

A. Problem Identification

Child sexual abuse is a silent epidemic spreading rapidly throughout the United States and the world. As many as one in three girls and one in seven boys will be sexually abused at some point in their childhood.¹ Most offenders do not molest only one child if they are not reported and stopped. Approximately 70% of child sex offenders have between 1 and 9 victims; at least 20% have 10 to 40 victims. An average serial child molester may have as many as 400 victims in his lifetime. Nearly 70% of all reported sexual assaults (including assaults on adults) occur to children 17 and under. Rapists repeat their offenses at rates up to 35%; offenders who molest young boys, at rates up to 40%; and those rates do not decline appreciably over time. Of released sex offenders who allegedly committed another sex crime, 40% perpetrated the new offense within a year or less from their prison discharge.² There are an estimated 39 million survivors of childhood sexual abuse in America today.³

In the past, child sexual predators were characterized as often lurking near playgrounds. Traditionally they were viewed as frequenting where the children were. The Internet is the new proverbial playground. The Internet provides a ready hunting-ground for those who search for children to prey upon. The Internet is a significant part of the daily lives of millions of young people. For some youth the Internet is more influential than school, family or religion. Curious and unsuspecting adolescents visit the Internet each day seeking friendship and information but sometimes instead encounter sexual deviance and menacing predators.⁴ The Internet holds tremendous potential for young people; however, the misuse of the Internet to prey on them is a serious problem requiring action by families, communities, and law enforcement. The growing evidence of the criminal misuse of the Internet to target and physically victimize children is alarming, 1 in 7 youth experience unwanted sexual solicitation, 1 in 3 experience unwanted exposure to sexual material and 1 in 11 youth experience harassment – threatening or other offensive behavior directed at them.⁵

Child Pornography

Internet crimes involving unlawful images of the sexual abuse of children are now widespread. Due to advances in technology, producing child abuse images has now become easy and inexpensive. The internet allows images and digitized movies to be reproduced and disseminated to tens of thousands of individuals at the click of a button. The distribution and receipt of such images can be done almost anonymously. As a result, child pornography is readily available through virtually every Internet technology. The technological ease, lack of expense, and anonymity in obtaining and distributing child pornography has resulted in an explosion in the availability, accessibility, and volume of child pornography.⁶ A Congressional

¹ <http://www.nsopw.gov/Core/children.aspx>

² http://www.parentsformeganslaw.org/public/statistics_offenders.html

³ http://www.darkness2light.org/knowabout/statistics_2.asp

⁴ <http://kardasz.org/ICAC.html>

⁵ Online Victimization of Youth: Five Years Later

⁶ <http://www.justice.gov/criminal/ceos/childporn.html>

study in 2006 identified several key factors that contributed to the proliferation of child pornography on the Internet. First, and perhaps most problematic according to the study, is the sheer number of child abuse images on the Internet. United States law enforcement sources estimated approximately 3.5 million known child pornography images online. The exact number of child pornography web sites is also difficult to determine. In the year 2001, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's CyberTipline received more than 24,400 reports of child pornography. Five years later, at the beginning of 2006, that number had climbed to more than 340,000. The Internet has fueled a tremendous and immeasurable increase in the amount of child pornography being produced, trafficked and possessed worldwide. It has been estimated that there are between 50,000 and 100,000 pedophiles involved in organized pornography rings around the world, and that one-third of these operate from the United States.⁷

There is no one type of Internet child pornography user, and there is no easy way to recognize an offender. Users of Internet child pornography may come from all walks of life and show few warning signs. In fact, users of child pornography on the Internet are more than likely to be in a relationship, to be employed, to have an above average IQ, to be college educated, and to not have a criminal record. Among the few distinguishing features of offenders are that they are likely to be white, male, and between the ages of 26 and 40, and may be heavy Internet users to the extent that it interferes with other aspects of their lives.

“There are at least five possible relationships between pornography use and the sexual abuse of children:

- Pornography use as an expression of existing sexual interest. An individual who sexually abuses children seeks out child pornography as a part of his/her pattern of sexual gratification. The offender's sexual interest causes his/her pornography use rather than the other way around.
- Pornography is used to prime the individual to offend. An individual deliberately views child pornography immediately prior to offending. Pornography is used in the short term to sexually stimulate the offender in preparation for offending.
- Pornography has a corrosive effect. An individual becomes increasingly interested in child pornography, is attracted to images of increasing severity, and becomes desensitized to the harm victims experience. Use of pornography in the long term may also increase the risk that the person will sexually abuse a child.
- Pornography has a cathartic effect. Viewing child pornography is the sole outlet for an individual's sexual attraction to children. Pornography use may substitute for, or even help the individual resist, engaging in hands-on offending.

⁷ <http://kardasz.org/ICAC.html>

- Pornography is a by-product of pedophilia. Pornography is created in the process of carrying out sexual abuse or is used to groom potential victims and prepare them for abuse. Pornography is incidental to the abuse suffered by the victim.”⁸

The vast majority of children who appear in child pornography have not been abducted or physically forced to participate. In most cases they know the producer – it may even be their father – and are manipulated into taking part by more subtle means. Nevertheless, to be the subject of child pornography can have devastating physical, social, and psychological effects on children. The children portrayed in child pornography are first victimized when their abuse is perpetrated and recorded. They are further victimized each time that record is accessed.

The downloading of child pornography can be the first step to the hands-on victimization of children. The ability of law enforcement agencies to locate, apprehend, and prosecute these offenders could result in the reduced victimization of thousands of children.

“The Internet and Other Forms of Child Sexual Abuse

- It allows networking among child abuse perpetrators. The Internet facilitates a subculture of pedophiles, who may share information and methods and support each other’s belief systems.
- It may be used to seek out and groom victims. Perpetrators may enter children’s or teens’ chat rooms under an assumed identity to access and establish relationships with potential victims.
- It may be used in cyber-stalking. Children may be sexually harassed via the Internet.
- It may be used to promote child sexual tourism. Information is made available to help individuals locate child-sex tourism operations or to make direct contact with child prostitutes.
- It may be used in trafficking children. Mail-order children are available over the Internet.”⁹

It is difficult to know the true extent of child sexual abuse because most of the victims never report the abuse. Offenders know that children are easily intimidated into silence and often cannot communicate well enough to be understood by authorities. For offenders, disenfranchised children are perfect victims partly because the crimes are invisible to law enforcement and the children are powerless. Young victims may not even recognize their victimization as sexual abuse or are too young to formulate words or use a telephone. In

⁸ The Problem of Internet Child Pornography. <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/files/ric/Publications/e04062000.pdf>.

⁹ The Problem of Internet Child Pornography. <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/files/ric/Publications/e04062000.pdf>.

luring/enticement cases involving actual teens, few of the minors who are victimized ever report the crimes. Victimized teens are often too embarrassed to notify law enforcement and fearful of their parents' anger for disobeying rules against communicating with strangers online.

Only one in 10 children in the US actually let someone know that the sexual abuse has occurred.¹⁰ Of those who do disclose, almost 80% initially deny abuse or are tentative in disclosing and approximately 75% disclose accidentally. The evidence of a child's victimization is often invisible to the community. Abominations against children are mostly committed in private locations, such as their own homes. The offenses do not create the noticeable noise of gunfire or a car crash. The crimes do not have an obvious smell of smoke from a fire and cannot be seen from the street like graffiti or broken windows so public attention is not drawn to the crimes.¹¹

Consequences of child sexual abuse begin affecting children and families immediately. They also affect society in innumerable and negative ways. These effects can continue throughout the life of the survivor so the impact on society for just one survivor continues over multiple decades. Adolescent victims of violent crime have difficulty in the transition to adulthood, are more likely to suffer financial failure and physical injury, and are at risk to fail in other areas due to problem behaviors and outcomes of the victimization. Over 75% of serial rapists report they were sexually abused as children.¹²

For the first time in history, law enforcement officers can conduct proactive investigations to identify and bring to justice those who sexually abuse minors. In years past, law enforcement had to wait for reports of child abuse before investigations could begin. But today, using innovative undercover methods and the internet, investigators can proactively seek out and apprehend offenders before they commit "contact" crimes.¹³ The secret and often undetected comingling of children and sex offenders on the Internet has resulted in a desperate struggle for the protection of our children.

Local Problem

The City of Anderson, South Carolina is located approximately half way between Atlanta, Georgia and Charlotte, North Carolina, three miles east of interstate 85. The City of Anderson has city, county and state government offices, as well as a federal courthouse, a major hospital, six public schools, a four-year college, and a two-year community college. Anderson City, with an area of 15 square miles and a population of approximately 26,498¹⁴ which temporarily "spikes" to an estimated 110,000 some days during the year, is the county seat. Individuals come into Anderson from the surrounding counties in South Carolina and northeast Georgia to work, transact business, and shop at the many outlets as well as the mall. Many citizens come

¹⁰ <http://www.stopcsa.org/aboutCSA.html>

¹¹ <http://kardasz.org/ICAC.html>

¹² http://www.darkness2light.org/knowabout/statistics_2.asp

¹³ <http://kardasz.org/ICAC.html>

¹⁴ Crime in the United States 2008. Table 8.

into the city from the county of Anderson on a daily basis in order to engage in commerce and trade as well as interact with the various government agencies available. **The violent crime rate for the City of Anderson, South Carolina was 735.9 per 100,000 population in 2008.**¹⁵ That was 37.8% worse than the rest of the south and 61.9% worse than the entire country.¹⁶

Of the total population in the city of Anderson, South Carolina, approximately 5,221 (20.5%) are children age 0 to 17.¹⁷ The below chart illustrates the type and number of child sexual abuse charges reported to the City of Anderson Police Department in fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

<u>State Statute</u>	<u>FY08</u>	<u>FY09</u>
Criminal Sexual Conduct with a Minor	10	13
Dissemination of Obscene Material to a Minor	2	
Lewd Act on a Child Under 16	2	8
Solicitation of a Minor	8	1
2nd Degree Sexual Exploitation of a Minor		1
Total Reported	22	23
Total¹⁸	220	230

The number of child sexual abuse cases as reported to the Foothills Child Advocacy Center in 2008, 2009 and the first six months of 2010 is outlined in the below chart. The Center serves victims and their families in Anderson and Oconee Counties.

Child Sexual Abuse Cases		
	Reported	Total¹⁹
2008	172	1,720
2009	239	2,390
2010*	119	1,190

*Jan. 1 – June 25, 2010

As stated earlier, only 1 in 10 victims of child sexual abuse report the crimes to law enforcement, therefore the number of cases of child sexual abuse in the city of Anderson were approximately 220 in FY08 and 230 in FY09. In Anderson and Oconee Counties, there were approximately 1,720 in 2008, 2,390 in 2009 and 1,190 in the first half of 2010, cases of child sexual abuse. The high underreporting rate for sex crimes underscore the need for open lines of communication and a shared trust between law enforcement and the community.

¹⁵ Crime in the United States 2008. Table 8.

¹⁶ Crime in the United States 2008. Table 4. Per 100,000, the southern region had 533.9 and the nation was 454.5.

¹⁷ Census 2000.

¹⁸ This total encompasses the number of crimes reported and unreported based on the statistic that 1 in 10 victims report their abuse.

¹⁹ This total encompasses the number of crimes reported and unreported based on the statistic that 1 in 10 victims report their abuse.

Since December 2006, the City of Anderson Police Department has been an active member of the Internet Crimes against Children Task Force in South Carolina. Due to budget constraints the department has not been able to allocate personnel solely to investigating internet crimes against children. However, the Internet Crimes Investigator working only an average of 10-20 hours a week has been able to locate, apprehend and prosecute 24 offenders through undercover chat room investigations. Currently the Investigator is working on documenting and building cases for 8 subjects who have committed crimes online, such as the Criminal Solicitation of a Minor. In November 2009, the Internet Crimes Investigator became one of only four investigators certified in the state of South Carolina to monitor peer to peer downloading sites for offenders uploading and downloading child pornography. Due to other obligations within the department, the Investigator was not able to start the peer to peer investigations until February 2010; however she has already made 2 arrests for the downloading and distribution of child pornography. The City of Anderson Police Department's Internet Crimes Investigator is the only trained investigator of Criminal Solicitation of Minors on the Internet and Peer to Peer downloading of child pornography in Anderson County.

In 2008, an officer at the City of Anderson Police Department became a Certified Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner and the department established a Computer Forensics Lab. The case load of the Certified Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner has grown tremendously from 1-2 Terabits of evidentiary data in a year between 2008-2009 to 6-7 Terabits in a year between 2009-2010. When the Computer Forensics Lab was established, the Investigator / Examiner was handling cases pertaining to child sexual abuse from six agencies and in 2010 the department is assisting 26 law enforcement agencies. The forensic analyses that the Investigator / Examiner has performed for evidence collection in child sexual abuse cases have increased by 425% since the inception of the Computer Forensics Lab. In 2008, the Investigator / Examiner handled four cases, in 2009 eleven cases and as of May 2010 twenty-one cases. Three of the cases documented evidence of the offenders producing, distributing and downloading child pornography. One of the cases involved a father uploading images of himself sexually abusing his daughter to a file sharing network. He was also actively downloading child pornography from the file sharing network as well.

The average offenders according to the Investigator / Examiner have collections of downloaded child pornography with over 3,000 files. The child pornographic images located on the offenders' computers and/or cell phones have been dated from 1974 to the present. Therefore, some offenders in the upstate of South Carolina are victimizing children depicted in pornographic images for decades.

Currently the Anderson County Sheriff's Office is fully responsible for ensuring that the sex offenders in Anderson County including the city of Anderson are in compliance. There are 505 registered sex offenders in Anderson County. The Anderson County Sheriff's Office currently only has one deputy assigned to monitor the registered sex offenders. The deputy and a civilian

administrative assistant are responsible for entering and verifying the registration entries into the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division and OffenderWatch databases. The dual-entry of the information into the two databases takes the deputy away from monitoring the sex offenders and performing home visits. There are 10,267 sex offenders registered in the 46 counties in the state of South Carolina. Anderson County has 126% more sex offenders than the average registered sex offenders per county. Anderson County has the 5th highest number of active sex offenders under the supervision of Probation and Parole in South Carolina. In addition, the City of Anderson Police Department has mutual aid agreements with all of the law enforcement agencies in Pickens and Oconee Counties to perform Computer Forensics Analysis on their child sexual abuse cases. Pickens and Oconee Counties combined have an additional 434 registered sex offenders.

B. Project Goals and Objectives

The primary goal of the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit is to reduce child endangerment by establishing and enhancing community policing strategies to identify, locate, arrest, and prosecute child sexual predators and exploiters. The goal of the unit will be accomplished through the following program objectives and performance measures.

<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Measure</u>	<u>Data Grantee Provides</u>
<p>To reduce the number of children victimized by sexual predators.</p>	<p>The statistics regarding the number of offenders identified, located, and/or apprehended will be maintained for comparison to the previous month and to the same month one year prior.</p>	<p>Statistics regarding the number of offenders, the charges against the offenders, previous criminal sexual abuse charges, and number of admitted victims will be documented and compared to the previous month and to the same month one year prior.</p>
<p>To increase the awareness and monitoring of sex offenders in Anderson County.</p>	<p>The number of presentations conducted regarding registered sex offenders to the community and law enforcement personnel will be documented. A Field Interview Card will be filled out and entered into the department's Records Management System for every interaction that the department has with registered sex offenders, whether it's for home checks or while answering routine calls-for-service. The website will be enhanced to provide up-to-date information of registered sex offenders in the area.</p>	<p>The number of presentations conducted by the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit, the number of attendees, the location, and audience type (students, parents, etc.) will be recorded. The number of times that the website is updated will be documented. Data will be maintained regarding the number of Registered Sex Offender Field Interview Cards entered into the Records Management System. Statistics will be maintained in order to make monthly and yearly comparisons.</p>

<u>Objective</u>	<u>Performance Measure</u>	<u>Data Grantee Provides</u>
<p>To raise the awareness of the public and area agencies regarding the problem, prevention methods, and warning signs of child sexual abuse and exploitation.</p>	<p>The number of presentations conducted by the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will be documented. A section of the department's website will be developed to provide educational information and materials to the community.</p>	<p>The number of presentations conducted by the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit, the number of attendees, the location, and audience type (students, parents, etc.) will be recorded. The number of times that the child sexual predator section of the website is accessed will be documented.</p>
<p>To increase the capacity of the City of Anderson Police Department to implement community policing strategies that will strengthen partnerships for a safer community and enhance the department's capacity to prevent, solve, and control child sexual predator crimes.</p>	<p>The City of Anderson Police Department will establish a Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit. Documentation will be maintained regarding the announcement of the positions available, and the officers that filled the positions. All enhanced and established partnerships will be documented.</p>	<p>Documentation will be maintained regarding the announcement of the positions available, and the officers that filled the positions. All enhanced and established partnerships will be documented. All training attended and equipment purchased under the grant program will be thoroughly documented. Memorandums of Agreement between the department and other agencies will be documented and maintained.</p>
<p>To enhance and establish community partnerships in order to proactively address the issue of child sexual abuse.</p>	<p>The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will contact all agencies in the community who are involved in the welfare of children in order to establish or further build upon partnerships to proactively address the issue of child sexual abuse.</p>	<p>Documentation of the contact made with community partners will be maintained. Documentation of all meetings attended by the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will be maintained. The records will include the names of the organizations represented, the number of attendees and the minutes of the meetings.</p>

The City of Anderson Police Department will be able to accomplish the above goal and objectives by establishing a Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit. With the assistance of funding through the COPS Child Sexual Predator Program the City of Anderson Police Department could establish the unit which would consist of the current Internet Crimes Investigator and Certified Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner and the grant funding would allow for the training of an additional Internet Crimes Investigator and Certified Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner. At this time, there is only one officer trained and certified to conduct Internet Crime Investigations and only one officer trained as a Certified Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner. Therefore if one of the officers leave the department, there will not be an Internet Crimes Investigator or a Certified Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner in Anderson County. The majority of the offenders have been advanced computer users therefore it is essential for the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit to remain abreast of all the latest technology and methods developed to disguise illegal activity. Time is a critical factor when dealing with child sexual abuse cases. The longer the offender is on the streets, the number of children victimized could increase. Obtaining evidence of child sexual abuse and predation on computers is also very time sensitive due to the offenders moving and changing computers. The current time period it takes the Computer Forensics Lab to analyze computer equipment for a child sexual abuse case is 4 days. With the acquisition of advanced up-to-date equipment, the time frame would be reduced to only one day. The addition of another Internet Crimes Investigator would increase the case load of the Certified Computer Forensics Investigators / Examiners significantly due to the increased identification and apprehension of child sexual predators through undercover investigative operations and monitoring of peer to peer downloads. The Computer Forensics Lab will be able to assist more agencies and handle a larger case load which will reduce the current back log of cases in the state. The more offenders the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit identifies, locates, apprehends and prosecutes the fewer children will be sexually preyed upon and victimized. The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit and the City of Anderson Police Department will incorporate community policing into the methods used to reduce child endangerment by identifying, locating, arresting, and prosecuting child sexual predators and exploiters.

C. Building Relationships and Solving Problems

Community policing strengthens the partnership between citizens, law enforcement and government. Thereby encouraging citizen participation in crime reduction and allows greater coordination with the City government to address public safety issues. As members of the community, the officers of the City of Anderson Police Department coordinate the necessary resources available to eliminate specific community safety problems. In 2009, the City of Anderson Police Department was awarded funding through the COPS Hiring Recovery Program to hire five additional officers to assist the department in launching an effective community policing initiative. The Community Oriented Policing Unit is not only concerned with a

potential law enforcement problem in an area but they pursue a solution to the problem that can encompass resources from throughout the community. The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will work closely with the Community Oriented Policing Unit in order to build upon the community relationships and partnerships that have already been established and enhanced through the CHRP grant program.

The high underreporting rate for child sex crimes underscores the need for open lines of communication and a shared trust between law enforcement and the community. The City of Anderson Police Department is currently very active with establishing and ensuring the continuation of Neighborhood Watches. Neighborhood Watch members serve as additional eyes and ears for the City of Anderson Police Department, reporting criminal or other unusual activities in their neighborhoods. The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will attend Neighborhood Watch meetings to notify residents of sex offenders living in the area and warning signs of child sexual abuse. The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will also disseminate informational material to the community regarding the dangers of on-line predators. All of the information distributed at the meetings would be made available on the section of the police department's website specifically designed by the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit for the community. Members of the community will also be made aware of the service provided by Anderson County Sheriff's Office which disseminates an e-mail every time a registered sex offender moves into the area. An informed community is a safer community.

Community education is a pivotal strategy in preventing future victimization. Proactive community education is important to disseminate general public safety information and answer questions from the public regardless of whether a sex offender is moving into the neighborhood. Community meetings provide a venue for interaction between local law enforcement and the community. Law enforcement holds huge potential to help the public understand the reality and limits of sex offender laws while providing prevention and safety tips as well.

The Internet Crimes Investigator is actively involved in conducting educational programs on Internet safety to community organizations, school officials, students and parents. However, the number of parents who attend the meetings have been very low. The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will continue to partner with the schools in order to get parents more involved in their children's activities on the Internet. The Unit will distribute educational materials along with free software designed to let parents monitor the sites and interactions that their children are engaged in while on the Internet. Parental intervention is an essential component to stopping the predation of children on the Internet. Educating employees at daycare centers to the warning signs, physically and mentally, of child sexual abuse is pivotal in preventing further victimization especially since these children are often too young to ask for help.

It is critical for patrol officers to be aware of sex offenders in their daily patrols. Officers can complete a Field Interview Card each time a registered sex offender is a party to any call for service and after all address verification checks. The information will then be added into the

record management system for future reference if needed. The county will also be informed of the contact that the department had with the sex offender and any information obtained in the process of filling out the Field Interview Card. This process will allow for thorough documentation of each encounter made with registered sex offenders, provides a timeline for all interactions, and serves as an investigative resource for future incidents. All patrol officers will be informed of the laws and mandates pertaining to the sex offender population, strategies for interacting with these individuals, and specialized knowledge about sex offenders and their crimes. It is essential that this information be shared with the patrol officers to prepare them for potential encounters with sex offenders and enable them to accurately respond to questions from the community. This will also bring for the first time the sex offenders in the community to the attention of all the law enforcement officers in the City of Anderson Police Department.

The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit and the Community Oriented Policing Unit will assist the county with locating and monitoring sex offenders within the city limits of Anderson. Relieving some of the case load off of the one deputy assigned to monitor the 505 sex offenders will allow for more intensive monitoring of all the registered sex offenders in Anderson County. This combined effort along with the increased awareness of the community will send a clear message to sex offenders that they are held accountable to both the police and the community.

Strong partnerships are essential to efficiently and effectively stop child sexual predators. The Internet Crimes Investigator utilizes the extensive network of the Internet Crimes against Children Task Forces and other Internet Crimes Investigators throughout South Carolina and the nation to identify, locate, apprehend and prosecute child sexual predators. The Investigator also accesses national databases and websites, such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Child Identification Portal and the Internet Crimes against Children Online Protective Services.

When investigating cases with sexually abused children the City of Anderson Police Department utilizes the services of the Child Advocacy Center. The Child Advocacy Center provides a comfortable, private and child-friendly setting that is both physically and psychologically safe for children instead of taking them to the police department which can be a frightening and intimidating place for a child.

The Child Advocacy Center provides the following services to victims of child sexual abuse:

- Physician-performed forensic medical exams
- forensic interviews in coordination with law enforcement officials and child protective services
- multi-agency case review with representatives from Department of Social Services, law enforcement, the Tenth Circuit Solicitor's Office, the medical community, victims' advocates, and mental health
- Professional therapy services
- Victim Advocacy

The Criminal Investigations Division Captain is a current member on the Board of Directors for the Foothills Child Advocacy Center along with other vital members of the community concerned with the well being of children. The Captain is able to discuss with the other leaders of the community on a regular basis the problem of child sexual predators and abuse in the area, solutions to help prevent and stop the problem, and ways to collaborate the efforts of the organizations represented to solve the problem.

With the creation of the Child Sexual Predator Crimes Unit, the U.S. Marshals Office will deputize the officers in the unit so they can cross jurisdictional lines throughout South Carolina to apprehend and prosecute child sexual predators. The ability to cross jurisdictional lines will allow the Investigators to stop the victimization of children throughout the state in a more efficient and effective manner. At the present, the Internet Crimes Investigator can only notify another agency that the peer to peer downloading has occurred in their area and then they have to be able to actively see the offender downloading the material before criminal charges can be pursued. This creates a large window of time that the offender can continue to victimize children.

The City of Anderson Police Department is inundated with computers and cell phones from other agencies needing forensic analysis due to the six to eight month back log of cases at the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division's Computer Forensics Lab. Resources at the state level have been significantly reduced due to the economic downturn therefore local law enforcement agencies have to join forces in order to be able to continue essential services once provided by the state. A team effort is needed in order to stop the predation of children. Time is an important factor when dealing with internet crimes against children. Offenders often change computers and/or move therefore once the crime has occurred it is essential that the Investigators locate and apprehend the suspect. The longer the offender is on the streets the number of children victimized by his/her crimes is going to increase. The equipment listed in the Budget for the Computer Forensics Lab will allow the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit to obtain evidence faster and more efficiently and effectively which will remove more offenders from the streets thereby reducing the number of victims of child sexual abuse.

The City of Anderson Police Department currently assists multiple agencies with computer forensics for child related crimes. The following is a list of the agencies that have signed memorandum of understanding agreements with the department.

Anderson County

Anderson Sheriff's Office
Belton Police Dept.
Honea Path Police Dept.
Iva Police Dept.
West Pelzer Police Dept.
Pendleton Police Dept.
Williamston Police Dept.

Oconee County

Oconee Sheriff's Office
Seneca Police Dept.
Walhalla Police Dept.
West Union Police Dept.
Westminster Police Dept.
Salem Police Dept.

Pickens County

Pickens Sheriff's Office
Central Police Dept.
Clemson Police Dept.
Clemson University Police Dept.
Easley Police Dept.
Liberty Police Dept.
Norris Police Dept.
Pickens Police Dept.
Six Mile Police Dept.

Abbeville County

Calhoun Falls Police Dept.

10th Circuit Solicitor's Office

SC Law Enforcement Division (SLED) Upper State

SC Highway Patrol (SCHP) Troop 3

The list above will continue to grow with the establishment of the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit and as state resources continue to decline creating an ever increasing burden on the local law enforcement agencies to analyze and store their own evidence.

D. Implementation Plan

The first step in implementing the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will involve introducing the grant program to the community. The goal and objectives of the unit will be publicly announced using local media outlets and the Community Oriented Policing Unit to reach the entire community. The Chief will announce the opening of the two additional duties for officers to join the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit. The Chief and/or his designees will conduct interviews to name the most qualified individuals as an Internet Crimes Investigator or a Certified Computer Forensic Investigator / Examiner. The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will be comprised of two Internet Crimes Investigators and two Certified Computer Forensics Investigators / Examiners. With assistance from the COPS CSPP grant funding, The City of Anderson Police Department will hire an entry-level police officer position to back-fill the position left vacant by the officer assuming the duties of the full-time Certified Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner. The Certified Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner will strictly be analyzing cases involving child sexual abuse. The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit and the designated Project Director will attend the COPS-CSPP Kick-Off Conference at the designated location. The new officers assigned to the unit will also attend training to become certified as an Internet Crimes Investigator or a Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner. The Internet Crimes Investigator and one of the Certified Computer Forensics Investigators / Examiners will have

additional duties to perform at the police department in addition to the responsibilities of the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit; therefore, the City of Anderson Police Department is requesting overtime funding through the grant program for the officers to have additional time to work on identifying, locating and apprehending child sexual predators outside of their regular work hours. Traditionally, undercover investigations on the Internet are conducted at night due to the fact that children are supposed to be in school during normal working hours. The additional Investigators will also be able to continue the investigations and analysis needed on equipment if the other two officers on the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit are unavailable due to vacation, sickness, etc. The Internet Crime Investigators will be deputized by the U.S. Marshals Office in order to work cases throughout South Carolina. The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit and the assigned Project Director will follow all procurement guidelines set forth by the grant regulations when purchasing the items awarded. The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will adjust and improve their investigative methods with the addition of the up-to-date equipment and additional training opportunities. Data will be maintained and collected regarding all of the child sexual abuse cases that the Unit investigates. A major component of the grant program is community education and involvement, and building and enhancing partnerships. The City of Anderson Police Department will continue to support every law enforcement agency that needs assistance with child sexual predator cases. Community education will involve engaging parents to be more involved in their children's activities on the Internet, making communities aware of sex offenders in the area, the warning signs of child sexual abuse, and interacting with the community regarding the problems of child sexual abuse. An informed community is a safer one and making law enforcement available to the community in a non-threatening and intimidating way will promote open communication. The City of Anderson Police Department will assist the Anderson County Sheriff's Office with locating and monitoring registered sex offenders in the city limits of Anderson. In addition, the officers will record interactions with registered sex offenders who are parties to calls-for-service, thereby creating a greater level of accountability.

A detailed timeline describing the major milestones of the two year grant period is outlined on the next page.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS					
Implementation Tasks	Person Responsible	Implementation Proposed Time Frame (Proposed Quarters)			
		1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Formal Announcement of the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit to the Police Department and Community	Chief / Project Director	X			
Addition of the Duties of the Internet Crimes Investigator to a Qualified Officer	Chief / Project Director	X			
Addition of a Full-Time Certified Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner to Strictly Analyze Child Sexual Abuse Cases	Chief / Project Director	X			
Bid as Required and Purchase Equipment as Awarded by the Grant Program	Project Director / Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X	X		
Attend COPS-CSPP Kick-Off Conference	Project Director / Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X			
Attend Training to Become Certified to Conduct Internet Crimes Investigations	Officer Chosen to Acquire Duties	X	X		
Attend Training to Become a Certified Computer Forensics Investigator / Examiner	Officer Chosen to Acquire Duties	X	X		
Attend Training to Enhance Investigative Skills	Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X	X	X	X
Adjust / Improve Investigative Methods*	Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X	X	X	X
Collect / Maintain Data on Child Sexual Abuse Cases*	Project Director / Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X	X	X	X
Conduct Undercover Investigations on the Internet*	Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X	X	X	X
Monitor Peer to Peer Downloading*	Internet Crimes Investigators	X	X	X	X

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS					
Implementation Tasks	Person Responsible	Implementation Proposed Time Frame (Proposed Quarters)			
		1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr
Analyze and Store Evidentiary Data of Child Sexual Abuse Cases as needed for Law Enforcement Agencies*	Certified Computer Forensics Investigators / Examiners	X	X	X	X
Create and Update Enhanced Section of the Website*	Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X	X	X	X
Meet with Community Organizations, School Officials and Governmental Agencies Regarding the Problem of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation in the Community*	Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X	X	X	X
Enhance and Establish Community Partnerships*	Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X	X	X	X
Present and Distribute Educational Material to the Community*	Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X	X	X	X
Record Interaction with Registered Sex Offenders*	Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit / Officers in the City of Anderson Police Department	X	X	X	X
Assist the Anderson County Sheriff's Office with Monitoring Registered Sex Offenders*	Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit / Community Oriented Policing Unit	X	X	X	X
Identify, Locate, Apprehend and Prosecute Child Sexual Predators*	Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit	X	X	X	X
Compile / Submit Quarterly Reports*	Project Director	X	X	X	X
Compile / Submit Annual Report*	Project Director				X

**The milestones indicated above are applicable to all 2 years of grant funding.*

1st Qtr.=
Oct. - Dec.
2nd Qtr.=
Jan. - March
3rd Qtr. =
April - June
4th Qtr.=
July - Sept.

E. Evaluation Plan/Effectiveness of Program

The goal of the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit is to reduce child endangerment by establishing and enhancing community policing strategies to identify, locate, arrest, and prosecute child sexual predators and exploiters. In order to determine if the Unit was successful in reaching this goal, the following evaluation plan will be conducted.

The number of offenders identified, located, apprehended, and prosecuted should significantly increase due to the enhanced resources of the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit. Information on each offender will be maintained in a case file which will include but is not limited to the following: case number, date of incident(s), charges and incident report. An analysis of the cases handled by the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will be conducted on a monthly basis.

The Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit will distribute feedback surveys at the end of each community presentation to see how informative the presentations were and if there was any additional information that needed to be included in the presentation. Surveys will also be distributed to the agencies, community and law enforcement, that receive assistance from the Unit in order to measure how well they are meeting the needs of the community.

Feedback will be requested from the Sheriff's Office on a quarterly basis to measure how well the City of Anderson Police Department is assisting the Anderson County Sheriff's Office with monitoring the registered sex offenders in the area.

F. Conclusion

Child sexual abuse is a silent epidemic spreading rapidly throughout the United States and the world. As many as one in three girls and one in seven boys will be sexually abused at some point in their childhood. In the past, child sexual predators were characterized as often lurking near playgrounds. Traditionally they were viewed as frequenting where the children were. The Internet is the new proverbial playground. The Internet provides a ready hunting-ground for those who search for children to prey upon. For the first time in history, law enforcement officers can conduct proactive investigations to identify and bring to justice those who sexually abuse minors. In years past, law enforcement had to wait for reports of child abuse before investigations could begin. But today, using innovative undercover methods and the internet, investigators can proactively seek out and apprehend offenders before they commit "contact" crimes.

Unfortunately due to the current economic downturn, programs established to proactively seek child sexual predators on the Internet are diminishing due to the decrease in resources available to law enforcement agencies. Therefore, it is essential for law enforcement agencies and community organizations to establish partnerships and combine available resources in order to stop the sexual victimization of children. At this time, the City of Anderson Police Department

is assisting 26 law enforcement agencies with Computer Forensic analysis. The Internet Crimes Investigator is only 1 of 4 investigators in the state that can monitor peer to peer downloads. However, the department is operating at its maximum capacity with the current resources that are available. The City of Anderson Police Department acquired the costs of the Forensic Computer Lab and the Internet Crimes against Children program without the assistance of additional funding from the local governmental entity, the City of Anderson. All of the equipment utilized by the Forensics Computer Lab and the Internet Crimes Investigator has been purchased with funding from ICAC or a Crime Scene Unit grant from the South Carolina Department of Public Safety. The City of Anderson Police Department is unable to provide funding for the personnel and needed up-to-date equipment in the Forensics Lab and the Internet Crimes Investigator with the time to identify, locate, apprehend and prosecute the offenders that are victimizing children throughout South Carolina. With funding from the COPS Child Sexual Predator Program, the City of Anderson Police Department will be able to establish a Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit that will be able to efficiently and effectively stop the sexual victimization of children through establishing and enhancing community policing strategies.

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services through the Child Sexual Predator Program, awarded the City of Anderson Police Department \$465,061.00 to establish the Child Sexual Predator Crime Unit as described in the narrative above.

The awarded funds were broken down into the following categories:

Equipment: \$231,081.00

One Full-Time Certified Computer Forensic Investigator / Examiner: \$88,822.00

Overtime for (2) Certified Computer Forensic Investigator / Examiner: \$11,520.00

Overtime for (2) Internet Crimes Investigators: \$69,120.00

Other: \$18,200.00

Travel / Training: \$39,198.00

Supplies: \$7,120.00

Vehicles: \$56,000