The Sedgwick County Commission established the Community Crime Prevention Fund around the time the jail was being expanded. As the cost figures for the jail expansion began to grow, the Commission made a commitment to target approximately $1 million in funds annually to prevent youth from entering the justice system. Through a comprehensive community risk assessment, four priority risk factors were identified: 1) Family Management Problems; 2) Early & Persistent Anti-Social Behavior; 3) Lack of Commitment to School; and 4) Academic Failure in Late Elementary School. Crime prevention funding is targeted at reducing the prevalence of these four risk factors in the community.

Funds are distributed through a competitive bid process and agencies submit proposals for programs that address one or more of the risk factors. The Sedgwick County Grant Award Committee reviews the proposals and makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners. Funded programs are required to establish outcomes and then are monitored regularly to determine their success in achieving the outcomes. To ensure agencies achieve the desired crime prevention goals, Sedgwick County has begun over the last few years to target more funding to programs considered evidence-based, i.e. tested, effective programs (either Blue Print Models or Communities That Care model programs). These are programs that have been scientifically evaluated and shown to be effective.

The Fund is operated in cooperation with the Juvenile Justice Authority prevention grants administered by the Department of Corrections and the Sedgwick County Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board (Team Justice). A professional evaluator is funded to review and report on the status of community risk factors and crime statistics annually. Team Justice and its subcommittee actively monitor community trends and work to focus grants to best meet the changing needs of the community.
An average of 94 percent of youth served by crime prevention grant recipients were not arrested during program participation in 2006 with over 2,000 at risk youth and families in Sedgwick County receiving services through crime prevention grants. Additionally, 84 percent of participants successfully completed programs conducted by crime prevention grant recipients.

The following agencies received grants from July 2007 to June 2008.

- **Big Brothers and Big Sisters (BBBS)** received $154,500 for mentoring at-risk youth. BBBS is an evidence-based program matching at-risk youth with caring adult mentors. BBBS has been a grant recipient since 1998 and serves 250 youth per year.

- **Boys and Girls Club** received $120,000 for their Targeted Outreach Program, an educational program for youth who have been suspended or expelled from school. The program primarily targets youth expelled for a full 186 days under school district “no tolerance” policies. Boys and Girls Club has been a prevention grant recipient since 1998. The program serves approximately 70 youth per year.

- **Communities in Schools (CIS)** received $199,300 for their collaborative, school-based services for at-risk youth. This serves youth at Cooper, Jefferson and Oaklawn Elementary Schools, Derby Sixth Grade Center and a new site at Derby High School. CIS works to connect students with community services. CIS has received a prevention grant since 1998 and serves approximately 350 youth per year.

- **Episcopal Social Services** received $50,000 for the Teen Intervention Program (TIP), a diversion program for youth arrested for the first time for shoplifting and other minor misdemeanors. TIP has received a prevention grant inconsistently since 1998 and serves approximately 250 youth per year.

- **Higher Ground** received $91,500 for its Learning the Ropes Program. This program provides substance abuse prevention and primary treatment services to adolescents in an unconventional treatment model that includes experimental components. Additionally, the “Parents Who Care” curriculum is utilized for parent groups. Higher Ground has received a prevention grant since 1998 and serves approximately 85 youth and 100 parents per year.

- **Kansas School for Effective Learning (KANSEL)** received $84,500 for its GED Preparation, Training and Placement Program. The KANSEL program assists adolescents that have dropped out of high school to obtain a GED or diploma and secure employment. KANSEL’s program includes the evidence-based JOBSTART program. KANSEL has received a prevention grant since 1998 and serves approximately 300 youth per year.

- **Mental Health Association** received $54,300 for the PATHS for Kids program. PATHS is an evidence-based conflict-resolution skill building program offered in seven elementary schools in Wichita. Fiscal year 2005 was the first year of funding for the PATHS for Kids program and it will serve approximately 850 youth.

- **Wichita Family Services Institute’s ON-TRAC program** received $58,900 for FY 2008. The ON-TRAC program offers classes and mentoring to enhance opportunities for teens ages 12 to 17 demonstrating problem behaviors. The program has received a prevention grant since 2000 and serves approximately 85 youth per year.

- **Catholic Charities' Choose Respect program** is new for FY 2008. Choose Respect was awarded a grant of $37,000 for a comprehensive approach to prevention. It includes a school-wide campaign aimed at raising expectations for respectful behavior. Since the program is student driven the components of the program vary by school. The crime prevention grant will fund services at two new schools and with two new faith communities.