

**REPORT OF THE  
FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005  
EVALUATION OF THE SOUTHSIDE WEED AND SEED  
PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY  
THE SPARTANBURG PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT**

**OCTOBER 15, 2005**

**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 2003-2004 to the survey conducted in 2004-2005 clearly indicates that residents feel safer in the neighborhood, are more satisfied with living in the neighborhood, believe the neighborhood is cleaner, and see a tremendous improvement in the amount of drug-related paraphernalia on the streets. The Safe Havens have been successful in providing afterschool services that keep children safe and prepare them for greater achievement in school.
3. Community meetings and community input into policy decisions regarding the Southside continue to increase.
4. English /language arts, social studies and science PACT scores have improved and math scores have remained about the same.
5. Drug arrests have more than doubled since the program began in the Weed and Seed area. Burglary and breaking and entering incidents have increased by 31% since the program began, but arrests have increased by 788%. in the area. .

6. Data for counseling for family violence victims was incomplete. This area was therefore not reported on.
7. Efforts to improve the physical nature of the area through enforcement of building codes, development of new housing and so on, are well underway with an increase with a 16% increase in cited code violations. The number of new businesses is increasing with greater variety of retail outlets for the community available. However, the percentage of housing units occupied by the property's owners has decreased, with a commensurate increase in vacant properties.
8. Health care has been brought to the area through a full-service, free standing clinic. Funding has been made available for specialized outreach services for such problems as breast cancer and diabetes.
9. 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.
10. 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. This is in part due to a lack of administrative personnel for the project.
11. Residents reported that police were present at community meetings.
12. Discipline referrals have decreased by about 18% since the program began.

## **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, to include greater administrative support.
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

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.

## **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. To gather this information, a series of individual interviews with key personnel and community members were held. 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.) In addition, the minutes of the advisory group were read.

## **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, additional qualitative data

was gathered by both the Project Coordinator and through the individual interviews conducted by SWS.

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 preparing 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 program, its successes and its weaknesses. 3) The findings of the analysis were described in charts, tables, and a written form that is understandable and usable. 4) Written conclusions were drawn from the findings and reported. 5) Written recommendations were made.

The final report includes a description of the grant and its strategic plan, goals, objectives and outcome measurements; the findings on the implementation process; the findings on progress toward the outcome measurements; the conclusions; and the recommendations. This resulted in a detailed, written discussion of how well the grant is being carried out.

### **Limitations to Data Collection**

The County Sheriff's Office did not provide arrest or incident reports to the Weed & Seed office. Therefore, data on the arrests for drug and drug-related crimes in the Weed & Seed area within the county cannot be reported on in this evaluation.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIES

The Weed and Seed project in Spartanburg South Carolina was first funded for Federal Fiscal Year 2003. 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. Full implementation of the grant has been carried out in the subsequent years.

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 is an integral part of developing the applications 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 an employee of the Department of Public Safety who is responsible for the administration of the grant and of other Department employees who carry out the weeding portions of the grant.*

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 monthly reports of the Weed and Seed Community Policing Officer indicate a substantial "weeding" effort in the area that is coordinated with the community leadership.*

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 assigned an officer to be the fulltime Community Policing Officer for the Weed and Seed area. In addition, the Department provides overtime for other officers to concentrate on specific problems identified by the community policing office and the law enforcement coordinator. There were 170 hours of additional patrolling reported beyond the patrolling done by the Weed and Seed Officer.*

*The Community Policing Officer meets with the Neighborhood Watch groups in the community on a monthly basis and with other community groups whenever possible. .*

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 two Community Clean-ups during the year and have been conducting community surveys.*

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 officer and other officers are attending neighborhood watch meetings along with the Program Coordinator. 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. There were eight drug charges brought and 13 drug search warrants served that were attributable to the Weed and Seed project. The Weed and Seed Officer provided 46 activities beyond his direct enforcement activities. Several of these are on-going activities, such as Sports and Law classes at Carver Junior High. The Weed and Seed Officer attended a reported six Neighborhood Association Meetings. The Weed and Seed Officer did a community assessment in November.*

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. (The CC Woodson Center is presently closed due to work going on in the building.) All four Safe Havens provide after school programs that include homework assistance, computer labs and tutoring. Additional funding from grants was developed to enhance the existing programming and add new programming. Attention is 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 Community Health Center (RCHC) has grown from 2000 users/patients in 2002 to over 6,000 in 2004. ReGenesis began by providing bifurcated services in two separate facilities that together totaled 3,000 gross square feet. Today, RCHC offers services in a state of the art single facility in the heart of it’s service area and our facility is an approximately 9,000 square foot facility. As a result wait times have decreased, availability for*

*appointments has increased. RCHC offers late night appointments one night per week. RCHC has three board certified physicians and an all licensed or certified nursing staff. RCHC has received \$100,000.00 in an annual recurring state appropriation to develop a breast health awareness program to target African American women in south Spartanburg who die from breast cancer at a rate 3 times higher than the state average. RCHC is part of a diabetes collaborative that has served to improve key clinical measures of its patients who have diabetes such as blood sugar, blood pressure, cholesterol, tryglycerides, etc. RCHC has been asked to partner with the Spartanburg Housing Authority to develop a senior wellness program for housing authority clients. RCHC has developed a partnership arrangement with Mary Black School of Nursing to offer health education classes from one of it's certified diabetic health educators. RCHC has been instrumental in bringing new childrens dental services to the Spartanburg community and to Arkwright more specifically by March of 2006.*

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. A Brownfields Grant 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 City and County Magistrate’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 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, 2004 to August 31, 2005, and the baseline year for comparison is considered to be September 1, 2002 to August 31, 2003.

### Law Enforcement

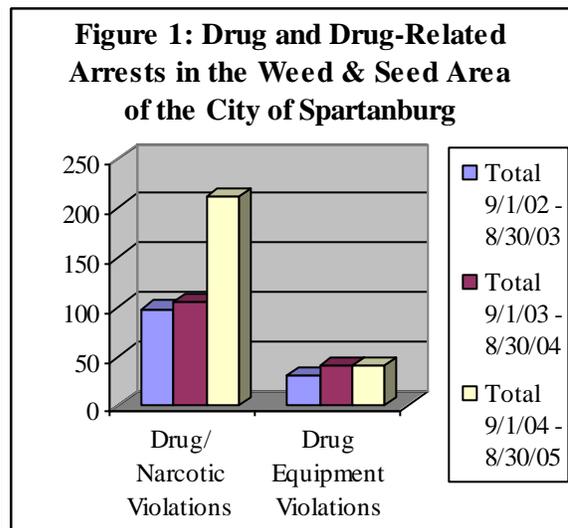
#### Strategy 1: Combat Street-Level Drug Sales

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 115% from the baseline year (9/1/02 to 8/31/03) to this year (9/1/04 to 8/31/05). Arrests for Drug Equipment Violations within the Weed & Seed area have increased by 37% from the baseline 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
Total 9/1/04 to 8/31/05	211	41
Change (02-03 to 04-05)	115%	37%



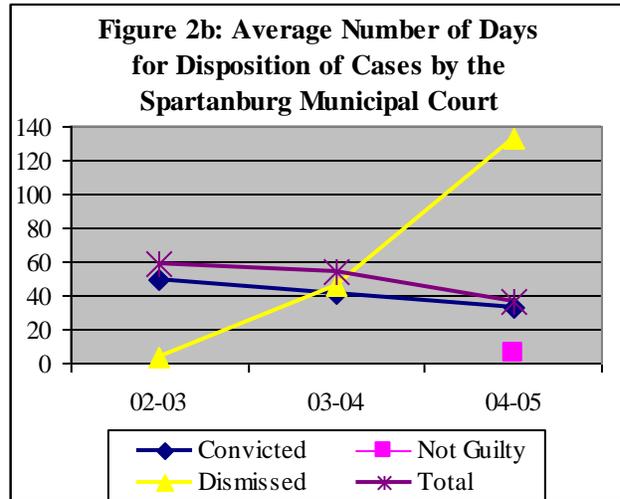
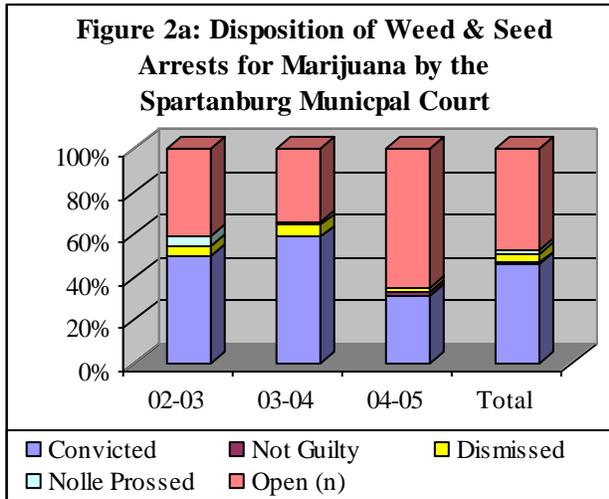
## Number of Prosecutions and Convictions of Drug Offenders

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 the Solicitor's Office and the County Magistrate Court, the disposition reports are geared toward the defendant's address and not toward the location of the arrest. At the current time, there is not one identification method that is in use to track cases from arrest to prosecution. 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 29306 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 29306 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. Due to the reasons stated above, data was not available for cases covering the current grant period.

Between 9/1/2002 and 8/31/2005, the Weed & Seed policing officers made 158 arrests for simple possession and possession of marijuana. These cases are handled by the Spartanburg Municipal Court. Of the 42 arrests made during the baseline year, 50% were convicted (with an average of 49.38 days from arrest to conviction), 4.8% were dismissed (with an average of four days from arrest to dismissal), and 4.8% were nolle prossed, meaning that there was not enough evidence to process the case. The remaining 17 cases remain open. Of the 56 arrests made during the 2003-2004 grant period, 58.9% were convicted (with an average of 41.67 days from arrest to conviction), 5.4% were dismissed (with an average of 46 days from arrest to dismissal), and one case (1.8%) was nolle prossed, meaning that there was not enough evidence to process the case. The remaining 19 cases remain open. Of the 60 arrests made during the 2004-2005 grant period, 31.7% were convicted (with an average of 32.74 days from arrest to conviction), one case (1.7%) was dismissed (with an average of four days from arrest to dismissal), and one case (1.7%) was nolle prossed, meaning that there was not enough evidence to process the case. The remaining 39 cases remain open. (See Table 2 and Figure 2a and Figure 2b.)

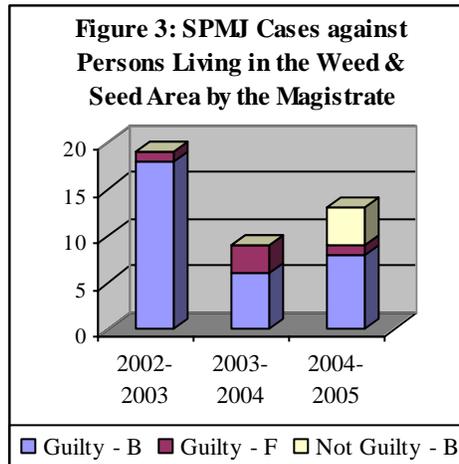
<b>Table 2: Disposition of Weed &amp; Seed Arrests for Simple Possession and Possession of Marijuana Cases by the Spartanburg Municipal Court</b>								
	9/1/02 - 8/31/03		9/1/03 - 8/31/04		9/1/04 - 8/31/05		Total	
	#	Mean Days	#	Mean Days	#	Mean Days	#	Mean Days
Convicted	21	49.38	33	41.67	19	32.74	73	41.56
Not Guilty	--	--	--	--	1	6.00	1	6.00
Dismissed	2	4.00	3	46.00	1	133.00	6	46.50
Nolle Prossed	2	209.00	1	472.00	--	--	3	296.67
Open (n)	17	--	19	--	39	--	75	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>58.52</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>53.65</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>36.24</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>50.71</b>



Between 9/1/2002 and 8/31/2003, 19 persons residing in the Weed & Seed area were brought before the Spartanburg County Magistrate on charges for simple possession of marijuana (SPMJ). Of those 19, 95% were found guilty in a bench trial (B) and one person (5%) was found guilty due to forfeiture. Between 9/1/2003 and 8/31/2004, nine persons residing in the Weed & Seed area were brought before the Magistrate for SPMJ. Of those nine, six (67%) were found guilty in a bench trial and three (33%) were found guilty due to forfeiture. Between 9/1/2004 and 8/31/2005, thirteen persons residing in the Weed & Seed area were brought before the Magistrate for SPMJ. Of those thirteen, eight (62%) were found guilty in a bench trial, one (8%) was found guilty due to forfeiture, and four (31%) were found not guilty in a bench trial. (See Table 3 and Figure 3.)

**Table 3: Disposition of Simple Possession of Marijuana Cases against Persons Living in the Weed & Seed Area through the Spartanburg County Magistrate Courts**

	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Guilty/Bench Trial	18	95%	6	67%	8	62%
Guilty/Forfeit	1	5%	3	33%	1	8%
Not Guilty/Bench Trial	0	0%	0	0%	4	31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>



### 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 Weed & Seed area provides insight into how residents view this problem. A copy of this survey is included in Appendix One. In addition, a breakout of 2004-2005 responses by each of the three communities that were surveyed in the Weed and Seed area is included in Appendix Two. This information is provided for use by the Spartanburg Weed and Seed Office.

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.

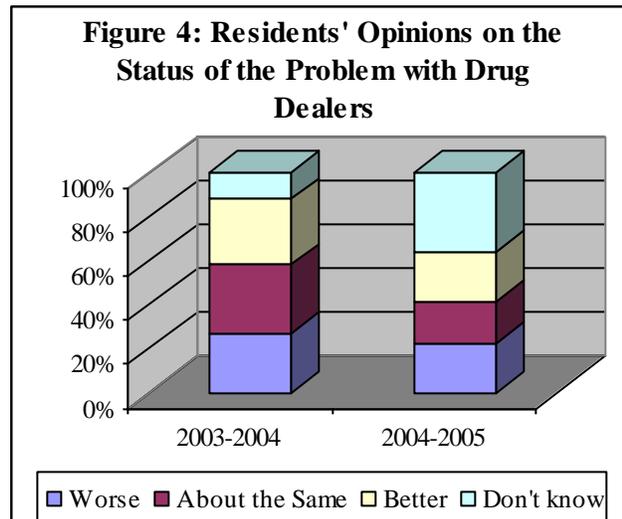
Overall, the police officers feel that their patrols are affecting the community. Several officers noted that the increased patrols and visibility of police officers has led to reduced activity as well as reduced loitering on sidewalks, bus stops and street corners.

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 67 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 30% felt that the situation has gotten better, 31% felt that the situation has stayed about the same, 27% stated that the situation has gotten worse, and 12% did not know. Of the 94 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, 22% stated that the situation has gotten worse, 19% stated that the situation has stayed about the same, 36% did not know, and 22% felt that the situation has gotten better. (See Table 4 and Figure 4.) The difference in responses is statistically significant; however, upon review of the data, this was due to the much larger probability that respondents in 2004-2005 would state that they “don’t know” the status of the problem. The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=0.48, df=2, p=0.788).

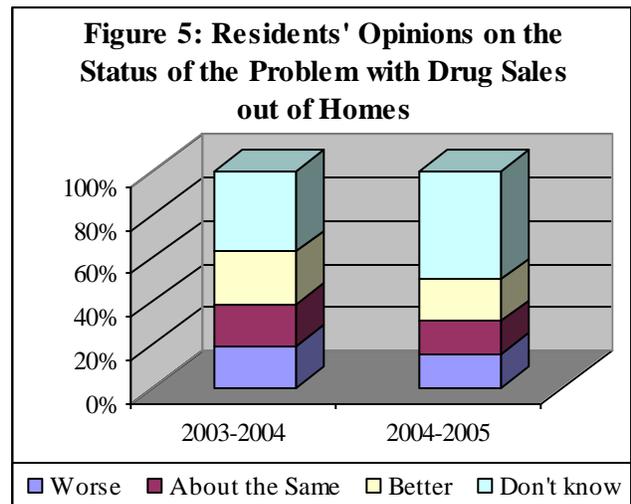
**Table 4: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Drug dealers on streets, street corners, or in other public places."**

	2003-2004		2004-2005	
	#	%	#	%
Better	20	30%	21	22%
Worse	18	27%	21	22%
About the Same	21	31%	18	19%
Don't know	8	12%	34	36%
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>



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 67 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 24% felt that the situation has gotten better, 19% felt that the situation has stayed about the same, 19% stated that the situation has gotten worse, and 37% did not know. Of the 94 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, a much larger percentage (50%) stated that they did not know, 16% stated that the situation has gotten worse, 15% stated that the situation has stayed about the same, and 19% felt that the situation has gotten better. (See Table 5 and Figure 5.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=0.02, df=2, p=0.992).

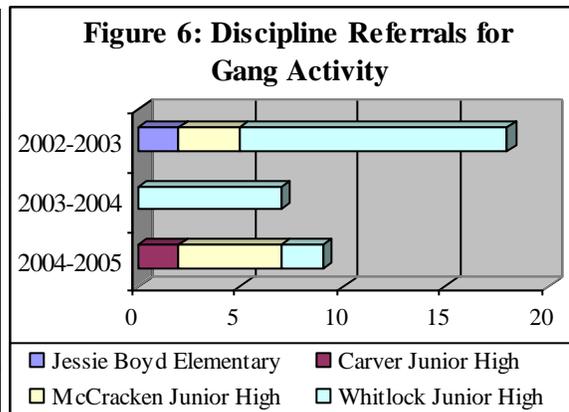
<b>Table 5: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Drug sales out of homes or apartments."</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Better	16	24%	18	19%
Worse	13	19%	15	16%
About the Same	13	19%	14	15%
Don't know	25	37%	47	50%
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>



## **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. Unfortunately, arrest and incident data does not specify whether or not a crime is “gang-related.” Discipline referrals obtained from Spartanburg County School District 7 does note whether or not the referral was a result of gang activity. In 2002-2003, 18 students were disciplined for gang-related activities. Of these 18, two were at Jessie Boyd Elementary, three were at McCracken Junior High, and 13 were at Whitlock Junior High. In 2003-2004, seven students were disciplined for gang-related activities. All seven of these were at Whitlock Junior High. In 2004-2005, nine students were disciplined for gang-related activities. Two of these were at Carver Junior High, five were at McCracken Junior High, and two were at Whitlock Junior High. (See Table 6 and Figure 6.) It must be noted that the majority of youth who live in the Weed & Seed area go to school at Jessie Boyd Elementary (and other elementary schools) and Carver Junior High; however, some of the youth attend McCracken Junior High and Whitlock Junior High.

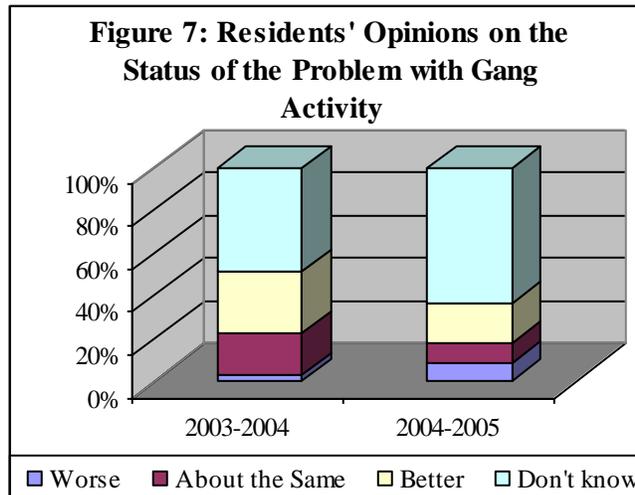
<b>Table 6: Discipline Referrals for Gang Activity in Spartanburg School District 7</b>			
	<b>2002-2003</b>	<b>2003-2004</b>	<b>2004-2005</b>
Jessie Boyd Elementary	2	0	0
Carver Junior High	0	0	2
McCracken Junior High	3	0	5
Whitlock Junior High	13	7	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>



The community survey also provides information on how residents feel toward changes in gang activity. A copy of this survey is included in Appendix One. In addition, a breakout of 2004-2005 responses by each of the three communities that were surveyed in the Weed and Seed area is included in Appendix Two.

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?]” Of the 67 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 29% felt that the situation has gotten better, 20% felt that the situation has stayed about the same, 3% stated that the situation has gotten worse, and 48% did not know. Of the 93 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, a much larger percentage (63%) stated that they did not know, 9% stated that the situation has gotten worse, 10% stated that the situation has stayed about the same, and 18% felt that the situation has gotten better. (See Table 7 and Figure 7.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=4.44, df=2, p=0.109).

<b>Table 7: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Gang Activity."</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Better	19	29%	17	18%
Worse	2	3%	8	9%
About the Same	13	20%	9	10%
Don't know	32	48%	59	63%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>



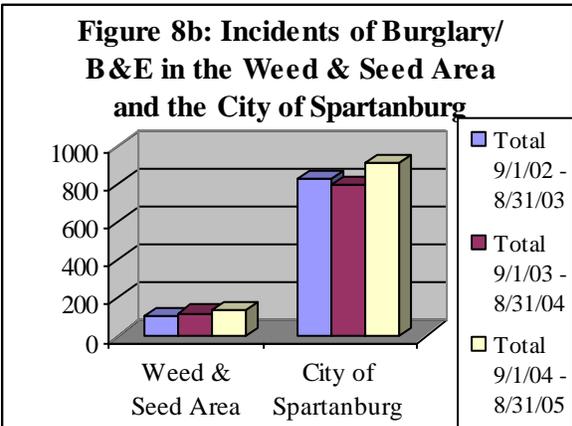
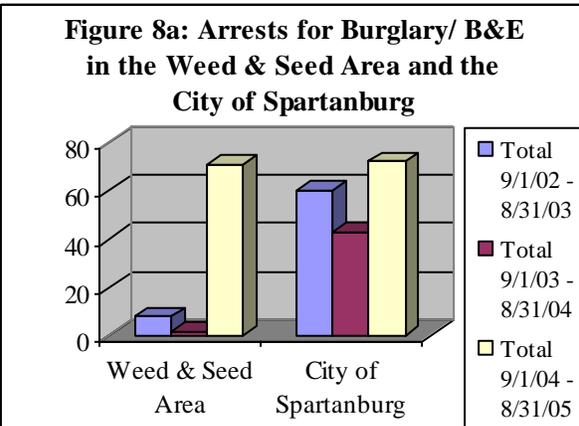
### Strategy 3: Reduction of Burglaries

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 increased by 788%, compared to a 31% increase in incidents. Comparatively, in the City of Spartanburg, arrests for burglary/breaking and entering have increased by 20% and incidents have increased by 10%. It must be noted that the number of arrests in the Weed & Seed area is more than half the number of incidents (53%), whereas the number of arrests in the City of Spartanburg as a whole is only 8% of incidents. (See Table 8 and Figures 8a and 8b.)

<b>Table 8: 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
Total 9/1/04 to 8/31/05	71	134	72	905
<b>% Change</b>	<b>788%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>10%</b>



## Community Policing

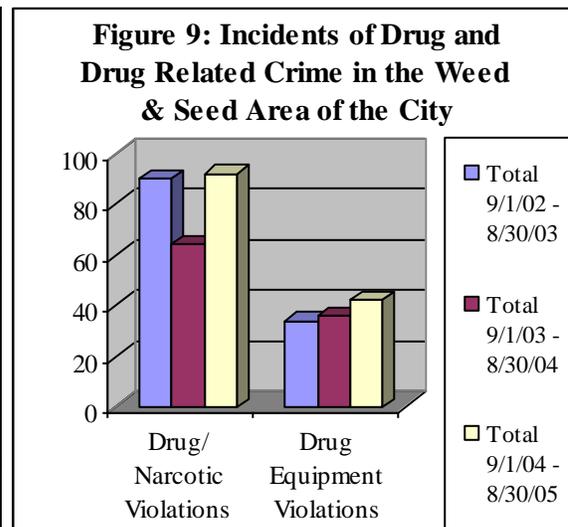
### Strategy 1: Resident Involvement in Reducing Street-Level Drug Sales

This strategy encourages 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 under Law Enforcement Strategy 1, the increased police presence is helping to reduce the means for street-level drug sales in the Weed & Seed area. Incidents of Drug/Narcotic violations in the Weed & Seed area of the City of Spartanburg have increased by 2% from the baseline year to the current year. Drug equipment violations have increased by 24%. (See Table 9 and Figure 9.)

	Drug/ Narcotic Violations	Drug Equipment Violations
Total 9/1/02 to 8/31/03	90	34
Total 9/1/03 to 8/31/04	64	36
Total 9/1/04 to 8/31/05	92	42
Change (02-03 to 04-05)	2%	24%



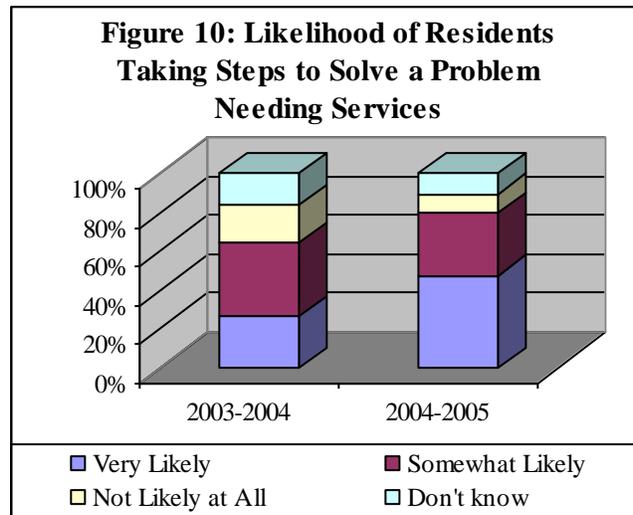
#### Increased Mobilization of Residents

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. In addition, a breakout of 2004-2005 responses by each of the three communities that were surveyed in the Weed and Seed area is included in Appendix Two. This information is provided for use by the Spartanburg Weed and Seed Office.

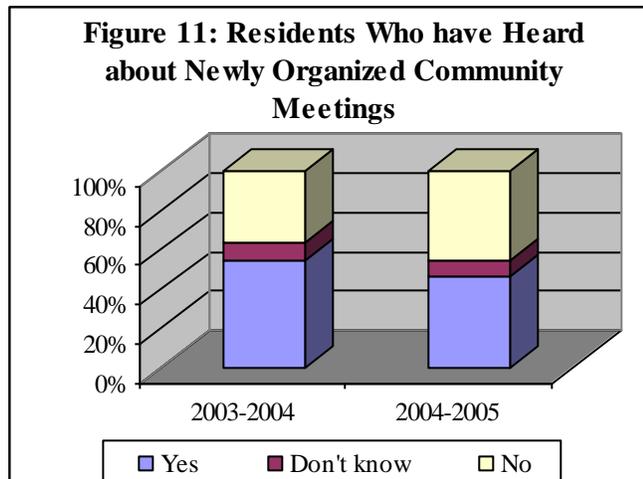
The first question is, “Today, if there was a problem needing some services from a city agency, how likely is it that residents in this neighborhood would take steps to get the problem solved?” Of the 67 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 27% stated that this is very likely to happen, 37% stated that this is somewhat likely to happen, 19% stated that this is not at all likely to happen, and 16% did not know. Of the 93 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, 47% stated that this is very likely to happen, 32% stated that this is somewhat likely to happen, 10% stated that this is not at all likely to happen, and 11% did not know. (See Table 10 and Figure 10.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is statistically significant (chi-square=7.11, df=2, p=0.029). Therefore, residents who responded in 2004-2005 were much more likely to state that residents will take steps to solve a problem needing services from a city agency than the respondents from 2003-2004.

<b>Table 10: Residents' Opinions on the Likelihood of Residents Taking Steps to Solve a Problem Needing Services from a City Agency</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Very Likely	18	27%	44	47%
Somewhat Likely	25	37%	30	32%
Not Likely at All	13	19%	9	10%
Don't know	11	16%	10	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>



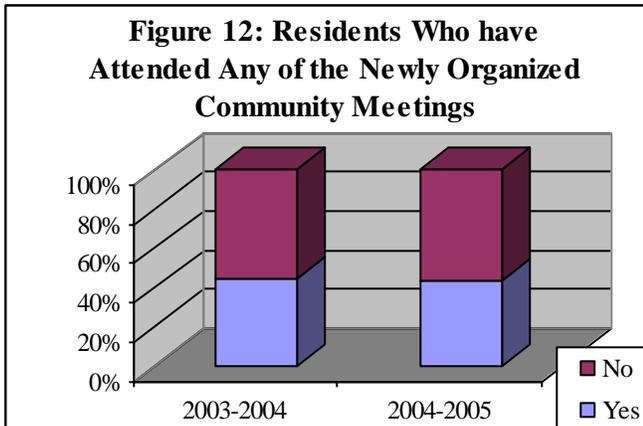
The second question is, “During the past year, have you heard about any community meeting newly organized to deal with local problems?” Of the 66 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 55% stated that they have heard about newly organized community meetings, 36% stated that they have not heard about any newly organized community meetings, and 9% did not know. Of the 94 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, 47% stated that they have heard about newly organized community meetings, 46% stated that they have not heard about any new community meetings, and 7% did not know. (See Table 11 and Figure 11.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=1.27, df=1, p=0.259).

<b>Table 11: Residents Who have Heard about Newly Organized Community Meetings</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	36	55%	44	47%
No	24	36%	43	46%
Don't know	6	9%	7	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>



The third question is, “Have you attended any of these [newly organized community] meetings?” Of the 36 Weed & Seed residents who reported during the 2003-2004 grant period that they have heard about newly organized community meetings, 44% stated that they attended at least one of those meetings and 56% stated that they did not attend any. Of the 44 residents who reported during the 2004-2005 grant period that they have heard about newly organized community meetings, 43% stated that they attended at least one of those meetings and 57% stated that they did not attend any. The difference between the two years is not significant. (See Table 12 and Figure 12.)

<b>Table 12: Residents Who have Attended Any of the Newly Organized Community Meetings</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	16	44%	19	43%
No	20	56%	25	57%
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>44</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.

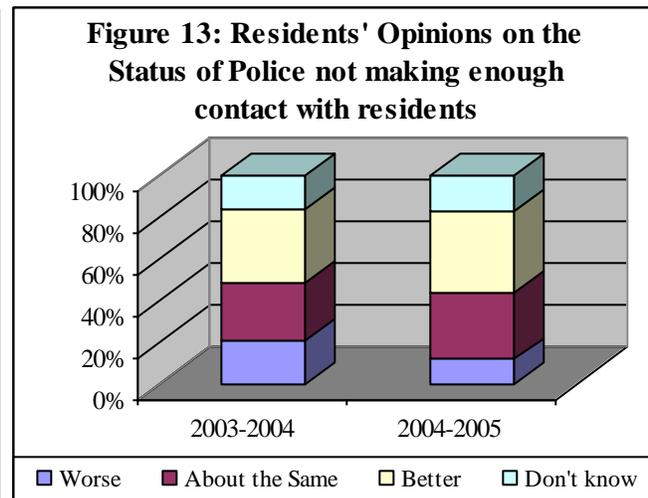
## Community Perception of Crime and Fear of Crime

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. In addition, a breakout of 2004-2005 responses by each of the three communities that were surveyed in the Weed and Seed area is included in Appendix Two. This information is provided for use by the Spartanburg Weed and Seed Office.

### 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 68 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 35% stated that the police officers are getting better about making contact with residents, 21% stated that they are getting worse, 28% stated the situation has remained about the same, and 16% did not know. Of the 93 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, 39% stated that the police officers are getting better about making contact with residents, 12% stated that they are getting worse, 32% stated the situation has remained about the same, and 17% did not know. (See Table 13 and Figure 13.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=2.30, df=2, p=0.317).

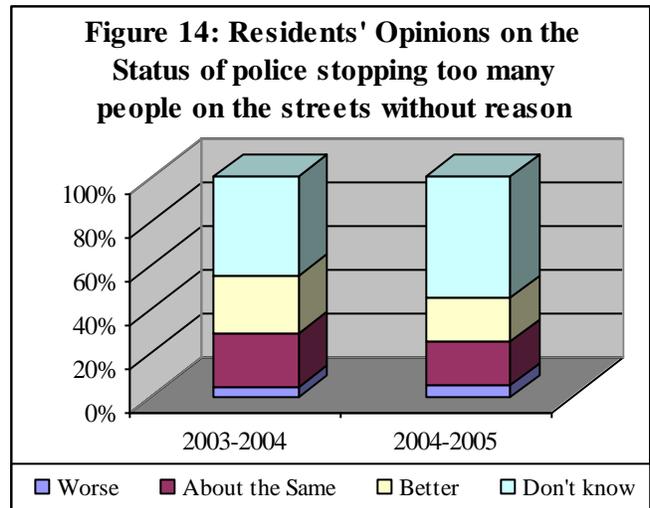
<b>Table 13: Residents Opinions on the Status of “Police not making enough contact with residents.”</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Better	24	35%	36	39%
Worse	14	21%	11	12%
About the Same	19	28%	30	32%
Don't know	11	16%	16	17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</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 67 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 27% stated that the police are getting better about stopping too many people on the streets without good reason, 4% stated that the situation is getting worse, 24% stated the situation has remained about the same, and 45% did not know. Of the 94 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, 19% stated that the police are getting better about stopping too many people on the streets without good reason, 5% stated that the situation is getting worse, 20% stated the situation has remained about the same,

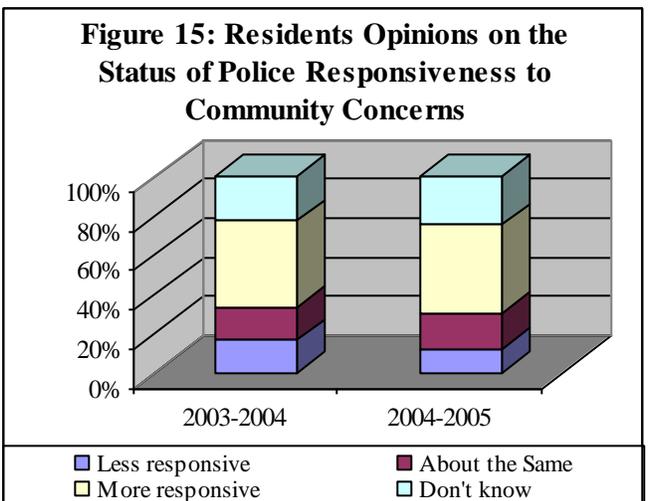
and 55% did not know. (See Table 14 and Figure 14.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=0.44, df=2, p=0.802).

<b>Table 14: Residents Opinions on the Status of “police stopping too many people on the streets without good reason.”</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	#	%	#	%
Better	18	27%	18	19%
Worse	3	4%	5	5%
About the Same	16	24%	19	20%
Don't know	30	45%	52	55%
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>94</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 66 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 44% stated that the police are become better at being responsive to community concerns, 17% stated that the police are getting worse at being responsive to community concerns, 17% stated the police responsiveness had remained about the same, and 23% did not know. Of the 93 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, 45% stated that the police are become better at being responsive to community concerns, 12% stated that the police are getting worse at being responsive to community concerns, 18% stated the police responsiveness had remained about the same, and 25% did not know. (See Table 15 and Figure 15.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=0.70, df=2, p=0.705).

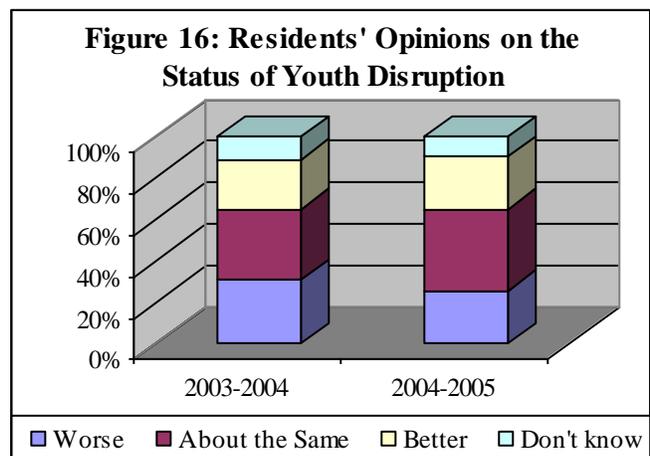
<b>Table 15: Residents Opinions on the Status of Police Responsiveness to Community Concerns</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	#	%	#	%
More responsive	29	44%	42	45%
Less responsive	11	17%	11	12%
About the Same	11	17%	17	18%
Don't know	15	23%	23	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>



Disruptive Activities

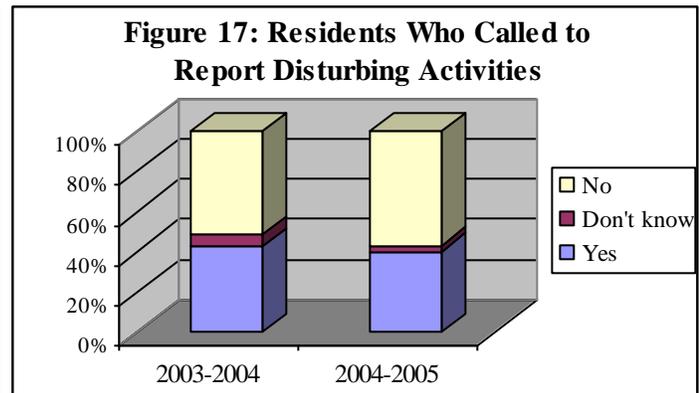
The first question in this category is “[Compared to two years ago, would you say the problem with] youth disruption – young people hanging out, vandalizing, making noise [has gotten better, worse, or stayed the same?]” Of the 65 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 25% stated that youth disruptions are getting better, 31% stated that youth disruptions are getting worse, 34% stated the youth disruptions had remained about the same, and 11% did not know. Of the 94 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, 26% stated that youth disruptions are getting better, 26% stated that youth disruptions are getting worse, 39% stated the youth disruptions had remained about the same, and 10% did not know. (See Table 16 and Figure 16.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=0.70, df=2, p=0.703).

<b>Table 16: Residents Opinions on the Status of “Youth Disruption.”</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Better	16	25%	24	26%
Worse	20	31%	24	26%
About the Same	22	34%	37	39%
Don't know	7	11%	9	10%
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>94</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?” Of the 66 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 42% stated that they have called to report disturbing activities, 52% stated that they have not called to report disturbing activities, and 6% did not know. Of the 95 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, 40% stated that they have called to report disturbing activities, 57% stated that they have not called to report disturbing activities, and 3% did not know. (See Table 17 and Figure 17.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=0.225, df=1, p=0.635).

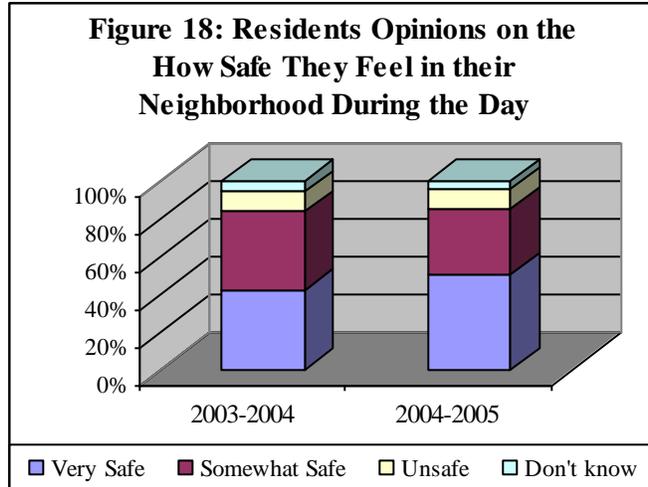
<b>Table 17: Residents Who Called to Report Disturbing Activities</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	28	42%	38	40%
No	34	52%	54	57%
Don't know	4	6%	3	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100%</b>



Feelings of Safety

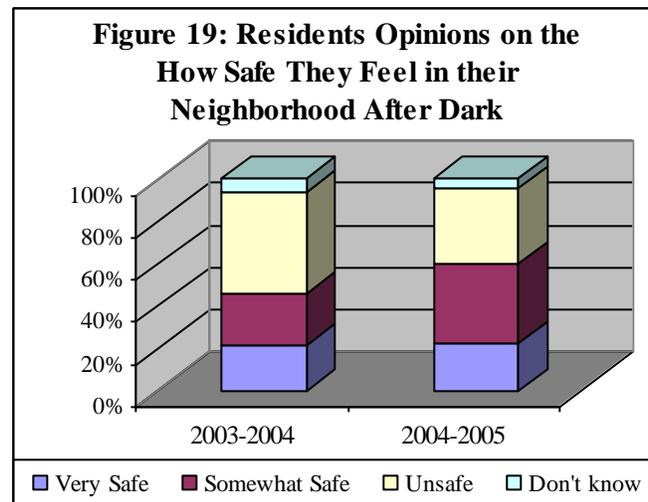
The first question in this category is “Today, how safe do you feel out alone in this neighborhood during the day?” Of the 67 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 42% stated that they feel very safe, 42% stated that they feel somewhat safe, 10% reported that they feel unsafe, and 6% did not know. Of the 95 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, 51% stated that they feel very safe, 35% stated that they feel somewhat safe, 11% stated that they feel unsafe, and 4% did not know. (See Table 18 and Figure 18.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=1.15, df=2, p=0.563).

<b>Table 18: Residents Opinions on the How Safe They Feel in their Neighborhood During the Day</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Very Safe	28	42%	48	51%
Somewhat Safe	28	42%	33	35%
Unsafe	7	10%	10	11%
Don't know	4	6%	4	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100%</b>



The second question in this category is “Today, how safe do you feel out alone in this neighborhood after dark?” Of the 65 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 22% stated that they feel very safe, 25% stated that they feel somewhat safe, 48% reported that they feel unsafe, and 6% did not know. Of the 95 residents who responded to this question during the 2004-2005 grant period, 22% stated that they feel very safe, 38% stated that they feel somewhat safe, 36% stated that they feel unsafe, and 4% did not know. (See Table 19 and Figure 19.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=3.44, df=2, p=0.179).

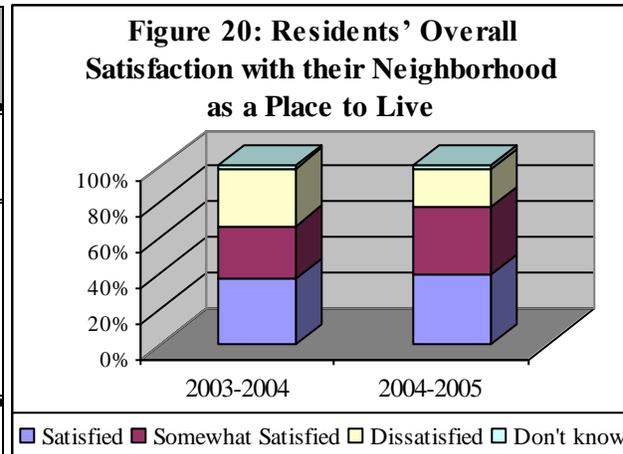
<b>Table 19: Residents Opinions on the How Safe They Feel in their Neighborhood After Dark</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Very Safe	14	22%	21	22%
Somewhat Safe	16	25%	36	38%
Unsafe	31	48%	34	36%
Don't know	4	6%	4	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95</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 65 Weed & Seed residents who responded during the 2003-2004 grant period, 37% stated they are satisfied with their neighborhood, 29% stated they are somewhat satisfied, 32% stated they are dissatisfied, and 2% did not know. Of the 95 residents who responded during the 2004-2005 grant period, 39% stated that they are satisfied with their neighborhood, 38% stated that they are somewhat satisfied, 21% stated that they are dissatisfied, and 2% did not know. (See Table 20 and Figure 20.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=2.79, df=2, p=0.248).

	2003-2004		2004-2005	
	#	%	#	%
Satisfied	24	37%	37	39%
Somewhat Satisfied	19	29%	36	38%
Dissatisfied	21	32%	20	21%
Don't know	1	2%	2	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>100%</b>



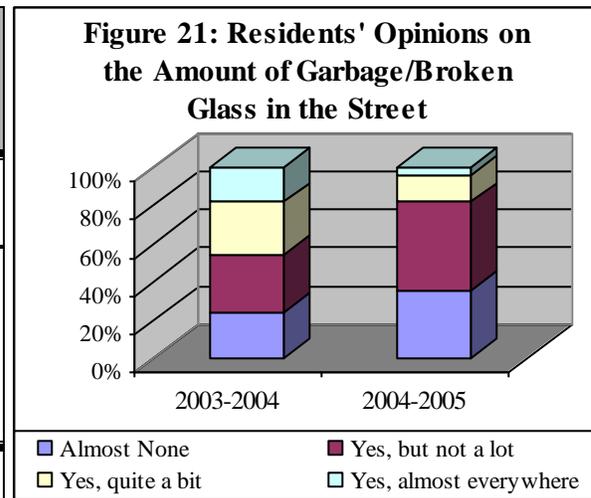
### Neighborhood Clean-up Projects and Resident Participation

Two neighborhood clean-up projects have been held in the Weed & Seed area during the year covered by the evaluation. The first neighborhood clean-up was conducted on South Liberty Street and was attended by two community residents and a Girl Scout troop. The second neighborhood clean-up was attended by police officers only. 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. In addition, a breakout of 2004-2005 responses by each of the three communities that were surveyed in the Weed and Seed area is included in Appendix Two. This information is provided for use by the Spartanburg Weed and Seed Office.

The first question from the survey is “Is there garbage or broken glass in the street or on the sidewalk?” Of the 66 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 24% stated that there is almost no garbage or broken glass in the street or on the sidewalk, 30% stated that there is some, but not a lot, 27% stated that there is quite a bit, and 18% stated that there is garbage or broken glass almost everywhere. Of the 94 residents who responded during the 2004-2005 grant period, 35% stated that there is almost no garbage or broken glass in the street or on the sidewalk, 47% stated that there is some, but not a lot, 14% stated that there is quite a bit, and 4% stated that there is garbage or broken glass almost

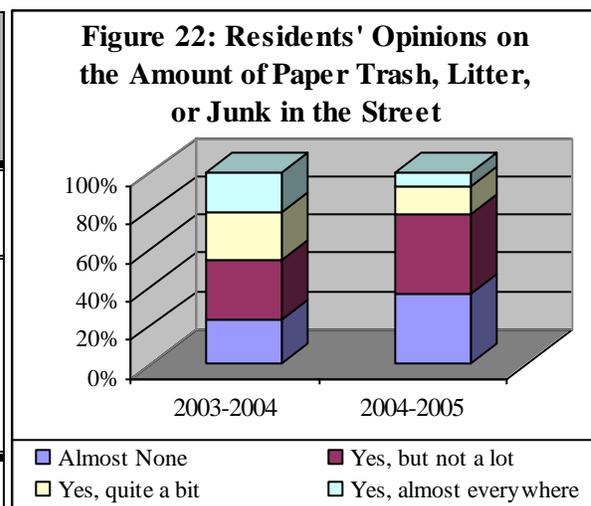
everywhere. (See Table 21 and Figure 21.) The difference between the two years is statistically significant ( $t=3.55$ ,  $df=158$ ,  $p=0.001$ ). Therefore, residents perceive there to be less garbage or broken glass in the street or on the sidewalk than there was last year (mean difference = 0.52).

<b>Table 21: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Garbage or Broken Glass in the Street or on the Sidewalk."</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Almost None	16	24%	33	35%
Yes, but not a lot	20	30%	44	47%
Yes, quite a bit	18	27%	13	14%
Yes almost everywhere	12	18%	4	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>



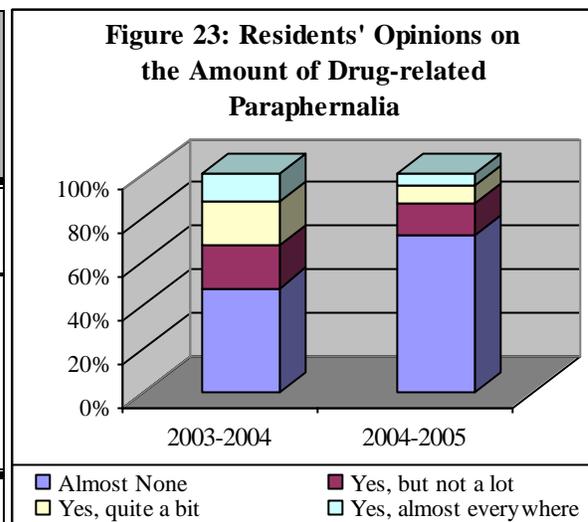
The second question from the survey is "Is there paper trash, litter, or junk in the street or on the sidewalk?" Of the 66 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 23% stated that there is almost no paper trash, litter, or junk in the street or on the sidewalk, 32% stated that there is some, but not a lot, 24% stated that there is quite a bit, and 21% stated that there was paper trash, litter or junk almost everywhere. Of the 94 residents who responded during the 2004-2005 grant period, 36% stated that there is almost no paper trash, litter, or junk in the street or on the sidewalk, 41% stated that there is some, but not a lot, 15% stated that there is quite a bit, and only 7% stated that there was paper trash, litter or junk almost everywhere. (See Table 22 and Figure 22.) The difference between the two years is statistically significant ( $t=3.22$ ,  $df=158$ ,  $p=0.002$ ). Therefore, residents perceive there to be less paper trash, litter, or junk in the street or on the sidewalk than there was last year (mean difference = 0.5).

<b>Table 22: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Paper Trash, Litter, or Junk in the street or on the sidewalks."</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Almost None	15	23%	34	36%
Yes, but not a lot	21	32%	39	41%
Yes, quite a bit	16	24%	14	15%
Yes almost everywhere	14	21%	7	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>



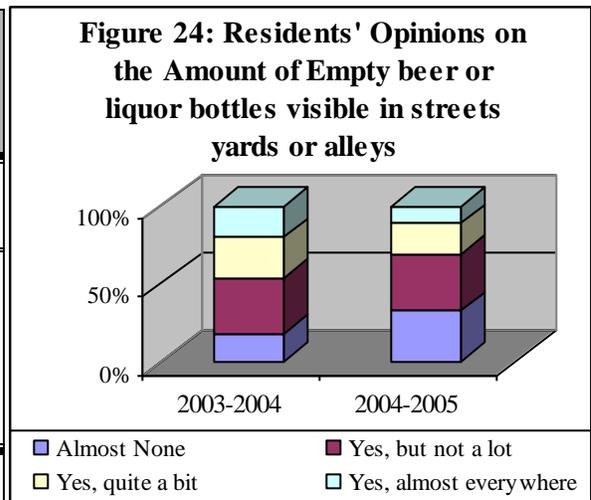
The third question from the survey is “Are there any drug-related paraphernalia on the sidewalk, in gutters, or on the street?” Of the 65 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 48% stated that there is almost no drug-related paraphernalia on the sidewalk, in gutters or on the street, 20% stated that there is some, but not a lot, 20% stated that there is quite a bit, and 12% stated that there was drug-related paraphernalia almost everywhere. Of the 90 residents who responded during the 2004-2005 grant period, 72% stated that there is almost no drug-related paraphernalia on the sidewalk, in gutters or on the street, 14% stated that there is some, but not a lot, 8% stated that there is quite a bit, and only 6% stated that there was drug-related paraphernalia almost everywhere. (See Table 23 and Figure 23.) The difference between the two years is statistically significant ( $t=3.2$ ,  $df=153$ ,  $p=0.002$ ). Therefore, residents perceive there to be less drug-related paraphernalia on the sidewalk, in gutters or on the street than there was last year (mean difference = 0.5).

<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>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Almost None	31	48%	65	72%
Yes, but not a lot	13	20%	13	14%
Yes, quite a bit	13	20%	7	8%
Yes almost everywhere	8	12%	5	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>90</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 67 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 18% stated that there is almost no empty beer or liquor bottles visible in streets, yards, or alleys, 36% stated that there is some, but not a lot, 27% stated that there is quite a bit, and 19% stated that there was empty beer or liquor bottles almost everywhere. Of the 94 residents who responded during the 2004-2005 grant period, 33% stated that there is almost no empty beer or liquor bottles visible in streets, yards, or alleys, 36% stated that there is some, but not a lot, 20% stated that there is quite a bit, and 11% stated that there was empty beer or liquor bottles almost everywhere. (See Table 24 and Figure 24.) The difference between the two years is statistically significant ( $t=2.47$ ,  $df=140.1$ ,  $p=0.015$ ). Therefore, residents perceive there to be fewer empty beer or liquor bottles visible in streets, yards or alleys than there was last year (mean difference = 0.39).

<b>Table 24: Residents Opinions on the Status of the Problem with "Empty beer or liquor bottles visible in streets, yards or alleys."</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	#	%	#	%
Almost None	12	18%	31	33%
Yes, but not a lot	24	36%	34	36%
Yes, quite a bit	18	27%	19	20%
Yes almost everywhere	13	19%	10	11%
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>100%</b>



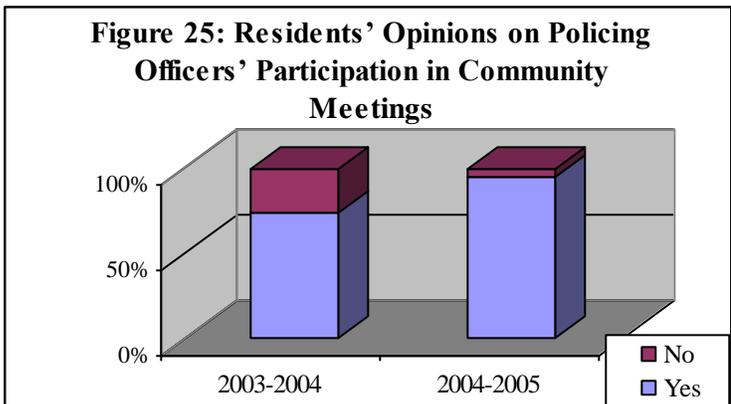
**Community Meetings Attended and Held by Community Policing Officers**

The Community Policing Officer attended the Forest Park Neighborhood Watch program meetings at C.C. Woodson Recreational Center in March, April and June of 2005. The CPO also attended meetings for Highland Neighborhood Watch at Bethlehem Center in January, February, and June of 2005. In addition, the Community Policing Officer attended the following community meetings: June 2005 meeting held by the Spartanburg Housing Authority to reveal the designs for the new Phyllis Goins Apartments, June 2005 meeting held by the SC Department of Transportation to discuss the new highway corridor through Arkwright and the Hope VI project, April 2005 meeting at Tobias Hartwell Town homes to discuss how the local convenience store was affecting the community’s quality of life, April 2005 Minority Business Contractor Meeting held by ReGenesis for Hope VI project, and January 2005 meeting at Silver Hill Church for residents of the Park Hills community. 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?” Of the 19 Weed & Seed residents who reported during the 2003-2004 grant period that they have attended at least one community meeting, 74% stated that there were representatives from the police department present and 26% stated that there were not. Of the 21 Weed & Seed residents who reported during the 2004-2005 grant period that they have attended at least one community meeting, 95% stated that there were representatives from the police department present and only 5% stated that there were not. (See Table 24 and Figure 24.) Due to the small number of persons who had attended a community meeting and stated that there was not a police representative present, a chi-square analysis was not statistically valid.

**Table 25: Residents' Opinions on Policing Officers' Participation in Community Meetings**

	2003-2004		2004-2005	
	#	%	#	%
Yes	14	74%	20	95%
No	5	26%	1	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>21</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.

Several activities were held in the parks in the Weed & Seed area during the 2004-2005 grant period. The first one was a 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament at Mary H. Wright Park on April 9, 2005. The second was an activity conducted by Safe Home and Rape Crisis at Barnet Park on April 28, 2005. In addition, the community held a Southside Community Festival on June 25, 2005, and “Juneteenth” Day on June 18, 2005. These activities were geared toward providing cultural activities to youth and families in the area; with Juneteenth Day in particular being a celebration of the freeing of slaves. Also during the summer, the Highland Neighborhood Association held a Fun Day at the Park at Stewart Park on July 16, 2005. It has also been reported that cookouts, picnics, and family activities were held several times throughout the year at Arkwright Park.

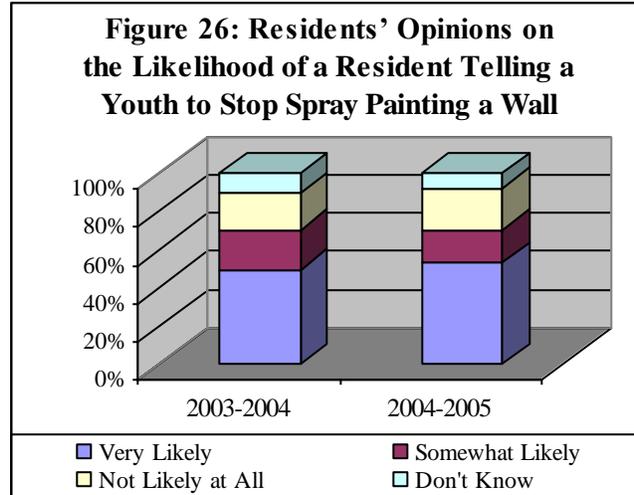
### Resident Attendance and Participation in Neighborhood Watch Programs

As stated previously, the Community Policing Officer attended three meetings each at the Forest Park Neighborhood Watch and the Highland Neighborhood Watch. It is not known what other Neighborhood Watch meetings were held in the area. It is also not known how many residents attended the meetings. However, 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?” Of the 67 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 49% stated that it is very likely a resident would tell them to stop, 21% stated that it is somewhat likely, 19% stated

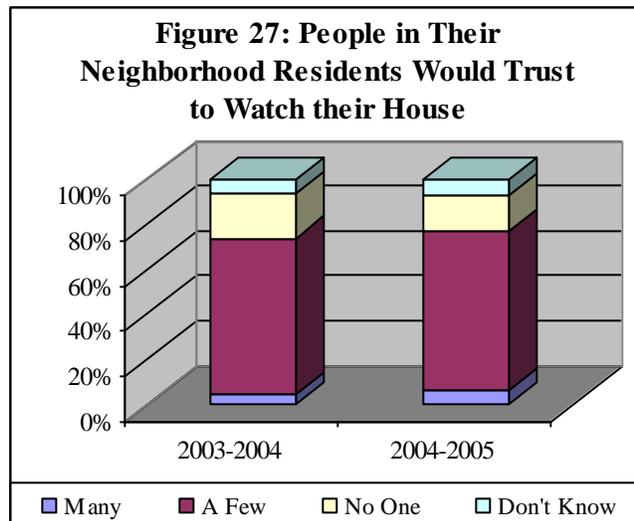
that it is not at all likely, and 10% did not know. Of the 94 residents who responded during the 2004-2005 grant period, 53% stated that it is very likely a resident would tell them to stop, 17% stated that it is somewhat likely, 22% stated that it is not at all likely, and 7% did not know. (See Table 26 and Figure 26.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=0.56, df=2, p=0.757).

<b>Table 26: Residents’ Opinions on the Likelihood of a Resident Telling a Youth to Stop Spray Painting a Wall</b>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Very Likely	33	49%	50	53%
Somewhat Likely	14	21%	16	17%
Not Likely at All	13	19%	21	22%
Don't Know	7	10%	7	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>94</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?” Of the 65 Weed & Seed residents who responded to this question during the 2003-2004 grant period, 5% stated that there are many people they would trust, 69% stated that there are a few people they would trust, 20% stated that there is no one they would trust, and 6% did not know. Of the 95 residents who responded during the 2004-2005 grant period, 6% stated that there are many people they would trust, 71% stated that there are a few people they would trust, 16% stated that there is no one they would trust, and 7% did not know. (See Table 27 and Figure 27.) The difference between the two years (after removing the “don’t know” responses) is not statistically significant (chi-square=0.59, df=2, p=0.744).

<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>				
	<b>2003-2004</b>		<b>2004-2005</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>%</b>
Many	3	5%	6	6%
A Few	45	69%	67	71%
No One	13	20%	15	16%
Don't Know	4	6%	7	7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>95</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.

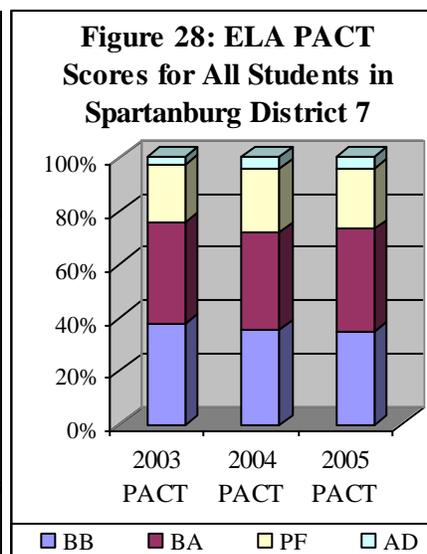
#### **Number of Students Completing School**

In the 2002-2003 school year, 75.7% of high school seniors completed high school in Spartanburg School District 7. During the 2003-2004 school year, 85.6% of high school seniors received a diploma. 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. The promotion rate for 2003-2004 decreased slightly in 2003-2004 to 95.6%. Data on these rates is not yet available for the 2004-2005 school year.

#### **Improved Standardized Test Scores**

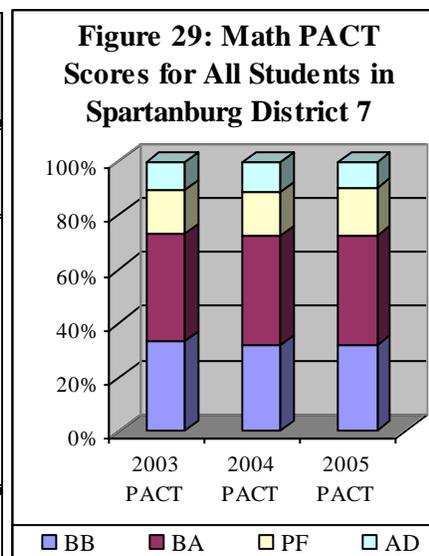
There are four subjects tested by the PACT standardized test. These subjects are English/language arts (ELA), math, science, and social studies. In Spartanburg School District 7, students' ELA scores have improved from 2003 (baseline) to 2005 (current). The percentage of students scoring below basic (BB) has decreased from 37.6% in 2003 to 35%. The percentage of students scoring basic (BA) has increased from 37.9% in 2003 to 38.1% in 2005. The percentage of students scoring proficient (PF) has increased from 21.8% in 2003 to 23% in 2005. The percentage of students scoring advanced (AD) has increased from 2.7% in 2003 to 3.9% in 2005. (See Table 28 and Figure 28.)

<b>Table 28: ELA PACT Scores for All Students in Spartanburg School District 7</b>						
	2003 PACT		2004 PACT		2005 PACT	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Below Basic (BB)	1484	37.6%	1348	35.7%	1248	35.0%
Basic (BA)	1497	37.9%	1376	36.4%	1359	38.1%
Proficient (PF)	859	21.8%	902	23.9%	819	23.0%
Advanced (AD)	107	2.7%	154	4.1%	140	3.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3947</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3780</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3566</b>	<b>100%</b>



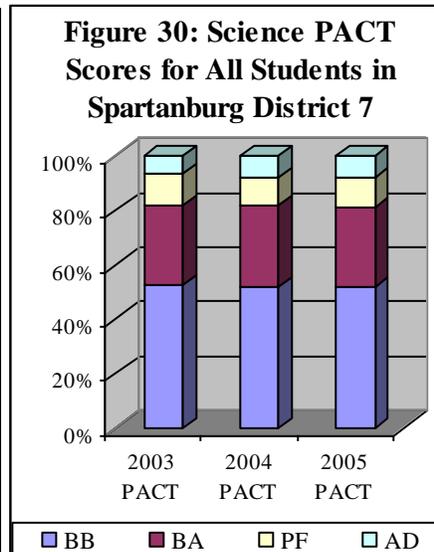
Students' math scores have remained about the same from 2003 (baseline) to 2005 (current). The percentage of students scoring below basic (BB) has decreased slightly from 33.3% in 2003 to 32.3% in 2005. The percentage of students scoring basic (BA) has remained about the same at 40% in 2003 and 40.1% in 2005. The percentage of students scoring proficient (PF) has increased from 16.2% in 2003 to 18% in 2005. The percentage of students scoring advanced (AD) has decreased from 10.5% in 2003 to 9.6% in 2005. (See Table 29 and Figure 29.)

<b>Table 29: Math PACT Scores for All Students in Spartanburg School District 7</b>						
	2003 PACT		2004 PACT		2005 PACT	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Below Basic (BB)	1337	33.3%	1212	31.8%	1165	32.3%
Basic (BA)	1605	40.0%	1548	40.6%	1445	40.1%
Proficient (PF)	651	16.2%	623	16.3%	651	18.0%
Advanced (AD)	420	10.5%	428	11.2%	346	9.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4013</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3811</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3607</b>	<b>100%</b>



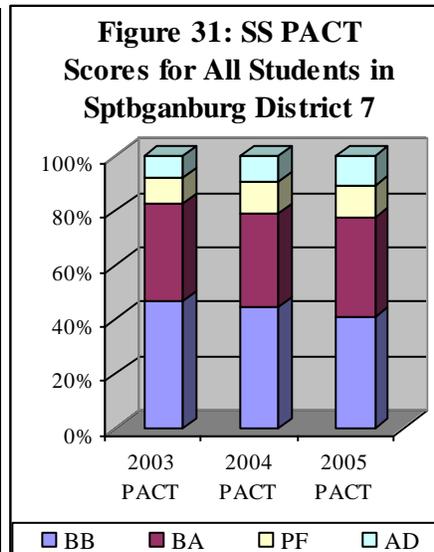
Students' science scores have also improved slightly. The percentage of students scoring below basic (BB) has decreased from 52.4% in 2003 to 51.5% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring basic (BA) has increased slightly from 29.3% in 2003 to 30% in 2004. The percentage of students scoring proficient (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>						
	2003 PACT		2004 PACT		2005 PACT	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Below Basic (BB)	2146	52.4%	2146	52.4%	1910	52.0%
Basic (BA)	1197	29.3%	1197	29.3%	1062	28.9%
Proficient (PF)	474	11.6%	474	11.6%	408	11.1%
Advanced (AD)	275	6.7%	275	6.7%	293	8.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4092</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>4092</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3673</b>	<b>100%</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		2005 PACT	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Below Basic (BB)	1916	46.9%	1731	44.2%	1494	40.6%
Basic (BA)	1457	35.6%	1360	34.7%	1349	36.7%
Proficient (PF)	399	9.8%	448	11.4%	435	11.8%
Advanced (AD)	315	7.7%	378	9.7%	400	10.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4087</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3917</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3678</b>	<b>100%</b>



### Increase in Drop-out Prevention Programming

Drop-out prevention programming has been administered to students through the after school programs at the Safe Havens. These programs are geared toward teaching students the importance of staying in school and setting career goals. In addition, the community policing officer provided Sports and Law classes to youth at Carver Junior High during the school year and to youth at the

Safe Havens during the summer. These classes covered topics such as decision-making skills, responsibility, attendance, and setting career goals.

### **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 after school 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.

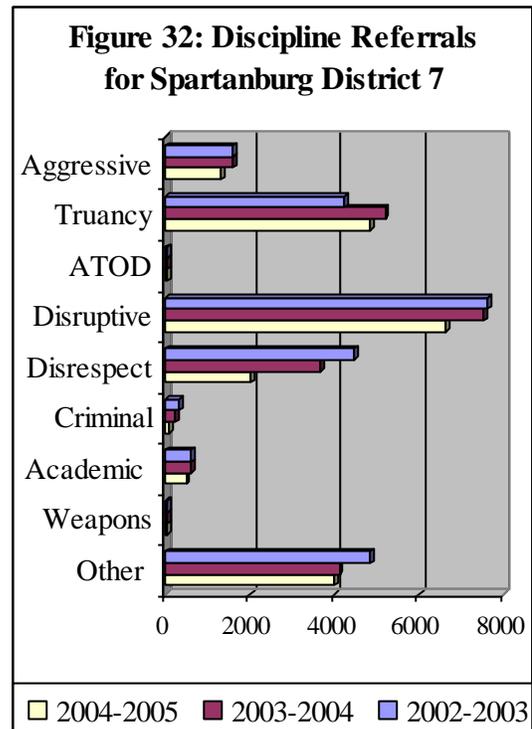
The after school program at Bethlehem center operated for 120 days between January and June with an average attendance of 28.8 students per day. The computer lab at Bethlehem center operated for 45 days between April and June with an average attendance of 9.4 students per day. The Preschool Computer Lab at Bethlehem Center operated for 42 days between January and March with an average attendance of 6.76 students per day. The after school program at Crescent Hills operated for 147 days between September and May with an average of 8.89 students per day. The after school program at Community Baptist operated for 108 days with an average of 12.63 students per day. The Computer Lab at C.C. Woodson Recreational Center operated for 85 days between August and February with an average of 2.4 students per day.

### **Less Disciplinary Problems**

Data on the number and type of discipline referrals for Spartanburg County School District 7 was obtained by the Weed & Seed Coordinator. The data was grouped into nine categories of offenses. The category "Aggressive Behavior" includes offenses such as assault (aggravated and simple), fighting, harassment (of both teachers and other students), intimidation, lynching, physically harming teachers and other students, and threatening teachers and other students. The category "Truancy/Cutting School/Class" includes offenses such as cutting an activity, cutting class, cutting school, habitual truancy, chronic truancy, leaving class, leaving school, tardies, habitual tardies, truancy, and failure to report to class. The category "ATOD on School Grounds" includes possession of drugs, distribution or sale of drugs, liquor law violation, and possession of tobacco. The category "Disruptive Behavior" includes offenses such as disorderly conduct, disruptive behavior, excessive noise, misconduct, severe misconduct, disturbing school, disturbing class, profanity, and indecent exposure. The category "Disrespect" includes offenses such as disrespect, refusal to obey, and defiance, particularly to teachers and staff. The category "Criminal Behavior" includes activities such as Arson, bomb threat, counterfeit or forgery, extortion, setting off a fire alarm or lighting a fire, forced sexual offense, fraud, gambling, larceny/theft, robbery, possession of stolen property, vandalism, destruction of property and sexual harassment. "Academic Violations" are for offenses such as cheating, failure to do class work, not being prepared, and sleeping in class. Weapons in school include firearms, knives, and any other weapons on school property. All other offenses are grouped into "Other."

Referrals for aggressive behavior increased from 2002-2003 to 2003-2004 by 2% then subsequently decreased by 18% in 2004-2005. Referrals for truant activities increased by 23% from 2002-2003 to 2003-2004 then decreased by 6% in 2004-2005. Referrals for alcohol, tobacco or other drugs decreased by 24% from 2002-2003 to 2003-2004; however they increased by 44% from 2003-2004 to 2004-2005. It must be noted, however, that the number of ATOD violations is much smaller than other types of violations. Referrals for disruptive behavior decreased by 1% from 2002-2003 to 2003-2004, and then decreased again by 12% in 2004-2005. Referrals for Disrespect also decreased from 2002-2003 by 17%, and then decreased again by 45% in 2004-2005. Referrals for criminal behavior decreased by 27% from 2002-2003 to 2003-2004, and decreased again in 2004-2005 by 57%. Academic violations decreased by 2% in 2003-2004 and by 17% in 2004-2005. Referrals for bringing a weapon to school decreased in 2003-2004 by 15%; however, these referrals increased by 9% in 2004-2005. The total number of discipline referrals decreased by 3% from 2002-2003 to 2003-2004, and decreased further by 15% in 2004-2005. (See Table 32 and Figure 32.)

	2002-2003	2003-2004	2004-2005
Aggressive Behavior	1596	1621	1329
Truancy/Cutting School/Class	4224	5198	4863
ATOD on School Grounds	59	45	65
Disruptive Behavior	7619	7544	6624
Disrespect	4458	3681	2032
Criminal Behavior	318	233	100
Academic Violations	612	601	498
Weapons at School	37	32	35
Other Violations	4840	4118	4015
<b>Total</b>	<b>23763</b>	<b>23073</b>	<b>19561</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. 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 (RCHC), 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. The RCHC has three board certified physicians and an all licensed or certified nursing staff. They utilize a sliding scale fee schedule and allow payments through Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance companies, contract healthcare, and self-pay.

ReGenesis began by providing bifurcated services in two separate facilities that together totaled 3,000 gross square feet. Today, RCHC offers services in an approximately 9,000 square foot state-of-the-art single facility in the heart of its service area. As a result, wait times have decreased, availability for appointments has increased. The RCHC also offers late night appointments one night per week. From the time the RCHC opened, it has grown from 2,000 users/patients to over 6,000 in 2004.

Additional activities conducted by the RCHC to bring additional health and human services to the Southside community include:

- RCHC has received \$100,000.00 in an annual recurring state appropriation to develop a breast health awareness program to target African American women in south Spartanburg who die from breast cancer at a rate 3 times higher than the state average.
- RCHC is part of a diabetes collaborative that has served to improve key clinical measures of its patients who have diabetes such as blood sugar, blood pressure, cholesterol, triglycerides, etc.
- RCHC has been asked to partner with the Spartanburg Housing Authority to develop a senior wellness program for housing authority clients
- RCHC has developed a partnership arrangement with Mary Black School of Nursing to offer health education classes from one of its certified diabetic health educators.
- RCHC has been instrumental in bringing new children’s dental services to the Spartanburg community and to Arkwright more specifically by March of 2006.

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

During the 2004-2005 grant period, the Safe Homes/Rape Crisis Coalition provided therapy to 74 victims of family violence and provided crisis counseling to 324 victims. It has also been reported that between August 1, 2004 and July 31, 2005, 55 people residing in the Weed & Seed area were counseled for domestic violence. Because these dates are different from each other,

and different from the data received during the 2003-2004 grant period, comparisons for increases were not conducted. This information will be provided in the 2005-2006 evaluation.

### **Increase in Persons Receiving Education Related to Family Violence**

An educational program on domestic violence was provided to youth in the after school program at the Crescent Hills Safe Haven. These classes were conducted by the Safe Homes/Rape Crisis Coalition. The classes included topics such as understanding boundaries, understanding sexual harassment, defining dating violence, and evaluating personal behavior for healthy and abusive tendencies.

During the 2004-2005 school year, the classes were held five times for one hour each. Fifteen youth participated in the class on July 21, 2004. Seven youth, ages 12-17, participated in the class on August 25, 2004. Twelve youth, ages 10 to 14, participated in the class on November 16, 2004. Eighteen youth, elementary and middle school-aged, participated in the class held on Dec 15, 2004. Seven youth, ages 10 through 11 participated in the class held on February 9, 2005.

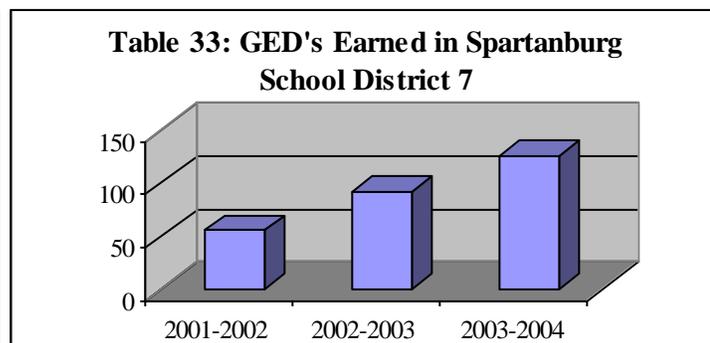
### **Strategy 3: Developing the Target Area Workforce Potential**

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 2001-2002 school year to 92 persons in the 2002-2003 school year to 126 persons in the 2003-2004 school year. This is an increase of 129% from the baseline year (2003) to the current year (2005). (See Table 33 and Figure 33.)

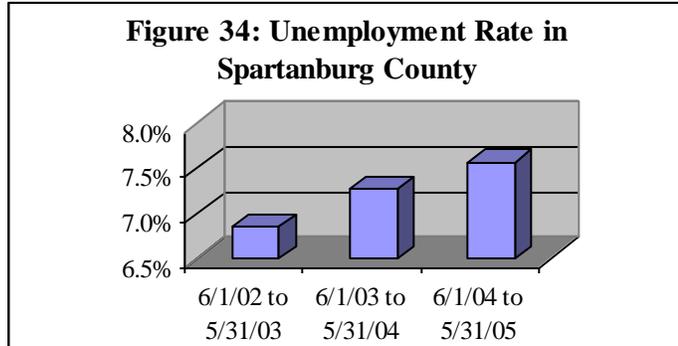
<b>Table 33: GED's Earned in Spartanburg School District 7</b>	
	<b>N</b>
2001-2002 School Year	55
2002-2003 School Year	92
2003-2004 School Year	126



## 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 June 2003 through May 2004 was 7.27%, an increase of 0.41% over the previous year. The average unemployment rate for June 2004 through May 2005 was 7.57%, an increase of 0.30% over the previous year. (See Table 41 and Figure 41.) It must be noted that the June through May date range was utilized, as unemployment rates for Spartanburg County are only available through May 2005.

	Rate	Change
6/1/02 to 5/31/03	6.86%	---
6/1/03 to 5/31/04	7.27%	0.41%
6/1/04 to 5/31/05	7.57%	0.30%



## 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.

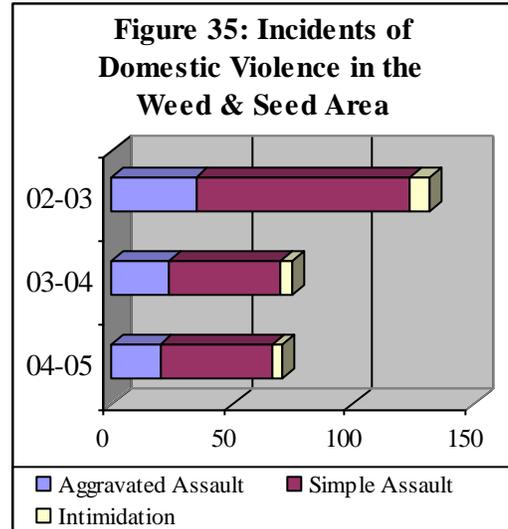
## Strategy 4: Bring Education and Parenting Classes to Safe Havens

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 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 5% from last year to this year. There was a 46% drop from the baseline year (2003) to this year (2005). 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. Between September 1, 2004 and August 31, 2005, 71 incidents of domestic violence were reported. Of these, 28% were aggravated assault, 66% were simple assault, and 6% were intimidation. (See Table 35 and Figure 35.)

	9/1/02 to 8/31/03		9/1/03 to 8/31/04		9/1/04 to 8/31/05	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Aggravated Assault	35	27%	24	32%	20	28%
Simple Assault	89	67%	46	61%	47	66%
Intimidation	8	6%	5	7%	4	6%
<b>Total Incidents</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>100%</b>



## 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.

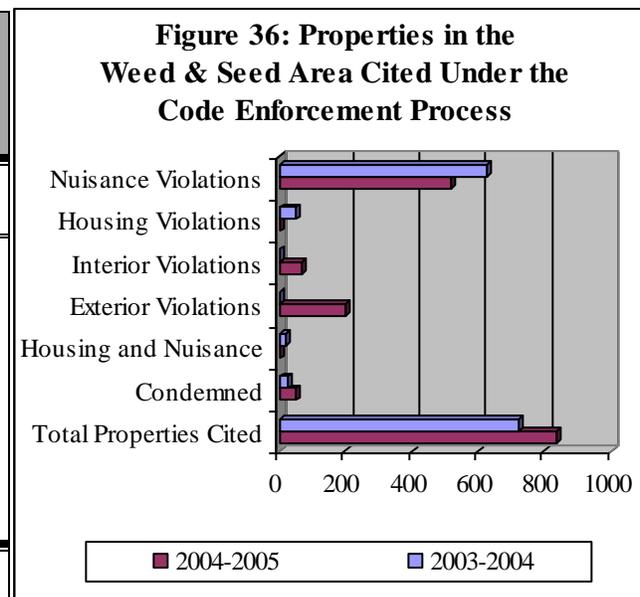
## Strategy 2: Improving Resources, Redevelopment and Revitalization

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, 20 property owners were cited for housing and nuisance violations simultaneously, and 28 properties were condemned. Between June 1, 2004 and May 30, 2005, 518 property owners were cited for nuisance violations, 67 were cited for interior violations, 200 were cited for exterior violations, and 53 were condemned. 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 36 and Figure 36.)

<b>Table 36: Properties in the Weed &amp; Seed Area Cited Under the Code Enforcement Process</b>		
	<b>6/1/03 - 5/31/04</b>	<b>6/1/04 - 5/31/05</b>
Nuisance Violations	628	518
Housing Violations	48	0
Interior Violations	0	67
Exterior Violations	0	200
Housing and Nuisance	20	0
Condemned	28	53
<b>Total Properties Cited</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>838</b>



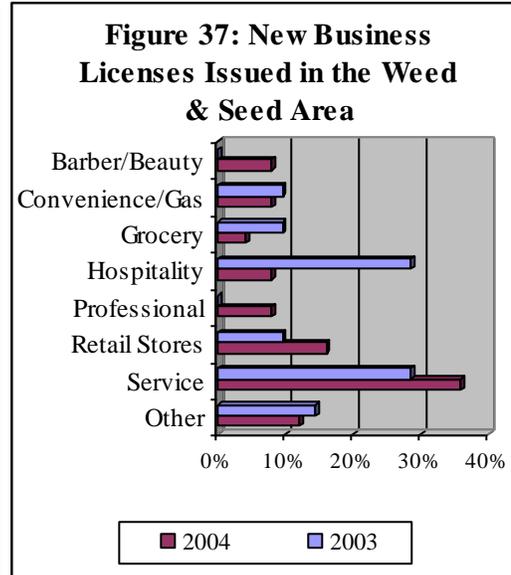
## Number of Business Licenses Issued

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 37 and Figure 37.)

Data on business licenses issued during the remaining three months of 2004 and 2005 year-to-date was not available to the evaluator for processing in time for this report. This information is being provided to the evaluator and will be included in the 2005-2006 evaluation.

	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>



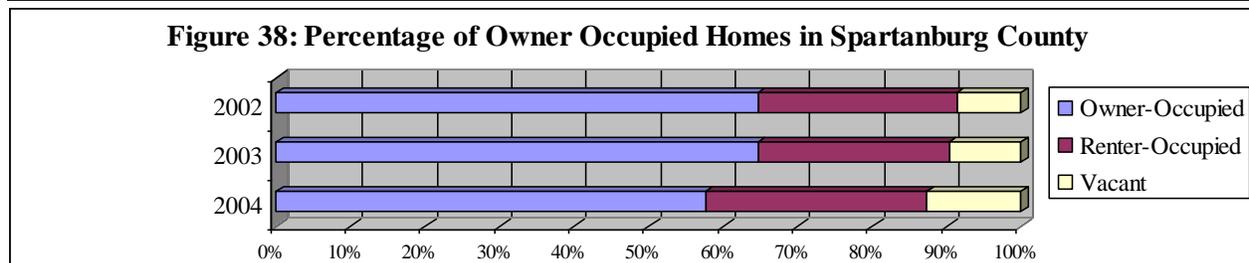
## Visible Change to Street-Level Drug Activity

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 remained about the same from 2002 to 2003 then decreased slightly in 2004. In 2002, owner-occupied housing units accounted for 64.7% of total housing units, in 2003 they accounted for 64.6% of total housing units, and in 2004 they accounted for 57.6% of total housing units. In 2004, both the percentage of renter-occupied units and vacant units increased (4.1% and 2.9% increases, respectively). (See Table 38 and Figure 38.)

<b>Table 38: Percentage of Owner Occupied Homes in Spartanburg County</b>						
	<b>2002</b>		<b>2003</b>		<b>2004</b>	
	<b>#</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Occupied	100,462	91.3%	100,840	90.3%	99,686	87.4%
by Owner	71,145	71%	72,202	72%	65,747	66%
by Renter	29,317	29%	28,638	28%	33,939	34%
Vacant	9,527	8.7%	10,850	9.7%	14,429	12.6%
<b>Total Units</b>	<b>109,989</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>111,690</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>114,115</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



## Diversity of Retail and Grocery Shopping Opportunities

As shown in Table 37 and Figure 37, the diversity of retail and grocery shopping opportunities in the Weed & Seed area has increased from 2003 to 2004. 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

There are a number of community organizations within the Weed & Seed area. In addition to the Neighborhood Watch Associations, there were also community meetings held in the Tobias Hartwell Town homes, in the Park Hills community, and on Caulder Avenue during the 2004-2005 grant period. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss issues occurring in the community.

### **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. Specifically, the SC Department of Transportation held a meeting in June of 2005 to present the new highway corridor through the Arkwright community and to discuss the Hope VI project. These meetings are open to the public; however it is not known how often residents from the Weed & Seed target area attend these meetings. It is known, however, that one or two of the members on the Board of Architectural Design are Southside residents. Additionally, the majority of persons who come before the board are Southside residents due to the fact that the historical district, which is the area that the Board is most concerned with, is located within the Southside community.

#### **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. A meeting was held in June 2005 by the Spartanburg Housing Authority to reveal the designs for the new Phyllis Goins Apartments. Thirty residents attended this meeting.

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

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

## **CONCLUSIONS**

13. All strategies of the Weed and Seed project have been implemented.
14. A comparison of the community survey conducted in 2003-2004 to the survey conducted in 2004-2005 clearly indicates that residents feel safer in the neighborhood, are more satisfied with living in the neighborhood, believe the neighborhood is cleaner, and see a tremendous improvement in the amount of drug-related paraphernalia on the streets. The Safe Havens have been successful in providing afterschool services that keep children safe and prepare them for greater achievement in school.
15. Community meetings and community input into policy decisions regarding the Southside continue to increase.
16. English /language arts, social studies and science PACT scores have improved and math scores have remained about the same.
17. Drug arrests have more than doubled since the program began in the Weed and Seed area. Burglary and breaking and entering incidents have increased by 31% since the program began, but arrests have increased by 788%. in the area. .
18. Data for counseling for family violence victims was incomplete. This area was therefore not reported on.
19. Efforts to improve the physical nature of the area through enforcement of building codes, development of new housing and so on, are well underway with an increase with a 16% increase in cited code violations. The number of new businesses is increasing with greater variety of retail outlets for the community available. However, the percentage of housing units occupied by the property's owners has decreased, with a commensurate increase in vacant properties.
20. Health care has been brought to the area through a full-service, free standing clinic. Funding has been made available for specialized outreach services for such problems as breast cancer and diabetes.
21. 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.
22. 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. This is in part due to a lack of administrative personnel for the project.
23. Residents reported that police were present at community meetings.
24. Discipline referrals have decreased by about 18% since the program began.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

6. Work with the city and county magistrates' offices and the solicitor's office to track a crime from arrest through prosecution.
7. Work on centralizing all data and making it available to the community, to include greater administrative support.

8. Follow through on the efforts to improve the physical appearance and infrastructure of the Southside.
9. 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.
10. Continue and enhance the participation of the residents of the community in Weed and Seed activities.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Work with the solicitor's office and the county magistrate to utilize a tracking system for arrests to prosecutions similar to the one utilized by the municipal court.

**APPENDIX ONE:**  
**WEED & SEED COMMUNITY SURVEY**

