



Office of Juvenile Justice  
and Delinquency Prevention

# JUVENILE MENTORING

## PERFORMANCE REPORT

### January-June 2020

**ENHANCING SAFETY • ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY • EMPOWERING YOUTH**

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# INTRODUCTION

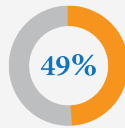
The Juvenile Mentoring program, administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), strengthens the capacity of national, regional, and local nonprofit organizations to expand their youth mentoring services. Mentoring services support a match between a mentor and one or more youth and include direct one-on-one, group, peer, or a combination of mentoring types. Mentoring promotes positive behaviors, attitudes, and outcomes for youth and reduces risk factors associated with delinquency, such as poor school performance and substance use.

OJJDP requires grantees to report on performance measures to demonstrate whether the Juvenile Mentoring program achieved its goals, and to improve program and policy decisions. This report presents Juvenile Mentoring program activities occurring between January and June 2020 and highlights grantee results achieved with OJJDP funding.

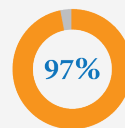
## Highlights

**91,275**  
NUMBER OF YOUTH SERVED

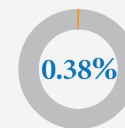
Demonstrated Short-Term<sup>1</sup> Positive Behavior Change



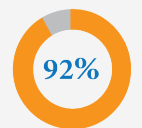
Matched with a Mentor



Youth Offending



Grantees/Subgrantees Implemented an Evidence-Based Program



## OVERVIEW OF AWARD INFORMATION

During the January–June 2020 activity period, the OJJDP’s Juvenile Mentoring program grantees managed 104 total federal awards and successfully completed 84 performance reports for this activity period, a compliance rate of 81 percent (Figure 1). For the 84 performance reports submitted, 81 awards were operational during the activity period. Additionally, 392 active subgrantees completed performance reports for the activity period. In total, operational awards submitting performance measure data represents over \$136 million in federal funding.<sup>2</sup>

Figure 1. Award Details



<sup>1</sup> Short-term includes youth tracked for the behavior of interest who received services during the activity period or youth who exited during the activity period.

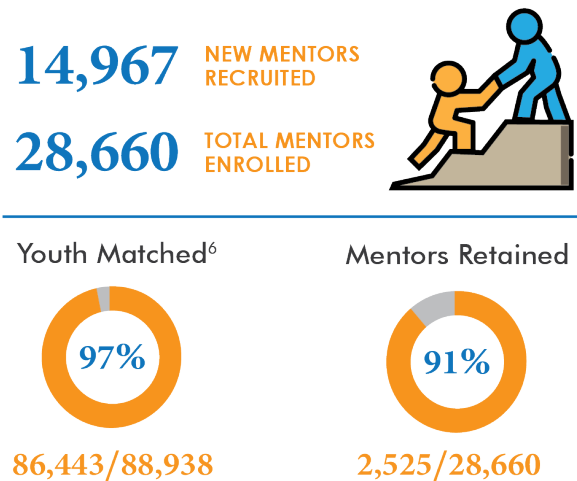
<sup>2</sup> Funding amounts represent total funding for the life of the awards and does not represent actual grantee spending during the activity period.

<sup>3</sup> Total funding: \$136,942,857.

## YOUTH MATCHED WITH A MENTOR

A Juvenile Mentoring program goal is to increase the number of youth in a mentoring relationship. During the January–June 2020 activity period, grantees served a total of 91,275 youth,<sup>4</sup> enrolling 43,784 new youth (figure 2). Additionally, grantees recruited 14,967 new mentors, a 1% percent decrease from the previous activity period,<sup>5</sup> for a total of 28,660 mentors enrolled. Recruitment efforts resulted in grantees successfully matching 97 percent of enrolled youth with a mentor during the activity period. Grantees achieved high mentor retention, with 91 percent of mentors continuing as a mentor at the end of the activity period.

Figure 2. Mentor Recruitment and Youth Matched



## EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS

OJJDP supports evidence-based practices and programs, which effectively reduce delinquency and improve youth outcomes. Effective mentoring programs follow recruitment, screening, training, matching, monitoring, and support services standards.<sup>7</sup> During the January–June 2020 activity period, 92 percent of Juvenile Mentoring awards implemented evidence-based programs ( $n = 473$ ), serving 69 percent of youth with an evidence-based program ( $n = 91,275$ ).

## TARGET BEHAVIORS

Grantees report on youth behavior changes in targeted areas (i.e., family relationships, school attendance). During the January–June 2020 activity period, grantees observed the largest improvement among youth for prosocial behavior, with 63 percent demonstrating a short-term positive change (figure 3)<sup>8</sup>. In the short-term, overall, 49 percent of youth showed improvements in a targeted behavior.

<sup>4</sup> Youth served includes youth receiving any type of service by a grantee or subgrantee (e.g., mentoring, group activities, case management) and includes youth matched with a mentor, and youth waiting for a mentor.

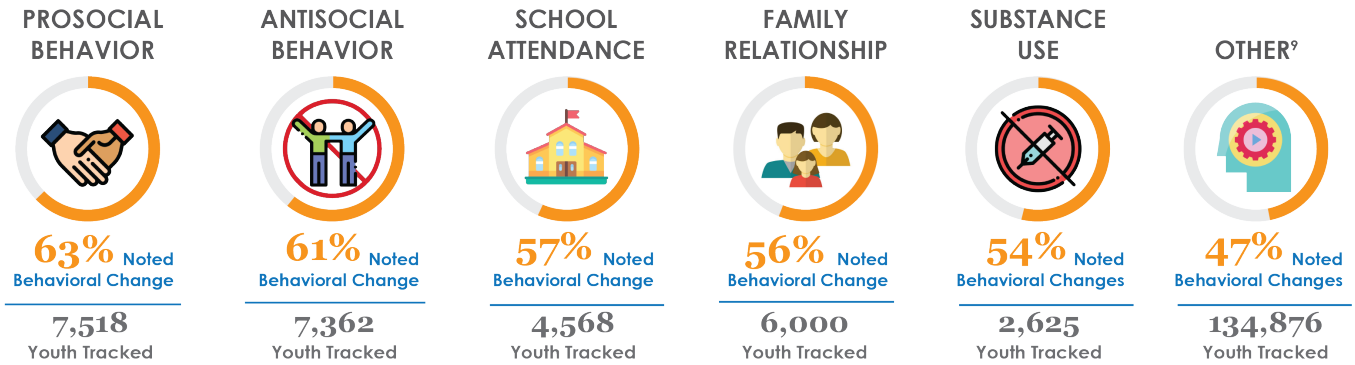
<sup>5</sup> U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Juvenile Mentoring Performance Report July–December 2018. [ojdppmt.ojp.gov/](https://ojdppmt.ojp.gov/)

<sup>6</sup> Please note data did not undergo the full verification process during the January–June 2020 reporting period (due to the volume of ongoing work being done for the Performance Measure Review effort).

<sup>7</sup> National Mentoring Resource Center. Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring, Fourth Edition. (September 2015). <https://www.mentoring.org/program-resources/elements-of-effective-practice-for-mentoring/>

<sup>8</sup> Short-term includes youth tracked for the behavior of interest who received services during the activity period or youth who exited the program during the activity period.

**Figure 3. Short-term Outcome Percentages for the Specified Target Behaviors**



## YOUTH PROGRAM SUCCESS

Mentoring programs define the specific expectations for their program’s mentoring relationships and program completion requirements.<sup>10</sup> Healthy and successful mentoring relationships meet consistently and frequently. During the January–June 2020 activity period, 50,795 mentoring relationships met the intended minimum match length and 14,002 exceeded the minimum match length, while 54,768 mentors met for the minimum monthly hours and 14,075 exceeded the minimum monthly hours. Youth who fulfilled program requirements, successfully exited, while those who failed to complete the requirements, such as those expelled or who left voluntarily, exited the program unsuccessfully. Of the 35,749 youth who exited a mentoring program during the activity period, grantees reported 82 percent successfully exited (figure 4).

**Figure 4. Percent of Youth Exiting Successfully**



## YOUTH DELINQUENCY

To track their program’s success at reducing delinquency and improving outcomes for participants, grantees monitor youth for offenses and recidivism during and following a youth’s involvement in a mentoring program. Grantees monitored 57,909 program youth during the January–June 2020 activity period, of which less than 1 percent had an arrest or delinquent offense in the short term (figure 5). Recidivism rates were also low, with less than 1 percent of program youth tracked during the activity period reoffending in the short term (figure 5).

**Figure 5. Short-term Youth Delinquency Outcomes**



<sup>9</sup> Long-term includes youth tracked for the behavior of interest who exited the program 6–12 months before the start of the activity period.

<sup>10</sup> The mentoring program environment determines the length of a match and the number of hours per month (e.g., school-based mentoring programs may meet 1 hour a week for the 9-month academic-year, or one-on-one mentoring matches may meet for 2–4 hours a month for 1 year).

# YOUTH VICTIMIZATION

Violent victimization, childhood exposure to violence, and child maltreatment are risk factors that increase a youth’s likelihood of engaging in delinquency or other negative behaviors.<sup>11</sup> Positive mentoring relationships can build protective factors to counter the risks of childhood and youth victimization.<sup>12</sup> Mentoring grantees reported that 2 percent of the 15,034 program youth tracked during the activity period were victimized (figure 6), with the majority experiencing non-violent victimization. Of youth previously identified as a victim, 2 percent experienced re-victimization during the activity period (figure 6).

**Figure 6. Short-term Victimization Outcomes**



## VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

OJJDP funds the Specialized Services and Mentoring for Child and Youth Victims of Sex Trafficking Initiative to increase the availability of mentoring opportunities and support services for children and youth identified as victims of human trafficking. Under this mentoring initiative, during the January–June 2020 activity period, grantees identified 41 program youth as victims of sex trafficking, of whom 23 youth were identified as new victims of sex trafficking. Additionally, grantees provided services to victims of human trafficking, including 68 youth receiving mentoring services, 72 youth receiving case management services, and 365 youth receiving health care, life skills, housing, basic needs, and other services.

To facilitate outreach efforts and develop communities’ capacities to serve youth trafficking victims, grantees held 181 training events on human trafficking during the activity period.

**Figure 7. Youth Trafficking Victims**



<sup>11</sup> U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (December 2015). Risk Factors for Delinquency. <https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/Resource/LitReviews/Risk%20Factors.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (February 2011). Mentoring. <https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litreviews/Mentoring.pdf>

## CONCLUSION

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Through the Juvenile Mentoring program, OJJDP provides national leadership to strengthen and expand the delivery of high-quality mentoring opportunities to a diverse population of youth at risk of victimization or involvement in the juvenile justice system. During the January–June 2020 activity period, OJJDP-funded Juvenile Mentoring awards served 91,275 youth. Grantees recruited 14,967 new mentors, matching 97 percent of program youth with a mentor during the activity period, with 91 percent of mentors remaining with the program at the end of the activity period. Overall, 49 percent of program youth showed a behavioral improvement, including improvements in prosocial behavior, antisocial behavior, and school attendance. Grantees especially succeeded at preventing delinquency during this activity period, with over 99 percent of youth served not offending or reoffending. Additionally, grantees identified 41 program youth as victims of sex trafficking, providing mentoring and other support services to youth trafficking victims during the activity period. These results support the research and demonstrate the positive impact of mentoring programs in strengthening youth’s protective factors and reducing risk factors associated with juvenile justice system involvement and victimization.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> National Institute of Justice. Mentoring. [www.crimesolutions.gov/TopicDetails.aspx?ID=290](http://www.crimesolutions.gov/TopicDetails.aspx?ID=290)