Fiscal Year 2017 Local DWI Program Overview

This document is a summary presented to the New Mexico Legislature on the services provided through the programs funded by the Local Driving While Intoxicated (hereinafter “LDWI”) Grant Fund during fiscal year 2017. The statewide program is administered by the Local Government Division (hereinafter “LGD”) of the Department of Finance and Administration (hereinafter “DFA”) and funds specific locally chosen services in each of the 33 county programs in New Mexico.

The goal of LDWI programs throughout the state, by funding specific services and activities on a local level, is to reduce the incidence of DWI, alcoholism, and alcohol abuse. Each county is required to have a local DWI planning council, whose members are appointed by the chief elected officials in each county. A council’s role is to identify the exact mix of services and activities from the eligible components needed to meet local needs. The ultimate goal of the local DWI planning councils is to develop a set of strategies that will reduce DWI recidivism and prevent incidents before they occur.

Services

In FY17, local programs provided services to New Mexicans in the eight different component areas in order to reduce the incidence of DWI in New Mexico. Below is a summary of services and activities provided with the number of clients reached throughout New Mexico:

1. Screening
   - 6,143 total offenders screened (including DWI, domestic violence, and other alcohol related offenders)

2. Treatment and Detoxification Services
   - 3,315 offenders were referred to treatment
   - 46,126 treatment hours provided, and/or
   - 18,438 treatment sessions provided
   - 1168 clients served at the Santa Fe County Detoxification facility
   - 2,971 admissions in the Bernalillo County Detoxification facility
   - 8,037 admissions in the Public Inebriate Intervention Program in Bernalillo County
   - 36 clients served at the San Juan County Joint Intervention Program

3. Enforcement
   - 232 LDWI funded check points, saturation patrols, and other enforcement activities
   - 222 DWI arrests
   - 22 open container citations
   - 9 under-21 possession or consumption citations
4. **Prevention**
   - 566,155 student (K-college) contacts (duplicated) through 30,711 activities, and
   - 291 schools at which prevention activities occurred statewide

5. **Compliance Monitoring/Tracking**
   - 8,819 offenders currently being tracked

6. **Alternative Sentencing**
   - 544 clients served in the Bernalillo County Community Custody Program
   - 774 clients served in the Bernalillo County ATP jail-based program
   - 78 youth served in the Bernalillo County AYUDA program
   - 2538 teens served by Teen Courts statewide
   - 435 clients in twenty county programs were placed on electronic and/or alcohol monitoring devices
   - 363 clients served at the San Juan County jail-based treatment facility

7. **Coordination, Planning & Evaluation**
   - 227 local DWI Planning Council meetings conducted
   - 463 training/meetings activities attended by local program staff
   - 83 training/meetings activities provided by local program staff

8. **Domestic Violence**
   - 175 offenders screened and referred to a domestic violence treatment program

**Funding**

LDWI funding is allocated to all 33 counties through three different funding streams: distribution funds, competitive grants, and alcohol detoxification grants. In FY17, LDWI Programs expended a total of $14.4 million on programs and activities to reduce the incidence of DWI in New Mexico. Of the total funding expended, $9.8 million were distribution funds provided to the counties on a quarterly basis; $1.8 million was spent through competitive grants, which operate on a cash reimbursement basis and are awarded based on an annual application process; and $2.8 million was spent on detoxification grants. The six counties which are eligible for the social detoxification and alcohol treatment grant funds are determined pursuant to Section 11-6A-3(D) NMSA 1978.

The pie chart below shows the total FY17 expenditures by component, with all funding combined:
The total amount of funding that was available to LDWI programs in FY17 was significantly reduced from FY16 funding due to the state’s actual revenues falling short of projections, as well as legislative action taken during the special session to balance the budget. With this reduction in available funds, each of the 33 county programs were forced to reduce the number of services provided in their communities. Services which were cut included prevention activities for school aged children and funding for Law Enforcement DWI Checkpoints and Saturation Patrols.

**Demographic Profile of the DWI Offender**

All local programs that receive funding are required to screen and track DWI offenders in the DFA-approved screening program. The following offender profile information is based on data entered by local programs in FY17. The numbers below reflect only individuals convicted and screened for DWI offenses.

**Demographics of DWI offenders:**

- 5,647 total were screened
- 72% were male
- 28% were female
- 80% were between the ages of 21 and 50 (with an average age of 35)
- 46% were Hispanic
- 23% were Native American
- 23% were White
- 41% had 12 years of education
- 20% had 11 years or less of education
- 45% had an annual income of less than $10,000
- 21% had an annual income of between $10,001 and $20,000
• 78% were employed at the time of their arrest
• 22% were not employed in the year prior to their arrest
• 51% worked nine months or less during the year prior to their arrest

Assessment Profile
• 2% were categorized as having no apparent alcohol problem
• 11% were categorized as having a beginning or potential problem
• 20% were categorized as having a problem that needs addressing
• 23% were categorized as having an established problem
• 41% were categorized as having a severe problem

LDWI Accomplishments/Challenges
In FY17, due to budget constraints and vacancies, the DFA/LGD/LDWI Bureau Staff was short-staffed. This created many challenges in oversight of all of the necessary elements of the program. Because of travel restrictions in FY17, DFA/LGD/LDWI staff performed minimal site visits, but did provide workshops in Santa Fe for the LDWI Program staff to attend.

Program Evaluation
The LDWI Program has an ongoing statewide evaluation system through its screening and tracking program. Due to reduced funding available for each county program, many were forced to reduce or eliminate contracts with their local evaluator. At the Department of Health’s (hereinafter “DOH”) Epidemiology and Response Division (hereinafter “ERD”), the lead evaluator for this project vacated her position, which left a void at both the state and county levels in completing the evaluation goal. Once funding levels are restored, the LDWI Programs intend to continue with the evaluation project.

In FY17, county programs continued to collect detailed information on services and activities funded through the Prevention, Enforcement, Screening, and Compliance components in the database, which will be analyzed to determine effectiveness and outcomes of these county programs.

Treatment
Treatment is an important focus of the LDWI Program. By statute (Section 11-6A-3(G) NMSA 1978), 65% of grant funds must be awarded for treatment. In FY17, 86% of grant funds were awarded for treatment. Most counties refer offenders to treatment whether the treatment is funded by LDWI or other funding sources, and in FY17, 3,315 DWI offenders and 175 domestic violence offenders were referred to a domestic violence treatment program. Treatment services are available for any offender convicted of an alcohol-related offense who is sentenced by the court to the county misdemeanor compliance program.

Compliance Monitoring
In most New Mexico counties, the individual LDWI programs provide misdemeanor compliance monitoring services to DWI offenders. Many of the Magistrate Courts in the state rely on these services to help offenders complete their court-ordered sanctions and reduce recidivism. Without
these programs, thousands of misdemeanants would not be supervised, and therefore, would not receive support to complete their sentencing requirements.

In FY17, two county Compliance Monitoring Programs (hereinafter “CMP”) applied for accreditation by the New Mexico Adult Misdemeanor Compliance Professional Standards Council. The Sandoval County CMP achieved accreditation on December 13, 2016, and Lea County CMP achieved their accreditation on April 6, 2017. Both counties were presented their awards at the New Mexico Association of Counties (hereinafter “NMAC”) conference. Accreditation, through NMAC, will bring a higher level of consistency and increased accountability across the state. Sandoval and Lea join San Juan County, which achieved accreditation in FY16.

In FY17, the DWI Affiliate of NMAC worked closely with DFA and the Administrative Office of the Courts (hereinafter “AOC”) to provide the curriculum for a basic training course for compliance officers. The curriculum includes modules on authority, ethics, self-defense, and motivational interviewing. Twenty-one compliance officers from county compliance programs, along with four program managers from DFA, completed the week long training course in October 2017. LDWI Guidelines require that all new compliance officers attend the Court Officer Basic Training within two years of their hire.

**Prevention Activities**

The LDWI prevention programs include educating children, adolescents, families, and communities by directly addressing risk factors for DWI and alcohol-related incidents. Working with partners, the prevention programs are an effective way to influence communities in a positive manner. Law enforcement plays an integral role in educating the public of the perceived risk of arrest, and working closely with the LDWI Programs.

In FY17, the LDWI prevention programs provided 50 distinct Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (hereinafter “CSAP”) school-based activities for a total of 30,711 distinct school-based visits, reaching 566,155 students statewide. School-based prevention activities included curriculums such as:

- Protecting You/Protecting Me
- Alcohol Literacy Challenge
- All-Stars
- Above the Influence
- Too Good for Drugs
- Dare To Be You
- Botvin Life Skills
- Envision Your Future
- Girls Circle
- Boys Council
- Project Northland.
- Red Ribbon Week
- Sticker Shock
- Alcohol-free events, and
- Drunk-driving simulation.

Many LDWI prevention programs have focused their efforts on more environmental strategies to include working collaboratively in order to have the widest overall prevention impact. Community-wide efforts and classroom curriculum combination make differences that impact not only school age students but add benefit to the general population. Evidence-based strategies
such as Bernalillo County’s Be “Above the Influence” media campaign include the schools/students and populations at the community level, creating a larger impact. Many prevention programs incorporate environmental strategies to have a wider prevention reach with limited prevention resources. Prevention efforts, as a general rule, take years of concentrated efforts to produce outcomes that can be evaluated.

**Law Enforcement**
In FY17, LDWI programs funded 232 law enforcement activities, including checkpoints and saturation patrols, resulting in 222 DWI arrests. There is evidence that when enforcement activities are done in conjunction with media campaigns associated with those activities, the number of people drinking and driving decreases.

**Native American Programs/Activities**
In FY17, 24 LDWI programs in New Mexico provided screening and tracking services for Native American DWI offenders. Selected statistics are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographical Area</th>
<th>Total DWI Offenders</th>
<th>Native American DWI Offenders</th>
<th>Percent Native American</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bernalillo</td>
<td>1,076</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cibola</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKinley</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Juan</td>
<td>678</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandoval</td>
<td>634</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide Total</td>
<td>6,156</td>
<td>1,424</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to screening and tracking services, twelve counties provide other services directly to Native American Communities, including detoxification services, prevention, enforcement, and treatment.

**Audits and Technical Assistance**
LDWI guidelines state that each DWI Program in the state is visited annually by DFA/LGD DWI Program Managers. The visit can contemplate program audits or technical assistance, but due to budget constraints, program vacancies, and travel restrictions, on-site visits were limited to county programs where the need was great, and travel could be completed in one day.

Due to budget constraints, the LDWI auditor position will remain vacant; however, we are looking into redefining staff position descriptions in other bureaus within LGD to assist with fiscal auditing of these programs.
LGD staff were able to conduct two mandatory workshops in Santa Fe for the LDWI Coordinators to provide technical assistance on the application process, the implementation of budgets, and grant agreements.

Local Program Collaboration
LDWI Coordinators work collaboratively with county health councils, school health councils, drug courts, magistrate court judges and staff, mental health professionals, and prevention and treatment organizations to coordinate the use of resources and ensure that services are being received by those in need.

Conclusion
The LDWI Program aims to reduce DWI, alcoholism, and alcohol abuse through a multi-pronged approach, which includes treating the offender through screening, treatment, compliance monitoring, and alternative sentencing, as well as preventing DWI before it starts through prevention and enforcement activities. This approach has made a positive impact on reducing DWI. According to the Traffic Safety Bureau of the NM Department of Transportation, alcohol involved traffic fatalities have fallen consistently from 231 in 1995 to 146 in 2017. The percentage of alcohol-involved traffic fatalities has decreased by 37% from 1995 to 2017, but as even one alcohol-related fatality is too many, more work must be done to keep our highways clear and the citizens of New Mexico safe.

This report can be found on the DFA website at:

http://nmdfa.state.nm.us/ldwi-home.aspx

A list of the County DWI Program Coordinators can be found at:

http://nmdfa.state.nm.us/dfa-approved-screening-program-ade-inc-.aspx