



Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

PERFORMANCE REPORT July-December 2020

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WORKING FOR YOUTH JUSTICE AND SAFETY

VISION STATEMENT

OJJDP envisions a nation where our children are free from crime and violence. If they come into contact with the justice system, the contact should be rare, fair, and beneficial to them.

MISSION STATEMENT

OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and victimization. The Office helps states, localities, and tribes develop effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that create safer communities and empower youth to lead productive lives.

This report was produced by Booz Allen Hamilton under contract number DJO-BJA-16-S-0272, awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this report are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. The accuracy of the data in this document is dependent on the precision of grantee data entry. All information included reflects self-reported data provided by OJJDP grantees.

Data during the July-December 2020 activity period was impacted by the Covid-19 global pandemic. Grantees and service providers experienced a disruption to services, which raised obstacles for service delivery and data collection. The following data reflects services adapted to and provided during the Covid-19 pandemic.

It is important to note that accurate data rely on correct data tracking and entry by the grantees and those agencies reporting to grantees, as such the data and analysis findings provided reflect the information as reported. The Office of Justice Programs makes no representations as to the accuracy or completeness of the data presented, nor does it make any inferences as to the effectiveness of grant funded programs and the associated outcomes.

INTRODUCTION

The Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) program, administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), supports the role of TTA service providers in OJJDP’s national efforts to reduce youth crime and victimization, and to improve the juvenile justice system. TTA, as defined by OJJDP, is the planning, development, and evaluation of activities designed to achieve specific learning objectives, resolve problems, and foster the application of innovative approaches to juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP funds the TTA program to provide a wealth of diverse services, such as building jurisdiction capacity, implementing evidence-based programs, and advancing juvenile justice system improvements.

OJJDP requires TTA grantees to report on performance measures to demonstrate whether the TTA program achieved its goals and to improve program and policy decisions. OJJDP’s TTA grantee network consists of experts, program directors and staff, officials, prosecutors, and other professionals working in the juvenile justice field and in child welfare, who have made significant contributions in knowledge sharing and capacity building for law enforcement.

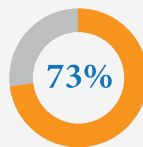
This memo presents the TTA program activities occurring between July and December 2020, and highlights grantee results achieved with OJJDP funding.

Highlights

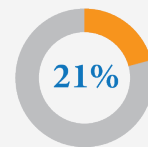
85,952

NUMBER OF
PEOPLE TRAINED

Percentage of people who exhibited an increase in knowledge of the program area



Percentage of awards implementing evidence-based programs or practices



OVERVIEW OF AWARD INFORMATION

During the July–December 2020 activity period, OJJDP’s TTA program funded 40 awards, with 95 percent completing their reporting requirements during this period. Thirty-eight TTA awards were operational (expending grant funds during the period). The total available funding to TTA organizations during the activity period was approximately \$73.7 million, and most awards went to community-based nonprofits. Law enforcement, government, and juvenile justice agencies also received funds.

Figure 1. Award Details



EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS

OJJDP encourages grantees to use evidence-based practices and programs shown through rigorous evaluation and replication to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors.¹ OJJDP’s TTA program promotes innovative approaches to program design and training delivery for juvenile justice practitioners, including law enforcement officers, attorneys, and other child-serving professionals. TTA grantees provide problem assessment, strategic planning, and evidence-based programming to implement in-person, online, and hybrid learning sessions. These sessions strengthen multidisciplinary responses to juvenile justice issues such as youth violence and victimization, restorative justice, court services, and family engagement. During the July–December 2020 activity period, 21 percent of TTA awards used one or more evidence-based program or practice.

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES

TTA grantees focus on the planning, development, and delivery of training activities, such as in-person or virtual training workshops, producing toolkits, and developing job aids and apps, all designed to achieve specific learning objectives. TTA grantees aim to enhance child-serving, juvenile justice systems by fostering the application of positive and innovative approaches to lowering juvenile delinquency, improving children’s welfare, and reducing child victimization. Figure 2 presents data on program training activities, which include TTA requests received, people trained, and program materials developed. Collectively, grantees received a total of 26,798 training requests and 3,421 requests for technical assistance during the activity period.

Figure 2. Training and Technical Assistance Activities



TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OUTCOMES

The primary goals of TTA programs are to increase training recipients’ knowledge of specific program areas and improve overall program operations. Program areas that commonly report operational improvements include child abuse investigations, forensic interviewing, juvenile justice reform, and community-based youth violence prevention. Common tracked outcomes include increase in an individual’s knowledge of a subject post-training, number of individuals trained, and percentage of organizations reporting operational improvements. Figure 3 presents data on increased knowledge and improvements in program operations. Seventy-three percent of individuals exhibited increased knowledge of the program area after receiving training. Sixty-six percent of organizations reported improvements in operations based on TTA, and 52 percent of programs served by TTA reported implementing an evidence-based program or practice.

¹ OJJDP FY19 Comprehensive School-based Approach to Youth Violence and Victimization. (2019, March 3). Retrieved from <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh176/files/media/document/OJJDP-2019-14964.PDF>

Figure 3. Training and Technical Assistance Outcomes



CONCLUSION

Through the TTA program, OJJDP supports the central role of TTA in its national effort to improve the juvenile justice child serving systems by designing and providing training to increase OJJDP-defined program outcomes. TTA grantees develop innovative seminars, workshops, and toolkits for juvenile justice professionals, including law enforcement, attorneys, and other child-serving practitioners and multidisciplinary teams. Training subject matter includes child abuse investigations, missing and exploited children, community-based youth violence prevention, and juvenile justice reform. Successful TTA is measured in part by an increase in knowledge following training and an improvement in program operations. The results reported by OJJDP’s TTA grantees for the July–December 2020 activity period demonstrate a positive impact of TTA for practitioners in the juvenile justice field and child welfare.

During the activity period, 38 TTA awards were operational and 85,952 people were trained with the support of OJJDP funding. Additionally, 73 percent of people trained reported having increased knowledge post-training and 39 percent of organizations reported improvements in operations based on the TTA provided. The performance measures represent a snapshot of the number of people impacted by the TTA services. These results demonstrate the positive impact of OJJDP’S TTA program at improving the outcomes of youth involved in the juvenile justice system.