

OVERVIEW OF DOCUMENT

This document is organized into seven chapters. Chapter one provides the conceptual framework for the grant and task force, the rationale for the grant, procedures used and communities visited. Chapter two focuses on recommendations for schools. Chapter three presents recommendations for law enforcement and court personnel. Chapter four outlines recommendations related to mental health services. Chapter five discusses media issues associated with school violence. Chapter six discusses the role of religious personnel. Chapter seven presents a plan for the implementation of the recommendations.

Recommendations in chapters two through six, written by task force members in those areas, are organized from three perspectives:

- A. pre-plan or prevention phase,
- B. the incident or crisis phase, and
- C. post-incident or follow-up phase.

It is our strong belief that prevention of school violence is the ultimate goal. No community can blissfully assume that school violence will occur elsewhere. Therefore, we believe that all three phases need attention if the community is to deal effectively with the problem of school violence.