

Washington/Baltimore
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

ANNUAL REPORT 2020





Washington/Baltimore HIDTA

Serving the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia



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What is HIDTA?

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program (HIDTA) was created by Congress with the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988. Its mission is to disrupt the market for illegal drugs in the United States by assisting federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement entities participating in the HIDTA Program to dismantle and disrupt drug trafficking organizations, with particular emphasis on drug trafficking regions that have harmful effects on other parts of the United States.

In 1994, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) designated 13 jurisdictions in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Northern Virginia as a HIDTA region. Since then, the Washington/Baltimore (W/B) HIDTA's boundaries have expanded to include 29 counties and 15 cities in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.



Each of the 33 HIDTA Programs across the country share **two goals** as part of the National HIDTA Program

- 1** Disrupt the market for illegal drugs by dismantling or disrupting drug trafficking and/or money laundering organizations
- 2** Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of HIDTA initiatives

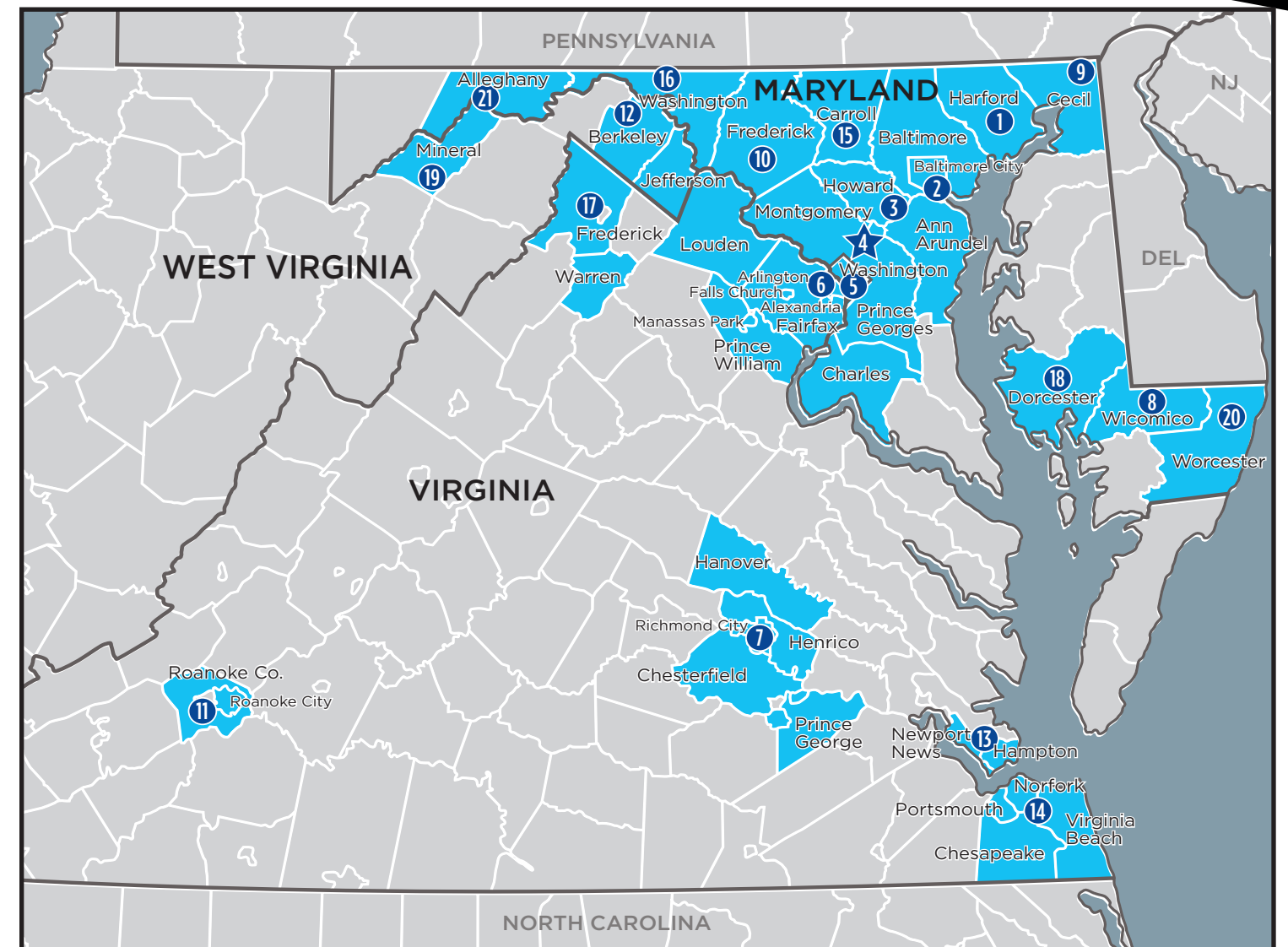
About the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA Region

The Washington/Baltimore area, unlike many other areas designated as HIDTAs, has never been a major gateway for illegal drugs into the United States, though it has evolved as a distribution hub for the Mid-Atlantic. However, the region has been a significant drug consumption market for more than 30 years, especially for heroin and for drugs associated with street violence, such as crack and PCP.

The presence of significant drug consumption and serious street violence is what led the Director of the Office National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) to establish the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (W/B HIDTA) in 1994. The ample drug misuse and drug-related crime that occurs in the W/B HIDTA region necessitates a continued, strategically-focused, and comprehensive approach to saving lives, preventing the initiation of drug use, and apprehending drug traffickers and money launderers.

Washington/Baltimore HIDTA Region

1	Harford County
2	Baltimore
3	Hanover
4	Greenbelt
5	Washington DC ★
6	Annandale
7	Richmond
8	Wicomico County
9	Cecil
10	Frederick
11	Roanoke
12	Berkeley
13	North Peninsula
14	South Side
15	Carroll
16	Washington
17	Frederick
18	Dorchester
19	Mineral
20	Worcester
21	Alleghany
	HIDTA Designated Co.



Vision

Within the next five years, our efforts to dismantle and disrupt drug trafficking and money laundering organizations, provide treatment resources, and develop drug prevention programs will save lives and strengthen communities and families in the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA region.

Washington/Baltimore HIDTA Leadership

An executive board comprised of federal, state, and local representatives from law enforcement, treatment, prevention, public safety, and criminal justice agencies from across the region, and an executive director lead the W/B HIDTA. The executive board assesses the drug trafficking threats found in the region; develops a strategy to address the threats; designs initiatives to implement the strategy; and proposes funding needed to carry out the initiatives.

Mission

To reduce drug trafficking and misuse by improving interagency collaboration, promoting accurate and timely information and intelligence sharing, and providing specialized training and other resources to its law enforcement, intelligence, treatment, and prevention initiatives.

To accomplish its mission, the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA will strategically apply its resources to initiatives designed to save lives, prevent initiation of drug use, and apprehend drug traffickers and money launderers.

Chief Howard Hall

Roanoke County Police Department
2020 HIDTA Executive Committee Chair



Roanoke County Police Department
HIDTA Executive Board Chairperson
Chief Hall joined the Roanoke County Police Department in 2012 after a 25-year career in the Baltimore County Police Department. He is a certified

instructor and recognized expert in data-driven policing. During his service at the BCPD, Chief Hall gained experience in patrol, traffic, special operations, administration, accreditation compliance, and other specialties.

Chief Hall earned a B.A. in Government and Politics, a Master of Public Administration, and a Graduate Certificate in Police Administration. He attended the FBI National Academy and currently serves as the president of the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police.

Thomas Carr

2020 HIDTA Executive Director



Director Carr has served as the executive director of the W/B HIDTA since its formation in 1994. He also serves as the executive director of the Center for Drug Policy and Prevention at the University of Baltimore. Director Carr designed and

implemented over 150 drug task forces, 18 drug treatment/criminal justice, and five drug prevention initiatives during the last 26 years.

As chair of the HIDTA Program's Performance Management Process Committee, he established metrics to measure the efficiency and effectiveness of drug law enforcement, treatment, prevention, and criminal intelligence initiatives. Director Carr worked with ONDCP and nine other HIDTAs to develop an Opioid Response Strategy. He also led the development of the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP), a real-time overdose surveillance system used to identify spikes in fatal and non-fatal drug overdoses.

CHAIR

Chief Howard Hall
Roanoke County Police Department

VICE-CHAIR

U.S. Attorney Robert Hur
U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maryland

FEDERAL MEMBERS

Special Agent in Charge Ashan Benedict
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms,
and Explosives
Washington Field Office

Special Agent in Charge Jennifer Boone
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Baltimore Field Division

Acting U.S. Attorney Daniel Bubar
Western District of Virginia

Special Agent in Charge James Dawson
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington Field Office

U.S. Marshal Robert Anthony Dixon
United States Marshals Service
District of Columbia

Special Agent in Charge John Eisert
Dept. of Homeland Security Investigations
Baltimore Field Office

Special Agent in Charge Jesse Fong
Drug Enforcement Administration
Washington Division Office

U.S. Marshal Johnny Hughes
United States Marshals Service
District of Maryland

Special Agent in Charge Tim Jones
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms,
and Explosives
Baltimore Field Office

U.S. Attorney William Powell
U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern
District of West Virginia

U.S. Marshal Nick Proffitt
United States Marshals Service
Eastern District of Virginia

Postal Inspector in Charge Peter Rendina
United States Postal Inspector Service
Washington Division

Acting U.S. Attorney Mike Sherwin
U.S. Attorney's Office for the
District of Columbia

U.S. Attorney Zachary Terwilliger
U.S. Attorney's Office for the
Eastern District of Virginia

Director Richard Tischner
Court Services & Offender Supervision
Agency

Special Agent in Charge Raymond Villanueva
Dept. of Homeland Security Investigations
Washington Field Office

STATE AND LOCAL MEMBERS

Colonel Jan Cahill, Superintendent
West Virginia State Police

Sheriff Michael Chapman
Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

Executive Director V. Glenn Fueston
Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control
and Prevention

Sheriff Jeffrey Gahler
Harford County Sheriff's Office

Secretary Robert Green
Maryland Department of Public Safety and
Correctional Services

Commissioner Michael Harrison
Baltimore Police Department

Colonel Woodrow Jones, Superintendent
Maryland State Police

State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby
State's Attorney's Office for Baltimore City

Chief Peter Newsham
Metropolitan Police Department

Chief Charles Penn
Arlington County Police Department

Colonel Gary Settle, Superintendent
Virginia State Police

Chief William Smith
Richmond Police Department

Bureau Chief Suzanne Somerville, LCSW
Arlington County Substance Abuse Center

Chief Terry Sult
Hampton Police Division

Chief George Swartwood
Martinsburg Police Department

Interim Chief Hector Velez
Prince George's County Police Department

Leading the Way in "Following the Money"



Decades ago, Steve Gurdak's lunch with a friend ultimately resulted in the shaping of innovative anti-money laundering strategies and operations for years to come. Steve's friend and lunch mate was applying to the Metro Transit Police (MTP), which was paying "a little

more," according to Steve, than his current job, so Steve applied, too. Veteran officers from the Washington, D.C. area joined the MTP's command staff, and they piqued Steve's interest in law enforcement. Shortly after joining the MTP, he knew law enforcement was the job for him. After a couple of years, he left the MTP to join the Alexandria, VA Police Department, where he became a detective.

In the mid-1990s, Steve began investigating major cases in which significant funds were recovered. His commanders thought he would be a good fit for a newly-formed Washington/Baltimore HIDTA initiative that focused on money laundering. Once there, Steve discovered an unmet need in drug law enforcement, and started to thrive.

After 9/11, a number of prosecutors with whom Steve had worked at the U.S. Attorney's Office expressed ideas about developing a money laundering focus by enhancing Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) review teams. Once Steve returned to the W/B HIDTA money laundering initiative, he collaborated with a couple of other agents, and tested these ideas. This resulted in significant success and thereafter, the formation of the Northern Virginia Financial Initiative (NVFI).

The NVFI began in 2003, with Steve helping to create it as an innovative Suspicious Activity

Reports (SAR) review team. In no time, the NVFI was considered a national model for SAR review teams. Steve is most well-known for his NVFI monthly meetings that, prior to COVID, had attracted some of the best anti-money laundering (AML) experts from around the world. This is something he hopes will resume very soon.

In 2010, Steve retired from the Alexandria Police Department after a 30-year career in law enforcement. However, W/B HIDTA Executive Director Tom Carr realized his talent for investigating money laundering operations, and quickly offered him a job to continue running the NVFI as a W/B HIDTA-funded position

Not every W/B HIDTA initiative can be compared to a nightclub in Los Angeles. Steve, however, likens the NVFI to the Troubadour, a small West Hollywood club that has hosted the biggest names in rock music. The NVFI, he says, "has hosted many of the biggest VIPs in the AML efforts there are." Steve is also proud to have helped form and contribute to the NVFI becoming the best known and a national model for SAR review teams.

In 2020, in an effort to expand NVFI operations and increase coordination, cooperation, and information sharing, Steve partnered with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's Money Laundering Group. This has proven to be a great collaboration for identifying, targeting and dismantling/disrupting money laundering organizations. (MLOs).

Steve is regularly invited as to speak as a subject matter expert on AML issues, and has published a number of articles on the subject. He is most pleased with W/B HIDTA's association with George Mason University (GMU), as he earned his Master's certificate in criminal justice from GMU.

Mr. Gurdak is an outstanding leader and a valuable asset to the W/B HIDTA Program.

A Division for Advancing Prevention and Treatment (ADAPT) is making a difference in HIDTAs' substance use prevention programs across the United States. Its mission is to advance knowledge, skills, and quality outcomes in the field of substance use prevention, while supporting successful integration of evidence-based strategies into communities.

The ADAPT team, led by Dr. Lora Peppard, deputy director for treatment and prevention, focuses on its mission by:

1. Advancing substance use prevention strategies through **essential training and technical assistance services and resources**
2. **Promoting public health and public safety partnerships** in substance use prevention
3. **Preparing the future public safety and public health workforces** through student engagement in ADAPT operations and projects.

ADAPT's Unique Approach to Training and Technical Assistance

ADAPT provides training and technical assistance for all High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) communities across the country. Its staff assists in translating evidence-based strategies, navigating the literature supporting these strategies and important resources, and connecting people to mentors, peers, and partners.

Areas of technical assistance include:

- Identification of evidence-based practices
- Implementation
- Evaluation
- Training
- Fiscal/budgeting
- Sustainability
- Early response

ADAPT grounds itself in evidence throughout all activities. Its unique formula for translating that evidence for integration into individual HIDTA communities is:

$$(Relatability + Digestibility) \text{ Support} = \uparrow \text{Likelihood for Successful Integration}$$

ADAPT staff members strive to make every interaction with clients **RELATABLE** in language and experience, **DIGESTIBLE** in content, and enhanced through exponential **SUPPORT** as they implement and evaluate new skills and strategies.

Highlights include:

- Hosting the **first annual HIDTA Prevention Summit on Advancing Substance Use Prevention in HIDTA Communities: Standards, Strategies, & Support** with **2,049 registrants**.
- Completing a **technical webinar series for over 700 unique viewers on the Fundamentals of Substance Use Prevention**. The series aimed at breaking down foundational substance use prevention concepts into relatable and digestible pieces, and connecting participants with additional resources on the concepts.
- Launching an *Evidence-Based Practice Spotlight Series* to **describe HIDTA-driven responses to emerging or immediate substance use prevention needs in the community**.
- Supporting the development of the **W/B HIDTA becoming an ECHO (Extensions of Community Healthcare Outcomes) provider for telementoring**, using a knowledge-sharing approach in which expert teams create virtual learning communities to advance on-the-job skillsets.
- Offering **webinars to connect HIDTA prevention representatives with collaborators from Drug Free Communities, the Overdose Response Strategy, and National Guard** counterdrug representatives.
- Providing **technical assistance to over 13 HIDTA communities**.
- Releasing a **resilience campaign** to promote the use of specific, relatable, and digestible activities translated from the 10 strategies offered by the American Psychological Association in their publication *The Road to Resilience*.



Left to right: Rebecca Bates, Technical Assistance Project Manager; Lora Peppard, Director; Patty Ferssizidis, Assistant Director; Julia Glaccum, Public Health/Public Safety Fellow; Megan Erickson, Research Analyst

A Division for Advancing Prevention and Treatment



Resilience Campaign

2020-2021



CULTIVATING PREVENTION



Promotion of specific, relatable, and digestible activities translated from the 10 strategies offered by the American Psychological Association in their publication *The Road to Resilience*.

Tagline

DO ONE! SHARE ONE!



STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE

Connect with others

Face challenges head-on

Take care of you

Embrace change

Sustain hope

Move toward your goals

Keep things in perspective

Take decisive action

Nurture a positive view of yourself

Find opportunities for self-discovery

Reach
via Social Media



571 people

Engagement
via Social Media



57 users
33 likes/post
27 users sharing

Engagement
via Email



76 sign-ups

Contact ADAPT for an editable portfolio of the campaign materials!

adapt@wb.hidta.org | www.hidta.org/adapt/



Overdose Response Strategy

The mission of the Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) program is to help communities reduce non-fatal drug overdoses by connecting public health and public safety agencies, sharing information, and supporting evidence-based interventions. The ORS is comprised of teams, including a public health analyst and a drug intelligence officer, which support each state. The W/B HIDTA has two dynamic and experienced teams serving Maryland and Virginia who work to support strategic drug reduction and prevention strategies.

In 2020, the Maryland team supported a project in Carroll County, MD that provides **naloxone training and distribution for justice-involved individuals who are at risk for overdose**. The project involves a partnership

among Carroll County's drug court, pre-trial, and re-entry programs. The Virginia ORS team developed an **"Addiction 101" curriculum for law enforcement training academies** which will be offered throughout the state in 2021. The training includes information on stigma, the science of addiction, and the impact on law enforcement.

In 2020, W/B HIDTA ORS staff:

- Sent out 347 Felony Arrest Notifications
- Made over 1,600 public health referrals
- Provided 123 actionable intelligence reports to law enforcement across the W/B HIDTA region.



Law Enforcement

The W/B HIDTA **invested \$13,565,189 to support 45 multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional law enforcement initiatives in 2020.** These initiatives focused on identifying and disrupting/dismantling drug trafficking organizations and money laundering organizations.

The return on investment for these activities, calculated as the ratio of the W/B HIDTA's investigative budget to the wholesale value of drugs, money and other assets seized from traffickers was **\$7.41 for every HIDTA dollar spent.**

Return on Investment: \$7.41

2020 W/B HIDTA Investigative Budget	\$13,565,189
Wholesale Value of Drugs Seized	\$76,502,000
Cash Assets Seized	\$20,787,000
Value of Other Assets Seized	\$3,220,000
Total Value of Drugs, Money, and Other Assets Removed from the Marketplace in 2020	\$100,509,000

Federal, state, and local law enforcement officers from over 80 agencies worked in HIDTA-funded initiatives, which were collocated in 20 sites across the region. **Using Case Explorer software developed by the W/B HIDTA,** these officers shared information on suspected persons and criminal organizations; and on the locations where upcoming law enforcement operations will occur, to ensure that officers are not working the same or similar cases. This increased officer safety and operational efficiency.

Currently, 16 HIDTAs and law enforcement agencies across the country use Case Explorer software, with more anticipated in 2021 and 2022 with the new release of "Gen 3" Case Explorer in 2021.

W/B HIDTA initiatives **deconflicted shared contacts involving 111 drug trafficking and/or money laundering organizations; and over 3,600 events.** The W/B HIDTA initiatives apprehended 5,271 fugitives in 2020. Twenty-one percent of those apprehended (1,120) were fugitives with drug charges.

Eliminating Drug Trafficking and Money Laundering Organizations in the Region

W/B HIDTA-sponsored law enforcement initiatives disrupted or dismantled 110 drug trafficking/money laundering organizations, to include:

- 11** INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS
- 54** MULTI-STATE DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS
- 45** LOCAL DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS



W/B HIDTA law enforcement initiatives removed almost **6,000 kilograms** of illicit drugs from across the region.

National Award Winner

Quantity of Drugs Removed from the Marketplace

Drug	Kilograms	Dosage Units
Fentanyl	77	
Heroin	51	
Cocaine HcL/Crack	1,086	
Methamphetamine/ICE	58	
Prescription Drugs: Narcotics	60	90,508
Prescription Drugs: CNS Depressants	26	4,503
Synthetic Hallucinogens	93	1,450
Marijuana/Cannabis	2,509	
Marijuana Indoor	5,206	
Marijuana Outdoor	44	
Other Drugs	559	5,886

Northern Virginia Financial Initiative

A joint investigation in 2020 shared by the **Northern Virginia Financial Initiative (NVFI)** and the **DEA's Northern Virginia Regional Drug Initiativer** won the **2021 FinCEN Director's Award–SAR Review Team**. The investigation focused on a subject suspected of running a major money laundering operation using funnel accounts for the interstate shipment and distribution of cocaine. Analysis of Bank Secrecy Act filings led to the identification of a number of links to the money laundering operation.

At the beginning of the case, two co-conspirators were arrested and federally convicted. However, neither conspirator would cooperate to further the investigation. Eventually, law enforcement officers developed at least three other confidential informants in VA and CA who were facing drug trafficking charges, and these sources provided information and evidence that was linked to the overall case.

In April 2019, an NVFI task force officer began to identify a number of links and associations by analyzing over 50 suspicious activity reports

(SAR) and other FinCEN Bank Security Act (BSA) data. There were at least nine otherwise seemingly-unrelated financial institution accounts identified that were used to facilitate the **funneling of approximately \$1 million dollars in illicit cocaine profits from New York, Washington, DC, Chicago, and the Northern Virginia area to the investigation's target in California**. The funnel account activity of cash deposits in the eastern part of the United States, followed by cash withdrawals in California, were also found to be made in "structured" amounts (under \$10,000) to avoid detection. This information and evidence proved to be an important factor in the placement of money laundering charges.

The NVFI arrested the subject, who pled guilty to drug trafficking and money laundering and received a 10-year prison sentence. The U.S. Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Virginia, successfully prosecuted the case.



Operation Angels Envy

Northern Virginia Regional Drug Initiative, Operation Angels Envy

Operation Angels Envy involved a set of multi-year investigations that identified large networks of suppliers and distributors in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area who worked for a dangerous transnational drug trafficking organization with direct ties to the Sinaloa Cartel. The operation **uncovered and dismantled seven violent drug trafficking organization cells in the D.C., Maryland, and Virginia area, and resulted in the charging of 33 high-level individuals, and removal of 473 pounds of methamphetamine, 120 kilograms of cocaine HCl, 42 kilograms of fentanyl, 9 kilograms of heroin, and 5,100 pounds of other drugs from the streets.** Additionally, investigators **seized \$5.4 million in U.S. currency, 32 rifles, and 81 handguns, among other assets.**

Since May 2017, investigations under Operation Angels Envy led to the identification and takedown of the seven independent, violent drug trafficking organizations operating in the

Washington D.C. metropolitan area, their Los Angeles-based transportation network, and their Sinaloa Cartel supply cell. The **network used tractor-trailers and shipping crates to move ton quantities of fentanyl, heroin, methamphetamine, and other drugs across the country.**

Agencies collaborating in this effort included the Loudoun County (VA) Sheriff's Office, Fairfax County (VA) Police Department; Arlington (VA) Police Department; Alexandria (VA) Police Department; Virginia State Police; Vienna (VA) Police Department; Homeland Security Investigations, San Diego; U.S. Postal Service Inspection Service; U.S. U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, Washington D.C.; U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Washington Division, DEA Los Angeles Division; DEA New England Division; DEA Miami Division; DEA Dayton Resident Office; DEA Mexico Country Office; and the DEA Special Operations Division.

The W/B HIDTA Investigative Support Center (ISC), an established leader in intelligence analysis and innovation, provides analytical support for developing leads to further an investigation, and evidentiary products required for successful prosecution. Each of the W/B HIDTA's 20 collocated sites are linked electronically to the ISC, which collects, analyzes, and disseminates information and intelligence on drug trafficking, money laundering, violence, gangs, and weapons trafficking to support both HIDTA initiatives and participating agencies. Unique to the ISC is its ability to exploit big data through network analysis. The ISC is heavily involved with information technology projects that contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of other programs, and agencies. These efforts have led to the advancement of intelligence led-prosecutions and the creation of data sharing intelligence networks.

In 2020, the ISC initiated a project to exploit electronic data and deconfliction across

Maryland and Virginia, including independent Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) Strike Force groups in Baltimore. Analysts successfully deployed information technology across 16 agencies, providing allied analysts and investigators the ability to break down silos of massive quantities of data with analytical capabilities. After the development of MOUs, coordination of information technology resources, and completion of necessary training, the project resulted in significant interagency information sharing, deconfliction, and analysis.

ISC analysts provided support to **110 cases in 2020** and **opened 1,000 cases** for which they provided a broad range of assistance.



Examples of case support analyses provided by the ISC include:

- Association/link/network analysis
- Flow analysis
- Commodity flow analysis
- Crime pattern analysis
- Financial analysis
- Geospatial analysis
- Telephone communication analysis

HIDTA Training Unit

The W/B HIDTA funded and supported **31,543 hours of training** for its law enforcement, analytical, and management resources, to include:

- **11,737 hours of enforcement training to 742 students**
- **9,165 hours of analytical training to over 568 students**
- **202 hours of management training to nearly 530 students.**

When surveyed six months after they received the training:

- **97 percent** of the students responded that the training course **improved their knowledge, skills, and abilities** needed to perform their jobs
- **79 percent** responded that they **used the knowledge, skills, and abilities** they acquired in the training course



Treatment Services

W/B HIDTA Treatment Grantees

- Alexandria (VA) Treatment Criminal Justice System
- Arlington County (VA) Treatment
- Baltimore Substance Abuse Systems
- Berkeley (WV) Substance Abuse Initiative
- Brooke's House (Hagerstown, MD)
- Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency (in Washington, D.C.)
- Fairfax County (VA) Sheriff's Department STAR 360 Program
- Northern Shenandoah Valley (VA) Substance Abuse Coalition
- Prince William County (VA) Treatment Program
- Richmond (VA) Adult Drug Treatment Court

The W/B HIDTA granted **\$3,503,369** in 2020 to support initiatives that provide integrated drug treatment services and criminal justice supervision for substance-dependent offenders. Funds continue to be used to address identified gaps in the treatment and recovery systems in W/B HIDTA communities.

Treatment initiatives must incorporate drug testing and graduated sanctions for all offenders. They must include an assessment of the individual's drug use and criminal history, and placement in the appropriate level of service, such as outpatient, intensive outpatient, residential, or community re-entry.



Spotlight on Treatment

Behavioral Health System Baltimore

2020 Initiative Achievements

38 Number of clients assessed

257 Number of clients drug tested

269 Number of clients treated

35 Number of successful program continuum completions

Behavioral Health System Baltimore (BHSB) is conducting a pilot project that supports clinical services and peer support in the Circuit Court for Baltimore City's Drug Treatment Court. BHSB is using a community-based service model, with peer support. Peer support is a new intervention in this setting. BHSB is providing high-quality clinical care coordination, peer support, and aid with access to evidence-based treatment options, including medication-assisted treatment.

The pilot program serves adults with symptoms of chronic substance use within Baltimore City's Drug Treatment Court, who have no crime of violence convictions within the last 10 years. An average of 32 percent of Baltimore's arrestees have substance use issues. A severe shortage of support staff makes it difficult to serve a high-risk population effectively.

BHSB, a nonprofit previously established by the Baltimore City government to manage its behavioral health system, guides innovative approaches to prevention, early intervention, treatment, and recovery, and manages contracts with clinical services, peer services, and consultants. HIDTA funds support the program's clinical coordinator, peer specialists, and supervisor, with most funds going to peer specialists. In addition, BHSB works with the Circuit Court, the Judiciary's Office of Problem-Solving Courts (OPSC), and the Maryland Behavioral Health Administration's Office of Consumer Affairs (OCA), to help develop protocols, oversee standards, and integrate peer services in behavioral health settings.

The Berkeley County (WV) Day Report Center (BDRC), established in August 2016, has grown from three staff members and a handful of clients, to having 27 full-time and two part-time staff members, and over 250 active clients. It provides a variety of services, including treatment, drug screening, peer coaching, employment assistance, and recovery housing. The recidivism rate for graduate of this program—which is the largest community corrections program in West Virginia, is 18 percent. Treatment options in the area have historically been limited to virtually nonexistent, and the local corrections facilities lack needed resources.



Eligible clients for this alternative to incarceration must have the following characteristics:

- Referral from probation, parole, magistrate, or the Berkeley County Circuit Court
- Possess a substance abuse issue
- Held for non-violent offenses only
- Agree to attend the program for 12-18 months

Spotlight on Treatment

Berkeley County (WV) Day Report Center

2020 Initiative Achievements

353 Number of clients assessed

290 Average number of clients drug tested per quarter

290 Average number of clients treated per quarter

52 Number of successful program continuum completions



Prevention Services

The W/B HIDTA invested **\$1,128,021** in 2020 to support prevention activities. Its prevention initiatives are designed to prevent, identify, or mitigate substance use across the region by coordinating community and local government resources to foster protective factors, mitigate risk factors, increase knowledge around substances, and link individuals to appropriate levels of care.

Prevention initiatives include law enforcement partnerships participating at operational and policy-making levels. A nexus has been formed among law enforcement and other public and private sector program elements, with an ongoing effort to expand alternative funding to enhance the W/B HIDTA's prevention component.

The Prince William County, VA prevention initiative, led by the Prince William County Community Services Board, is designed to reduce drug trafficking and use, gang activity, human trafficking and criminal activity in the Georgetown South community in Manassas, VA, by providing prevention services to at-risk youth age 12-18 and their parents. Its mission is to increase juvenile skill levels, and opportunities to become better citizens by partnering with other community agencies and families. The initiative's mission is accomplished through local government partnerships with community organizations, schools, District 31 Juvenile Court Services Unit, and the Manassas City Police Department to promote youth responsibility and family empowerment. The W/B HIDTA funds two prevention specialists who work in the community to provide at-risk youth with opportunities for skill development (educational, vocational, recreational, social), and involvement in pro-social activities to deter them from crime, drug use, gang involvement, human trafficking, and delinquency. They also track school attendance, school performance, and compliance with court mandates; and ensure that youth and their families obtain other needed services, including parenting education, and basic necessities. The Initiative also collaborates with Team Quest and Badges for Baseball prevention activities.

Spotlight on Prevention

Prince William County (VA) Prevention

2020 Initiative Achievements

70 Number of Students Served Annually

35 Number of Students Engaged in Summer Programming

11 Parent Engagement for Quest Students



Washington/Baltimore HIDTA Executive Staff

Washington/Baltimore HIDTA Financial Partners

Thank you

Thomas H. Carr
Executive Director

Veronica Pallutch
Coordinator/Executive Assistant

Lisa Wiederlight
Chief Performance Officer

Jeff Beeson
1st Deputy Director
Chief of Staff

Gary W. Hartman
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

John Cook
Deputy Director
Investigative Support Center

Corey Comen
Deputy Program Manager
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Deputy Director
Treatment and Prevention
Director, ADAPT

Sherae Lonick
Deputy Director, Chief Financial Officer
Finance/Human Resources

Amy Johnson
Deputy Finance Program Manager
Finance/Human Resources

Erik Shumaker
Deputy Director
Network Operations Center

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