

# Promising Partnerships

A Newsletter from the

Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services  
Martin O'Malley, Governor, Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor  
Gary D. Maynard, Secretary  
Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions  
Patrick L. Bradley, Executive Director



## Advanced and Specialized Training Unit

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### CSAFE Growth and Accomplishments

By Adam Starr, Administrator  
*Advanced and Specialized Training*

With the New Year already upon us, I would like to pause for just a moment and reflect back on the growth and accomplishments of CSAFE in 2006.

In May, 62 new HEAT Team members gathered for our three-day CSAFE Academy. Although some of the participants were recently assigned to existing teams, many were from the newly formed HEAT Teams in Park Heights, East Baltimore, and Pen Lucy.

The fall was equally busy. Havre de Grace and Bel Air became the 53<sup>rd</sup> and 54<sup>th</sup> Maryland CSAFE sites. Additionally, more than 225 participants attended the CSAFE Summits in September and October. In November, the Neighborhood Safety Team Forum brought together 145 HEAT and NST members as well as community residents and resource partners.

Throughout the year, CSAFE communities sponsored or participated in a number of events including Toys for Tots, back to school programs, and bicycle safety classes. The teams also

addressed the needs of the less fortunate through holiday gift programs and food drives. Additionally, CSAFE support for National Night Out was very strong, with nearly every community and HEAT Team participating.

As 2006 comes to an end, we want to thank all of you for your outstanding support and enthusiasm. Your collaborative efforts have left a mark in history and we look forward to working with you in 2007.



Major Rick Hite of the Baltimore City Police Department stressed the value of collaboration, during his keynote address at the Neighborhood Safety Team Forum

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### Neighborhood Safety Team Forum

By Karen Fortune, Community Liaison  
*Advanced and Specialized Training*

On November 16, 2006, members from 43 CSAFE Teams attended the Second Annual Neighborhood Safety Team Forum, held at the La Fontaine Bleu in Glen Burnie, Maryland. The forum offered the participants an opportunity to

network, gather information on new resources and receive training. Training sessions were conducted on gangs, identity theft, and emerging drug trends. Twelve service providers set up displays and distributed resource materials. Additionally the CSAFE teams from Hagerstown, EMBARC, Berlin-CTESS, and Pen Lucy provided informational displays about their teams.

### **CSAFE Summits**

*Stephanie E. Bohn, Field Supervisor I  
Division of Parole and Probation*

HEAT Team members from across the state joined together for the annual CSAFE Summits, held in Frederick and Hanover, Maryland. Participants received information regarding Sex Offender Compliance and Enforcement in Maryland (SOCEM) and learned about the Montgomery County Correctional Facility's successful Re-Entry program. Workshops were offered on the following topics: Gun Violence, Emerging Drug Trends, Gangs, and Making the Right Connections. AST would like to thank everyone who attended the summits and for their commitment throughout the past year.

*"We simply must work together as public safety professionals in collaboration with our community partners. This is the most effective strategy to reduce crime, protect our communities and make our neighborhoods safer places to live, work and raise families."*

*Pat Bradley, Executive Director, MPCTC*

### **Harlem Park CSAFE, Thanksgiving Giveaway**

*By Abby O'Neill, Agent  
Division of Parole and Probation*

On November 20, 2006 members of the Harlem Park CSAFE Team participated in our annual Thanksgiving Giveaway. Last year, we supplied one family with a Thanksgiving dinner. This year, we were fortunate enough to provide 15

families with their holiday meal! Included in the packages were stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, rolls, corn muffin mix, soda, cake mix with icing, pies, macaroni and cheese, cranberry sauce, yams, greens, and a turkey.

Most of the families that participated had several children who attend Harlem Park Middle School or the Umojah Daycare Center on Mount Street. It was a successful event that left our team with feelings of joy and accomplishment. Thank you to all who helped out!

### **Criminal Street Gangs**

*By Jennifer Beskid, Regional Coordinator  
Advanced and Specialized Training*

During this past year, many of you attended training on Criminal Street Gangs, A Safety Perspective. The training stressed the importance of collaboration among agency personnel who promote public safety. The training itself was a collaborative effort, partnering the staff of AST with the Criminal Investigation Division of the Maryland State Police and the Maryland Division of Correction (DOC).

Some of the highlights of this training included:

- Awareness – Gang members have a non-verbal language of their own. These symbols change constantly and present a safety threat to public safety professionals because it allows gang members to communicate silently.
- Information – The DOC publishes a monthly Security Threat Group (STG) list. This list provides local law enforcement and Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) personnel with the names and addresses of identified gang members who are being released to their community.
- Communication – Representatives from DPP and the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) come into contact with known or suspected gang members on a regular basis. Information that they gather about gangs should be directed to law

enforcement because it may have investigative value.

- Safety – Gang members spend as much time observing our behavior as we spend observing theirs. We should not adopt routines that put us at risk.

Ultimately, the training reminded everyone that the existence of gangs endangers the safety of every community, even those where gang activity is not currently prevalent. Through awareness, the sharing of information and by encouraging community members to take responsible for their environments, we can establish and maintain safe neighborhoods.

Collaboration works and we encourage ongoing dialogue between public safety professionals as well as community members.

*“All progress is precarious, and the solution of one problem brings us face to face with another problem.”  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

### **Identity Theft – Protecting Yourself**

*By Sarah Myers, Research Specialist  
Advanced and Specialized Training*

Identity theft has affected millions of Americans including Oprah Winfrey, Bill Gates and Tiger Woods. Chances are it has affected someone you know. Identity theft is the taking of some piece of your personal information to commit a fraud or theft. Here are some tips to help protect your information:

- Don’t leave your purse or wallet unattended. Thieves will see this as a prime opportunity to steal valuable information, including driver’s licenses and credit card numbers.
- Do not carry your social security number in your wallet. If your wallet is stolen, this will be one less piece of information for a criminal to use.
- Keep an eye on your mail. If you are going out of town for vacation, have a trusted friend or family member pick up

your mail or place a hold on your mail with the post office.

- Protect your information online. Shop only at trusted, secure websites.

And most importantly PAY ATTENTION. If something does not feel right, it probably isn’t.

### **Helping to have a CSAFE Halloween**

*By Robert Ertter, Field Supervisor I  
Division of Parole and Probation*

On Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, members of the Princess Anne and Crisfield CSAFE teams, handed out Halloween bags to local children. The Halloween bags contained candy, toys and tips for keeping safe during the Halloween celebration season.

Over 110 Halloween bags were distributed by members of the Somerset County State’s Attorney’s Office, the Division of Parole and Probation, the Department of Juvenile Services, the Princess Anne Police Department, and the Crisfield Police Department. Both CSAFE teams plan to do similar events next year.



Members of the Crisfield CSAFE HEAT Team; Robin Slechter (DJS), Laney Howard (Victim Witness Advocate), Dale Jamison (DPP), and Kristy Hickman (Somerset Co. State’s Attorney) helped with the distribution of Halloween bags.

**The ‘T’ in HEA T Stands for Treatment**

*By James R. Hedrick, Treatment Specialist,  
Advanced and Specialized Training*

Education and public outreach have important roles in promoting public awareness. To that end, the Federal Government proclaimed November 3, 2006 as “National Methamphetamine Awareness Day”. Their purpose was to generate awareness about the damaging effects of methamphetamine abuse on individuals, families and American communities.

Hopefully, the need for a National Methamphetamine Awareness Day will be short-lived. “Pushing Back Against Meth,” a publication from the Office of National Drug Control Policy, shows a decrease of more than 5,000 lab seizures between 2004 and 2005. Early 2006 data suggests that the decline is continuing. This decline is attributed to recent federal and state acts regulating the sales and storage of drugs containing ephedrine and psuedoephedrine. For example, the next time you buy certain cold medicine you will need to provide photo identification, will be limited to purchasing no more than two packages, and will have to request the medicine from the pharmacy staff.

Despite awareness efforts, methamphetamine continues to present a threat to the public. The staff of the AST Unit is available to provide awareness training to agency personnel and community members. If you would like more information about this training, please contact Jim Hedrick at (410) 978-3253 or by email at [jrhedrick@dpscs.state.md.us](mailto:jrhedrick@dpscs.state.md.us)

**TRAINING**

**Continuing Education Classes**

MPCTC certified classes are offered throughout the state. The schedule is as follows:

**The New Wave of Old Crimes**

Participants will learn about cyberbullying, the computer industry response to cyber stalking and

the challenges faced by law enforcement personnel. Additionally, an overview of existing laws (or lack of laws) pertaining to cyber crimes will be presented.

- February 8, 2007 – La Plata
- February 15, 2007 – Mt. Rainier
- February 22, 2007 – Cambridge

**HATS, CSAFE On the Job Training, & Key Indicator/Warrant Tracking Training**

The above training will be held the following dates at the Public Safety Education & Training Center (PSETC) in Sykesville, MD

- Warrant Tracking & Key Indicator Training: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- HATS: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- On the Job Training: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**DATES:** February 23, 2007  
 March 30, 2007  
 April 27, 2007



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**Comments or suggestions, please email us at [AST@dpscs.state.md.us](mailto:AST@dpscs.state.md.us)**

AST remains committed to saving trees; therefore, all editions of Promising Partnerships are available at <http://www.mdle.net/astnewsletter.htm>