



Juvenile justice reform
Developmental approaches
Trauma-informed care
Evidence-based practices
Children's exposure to violence
Juvenile reentry
At-risk girls

Mentoring
Internet crimes against children
Training and technical assistance
Dissemination and outreach
Disproportionate minority contact
Commercial sexual exploitation of children
Supportive school discipline

Research and evaluation
Tribal youth
Youth and family engagement
Racial and ethnic disparities
Youth violence prevention
Drug courts
Youth in custody
Missing and exploited children

Coming Into

Focus: The Future of Juvenile Justice Reform



OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

OJJDP

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

2014

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Coming
Into

Focus:
The Future
of Juvenile
Justice Reform



OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

Robert L. Listenbee, Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

This report covers activities undertaken by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention during fiscal year 2014 (October 1, 2013–September 30, 2014).

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The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking.

To the President, the Attorney General, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairmen of the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, and Members of Congress:

It is my honor to transmit the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) annual report for fiscal year 2014. This report includes information pursuant to:

- OJJDP Annual Report—Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, as amended; Public Law 93–415, section 207 [42 U.S.C. 5617].
- Missing Children Program—JJDP Act of 1974, as amended; Public Law 93–415, section 404(a)(5) [42 U.S.C. 5773(a)(5)].
- Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program*—Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968; Public Law 90–351, section 1808(b) [42 U.S.C. 3796ee–8(b)].
- Title V Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs*—JJDP Act of 1974, as amended; Public Law 93–415, section 503(4) [42 U.S.C. 5782(4)].

Respectfully submitted,



Robert L. Listenbee
Administrator

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

*Because no funds were appropriated for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program and Title V Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs in fiscal year 2014, there are no activities for these programs described in this report.

FOREWORD

Since its inception in 1974, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has provided national leadership to states and communities working to protect children, to prevent delinquency, and to improve the juvenile justice system.

To achieve these overarching goals, OJJDP is focusing on juvenile justice reform while continuing its emphasis on safety, on opportunities, and on potential. Our Office is working to help policymakers and professionals across the country transform our juvenile justice system into one that is based on a developmental approach—one which recognizes that kids are not mini-adults. This reformed system must develop policies that integrate trauma-informed care and incorporate evidence-based practices.

In fiscal year 2014, OJJDP awarded more than \$262 million in grants to help at-risk youth, protect children from harm, and improve our nation's juvenile justice system. In addition to financial support, the Office provided a wide array of resources for stakeholders—showcased in the *Seeing Connections With the Field* sidebars throughout the report.

Although the challenges facing America's youth—along with our responses—have varied through the years, one thing has remained constant: OJJDP's commitment to safeguarding their futures. We hope you will join us as we continue to focus on creating a brighter future for all of our nation's youth.



Robert L. Listenbee
Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

ABOUT OJJDP

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) was established by Congress through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, Public Law 93–415, as amended. A component of the Office of Justice Programs within the U.S. Department of Justice, OJJDP works to prevent and control juvenile delinquency, improve the juvenile justice system, and protect children.

Vision Statement

OJJDP envisions a nation where our children are healthy, educated, and free from violence. If they come into contact with the juvenile 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 juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP supports states and communities in their efforts to develop and implement effective and coordinated prevention and intervention programs and to improve the juvenile justice system so that it protects public safety, holds justice-involved youth appropriately accountable, and provides treatment and rehabilitative services tailored to the needs of youth and their families.

Organization

OJJDP is composed of the Office of the Administrator and five divisions: Budget and Administration, Innovation and Research, Juvenile Justice System Improvement, State and Community Development, and Youth Development, Prevention, and Safety. Appendix C summarizes each component's role.

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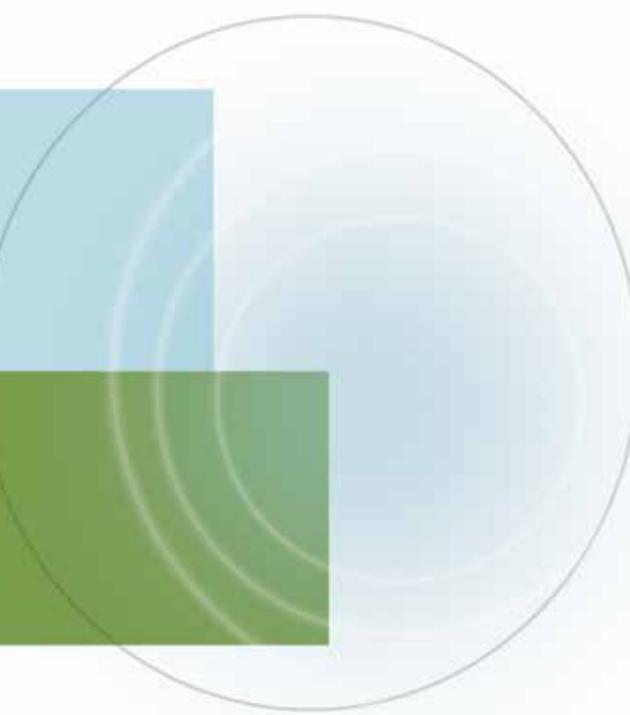
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Coming Into Focus: The Future of Juvenile Justice Reform



CHAPTER 1



Children deserve a chance—a chance to grow up free from violence, a chance to stay out of the juvenile justice system, and a chance to turn their lives around following involvement with the system. Through violence prevention, diversion, and justice system initiatives, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) works to protect child victims, address the needs of at-risk or system-involved youth, and ensure public safety. OJJDP is partnering with juvenile justice practitioners and child safety professionals throughout the country to realize a future in which children are protected from violence, kids remain in school and out of the justice system, and at-risk youth can become thriving adults.

Following are snapshots of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) major efforts in fiscal year (FY) 2014 to protect youth and families. More information about these efforts and other programs and activities is available throughout this report and on the OJJDP website: ojjdp.gov.

Funding Highlights

- In FY 2014, OJJDP awarded more than **\$262 million** in grants to help at-risk youth, protect children, and improve juvenile justice systems nationwide. The **353 awards** were made through formula and discretionary grant funding.
- Through its **Formula Grants program**, OJJDP supports state, local, and tribal delinquency prevention and intervention efforts and juvenile justice system improvements. OJJDP awarded more than **\$38 million** in formula grant funds to designated state agencies in FY 2014.
- OJJDP continued its longstanding commitment to **mentoring programs**, providing more than **\$62 million** to state

and national organizations that engage youth through mentoring activities and youth development programs.

- Representing more than 3,500 federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, OJJDP's 61 **Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)** task forces are dedicated to developing effective responses to the online enticement of children by sexual predators, child exploitation, and child obscenity and pornography. In FY 2014, OJJDP awarded **\$22 million** to ICAC task forces for law enforcement operations and public education and more than **\$5 million** to support training and technical assistance and research on Internet crimes against children.
- The **National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)** is a clearinghouse and resource center that collects and distributes information regarding missing and sexually exploited children. The center also assists law enforcement in finding missing children, reducing child sexual exploitation, and preventing child

victimization. OJJDP funding for NCMEC totaled **\$32 million** in FY 2014.

- **Family drug courts** and **juvenile drug courts** bring together substance abuse treatment, mental health services, social services, and court officials to serve troubled families and juveniles. In FY 2014, OJJDP provided **\$2.1 million** for a family drug court statewide system reform program. The agency also provided **\$3.6 million** in funding for enhancements to existing juvenile drug courts.

Signature Initiatives

- **Defending Childhood** is a comprehensive U.S. Department of Justice initiative to reduce children's exposure to violence, raise public awareness, and advance research. In FY 2014, the Advisory Committee of the Attorney General's Task Force on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence released its final report. The report provides policy recommendations for the development of effective, trauma-informed, and culturally appropriate programs and

A Nation Pursuing Justice for Youth

In 2014, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) celebrated 40 years of working together for youth justice and safety.



On September 7, 1974, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act was signed into law.

This landmark legislation established OJJDP and forever changed the way states and communities deal with youth who are at risk and youth who are involved in the juvenile justice system.

More information about the Act is available on the OJJDP website, ojjdp.gov/about/legislation.html.

services to protect American Indian and Alaska Native children exposed to violence.

- The **National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention** is a network of cities and federal agencies that work together, share information, and build local capacity to prevent and reduce youth violence and gang activity. In FY 2014, the forum remained active in the 10 network cities, and OJJDP provided funding to assist 5 new forum cities in developing youth violence prevention plans.
- The U.S. Departments of Justice, Education, and Health and Human Services are partners in the **Supportive School Discipline Initiative** (SSDI) to address school discipline policies and practices that are harsh, applied disparately, or suspend or expel students from school for nonserious, nonviolent behaviors. SSDI stresses developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed approaches to classroom management that keep students in school, engaged in learning, and out of the justice system. The Departments released



a comprehensive resource package in January 2014 to help professionals create safe and positive school climates. In June 2014, the Council of State Governments Justice Center released *The School Discipline Consensus Report*, which offers a set of policy statements and recommendations and can serve as a roadmap that is adaptable for use in different localities. OJJDP funded the consensus report in coordination with philanthropic organizations.

Areas of Focus

- OJJDP urges states and communities to adopt a **developmental approach** to juvenile justice and make **trauma-informed care** central to their responses to youth. In FY 2014, the Office awarded more than \$2.2 million for the new Smart on Juvenile Justice Initiative to promote systemwide **juvenile justice reform** and bolster efforts to end racial and ethnic disparities.
- Research on procedural justice and how to build community trust suggests that people—both youth and adults—who perceive that police treat them fairly and respectfully maintain positive impressions of law enforcement, even when the interactions result in a sanction. Funded through a 3-year grant of \$4.75 million, the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice provides **training to law enforcement** and communities on **bias reduction and procedural fairness** and will apply evidence-based strategies in five pilot sites around the country.
- OJJDP's longstanding support for **tribal communities** includes discretionary grants, training and technical assistance, research, and youth summits. Many of these efforts focus on engaging tribal youth to promote the success and prosperity of tribal communities.
- OJJDP is committed to combating **commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of children** through a range of efforts, including research, training for law enforcement, mentoring for child victims, and investigative work through the ICAC task forces.
- OJJDP supports a **research agenda** that is scientifically rigorous, timely, and promises maximum impact in the juvenile justice field. In 2014, OJJDP invested more than \$18 million in research. Highlights of OJJDP's research programs are featured in the *Seeing Connections With the Field* section at the end of every chapter of this report.

Advisory Boards

The **Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention** coordinates federal programs and activities related to juvenile delinquency prevention and missing and exploited children. Composed of 22 federal agency and practitioner members—appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Majority Leader, and the President of the United States—the Coordinating Council makes recommendations to Congress regarding juvenile justice policies, objectives, and priorities. The Attorney General serves as chair, and the Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) serves as vice chair. More information about the specific activities of the council is available at juvenilecouncil.gov.

The **Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice** (FACJJ) is composed of members of state advisory groups on juvenile justice. FACJJ advises the President and Congress on matters related to juvenile justice, evaluates the progress of juvenile justice activities and projects, and advises the OJJDP Administrator on the work of OJJDP. More information about the specific activities of the committee is available at facjj.org.

SEEING CONNECTIONS WITH THE FIELD

Research • Evaluation • Communications • Training and Technical Assistance

Promoting Model Programs. OJJDP's online Model Programs Guide (MPG) assists practitioners and communities in implementing evidence-based prevention, intervention, and reentry programs that can make a difference in the lives of children and communities. The MPG database of more than 180 programs is updated continually and was relaunched in FY 2014 to include more rigorous rating criteria, an enhanced search function, updated resources, and other elements to improve the user experience. In addition, the MPG is now linked with the National Mentoring Resource Center to facilitate the review and inclusion of evidence-based mentoring programs.

Offering Online Information and Resources. The Office uses a full range of media to reach the widest possible audience. OJJDP's comprehensive website offers stakeholders easy access to news, resources, events, and a wealth of information on the Office's research and programs. *OJJDP News @ a Glance* is an award-winning bimonthly newsletter that provides constituents with up-to-date information about OJJDP's activities. JUVJUST, the Office's electronic listserv, alerts subscribers to funding opportunities, publications, and events. Connect with OJJDP on Facebook ([facebook.com/OJPOJJDP](https://www.facebook.com/OJPOJJDP)), Twitter (@OJPOJJDP), and visit the Office of Justice Programs' YouTube channel ([youtube.com/user/OJPOCOM](https://www.youtube.com/user/OJPOCOM)) for the latest updates.

Supporting Training and Technical Assistance. OJJDP provides training and technical assistance to thousands of juvenile justice practitioners,

policymakers, and constituents each year through its training and technical assistance (TTA) provider network, consisting of 65 projects. Services include onsite and remote training and technical assistance, online and classroom training design and curriculum development, webinars, publications, and conferences that help practitioners across the nation adopt the best practices. OJJDP's National Training and Technical Assistance Center manages the TTA provider network. In 2014, OJJDP's funding for training and technical assistance totaled more than \$80 million.

OJJDP State Training and Technical Assistance Center. The center focuses on strengthening state, territory, tribal, and community capacities and competencies to improve their overall service delivery, enhance their data collection efforts, and increase their implementation of evidence-based practices. The center receives and responds to requests for training and technical assistance from states, territories, tribes, and communities that receive funding from OJJDP through the Title II Formula Grants program.

Connecting the Field to TTA Resources. The OJJDP Online University is a central access point for all trainings, resources, tools, and publications that OJJDP's TTA providers and other partners have created. OJJDP increased the Online University's offerings throughout FY 2014 and implemented several enhancements to make the site more user friendly.

Connect with OJJDP on social media: ojjdp.gov/enews/enews.html.



Focus on Safety:
Protecting Children and
Preventing Youth Violence

CHAPTER 2



No child should ever have to experience or witness violence. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) innovative efforts to prevent youth violence range from programs that help victims of abuse and neglect to initiatives that focus on positive youth development. OJJDP also promotes a rigorous research agenda, evaluation programs that investigate what works, and dissemination efforts that ensure vital information reaches providers in the field.

Defending Childhood

According to the National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence, which the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) sponsored, children exposed to violence are more likely to fail in school and at work, suffer from mental health problems, experience serious medical problems, become future victims of violence, and be involved in the juvenile and criminal justice systems. In 2010, then-Attorney General Eric H. Holder launched the Defending Childhood initiative to directly address this national crisis. Defending Childhood is a comprehensive effort to reduce children's exposure to violence, raise public awareness, and advance the research. OJJDP is leading the initiative.

Throughout fiscal year (FY) 2014, work continued to expand both the reach and the impact of the Defending Childhood initiative.

This work included an increased focus on the high levels of crime and violence that American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children experience and witness.

The Attorney General's Task Force on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence was created in the fall of 2013 and tasked with assessing the scope of and offering policy recommendations to address the impact of violence on American Indian and Alaska Native children. The Task Force included a federal working group of U.S. Attorneys and officials from the U.S. Departments of Justice and the Interior as well as an Advisory Committee composed of experts on AI/AN studies, child health and trauma, and child welfare. Former U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan and Iroquois composer and musical artist Joanne Shenandoah served as co-chairs of the AI/AN Advisory

DEFENDING CHILDHOOD PROTECT HEALTH THRIVE

Committee. Over the course of 2013–14, the Advisory Committee held four public hearings in Bismarck, ND; Scottsdale, AZ; Fort Lauderdale, FL; and Anchorage, AK, and several listening sessions to examine the impact of violence on children in Indian country.

The work of the Advisory Committee culminated in the release of a final report in November 2014. The report, titled *Ending Violence So Children Can Thrive*, includes extensive policy recommendations and offers the Advisory Committee's vision for the development of effective, trauma-informed, and

"Our charge was to examine the intolerable levels of violence that American Indian and Alaska Native children suffer—the violence they encounter all too often in their homes and communities, the collateral victimization they suffer when someone abuses a parent, and the vulnerability that subjects them to sexual violation."

— Associate Attorney General Tony West, Attorney General's Advisory Committee on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence Hearing, Anchorage, AK

culturally appropriate programs and services to protect AI/AN children exposed to violence. The committee recommended a significant restructuring of current services provided to Indian country by increasing partnerships and coordination with tribes and increased funding for programs to support children. The full report is available at justice.gov/defendingchildhood.

Because successfully combating children's exposure to violence relies heavily on local efforts, Defending Childhood includes support for eight demonstration program sites across the country. These communities, including two tribal sites, are implementing community-based efforts to address children's exposure to violence.

National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention

Created in 2010 at the direction of President Obama, the forum is a network of cities and federal agencies that work together, share information, and build local capacity to prevent and reduce youth and gang violence. In FY 2014, the forum was active in Boston, MA; Chicago, IL; Detroit, MI; Memphis, TN; Salinas and San Jose, CA; New Orleans,

LA; Philadelphia, PA; Minneapolis, MN; and Camden, NJ.

In FY 2014, OJJDP provided \$100,000 to five cities selected to join the forum through the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention Expansion Project—Seattle, WA; Cleveland, OH; Louisville, KY; Long Beach, CA; and Baltimore, MD. The grants were provided to support the cities' planning and coordination efforts.

The forum cities have created comprehensive, data-driven plans that focus not only on enforcement but also on prevention, intervention, and reentry strategies to address youth violence. Federal partners have organized working sessions and summits to help the cities share their progress and promising strategies, and the partners have provided the five cities with technical assistance in developing their plans and addressing any implementation challenges.

Community-Based Violence Prevention Program

OJJDP's Community-Based Violence Prevention program is designed to change community norms regarding violence, provide alternatives to youth gun and gang violence, and increase

awareness of the risks and consequences of involvement in violence. The program helps communities to replicate proven programs, such as the Group Violence Reduction Intervention (formerly known as Operation Ceasefire/Boston Gun Project), the OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model, and the Cure Violence Model. In FY 2014, OJJDP made continuation awards to six program grantees to sustain their efforts.

Internet Crimes Against Children

Established in 1998, OJJDP's 61 Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task forces represent more than 3,500 federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies. They are dedicated to developing effective responses to the online enticement of children by sexual predators, child exploitation, and child obscenity and pornography. In FY 2014, OJJDP awarded \$22 million to ICAC task forces for law enforcement operations and public education and awarded more than \$5 million to support training and technical assistance (TTA) regarding Internet crimes against children.

Every year, the number of investigations that ICAC task forces open and the number

of arrests they make continue to rise. Since their inception, the task forces have arrested more than 51,000 individuals suspected of sexually exploiting children. In 2014 alone, ICAC investigations led to 8,360 arrests and 67,407 forensic examinations. The task forces also continued to focus on public awareness and education, making more than 14,100 presentations on Internet safety in 2014 that reached more than 1.4 million adults and children.

Through the ICAC program, OJJDP supported four regional law enforcement trainings on child exploitation. More than 900 individuals attended these regional events, which provided a forum for information sharing and collaboration between federal, state, tribal, and local agencies to combat technology-facilitated crimes against children. In May 2014, the 61 ICAC task forces conducted Operation Broken Heart to raise awareness about online child sexual exploitation. Operation Broken Heart had a twofold purpose—to educate parents and children about Internet safety and to investigate individuals involved in the online exploitation of children. Investigative activities included monitoring individuals convicted of sex crimes

against children, conducting peer-to-peer activities, and investigating individuals who electronically trade and share child sexual exploitation images. Operation Broken Heart resulted in more than 1,000 arrests in May 2014.

Tribal Youth Initiatives

Engaging tribal youth is vital to their communities' success and prosperity. Their input and participation is also central to OJJDP's partnerships with tribal grantees. In FY 2014, OJJDP provided more than \$2.6 million in support of tribal efforts to prevent and reduce delinquency and to improve the tribal juvenile justice systems.

This funding supported the award of seven grants to a geographically diverse group of tribal grantees that proposed a wide range of programs and approaches to benefit their tribal youth. These programs all rely on indigenous principles and culturally relevant practices.

In FY 2014, OJJDP released a solicitation to support the Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Responses to Underage Drinking Initiative. See chapter 3 for more information.



Finally, in addition to these two programmatic efforts, OJJDP is supporting the development of youth leadership skills through the National Intertribal Youth Leadership Development Initiative. More information on this initiative is included later in this chapter.

Missing Children

The OJJDP-supported National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)

Missing Children's Day

The U.S. Department of Justice held its annual National Missing Children's Day ceremony on May 21, 2014.

The ceremony, which OJJDP organizes, recognizes the extraordinary efforts of America's law enforcement officers, private citizens, and organizations on behalf of missing children.

Associate Attorney General Tony West and OJJDP Administrator Robert L. Listenbee honored the heroic efforts of law enforcement personnel and citizens to protect children from harm. Awards were presented to outstanding professionals and private citizens whose efforts helped to recover missing children, rescue children from abuse, and prosecute sexual predators.



observed its 30th year of operation in April 2014. As a clearinghouse and resource center, NCMEC collects and distributes data regarding missing and sexually exploited children. Using OJJDP grants, NCMEC has been able to offer critical intervention and prevention services—to families, victims, law enforcement, and other child-serving professionals—for issues regarding missing and sexually exploited children. OJJDP funding for NCMEC totaled \$32 million in FY 2014, including the Supplemental Award/United States Secret Service pass-through funds of \$6 million.

NCMEC operates a 24-hour toll-free Missing Children's Hotline at 1-800-THE-LOST, a CyberTipline for the public and electronic service providers to use to report apparent child sexual exploitation, and the Child Victim Identification Program (CVIP), which uses specialized computer software to help law enforcement identify child victims depicted in sexual abuse images.

In FY 2014, the center's hotline received 182,834 calls. During the same period, its CyberTipline received and made available to law enforcement a total of 737,897 reports regarding potential child exploitation or online harm to children. By the end of FY 2014, a

total of 6,973 child victims were identified using the CVIP system, and NCMEC assisted law enforcement in the resolution of cases involving 11,488 children. Since its inception in 1984 through September 2014, NCMEC has assisted in the resolution of cases involving 202,667 children.

NCMEC is also a key partner in the AMBER Alert program and a participant in the annual National Missing Children's Day commemoration. The



AMBER Alert system issues media alerts when a law enforcement agency determines that a child has been abducted and is in imminent danger. The Office of Justice Programs' Assistant Attorney General is the National AMBER Alert Coordinator, and OJJDP administers the program. In FY 2014, NCMEC released the *2013 AMBER Alert Report*, which shows that 194 AMBER Alerts involving 243 children were issued in the United States in 2013. Of the cases in which alerts were issued, 185 ended with a recovery, 41 of which were recovered as a direct result of AMBER Alerts. Through September 2014, a total of 722 abducted children were recovered through AMBER Alerts.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Instances of commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of minors have been reported in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. OJJDP's longstanding commitment to combating these problems includes the Office's work through the ICAC task forces (see previous entry) and other efforts.

OJJDP is also supporting a Mentoring for Child Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation initiative, which is assisting four organizations in the enhancement of their mentoring capacity

and in increasing the availability of direct services to child victims. More information about the mentoring program is featured in chapter 3 of this report.

Youth With Sexual Behavior Problems

The Youth With Sexual Behavior Problems (YSBP) program provides funding to develop effective treatment programs and supervision services for youth with sexual behavior problems. YSBP also funds programs that assist the child victims and their families. OJJDP,

with funds from the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART Office), made awards in FY 2014 totaling \$1.4 million across four sites to develop, implement, and evaluate community-based programs designed to serve youth with sexual behavior problems, their child victims, and their families. OJJDP is also funding a tribal grantee to develop a broad-based and culturally relevant intervention model for these youth, their child victims, and their families in tribal communities.

"The commercial sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of minors should be understood as acts of abuse and violence against children. Prostituted youth should be treated as victims, not as criminals."

— OJJDP Administrator Robert L. Listenbee

SEEING CONNECTIONS WITH THE FIELD

Research • Evaluation • Communications • Training and Technical Assistance

Defending Childhood. On November 18, 2014, the Advisory Committee of the Attorney General's Task Force on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence released a report with extensive policy recommendations to the U.S. Department of Justice. The report, *Ending Violence So Children Can Thrive*, offers the committee's vision for the development of effective, trauma-informed, and culturally appropriate programs and services to protect American Indian and Alaska Native children exposed to violence.

Child Maltreatment Data Available Online. In FY 2014, OJJDP launched an online access tool for national data gathered from the Fourth National Incidence Study of Child Abuse and Neglect (NIS-4). The NIS-4 data, collected in 2005 and 2006 by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, provide estimates of the number of children who are abused or neglected as well as information on the nature and severity of maltreatment and the characteristics of the children, perpetrators, and families involved.

Missing and Exploited Children Training and Technical Assistance. To build broad-based, adaptable training that will improve the multidisciplinary team response and prosecution of child victimization cases, OJJDP is providing \$2 million to a training and technical assistance provider. This program will help the agency evaluate and assess training outcomes and develop new training that uses cost-effective and innovative learning platforms.

Training in Implementation Science. OJJDP hosted a Science of Implementation Training Institute in Washington, DC, in March 2014. The training focused on how to ensure systemwide change in any efforts to prevent and reduce youth violence and children's exposure to violence.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. With support from OJJDP, The National Academies' Institute of Medicine (IOM) and National Research Council (NRC) have released guides for victim service providers, legal professionals, and health care professionals who work with children who have experienced, or are at risk of experiencing, commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking. The guides are derived from the OJJDP-commissioned report, *Confronting Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Sex Trafficking of Minors in the United States*, which provides a comprehensive overview of the issues and recommendations for action. Because the report is broad in its reach, IOM and NRC developed this series of supplementary guides targeted to specific sectors that serve children.

OJJDP is also supporting research on "safe harbor" laws through its Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation program. Two research organizations were provided approximately \$500,000 each to study child sexual exploitation, including the impact of states' safe harbor laws on the commercial sexual exploitation of children, and the effect of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act of 2000 on juvenile prostitution arrest rates. Safe harbor laws are intended to address the inconsistent treatment of child victims, ensure that they receive necessary services, and prevent them from being convicted of prostitution or other crimes. This research will examine the effects of safe harbor legislation.

Youth's Online Experiences and Sexting. With funding from OJJDP, the Crimes against Children Research Center released *Trends in Unwanted Online Experiences and Sexting: Final Report*. The report summarizes key findings from the Third Youth Internet Survey. Topics include youth reports of unwanted sexual solicitations, online harassment, unwanted exposure to sexual material, and sexting.

Combating Gangs. The National Gang Center (NGC) is jointly funded by OJJDP and the Bureau of Justice Assistance and serves as a clearinghouse for individuals and agencies seeking information about gang prevention. NGC publishes an online newsletter featuring information on topics ranging from talking to youth about gangs to legislative updates regarding gang prevention.

NGC also conducts an annual survey, collecting data from a large, representative sample of law enforcement agencies to track the size and scope of the nation's gang problem. OJJDP published *Highlights of the 2012 National Youth Gang Survey* in December 2014. The survey found that, in 2012, there were an estimated 30,700 gangs (increased from 29,900 in 2011) and 850,000 gang members (increased from 782,500 in 2011). The number of reported gang-related homicides increased 20 percent—from 1,824 in 2011 to 2,363 in 2012.

In FY 2014, the center released a video describing the individual, family, school, peer-group, and community risk factors associated with joining a gang. The video, "Why Youth Join Gangs," includes contributions from researchers, practitioners, and young people who were previously involved in gangs.

In addition, in FY 2014, OJJDP provided funding for three sites to institute anti-gang strategies and programs. Long Beach, CA; Fort Peirce, FL; and Multnomah County (OR) each received more than \$200,000 to enhance the implementation of prevention, intervention, and targeted enforcement programs to combat gangs. The programs will all be developed using OJJDP's Comprehensive Gang Model.

AMBER Alert Joins Twitter. In FY 2014, the Office of Justice Programs and the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children announced the launch of an

Connect with OJJDP on social media: ojjdp.gov/enews/enews.html.

AMBER Alert Twitter account. Using the handle "@AMBERAlert," the new account will make it easier for alerts to reach the approximately 49 million monthly Twitter users in the United States.

AMBER Alert Basic Forensic Training. OJJDP sponsored a training for law enforcement providing guidance in the recognition, documentation, collection, and preservation of evidence from the time a child is reported missing until the case is resolved.

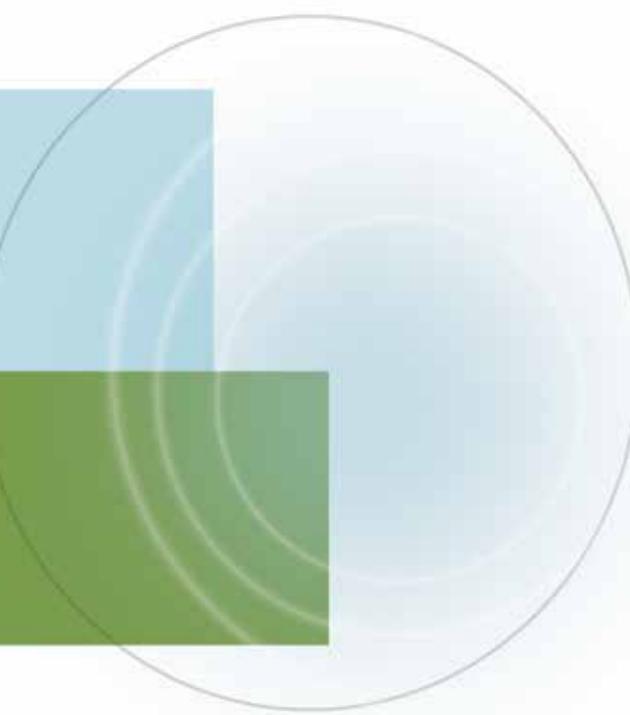
Tribal Youth Leadership Development. As part of OJJDP's National Intertribal Youth Leadership Development Initiative, 200 youth leaders gathered at the United National Indian Tribal Youth's (UNITY) 2014 Mid-Year Conference for training designed to increase positive outcomes in their schools, communities, and family environments. The conference offered workshops and information sessions on public speaking, financial planning, fundraising, career readiness, successful community service projects, bullying prevention, and healthy lifestyles.

OJJDP also participated in UNITY's National Conference, which brought together approximately 1,400 American Indian and Alaska Native youth. OJJDP partnered with UNITY to promote the "Today's Native Leaders" initiative that will offer tribal youth culturally relevant leadership development training opportunities in seven regions during the next 3 years. Throughout FY 2014, OJJDP offered regional trainings to provide opportunities for tribal youth to develop their leadership skills and engage in community service projects in Indian country.



Focus on Opportunities:
Keeping Kids Out
of the System

CHAPTER 3



Children deserve opportunities—to grow, to succeed, and to build successful futures. At the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), we believe that narrowing the “front door” to the juvenile justice system is one of the most important ways we can continue to improve outcomes for youth. Although serious offenders must be held accountable for their actions, youth who commit minor offenses should not be treated like adult criminals. Through innovative programs and cutting-edge research and education efforts, OJJDP is helping to provide the right services to the right kids at the right time to prevent them from entering the juvenile justice system—and giving them the chance to build successful futures.

Mentoring

Mentoring has been shown to improve behavioral, social, emotional, and academic outcomes for at-risk youth. In fiscal year (FY) 2014, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provided more than \$62 million to state and national organizations that engage youth through mentoring activities and youth development programs. Funding included support for both national and multistate mentoring organizations to strengthen, expand, and implement youth mentoring activities and youth development programs throughout the nation.

Enormous support for mentoring and its potential to positively impact young lives exists throughout the Obama Administration. In July 2014, as part of the larger My Brother's Keeper initiative, President Obama announced a \$24 million investment in new AmeriCorps partnerships with federal agencies and the private sector to connect young people to mentoring, support networks, and job skills to help them reach their full potential. As part of this program, OJJDP and the Corporation for National and Community Service are jointly funding Youth Opportunity Corps. The program will enroll at-risk and formerly incarcerated

youth in national service projects that AmeriCorps sponsors. OJJDP contributed \$1 million to the partnership to support five organizations that are providing mentoring services.

OJJDP's ongoing efforts to address the mentoring needs of special populations included the award of an additional \$1.7 million to mentoring project sites focused on providing programs for child victims of commercial sexual exploitation and domestic sex trafficking. OJJDP also funded a training and technical assistance provider to support the new mentoring sites as they establish targeted programs to meet the specific needs of child victims.

To understand how to help young people impacted by a parent's incarceration or those children living in communities with high incarceration rates, OJJDP is funding a \$5 million Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration Program, which will support a partnership between a mentoring service provider and an evaluator/researcher in multiple sites, with the goal of developing



new, research-informed practices to better serve children whose parents are incarcerated.

OJJDP is also providing Second Chance Act funding for Strengthening Relationships Between Young Fathers and Their Children. The project will provide mentoring and services to help young fathers make the transition from secure confinement facilities to their families and communities. The goals of the program are to reduce recidivism among young fathers; improve outcomes for young fathers, their children, and other family members; promote responsible fatherhood; and protect public safety.

To promote mentoring throughout the country, the 2014 National Mentoring Summit was held in Arlington, VA, in January and featured more than 60 workshops and 4 plenary sessions on topics ranging from best practices to cutting-edge training tools. The summit was hosted by MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership, along with OJJDP, the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Harvard School of Public Health, and United Way Worldwide.

Supportive School Discipline Initiative

The U.S. Departments of Justice (DOJ), Education (ED), and Health and Human Services (HHS) are partnering to address unnecessarily harsh and exclusionary school discipline policies through the Supportive School Discipline Initiative (SSDI). SSDI stresses positive approaches to modifying behavior within the context of school rather than suspending and expelling students. It also

focuses on reducing the disproportionate use of exclusionary discipline when dealing with students of color and students with disabilities. OJJDP is a key player in this important initiative.

SSDI focuses on five distinct areas to keep kids in school and engaged in learning:

1. Building a consensus for action among federal, state, and local education and justice stakeholders.
2. Collaborating on research and data collection that will inform this work.
3. Developing guidance to ensure that school discipline policies comply with the nation's civil rights laws.
4. Promoting knowledge of evidence-based practices among state leaders.
5. Integrating this work into federal grant making to ensure that existing programs include a focus on school discipline.

In January 2014, DOJ and ED released a school discipline resource package for policymakers, legislators, educators, law enforcement professionals, healthcare practitioners, advocates, and researchers to assist them in creating safe and positive school climates. The package consists of four components: (1) guidance on how schools can meet their legal obligations under federal law to administer student discipline without discriminating against students on the basis of race, color, or national origin; (2) key principles and related action steps to advance state and local efforts to improve school climate and school discipline; (3) a directory of the federal technical assistance and other resources related to school discipline and climate that are available to schools and districts; and (4) a compendium of laws and regulations related to school discipline in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

A cornerstone of SSDI is the School Discipline Consensus Project, which involved nearly

"A routine school disciplinary infraction should land a student in the principal's office, not in a police precinct."

— Former Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr.

2 years of consensus group meetings with hundreds of practitioners from the fields of education, juvenile justice, behavioral health, and law enforcement as well as state and local policymakers, researchers, advocates, students, and parents. On June 3, 2014, the Council of State Governments Justice Center released *The School Discipline Consensus Report: Strategies From the Field to Keep Students Engaged in School and Out of the Juvenile Justice System*. The report is the product of the consensus project and offers a comprehensive set of policy statements and recommendations for approaches to school discipline that reduce reliance on suspensions and expulsions of students for nonviolent behavior, improve students' academic outcomes, and promote safe and productive learning environments. The consensus report will serve as a roadmap that can be adapted for use in different localities—no matter the size, population demographics, or type of location.

OJJDP is also coordinating with ED and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration on its implementation of the School Justice Collaboration Program, a multidisciplinary initiative to keep students in school, engaged in learning, and out of court. This effort will enhance collaboration and coordination among schools, mental and behavioral health specialists, law enforcement, and juvenile justice officials at the local level. The goal is to ensure that educators, law enforcement, courts, and behavioral health agencies have the support, training, and a shared framework to help students succeed in school and to prevent negative outcomes for youth and communities. This initiative provides nearly \$2 million in funding for training and technical assistance services and \$2.4 million to four local courts for program implementation with law enforcement, schools, and behavioral health professionals. (Information about additional research and training in this area is featured in the sidebar at the end of this chapter.)

Drug Courts

Youth and family drug courts bring together substance abuse treatment, mental health services, social services, and court officials to serve troubled families and juveniles.

Family drug courts focus on reducing the incidence of child abuse and neglect, intervening in families with risk factors, and reducing negative outcomes for youth affected by parental substance use disorders. In FY 2014, OJJDP provided \$2.1 million for a family drug court statewide system reform program. Through this program, OJJDP is seeking to infuse effective family drug court practices established at the local level into the larger state-level child welfare, substance abuse treatment, and court systems. The state reform effort will expand the scope of family drug courts to serve all families in the child welfare system who are affected by parental substance use disorders and will improve child, parent, and family outcomes. Programs are receiving support in Colorado, Iowa, Alabama, New York, and Ohio.



Juvenile drug courts are designed to help youth overcome their substance abuse issues and develop into successful adults. Many of these courts are based on the Reclaiming Futures Model, which brings together juvenile

courts, probation, adolescent substance abuse treatment, and community resources to improve drug and alcohol treatment for teens by connecting them to positive activities and caring adults.

In FY 2014, OJJDP provided \$3.6 million in funding for enhancements to existing juvenile drug courts. This program will allow currently operating juvenile drug courts to enhance their capacity and services for youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system because of alcohol or other drug use. All of the funded enhancements focus on increasing the use of scientifically based screening and assessment procedures, expanding the range of developmentally appropriate and evidence-based programs, enhancing or developing

family engagement, and expanding the monitoring of outcomes.

Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts

OJJDP is supporting a \$2.5 million initiative to enhance the capacity of Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts to respond to the alcohol-related issues of tribal youth who are younger than 21. Under this initiative, five participating tribal courts were selected for funding and are developing or enhancing their policies, procedures, assessment tools, and service models that address underage drinking. A second component of the initiative will deliver training and technical assistance to the participating tribal courts.

“OJJDP is poised to advance the knowledge and effectiveness of juvenile drug courts. Our goal is to help young people get the treatment they need and get back on track to a successful future.”

— OJJDP Administrator Robert L. Listenbee

SEEING CONNECTIONS WITH THE FIELD

Research • Evaluation • Communications • Training and Technical Assistance

National Mentoring Resource Center. The National Mentoring Resource Center is a program of OJJDP that serves as a comprehensive and reliable resource for mentoring tools and information as well as program and training materials and technical assistance. The resources and technical assistance available through the center are in alignment with the national standards for quality mentoring, *The Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring*. The center's goal is to improve the quality and effectiveness of mentoring across the country by helping youth-mentoring practitioners to incorporate evidence-based practices.

High-Risk Youth Mentoring Research. To advance knowledge on the outcomes of mentoring for high-risk youth, OJJDP is providing nearly \$1.6 million in funding for three research projects. Two projects will conduct long-term followup and will determine the effectiveness of established mentoring programs over time. The third project will evaluate the effectiveness of community-based, cross-age mentoring to reduce negative outcomes related to violence exposure/engagement and to promote positive development among African American and Latino youth from four sites that serve three low-income, high-violence urban neighborhoods, using youth mentors from the same high-risk environment.

Ultimately, this research seeks to expand what is understood about mentoring as a prevention and intervention strategy for youth who are at high risk of involvement or are already involved in the juvenile justice system.

Supportive School Discipline Initiative. Working with partners at the U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services, OJJDP launched a webinar series that is increasing awareness about harsh and exclusionary school discipline policies and providing practical examples of effective disciplinary policies. Webinars have covered topics ranging from truancy to the role of school resource officers. A 90-minute webinar addressed the educational challenges of youth who are confined in juvenile justice secure facilities, focusing on how quality education can prepare them for successful reentry to their communities and schools.

In addition, as part of the School Justice Partnership Program, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges will establish a National Resource Center on School Justice Partnerships to provide research, training, and technical assistance to respond to students' behavioral needs.

School Discipline and Climate Summit. In October 2014, OJJDP cosponsored the National Leadership Summit on School Discipline and Climate. The event brought together top education and justice officials, youth advocates, and parents from across the nation. Participants shared their challenges and successes in enhancing school climate, reforming school discipline policies and practices, and reducing student entry into the juvenile justice system. In addition to helping attendees develop action plans, the summit also provided important information about the technical assistance and financial resources available to assist states and communities in improving their school climates.

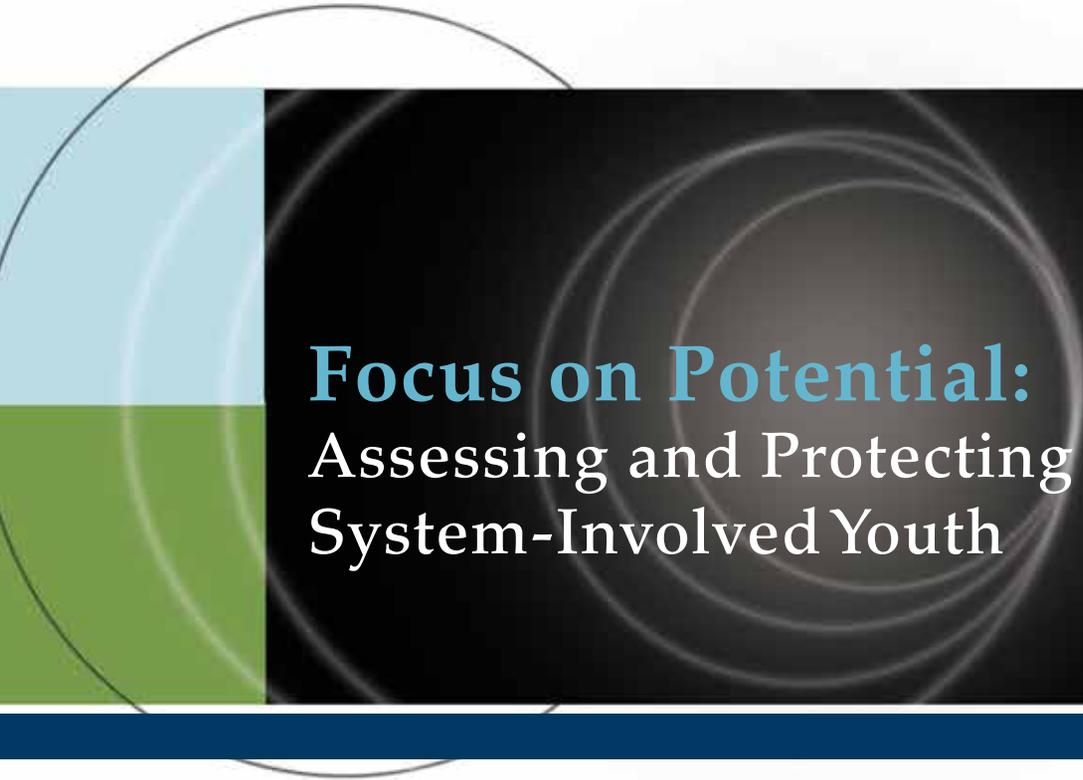
Juvenile Drug Court Research-to-Practice Meeting. OJJDP convened a meeting of juvenile drug court researchers and practitioners, technical assistance providers, and youth to review the current state of juvenile drug courts. The December 2013 meeting focused on what works as well as gaps in research, knowledge, and practice. The meeting was part of a larger effort to examine approaches to implementing juvenile drug courts and to ensure that current practice keeps pace with the latest research developments.

Drug Court Guidelines. In FY 2014, OJJDP provided nearly \$6 million to fund a two-phase initiative to develop and test guidelines for juvenile drug courts.

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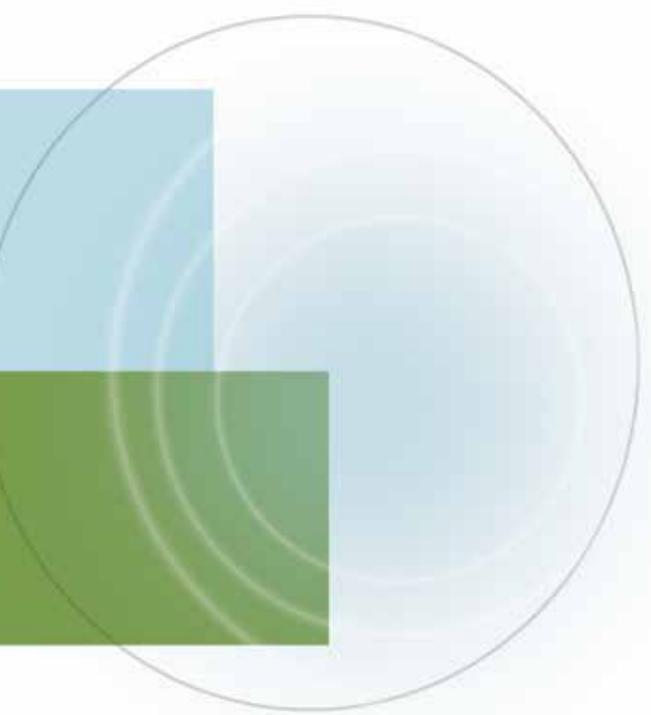
The first phase of the initiative will identify research-informed juvenile drug court and treatment practices and will develop and disseminate guidelines for juvenile drug courts. The impact of the guidelines will be tested in the second phase to inform the improvement and advancement of juvenile drug courts, and the guidelines will be modified, as appropriate. The long-term goal of this initiative is to improve the quality and effectiveness of juvenile drug courts. The American Institutes for Research—in partnership with Vanderbilt University's Peabody Research Institute, the Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy at George Mason University, WestEd, and the Court Centered Change Network—is leading the initiative.

Drug Court Publications. With funding from OJJDP, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges has developed a series of publications to help guide the field toward recommended practice and to assist juvenile drug court professionals with implementation efforts. The guides were developed under OJJDP's National Juvenile Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance project and cover topics ranging from starting a juvenile drug court to engaging schools.



Focus on Potential:
Assessing and Protecting
System-Involved Youth

CHAPTER 4



The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is committed to improving our nation’s juvenile justice system. We continue to focus our efforts on prevention, treatment, and recovery options that can help young people overcome challenges and avoid further involvement in the system. For youth who do enter the juvenile justice system, OJJDP is dedicated to ensuring that their contact with the system is rare, fair, and beneficial to them. In addition to providing vital funding for states, tribes, and practitioners in the field, OJJDP also offers invaluable research, training, and technical assistance to promote evidence-based approaches to juvenile justice.

Reforming Juvenile Justice

While fulfilling the mandates of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has made enormous progress in protecting system-involved youth. However, breakthroughs in neuroscience research have allowed OJJDP and its partners to better serve and respond to the particular developmental needs of at-risk and system-involved youth.

At the request of OJJDP, the National Academies' National Research Council (NRC) reviewed advances in behavioral and neuroscience research in fiscal year (FY) 2013. Their report, *Reforming Juvenile Justice: A Developmental Approach*, calls for a developmental approach to juvenile justice reform that holds youth accountable for their actions and prevents reoffending. In FY 2014, OJJDP asked NRC to conduct a followup report to provide specific guidance on the steps

the agency should take to facilitate reform grounded in knowledge about adolescent development. This report, *Implementing Juvenile Justice Reform*, is guiding OJJDP's future efforts (full details on the report are included in the sidebar at the end of this chapter).

Formula Grants Program

Through the JJDP Act, OJJDP provides formula grants to support state and local delinquency prevention and intervention efforts and juvenile justice system improvements. OJJDP awarded more than \$38 million in formula grant funds to designated state agencies in FY 2014.

To receive funding, states must comply with the 28 state plan requirements described in the Act. Within the 28 state plan requirements, there are 4 requirements that are deemed to be "core" because a state's annual formula grant funding is reduced by 20 percent for each requirement with which a state is

determined to be out of compliance. These core requirements are: (1) deinstitutionalize status offenders, (2) separate juveniles from adults in secure facilities, (3) remove juveniles from adult jails and lockups, and (4) address disproportionate minority contact within the juvenile justice system. States' compliance data can be viewed on the OJJDP website: ojjdp.gov/compliance/compliancedata.html.

During FY 2014, a total of 173,340 youth participants were served in various programs funded by formula grants. Of that number, 86 percent of program youth exhibited a desired change in the targeted behavior in the short term. Targeted behaviors included antisocial behavior, school attendance, substance use, self-esteem, family relationships, and other areas vital to positive youth development. Measures of long-term outcomes also showed a positive trend—88 percent of program youth exhibited a desired change in the targeted behavior 6–12 months after leaving or completing the funded program.

"As the federal agency charged with addressing juvenile delinquency, we at OJJDP are indebted to the National Academies for this set of concrete recommendations, based on careful research and scientific evidence for reforming our juvenile system."

— OJJDP Administrator Robert L. Listenbee, regarding the National Research Council report, *Implementing Juvenile Justice Reform*

A significant number of programs funded through formula grants report that they are implementing evidence-based programs or practices. During FY 2014, 42 percent of grantees and subgrantees implemented evidence-based programs or practices.

Smart on Juvenile Justice

To foster juvenile justice reform, OJJDP supports research, training, and technical assistance as well as programs that promote the safety and well-being of the nation's youth. The Office urges states and communities to adopt a developmental approach to juvenile justice and to make trauma-informed care available to children exposed to violence.

In FY 2014, OJJDP awarded more than \$2.2 million for the new Smart on Juvenile Justice initiative to promote systemwide juvenile justice reform and bolster efforts to end racial and ethnic disparities. Smart on Juvenile Justice is aligned with the goals of the former Attorney

General's Smart on Crime initiative to create a more fair and efficient justice system. The initiative has three major components, as follows.

Under the first component, the Comprehensive Strategy to Juvenile Justice Reform, OJJDP is working with three states—Georgia, Hawaii, and Kentucky—and the Pew Charitable Trusts' Public Safety Performance Project to provide diversion alternatives, community-based options, and other reforms to reduce recidivism, decrease correctional spending, reduce racial and ethnic disparities, and improve public safety while reducing the number of youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system.

Through the Technical Assistance to End Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Juvenile Justice System, OJJDP is providing training, technical assistance, and other information resources to state, local, and tribal governments on the most promising systemic and programmatic

techniques for addressing disproportionate minority contact and for eliminating racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system.

The Juvenile Prosecution Curriculum Development, Training, and Technical Assistance Program is providing valuable training for juvenile prosecutors to acquaint them with the latest information in forensic science, adolescent development, the neurosciences, trauma-informed care, and the prosecution of sexual assault cases.

Building Communities of Trust and Justice

Research on procedural justice and how to build community trust suggests that people—both youth and adults—who perceive that they are treated fairly and respectfully by police maintain positive impressions of law enforcement, even when the interactions result in a sanction. The links among these elements create an environment for effective

“These are promising new steps that will help us to advance our important—and in many cases, life-changing—work in the juvenile justice arena. These efforts go to the heart of who we are, and who we aspire to be, both as a nation and as a people.”

— Former Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr., announcing the Smart on Juvenile Justice initiative

partnerships between the police and the citizens they serve.

Funded through a 3-year grant of \$4.75 million, the National Initiative for Building Community Trust and Justice provides training to law enforcement and communities on bias reduction and procedural fairness and is applying evidence-based strategies in five pilot sites around the country. It will also establish a clearinghouse where information, research, and technical assistance are readily accessible to law enforcement, criminal justice practitioners, and community leaders. A board of advisors—including national leaders from law enforcement, academia, and faith-based groups, community stakeholders, and civil rights advocates—will guide the initiative. Justice Department components, such as the Office of Justice Programs, OJJDP, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, the Civil Rights Division, and the Community Relations Service, will complement and advise the board.

Public-Private Partnerships for Reform

OJJDP is forming partnerships with the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors to leverage resources. These partnerships not

only maximize the efficiency of existing resources but also allow for critical information sharing across disciplines and more effective problem solving.

In a renewed public-private partnership, OJJDP and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation are jointly providing \$2 million to support innovative reforms in treatment and services for youth. Through this partnership established in 2011, OJJDP and MacArthur support training and technical assistance for states and local governments to meet the mental health needs of system-involved youth, reduce racial and ethnic disparities, and promote coordination and integration for youth involved in both the child welfare and the juvenile justice systems.

In FY 2014, OJJDP and the Casey Foundation renewed their public-private partnership to support reforms and innovations in juvenile detention. OJJDP provided \$330,000 to continue and expand training and technical assistance to states and tribal governments in the process of reforming their juvenile detention policies and practices through



expansion of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). This work includes expansion of the JDAI model into Indian country through a pilot program with the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

Reentry

Juveniles who return to their communities from residential placement face unique challenges and often need specialized services. Above all else, these youth need help to build successful futures and avoid further involvement with the juvenile justice system.

Reentry and the diverse challenges that juveniles face was the focus of the July 28, 2014, meeting of the OJJDP-administered

Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Council members and invited experts addressed OJJDP's juvenile reentry strategic plan and activities; research findings on reducing recidivism and improving other youth outcomes; and federal, state, and community activities promoting the successful transition of youth reentering their communities following system supervision. The meeting also featured the release of the white paper, *Core Principles for Reducing Recidivism and Improving Other Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System*, which the Council of State Governments Justice Center developed in collaboration with OJJDP.

Second Chance Act

In FY 2014, OJJDP provided nearly \$4.5 million for a Second Chance Act Two-Phase Juvenile Reentry Demonstration Program. The program, which supports the planning and implementation phases of a comprehensive juvenile reentry strategy, will help ensure that the assessments and services youth receive in secure confinement, during the reentry planning process, and upon reentry promote reduced recidivism rates and improvements in positive youth outcomes. Six states and jurisdictions will use the funding to develop and implement collaborative strategies to

reduce recidivism, increase public safety, and address the challenges that reentry poses.

OJJDP also provided nearly \$500,000 in funding to support the Second Chance Act Comprehensive Statewide Juvenile Reentry Systems Reform Planning Program. The program will help select states and jurisdictions develop a juvenile reentry system that reduces recidivism and improves positive youth outcomes. Grantees are receiving 12-month planning grants, during which time state- or local-level agencies will convene a reentry task force and develop and finalize a strategic plan for comprehensive juvenile reentry systems reform. When grantees complete their strategic plans, OJJDP will invite them to submit applications for implementation grants.

Legal Aid for Youth

In partnership with OJJDP, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will offer new grants to support collaborations between HUD-funded organizations, civil legal aid programs, and public defender offices. The grant-funded collaborations will focus on correcting, expunging, and sealing juvenile records—improving the chances that reentering youth can obtain degrees, find work, and secure housing.

In addition, stakeholders in the juvenile justice system—including judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, public defenders, and community-based organizations—will receive training on the collateral consequences of system involvement on children, their parents, and their guardians. The approximately \$1.8 million allocated to the program will support these activities through Public Housing Authorities working with stakeholders in the community.

Eliminating Prison Rape

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) was passed in 2003 with unanimous support from both parties in Congress. The purpose of the act is to “provide for the analysis of the incidence and effects of prison rape in federal, state, and local institutions and to provide information, resources, recommendations, and funding to protect individuals from prison rape.”

States that are unable to comply with the requirements of PREA are assessed a 5-percent penalty against their OJJDP-administered formula grant funds. In FY 2014, the Department of Justice reallocated these funds as grants to be used specifically for PREA-related purposes. Under the

Guidance for Prison Rape Elimination Act Reallocation Program, OJJDP provided \$717,757 to 44 jurisdictions to help state and local governments who are charged with the incarceration of prisoners to bring their facilities into closer compliance with the requirements of PREA. The funding supported efforts ranging from education and training to auditing and recordkeeping.

For more information about PREA and state compliance efforts, visit prearesourcecenter.org.

Juveniles Taken Into Custody

OJJDP monitors trends related to youth in residential placement. The 2013 Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) and the 2012 Juvenile Residential Facility Census (JRFC) provide valuable data and information about juveniles in custody and the facilities that hold them.

Facilities included in both the CJRP and JRFC data collections represent a wide range of facility types—secure, nonsecure, publicly operated (state and local), and privately operated (including long- and short-term holding). Of all juveniles in residential

placement, 68 percent were held in public facilities and 32 percent were held in private facilities.

Trends

A total of 54,148 youth were held in publicly and privately operated juvenile residential facilities on the October 2013 CJRP census date. The number of youth held in residential placement decreased 48 percent between 1997 and 2013, bringing the overall count back to a figure below that reported in 1977 (59,684).

Offense Profiles

The vast majority of youth in residential placement were held for delinquency offenses (95 percent). Person offenses accounted for 37 percent of youth held; property crimes were 24 percent; and drug offenses, public order offenses, and technical violations accounted for smaller percentages of youth held. Youth in placement for status offenses (which are not adult crimes) made up 5 percent of the population.



Offense profiles of detained and committed youth differed.* Technical violation and status offenses were more common among females than males in both the committed and detained populations. In contrast, person, property, and public order offenses were more common among both committed and detained males than females. African Americans accounted for the largest share of both detained and committed youth in 2013. Of the African American committed population, 43 percent were held for person offenses. In contrast, of the detained populations, Asian Americans accounted for the largest proportion (41 percent) held for person offenses. Similar

*Detained youth include juveniles held prior to adjudication while awaiting a hearing in juvenile or adult criminal court as well as juveniles held after adjudication while awaiting disposition or placement elsewhere. Committed youth include juveniles in placement in a facility as part of a court-ordered disposition or sentence.

proportions of white, Hispanic, and Asian youth were committed for drug and public order offenses in 2013 (approximately 20 percent).

Age

Overall, youth ages 16–17 made up more than 50 percent of the population, and youth

ages 13–15 made up 30 percent of those in residential placement.

Deaths in Residential Placement

Juvenile facilities reported 14 deaths of youth younger than age 21 in residential placement for the 12 months prior to the 2012 census.

Deaths of juveniles in residential placement remain relatively rare and, despite an increase since 2010, the death rate in 2012 (2.4 per 100,000) was lower than the rate in 2000 (2.8 per 100,000).

Offense Profiles of Youth									
Most Serious Offense	Total	Gender		Race/Ethnicity					
		Male	Female	White	African American	Hispanic	AI/AN	Asian American	Other
Total	54,148	46,421	7,727	17,563	21,550	12,291	1,078	476	1,190
Delinquency	95%	96%	89%	93%	96%	97%	93%	95%	92%
Person	37	38	31	33	41	34	33	36	38
Violent Crime Index*	25	28	13	20	31	25	18	28	21
Other Person	11	10	19	13	11	9	15	9	17
Property	24	24	19	23	25	23	23	29	20
Property Crime Index**	19	20	15	18	21	18	17	21	17
Other Property	4	5	3	5	4	5	6	8	3
Drug	7	6	7	8	4	8	7	7	5
Public order	11	12	9	11	11	12	9	11	10
Technical violation	17	16	23	17	15	21	21	12	18
Status offense	5	4	11	7	4	3	7	5	8

Note: AI/AN = American Indian/Alaska Native

*Violent Crime Index = Murder/nonnegligent manslaughter, robbery, and aggravated assault.

**Property Crime Index = Burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

SEEING CONNECTIONS WITH THE FIELD

Research • Evaluation • Communications • Training and Technical Assistance

Reforming Juvenile Justice. The National Research Council released *Implementing Juvenile Justice Reform*, an OJJDP-commissioned report that offers a recommended strategic plan for the federal government to support and facilitate developmentally oriented juvenile justice reform. Funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and OJJDP, the report draws on the findings and conclusions of the 2013 National Academies' report that consolidated, in one volume, the results of research on adolescent development and the effects of justice system interventions. The new report identifies seven hallmarks of an approach to juvenile justice reform that puts into practice what is currently known from research on adolescent development and on the effectiveness of juvenile justice interventions. They include accountability without criminalization, alternatives to justice system involvement, individualized responses based on assessment of needs and risks, confinement only when necessary for public safety, a genuine commitment to fairness, sensitivity to disparate treatment, and family engagement.

Assistance for States. OJJDP's Coordinated Assistance for States project is providing more than \$1.1 million to fund coordinated resources and training and technical assistance for states and communities to assist in the planning, establishing, operating, coordinating, and assessing of delinquency prevention, intervention, and juvenile justice systems improvement projects. The American Institutes for Research will work collaboratively with OJJDP to provide training and technical assistance on important topic areas under the Title II Formula Grants program.

Beyond Detention Series. OJJDP's Beyond Detention series of bulletins details the findings of the Northwestern Juvenile Project—a longitudinal study, cosponsored by OJJDP, of drug, alcohol, and psychiatric disorders in a diverse sample of juvenile detainees. Although many studies examine the connection

between risk factors and the onset of delinquency, few studies investigate youth after they are arrested and detained. In FY 2014, OJJDP released the bulletin *Functional Impairment in Delinquent Youth*, in which the authors presented the results of their examination of youth's functional impairment as assessed 3 years after their release from detention. Of the study sample, only 7.5 percent of youth had no notable impairment in functioning. Approximately 20 percent of every five youth had markedly impaired functioning. OJJDP also released the bulletin *Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors Among Detained Youth*, which found that approximately 1 in 10 juvenile detainees contemplated suicide within the 6 months prior to entering detention. The authors concluded that juvenile detention facilities should screen for suicide risk and increase their psychiatric services.

Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice. OJJDP is funding three research organizations at approximately \$50,000 each to conduct small studies, or secondary analyses of existing data, on the extent and impact of ethnic disparities on Hispanic/Latino youth's contact with the juvenile justice system. This contact includes arrests, referrals to court, diversion, charges filed, placement in secure juvenile detention facilities and adult jails and lockups, findings of delinquency, placement in secure juvenile correctional facilities, probation, and transfers to the adult criminal justice system.

Risk Assessment Implementation and Youth Outcomes. OJJDP is providing \$910,000 to support research to investigate approaches to risk assessment that are likely to inform juvenile justice reform and improvement efforts. The University of Cincinnati's study will describe and assess the variation in risk/needs assessment implementation practices within and across three states that use the Ohio Youth Assessment System to study system-level outcomes and individual case outcomes related to recidivism and other developmentally relevant outcomes.

Impact of Family Visitation. With funds from OJJDP, Vera Institute will conduct a 2-year study of the effect of expanded family visitation policies and practices on youth during confinement in the Indiana Department of Corrections, Division of Youth Services facilities, as well as during the reentry phase. This research will provide information about how to keep incarcerated young people and their families connected and how to improve youth's long-term outcomes and lower their recidivism rates.

Racial and Ethnic Disparities Listening Session. In March 2014, OJJDP convened a listening session with some of the nation's leading juvenile justice reform advocates to discuss recommendations for enhancing efforts to reduce disproportionate minority contact (DMC) within the nation's juvenile justice system. The group reached a consensus that successful strategies for reducing DMC include engaging police, judges, and the community; ensuring that data are collected accurately and basing interventions on the data; implementing objective risk assessment instruments; creating alternatives to formal system involvement; providing leadership at the local and state levels; and making DMC reduction a long-term priority.

Justice Research Series. In FY 2014, six new bulletins were released in this joint publication series by OJJDP and the National Institute of Justice. *Delays in Youth Justice* describes research that draws from the National Juvenile Court Data

Archive and from studies of three midwestern county courts that have successfully reduced delays in processing youth through the juvenile justice system. All three sites employed different, tailored approaches to addressing delays, but they all maintained a commitment to case management and routine communication. *Young Offenders: What Happens and What Should Happen* examines policies that affect youth who cross over from the juvenile justice system to the criminal justice system. *Criminal Career Patterns* discusses the criminal careers of offenders, specifically the links between offending patterns in adolescence and in adulthood. *Explanations for Offending* delves into five perspectives that explain diverse patterns of offending for individuals who began their criminal careers during adolescence. *Prediction and Risk/Needs Assessment* discusses the ability to predict whether a young adult will commit crimes, based on information available from his or her juvenile years, and reviews the assessment tools used to make these predictions. Finally, *Changing Lives: Prevention and Intervention To Reduce Serious Offending* focuses on the highest quality evaluation studies and research reviews and assesses early childhood, juvenile, and early adulthood programs that have demonstrated measurable impacts on offending in early adulthood or up to age 29.

Pathways to Desistance. Pathways to Desistance is an OJJDP-supported longitudinal study that investigates how to promote desistance from crime among youth who have committed serious offenses. OJJDP has developed a series

of bulletins summarizing the study. In FY 2014, OJJDP released *Behavioral Health Problems, Treatment, and Outcomes in Serious Adolescent Offenders*. The findings indicate that youth diagnosed with substance use disorders were at greater risk of reoffending, but those diagnosed with other behavioral health disorders were not.

Accessing Data. Developed by the National Center for Juvenile Justice, OJJDP's Statistical Briefing Book (available on the OJJDP website) offers easy, online access to a host of juvenile justice data. The FY 2014 update includes data through 2011 and 2012 as well as updated, frequently asked questions.

Juveniles in Residential Placement. This bulletin presents the latest available national and state-level data from the biennial Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement, which provides a detailed picture of juveniles in custody by age, race, gender, offenses, adjudication status, and more. The findings of the 2011 survey are generally positive. The population of youth in residential placement has declined 42 percent since 1997, and the number of status offenders in residential placement was down 64 percent from 1997. However, the bulletin highlights several areas where improvement is needed, especially

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regarding rates of confinement for minority youth. Nationwide, the residential placement rate for black youth was more than 4.5 times the rate for white youth, and the rate for Hispanic youth was 1.8 times the rate for white youth.

Youth Summit. In August 2014, OJJDP and the Coalition for Juvenile Justice cohosted a youth summit in Washington, DC, to cultivate and empower a new generation of juvenile justice professionals. Participants engaged in skill-building, networking, and leadership development while learning the basics of juvenile justice and delving into trending topics in juvenile justice reform.

Juvenile Interview and Interrogation Techniques. In June 2014, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, in collaboration with OJJDP, released a free online training series on effective juvenile interviewing and interrogation techniques. This introductory-level series is targeted to law enforcement and to legally authorized juvenile justice professionals who interview or interrogate youth. This online series, based on the successful classroom training, includes courses on analyzing juvenile behavior, developing rapport with youth, and juvenile interviewing and interrogation techniques.



OJJDP
Fiscal Year 2014
Awards



APPENDIX A



In fiscal year 2014, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention awarded more than \$262 million in grants to help at-risk youth, protect children, and improve juvenile justice systems nationwide. The awards were made through formula and discretionary grant funding.

Formula Grants

Funding through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) formula grants is available to states and territories through the state agency designated by the Governor. Juvenile justice specialists in each state administer the funding through subgrants to units of local government, local private agencies, and federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native jurisdictions for programs in accordance with legislative requirements. In fiscal year (FY) 2014, OJJDP awarded more than \$38 million under the following formula grant programs:

Program Title	Total Funding	Number of Awards
Guidance for Prison Rape Elimination Act Reallocation Funds	\$717,757	44
Title II Formula Grants Program	\$38,231,218	56

Discretionary Grants

OJJDP awards discretionary grants to states, units of local government, and private organizations to administer programs. More than \$223 million in discretionary grants was awarded in FY 2014.

Solicitation Title	Total Funding	Number of Awards
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation Program	\$999,011	2
Comprehensive Antigang Strategies and Programs	\$610,434	3
Coordinated Assistance for States	\$1,141,697	1
Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation Purpose Area 8: Tribal Juvenile Accountability Discretionary Program	\$300,000	1
Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation Purpose Area 9: Tribal Youth Program	\$2,887,873	7
Enhancements to Juvenile Drug Courts	\$3,614,795	8
Family Drug Court Statewide System Reform	\$2,100,000	5

Solicitation Title	Total Funding	Number of Awards
High-Risk Youth Mentoring Research. Category 1: Secondary Data Analysis and Long-Term Follow-up	\$599,808	2
High-Risk Youth Mentoring Research. Category 2: New Mentoring Research and Evaluations	\$998,194	1
Initiative To Develop and Test Guidelines for Juvenile Drug Courts	\$5,988,057	1
Internet Crimes Against Children Program Support	\$2,000,000	1
Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Invited Awards	\$22,000,000	61
Investigator-Initiated Research on Risk Assessment	\$910,045	1
Invited Research Awards	\$4,624,918	14
Juvenile Justice System Improvement Invited Awards	\$2,105,000	7
Mentoring for Child Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Sex Trafficking Initiative. Category 1: Mentoring Project Sites	\$1,770,024	4
Mentoring for Child Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation and Domestic Sex Trafficking Initiative. Category 2: Training and Technical Assistance	\$459,976	1
Missing and Exploited Children Training and Technical Assistance Program	\$2,000,000	1
Multi-State Mentoring Initiative. Category 1: One-on-One Mentoring	\$2,000,000	2
Multi-State Mentoring Initiative. Category 2: Group Mentoring	\$8,000,000	8
Multi-State Mentoring Initiative. Category 3: Combined One-on-One and Group Mentoring	\$11,000,000	11
National Center for Building Community Trust and Justice: Improving the Justice System by Enhancing Procedural Fairness, Reducing Bias, and Supporting Racial Reconciliation	\$4,750,000	1
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children Invited Grant Program	\$32,000,000	2
National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention Expansion Project	\$100,000	5

Solicitation Title	Total Funding	Number of Awards
National Gang Center	\$1,500,000	1
National Mentoring Programs. Category 1: One-on-One Mentoring	\$4,627,342	1
National Mentoring Programs. Category 2: Group Mentoring	\$1,753,465	1
National Mentoring Programs. Category 3: Combined One-on-One and Group Mentoring	\$34,800,000	2
Nonparticipating State Program: Wyoming	\$380,000	1
Now Is the Time: School Justice Collaboration Program: Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court. Category 1: Local School Justice Collaboration Program	\$2,400,000	4
Practitioner-Researcher Partnership: Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration Program. Category 1: Program Development and Implementation	\$2,492,322	1
Practitioner-Researcher Partnership: Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Parents Demonstration Program. Category 2: Evaluation	\$2,499,597	1
School Justice Collaboration Program: Keeping Kids in School and Out of Court. Category 2: National Training and Technical Assistance	\$1,910,177	1
Second Chance Act Comprehensive Statewide Juvenile Reentry Systems Reform Planning Program	\$482,676	6
Second Chance Act Strengthening Relationships Between Young Fathers and Their Children: A Reentry Mentoring Project	\$2,000,000	5
Second Chance Act Two-Phase Juvenile Reentry Demonstration Program: Planning and Implementation	\$4,497,472	6
Smart on Juvenile Justice: A Comprehensive Strategy to Juvenile Justice Reform	\$600,000	1
Smart on Juvenile Justice: Juvenile Prosecution Curriculum Development, Training, and Technical Assistance Program	\$500,000	1

Solicitation Title	Total Funding	Number of Awards
Smart on Juvenile Justice: Technical Assistance To End Racial and Ethnic Disparities in the Juvenile Justice System	\$1,165,751	2
State and Community Development Invited Awards	\$10,412,609	25
Studies Program on Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice	\$147,379	3
Training and Technical Assistance Invited Awards	\$8,210,834	3
Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Responses to Underage Drinking Initiative. Category 1: Project Sites	\$1,900,944	5
Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Responses to Underage Drinking Initiative. Category 2: Training and Technical Assistance	\$600,000	1
Youth Development, Prevention, and Safety Invited Awards	\$26,346,183	28
Youth Violence Prevention Technical Assistance Program	\$750,000	1
Youth With Sexual Behavior Problems Program. Category 1: Non-Tribal Project Sites	\$600,000	2
Youth With Sexual Behavior Problems Program. Category 2: Tribal Project Sites	\$119,107	1

Award information for FYs 2007–14 is available on the OJJDP website, ojjdp.gov (click on “Funding,” then “Awards”).



OJJDP
Fiscal Year 2014
Publications



APPENDIX B



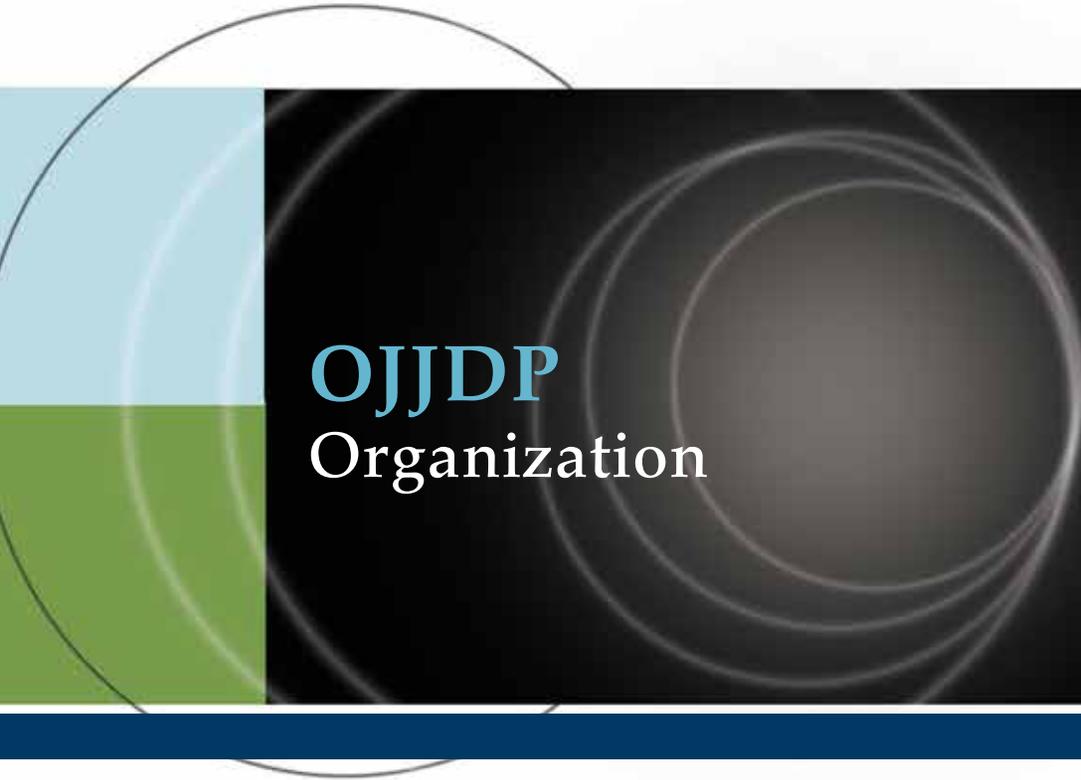
All Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) publications can be viewed and downloaded from the OJJDP website, ojjdp.gov (select “Publications”). Print publications can also be ordered online at the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) website, ncjrs.gov (select “A–Z Publications/Products”). The NCJ numbers in the chart can be used to search for or order resources from NCJRS or to locate specific resources in the NCJRS library.

Publication Title	Publication Type	NCJ Number
<i>Behavioral Health Problems, Treatment, and Outcomes in Serious Youthful Offenders</i>	Bulletin, Pathways to Desistance Series	242440
<i>Changing Lives: Prevention and Intervention to Reduce Serious Offending</i>	Bulletin, Justice Research Series	243993
<i>Children's Exposure to Violence and the Intersection Between Delinquency and Victimization</i>	Bulletin, National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence Series	240555
<i>Criminal Career Patterns</i>	Fact Sheet, Justice Research Series	242545
<i>Delays in Youth Justice</i>	Bulletin, Justice Research Series	237149
<i>Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Court, 2010</i>	Fact Sheet, National Report Series	243041
<i>Delinquency Cases Waived to Criminal Court, 2010</i>	Fact Sheet, National Report Series	243042
<i>Developmental Sequences of Girls' Delinquent Behavior</i>	Bulletin, Girls Study Group Series	238276
<i>Explanations for Offending</i>	Fact Sheet, Justice Research Series	243975
<i>Functional Impairment in Delinquent Youth</i>	Bulletin, Beyond Detention Series	239996



Publication Title	Publication Type	NCJ Number
<i>Juvenile Arrests 2010</i>	Bulletin, National Report Series	242770
<i>Juvenile Arrests 2011</i>	Bulletin, National Report Series	244476
<i>Juveniles in Residential Placement, 2011</i>	Bulletin, National Report Series	246826
<i>OJJDP Annual Report 2012: How OJJDP Is Working for Youth Justice and Safety</i>	Report	241584
<i>OJJDP News @ a Glance, September/October 2013</i>	Newsletter	243534
<i>OJJDP News @ a Glance, November/December 2013</i>	Newsletter	244167
<i>OJJDP News @ a Glance, January/February 2014</i>	Newsletter	244623
<i>OJJDP News @ a Glance, March/April 2014</i>	Newsletter	245451
<i>OJJDP News @ a Glance, May/June 2014</i>	Newsletter	246825
<i>OJJDP News @ a Glance, July/August 2014</i>	Newsletter	247631
<i>Prediction and Risk/Needs Assessment</i>	Bulletin, Justice Research Series	243976
<i>Suicidal Thoughts and Behaviors Among Detained Youth</i>	Bulletin, Beyond Detention Series	243891
<i>Young Offenders: What Happens and What Should Happen</i>	Bulletin, Justice Research Series	242653



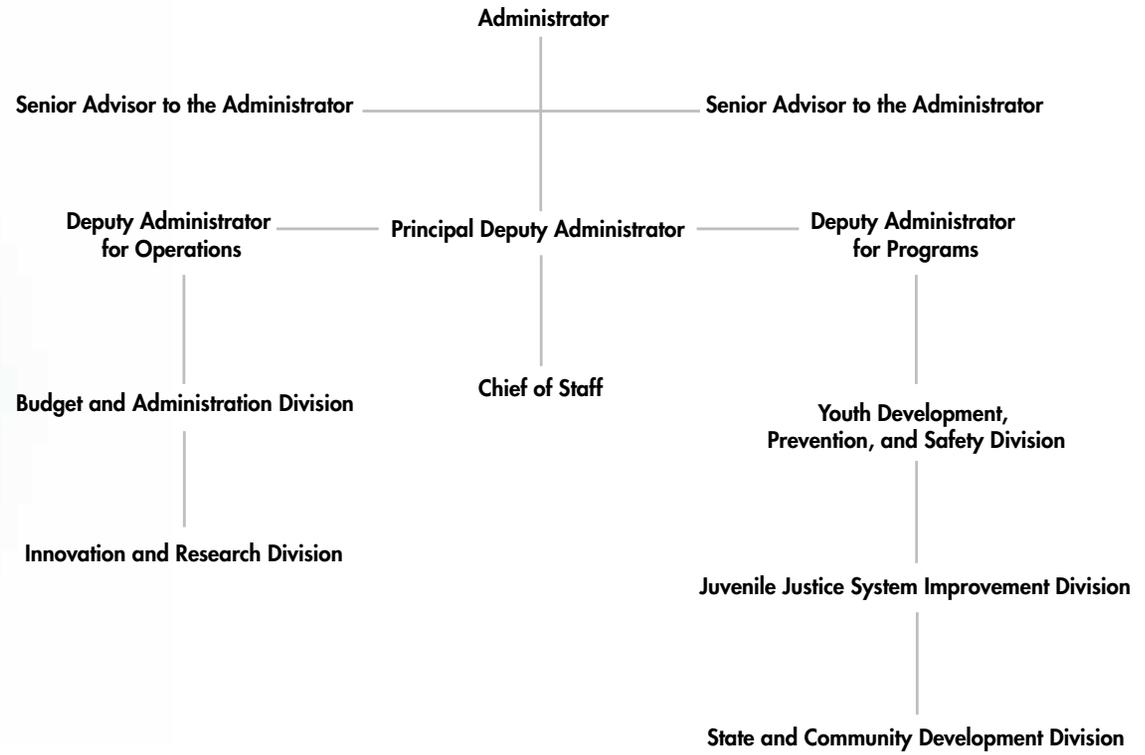


OJJDP Organization



APPENDIX C

OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION



Office of the Administrator

The Office of the Administrator establishes the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) priorities and policies, oversees the management of the Office's divisions, and fosters collaboration with federal, state, and local agencies and associations that share OJJDP's commitment to preventing and combating juvenile delinquency and victimization.

Budget and Administration Division

The Budget and Administration Division is responsible for OJJDP's human resources, office support, budget, performance measurement, and award administration services. This division also manages audit and compliance responsibilities to ensure states' adherence to the core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, providing states with specialized assistance and expertise on compliance-related issues.

Innovation and Research Division

The Innovation and Research Division administers OJJDP's research, training and technical assistance, and communications activities. This division oversees the agency's program of research and evaluation, translating the knowledge and lessons learned from these activities into specialized training and technical assistance for tribal nations, states, and communities, and communicating OJJDP's priorities and initiatives to the field to promote sound policies, best practices, and system improvement.

Juvenile Justice System Improvement Division

The Juvenile Justice System Improvement (JJSI) Division administers policies and programs that connect directly with the juvenile justice system. JJSI coordinates OJJDP's work with law enforcement, judges and courts, corrections, and other juvenile justice components to promote system improvement and best practices. This division includes the National Juvenile Information Sharing Initiative, the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, and reentry (Second Chance Act) and mental health initiatives.

State and Community Development Division

The State and Community Development (SCD) Division administers OJJDP's formula and block grants and major Department of Justice program and policy initiatives, including Defending Childhood, the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention, and the Supportive School Discipline Initiative. SCD also supports OJJDP's public and private sector partnerships and ensures engagement with the field through its administration of the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice, and development of working relationships with the philanthropic community.

Youth Development, Prevention, and Safety Division

The Youth Development, Prevention, and Safety (YDPS) Division administers policies and programs that focus on positive youth development and protecting children against victimization. YDPS coordinates OJJDP's efforts that cover the continuum of children's experiences before they reach the juvenile justice system. Among the programs that this division administers are mentoring programs for at-risk children, the Internet Crimes Against Children program, the Tribal Youth Program, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, AMBER Alert, and children's advocacy centers.

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Justice Programs

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

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