

# OJJDP

## Training and Technical Assistance Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report



A PROGRAM OF  
the Office of  
Juvenile Justice and  
Delinquency Prevention



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## About the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and victimization. OJJDP helps states, localities, and Tribes develop effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that make communities safer and empower youth to lead productive lives. OJJDP's strong training and technical assistance (TTA) process helps OJJDP realize its mission and vision. OJJDP's TTA is systemically coordinated, aligned with OJJDP priorities, responsive to the needs of the field, and delivered efficiently and effectively.

This report highlights TTA OJJDP's TTA Provider Network and OJJDP's National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) delivered in FY 2022 (October 2021–September 2022).

### OJJDP's NTTAC

OJJDP's NTTAC facilitates TTA services and resources on OJJDP's behalf. OJJDP's NTTAC directly supports the field by brokering TTA requests, managing the use of web-based platforms such as TTA360, providing marketing and outreach support to providers, and operating virtual learning and information-sharing platforms to support OJJDP and its TTA providers. OJJDP's NTTAC also operates OJJDP's TTA Help Desk, which provides professionals in the field easy access to TTA information such as resources, referrals, and other services to meet requestors' needs.

### OJJDP's TTA Network

OJJDP makes awards to organizations to provide TTA, resources, and services. These organizations make up OJJDP's TTA Network. In FY 2022, OJJDP's TTA Network comprised 35 provider organizations from across the nation. These organizations managed 53 grant-funded projects serving the child protection and juvenile justice fields and offered services including information dissemination, training, and customized TTA.

OJJDP's TTA Network goals are to maximize and leverage resources through coordination; work collaboratively to address common challenges; use technology to efficiently deliver and track TTA; promote standardization and consistency in quality; and communicate TTA needs to OJJDP.

Providers in OJJDP's TTA Network offer TTA support that falls into three categories that classify TTA activities based on the level of engagement and intensity: universal TTA aimed at the public, targeted TTA delivered to a group of recipients with similar needs, and tailored TTA designed and customized to address an organization's individualized needs.

#### TTA Topical Areas: FY 2022

- Child safety
- Combating gangs
- Court services
- Cyberbullying prevention
- Mentoring
- Preventing child abuse, neglect, and victimization
- Preventing youth hate crimes and identity-based bullying
- Reducing drug use
- Restorative justice
- Supporting and protecting law enforcement
- Youth and family engagement

## **TTA Collaboration**

### **OJJDP's TTA Network: Collaboration and Coordination**

#### **Enhancing TTA Delivery**

OJJDP promotes collaboration across its TTA Network by providing regular opportunities for TTA Network members to share information with OJJDP's NTTAC support. Collaborative efforts allow time for providers to learn from one another, share evidence-based practices, and plan future work to improve services to the juvenile justice and child protection fields. In FY 2022, these efforts included TTA Provider Collaboration Meetings, OJJDP Administrator Listening Sessions, collaborative training activities, and maximizing product accessibility.

#### **OJJDP FY 2022 Listening Sessions**

During FY 2022, OJJDP's NTTAC supported OJJDP's Administrator with a high-priority request for a series of 16 listening sessions between June 2022 and August 2022. OJJDP's goal of the listening sessions was to learn directly from key national, local, state, and youth stakeholders on how best to address OJJDP's three priorities: (1) treating children as children, (2) serving youth at home, in their communities, with their families, and (3) opening up opportunities for system-involved youth.

This support provided OJJDP an opportunity to learn about practitioners' challenges and successes, hear firsthand about the lived experience of youth with the juvenile justice system, and glean feedback and recommendations to inform OJJDP's three priority areas. A total of 364 individuals with lived experience, juvenile justice stakeholders, community-based program providers, and youth advocates and service providers and 348 OJJDP and OJJDP's NTTAC staff participated in OJJDP's FY 2022 Listening Sessions.

The listening sessions served as a networking experience for participants, as many exchanged contact information to keep in touch.

#### **OJJDP TTA Provider Collaboration Meetings**

OJJDP hosted two OJJDP TTA Provider Collaboration Meetings during FY 2022: one on November 10, 2021, and one on August 10, 2022.

During the November TTA Provider Collaboration Meeting, members of the TTA Network learned about OJJDP's ongoing initiatives, including OJJDP's Preventing Youth Hate Crimes and Identity-Based Bullying Initiative and OJJDP's communities of practice, and received an update on the FY 2021 TTA Annual Report. OJJDP also shared the findings and recommendations it implemented from the FY 2021 TTA Provider Listening Sessions.

#### **Spotlighting Providers' Work**

OJJDP TTA Provider Collaboration Meetings offer TTA providers an opportunity to share their successes. During the November 10 TTA Provider Collaboration Meeting, United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) Inc., highlighted its recent accomplishments conducting virtual meetings and developing resources.

The meeting concluded with an OJJDP's NTTAC training for TTA providers on how to submit upcoming events, recently developed resources, and spotlights highlighting their work for possible publication and distribution.

The TTA Provider Collaboration Meeting in August was also an OJJDP Administrator Listening Session. During the session, members of the TTA Network learned about OJJDP's key priorities and how best to implement them. TTA providers shared feedback with OJJDP in virtual breakout rooms. At the end of the meeting, participants returned to the main lobby to share their key recommendations:

- TTA providers should provide more in-depth information, data, and training on racial disparities in the juvenile justice system.
- TTA providers should continue to be a bridge between justice-involved youth, their families, and criminal justice stakeholders to lift up the voices of those impacted.
- Youth and families need increased access to mentors and peer navigators.
- Dedicated juvenile prosecutors are needed.

### **Collaboration in Action: OJJDP's TTA Network Supports the Juvenile Justice Field**

Across the TTA Network, TTA providers collaborate to deliver specialized TTA to the juvenile justice and child protection fields. In FY 2022, TTA provider organizations reported 241 instances of collaborative and interorganizational TTA. These collaborations took place among TTA providers and external partners and included workgroups, trainings, task forces, advisory boards, and providing subject matter expertise. Partnerships focused on audiences such as researchers, prosecutors, families, medical providers, law enforcement professionals, Tribal professionals, and military professionals. TTA areas included:

#### *Children's Advocacy Centers and Preventing Child Victimization*

To support children's advocacy centers, TTA providers collaborated to provide training, facilitate consult circles, and host conferences. For example, the Western Regional Children's Advocacy Center (WRCAC) collaborated with the Midwest Regional Children's Advocacy Center (MRCAC), the Northeast Regional Children's Advocacy Center (NRCAC), and the National Children's Advocacy Center to provide a 4-day victim advocate training and continue collaborative victim advocacy community consult circles. The NRCAC also partnered with local county CACs to conduct multiple mock site reviews. In addition, the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center collaborated with the National White Collar Crime Center to host the internationally recognized Crimes Against Children conference, which had more than 5,500 attendees and provided training to government and nonprofit agencies in the fields of child advocacy, social work, and law enforcement.

#### *Children and Families Affected by Parental Substance Abuse*

TTA providers collaborated on various TTA activities to support children and families affected by parental substance abuse. The Center for Children and Family Futures (CCFF) collaborated with

the Tribal Law and Policy Institute to support TTA efforts of the Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts project, which focuses on helping children and families affected by parental substance use. CCFF also collaborated with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) to present at NCJFCJ's annual conference on strategies to serve all families affected by parental substance use disorder and cofacilitated a 3-day training in Minnesota for OJJDP grantees. In addition, CCFF collaborated with the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) to develop materials to present at NADCP's annual conference on family treatment court best practices, lessons learned to better serve families involved in child welfare, and information on substance use disorder treatments and drug courts.

### *Improving Mental Health Among Young People and Juvenile Justice Practitioners*

To support initiatives to improve mental health among young people, TTA providers collaborated to provide webinar series and host monthly meetings to discuss new project implementation. For example, WRCAC partnered with the National Children's Alliance (NCA) to host an 8-part webinar series focused on mental health and tele-mental health issues. WRCAC and NCA also met monthly to discuss implementation steps, exchange resources, and identify training opportunities for the Cambia Project, which strives to increase access to mental health services in rural Utah. Finally, WRCAC and NCA sent out quarterly Mental Health Peer Consultation forms, which provide clinicians treating children and families served by CACs in rural and frontier communities the opportunity to connect with other clinicians doing similar work. In addition, The Innocent Justice Foundation collaborated with OJJDP's NTTAC to host a 6-part webinar series on trauma, which focused on signs of and tools to mitigate stress. The webinars had an average attendance of 990 attendees.

## **Ensuring Trainings and Resources Are Accessible**

OJJDP's NTTAC collaborates with TTA providers to create accessible products that comply with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act. This collaboration is crucial to OJJDP because it helps maximize the number of individuals who can access and learn from the resources OJJDP develops.

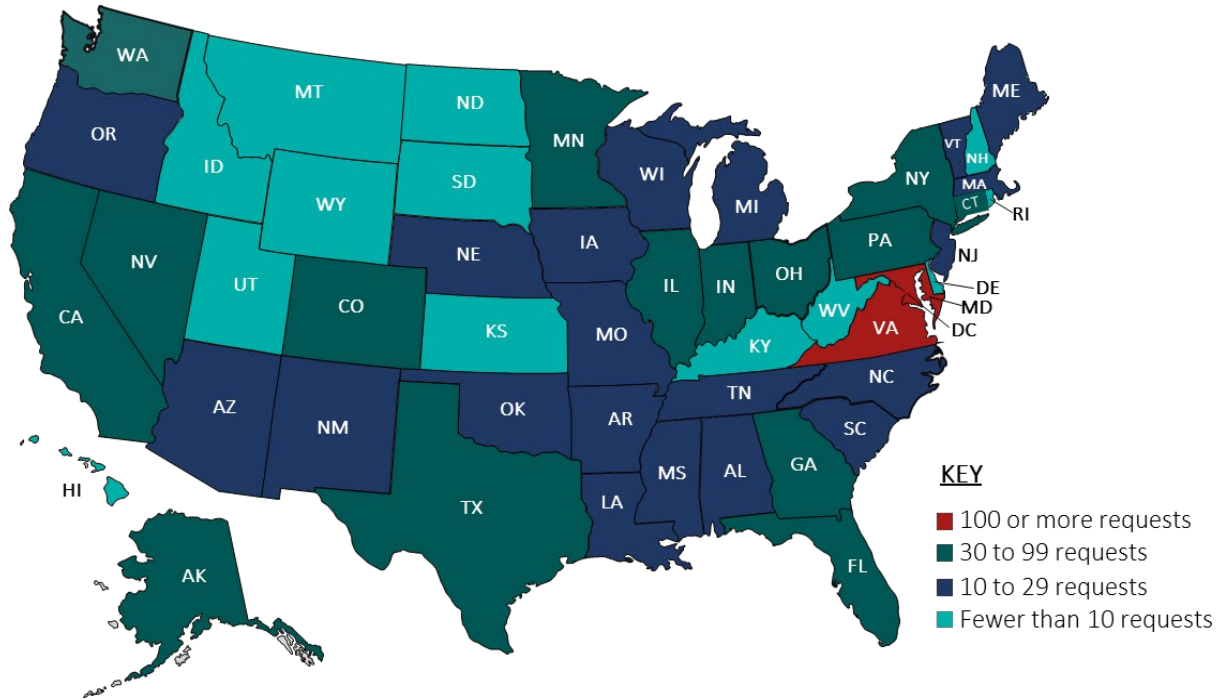
In FY 2022, OJJDP's NTTAC remediated 160 resources for 508 compliance.

## **TTA Services**

### **TTA Services Provided to the Field**

In FY 2022, requesters submitted 1,680 requests via the TTA360 system and OJJDP's TTA Network provided support in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The most TTA requests came from individuals in the District of Columbia (308 requests), Virginia (202 requests), New York (84 requests), Nevada (66 requests), and California (65 requests). **See Figure 1.**

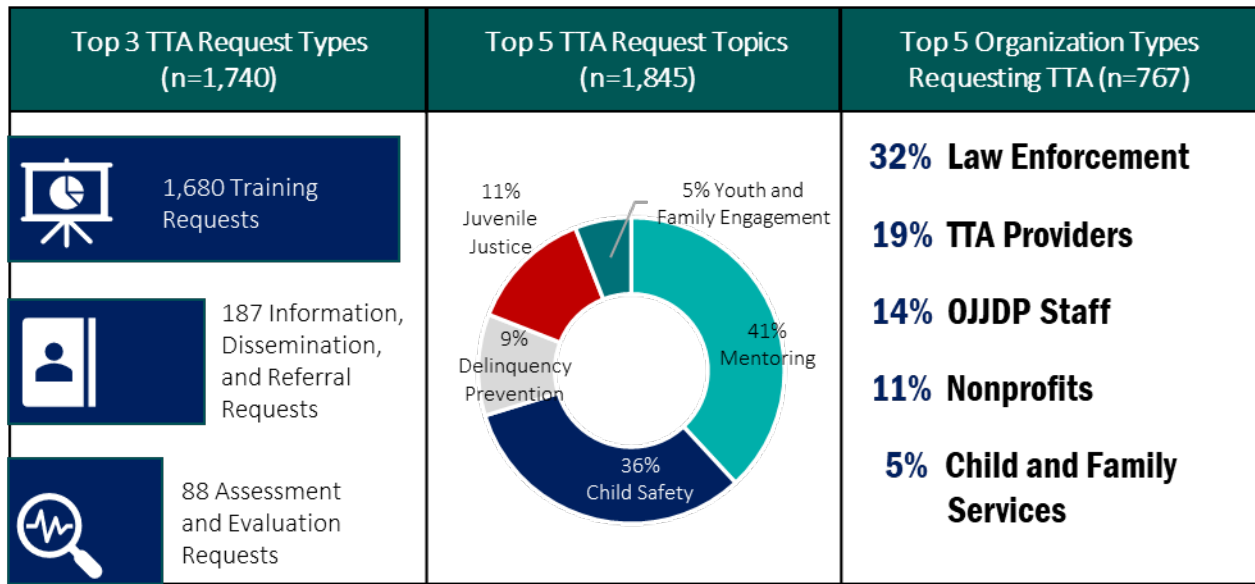
Figure 1: State Distribution of Organizations and Individuals Requesting TTA in FY 2022 (n=1,680)



OJJDP’s TTA Network supports a variety of TTA request types and topics. In FY 2022, 525 TTA requests were for training support; 187 were for information, dissemination, and referral support; and 88 were for assessment and evaluation support. Nearly 41 percent of the TTA requests OJJDP’s TTA Network received pertained to mentoring, 36 percent to child safety, 11 percent juvenile justice, 9 percent to delinquency prevention, and nearly 5 percent to youth and family engagement. The primary organization types that requested OJJDP’s TTA Network support through TTA360 were law enforcement (n=251), TTA providers (n=147), OJJDP staff (n=108), nonprofits (n=87), and child and family services (n=46).

**See Figure 2** for a summary of TTA request types, TTA request topics, and types of organizations that requested TTA. Note: In some instances, a requester sought assistance on more than one TTA topic or type. As a result, the reported numbers (indicated by “n” below) are greater than 1,680.

Figure 2: Summary of TTA Requests for OJJDP TTA Provider Network Support, FY 2022



## OJJDP’s Delivery of Virtual TTA: Supporting and Building Capacity for the Field

OJJDP’s virtual TTA provides professionals flexible and cost-effective access to continuous learning opportunities. Webinars and online trainings are a major component of virtual TTA. In FY 2022, OJJDP’s TTA Network delivered 352 webinars and online trainings. OJJDP’s NTTAC supported 30 of those webinars in collaboration with TTA providers, serving 8,833 participants in FY 2022.

### OJJDP’s NTTAC-Supported Webinars

In FY 2022, the most highly attended OJJDP TTA provider webinars included those that addressed secondary trauma and traumatic stress, child death investigations, and the importance of optimism and purpose.

In FY 2022, OJJDP’s NTTAC coordinated 15 grant solicitation webinars. OJJDP’s NTTAC provided OJJDP with logistical support, assisted in the development of materials and resources, and identified potential contracts with subject matter experts (SMEs) to support these projects, including supporting OJJDP in hosting grant solicitation web information sessions. Grant solicitation web information sessions allow OJJDP to provide details regarding how organizations can apply for grants available throughout the fiscal year.

In January 2022, OJJDP requested OJJDP NTTAC’s support on the 2-day *Family-Based Alternatives to Sentencing: An OJJDP Listening Session*, which took place January 24 and 25. OJJDP’s NTTAC hosted planning calls in early January with the OJJDP Program Manager overseeing the listening session to discuss logistical and programmatic support needs. Within 2 weeks, OJJDP’s NTTAC created the virtual room, promoted the listening sessions, conducted practice sessions with facilitators, provided technical assistance on virtual facilitation techniques, developed housekeeping slides, reviewed, and edited the presentation content and agenda, sent reminder

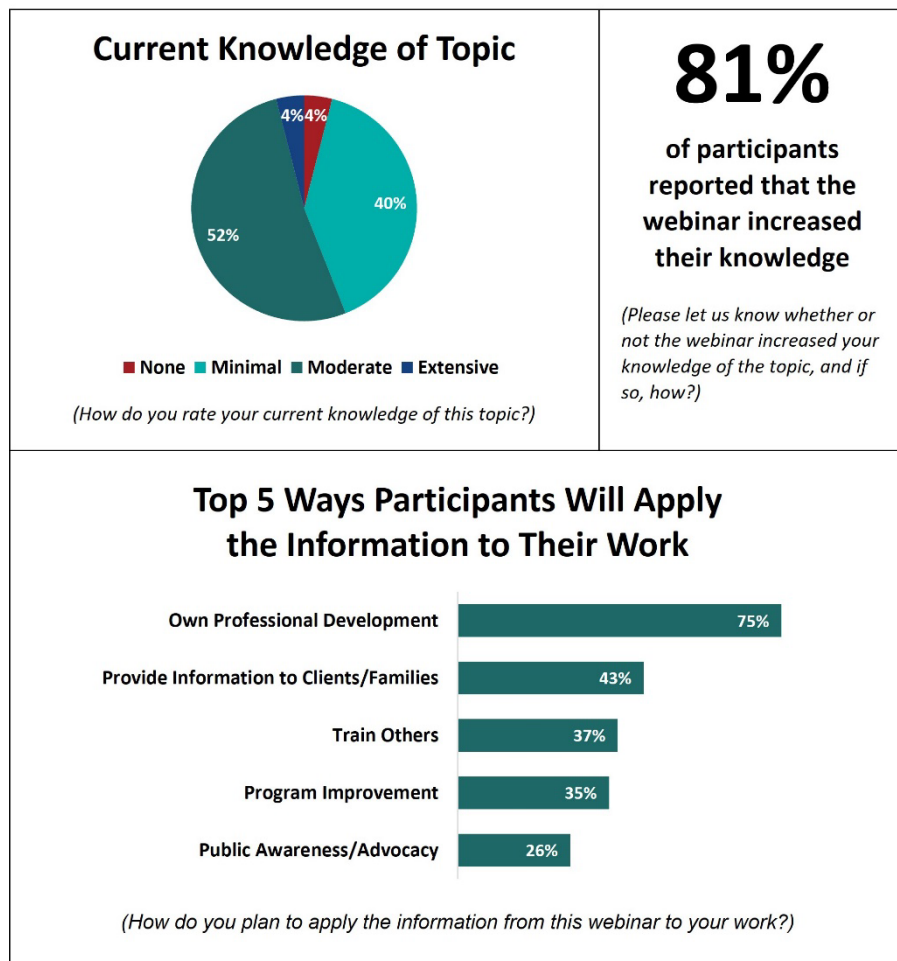


emails to listening session registrants, and hosted the 2-day listening session. Within 2 weeks following the listening session, OJJDP’s NTTAC sent post-event materials to the OJJDP Program Manager, including 508-remediated materials, and listening session attendance reports.

## Webinar Evaluations

OJJDP’s NTTAC collects feedback about webinars through poll questions asked at the beginning, during, and end of each webinar. **Figure 3** summarizes FY 2022 webinar evaluation results.

Figure 3: Webinar Evaluation Results



## OJJDP’s Preventing Youth Hate Crimes Initiative

In FY 2022, OJJDP’s NTTAC managed OJJDP’s new, high-priority Preventing Youth Hate Crimes and Identity-Based Bullying Initiative.

On October 27 and 28, 2021, the initiative kicked off with a 2-day virtual symposium titled *Understanding and Preventing Youth Hate Crimes and Identity-Based Bullying: A Virtual Symposium*. The virtual symposium featured 18 presentations that addressed topics such as

current trends and research on identity-based bullying, cyberbullying, youth-related hate crimes, and how hate groups use social media and technology to recruit and radicalize youth. Panel discussions provided programs, best practices, and evidence-based strategies on how schools, families, law enforcement, and communities can work together to build protective factors in youth and help youth resist extremist hate groups. A total of 2,591 individuals participated in the event and 86 percent of participants who responded to a post-symposium question about knowledge gain indicated the symposium increased their knowledge of the topic.

Between November 2021 and September 2022, OJJDP's NTTAC hosted the initiative's 13 webinars intended for school communities (e.g., administrators, teachers, school resource officers, school social workers, community youth workers, and parents), juvenile justice professionals (e.g., juvenile justice specialists, juvenile court personnel, and juvenile probation officers), and law enforcement professionals. A total of 3,699 individuals attended. Of the participants who responded to a post-webinar question about knowledge gain, 78 percent indicated the webinar they attended increased their knowledge of the topic.

In conjunction with OJJDP, FirstPic Inc., and five national youth mentoring organizations—Big Brothers Big Sisters of America; Boys & Girls Clubs of America; National 4-H; Sports Training, Academics, Recreation/Police Athletic League; and National Urban League—OJJDP's NTTAC scheduled, planned, hosted, and produced pre- and post-event deliverables for 19 youth roundtable discussions. In total, 264 middle to high school-age youth from diverse socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds participated in the roundtables, and their input informed the development of the initiative's preventing youth hate crimes and identity-based bullying curriculum, special report, and fact sheet. The special report includes a framework for selecting and integrating an appropriate youth hate crimes and bullying prevention and intervention model into a school or community based on an agency's needs. The fact sheet provides an overview of relevant statistics and summarizes key data from the initiative's roundtables, virtual symposium, webinars, and curriculum.

## Outreach and Dissemination

### OJJDP's TTA Help Desk: Assisting the Field

OJJDP's TTA Help Desk develops and disseminates resources and connects requesters with SMEs who provide TTA.

#### Youth Feedback

Youth who participated in OJJDP's Preventing Youth Hate Crimes and Identity-Based Bullying Initiative youth roundtables shared that some of the most important resources they have found in dealing with incidents of bullying and hate are counselors, school social workers, and school clubs.

When asked, "If you had a magic wand, what is one thing you would do to stop bullying or hate in your school or community?" youth responded that they would want to make people more empathetic and find ways to help people overcome stigmas.

Rather than refer these individuals to juvenile detention facilities, youth reported they would prefer to speak with the individual to determine what led to the behavior and teach that person how their behavior affects others.

In FY 2022, OJJDP’s TTA Help Desk responded to 908 total inquiries on the following topics: provision of TTA resources or services (820 inquiries, 90 percent), assistance with TTA360 (44 inquiries, 5 percent), listserv subscriptions (7 inquiries, <1 percent), webinar technical support (4 inquiries, <1 percent), OJJDP’s website (4 inquiries, <1 percent), the consultant community (3 inquiries, <1 percent), and 26 inquiries (3 percent) on other topics.

Of the 820 inquiries related to the provision of resources or services, the majority (32 percent) were on the topic of preventing child abuse, neglect, and victimization, followed by supporting and protecting law enforcement (20 percent) and ensuring public safety (16 percent).

OJJDP’s TTA Help Desk received requests from individuals in nearly all states during FY 2022. More than 30 individuals in each of the following states sought assistance from OJJDP’s TTA Help Desk: Florida, Texas, Pennsylvania, California, and New York.

## Resource Dissemination

### Products and Publications

In FY 2022, OJJDP’s TTA Network developed 575 resources and products to support the field, as detailed in Figure 4.

Figure 4: Types of Resources OJJDP’s TTA Network Developed in FY 2022



Examples of products OJJDP’s TTA Network developed include:

- **West Regional Children’s Advocacy Center** developed a [resource manual](#) on building trauma-informed children’s advocacy centers.
- **Northeast Regional Children’s Advocacy Center** developed a [podcast episode](#) on working with children with disabilities.
- **PbS Learning Institute** developed a [5-part webinar series](#) on supporting youth reentry.

- **The National Native Children’s Trauma Center** developed an [online training](#), *Providing Culturally Sensitive, Trauma Responsive Victim and Survivor Services*, for native communities.
- **The National Association of Drug Court Professionals** developed an [interactive dashboard](#) that provides information on youth drug treatment courts across the country.
- **Children and Family Futures** developed a [presentation](#) that provides an overview of the family treatment court model.

## **Listserv and JUVJUST**

OJJDP’s NTTAC managed a subscriber-based listserv to disseminate information about OJJDP’s TTA services and resources in FY 2022. OJJDP’s NTTAC disseminated 78 listservs, and the number of listserv subscribers increased from 51,084 in FY 2021 to 57,483 by the end of FY 2022—an increase of 6,399 subscribers. This large increase in listserv subscribers can be attributed to an increase in the number of webinars and virtual events OJJDP’s NTTAC hosted in FY 2022 and to OJJDP’s NTTAC additional outreach efforts to encourage subscriptions. OJJDP disseminated 40 TTA-related JUVJUST announcements in FY 2022.

## **YouTube**

In FY 2022, OJJDP’s NTTAC uploaded 56 virtual trainings and meetings to OJJDP’s YouTube channel. These videos included past webinars on topics such as TTA360 trainings, youth hate crimes, youth reentry, secondary trauma and traumatic stress, and youth’s exposure to violence and sexual exploitation.