

delivery systems that expand on existing partnerships in the areas of law enforcement, mental health, early childhood education and development, domestic violence, child welfare, substance abuse prevention and treatment, courts, family support and strengthening, crisis intervention, and legal services.

#### Community-Based Violence Prevention Program

The goal of this program is to replicate initiatives, such as the Boston Gun Project, the Richmond Comprehensive Homicide Initiative, and the Chicago CeaseFire model, to reduce violence in targeted communities. Grantees target the high-risk activities and behaviors of a small number of carefully selected members of the community who are likely to be involved in violent activities, specifically gun violence, in the immediate future. The intervention with this target population includes improved coordination of existing resources and activities that support multiple, complementary antiviolence strategies. All community-based violence reduction strategies must be evidence based and have demonstrated effectiveness through research and evaluation.

#### Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

The Council is an independent body within the executive branch of the federal government that coordinates all federal programs and activities related to juvenile delinquency prevention, the care or detention of unaccompanied juveniles, and missing and exploited children. It has a number of other mandated responsibilities and also engages in activities such as building collaborations and disseminating information. Part of the Council's mandate is to make annual recommendations to Congress regarding juvenile justice policies, objectives, and priorities. To help shape these recommendations, the Council holds quarterly meetings (open to the public) that provide a forum for the exchange of information, ideas, and research findings. The Council has 12 members representing federal agencies and 9 practitioner members representing disciplines that focus on youth. The Attorney General serves as chairperson and the Administrator of OJJDP as vice chairperson.

To stay informed about OJJDP and other juvenile justice programs, publications, resources, and events, subscribe to the JUVJUST listserv and *OJJDP News @ a Glance* by visiting OJJDP's Web site at [ojjdp.gov](http://ojjdp.gov).

## OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

*Serving Children, Families, and Communities*



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.

For more information, go to [ojjdp.gov](http://ojjdp.gov).



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#### What Is OJJDP's Mission?

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP supports states, communities, and tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to implement effective prevention and intervention programs and to improve the juvenile justice system so that it protects public safety, holds offenders accountable, and provides treatment services tailored to the needs of juveniles and their families.

Learn more at [ojjdp.gov](http://ojjdp.gov).

#### OJJDP's Major Grant Programs

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) administers grant programs authorized by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, as amended. OJJDP also administers several programs under other legislative authority and through partnerships with other federal agencies. In keeping with OJJDP's mission, these programs are designed to help strengthen the juvenile justice system, prevent juvenile delinquency, hold juvenile offenders accountable, and protect and safeguard the nation's youth.

##### Formula Grants Program

This program supports state efforts to improve their juvenile justice systems and to meet the goals of the JJDP Act. Funds, which are allocated annually among the states and territories on the basis of their relative population younger than 18 years old, support state and local efforts to develop and implement comprehensive juvenile justice plans based on a detailed analysis of needs in their jurisdictions. To receive a full allocation, a state must demonstrate compliance with four core requirements—deinstitutionalization of

status offenders, separation of juveniles from adults in institutions, removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups, and reduction of disproportionate minority contact, where it exists—prescribed by the JJDP Act of 1974, as amended. The statute requires states to pass through at least 67 percent of the funds (other than funds made available to state advisory groups) to units of general local government, local private agencies, and American Indian tribes that perform law enforcement functions.

##### Research, Evaluation, Technical Assistance, and Training

This program provides for the collection, preparation, and dissemination of useful, scientifically sound research and evaluation findings and appropriate training and technical assistance regarding the prevention, treatment, and control of juvenile delinquency. Knowledge gained through research of proven methods increases OJJDP's ability to develop and support programs that use well-crafted solutions and interventions to address the problems of juvenile crime and violence. Since 2004, OJJDP has not received an appropriation for this program.





### Developing, Testing, and Demonstrating Promising New Initiatives and Programs

This program provides funding to states, units of general local government, American Indian tribal governments, public and private agencies, organizations, and individuals, or combinations thereof, to carry out projects for the development, testing, and demonstration of promising initiatives and programs for the prevention, control, or reduction of juvenile delinquency. Funds support model programs to strengthen and preserve families; prevention and treatment programs for serious, violent, and chronic juvenile offenders; efforts to divert youth from the traditional juvenile justice and correctional systems; community-based alternatives to secure confinement; and programs to establish a system of graduated sanctions for juvenile offenders. Congress did not appropriate funds for this program in fiscal year 2011.

### Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs

States competitively award Title V funds to units of local government for a broad range of data-driven, evidence-based delinquency prevention programs to benefit youth at risk of coming into contact with the juvenile justice system. Delinquency prevention efforts are focused on one or more of the following domains: family, community, school, and peers.

### Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

This program provides block grant funds for each state, the District of Columbia, and five territories (American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico) as well as funds to support discretionary grants and technical assistance and training to enforce state laws prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors. Projects may include statewide task forces of state and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies to target establishments suspected of a pattern of violations of state laws governing the sale and consumption of alcohol by minors, public advertising programs to educate establishments about statutory prohibitions and sanctions, and innovative programs to prevent and control underage drinking.

### Anti-Gang Programs

OJJDP gang prevention programs focus on reducing youth gang crime and violence through an integrated application of proven practices in primary prevention, secondary prevention, gang intervention, gang suppression, and reentry.

### Tribal Youth Program

Authorized under annual appropriations acts, the Tribal Youth Program supports and enhances tribal efforts to prevent and control delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system for American Indian/Alaska Native youth. All federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native villages or coalitions of tribes or villages are eligible to apply for a 5-year grant. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis.

### Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program

This program provides formula grant funds to develop programs to promote greater accountability in the juvenile justice system. Funds can be used for 17 purpose areas, including developing graduated sanctions for juvenile offenders, hiring additional prosecutors, and improving juvenile defender services. All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico are eligible.

### Juvenile Mentoring

OJJDP funds national and community initiatives to develop and expand mentoring services for at-risk youth who are underserved due to where they live, a shortage of mentors, special physical or mental challenges of the targeted population, or other extenuating situations. This initiative also promotes collaboration among community agencies and organizations that support mentoring services. Such support includes assisting with mentoring recruitment and mentor retention, training mentors, matching mentors, developing and implementing evaluation plans, collecting and analyzing data, developing

strategic and action plans, ensuring cultural competence, developing mentoring partnerships and coalitions, and educating community members.

### Child Abuse Training for Judicial Personnel

Authorized under the Victims of Child Abuse Act, as amended, this program disseminates information, offers court improvement training programs, and provides national and state-level technical assistance on permanency planning and model court achievements to improve dependency courts' handling of child abuse and neglect cases. OJJDP awards a grant to the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to provide these services.

### Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Program

This program provides children in the foster care system or at risk of entering the dependency system with high-quality, timely, effective, and sensitive representation before the court. Volunteers who are trained to advocate for the interests of the child in dependency proceedings provide representation. Judges rely on the information these advocates present to make more informed decisions in dependency cases. OJJDP provides funding to support grants to state and local CASA organizations for activities, such as recruiting volunteer advocates (including minority volunteers) and providing training and technical assistance to these organizations and to stakeholders in the child welfare system.

### Improving the Investigation and Prosecution of Child Abuse

Authorized through the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990, as amended, this program supports the implementation of a coordinated, informed, and timely response to child abuse in every community throughout the nation. This is achieved through a coordinated national strategy of providing training and technical assistance to professionals involved in investigating, prosecuting, and treating child abuse as well as through support for the development of Children's Advocacy Centers.

### Missing and Exploited Children's Program

This program enhances the national response of state, local, and federal law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and nongovernmental organizations to missing and exploited children. The program serves as the primary vehicle for building a national infrastructure to support the effort to prevent the abduction and exploitation of our nation's children.

### Internet Crimes Against Children Program

This program supports a national network of 61 multiagency, multijurisdictional task forces engaged in investigations, forensic examinations, and prosecutions related to Internet crimes against children. Additionally, the task forces provide forensic and investigative technical assistance to law enforcement and prosecutorial officials, and provide community education to parents, educators, prosecutors, law enforcement, and others concerned with child victimization.

### Defending Childhood Initiative

This Department of Justice initiative supports the development of comprehensive community-based strategies to prevent and reduce the impact of children's exposure to violence in their homes, schools, and communities. The goals of the initiative are to prevent children's exposure to violence as victims and witnesses, mitigate the negative effects that children exposed to violence experience, and develop knowledge about and increase awareness of this issue. A key component of the initiative is a multiyear demonstration program. Phase I includes planning grants for eight demonstration sites. In Phase II, the Department will select as many as four communities from the initial eight to receive funding for further implementation of their plans, based on the availability of funding.

### Safe Start Program

This program is designed to prevent and reduce the impact of children's exposure to violence by creating comprehensive service