%	9	36.0%
Other	3	14.3%	3	12.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



## Visible Change to Street-Level Drug Activity

This measurement has been discussed previously under Strategy 1 under the Law Enforcement section and under Strategy 1 of the Community Policing section.

## Percentage of Owner-Occupied Homes

Owner-occupied housing has remained about the same from 2002 to 2003. In 2002, owner-occupied housing units accounted for 64.7% of total housing units, and in 2003, they accounted for 64.6% of total housing units. The ratio of owners to renters has improved, however. In 2002, owner-occupied units made up 71% of occupied units and in 2003, they accounted for 72% of occupied units. (See Table 46.)

<b>Table 46: Percentage of Owner Occupied Homes in Spartanburg County</b>						
	<b>2002</b>			<b>2003</b>		
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
<b>Occupied</b>	<b>100,462</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>91.3%</b>	<b>100,840</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>90.3%</b>
by Owner	71,145	71%	64.7%	72,202	72%	64.6%
by Renter	29,317	29%	26.7%	28,638	28%	25.6%
<b>Vacant</b>	<b>9,527</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>10,850</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>
<b>Total Housing Units</b>	<b>109,989</b>		<b>100.0%</b>	<b>111,690</b>		<b>100.0%</b>

## Diversity of Retail and Grocery Shopping Opportunities

As shown in Table 45 and Figure 45, the diversity of retail and grocery shopping opportunities in the Weed & Seed area has increased during the past two years. In 2003, only two business licenses were issued for retail activity; however in 2004, four licenses were issued. Between 2003 and 2004, three licenses were issued for grocery stores. In addition, in 2004, more businesses in the service and professional industries and fewer businesses in the hospitality industry have received business licenses in the Weed & Seed area.

## Number of New Homeowners Associations Organized

Residents of the Weed & Seed area generally utilize the Neighborhood Watch meetings, the Weed & Seed Steering Committee, and ReGenesis, a community based organization, to voice their concerns over issues in their neighborhoods. Therefore, there are no known homeowners associations in the Weed & Seed area.

## Strategy 3: Redevelop and Restore the Target Area

This strategy focuses on continuing current partnerships to redevelop and restore the target area in order to improve economic viability, encourage new and sustain existing minority businesses,

increase the number of resident-owned businesses, and stabilize the residential neighborhood. The outcome measurement for this strategy is the number of new businesses in the area. This measurement is discussed in the previous section.

#### **Strategy 4: Resident Involvement in Restoration Efforts**

This strategy focuses on encouraging partnerships and collaborations with residents to promote their involvement in what occurs in the community. The outcome measurements for this strategy are an increase in resident involvement in community planning, an increase in resident involvement in community restoration volunteer projects, and an increase in the number of neighborhood associations and organizations.

##### **Resident Involvement in Community Planning**

The City of Spartanburg holds monthly meetings for the Board of Zoning Appeals, Board of Architectural Design and Historical Review, and City Planning Committee. These meetings are open to the public; however it is not known how often residents from the Weed & Seed target area attend these meetings.

##### **Resident Involvement in Community Restoration Volunteer Projects**

The City of Spartanburg Community Development has designated the Forest Park neighborhood as one of their “Redevelopment Areas.” Prior to beginning work in this area, the city holds meetings with the residents of the neighborhood in order to determine where the problem areas exist. In the Forest Park neighborhood, the city is planning on tearing down vacant or abandoned property lots and replacing them with new homes geared toward buyers as opposed to renters. This replacement housing is planned to be mixed income.

##### **Number of Neighborhood Associations and Organizations**

This measurement has been discussed previously under Strategy 2 of this Neighborhood Restoration section.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

1. All strategies of the Weed and Seed project have been implemented.
2. A comparison of the community survey conducted in 2003 to the survey conducted in 2004 clearly indicates that residents have noted improvements in crime and in the general conditions of the Southside community.
3. The Safe Havens have been successful in providing afterschool services that keep children safe and prepare them for greater achievement in school.
4. Community meetings and community input into policy decisions regarding the Southside have greatly increased.
5. PACT scores have improved and students report on surveys a desire to remain in school.
6. Burglary and breaking and entering incidents have increased while arrests have decreased in the Weed and Seed area.
7. The number of drug-related incidents has decreased.
8. The number of domestic violence cases has decreased. The number of domestic violence victims receiving services has also decreased.
9. Efforts to improve the physical nature of the area through enforcement of building codes, development of new housing and so on, is well underway in terms of planning and the securing of resources.
10. Health care has been brought to the area through a full-service, free standing clinic.
11. The intensified community policing has given residents a greater sense of safety and has created a presence that reinforces the concept of zero tolerance for crime.
12. Data that might be helpful to the planning and operations of the project is not kept in a form that is readily accessible to everyone involved in the project, including the community.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Work with the city and county magistrates' offices and the solicitor's office to track a crime from arrest through prosecution.
2. Work on centralizing all data and making it available to the community.
3. Follow through on the efforts to improve the physical appearance and infrastructure of the Southside.
4. Continue and enhance the coordination among ReGenesis projects, the Housing Authority projects, the Safe Havens, School District 7, the law enforcement functions and work being conducted in the Southside under other grants.
5. Continue and enhance the participation of the residents of the community in Weed and Seed activities.

**APPENDIX ONE:**

**WEED & SEED COMMUNITY SURVEY**

**APPENDIX TWO:**

**AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM PARTICIPANT  
ATTITUDE SURVEY**

# ATTITUDE SURVEY FOR THE SOUTHSIDE AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

What is your: \_\_\_\_\_  
First Letter of First Name      First Letter of Last Name      Birth Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Name of Center: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Staying out of trouble at school is mostly a matter of luck.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Can't decide	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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**2. People are always trying to hassle me.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Can't decide	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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**3. I know how to avoid problem situations.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Can't decide	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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**4. When I lose my temper, it's because other people are trying to make me mad.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Can't decide	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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**5. There is nothing you can do to change your thinking.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Can't decide	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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**6. When other people talk about me behind my back, I have to get even.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Can't decide	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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**7. I am responsible for what I choose to do.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Can't decide	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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**8. The best way to get ahead in life is to stay in school.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Can't decide	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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**9. How you think influences what you do.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Can't decide	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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**10. I do not try to make good grades because my friends make fun of me when I do.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Can't decide	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
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**11. When someone is in your face yelling at you, what is the best thing to do?**

- a) Stop and think
- b) Run away
- c) Yell at them
- d) Try to escape