



Quarterly Report February 2009

III. Program Development: Enhance the services available to youth involved in the juvenile justice system, victims, those with substance abuse issues, and the general community.

Mediation services continue through Michigan Dispute Resolution Services (MDRS). In 2008, 24 mediations were held, including guardianships, PPO, local ordinance issues, employment, landlord tenant and school issues.

Monroe County Mentors is operating through Big Brothers Big Sisters. Currently, there are three mentors working with three youth referred through the court system. Lunch Buddy began in the Spring 2008. Beginning in the Fall, Lunch Buddy resumed at Lincoln, Waterloo, and Hollywood Elementary Schools with 30 matches in place.

Substance Abuse Coalition. Funding to support the Coalition through 2008 was received through the Prosecutor's Office from the Drug Forfeiture Funds (\$10,000) and from OMNI (\$12,000). The work plan is monitored by the Coalition, and the United Way of Monroe County serves as the fiduciary agency. The Federal Drug Free Communities' grant application for \$125,000 was awarded, which began October 1, 2008. The grant is for five years – \$625,000. The Substance Abuse Coalition continues to meet on the first Friday of each month at 8:30 a.m. April Corie and Robert Kasprzak serve as the Co-Chairs.