



Quarterly Report to Steering Committee / Co-Chairs
October through December 2005

- A. **Minority Over-Representation / Gender-Specific / Special Needs Sub-Committee.** [April Corie, Facilitator] . This Sub-Committee met three times during the quarter: on September 1, 2005, October 3, 2005, and December 9, 2005.

The Sub-Committee sponsored a three day Community Conferencing Facilitation training September 6 - 8, 2005. The sixteen individuals who attended the training included juvenile justice professionals, mental health professionals, educators, and faith-based and senior volunteers. Community Conferencing provides innovative and effective community justice and conflict transformation services. The group plans to begin offering conferencing to the community by the end of January 2006. Initially conferencing will be targeted to serve juvenile justice youth and youth experiencing on-going conflict from select schools. The group is looking for funding opportunities to support implementation.

The Sub-Committee applied and was awarded a technical assistance grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to train 42 community volunteers and professionals on the gender relevant issues for juveniles in the justice system, as well as in the facilitation of Girls Circles. This training was held December 14th and 15th at the Monroe County Intermediate School District.

Efforts are underway to address truancy issues beginning in early elementary. Brian Rochowiak, Chairperson, is working with representatives from the court, prosecutor's office, school principals, and the Superintendent of Monroe Public Schools to create a plan.

The Sub-Committee is addressing the need for community services and supports for sexual offending youth, and for the professionals that work with them. Recent community assessments show that approximately two-thirds of the money that the County spends for State placements for youth are for sexual offenders.