

Maine Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Program

End of Year Report

School Year 2008-2009

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SDFSCA End of Year Report for 2008 – 2009

I. PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM

The purpose for Title IV, Part A of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), also known by its short title as the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act is “to support programs that prevent violence in and around schools; that prevent the illegal use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; that involve parents and communities; and that are coordinated with related Federal, State, school, and community efforts, and resources to foster a safe and drug-free learning environment that supports student academic achievement through the provision of Federal assistance . . .”

II. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

In state fiscal year (SFY) 2008, Maine received an award of \$1,423,348 under this Act. Up to 20% of the funds available to a state under Part A may be reserved for use by the Chief Executive and Maine set aside \$284,670 for use under the Governor’s Program. Accordingly, consistent with NCLB law, 93% (\$1,058,971) of the State Education Agency /Local Education Agency (SEA/LEA) portion was distributed to LEAs as formula grants; 3% (\$34,160) was expended on program administration; and 4% (\$45,547) for state level activities. The Governor’s Portion (20% of the state’s allotment) was expended on program administration - 3% (\$8,540); and discretionary programs - 97% (\$276,130).

III. PERSONNEL

Maine Office of Substance Abuse: Linda Phillips, Coordinator (100%); Peter Brough, LEA Program Specialist (100%); Carla McPherson, Secretary (75%).

IV. FEDERAL REPORTS

Annual U.S. Department of Education Consolidated Report:

The Consolidated State Performance Report for State Formula Grant Programs under ESEA / NCLB covering school year 2007-2008 was submitted to the United States Education Department (USED) in two parts this year – Part I due in December, 2008 and Part II due in February 2009. This report included information on the Unsafe School Choice Option for Maine; and the Title IV-A, Safe and Drug Schools and Communities Program. The full report was submitted to the USED by the Maine Department of Education by the deadlines. *(Copies of the reports are available upon request).*

Governor’s Program Report:

The USED did not request any information on the Governor’s Program in the Consolidated Performance Report for 2007-08.

Gun Free Schools Report:

During 2007-08, Local Educational Agencies in Maine reported that six (6) guns were brought into K-12 public schools or onto school grounds. While the 2007-08 figure represents a slight increase over the five that were reported for 2006-07, there has been a significant decline in the number of reported violations of the Federal Gun Free Schools Act (GFS) since recording and reporting have been required. The table below presents the number of reported violations of the GFS Act since 1995-96. *(Copies of the reports are available upon request).*

School Year	Guns Reported
1995-1996	23
1996-1997	13
1997-1998	5
1998-1999	6
1999-2000	3
2000-2001	1
2001-2002	2
2002-2003	2
2003-2004	1
2004-2005	3
2005-2006	4
2006-2007	5
2007-2008	6

Gun free data for the 2008-09 academic year will be collected this summer and reported to the USED at their request, most likely in December 2009.

Source: Local Education Agency, NCLB Annual Consolidated Performance Reports.

V. ANNUAL PROGRAMS:

Governor’s Program:

Maine received a total of \$284,670 in SDFSCA Governor’s program funds – 3% for administration and 97% for discretionary programs. The Office of Substance Abuse combined \$180,371 of the Governor’s discretionary funds with \$69,207 of other substance abuse prevention funds to provide funding through contracts for the following agencies to reduce substance use and/or violence in children and youth who are not normally served by

State educational agencies or local education agencies; or populations that need special services or additional resources (such as youth in juvenile detention facilities, runaway or homeless children and youth, pregnant and parenting teenagers, and school dropouts). Following is a list of the Governor’s Program grantees for 2007-08.

<u>Agency</u>	<u>SDFS Funding</u>	<u>Other Prevention Funding</u>
AdCare Educational Institute of Maine, Augusta	\$42,060	\$15,440
Child Health Center, Auburn	35,751	11,749
MSAD #68, Dover-Foxcroft	42,060	5,440
Community School Passages Program, Camden	18,815	31,185
Penquis CAP, Bangor	<u>41,685</u>	<u>5,393</u>
Totals	\$180,371	\$69,207

SDFSCA Regular Grants:

Maine received a total of \$1,058,971 in SDFSCA funds for school year 2008-2009 to allocate to school districts. This amount reflected a cut of approximately 16% from the amount received for 2007-08. Applications were received from 184 Local Education Agencies (LEAs). Four LEAs opted to decline SDFSCA funding. As of this report date, all submitted applications have been approved. Allocations ranged from a high of \$63,452 for the largest school system to far less than \$1,000 for the smallest school units. Per pupil allocation for 2008-09 was approximately \$5.28. Staff reviewed applications and performance reports in a timely manner and, as necessary, requested revisions to submitted plans.

Technical assistance was provided to school districts via on-site visits, letter, fax, phone, and email. Email distribution lists for NCLB Coordinators and Title IV-A Coordinators were updated and the distribution lists were again extensively utilized for routine communication with the field regarding application status issues and for timely dissemination of prevention news and resource information.

For 2008-09, approximately \$131,754 was REAPED* out of Title IV-A and approximately \$180,883 was TRANSFERRED** out. (For comparison, the amount REAPED out of Title IV-A during 2007-08 was approximately \$170,860. and the amount TRANSFERRED out was approximately \$267,809.)

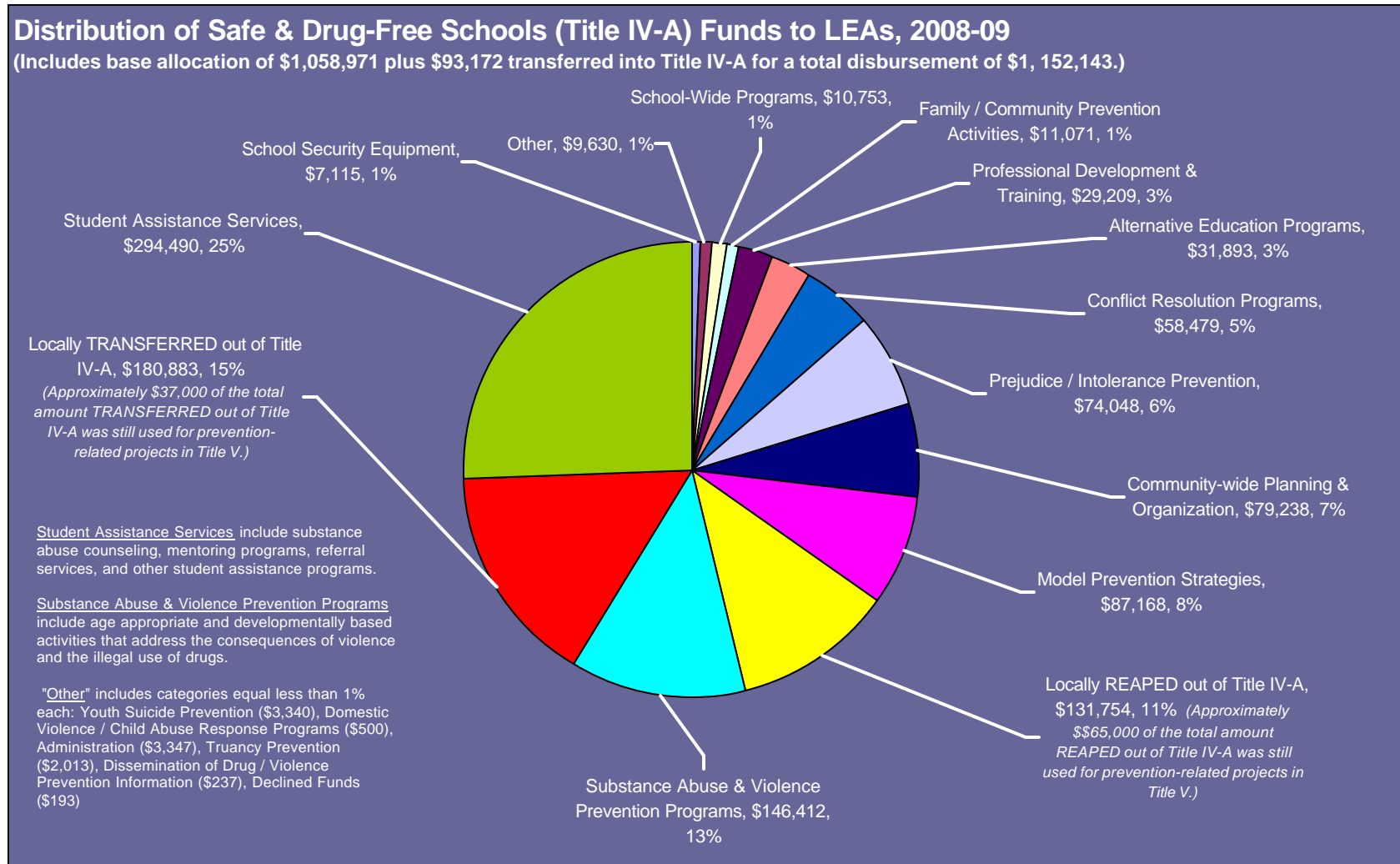
While a substantial amount of the 2008-09 Title IV-A funds REAPED or TRANSFERRED out of Title IV-A were still used for substance abuse and/or violence prevention projects, and while the total funds REAPED or TRANSFERRED out of Title IV-A were less than the previous year, it continues to be cause for concern as LEAs that REAP are not subject to the Principles of Effectiveness requirements. (See the chart on the following page for additional detail on how REAP and TRANSFER funds were utilized.)

* *The Rural Education Achievement Program (REAP) allows rural school districts with less than 600 students greater flexibility in how they utilize NCLB Title funds. The option allows these districts to combine up to 100% of funds from certain Titles to support projects that are allowable under other Titles.*

***The TRANSFER option allows school districts to transfer up to 50% of certain Title funds to support projects that are allowable under other Titles.*

Source: Local Education Agency, NCLB Annual Consolidated Applications.

Following is a chart that shows the distribution of 2008-09 SDFSCA regular grant funds by project type:



Carry-Over Funds for SDFSCA Regular Program School Projects:

63 LEAs carried over some portion of their 2007-08 Title IV-A allocation into school year 2008-09. A total of \$117,177 (9.37%) was requested to be used as carryover. Except for a small number of extensions that were granted (approximately 8) these carryover funds were expended by 12/31/08 following Title IV-A regulations.

Source: Local Education Agency, NCLB Annual Consolidated Applications.

Research-based Model Prevention Programs:

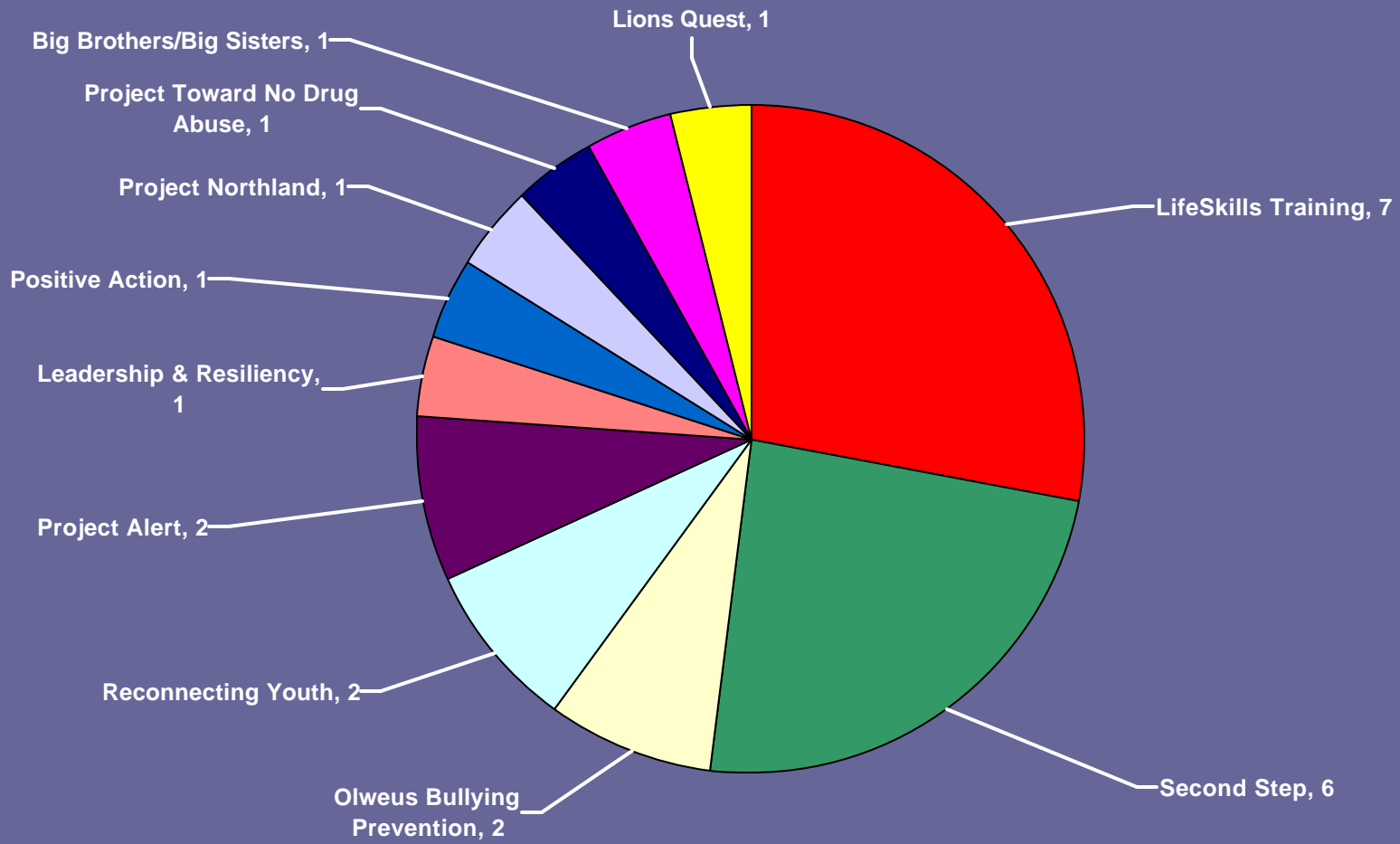
A total of 25 model prevention programs were SDFSCA-funded during the 2008-09 school year by 24 different LEAs. (It should be noted that an unknown number of LEAs also support model prevention programs using local funds.)

LifeSkills Training (7) was the most popular model program that was SDFSCA-funded, followed by *Second Step* (6).

Source: Local Education Agency, NCLB Annual Consolidated Applications.

A chart showing the breakdown of 2008-09 SDFSCA-funded model programs follows:

Model Programs Using Safe & Drug Free Schools (Title IV-A) Funds, 2008-09



VI. SCHOOL VIOLENCE

Bomb Threats:

For 2007-08, there were 44 reported bomb threats. (Data for school year 2008-09 is currently being collected.)

Senior high schools have consistently reported receiving the highest number of bomb threats.

NOTE: Because of a change in reporting systems and requirements, the data contained in this document is not comparable with previous years' data, therefore we have not included trend data on bomb threats.

	2007-08
Elementary School	8
Middle/Jr. High School	14
Senior High School	22
All Schools	44
# Schools Reporting	641

Source: Maine Education Data Management System (MEDM S), Maine Department of Education, 2007-08.

Unsafe School Choice Option (USCO):

As required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended by Title IX Section 9532 of the No Child Left Behind Act, each state receiving funds under this Title was required to implement an Unsafe School Choice Option Policy (USCO). Maine's Policy was formally adopted and forwarded to USDE in the Fall of 2003 and the Maine Department of Education and Office of Substance Abuse has collected and analyzed the required data. Since 2003, no Maine school has met or exceeded the criterion threshold for designation as a "persistently dangerous school." Another section of this policy requires LEAs experiencing a violent criminal offense to offer victims of such an offense an opportunity to transfer to another school within the district provided that LEA has more than one school serving students of the victims grade level. Because Maine schools generally are located in relatively small districts which have only one school serving students in a given grade, students who are victims of a violent criminal offense, particularly at the secondary level, are not likely to be given a transfer option unless by superintendent arrangement. Consequently, data on the number of such transfers is not being collected.

SDFSCA Incidence of Prohibited Behavior Data Collection:

Starting at the beginning of the 2007-08 school year, districts were required to report their school incidence data into the Maine Education Data Management Systems (MEDMS), operated and managed by the Maine Department of Education, on a case by case basis throughout the year. As a result of the implementation of this new reporting system, and the differences in the various elements of the system, the State, federal agencies, and school systems will not be able to make comparisons of previous incidence data collected through the old incidence data system at the Office of Substance Abuse. This new MEDMS data was aggregated at the State level during 2008 and following are some highlights:

- During 2008, a total of 641 schools reported their 2007-08 school incidence of prohibited behavior data electronically.
- Maine schools reported a total of 10,359 incidents in the 2007-08 school year.
- Drug-related policy violations comprised 16% of the total incidents reported in all schools and 26% of the incidents in high schools.
- Weapons-related incidents were 3% of the total.
- “Other” incidents made up the vast majority of reported incidents (81%).
- Of all removals from school, 73% occurred in senior high schools; only 9% occurred in elementary schools, and the remaining 17% occurred in middle schools.
- The majority of removals in each incident category were suspensions (85%); alternative placements (9%); and expulsions ((6%).
- The highest proportion of expulsions occurred for weapon-related offenses (14%).
- Overall, 22% of incidences were caused by female students and 78% by male students.
- There were a higher proportion of female students committing drug-related offenses (30%) than committing other, more violent offenses.
- The smallest proportion of female offenders committed weapon related offenses (16%).
- Of the 1,426 incidents resulting in students’ removal from school, special education students were responsible for 541 (38%).

(A complete Report on Incidence of Prohibited Behavior and Drug and Violence Prevention 2007-08 is available at www.mainesdfsca.org.)

VII. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND WORKSHOPS

Throughout the 2008-09 school year, staff in the SDFSCA Program provided technical assistance, training and consultation to a number of local school district personnel and others through a variety of methods including telephone, e-mail, fax, on-site visits to meet with local personnel, and meetings held in Augusta. Following is a list of some of the assistance provided to grantees during this time period:

Title IV-A Technical Assistance On-Site and/or Office Visits During School Year 2008-09:

No LEA requested an on-site or in-office technical assistance visit during 2008-09.

NCLBA Team SEA/LEA On-Site Monitoring Reviews During School Year 2008-09:

U-91 Orland, U-42 Maranacook, Brunswick, Auburn, Sanford, Bangor, South Portland, Biddeford, Augusta, MSAD # 17, Kittery, MSAD # 35, Ellsworth, MSAD # 6

Governor's Program

Technical assistance via phone and e-mail and/or face to face meetings, were provided to personnel of all five of the Governor's program sites. No on-site visits were made by staff to program sites during the 2008-09 year.

No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) Teleconferences and Regional Workshops

During March and April, 2009, the NCLB Team conducted three webinars designed to assist school personnel with submission of the 2008-09 NCLB Consolidated Performance Report and the 2009-10 NCLB Consolidated Application. No regional workshops were held this year

Approximately 99 school personnel participated in the webinars, representing participation by 93 different school districts.

A workshop, primarily designed for new NCLB coordinators, has been scheduled for Augusta in July 2009.