

DAIN

The Domestic Abuse Information Network

A database program produced by the Duluth Domestic Abuse Intervention Project

domestic abuse
intervention programs



Home of The Duluth Model
Social Change to End Violence Against Women

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The Domestic Abuse Information Network (DAIN)

A powerful tool for tracking, monitoring, and analyzing law enforcement, court, and offenders' program records

DAIN tracks data in two main areas:

- Law enforcement and court records
- Offenders' program information

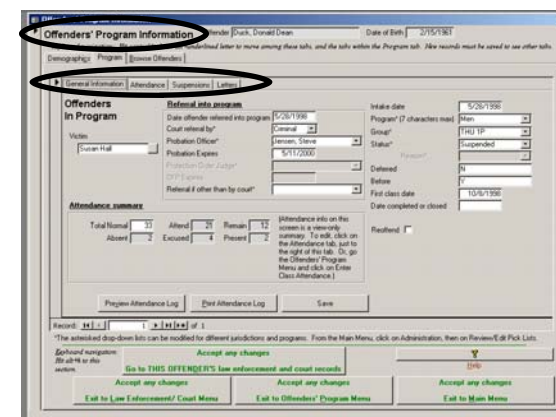
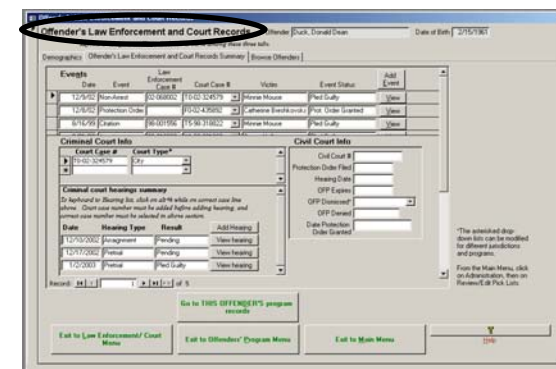
Both of these sections are cross-referenced for individual offenders.

The **law enforcement and court records** section tracks incidents, whether or not charges were filed or suspect was taken into custody. Hearings are added to each case as they occur. Conviction data includes details on pleas, sentencing, and probation.

Protection order data includes orders granted and dismissed, emergency orders (*ex partes*), and detail on court-ordered reliefs, including offender program orders.

Offenders' program information includes detail on referral, orientation, class enrollment, and completion, as well as attendance records, suspensions, and form letters for both participants and probation officers.

Additionally, DAIN features pre-formatted reports that summarize and analyze data.



Pre-formatted reports summarize and analyze:

- criminal court hearings and dispositions, including convictions
- protection orders
- non-arrests (incidents where charges were filed but no arrest was made)
- program statistics, including demographic breakdowns, attendance figures, and court orders into programming

The context: Tracking and monitoring within a Coordinated Community Response

DAIN is designed for use by domestic abuse prevention organizations as a part of a Coordinated Community Response (CCR) to domestic violence. Its primary purpose is to maximize victim safety.

DAIN has had 15 years of intensive development to make it user-friendly, thorough, and adaptable. It is used daily to inform and strengthen Duluth's CCR.

Within a CCR, DAIN users collect law enforcement and court reports on domestic cases. Information from these reports is then entered into the DAIN database.

DAIN generates pre-formatted reports that assist collaborative work with advocates, law enforcement, judges, probation, prosecutors, social workers, and other CCR partners. Users may develop additional queries and reports.

Organizations within a CCR often provide programs for court-ordered offenders. DAIN maximizes accountability by tracking program participation in a format that can be reported to court personnel, probation officers, and the offender's victim.

DAIN also enables offenders' programs to cross-reference with civil and criminal court records.

Requirements for using DAIN

- 1. DAIN is an MS Access program.**
 - Microsoft Access is a database program included with some editions of MS Office. Access 2000 or higher must be installed before running it.
 - More recent versions of Access feature some components not included in Access 2000; however, these differences should not affect the functionality of DAIN.
 - DAIN can run only on a PC.
- 2. Computer requirements are as follows.**
 - DAIN runs best on a computer with a memory of 128 MB or more.
 - The computer monitor should be capable of a display setting of 1024 x 768 pixels or higher. Although display properties do not affect DAIN's functioning, this setting makes it much easier to use.
- 3. DAIN is for intermediate to advanced computer users.**
 - Effective use of DAIN requires an understanding of file management.
 - We also highly recommend that users be familiar with MS Access before using DAIN.

More information? Contact the DAIN Coordinator at 218-722-2781x109, or dain@theduluthmodel.org. Or, see our website at www.theduluthmodel.org.

DAIN users recommend it ...

"DAIN is the perfect program for any CCR that has to provide a variety of data to politicians, political appointees, and particularly governmental funding agents. Anyone who is a true believer in the old adage 'the numbers don't lie' needs to have DAIN. It can be a powerful tool for change in any community."

Rae Lyn McCormick
Peoria County State's Attorney Office
Peoria, Illinois

"Tracking of law enforcement and court data in DAIN has become an integral part of our work in the Coordinated Community Response. We have been able to not only identify trends, but to back it up with real data to use when approaching stakeholder agencies with suggestions for changes in policies and protocol. DAIP has been very helpful in supplying technical support."

Julie Christianson
Community Violence Intervention Center
Grand Forks, North Dakota

"It has allowed our organization to look at the weakest links in the system when it comes to offender accountability and the need to address increased victim safety, at every juncture of the criminal justice response to domestic violence."

Tammera Wachtel
Committee Against Domestic Abuse (CADA)
Mankato, Minnesota