



Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention

TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM

PERFORMANCE REPORT

January-June 2021

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 GS-00F-008DA, awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), U.S. Department of Justice. 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. These analytical findings make no claims of causation or demonstrate evidence of program effectiveness, and, as with all performance data, readers must use caution when interpreting the results, as factors other than the program may have contributed to the performance outcomes reported.

Data during the January to June 2021 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 reflect services adapted to and provided during the Covid-19 pandemic.

INTRODUCTION

The Tribal Youth Program (TYP), administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), seeks to enhance Tribal efforts to address juvenile delinquency and increase the number of Tribal youths with safe, productive lives. A primary goal of TYP is to help Tribal communities prevent victimization and juvenile delinquency, reduce violent crime, and improve Tribal juvenile justice systems.¹

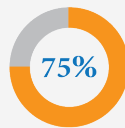
OJJDP requires grantees to report on performance measures to demonstrate whether TYP achieved its goals. This report presents program activities occurring between January–June 2021 and highlights grantee results achieved with OJJDP funding.

Highlights

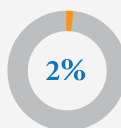
3,935

Number of youth served

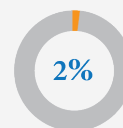
Youth that demonstrated positive behavior change



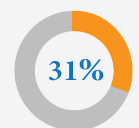
Youth offending



Youth reoffending²



Grantees who implemented an evidence-based program or practice



OVERVIEW OF AWARD INFORMATION

Between January–June 2021, OJJDP’s TYP funded 45 awards, with 78 percent of grantees completing their reporting requirements (figure 1). Of the 45 funded awards, 35 TYP awards were operational (expending grant funds during the period). The total available funding during the period exceeded \$12.3 million. Of the types of activities implemented by grantees, the majority (91 percent) implemented prevention services (figure 2).

Figure 1. Award Details

 **45**
Total awards

35 
Operational awards
(provided services during the period)

 **78%**
Compliant with reporting requirements

 **\$12.3**
Total funding (in millions)

¹ OJJDP Tribal Youth Programs and Services <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/programs/tribal-youth-programs-and-services>

² Only 9 out of the 52 operational grantees reported on this measure.

Figure 2. Types of Program Activities Reported by Grantees³



EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS⁴

OJJDP encourages grantees to use evidence-based programs, which include program models shown, through rigorous evaluation and replication, to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors. TYP grantees implement evidence-based programs and practices that use culturally based strategies to address individual youth needs. During the January–June 2021 activity period, 31 percent of TYP grantees used OJJDP funds to implement an evidence-based program or practice. Existing research on evidence-based programming in Tribal communities is limited because empirically supported practices are developed for non-native populations. Additionally, Tribes adapt evidence-based programs and practices from traditional models, to represent Tribal culture and values.⁵

PLANNING YEAR ACTIVITIES

OJJDP requires TYP to engage and report on planning activities during their first year, which includes strategic planning, collecting data, establishing activities, attending OJJDP-sponsored trainings, and partnership development. The planning phase supports grantees through a strategic planning process designed to identify program challenges and strategies when developing their mission, organizational structure, and action plan. This process allows them to create necessary partnerships for program implementation and sustainability.

During the January–June 2021 activity period, TYP grantees did not conduct planning activities. As these awards are well underway, no planning activities were necessary during the current activity period.

YOUTH AND FAMILIES SERVED

TYP grantees are required to report on the number of youth and families served during each activity period. During the January–June 2021 activity period, TYP grantees served a total of 5,952 youth and families, 66 percent of which were youths ($n = 3,935$), and 34 percent were families ($n = 2,017$).

3,935
Number of youth served

³ No grantees reported indigent defense program activities.

⁴ Existing research is limited on the success of evidence-based programming in Tribal communities. Widespread usage of evidence-based practices among Tribes is difficult to implement and track due to varying Tribal cultures and values. <https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litreviews/Tribal-youth-in-the-Juvenile-Justice-System.pdf>

⁵ Tribal Youth in the Juvenile Justice System. 2016. <https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litreviews/Tribal-youth-in-the-Juvenile-Justice-System.pdf>. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

PROGRAM YOUTH OFFENSES AND RECIDIVISM

Grantees report short-term⁶ data on program youth who offend and recidivate to help gauge the program’s success at reducing delinquency and improving outcomes for participants. During the January–June 2021 activity period, 2 percent of tracked youth offended in the short term and 2 percent of tracked youth reoffended in the short term (figure 3).

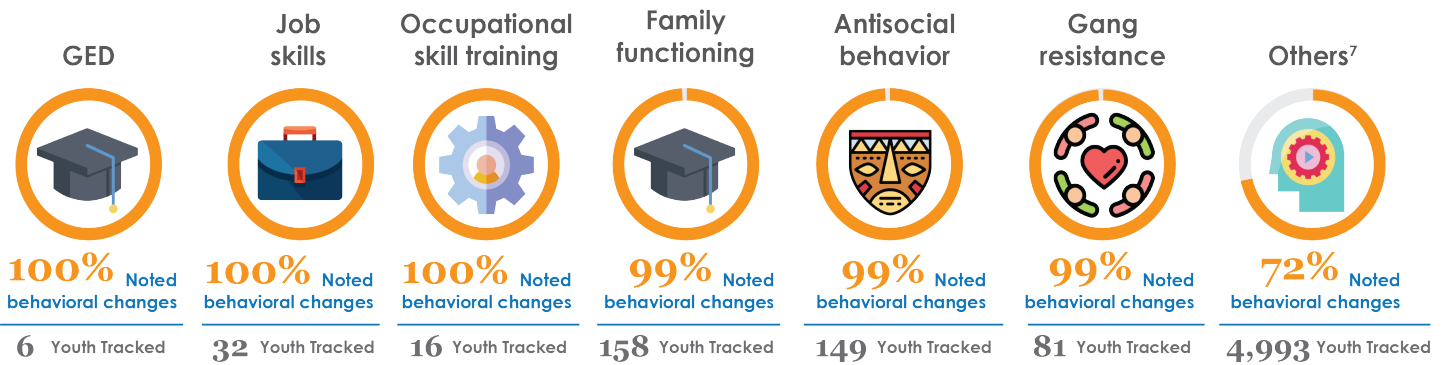
Figure 3. Short-term Offending and Reoffending Data



TARGET BEHAVIORS

Youth participating in TYP programs are tracked for short-term behavior changes to measure the program’s impact on youths’ performance in several targeted areas, such as family relationships, social behaviors, and cultural skill building. During the January–June 2021 activity period, 100 percent of youth tracked who were served for GED, job skills, and occupational skill training demonstrated a positive change (figure 4). Additionally, 99 percent of youth tracked exhibited an improvement in family functioning, antisocial behavior, and gang resistance. Overall, 75 percent of program youth tracked exhibited a desired change in a targeted behavior.

Figure 4. Short-term Outcome Percentages for the Specified Target Behaviors



⁶ Short term includes youth tracked for the behavior of interest who received services during the activity period or youth who exited the activity period.

⁷ Other target behaviors include social competence, grade point average, high school completion, family relationships, school attendance, community involvement, cultural skill building/cultural pride, prosocial behavior, and substance use.

CONCLUSION

OJJDP recognizes that Tribes present varying challenges and strengths, which impact their ability to respond to the needs of Tribal youth. Tribes use OJJDP funds to expand culturally appropriate approaches to provide prevention and intervention services for at-risk Tribal youth and court-involved youth, and systems improvement for juvenile justice and Tribal youth-serving systems. Through TYP, OJJDP supports efforts to understand the disproportionate representation of American Indian and Alaskan Native youth in the juvenile justice system, and their lack of access to direct service resources.⁸ The services may include developing intake and vulnerability assessments, implementing mental health treatment and trauma-informed programs, and training and technical assistance for juvenile justice and other Tribal youth-serving systems.

During the January–June 2021 activity period, 35 TYP operational awards served a total of 5,952 youth and families. As this was not the first year for any of the operational awards, no planning activities occurred. Of those served ($n = 5,952$), 66 percent ($n = 3,935$) were youths and 34 percent ($n = 2,017$) were families. Overall, 75 percent of program youth tracked exhibited a desired change in targeted behaviors in the short term, with GED, job skills, and occupational skill training showing the greatest improvement. Lastly, 98 percent of youth tracked did not offend in the short term and 98 percent did not recidivate.

⁸ Tribal Youth Program Fact Sheet. 2016. <https://www.ojjdp.gov/mpg/litreviews/Tribal-youth-in-the-Juvenile-Justice-System.pdf>