



# **Somerset County Local Management Board**

Fiscal Year 2009

Accomplishments



# The Somerset County Local Management Board

The Somerset County Local Management Board (SCLMB) oversees the operation and compliance of programs funded through state and federal grants received by the SCLMB.

The SCLMB partnered with funding sources to provide evidence-based and promising practice programs. These include Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol (CMCA), Students Taking Alcohol Risk Seriously (STARS) for Families, Peacemakers, and Seasons 4 Success.

The SCLMB also developed creative partnerships to help meet local needs as they were identified in the Needs Assessment and prioritized in the

Strategic Plan.

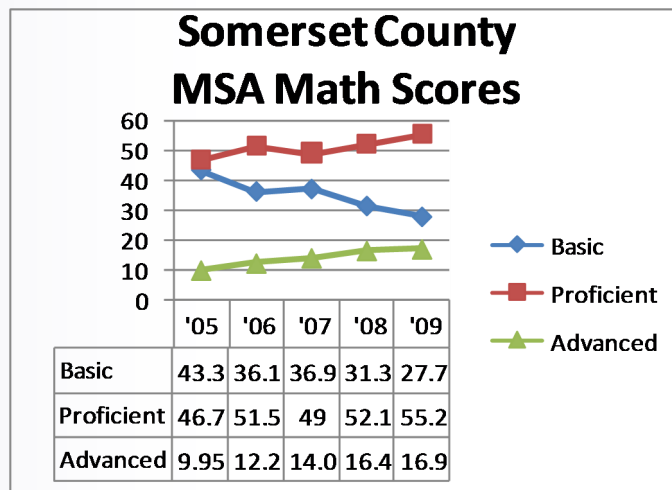
The SCLMB used creative fiscal strategies and leveraged funds to offer an Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) for students in Somerset County with severe emotional disturbances.

The SCLMB partnered with local agencies and community members to form the Somerset Helping Somerset committee. This group hosted community forums to identify gaps in service delivery. One gap that the group identified was the lack of a comprehensive resource guide for families and service agencies. The SCLMB, with the support of resource development funding, developed and disseminated a comprehensive resource guide.

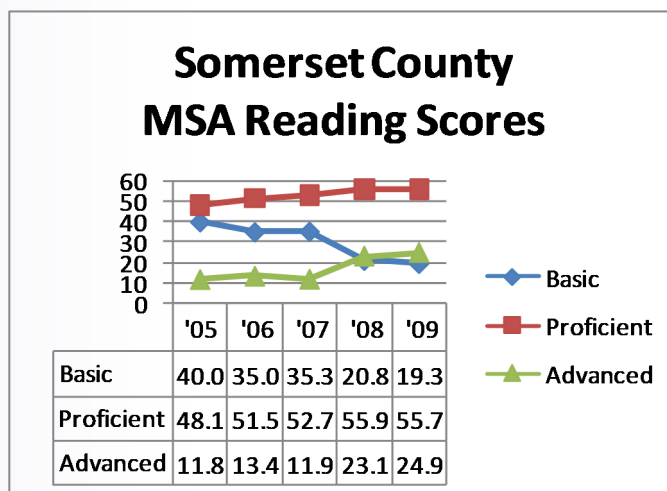
# Voyage to Excellence After School and Summer School Programs

The Voyage to Excellence After School Program contributed to student improvements in MSA scores by providing homework help and tutoring to 192 students in second through eighth grade in the 2008/2009 school year.

The program targets students who scored at the basic level in reading and math, with a Governor's Office for Children (GOC) grant that provided intensive support to 24 Special Education and 23 English Second Language students during the school year. From the first quarter to the third quarter of the school year, 47% of these specially designated students increased their math grades, and 53% increased their reading grades.



Advanced scores have increased by 6.95 points in the last five years, and proficient scores have increased by 8.5 points. Basic scores have decreased by 15.6 points, showing a marked improvement over the last five years.



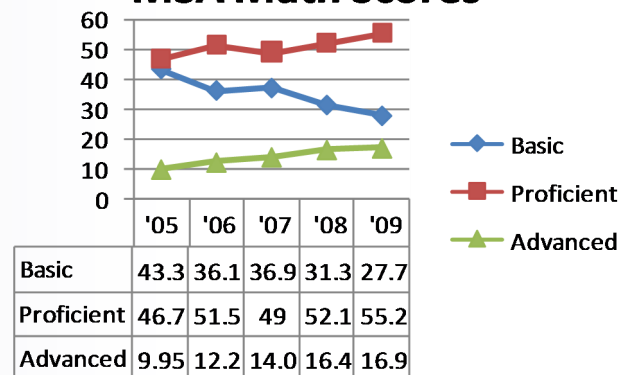
Advanced scores have increased by 13.1 points in the last five years, and proficient scores have increased by 7.6 points. Basic scores have decreased by 20.7 points, showing a marked improvement over the last five years.

# Seasons 4 Success Program

The Seasons 4 Success program provided support to sixth through eighth grade students who were at risk of truant school behavior by increasing their reading speed and comprehension, as well as improving their overall academic skills.

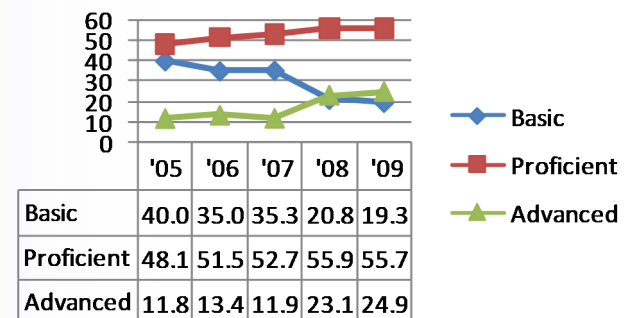
The program utilized funding from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) to take the participants to the Kumon Center in Salisbury for the reading program, as well as offering other academic, recreational, and social programming to provide the youth with a safe place to connect with caring adults. During the 2009 school year, none of the participants were truant, and reading levels rose by an average of one grade level.

### Somerset County MSA Math Scores



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### Somerset County MSA Reading Scores



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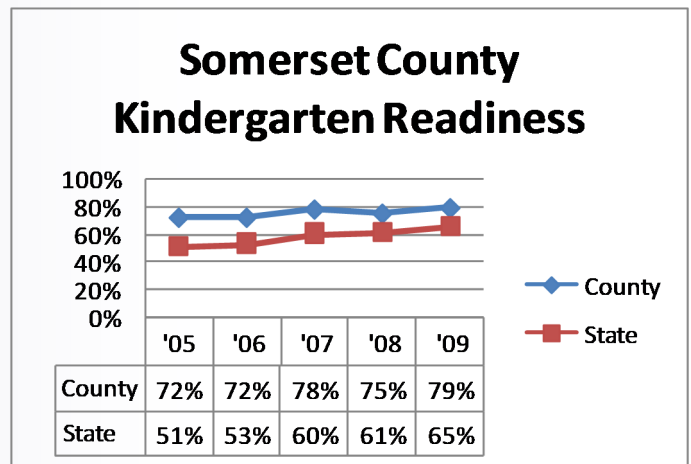
# Healthy Families Program

The Healthy Families program provides support to parents of infants from birth to five years old through home visiting and education.

The program utilized funding from the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) to provide services that are critical in preventing abuse and neglect, detecting developmental delays, ensuring compliance with immunization schedules and supporting babies born with low birth weight—all factors that help children be prepared to start school.

In fiscal year 2009, the program served 68 families, with 100% of the children in the program through age two current on their

immunizations, and 89% of the children showing no developmental delays. Children with suspected developmental delays were referred for additional services, and the program completed 786 home visits during the fiscal year.



Readiness has increased by 7% over the past five years, and Somerset County children have surpassed the state percentage by an average of 17.2% over the same time period.

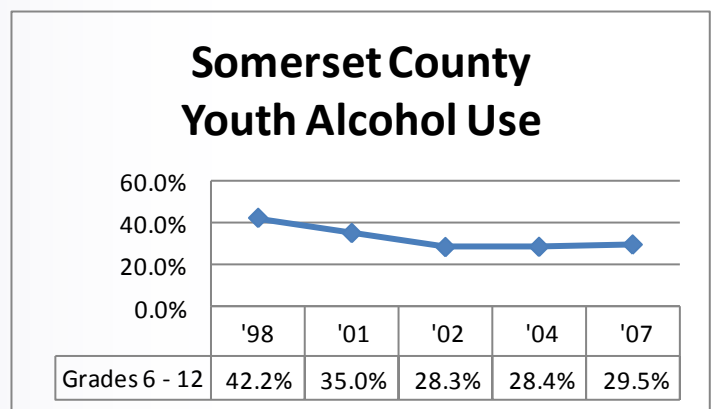
# Students Taking Alcohol Risk Seriously (STARS) for Families Program

The STARS for Families program is an evidence-based alcohol prevention program for sixth and seventh grade students that uses educational information provided to the students and parents to help keep minors from trying alcohol.

The program utilized funding from the Governor's Office for Children (GOC) in fiscal year 2009 to provide one on one consultations with the school nurse, as well as the lessons and educational material that were sent home for the youth and parents to discuss together.

STARS for Families had a 94% completion rate with the participants during the fiscal year, and a 12% increase in the number

of participants from the previous year. None of the participants reported using any alcohol, and 100% of the families surveyed stated the program was helpful. Of the 6th grade participants surveyed, 94% reported they would like to return next year to continue the program.



Alcohol use has decreased by 12.7% over the five years available. These are self-reported numbers obtained from the Maryland Adolescent Survey.

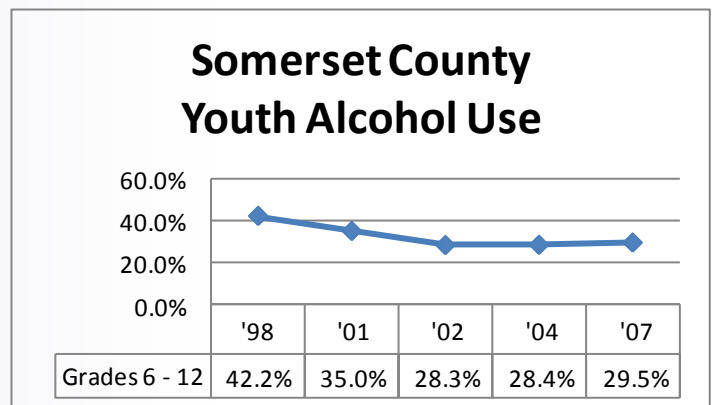
# Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol (CMCA) Program

The CMCA program is an evidence-based alcohol prevention program that reduces alcohol availability to minors in Somerset County.

The program utilized funding from the Governor's Office for Children (GOC) and the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) in fiscal year 2009 to ensure less availability of alcohol to minors by performing multiple compliance checks with local merchants, and instituting party patrols during the weekends. The program also provided a strong presence during prom week at both the county high schools, with educational materials and pledges not to drink alcohol by some of the prom participants.

During the fiscal year, CMCA saw

a 67% increase in compliance by area merchants from the first round of checks to the final round of checks. There was also a 92% increase in youth citations as a result of the increased party patrols. These patrols also resulted in 13 adult DUI's and two adult Marijuana possessions.



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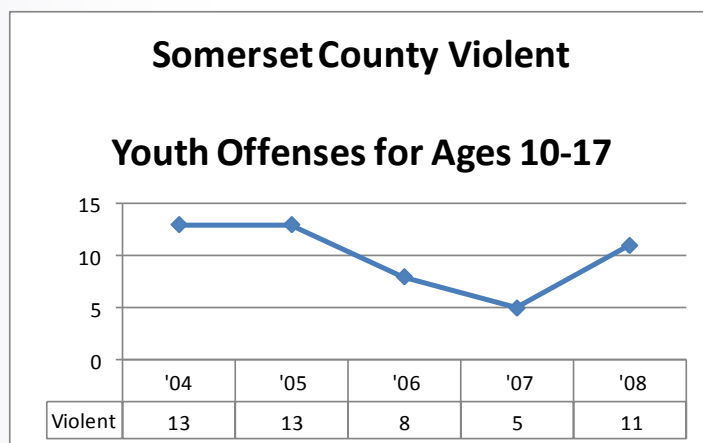
# The Princess Anne Youth Center Targeted Outreach Program

The Princess Anne Youth Center Targeted Outreach Program is a gang prevention program that also aims to decrease the number of youth arrests in the Princess Anne area.

The program utilized funding from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) in fiscal year 2009 to offer an array of programs designed to engage youth, enrich their lives, stimulate their minds, and increase their 40 Developmental Assets.

During the fiscal year, there were 171 participants, and none of these youth had any Department of Juvenile Services involvement or involvement with local gangs. Additionally, 15.8% of these youth

reported an increase in the 40 Developmental Assets in their lives, as measured by a self assessment of their perceptions and feelings.



The number of violent offenses has fluctuated over the past five years, but overall has seen a decrease of two offenses comparing 2004 to 2008. The increase from 2007 to 2008 suggests that while the violent crimes committed by youth have begun to decrease, more focus needs to be placed on preventing these crimes.

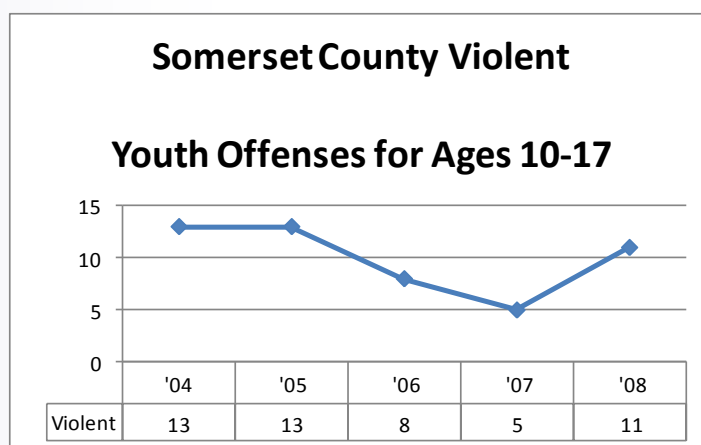
# The Peacemakers Program

The Peacemakers program is a violence prevention program that provides youth with skills training to manage conflicts in a positive, non-violent manner.

The program utilized funding from the Governor's Office for Children (GOC) in fiscal year 2009 to offer a 17 session curriculum to youth in sixth through eighth grade. This curriculum deals with the psychological factors that lead to violence.

During the fiscal year, the program had groups with no more than 15 students to ensure adequate one-on-one time, and all the participants surveyed reported they were glad to have participated in the program.

There was also a 60% decrease in aggression by the students, which is measured using an aggression scale test before the program starts, and again once the sessions have been completed.



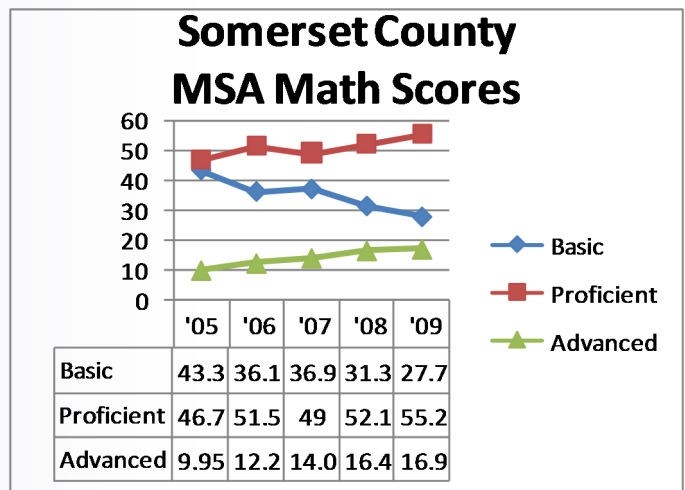
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# The Community Based After School Program

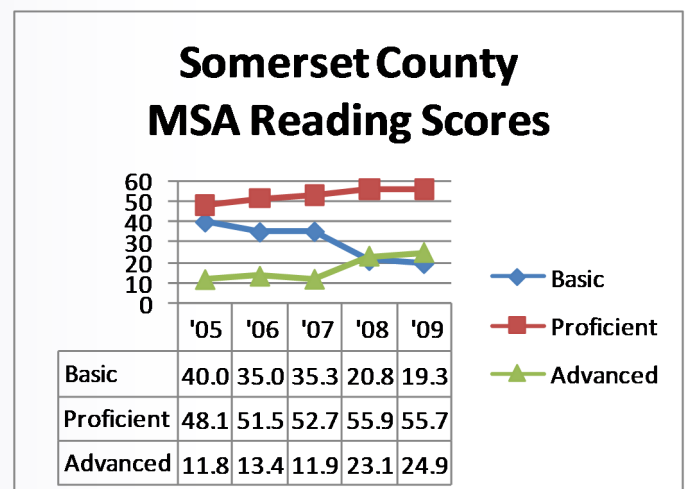
The community-based after school program is held in partnership with UMES to provide after school enrichment activities for children with an incarcerated parent.

The program utilized funding from the Governor's Office for Children (GOC) in fiscal year 2009 to provide homework assistance, mentoring, recreational activities, motivational speakers, and visitations with incarcerated parent(s) at correctional institutions for youth in grades four through eight.

During the fiscal year, the program had 19 youth enrolled in the program. The program had a student to staff ratio of four to one to ensure maximum services.



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## The Local Access Mechanism Somerset Family Link

The Local Access Mechanism provides a single point of access for services to families, as well as a family navigator to help families navigate the multiple agencies for specialized care and services.

The program utilized funding from the Governor's Office for Children (GOC) in fiscal year 2009 to provide information and referrals, help families develop a "family plan", aid them in accessing services to support their plan, and provide support and advocacy for the families.

During the fiscal year, the family navigator helped 38 families with information and referral services, and 13 families with detailed navigation services.

For these 51 families, 86 referrals were made, and 13 family plans were developed. The family navigator received 100% satisfaction in all areas from those families who completed the exit survey.

Note: There is currently no data available to compare for this program. The program affects different data specific for each family, and is too expansive to be presented here.