



Quarterly Report to Steering Committee / Co-Chairs March through May 2005

The implementation of the Active Balanced Community grant for Fiscal Year 2004-2005 began December 1, 2004, following approval from the State Bureau of Juvenile Justice. Monthly reports are being submitted to the State; this quarterly report is provided as a formal avenue for keeping the Steering Committee informed of activities, as well as to present challenges that may need to be addressed.

I. Committee Updates

C. **Victim Support Sub-Committee.** [Sandie Pierce, Facilitator] This Sub-Committee is co-chaired by Rebecca Pasko and Barbara McKenzie.

The Victim Support Sub-Committee met three times during the quarter: March 24, April 15, and May 20, 2005. The Sub-Committee is in the process of developing a listing of appropriate contact numbers for law enforcement to use when talking with victims of crime. These numbers will include the Prosecutor's Office, health services, grief support, rape crisis line, and other agencies.

The Sub-Committee discussed awareness activities for Victims Right Week - April 10 through 16, 2005. Flyers were created and distributed. The Prosecutor's Office also promoted the week through the media. Pennie Iott and Melanie Woy addressed 240 students at Summerfield High School on April 13, 2005. Victims Rights Week was highlighted, along with BARJ principles, and the healing process. The Sub-Committee is pursuing grant / foundation funds to produce a documentary of Pennie and Melanie's message. A proposal was submitted on May 23, 2005 to The Century Council, an organization that promotes safe driving. Plans are to use the documentary at drivers' education programs, public television, etc.

Six people attended the 40-hour mediation training conducted by Ron Brooks and Marc Stanley from the Southeast Michigan Dispute Resolution Center on April 20-21-22 and May 4-5-6. The trainees are in the process of completing 10 hours each of observation and will then be able to serve as mediators for the County. The goal is for increased use of mediation in Monroe County. A second (repeat) training is planned for the summer (July 28-29, August 11-12, and August 18-19). The next step is for the trainees to participate in victim-offender mediation training.