The Department of Justice (DOJ) launched its Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) in Fiscal Year 2010 in direct response to concerns raised by tribal leaders about the Department’s grant process that did not provide the flexibility tribes needed to address their criminal justice and public safety needs.

Through CTAS, federally recognized tribes and tribal consortia were able, for the first time, to submit a single application for most of DOJ’s tribal grant programs. DOJ designed this comprehensive approach to save time and resources and allow tribes and DOJ to gain a better understanding of the tribes’ overall public safety needs. CTAS is currently operated through collaborative efforts across many department components, bureaus, and offices, including:

- Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
- Office of Tribal Justice (OTJ)
- Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)
- Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)
- Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)
- Office of Intergovernmental and Public Liaison (OIPL)

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OVERVIEW

TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM

OJJDP’s Tribal Youth Program (TYP) is Purpose Area 9 under the CTAS. TYP supports and enhances tribal efforts to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and strengthen the juvenile justice system for American Indian and Alaska Native youth. The population of youth served under this program is limited to youth 17 years of age or younger.

Under this program, grantees may address the following priority areas:

1. Prevention services to impact risk factors for delinquency and promote protective factors. (This may include mentoring programs, truancy and school dropout prevention programs, after-school programs, and parenting education programs).

2. Interventions for court-involved tribal youth. (This may include graduated sanctions, mentoring, restitution, diversion, home detention, foster and shelter care, and other alternatives to detention.)

3. Treatment services for at-risk and high-risk youth. (This may include alcohol and drug abuse treatment and prevention programs; mental health treatment and prevention program services; and development and implementation of trauma-informed practices in programs and services that address child abuse and neglect and the effects and issues of childhood trauma or exposure to violence.)

4. Prevention and intervention services to teach native girls culturally-appropriate skills needed to resist substance abuse, prevent teen pregnancy, build self-esteem, foster positive relationships with peers and adults, learn self-advocacy, and build pro-social skills.

5. Services for youth in detention or out-of-home placement. (This may include green/sustainable tribal traditions, risk and needs assessments, educational and vocational programming, mental health and substance abuse services, family strengthening, recreational activities, and aftercare/reentry services to help successfully reintegrate the youth into the tribal community.)

6. Improvement or establishment of data collection systems. (This may include efforts to create or improve abilities to track youth in detention, placement or community-based programs, the goal being to improve understanding of youth and community needs.)

Some examples of prevention, intervention, and treatment services include the following:

- Development of comprehensive screening tools, crisis intervention, intake assessments, treatment team planning, therapeutic services for co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders, drug testing, fetal alcohol syndrome screening, counseling, referral services, and placement services.

- Engaging at-risk tribal youth in activities centered on cultural preservation, land reclamation, or green/sustainable tribal traditions focusing on tribal youth with chronic truancy or at risk of dropping out of school.

- Development and implementation of tribal best practices and traditional healing methods to support tribal youth.
The Tribal Youth Program (TYP) is Purpose Area 9 under the CTAS. TYP supports and enhances tribal efforts to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and strengthen the infrastructure of the community. The program is open to all federally recognized tribes, and includes Alaska Native Villages and tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally recognized Indian tribes. Tribes can apply for up to $500,000 to support their efforts to prevent and reduce delinquency for American Indian and Alaska Native youth 17 years of age or younger.

**FUNDING & ELIGIBILITY**

Only federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for funding under Purpose Area 9 (Tribal Youth Program). This includes Alaska Native Villages and tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally recognized Indian tribes. Tribes can apply for up to $500,000 to support their efforts to prevent and reduce delinquency for American Indian and Alaska Native youth 17 years of age or younger.

**BENEFITS**

The Purpose Area 9 funding provides support for tribes to develop and implement culturally sensitive programs for tribal youth focused on prevention services to impact risk factors for delinquency; interventions for court-involved youth; improvements to the juvenile justice system; alcohol and substance abuse prevention programs; and mental health program services. The need for culturally-based prevention, intervention and treatment programs for at-risk American Indian and Alaska Native youth is well documented. The Tribal Youth Program supports the goals of preventing and reducing juvenile delinquency and strengthening the juvenile justice system for American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

Other benefits reported by grantees are the increased collaboration with other jurisdictions that results from development of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs). This can include partnerships between tribal and non-tribal organizations.

**STRATEGIES**

Some examples of programs for tribal youth funded by OJJDP include the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians’ Creating Restitution and Following Tradition (CRAFT) program, which is designed to divert first-time offenders and youth who have committed minor offenses away from the court system and connect them to their cultural heritage; programs created by the Mooretown Rancheria of Madu Indians to provide youth with academic, cultural, and professional opportunities; and a tribal court created by the Klamath Tribes of Oregon to manage juvenile cases and create alternative options for youth who commit non-felony crimes, working in coordination with local social services agencies.

**ONGOING SUPPORT**

OJJDP’s Tribal Youth Program training and technical assistance (TTA) center assists selected project sites as they work to achieve their goals and objectives under each of these programs. Through this TTA, OJJDP assists tribal grantees to increase their skills, knowledge and capabilities in developing effective and sustainable programs for reducing juvenile crime and increasing youth potential in tribal communities. The TTA provided to the OJJDP CTAS grantees includes both onsite visits and long-distance support consisting of email, phone and online meetings. It also includes the opportunity for peer-to-peer learning through a new grantee orientation webinar and a required initial Strategic Planning meeting (i.e., Strat Pak).

**Strategic Planning**

The Strat Pak was created to support OJJDP CTAS grantees through a strategic planning process that includes developing a mission and vision statement, developing an advisory board, creating a logic model, action planning, and communications and sustainability planning. The Strat Pak helps to identify program challenges and strategies to address them and to create partnerships that are important for implementation and sustainability. The Strat Pak is required by OJJDP as a special condition of the tribal grant. All awardees will be required to travel to a strategic planning training (“Strat Pak”) and submit a comprehensive plan for implementation of their program.

**The Tribal New Grantee Orientation**

OJJDP CTAS grantees are required to participate in a web-based new grantee orientation. This training provides all new grantees an opportunity to meet the OJJDP leadership and program management team. The orientation allows grantees to gain a greater understanding of key grant administration resources (such as the OJP post-award Instructions, Financial Management Guide, and reporting requirements) as well as a greater awareness of common pitfalls in grant administration. Finally, this training offers an opportunity for grantees to ask any questions about the goals, objectives, and key upcoming activities of the Tribal Youth Program.

OJJDP’s Tribal Youth Program TTA center is also available to provide assistance to all federally recognized tribes and can be accessed at www.tribalyouthprogram.org.
FUNDING AGENCY OVERVIEW

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, supports law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, victim services, technology, and prevention initiatives that strengthen the nation’s criminal justice system. BJA provides leadership, services, and funding to America’s communities by emphasizing local control, building relationships in the field, developing collaborations and partnerships; promoting capacity building through planning, streamlining the administration of grants; increasing training and technical assistance; creating project accountability; encouraging innovation; and ultimately communicating the value of justice efforts to decision makers at every level.

BJA works with the Office of Tribal Justice, the Office of Justice Program’s American Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Desk, and other federal agencies, in addition to many culturally-appropriate organizations, to maintain focus with the field and to ensure the program’s goals and objectives are achieved.

Established in 1988 through an amendment to the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is charged by Congress with administering the Crime Victims Fund (the Fund). Through OVC, the Fund supports a broad array of programs and services that focus on helping victims in the immediate aftermath of crime and continuing to support them as they rebuild their lives. Millions of dollars are invested annually in victim compensation and assistance in every U.S. state and territory, as well as for training, technical assistance, and other capacity-building programs designed to enhance service providers’ ability to support victims of crime in communities across the nation.

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) was created through the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The COPS Office is the component of the U.S. Department of Justice responsible for advancing the practice of community policing by the nation’s state, local, territory, and tribal law enforcement agencies through information and grant resources.

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime. The COPS Office has also produced and compiled a broad range of information resources that can help law enforcement better address specific crime and operational issues, and help community leaders better understand how to work cooperatively with their law enforcement agency to reduce crime.

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is component of the United States Department of Justice. In recognition of the severity of the crimes associated with domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, Congress passed the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (VAWA 1994) as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. VAWA is a comprehensive legislative package designed to end violence against women and was reauthorized in both 2000 and 2005. The legislative history of VAWA indicates that Congress seeks to remedy the legacy of laws and social norms that serve to justify violence against women. Since the passage of VAWA, there has been a paradigm shift in how the issue of violence against women is addressed nationwide.

OVW was created specifically to implement VAWA and subsequent legislation. OVW administers financial and technical assistance to communities around the country to facilitate the creation of programs, policies, and practices aimed at ending domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act established OJJDP, a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system. OJJDP collaborates with professionals from diverse disciplines to improve juvenile justice policies and practices by supporting states, local communities, and tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for juveniles. The Office strives to strengthen the juvenile justice system’s efforts to protect public safety, hold offenders accountable, and provide services that address the needs of youth and their families.

OJJDP sponsors research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming.

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