



Quarterly Report to Steering Committee / Co-Chairs
December 2006 through March 2007

I. Committee Updates

- A. **Special Needs Sub-Committee.** [April Corie, Facilitator] This Sub-Committee met on December 15, 2006 and March 23, 2007. This Sub-Committee is chaired by Brian Rochowiak. The group continues to address disproportionate minority contacts, gender relevant programming, truancy, sex offenders, diversion, and special needs youth in the justice system.

A Girls Circle is being planning this Spring for youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The Coordinator for the Monroe County Mentors will begin serving as the coordinator for Girls Circles. This will help to support the linking of volunteer facilitators to girls who are interested in participating.

The Active Balanced Community Initiative is collaborating with Girls on the Run of Southeast Michigan to sponsor a 5K race in Monroe County on July 21, 2007. Girls on the Run is a non-profit prevention program that encourages preteen girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through running. The curriculum addresses all aspects of girls' development - their physical, emotional, mental, social and spiritual well-being.

A workgroup has formed and is meeting to discuss the need for community based treatment options for juvenile sex offenders. Four members of the community, including two juvenile probation officers, the therapist from the youth center, and a therapist from Community Mental Health attended training in Colorado for the assessment and treatment of juvenile sex offenders.

Representatives from the Youth Center, Juvenile Court, Intermediate School District and Community Mental Health continue to meet on a quarterly basis to enhance coordination of services for special needs youth in the justice system.