



OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS FISCAL YEAR 2007



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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	I
1 OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS OVERVIEW	3
OJP'S ORGANIZATION	3
BUREAUS	4
PROGRAM OFFICES	5
SUPPORT OFFICES	5
CONTACTING OJP	6
2 LAW ENFORCEMENT.	7
BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM	7
PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER MEDAL OF VALOR	8
PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS' BENEFITS PROGRAM	8
WEED AND SEED	9
EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL DISCRETIONARY GRANTS PROGRAM	10
TARGETING VIOLENT CRIME INITIATIVE.	11
PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLANNING	12
NATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE TITLE INFORMATION SYSTEM	13
ADAM WALSH ACT IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROGRAM	14
NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION	14
THE SMART OFFICE WEB-BASED SOFTWARE TOOLS	15
NATIONAL WORKSHOP AND SYMPOSIUM ON SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.	15
NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER PUBLIC WEBSITE.	15
PROJECT SAFE CHILDHOOD/INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE PROGRAM	16
3 COURTS.	17
JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATION PROGRAM/MENTAL HEALTH COURTS PROGRAM	17
COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE PROGRAM	17
TRIBAL COURTS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.	18
CAPITAL LITIGATION	19
4 CORRECTIONS	21
PRISONER REENTRY INITIATIVE	21
5 GANGS	23
PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS/DOJ ANTI-GANG INITIATIVE	23
BJA INITIATIVES.	23
NIJ INITIATIVES	24
OJJDP INITIATIVES	25

6	JUVENILE JUSTICE	27
	JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY: FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM	27
	TITLE V COMMUNITY PREVENTION GRANTS PROGRAM	28
	JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM	29
	ENFORCING UNDERAGE DRINKING LAWS PROGRAM	29
	TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM	31
	MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN	33
	NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN	33
	PREVENTING THE COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN	34
	AMBER ALERT	35
	MENTORING PROGRAMS	36
7	VICTIMS OF CRIME	39
	CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION	39
	CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE	39
	HELPING OUTREACH PROGRAMS TO EXPAND (HOPE)	39
	SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF TERRORISM, MASS VIOLENCE, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL CRIMES	40
	VICTIM REUNIFICATION TRAVEL ASSISTANCE	41
	SERVICES FOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMS DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM	41
	CHILDREN’S JUSTICE ACT	43
	COUNSELING AND FAITH-BASED SERVICES FOR CRIME VICTIMS IN INDIAN COUNTRY BY FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS	43
	TRIBAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM	44
	VICTIM ASSISTANCE IN THE FEDERAL SYSTEM	46
	NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS WEEK	46
	CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT PROJECT	47
	NATIONWIDE AUTOMATED VICTIM INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM	48
	VICTIMS’ RIGHTS COMPLIANCE PROJECT	48
	NATIONAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY	49
	STATE VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY	49
	WEB FORUMS	49
	IDENTITY THEFT	49
	OVC’S TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER	50
8	SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND CRIME	51
	RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR STATE PRISONERS FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM	51
	JUVENILE DRUG COURTS/RECLAIMING FUTURES PROGRAM	51
	INDIAN ALCOHOL AND CRIME DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM	52

9	TECHNOLOGY TO FIGHT CRIME	53
	PAUL COVERDELL GRANTS	53
	PRESIDENT’S DNA INITIATIVE	53
	JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING	55
	NIJ’S COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (COMMTech) PROGRAM	56
	TECHNOLOGY CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE	57
	CRIMINAL RECORDS IMPROVEMENT	58
	TRIBAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	59
	VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT II STALKING DATABASES	60
10	RESEARCH, STATISTICS, AND EVALUATION	61
	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND EVALUATION PROGRAMS	61
	VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND FAMILY VIOLENCE	61
	COURT RESEARCH	65
	CORRECTIONS RESEARCH	65
	DRUGS AND CRIME RESEARCH	68
	CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICAL PROGRAMS	69
	COURTS AND SENTENCING STATISTICS	69
	CORRECTIONS STATISTICS	70
	PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT STATISTICS	70
	VICTIMIZATION STATISTICS	72
	LAW ENFORCEMENT AND FORENSIC STATISTICS	73
	TRIBAL JUSTICE STATISTICS	74
	STATE JUSTICE STATISTICS PROGRAM	74
	JUVENILE JUSTICE RESEARCH AND STATISTICS PROGRAMS	75
	CSEC RESEARCH	77
	EVALUATION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS	77
	REPLICATION AND EVALUATION OF PROMISING PROGRAMS FOR	
	SUBSTANCE ABUSE	77
	EVALUATION OF OTHER JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS	77
	APPENDIX: FISCAL YEAR 2007 AWARDS	81

INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report provides an overview of many of the projects undertaken by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) in an effort to fulfill the vision of providing unparalleled resources to the justice community. The report is required pursuant to sections 102(b) and 810 of Public Law 90-351, the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 [42 U.S.C. 3712(b), 3789e]. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2007, in the absence of earmarks, OJP administered additional discretionary funding. OJP draws on a wealth of knowledge supported by research and many years of staff experience to ensure that the funds allocated by Congress reach those programs most able to meet the needs identified by OJP. OJP employees collaborate extensively with criminal justice organizations to facilitate further progress in the criminal justice field. Significant efforts are made to disseminate information on promising practices and proven approaches to increasing safety across the country.

The information contained in this report provides an accounting of many of these efforts to lead and support criminal justice programming around the country. Several OJP bureaus also submit Annual Reports to Congress that cumulatively provide a more comprehensive look at OJP programming. Therefore, this report does not attempt to include all OJP programs. For additional information, call OJP's Office of Communications at 202-307-0703 or visit the OJP Web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov.

OJP's VISION

OJP will be the premier resource for the justice community. We will do this by providing and coordinating information, research and development, statistics, training, and support to help the justice community build the capacity it needs to meet its public safety goals. These initiatives will be accomplished by embracing local decision-making while also encouraging local innovation through strong and intelligent national policy leadership.

1

OFFICE OF JUSTICE

PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

For more than 20 years, OJP has effectively provided federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, improve the criminal and juvenile justice systems, increase knowledge about crime and related issues, and assist crime victims. OJP continues to be the premier resource for the nation's criminal and juvenile justice communities. OJP's role is to work in partnership with the justice community to identify challenges confronting the justice system and to provide state-of-the-art information, training, funding, and innovative approaches and strategies for addressing those challenges.

Over the past nine years, OJP has provided nearly 49,000 grants totaling over \$25 billion in assistance to state and local law enforcement and community organizations. In addition, OJP has provided many hours of training and technical assistance, as well as insightful research, technology, and statistical information to law enforcement, criminal and juvenile justice practitioners, policy makers, and community organizations. OJP positively impacts communities across the country every day.

OJP is led by an Assistant Attorney General who ensures that OJP policies and programs reflect the priorities of the President, the Attorney General, and the Congress. The Assistant Attorney General provides leadership and promotes coordination among the major program offices within OJP.

OJP's MISSION

To increase public safety and improve the fair administration of justice across America through innovative leadership and programs.

OJP's ORGANIZATION

OJP consists of the following bureaus and program offices:

- ▶ Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
- ▶ Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)
- ▶ National Institute of Justice (NIJ)
- ▶ Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
- ▶ Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)
- ▶ Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO)
- ▶ Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART)

Bureaus

The **Bureau of Justice Assistance** (BJA) supports law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, victim services, technology, and prevention initiatives that strengthen the nation's criminal justice system. BJA provides leadership, services, and funding to America's communities by: emphasizing local control, building relationships in the field, developing collaborations and partnerships, promoting capacity building through planning, streamlining grant programs, increasing training and technical assistance, ensuring accountability of projects, encouraging innovation, and communicating the value of justice efforts to decision makers at every level.

The **Bureau of Justice Statistics** (BJS) is the primary statistical agency of the Department of Justice (DOJ). BJS collects, analyzes, publishes, and disseminates information on crime, criminal offenders, victims of crime, and the operation of justice systems at all levels of government. BJS provides the President, Congress, other officials, and the public with timely, accurate, and objective data about crime and the administration of justice. In addition, BJS provides financial and technical support to state, local, and tribal governments to develop their criminal justice statistical capabilities. This assistance targets the development of information systems related to national criminal history records, records of protective orders involving domestic violence and stalking, sex offender registries, and automated identification systems used for background checks.

The **National Institute of Justice** (NIJ) is the research, development, and evaluation agency of DOJ. NIJ provides objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to meet the challenges of criminal justice, particularly at state, local, and tribal levels. The Institute's major program areas include: research on the causes and consequences of crime and ways to prevent it; research, development, and evaluation of technologies and practices to protect the safety and improve the effectiveness of law enforcement and corrections professionals; development and evaluation of

crime control and prevention initiatives at the federal, state, local, and tribal levels, and internationally; and activities to enhance the state of criminal justice procedure, such as the President's DNA Initiative.

The **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention** (OJJDP) supports state, tribal, and community efforts to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP sponsors numerous research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming nationwide. Major areas of emphasis include programming to address missing and exploited children and to enhance gang reduction efforts. Through programs that incorporate proven prevention strategies, provide treatment and rehabilitation, and hold juvenile offenders accountable, OJJDP strives to improve the juvenile justice system so that the public is better protected, and youth and their families are better served.

The **Office for Victims of Crime** (OVC) is committed to enhancing the nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to providing leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all crime victims. In this regard, OVC administers programs authorized by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, as amended, and the Crime Victims Fund authorized by this statute. The Fund is comprised of criminal fines and penalties, special assessments, and bond forfeitures collected from convicted federal perpetrators, as well as gifts and donations received from the general public. Money deposited in the Fund is used to support a wide range of activities on behalf of crime victims, including victim compensation and assistance services, training and technical assistance, and program evaluation and replication. OVC provides assistance and support to victims of crime in several areas including, but not limited to, the following: domestic and international terrorism, domestic violence, mass violence, identity theft, child sexual assault, and human trafficking.

Program Offices

The **Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO)** supports one of OJP's core missions: to work with local communities to analyze public safety and criminal justice problems, develop solutions, and foster local-level leadership to implement and sustain those solutions. Its efforts lead the formation of innovative partnerships between federal, state and local levels to further promote public safety, resident empowerment, and economic development. These activities are made possible through a strategic three-pronged approach comprised of: direct grant assistance; training and technical assistance; and program development through promotion of partnerships and best practices. Grant assistance is provided through CCDO's flagship program, the Weed and Seed initiative—a multiagency approach to law enforcement, crime prevention, and community revitalization. In the program development area, CCDO increases community familiarity with promising crime prevention and community improvement practices. Topical areas include reentry, increased safety in public housing, financial literacy and asset development, drug abuse prevention and reduction of gun violence. In addition, CCDO coordinates technical assistance for tribal communities, creates partnerships and tools that help expand community capacity, and conducts outreach to educate Indian Country about opportunities available through CCDO.

The **Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking (SMART)** was authorized by the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 and began operations in early Fiscal Year (FY) 2007. The SMART Office mission is to ensure that convicted sex offenders are prohibited from preying on citizens through a system of appropriate restrictions, regulations, and internment. The role of the SMART Office is to (1) administer the standards for the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Program set forth in Title 1 of the Adam Walsh Act; (2) administer grant programs relating to sex offender registration and notification authorized by the Adam Walsh Act, as well as

other grant programs authorized by the Adam Walsh Act as directed by the Attorney General; and (3) cooperate with and provide technical assistance to states, the District of Columbia, principal U.S. territories, units of local government, tribal governments, and other public and private entities involved in activities related to sex offender registration or notification, or related to other measures for the protection of children or other members of the public.

Support Offices

The following offices within OJP provide agency-wide support:

- ▶ Office of Administration
- ▶ Office of the Chief Financial Officer
- ▶ Office of the Chief Information Officer
- ▶ Office for Civil Rights
- ▶ Office of Communications
- ▶ Office of General Counsel
- ▶ Office of Audit, Assessment, and Management
- ▶ Equal Employment Opportunity Office

As 2007 was the first year OJP's Office of Audit, Assessment, and Management (OAAM) was operational, highlights regarding this office are provided here. Section 1158 of Public Law 109-162, The Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005, established OAAM within DOJ. In December 2006, the Attorney General delegated OAAM leadership authority to the Assistant Attorney General for Justice Programs. Congress approved a subsequent revision to the OJP organizational chart to include OAAM in April 2007, and the OAAM internal organizational design was approved by the Acting Associate Attorney General in August 2007.

Throughout the organizational approval process, OJP worked diligently to achieve the

requirements of the Reauthorization Act, and FY 2007 was a year of significant accomplishment for the newly-established OAAM. Some of OAAM's accomplishments include, but were not limited to

- ▶ an intensive collaboration with the Offices of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) and the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) at OJP to improve financial management and information technology internal controls to achieve a report of "No Material Weakness" for OJP's FY 2007 Financial Statement Audit
- ▶ closure of 18 out of 45 OIG open recommendations relating to OJP's operations and grant programs
- ▶ an assessment of travel charge card and purchase card compliance and follow-up collaboration with the OCFO and the Office of Administration to resolve identified issues
- ▶ finalizing a Policy Order for High-Risk Grantee Designation
- ▶ implementation of a system-based, automatic hold on grant funds for grantees with delinquent progress reports
- ▶ completion of adaptive maintenance to implement a grant closeout module in GMS, intended to significantly improve the timeliness of the grant closeout process
- ▶ revisions and updates to the OJP Grant Manager's Manual and subsequent training of over 400 OJP staff on effective grant management policy

- ▶ an increased emphasis on grant monitoring and tracking efforts at OJP, resulting in on-site monitoring of OJP and COPS grantees that totaled more than 20 percent of open award funds
- ▶ an update to OJP monitoring policies and procedures, including the required use of standardized grant assessment and monitoring tools, which are enforced through quarterly reviews of monitoring documentation and activity conducted by OAAM

CONTACTING OJP

The Office of Communications (OCOM) is the primary point of contact for all of OJP. OCOM ensures effective communication with Congress, the media, outside organizations, and the public. OCOM can be reached at 202-307-0703.

OJP also maintains a Web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov. In addition to general information about OJP and its bureaus, the Web site includes downloadable versions of many OJP publications and application kits, as well as useful links to selected criminal justice Web sites. Each bureau and office Web site includes an e-mail address to which the public can write with questions about the office or its programs.

For ordering and other information about OJP publications, contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Service at 1-800-851-3420 or www.ncjrs.gov.

2

LAW ENFORCEMENT

BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

BJA administers the Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program. The BVP program helps protect the lives of public safety officers by assisting state, local, and tribal governments in equipping their officers with armor vests. The program pays up to 50 percent of the cost of each vest purchased by applicants. Eligible law enforcement officers include police officers, sheriff's deputies, correctional officers, parole and probation agents, prosecutors, and judicial officials. Applicants can select and purchase any ballistic- or stab-resistant vest that meets applicable NIJ standards.

- ▶ In FY 2007, BJA, through the Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) program, made more than \$28.6 million in payments to nearly 4,000 agencies supporting the purchase of more than 180,000 vests for law enforcement officers across the country. This includes funds for the replacement of currently deployed Zylon® vests, which may not provide the intended level of ballistic resistance.
- ▶ Of the total amount, approximately \$15.8 million in payments was made to large jurisdictions, and approximately \$12.9 million to smaller jurisdictions. In addition, BJA, NIJ, and the National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center partnered to ensure that the BVP Web site presents the most

up-to-date and accurate information regarding NIJ vest testing results so that vest purchasers can make informed equipment choices.

- ▶ In 2007, NIJ worked to update its body armor standard, holding numerous meetings with law enforcement officials, body armor manufacturers and other interested parties. The comprehensive revision of the standard focuses on the continuing performance of armor as it is subjected to heat and humidity, ensuring that the armor will continue to provide protection as it ages. The standard also introduces a voluntary laboratory accreditation program run by the National Institute of Standards and Technology.
- ▶ In FY 2007, OJP determined that the Pinnacle Armor, Inc. bulletproof vest model SOV 2000.1/MIL3AF01, was not in compliance with the requirements of OJP's NIJ voluntary compliance testing program for bullet-resistant body armor. Evidence submitted by the body armor manufacturer to NIJ for review and evaluation to date has been insufficient to demonstrate that this body armor model will maintain its ballistic performance over its six-year declared warranty period.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER MEDAL OF VALOR

The Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act, enacted on May 30, 2001, created the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor as the highest national award for valor by a public safety officer. It is awarded by the President to public safety officers cited by the Attorney General and recommended by the Medal of Valor Review Board. BJA works closely with the Office of the Assistant Attorney General at OJP to coordinate this effort.

A “public safety officer” is defined as a person (living or deceased) who serves(d) in a public agency, with or without compensation, as a firefighter, law enforcement officer (including a corrections or court officer, or a civil defense officer), or emergency services officer, as determined by the Attorney General. An act of valor is defined as: (1) above and beyond the call of duty; and (2) exhibiting exceptional courage, extraordinary decisiveness and presence of mind,

and/or unusual swiftness of action, regardless of his or her personal safety, in an attempt to save or protect human life. On December 12, 2007, President Bush and the Attorney General recognized five men who received the Medal of Valor for their extraordinary work.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS’ BENEFITS PROGRAM

BJA administers the Public Safety Officers’ Benefits (PSOB) Program. PSOB was designed to offer peace of mind to men and women seeking careers in public safety and to make a strong statement about the value American society places on the contributions of those who serve their communities in potentially dangerous circumstances. The PSOB Program consists of:

- ▶ A one-time financial benefit to eligible survivors of public safety officers whose deaths were the direct or proximate



result of injury incurred in the line of duty on or after September 29, 1976. The USA PATRIOT Act increased the base PSOB benefit to \$250,000. The FY 2007 benefit amount is \$295,194.

- ▶ A one-time financial benefit to eligible public safety officers who were permanently and totally disabled as a result of injury incurred in the line of duty on or after November 29, 1990 (injuries must permanently prevent officers from performing any gainful work in the future).
- ▶ Financial support for higher education to eligible spouses and children of public safety officers who have received the death benefit or whose spouse or parent received the disability benefit. Education funds can be used for tuition and fees, room and board, books, supplies, and other education related costs.
- ▶ A total of 312 death claims, 55 disability claims, and 282 claims for educational assistance were filed in FY 2007.

WEED AND SEED

CCDO administers a discretionary grant program to support the Weed and Seed Initiative. The goals of the Weed and Seed strategy are to prevent, control, and reduce violent crime, criminal drug related activity, and gang activity. The Weed and Seed strategy is a community-based, comprehensive multiagency approach which brings together federal, state, and local crime-fighting agencies, social service providers, representatives of the public and private sectors, prosecutors, business owners, and neighborhood residents under the common goals of crime reduction, enhanced social services provision and economic revitalization. Four elements make up the two-pronged Weed and Seed strategy: law enforcement; community policing; prevention, intervention and treatment; and neighborhood restoration. There are 272 communities implementing the Weed and Seed strategy across the country.

Communities interested in Weed and Seed designation must coordinate with their U.S. Attorney's Office and apply under the Weed and Seed Communities Competitive program. If the community is approved for designation, in addition to Weed and Seed funding, it can receive preference in discretionary funding from other participating federal agencies, priority for participation in federally sponsored training and technical assistance, and use of the Weed and Seed emblem.

In August 2007, CCDO announced that \$40 million in funding was awarded to 170 continuing Weed and Seed communities and 38 new communities. The plans and strategies for these communities include coordinating with federal, state, county, and local prosecutors to reduce drug-related crimes, gang violence, and property crimes; fostering joint responsibility and action between police and community residents; and improving the network between city agencies and community groups.

CCDO has developed a Graduated Site Annual Certification program for Weed and Seed communities wishing to continue implementing self-sustaining operations and maintain their official affiliation with DOJ. At the end of FY 2007 there were 33 certified graduated sites across 17 states, with 14 in their second year of certification.

The Weed and Seed Strategy was the central focus of CCDO's 2007 National Conference, "Promoting Unity in Each Community." A total of 89 workshops, 9 full-day learning labs and 8 half-day trainings covered a wide range of public safety, neighborhood revitalization and organizational development topics. CCDO trained over 1,300 people working to improve their communities using the Weed and Seed strategy.

In addition, CCDO assisted Weed and Seed Communities with publications, teleconferencing, peer-to-peer assistance and customized training and technical assistance. In one unique initiative first implemented in FY 2007, CCDO developed a program with Southern New Hampshire University to provide advanced training that equipped Weed

and Seed site directors with the knowledge, skills and abilities to effect and sustain positive community change. The initiative provides 11 competitively selected site directors with a 20-month training experience.

IN FY 2007, CCDO maintained several innovative federal partnerships which augmented local Weed and Seed collaboratives:

- ▶ Together with the U.S. Department of Navy, CCDO sponsored Drug Education for Youth (DEFY), in Weed and Seed sites. Through summer camps and mentoring, DEFY counters factors that contribute to substance abuse, school failure, delinquency, and violence. Sites used up to \$10,000 of grant funds for DEFY.
- ▶ 2007 marked CCDO's second year in partnership with the Internal Revenue Service to establish Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Centers which promote asset development for low-income individuals and families. VITA Centers provide free income tax assistance and increase the use of the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit by low-income working families.
- ▶ CCDO partnered with the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Community Services to enhance asset-building strategies in Weed and Seed sites through Individual Development Accounts (IDAs) which, combined with financial literacy and EITC, can increase the capacity of low to moderate-income families to accumulate long-term assets that provide financial security. Assets accumulated through IDAs may be used to purchase a home through CCDO's National IDA Demonstration Project.
- ▶ CCDO and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation provided MoneySmart financial literacy training to Weed and Seed sites. MoneySmart helps adults outside the financial mainstream enhance their

skills with money and create banking relationships as a way to move families out of poverty and stabilize neighborhoods.

Weed and Seed also has a strong tradition of partnering with faith-based organizations in meeting many of the critical needs of America's citizens.

All of these efforts have resulted in Weed and Seed communities achieving measurable crime reduction outcomes. Once the Weed and Seed strategy is fully implemented (in year three), measurable reductions occur in the proportion of serious crime committed in the targeted community versus the host jurisdiction in which it resides. Specifically on a national basis, in calendar year 2006, these proportions decreased by 4 percent for drug crimes and by 4.1 percent for weapons offenses.

EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL DISCRETIONARY GRANTS PROGRAM

The Edward Byrne Memorial Discretionary Grants Program is administered by BJA and helps improve the capacity of local adult criminal justice systems and provides for national support efforts such as training and technical assistance projects to strategically address local needs. In FY 2007, the focus was on funding local, regional, and national efforts within the following six major categories:

- ▶ Category I: Targeting Violent Crime (see the following section for additional information)
- ▶ Category II: Preventing Crime and Drug Abuse—Key priorities include crime prevention efforts designed to reach residents through proven media campaign(s), Neighborhood Watch capacity-building tools, coordination of crime prevention practitioners, crime prevention materials and resources for practitioners, projects that can be implemented and repli-

cated in communities and schools, and programs that help build partnerships among law enforcement, youth, and youth-serving organizations.

- ▶ **Category III: Enhancing Local Law Enforcement**—Efforts are geared to enhancing the administration and operations of the law enforcement function in local adult criminal justice systems. Key priorities include local, regional, and/or national projects that address law enforcement officer safety, improving crime scene investigation, tactical training, training to support volunteer programs within law enforcement, drug and alcohol impaired driving prevention efforts, local anti-gang programs, and gun violence intervention and enforcement.
- ▶ **Category IV: Enhancing Local Courts**—The focus is on improving the administration and operations of the court function in local adult criminal justice systems. Key priorities include improving the effectiveness of the prosecutorial function, training for judicial officers, court management and improvement efforts including automation, and support for court problem-solving efforts such as mental health courts.
- ▶ **Category V: Enhancing Local Corrections and Offender Reentry**—The goal is to enhance the administration and operations of the corrections function and offender reentry initiatives in local adult criminal justice systems. Key priorities include improving the effectiveness of offender reentry, improving

the ability of community corrections to hold offenders accountable, and efforts to improve the efficiency of institutional and community corrections.

- ▶ **Category VI: Facilitating Justice Information Sharing**—Key priorities include improving the sharing and use of criminal intelligence within law enforcement, developing common standards to facilitate information sharing within the justice system, providing technical assistance to improve justice information sharing, and enhancing or developing local, regional, and/or national systems to improve information sharing within and among regions and states.

TARGETING VIOLENT CRIME INITIATIVE

Administered by BJA, the Targeting Violent Crime Initiative (TVCI) is one of a number of DOJ efforts to assist state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies who respond to violent crime increases in several locations across the country. TVCI stems from a series of meetings





Nearly all of these agencies used the funds to develop or maintain a multijurisdictional, intelligence-led policing approach to violent crime. Funding helped task forces design crime-fighting strategies and carry out activities such as street investigation and intelligence gathering. The FY 2007 TVCI applicants were given priority consideration if they were able to

- ▶ document via Uniform Crime Reports data a recent increase in violent crime rates
- ▶ document a history or commitment to form a multijurisdictional, multidisciplinary violent crime response
- ▶ demonstrate a data-driven analysis capacity or a willingness to adopt intelligence-led policing for planning and implementing violent crime initiatives
- ▶ use a minimum of 10 percent of grant funds for justice information sharing related to the proposed violent crime problem

with law enforcement and community leaders to explore the incidence of crime in cities throughout the United States. Beginning in fall 2006, DOJ officials visited 18 cities to find out what was behind both the increases and the decreases in crime rates observed for 2005. In their tour of cities, it was observed that some of the causes of the increases differed from city to city, but, there were several common themes, such as the presence of loosely organized street gangs and the prevalence of youth violence. TVCI complements the Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) effort to prevent and prosecute gun and gang crime.

Under this initiative, in FY 2007, 106 awards totaling nearly \$75 million were granted to 103 state, local, or tribal law enforcement agencies.

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PLANNING

DOJ is part of the national effort to plan for a pandemic influenza outbreak, as well as any other natural or manmade public health crisis, as outlined in the “President’s Implementation Plan for the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza.” It is critical that all components of public safety (public and private) be concerned with preserving the rule of law in America’s communities, whether they be civil and criminal courts at the state, county, or municipal level; law enforcement and private security agencies; or institutional and community corrections agencies. At OJP, BJA has been

leading this effort. Accomplishments in FY 2007 include the following:

- ▶ BJA continually updates a dedicated Web portal for pandemic planning, which hosts the presentations of symposium presenters, including several online video presentations, and a range of documents and resources related to pandemic planning for the courts and other justice components.
- ▶ Since the development of this initiative, BJA has provided technical assistance to several jurisdictions, relying on a multidisciplinary pool of consultants drawn from the public administration and public health communities identified in the course of preparing for the BJA 2005 national symposium.
- ▶ BJA has provided outreach to many justice components and organizations regarding planning for public health emergencies, raising awareness, and identifying ongoing preparations. BJA also has developed a strong working relationship with the Department of Health and Human Service's Public Health Service and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- ▶ In March 2007, BJA released *Guidelines for Pandemic Emergency Preparedness Planning: A Roadmap for Courts*.

NATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE TITLE INFORMATION SYSTEM

Administered by BJA in partnership with the FBI's Major Theft Unit and other organizations in law enforcement and consumer protection, the National Motor Vehicle Title Information System (NMVTIS) is a system that allows an electronic means to verify and exchange titling, brand, and theft data among motor vehicle administrators, law enforcement officials, prospective purchasers, and insurance carriers. NMVTIS allows state titling agencies to verify

the validity of ownership documents before they issue new titles. NMVTIS also checks to see if the vehicle is reported "stolen"—if so, the states do not issue the new titles. Brands are not lost when the vehicle travels from state to state, because NMVTIS keeps a history of all brands ever applied by any state to the vehicle. NMVTIS is a powerful tool that allows for:

- ▶ State titling agencies to do their jobs to prevent fraudulent use of the title document by verifying the vehicle and title information, information on all brands ever applied to a vehicle, and information on whether the vehicle has been reported stolen—all prior to the titling jurisdiction issuing a new title.
- ▶ Law enforcement to create lists of vehicles, by junk yard, salvage yard, or insurance carrier that are reported as junk or salvage. The Anti-Car Theft Improvements Act of 1996 requires junk yards, salvage yards, and insurance carriers to report monthly to NMVTIS on all junk and salvage vehicles obtained. Law enforcement's inquiries will allow it to use NMVTIS to further its investigations of vehicle theft and fraud.
- ▶ Consumers to access information on the vehicle's current title, including brands and odometer, prior to purchasing the vehicle. This allows the consumer to make a better-informed purchase.
- ▶ Since 1997, BJA has provided more than \$13 million in support of NMVTIS implementation, which also has funded state connectivity. As of October 2007, 25 states were involved in the program (60 percent of the U.S. vehicle population) and 9 states were in development.
- ▶ In FY 2007, BJA awarded funds to five states to begin their participation and awarded funds to the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA) to assist with administration and to supplement state participation

fees received by AAMVA, as authorized under the Anti-Car Theft Act.

ADAM WALSH ACT IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROGRAM

The SMART Office established the Support for Adam Walsh Act Implementation grant program in FY 2007 to assist state, local, and tribal jurisdictions in developing and/or enhancing programs designed to implement the requirements of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA), which is Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. This grant program provides funding to help jurisdictions

- ▶ develop or enhance sex offender registration programs
- ▶ improve law enforcement and other justice agency information sharing as it relates to sex offender registration and notification
- ▶ develop or enhance local absconder apprehension efforts
- ▶ collect, store, and analyze sex offender biometric and DNA data
- ▶ implement other efforts aimed at furthering SORNA's objectives

In FY 2007, OJP awarded discretionary funds to assist states, territories, the District of Columbia, and tribal and local governments to implement the Adam Walsh Act. Funds were targeted to help jurisdictions in monitoring and managing sex offenders and ensuring sex offenders' compliance with proposed National Guidelines for Sex Offender Registration and Notification. Examples of ways funding is being used includes improving sex offender registries with new software, developing or enhancing address verification capacity, improving juvenile sex offender treatment programs, and providing tribal assistance. Some funding related

to technology and juveniles is being administered by NIJ and OJJDP.

The SMART Office awarded 72 grants under the Support for Adam Walsh Act Implementation program, totaling \$11.8 million, to 14 federally recognized Indian tribes, 28 states, and 39 localities. These awards support various projects involving efforts such as enhancement of information technology programs, supporting sex offender registration and notification, address verification and implementation of sex offender registration programs, and multi-agency task force operations targeting noncompliant sex offenders.

NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION

Throughout 2007, the SMART Office worked on incorporating public comment into the National Guidelines for Sex Offender Registration and Notification. The Guidelines detail the minimum national standards and offer key guidance to the states, the District of Columbia, territories, and certain federally recognized Indian tribes as they implement SORNA. By providing an effective and comprehensive national system, SORNA and the Guidelines will strengthen law enforcement's ability to track and monitor sex offenders. Some form of sex offender registration and notification program presently exists in each state, the District of Columbia, and in some territories and Indian tribes. SORNA, however, will dramatically enhance the effectiveness of those programs by making the information gathered immediately available to all jurisdictions and by ensuring that all jurisdictions have confidence that known sex offenders living in the United States have been subject to common, minimum registration requirements. SORNA and the Guidelines are only a starting point for jurisdictions, which remain free to protect their children with more demanding registration and notification requirements.

THE SMART OFFICE WEB-BASED SOFTWARE TOOLS

In 2007, the SMART Office began work with the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) to develop several web-based software resources to assist jurisdictions in implementing the registry requirements of SORNA. The following projects are part of this initiative:

- ▶ **The National Sex Offender Public Registry Exchange Site**—This is a portal to facilitate information sharing between jurisdictions' sex offender registries. The site's Offender Relocation Tasks tool will allow jurisdictions to share information about offenders who are relocating and create automated alerts to ensure that offenders register in person in accordance with SORNA.
- ▶ **Mapping and Geo-Coding**—Jurisdictions will have free access to a mapping and geo-coding service that will allow them to geo-code addresses to enable SORNA-required geographic radius searches for sex offenders.
- ▶ **Community Email Notification System**—Once in place, this free email notification system will allow a user to register his or her email address and a series of up to five physical addresses. Users can then choose whether they want to be notified when a sex offender moves within a certain geographic radius or ZIP code of the addresses they have provided.
- ▶ **Email Address Search System**—This system will enable users to enter an email address into the National Sex Offender Public Website and receive an immediate response as to whether it belongs to a registered sex offender. This service also will be made available to registration jurisdictions for inclusion on their individual public sex offender registry Web sites.

NATIONAL WORKSHOP AND SYMPOSIUM ON SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The first National Symposium on Sex Offender Management and Accountability was held in July 2007, in Indianapolis, Indiana. The SMART Office sponsored this event. Attendance was free to all. During this workshop and symposium, frontline law enforcement, parole and probation officers, SORNA policy advisors, prosecutors and sex offender management professionals received information on, and assistance with, SORNA implementation, sex offender management and accountability, sex offender tracking technology updates, and details of SORNA technology implementation.

Training related to SORNA and the Adam Walsh Act was provided in March and June 2007 at Tribal Justice and Safety in Indian Country Consultation, Training, and Technical Assistance Sessions.

NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER PUBLIC WEBSITE

The SMART Office administers the National Sex Offender Public Website (NSOPW). NSOPW is able to link state and territory sex offender public registries and allow users access to public information about sex offenders throughout the country. It allows states and territories to participate in this unprecedented public safety resource by sharing comprehensive, free-of-charge public sex offender data with citizens nationwide, without relinquishing any control of their data. By July 2006, all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Guam were linked to the Web site. Puerto Rico was added in October 2006. In addition, more than 1,000 organizations have provided NSOPW as a link on their Web sites.

PROJECT SAFE CHILDHOOD/ INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE PROGRAM

Project Safe Childhood (PSC) is a DOJ initiative launched in 2006 that aims to combat the proliferation of technology-facilitated sexual exploitation crimes against children. PSC is implemented through a partnership of U.S. Attorneys; Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Forces; federal partners, including the FBI, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the U.S. Marshals Service; advocacy organizations such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC); and state and local law enforcement officials in each U.S. Attorney's district. Under PSC, the number of federal child exploitation prosecutions has increased significantly, along with the number of federal, state, and local investigations and convictions, and more and more victims are being identified. PSC's education and awareness efforts complement this focus on enforcement. In 2007, the Department awarded approximately \$4 million in PSC grants.

- ▶ In U.S. Attorneys' Offices, 2,118 indictments were filed in FY 2007 against 2,218 defendants. This represents a 27.8 percent increase over FY 2006 (1,657 cases filed against 1,760 defendants).
- ▶ In FY 2007, 332 child exploitation cases resulted in the forfeiture of 458 assets. The value of the forfeited assets is \$5,237,490. This represents a 492.7 percent increase over FY 2006.
- ▶ In FY 2007, ICAC Task Forces made 2,354 arrests for online child exploitation crimes across the nation, an increase of nearly 15 percent over the number of arrests in FY 2006.

In 1998, OJJDP created the ICAC Task Force Program to encourage communities to adopt a multidisciplinary, multijurisdictional response to technology-facilitated child sexual victimization, including online enticement and the proliferation of child pornography. Today there are 59 task forces, with at least one in each state. Over 1,800 agencies are affiliated with the task forces. ICAC Task Forces are a key part of the Department's Project Safe Childhood initiative to protect our children as they navigate the Internet.

- ▶ In FY 2007 alone, ICAC investigations led to more than 10,500 forensic examinations. This brings the ICAC arrest total to more than 12,200 since 1998.
- ▶ ICAC Task Forces investigated 7,000 cases of Internet predator traveler/child enticement in 2007.
- ▶ ICAC Task Forces provided 10,182 instances of technical assistance to law enforcement agencies investigating computer-facilitated crimes against children in 2007.
- ▶ ICAC Task Forces identified nearly 400 exploited child victims in pornographic images in 2007. More than 28,000 persons, including law enforcement personnel and prosecutors, were trained during 2007. Training was provided by organizations such as National White Collar Crime Center; Search, Inc.; National District Attorney's Association; Fox Valley Technical College; and State and local law enforcement agencies.

These achievements demonstrate the increasing impact the ICAC Task Forces have on assisting federal, state, and local law enforcement in effectively addressing technology-facilitated child exploitation cases.

3

COURTS

JUSTICE AND MENTAL HEALTH COLLABORATION PROGRAM/MENTAL HEALTH COURTS PROGRAM

The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCPC) was created by the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-414) in response to requests from state government officials to recommend improvements to the criminal justice system's response to people with mental illness. The purpose of the program is to increase public safety by facilitating collaboration among the criminal justice, juvenile justice, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems to increase access to treatment for this unique group of offenders.

In FY 2007, BJA renewed its Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the National Institute of Corrections, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, which provides a framework for these federal agencies to plan, coordinate, and share the design and implementation of interagency efforts that will improve the response to people with mental health, substance abuse, or co-occurring disorders who are involved or at risk of involvement with the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

In FY 2007, BJA funded 27 awards under the JMHCPC, and worked with the Council of State

Governments (CSG) Justice Center to provide resources and technical assistance. BJA developed a Planning and Implementation Guide to assess grantees' activities around collaboration, governance, and progress made since receiving the grant.

BJA launched the Criminal Justice/Mental Health Information Network (InfoNet) Web site, a resource for policymakers, practitioners, and advocates to use to improve outcomes when people with mental illnesses come into contact with the criminal justice system. InfoNet houses an inventory of program profiles, catalogs media articles and research studies, legislation, state-level efforts, and advocacy initiatives.

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE PROGRAM

The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program ensures that abused and neglected children receive high-quality, sensitive, effective, and timely representation in dependency court hearings. OJJDP administers CASA, authorized by the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990, as amended, which directs that a "court-appointed special advocate shall be available to every victim of child abuse or neglect in the United States that needs such an advocate." To administer the CASA program, OJJDP partners with National CASA in providing funding for program development as well as expansion, training and technical assistance to CASA programs, child welfare professionals, attorneys,

judges, social workers, and volunteer advocates. National CASA also helps CASA organizations build their capacity to provide services to local programs. The program makes subgrant funds available to local programs to support court appointed special advocates who assist overburdened court officials and social workers. These trained volunteers, also known as guardians ad litem, perform court-supervised fact-finding in cases where there are charges of child abuse and neglect in dependency proceedings. The National CASA serves as a resource center, providing information dissemination services.

For FY 2007, the amount awarded in CASA grants was \$6,210,673. Nearly 243,300 children were served through the 186 grants awarded. Through CASA's training efforts, a total of 5,660 volunteers, program staff, board members, judges, attorneys, court personnel, social service workers, child advocates, and community volunteers attended conferences, workshops, seminars, and individual or small group sessions run by CASA. CASA also

provided a variety of training and technical assistance activities, including program development, management, volunteer recruitment and supervision, resource development, public relations, child advocacy, court practices, legal and liability issues, case management and data collection, and state organization. More than 33,350 requests for technical assistance were completed, including 63 on site consultations. The National CASA Web sites recorded more than 1.7 million visitors.

TRIBAL COURTS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

BJA administers the Tribal Courts Assistance Program (TCAP). This program helps develop new tribal courts, improves the operations of existing tribal courts, and provides funding for technical assistance and training of tribal court staff.



In FY 2007, BJA awarded grants to 35 tribal communities totaling nearly \$5.6 million. Other accomplishments include

- ▶ maximizing the delivery of technical assistance and training service
- ▶ identifying a single organization to coordinate technical assistance and training activities
- ▶ establishing a cadre of culturally competent consultants to respond to service requests
- ▶ providing relevant training and technical assistance for tribal justice systems, to include
 - ❖ “Essential Skills for Tribal Court Judges”
 - ❖ “Court Management for Tribal Judges and Court Administrators”

- ❖ “Dispute Resolution Skills for Tribal Justice Systems”

CAPITAL LITIGATION

In response to a goal President Bush identified in the 2005 State of the Union Address, DOJ launched the Capital Case Litigation Initiative to improve the quality of representation and the reliability of verdicts in local and state capital cases through training for prosecutors, defense counsel, and trial judges. To accomplish this goal, DOJ led an effort to develop curricula for the key constituencies and provide technical assistance to practitioners in the field trying capital cases.

In FY 2007, BJA’s training partner, the National Judicial College, presented programs on how to conduct a capital case for 134 judges in Arizona, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. The training was developed in conjunction with each state’s judicial education department.

4

CORRECTIONS

PRISONER REENTRY INITIATIVE

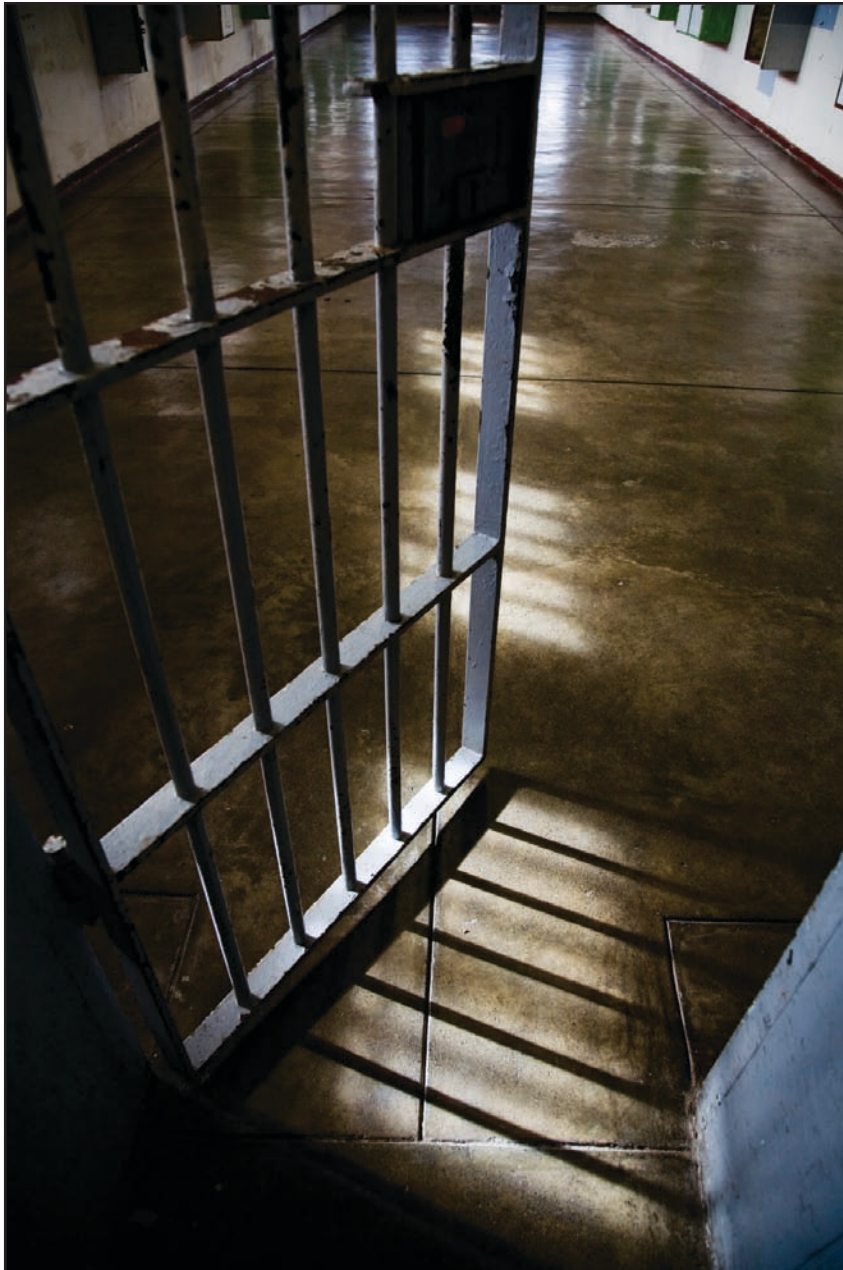
In support of the President's focus on prisoner reentry, OJP is administering programs that help prison and jail inmates reenter our communities and develop expertise and practical resources that help local jurisdictions address this pressing issue.

- ▶ BJA, in coordination with a companion U.S. Department of Labor grant program, awarded \$9.8 million in Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI) grants to 24 states. The PRI grants fund prerelease services for nonviolent inmates, including, but not limited to, assessment, employment assistance, educational assistance, substance abuse treatment, cognitive restructuring, motivational interviewing, mental health and health services, and mentoring.
- ▶ BJA funds several other prison and jail reentry initiatives and programs, including
 - ❖ the Urban Institute, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (City University of New York), and Montgomery County (Maryland) Department of Correction and Rehabilitation partnership, which addresses jail reentry
 - ❖ the Center for Effective Public Policy, which provides reentry-related training and technical assistance to grantee sites, as well as to selected states who applied for more intense reentry training on collaboration and partnerships
 - ❖ the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA), which aims to determine the supervision and service needs of methamphetamine-addicted released offenders
 - ❖ the Institute for Intergovernmental Research, APPA, and the Association of State Correctional Administrators partnership, which addresses gang member reentry and focuses on information sharing between corrections and law enforcement agencies
- ▶ OJJDP manages 21 reentry grants that focus on an adolescent population. The High Risk Youth Offender and Reentry Family Strengthening Initiative provides funding to state juvenile correctional agencies to develop, implement, enhance, and evaluate reentry strategies that address both preservation of safety and the reduction of serious and violent juvenile delinquency. The focus is on increasing the number of targeted offenders who are successfully reintegrated into their communities following an extended period of secure confinement in a juvenile correctional facility or other institution for adolescents.
- ▶ NIJ has funded nine evaluations of reentry programs. While some of the evaluations are ongoing and have produced preliminary results, most of the evaluation results are forthcoming. The largest research project is a multisite

evaluation of the Serious and Violent Offender Initiative, which is a collaborative federal effort to improve reentry outcomes. See the Corrections Research section of Chapter 10 on Research, Statistics, and Evaluation for additional information.

- ▶ In FY 2007, CCDO collaborated with the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and the Department of

Labor to develop joint national service projects to support reentry using VISTA volunteers. CNCS is engaging more than 20 full-time AmeriCorps VISTA members to build the capacity of organizations; create volunteer hubs in partnership with participating cities and grassroots, faith-based and community groups; and mobilize volunteer support for reentry initiatives in these cities.



5

GANGS

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS/ DOJ ANTI-GANG INITIATIVE

Created in 2001 by President Bush, Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is a nationwide commitment to reducing gun crime. PSN links existing local programs together and provides them with necessary tools. PSN: 1) takes a hard line against gun criminals, using every available means to create safer neighborhoods; 2) seeks to achieve heightened coordination among federal, state, and local law enforcement; and 3) emphasizes tactical intelligence gathering, more aggressive prosecutions, and enhanced accountability through performance measures. The United States Attorney in each federal judicial district leads the effort. The fiscal agent, in coordination with the PSN Task Force, allocates funds throughout the community.

In FY 2007, DOJ dedicated \$16.7 million to fund current and expanded comprehensive gun crime reduction strategies. DOJ also dedicated additional funding of approximately \$32 million under the Anti-Gang Initiative to fund new and expanded anti-gang prevention and enforcement efforts under the PSN Initiative. Anti-gang funding was combined with PSN funding to more effectively coordinate the two efforts. FY 2007 PSN and Anti-Gang Initiative funding totaling \$49 million was allocated using a formula based on the population and crime of each U.S. Attorney's district. Details regarding key OJP gang reduction efforts are provided below.

BJA Initiatives

Anti-Gang Initiative Awards

The Anti-Gang Initiative funds will enhance PSN task force efforts to combat gangs by building on effective PSN strategies and partnerships. Each district must show how their gang funding may impact their PSN strategies and need for additional funding. Through the development of district-wide comprehensive anti-gang strategies, the U.S. Attorney in each of the 94 federal judicial districts will partner with local law enforcement and others in the PSN task force to pattern strategies after PSN's five essential elements of partnerships, strategic planning, training, outreach, and accountability. For FY 2007, BJA awards to 92 judicial districts totaled \$31,765,237.

Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative

In 2006, the Department launched the Six City Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative. This initiative has significantly enhanced resources and coordination of gang enforcement, prevention, and reentry efforts in targeted areas of Los Angeles, CA; Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX; Tampa, FL; Cleveland, OH; Milwaukee, WI; and the 222 corridor north of Philadelphia, PA. Coordinated through U.S. Attorneys' offices, this initiative emphasizes the importance of federal and state agencies working with local partners to coordinate anti-gang strategies. The program has helped U.S. Attorneys' offices expand their focus beyond enforcement-only anti-gang strategies. OJJDP provides technical assistance to this initiative through the National Youth Gang

Center with resources beyond the direct program grants.

In 2007, the initiative was expanded to include four additional sites targeting street gangs and promoting prevention efforts to keep communities and neighborhoods safe in the following cities: Rochester, NY; Oklahoma, OK; Indianapolis, IN; and Raleigh-Durham, NC. Funding in the amount of \$2.5 million was administered through BJA. Sites are selected based on their need for concentrated anti-gang resources, established infrastructure to support the envisioned prevention, enforcement and re-entry programs and existing partnerships prepared to focus intensely on the gang problem.

Gang Resistance Education and Training Program

An important component of DOJ's anti-gang strategy is the Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T.) program, a school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curriculum. The program's primary objective is prevention and is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership.

In FY 2007, 163 local law enforcement agencies received over \$14 million in funding to implement the G.R.E.A.T. program, administered by BJA. These local programs are now serving tens of thousands of youth in high-risk rural, suburban, and urban communities nationwide, helping them to reduce their crime victimization, increase their negative views about gangs, and improve their attitudes towards police. In 2007, five G.R.E.A.T. conferences were held in each region across the country.

In the summer of 2007, two 1-week camp sessions were held, with a class of 200 G.R.E.A.T. graduates. Campers were taught teamwork skills, guidance and discipline, self-confidence and self-esteem, as well as social development and several other skills through various outings during each session.

NIJ Initiatives

Training and Technical Assistance

Michigan State University continued their work in 2007 to provide research-based training and technical assistance in support of PSN. Three case studies were completed that highlight PSN strategies in the Eastern District of Missouri, the Lowell District of Massachusetts, and the Middle District of Alabama.

Evaluation

NIJ supports the Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative Evaluation which is an independent evaluation of the implementation and impact of these programs, started in FY 2007. The evaluation is being conducted by Michigan State University and includes an in-depth comprehensive evaluation of at least one of the sites. Results of the evaluation are anticipated in September 2009.

Case Study

A grant award to Michigan State University, culminated in the February 2007 release of the report *Project Safe Neighborhoods: Strategic Interventions, "Strategic Problem-Solving Responses to Gang Crime and Gang Problems: Case Study 8."* The case study presents information on trends in youth firearm violence and its connection to gangs and drugs, as well as research findings on gang prevalence. It further reviews a series of anti-gang intervention strategies that emerged in the 1980s and 1990s, including a review of the Boston Gun Project (Operation Ceasefire), which was one of the foundations for PSN. The second half of the case study focuses on a number of promising practices that have emerged as PSN task forces have analyzed gang problems, designed gang interventions, and implemented those strategies so that PSN task forces can learn from one another.

OJJDP Initiatives

Gang Reduction Program

OJJDP's Gang Reduction Program (GRP) is designed to reduce gang activity in targeted neighborhoods by incorporating a broad spectrum of research-based interventions to address the range of personal, family, and community factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency and gang activity. The program integrates local, state, and federal resources to incorporate state-of-the-art practices in prevention, intervention, and suppression. This program features targeted applications of multiple anti-gang strategies led by multidisciplinary local partnerships. In FY 2004, funding of \$1 million per community administered by OJJDP was awarded to pilot sites in four communities characterized by significant existing program investment, strong indicators of citizen involvement, and high rates of crime and gang activity. Additional funding supported re-entry assistance programming with faith-based and other community organizations to provide transitional housing, job readiness and placement, and assistance and substance abuse and mental health treatment to prisoners re-entering society. The sites are located in: East Los Angeles, CA (Mayor's Office for the City of Los Angeles), Milwaukee, WI (Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance), North Miami Beach, FL (Florida Governor's Office of Drug Control), and Richmond, VA (Virginia Attorney General's Office).

GRP has created remarkable partnerships among local, state, and federal organizations, becoming a preferred method for some communities to address their youth gang problems. These collaborative efforts have proven so successful that cities like Los Angeles, which invested \$168 million in 2007 to expand the initiative to another part of the city, have either begun or broadened their efforts with GRP as the blueprint of their solution.

The program received FY 2006 and FY 2007 funding and incorporates three new ingredients to the classic comprehensive gang model.

First, GRP makes the recruitment of individuals from faith communities and small community organizations a priority as these entities often are very efficient, raise their own funds, have existing personal relationships with those in need, understand the culture and language of the local community, and continue to live on after the federal government or large organizations have ended their work. This translates into lower costs, faster impact, and longer lasting presence.

Second, GRP emphasizes multiagency collaboration, not only locally in neighborhoods and communities but across federal agencies as well. OJJDP's work on GRP was made substantially easier because federal funding was extremely flexible. Funds used in this program came from flexible funding streams at OJP, HHS, HUD, and Labor. GRP grant recipients can fit dollars to need, instead of needs to money available.

Third, GRP stresses the importance of partnering with the private sector. At the outset of this effort, OJJDP recognized that success would benefit not only those children who did not become members of gangs, but the community at large, including businesses. When crime and violence are reduced, the business community, especially small businesses that suffer most from theft and vandalism, experience significant benefits. For example, the GRP effort in Richmond, VA, has led to large-scale improvements and investments in the physical condition of public housing. Because increased safety, as a result of GRP, has meant more stable tenants and better tenant care of property, the private-sector operator of those units saw an economic reason to contribute to the Richmond GRP effort. Unlike many previous efforts where communities chose to address enforcement, prevention, or intervention, this GRP effort is bringing all major sectors together and using the strengths of each to address the needs of the communities. The Urban Institute is evaluating the GRP initiative, and a final evaluation report on the impact of the program is due in 2008.

Gang Prevention Coordination Assistance Program

OJJDP initiated the Gang Prevention Coordination Assistance Program in FY 2007 to improve the coordination of resources that support community partnerships that implement two or more anti-gang strategies: primary prevention, secondary prevention, gang intervention, and gang enforcement. OJJDP received approximately 100 applications and made 12 awards of up to \$200,000 each for the 24-month project. Grant recipients include the city of Waynesboro, VA; Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Juno, AK; SAFE Haven of Racine, Inc., Racine, WI; New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety, Trenton, NJ; City of Los Angeles, CA; Montgomery County, Rockville, MD; Office of the Attorney General of Virginia, Richmond, VA; A Better Way, Project Gang Out, Columbia, SC; City of Austin, TX; Leadership Training Institute, Hempstead, NY; United Teen Equality Center, Lowell, MA; and the City of San Diego, CA.

International Gang Prevention

OJJDP is supporting increased federal involvement and interest in anti-gang efforts that cross international lines. In coordination with other DOJ components, the State Department, and the U.S. Agency for International Development, OJJDP is involved in the International Anti-Gang Task Force within the Attorney General's Anti-Gang Coordination Committee. On January 29-February 2, 2007, DOJ held gang prevention training in San Salvador, El Salvador. OJJDP staff provided training regarding key components of their comprehensive gang model. The training focused on sharing best practices and lessons. Training topics included U.S. and international trends in gang organizations, structure, activities, interrogating and managing gang members, and interviews and debriefings.

6

JUVENILE JUSTICE

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY: FORMULA GRANTS PROGRAM

Congress established OJJDP and created the Formula Grants program in 1974 to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system. The Formula Grants program provides funds directly to states to help them implement comprehensive juvenile justice plans based on detailed studies of needs in their jurisdictions.

To receive a formula grant from OJJDP, a state must address the four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act. It must

- ▶ deinstitutionalize status offenders (DSO)
- ▶ separate juveniles from adults in secure facilities (separation)
- ▶ remove juveniles from adult jails and lockups (jail removal)
- ▶ reduce disproportionate minority contact (DMC) with the juvenile justice system

These core requirements were designed to ensure the appropriate treatment of juvenile offenders within the juvenile justice system.

All states that receive full federal Formula Grants allocations use the funds to maintain compliance with the JJDP Act core require-

ments and to implement prevention and intervention programming for juveniles. States that are out of compliance with any one of the core requirements lose a portion of their federal funding and must use a portion of the remainder to achieve compliance. OJJDP provides extensive training and technical assistance to support state compliance activities.

OJJDP has seen a growing momentum and focus on DMC at the state and local levels. For example, during FY 2007, the number of states with DMC coordinators was 33 and the number of states with targeted local DMC reduction sites increased to 34 in FY 2007 from 32 in FY 2006. Thirty-eight states have DMC subcommittees under their state advisory groups. This progress can be attributed in part to OJJDP-sponsored training and technical assistance efforts, which emphasize the importance of designating state and local DMC coordinators, forming DMC subcommittees for enhanced and sustained state and local leadership, and selecting appropriate local sites to invest DMC reduction resources and efforts. OJJDP's review of the states' latest comprehensive three-year plans indicates that all states but three are in compliance with the DMC core requirement.

Other DMC accomplishments in FY 2007 include

- ▶ The first Training of Trainers (TOT) in January—The purpose of TOT is to communicate what DMC is clearly, how to measure it, how to design data-based DMC reduction strategies, and to

enhance group facilitation skills to help community groups work together.

- ▶ The annual DMC conference in October—OJJDP revealed the DMC Reduction Best Practices Database, designed to assist jurisdictions in the development of initiatives to reduce DMC. It provides guidelines for choosing strategies and developing an intervention plan and presents it in a conceptual framework.

TITLE V COMMUNITY PREVENTION GRANTS PROGRAM

The Title V Community Prevention Grants Program supports a comprehensive research-based approach to delinquency prevention among youth through reducing the risk factors and enhancing the protective factors in their schools, communities, and families. Extensive research has shown that risk factors are associated with the likelihood that a youth will engage in delinquent behavior, and protective factors help prevent or reduce that likelihood. The Title V program provides funds that enable communities to address these factors in a locally suitable and sustainable manner. The program encourages local leaders to initiate multidisciplinary needs assessments of the risks and resources in their communities and develop locally relevant

TITLE V SUCCESS STORIES

The Title V Program is helping make a difference for children in communities across the country. The examples below illustrate the types of programs funded under Title V:

- ▶ The Positive Action program in Shepard, MI, provides after-school, weekend, and summer activities for at-risk teens from area schools. Other teens are referred to the program by probation services. The program is part of a county effort to provide a continuum of services that address prevention, early intervention, and juvenile justice. Youth participating in the program report improvements in self-esteem, family relations, and positive social behavior.
- ▶ The Leadership and Resilience Program in Grand Ledge, MI, is an intensive substance abuse prevention program for youth who are at risk for involvement with substance abuse, violence, or both. The program assists youth in developing leadership skills, improving interpersonal communication, and making healthy, positive choices in their lives. Activities include an in-school probation program for high school students found to be in possession or under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs while on school grounds. Since participating in the program, a majority of youth have tested negative for substance abuse and showed improvements in school behavior, grades, and life skills.
- ▶ Operation Save Kids Okmulgee is a truancy intervention and prevention program serving students in rural Okmulgee County, OK. The program has been successful in influencing seven of the 10 school districts in the county to accept a uniform truancy policy. Partners in the project include the county commissioner, the district attorney's office, school personnel, local law enforcement, Creek Nation tribal members, and the county youth services agency. Since the program began, fewer than 10 youth have been prosecuted for truancy out of approximately 2,000 youth served.

prevention plans that simultaneously draw on community resources, address local gaps in services or risks, and employ evidence-based or theory-driven strategies.

In FY 2007, OJJDP continued to work with states to collect quantitative performance measurement data. A preliminary analysis of this data showed that in FY 2007, Title V programs served more than 56,000 youth, of which 82 percent completed program requirements. Fifty-four percent of the 251 local Title V programs implemented were evidence-based. These local programs addressed a wide range of youth behaviors. Overall, 54 percent of youth participants exhibited the desired behavioral changes in such areas as lessened anti-social behavior (72 percent), reduced substance abuse (57 percent), improved family relationships (54 percent), and elevated grade point average (44 percent). The ultimate outcome measure for delinquency prevention programs is a low offending rate among program participants. In FY 2007, the offending rate for Title V program participants was 1 percent in the period 6 to 12 months after exiting a Title V funded program.

JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program provides funds to the states to support programs that promote juvenile offender and system-based accountability. For the juvenile offender, accountability means facing individualized consequences through which he or she is made aware of and held responsible for the loss, damage, or injury that the victim experiences. For the juvenile justice system, accountability means developing an increased capacity to enhance youth competence, to efficiently track juveniles through the system, and to provide options such as restitution, community service, victim-offender mediation, and other restorative justice sanctions.

States can use their JABG funds for 17 purpose areas, including developing graduated sanc-

tions for juveniles, hiring additional prosecutors, and establishing juvenile drug and gun courts. 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 for JABG funds. The program's FY 2007 allocation was \$40,245,992. In FY 2007, JABG-funded projects served more than 235,000 youth of whom 82 percent were served by a program using an identified best practice. In FY 2007, 11,064 individuals received training.

The long-term goals of the JABG program are:

- ▶ By 2012, 76 percent of youth that sub grantees serve will be processed using graduated sanctions approaches. (The baseline is 71 percent. The annual goal is a 1-percent increase; the 5-year goal is a 5-percent increase.)
- ▶ By 2012, no more than 30 percent of program youth will reoffend. (No baseline is currently available. This rate is based on research of other intervention programs. The annual goal is a 1-percent decrease in rates of offending; the 5-year goal is a 5-percent decrease.)

ENFORCING UNDERAGE DRINKING LAWS PROGRAM

OJJDP has administered the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Program since Congress created the \$25 million annual program in 1998. Through grants, training, and technical assistance, the EUDL program helps states, territories, and the District of Columbia prevent underage drinking by emphasizing law enforcement. The program is implemented at state and local levels through a governor-designated agency in each of the 50 states. As a result, OJJDP works with 50 multidisciplinary agencies and the District of Columbia, creating an opportunity for diverse, multilevel collaboration on a single issue.

JABG SUCCESS STORIES

Grantees are addressing a variety of JABG purpose areas. The following examples illustrate how OJJDP and the JABG program are helping local and state jurisdictions strengthen their juvenile justice systems.

- ▶ Kootenai County, ID, contracted with Powder Basin Associates for a chemical dependency outpatient program that serves at-risk youth with substance abuse and/or mental health issues and related offenses. Powder Basin Associates provides case management, individual counseling sessions, outpatient groups, and psychiatric evaluations. These services are offered at one location, which allows for timely services, access to treatment without waiting lists, and treatment for youth who do not have private health insurance or who are otherwise unable to pay. As JABG funding has decreased, the county has picked up the balance of costs to maintain the program.
- ▶ Constructing a Future in Bannock County, ID, offers a balanced approach to restorative justice for juveniles who are unable to pay court-ordered restitution, probation fees, or detention fees. After completing an interview, juveniles are hired at minimum wage to help remodel old homes and provide other related services to the community. Supervised by a probation officer, the juveniles learn construction skills such as sheet rocking, tape and texturing, painting, roofing, and landscaping. The youths are accountable to their victims and the community, work during the hours that are most conducive to juvenile crime, and learn valuable vocational and employment skills in the construction trade. Bannock County has assumed the cost of Constructing a Future to preserve the program as JABG funds have decreased.
- ▶ The Sixth Circuit of South Carolina (Chester, Fairfield and Lancaster Counties) created a full-time assistant solicitor position dedicated exclusively to prosecuting juvenile cases. Since the position was created in 2005, the courts have reduced average case processing time in all three counties. In addition, many cases are diverted to arbitration, thus reducing the number of juveniles in secure custody and reducing detention costs to the juvenile justice system. The dedicated prosecutor has established new working relationships with local law enforcement agencies and the State Department of Juvenile Justice to assist in tailoring appropriate case dispositions. He also participates in a Truancy Intervention Program in an effort to decrease the number of status offenders referred to Family Court.

EUDL's four programmatic elements are

- ▶ annual block grants to each state and the District of Columbia to fund the establishment of a statewide task force and innovative programs to prevent under-age drinking, with a strong emphasis on law enforcement
- ▶ discretionary grants to selected states to fund the demonstration of best or most promising strategies at the local level
- ▶ training and technical assistance to guide states and communities in their efforts
- ▶ a national evaluation of the EUDL program

Across the nation, states and local communities engage in environmental strategies to address underage drinking. Many successes have been reported since the beginning of the EUDL initiative. Here are brief examples:

- ▶ In 2007, the Kentucky Office of Alcoholic Beverage Control visited a record 2,450 businesses resulting in 230 buys, a compliance rate of 91 percent. The compliance rate has risen steadily since 1998, when the percentage of businesses with no violations was less than 75 percent.
- ▶ Texas developed the Texas College and University Symposium and Team Training whose goals are to strengthen college alcohol prevention teams with enforcement and prevention strategies resulting in personalized campus strategic plans that lead to a healthy, safe, and legal campus environment.
- ▶ In 2007, South Carolina's Alcohol Enforcement Team (AET) model has grown from a couple of local successes to statewide coverage. AETs are local multijurisdictional partnerships that use best practice enforcement to reduce underage drinking. In 2007, the AETs success resulted in the state allocating \$1.6 million to create an AET in each of the state's 16 judicial circuits, providing more rigorous and consistent enforcement of underage drinking laws.

More than \$17 million was allocated for FY 2007, with \$350,000 going to each state and the District of Columbia and four states receiving supplemental funding to complete the demonstration partnership between the elected communities and Air Force bases.

The Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center (UDETC) provides science-based, practical, and effective training and technical assistance services to the states in support of their efforts to reduce underage drinking. As of 2007, UDETC has conducted 152 trainings reaching more than 9,779 individuals in

34 states, created a Web site that has received nearly 7 million hits, and disseminated more than 36,000 documents across the country.

Researchers from Wake Forest University are conducting the evaluation of the Community Trials Initiative, and those results are expected to be released in 2008 or 2009. Researchers funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism are evaluating the EUDL rural communities' programs and the partnership with the Air Force.

One of the highlights of the EUDL program in 2007 was the Ninth Annual National Leadership Training Conference attended by more than 1,600 individuals. Speakers included Kenneth P. Moritsugu, MD, Acting Surgeon General, and National Basketball Association (NBA) star Shaquille O'Neal, a self-described "supporter of better health for children." O'Neal is pictured at the conference below.



TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM

OJJDP's Tribal Youth Program (TYP) supports and enhances tribal efforts to prevent and control delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system for American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) youth. Many AIAN communities face chronic under-funding for their justice systems, lack access to meaningful training for law enforcement and justice personnel,

and lack comprehensive programs that focus on preventing juvenile delinquency, providing intervention services, and imposing appropriate sanctions. Furthermore, while violent crime arrest rates have declined throughout the United States, they continue to rise in tribal communities. According to BJS data, American Indians experience violent crime at a rate twice that of the general population. Of particular concern to tribes and OJJDP is the number of violent crimes committed by and against tribal youth. OJJDP is collaborating with tribes on a number of programs to address this issue.

Since FY 1999, OJJDP has awarded 321 grants to 299 federally recognized tribes to help them develop and implement culturally sensitive programs in two of the five following categories:

- ▶ Prevention services to impact risk factors for delinquency, including risk factor identification, anti-gang education, youth gun violence reduction programs, truancy prevention programs, school dropout prevention programs, afterschool programs, and/or parenting education programs
- ▶ Interventions for court-involved tribal youth, including graduated sanctions, restitution, diversion, home detention, foster and shelter care, and mentoring
- ▶ Improvements to the tribal juvenile justice system, including developing and implementing indigenous justice strate-

gies, tribal juvenile codes, tribal youth courts, intake assessments, advocacy programs, gender-specific programming, and enhancing juvenile probation services and re-entry programs

- ▶ Alcohol and drug abuse prevention programs, including drug and alcohol education, drug testing, and screening
- ▶ Mental health program services, including development of comprehensive screening tools, crisis intervention, intake assessments, therapeutic services, counseling services for co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders, drug testing, and referral and placement services

In FY 2007, twenty-six awards of \$300,000–\$400,000 were made to federally-recognized tribes. OJJDP initiated evaluations and research projects related to several tribal programs in FY 2006. Consulting Services & Research, Inc. is conducting a process evaluation of all Tribal Youth Program projects beginning in FY 2003 to FY 2008. For further details, please refer to chapter 10 under the Evaluation of Juvenile Justice Programs section.

In both FY 2006 and FY 2007, OJJDP coordinated its regional training schedule to coincide with the One OJP sessions. The first One OJP session included workshops that highlighted TYP and Tribal Juvenile Accountability Discretionary Grants, which also addressed juvenile justice priorities related to public safety in Indian Country, and provided information on available funding and resources.

During a One OJP training session in FY 2007, OJJDP conducted a tribal youth focus group to encourage dialog among tribal youth about their communities, families, and life experiences. The focus group participants pictured on the previous page—boys and girls ages 10 to 17 from 20 tribes that receive TYP grants—also observed a tribal consultation segment



in which tribal leaders from across the country highlighted their community needs. A final report with future recommendations for federal efforts to assist tribal youth will be available in 2008.

MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN

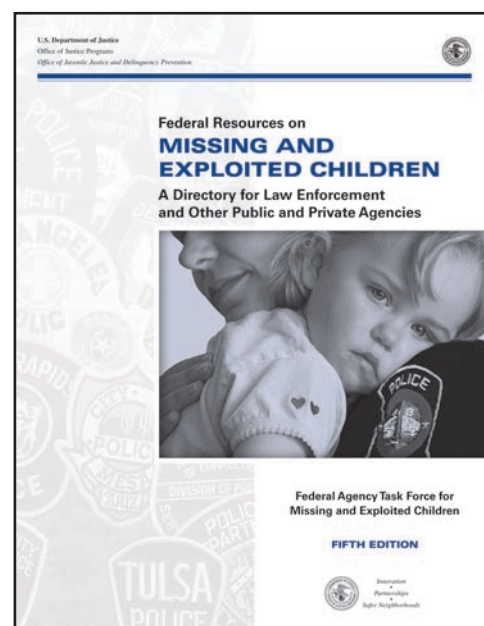
OJP supports several national initiatives aimed at reducing the incidences of, and improving the responses to missing and exploited children. One of the major initiatives OJP is involved with is Project Safe Childhood and the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program, described in the chapter on Law Enforcement. Other significant initiatives include collaboration with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), preventing the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC), and coordinating the AMBER Alert Program. These initiatives are described below. The chapter on Research, Statistics, and Evaluation describes OJJDP and NIJ support of child exploitation research, as well as OJJDP research in collaboration with the Crimes Against Children Research Center. In FY 2007, OJJDP issued updates to two publications to aid in the recovery of abducted and missing children: *Federal Resources on Missing and Exploited Children: A Directory for Law Enforcement and Other Public and Private Agencies* and *A Family Resource Guide on International Parental Kidnapping*.

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) is a private, nonprofit corporation that provides 24-hour services and support to families, children, law enforcement agencies, and federal agencies on all aspects involving missing and exploited children. In partnership with OJJDP, NCMEC supports law enforcement at the federal, state, and local levels in cases involving missing and exploited children. NCMEC operates a 24-hour hotline

(800-843-5678 or 800-THE-LOST) that has received over two million calls.

- ▶ During FY 2007, NCMEC answered 109,004 calls on its hotline and assisted in the recovery of 11,066 missing children.
- ▶ Both private citizen and Internet service providers use NCMEC's online reporting system, www.cybertipline.com, to report child pornography on the Internet. Leads are referred to law enforcement for investigation. In FY 2007, NCMEC received 99,879 reports on the CyberTipline regarding potential child exploitation/online harm to children.
- ▶ Through NCMEC's Child Victim Identification Program (CVIP), and with the help of others, 345 identified child victims of sexual exploitation were added to the system. CVIP hosted 3 "Victim Identification Labs," one each at the Dallas Crimes Against Children Conference, the National Child Advocacy Center Conference, and the Project Safe Childhood National Conference.
- ▶ In FY 2007, 180 child-pornography series were identified as "Be On The



Lookout” in the Child Recognition and Identification System.

- ▶ NCMEC works with the private sector to distribute photos of missing children. During FY 2007, 255 children were found as a result of the photo distribution program, with an overall recovery rate of 96.2 percent at the end of FY 2007.
- ▶ NCMEC uses computer technology and graphic artists to age progress photos of long-term missing children. In FY 2007, 59 missing children whose photographs were computer age-enhanced were located or their case was closed, and 6 unidentified deceased children have been identified as a result of NCMEC’s imaging specialists’ work on facial reconstructions.
- ▶ In 2007, Team Adam, a group of retired law enforcement officers with experience working missing children cases, was available to assist local law enforcement at NCMEC’s expense. During FY 2007, Team Adam members participated in 37 cases, 34 of which resulted in the recovery of the missing child.
- ▶ In 2007, Team HOPE, a group of parent volunteers who have experienced a child abduction, was available to assist a family faced with the tragedy of child abduction at NCMEC’s expense. In FY 2007, Team Hope members provided assistance in 4,614 missing child cases.
- ▶ The Victim Reunification Travel program returns American child victims of international parental abduction from overseas and facilitates the reunification process. In FY 2007, the program made 18 awards for international travel to the victim parent, guardian, or custodial grandparent. See chapter 7 for additional information about this program.

In partnership with NCMEC and Fox Valley Technical College, OJJDP supported more than 110 training programs for law enforcement in 2007. More than 8,015 law enforcement officers

and prosecutors participated in specialized courses including: “Child Abuse and Exploitation Investigative Techniques,” “Responding to Missing and Abducted Children,” and “Protecting Children Online for Prosecutors.”

Preventing the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

The commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) refers to crimes of a sexual nature committed against juvenile victims primarily or entirely for financial or other economic reasons. OJJDP funds several programs to combat CSEC.

- ▶ OJJDP funds anti-CSEC demonstration sites in New York City and Atlanta. Atlanta focuses on intervention and service delivery strategies to divert victims from the pimps who exploit them. New York focuses on partnerships between police and service providers and innovative prosecution strategies used by the district attorneys’ offices. OJJDP manages the initiative under a cooperative agreement with the Office of the Mayor in New York and with the Fulton Juvenile Justice Fund in Atlanta.

OJJDP has committed to working with the demonstration sites for 5 years. The agency’s primary goal for the initiative is to support collaborative work between law enforcement, the courts, and practitioners who work with youth to improve the identification and delivery of services, the prevention of future exploitation, and the investigation and prosecution of the adults who exploit them. In 2004, Atlanta and New York City received funds for the first year of the initiative to plan their strategies. In 2006, the two cities received supplemental funding to implement a number of policy and procedural changes. While their work continues, no additional funding was provided in FY 2007.

- ▶ Other agencies OJJDP supports that serve children who are commercially

sexually exploited include Standing Against Global Exploitation (SAGE) in San Francisco, CA, which provides outreach and comprehensive health, legal, advocacy, and other support services to these youth; and the Paul & Lisa Program, headquartered in Westbrook, CT, which helps children, teens, and women escape from prostitution and establish positive and productive lives. OJJDP awarded a grant to SAGE to provide training and technical assistance to community-based organizations that seek to incorporate services for commercially sexually exploited children into the other services they provide. In 2007, SAGE trained staff from 32 organizations and made presentations at 16 large conferences.

► In 2006, OJJDP awarded four grants for research on CSEC. Results from these studies will be available in 2009 and later.

❖ The University of New Hampshire Crimes Against Children Research Center is collecting data on the numbers and characteristics of Internet-facilitated CSEC to determine how offenders use Internet technology to perpetrate CSEC crimes.

❖ The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority is working to expand the understanding of CSEC, particularly the prostitution of children.

❖ The University of Massachusetts Lowell is attempting to understand the perspective of CSEC victims, identify factors contributing to the problem's continuation and escalation, and determine factors impeding an individual from leaving exploitative situations.

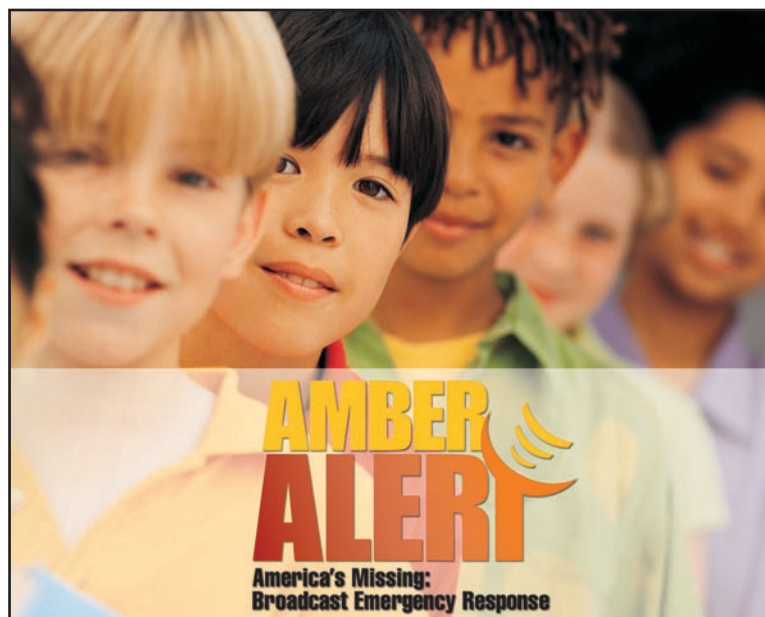
❖ The Urban Institute is conducting a longitudinal analysis of federal prosecutions since the passage of the Trafficking of Persons Protection Act of 2000 and is focused on the influences of those prosecutions on both CSEC service providers and victims.

AMBER Alert

AMBER (America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response) Alert creates voluntary partnerships between law enforcement agencies, public broadcasters, and transportation agencies to notify the public when a child has been abducted and is in imminent danger. The broadcasts include information about the child and the abductor that could lead to the child's recovery, such as a physical description and information about the abductor's vehicle. In addition to AMBER Alert plans in all 50 states, 28 regional and 40 local plans also have been established.

► In January 2007, OJP commemorated the 11-year anniversary of the AMBER Alert program and National AMBER Alert Awareness Day.

► Ninety percent of the 332 AMBER Alert recoveries have occurred since AMBER Alert became a nationally coordinated effort in 2002.



- ▶ The 2007 National AMBER Alert Conference in Denver created a vision for keeping the AMBER Alert network strong and focused on the safety of our children. The Annual Conference is essential too reinforce and continue good communication of the AMBER Alert program.
- ▶ Tribal nations are working to develop their own plans tailored to their specific needs so that children in Indian country may benefit from AMBER Alert. In September 2007, OJP announced the selection of ten Tribal sites to serve as pilot communities to help expand the AMBER Alert program into Indian Country and bridge the gap between Tribal communities and state and regional programs around the country. The tribal communities selected to participate in the initiative are the Acoma, Hopi, Laguna and Zuni Pueblo communities; the Choctaw Nation; the Crow Nation; the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; the Gila River Indian Community; the Navajo Nation; the Northern Arapaho Tribe; the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community; the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska; and the Yakama Nation.
- ▶ In 2007, the AMBER Alert Program implemented innovations in the dissemination of alerts, most notably through secondary distribution agreements with MySpace and the Transportation Security Administration. Alerts are now sent to all MySpace users in the zip codes covered by an alert and to the nation's 43,000 airport security screeners.
- ▶ OJP launched a Child Abduction Response Team (CART) Initiative in November 2005 in order to provide a quick response to incidents of missing and abducted children. The teams include regional law enforcement investigators, forensic experts, AMBER Alert coordinators, search and rescue professionals, policy makers, crime intelligence

analysts, victim service providers, and other interagency resources. CART can be used for all missing children's cases as part of an AMBER Alert or when a child is abducted or missing but the abduction/disappearance does not meet the AMBER Alert criteria.

In 2007, under a cooperative agreement with Fox Valley Technical College, 10 CART training programs were provided to 515 participants across the country. Participating agencies were encouraged to review existing policies and practices and ways interagency and regional cooperation could improve missing and abducted children casework. Participants developed an outline for a memorandum of understanding that gave team members knowledge of the numerous regional resources that may be required during an investigation.

MENTORING PROGRAMS

In FY 2007, OJJDP awarded 14 grants ranging from \$100,000 to \$2 million to fund 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 faith-based and community agencies and organizations that support mentoring services. Such support includes assisting with mentoring recruitment and mentor retention, mentor training, mentor matching, developing and implementing evaluation plans, data collection and analysis, developing action plans and strategic plans, cultural competence, developing mentoring partnerships and coalitions, and educating community members.

Research shows that youth who participate in mentoring relationships experience a number of positive benefits, including better attendance and attitude toward school, less drug and alcohol use, improved social attitudes and relationships, more trusting relationships and better

communication with parents, and a better chance of going on to higher education.

January was National Mentoring Month, and OJJDP's 2007 campaign goal was to recruit volunteer mentors to work with young people from underprivileged backgrounds to help them reach their full potential.

OJJDP, in partnership with the National Network of Youth Ministries and the Corporation for National and Community Service, hosted two national training events—February in Los

Angeles, CA and April in Nashville, TN—to assist mentoring programs in finding and recruiting new members, particularly through community- and faith-based collaborations.

The “Mobilizing New Mentors...Through Faith- and Community-Based Collaborations” training initiative is in its second year. Several hundred participants attended each of the 2007 events, which offered information on how to find new mentors, work with faith-based organizations, run an effective volunteer program, and develop a faith-based mentoring program.

7

VICTIMS OF CRIME

CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION

OVC awards funding authorized by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984 to state crime victim compensation programs in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and Puerto Rico to cover crime-related expenses incurred by citizens who suffer physical and psychological injuries as a result of crime. These programs reimburse victims of crime for expenses such as medical costs, mental health counseling, funeral and burial costs, and lost wages or loss of support.

Although each state compensation program is administered independently, most programs have similar eligibility requirements and offer comparable benefits. Maximum awards generally range from \$10,000 to \$50,000 with the median at \$25,000. The average payout per claim is approximately \$3,000. Compensation is paid only when other financial resources, such as private insurance and offender restitution, do not cover the loss. Some expenses are not covered by most compensation programs, including theft, damage, and property loss.

In FY 2007, OVC awarded \$165.7 million to state crime victim compensation programs. Those programs paid 143,214 claims for compensation with a total payout of \$431,362,226 from state and federal funding sources.

CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE

OVC awards VOCA funds to states to support community-based organizations that serve crime victims. Some 5,000 grants are made annually to domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, child abuse programs, and victim service units in law enforcement agencies, prosecutors' offices, hospitals, and social service agencies. These programs provide services, including crisis intervention, counseling, emergency shelter, criminal justice advocacy, and emergency transportation. States and territories are required to give priority to programs serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. Additional funds must be set aside for underserved victims, such as survivors of homicide victims and victims of drunk drivers. In FY 2007, OVC awarded \$370.6 million to state crime victim assistance programs.

HELPING OUTREACH PROGRAMS TO EXPAND (HOPE)

OVC administers the HOPE I and HOPE II programs. HOPE I provides up to \$10,000 in funding to faith-based and community victim service organizations and coalitions to improve outreach services to crime victims through support of program development, networking, coalition building, and service delivery. Funds can be used to develop program literature, train advocates, produce a newsletter, support victim outreach efforts, and recruit volunteers. In FY 2007, 58 awards were made to local

grass roots community- and faith-based victim services organizations and coalitions. The aim of HOPE II is to increase the development and capacity of community and/or faith-based organizations to respond to underserved crime victims in high crime urban areas. In FY 2007, OVC, through a cooperative agreement with the Maryland Crime Victims' Resource Center, Inc., solicited proposals from faith-based and/or community-based organizations serving underserved crime victims to establish subgrantee sites in urban, high-crime areas across the United States. HOPE II provided up to \$50,000 to 27 faith-based and/or community-based organizations to support the following:

- ▶ Recruitment and use of volunteers to provide services to victims of crime (e.g., the training of victim advocates), and management of volunteers and nongovernmental support
- ▶ Provision of services to victims (e.g., transportation to and from criminal justice proceedings and advocacy before the criminal justice system)
- ▶ Promotion within the community served of a coordinated public and private sector effort to aid victims (e.g., program literature, newsletters, and victim outreach efforts)
- ▶ Assistance for victims in obtaining available victim compensation benefits through state or local government agencies

SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF TERRORISM, MASS VIOLENCE, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL CRIMES

OVC is authorized under the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to provide assistance to victims of terrorism or mass violence occurring within and outside of the United States. This is done

through the following principal programs administered by OVC:

- ▶ The Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program (AEAP) provides grants to states, victim service organizations, public agencies, and nongovernmental organizations to provide emergency relief, including crisis response efforts, assistance, training and technical assistance, and ongoing assistance. Under AEAP, communities responding to incidents of terrorism or mass violence could be eligible to receive a crisis response grant, a consequence management grant, a criminal justice support grant, a crime victim compensation supplemental grant (only state crime victim compensation programs are eligible), or training and technical assistance via OVC's Training and Technical Assistance Center. Funding may be used for a range of services to victims, including crisis counseling, emergency transportation, criminal justice advocacy, and the coordination of services and assistance within affected communities.
- ▶ AEAP provided \$274,187 to the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice to help respond to the school shootings and sexual assaults that occurred on September 27, 2006, at the Platte Canyon High School in Bailey, Colorado. The funding supports four emergency/short-term, school-based employees, including a mental health counselor, an outreach/education coordinator, a school administrative coordinator, and a CARE group teacher facilitator, as well as supplies and operating expenses and travel expenses to perform related tasks. The program also provided \$73,968 to the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to enable it to provide mental health counseling services and other related services to the emergency services personnel who responded to the October 2, 2006, shootings at the Nickel Mines Amish Schoolhouse in Bart Township, Lancaster County,

Pennsylvania. Additionally, OVC has awarded a total of \$3,001,912 to Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University to enable the University to respond to the April 16, 2007 campus shootings. The purpose of the award is to assist the University's Office of Recovery and Support by awarding 2 years of funding for salary and fringe benefits, travel and training, supplies, and other costs. Additional funding will be contingent upon funding availability and a demonstrated need for continued assistance.

- ▶ Over the years, hundreds of U.S. nationals, officers, and employees of the U.S. Government have been killed or injured in acts of international terrorism occurring outside the United States. These incidents of terrorism continue worldwide. Recognizing that providing assistance and support to these victims presents a number of challenges and obstacles, Congress amended the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 by authorizing an International Terrorism Victim Expense Reimbursement Program (ITVERP) so that victims of acts of terrorism that occur outside the United States may receive reimbursement for associated expenses. ITVERP became operational in October 2006. In August of 2007, OVC released the first ITVERP payments to U.S. victims of international terrorism. Applications were processed and reimbursement payments made to victims of the October 2002 Bali, Indonesia night club bombings and the May 2003 bombing of expatriate housing in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

VICTIM REUNIFICATION TRAVEL ASSISTANCE

OVC also supports a Victim Reunification Travel Assistance program to assist the left-behind parent in cases of international child abduction. The program is funded with discretionary dollars allocated for victims of federal

crime. Support under this program is provided via an interagency agreement with OJJDP and a cooperative agreement with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. In FY 2007, OVC provided assistance in 23 cases of international parental child abduction, which resulted in 36 children being reunited with their custodial parent and one case not approved for assistance because the child was over the age of eighteen.

SERVICES FOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMS DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM

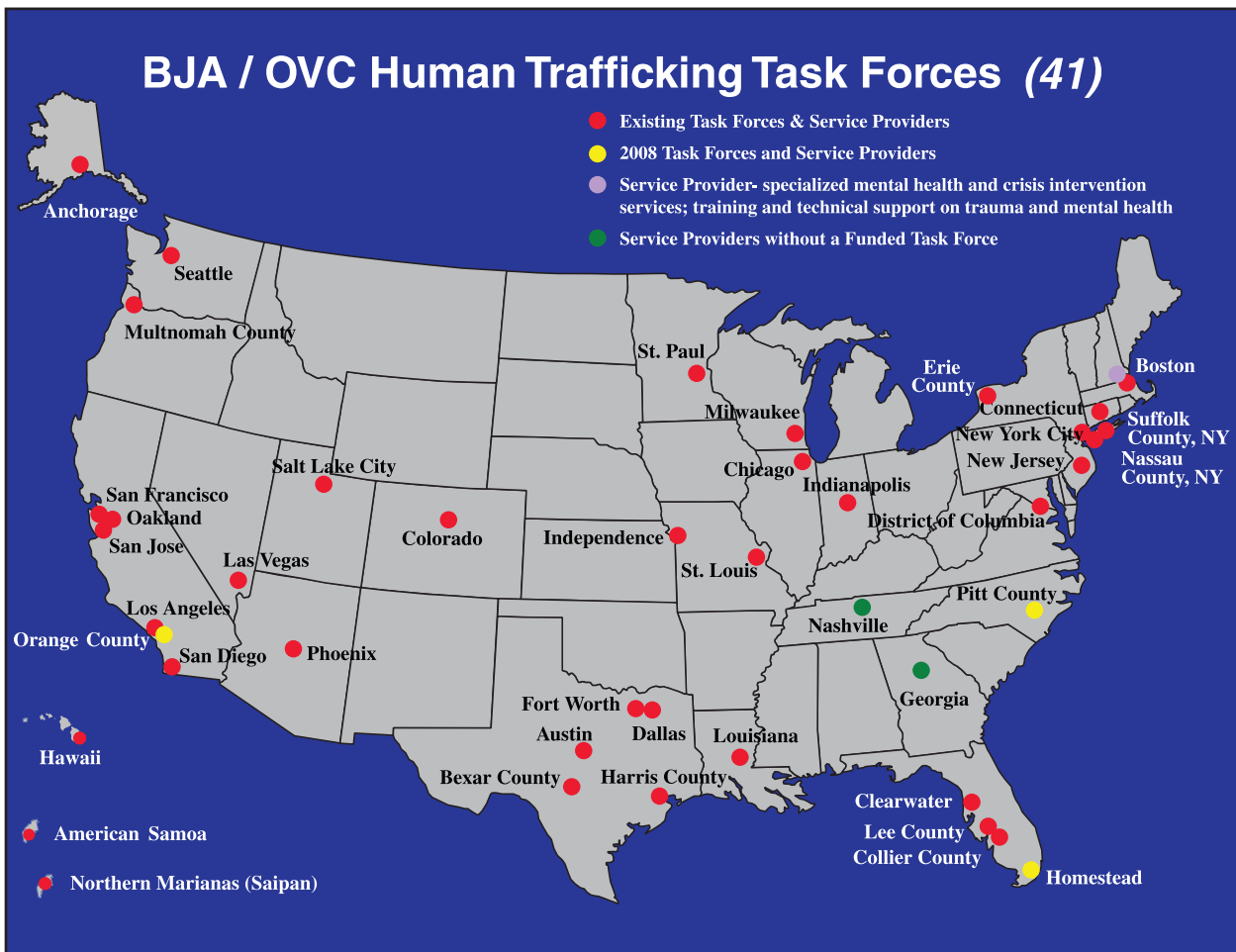
OJP received funding authorized by the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 and amended by the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Acts of 2003 and 2005 to address the problem of human trafficking in the United States. All efforts supported by this program must address severe forms of trafficking, defined as (a) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or (b) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

OVC and BJA work collaboratively in developing a comprehensive, coordinated effort to combat human trafficking and respond to victim needs. The two bureaus work collaboratively to administer the Services for Trafficking Victims Discretionary Grant Program. BJA works with state and local law enforcement agencies to organize human trafficking task forces that focus on identifying victims of human trafficking, proactively investigate businesses where human trafficking might be occurring, conduct local public awareness campaigns, and work collaboratively with trafficking victim service providers, federal investigative agencies, and U.S. Attorneys to rescue victims of trafficking

and prosecute traffickers. OVC works with federal, state, and local government agencies and private nonprofit organizations to develop comprehensive and specialized services and assistance, primarily to precertified human trafficking victims. The strategy developed involves a three-pronged approach—establishing multi-disciplinary task forces, developing a comprehensive service network, and coordinating efforts with the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit within the Criminal Section of the Department’s Civil Rights Division.

In FY 2007, OVC provided funding to 1 new and 13 continuation projects to work collaboratively with law enforcement task forces funded by BJA, ensuring the provision of comprehensive services to victims of human trafficking. This coordination effort across the Department is the key to the successful investigation and prosecution of traffickers. Highlights of joint efforts during FY 2007 include the following:

- ▶ In FY 2007, BJA emphasized enhancing the performance of existing task forces and provided supplemental funding to six of the Human Trafficking Task Forces which work collaboratively with U.S. Attorneys, federal law enforcement, and victim services agencies to rescue victims of human trafficking and prosecute traffickers.
- ▶ Supplemental trafficking victim services program funding was provided to 14 programs, including a new comprehensive service project, allowing all human trafficking task forces to have OVC-funded trafficking victim services.
- ▶ Since the inception of the program in 2003, through July, 2007, OVC grantees have provided services to almost 1,900 potential and confirmed trafficking victims and have trained more than 90,000 practitioners, including law enforcement



officials, prosecutors, victim service providers, medical and mental health practitioners, clergy, and others, such as students, teachers, and business leaders.

- ▶ OVC continued to provide technical assistance to its grantees through the OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center, including monthly conference calls with grantees.
- ▶ BJA helped plan and facilitate a Human Trafficking Conference which brought together a diverse audience, including law enforcement officers, victim advocates, justice professionals, and faith- and community-based providers, to discuss the complex issues surrounding human trafficking and to collaborate on strategies to help reduce and prevent crime in the future. OVC and BJA worked with DOJ officials to plan and execute numerous plenary sessions and workshops that focused on technical issues relating to task force performance, issues around immigration relief for pre-certified victims of trafficking, and to highlight the efforts of the Department as a whole to combat human trafficking.

CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT

The Children's Justice and Assistance Act (CJA) of 1986, as amended by the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, authorizes funding to states to establish programs to effectively handle child abuse cases in AIAN communities. Funding is available to develop, establish, and operate programs to improve the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases, particularly cases of child sexual abuse. A total of \$3 million is available annually to support grants to tribes and nonprofit tribal agencies through the CJA grant program. OVC has funded more than 243 grant programs since the program's inception.

The program has made numerous systemic improvements in the handling of child abuse cases. The CJA program has enhanced coordination and collaboration between U.S. Attor-

neys' Offices, the FBI, and other federal and tribal agencies; enhanced the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases; reduced the number of child interviews, thus reducing the trauma to child abuse victims; increased the number of established and functional multi-disciplinary teams and/or child protection teams; revised tribal codes and procedures to address child sexual abuse; adapted culturally sensitive services and practices into the investigation, prosecution, and overall handling of child abuse cases; and hired specialized staff to handle child abuse victim cases.

In 2007, OVC announced a competitive solicitation of the CJA program. From this announcement, 12 tribal communities received funding to continue efforts in establishing CJA programs in their communities.

COUNSELING AND FAITH-BASED SERVICES FOR CRIME VICTIMS IN INDIAN COUNTRY BY FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

The high rate of crime in AIAN communities and villages reflected in numerous studies demonstrated the need for victim assistance programs to help victims cope with and heal from crime. Many rural, remote AIAN communities are impoverished and isolated, and they lack victim assistance services. Crime victims, like others in crisis, frequently turn to spiritual leaders for support in times of need. Although members of the clergy, spiritual leaders, and traditional healers are often experienced with issues arising from a range of social justice problems, such as poverty, homelessness, and drug abuse, they are frequently not familiar with the particular dynamics of crime victimization. Victim assistance programs bring the knowledge and practical resources for responding to the immediate needs of victims, but they might not be able to address the profound spiritual crisis brought on by a criminal act.

Since 2004, OVC has supported the implementation of counseling and faith-based services in Indian Country. In January 2007, OVC announced the continuation of faith-based funding support for all of the FY 2004 Counseling for Crime Victims in Indian County by Faith-Based Organizations (CCVIC/FBO) grantees. These organizations, which serve tribal communities in Alaska, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, and Washington, continued to make great strides in the effort to enhance collaborations between victim services and the faith-based communities. These strong partnerships strengthen the quality of service delivery to crime victims in Indian Country. Examples of promising practices among these grantees include:

- ▶ The Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches' (GMCC) Division of Indian Work provides family counseling; operates homes for American Indian foster children and teen mothers; and screens, trains, and licenses foster parents for American Indian children. The Family Violence Program provides counseling and legal advocacy to more than 300 American Indian women, children, and men affected by violence in the home.
- ▶ The Hearts of Hope domestic violence shelter has a history of providing culturally appropriate services to families on the Turtle Mountain Reservation for the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians. The agency has provided family-based services since February 2002.

TRIBAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM

OVC continued to fund the Tribal Victim Assistance (TVA) program to develop and improve the quality of direct services for victims of crime in AIAN communities. AIAN communities use funds to provide direct services to victims of crimes such as child abuse, homi-

cide, elder abuse, driving while intoxicated, and gang violence. Direct services may include counseling, referrals, emergency services, court accompaniment, and assistance obtaining victim compensation. In FY 2007, OVC increased TVA funding to \$3.5 million, awarded 30 TVA projects to AIAN communities and tribal-related organizations, conducted national and regional training venues that reached out to more than 1,100 tribal victim providers, and provided individually crafted onsite training and technical assistance services with TVA project directors, staff, and tribal leaders representing the Bay Mills Indian Community, MI; Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma; Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, WI; Maniilaq Association, AK; Modoc Tribe of Oklahoma; Native Village of Barrow, AK; Northwoods Coalition for Battered Women, MN; Northern Arapaho Tribe, WY; Pit River Tribe, CA; Pascua Yaqui Tribe, AZ; Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, KS; Samish Indian Nation, WA; Shingle Springs Rancheria, CA; Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe, WA; Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Reservation, OR; Tewa Women United, NM; and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians, OK.

OVC has a unique responsibility to serve all victims of crime and is responsible for supporting victims of federal crimes. A large number of tribes fall under federal criminal jurisdiction, in which crimes are investigated and prosecuted by federal agencies.

In FY 2007, through a separate discretionary award, \$600,000 was awarded to provide training and technical assistance to 30 tribal projects. Following are examples of the exemplary services and coordination being provided through TVA grants:

- ▶ Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Family Violence and Victim's Services. The office partners with the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) which serves to prosecute child physical and sexual abuse on the Choctaw Reservation. The Victim Assistance Coordinator (VAC) is an active member of the MDT coordinated by the Choctaw Children's

Advocacy Center's (CCAC). The MDT includes representatives from the Choctaw Police Department, Children and Family Services Department, Federal and Tribal Prosecutors, Tribal Criminal Investigators, Behavioral Health, and the Choctaw Health Center Medical Examiners. The VAC is also part of the MDT Working Group, which discusses each child victim's physical and/or sexual abuse case status. The VAC serves as the victim's advocate for the CCAC and provides: client education regarding investigation, prosecution, and treatment; appropriate referrals for counseling and other needed services; assistance to tribal/federal prosecutors with court orientation, trial preparation, and coordination of transportation for victims and families to attend court, if needed; victims and families with access to services such as protection orders, housing, public assistance, and domestic violence interventions; information regarding the rights of crime victims including pre-

sentencing victim impact statements and assistance with completing victim compensation forms; and ongoing feedback with clients and caretakers concerning the adjudication process.

- ▶ Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, OR, Victims of Crime Services (VOCS). A significant accomplishment of this office is its collaboration with other departments, agencies and off-reservation groups. This includes participation in the Warm Springs Multidisciplinary Child Abuse Team, the Tribal Elders Multidisciplinary Child Abuse Team, the Tribal Multidisciplinary Methamphetamine Team, and the off-reservation Jefferson County Domestic Violence Task Force. The Tribal Victim Assistance (TVA) Program Manager also serves as a mentor for other TVA-related projects, provides direction in the gathering of data, aided in the development of the 2007 youth worker and summer volunteer project,



and coordinated special crime victim assistance technical assistance and training presentations on the reservation by state and federal officials on how to better access crime victim compensation, grants, and specialized services.

VICTIM ASSISTANCE IN THE FEDERAL SYSTEM

A number of collaborative efforts were supported in FY 2007 to advance victims' rights not only at the federal level but also at the tribal, state, and local levels. OJP and its component bureaus supported this goal via the following initiatives:

- ▶ In FY 2007, OVC provided funding to the FBI to support 112 full-time victim specialists to improve victim service delivery for each of the 56 FBI field offices and 25 largest resident agencies. Of the positions, 29 assist victims in Indian Country.

In 2007, the FBI opened more than 11,472 new cases with 86,730 victims identified in relation to those investigations, as well as an additional one million victims of a cyber case who were notified via Internet service providers. A total of 86,730 notifications were made and 78,617 direct services were provided to victims by victim specialists. The FBI victim specialists provide specialized services to child victims, victims in Indian Country, and victims of terrorism and mass casualty. Special emphasis has been on meeting the unique and challenging needs of children and adolescents who are victims of Internet crime, prostitution, and international parental kidnapping. The FBI used emergency assistance funds for victims with urgent needs, expending a total of approximately \$78,000.

- ▶ In FY 2007, OVC provided funding to continue to support 170 victim witness coordinator positions assigned to United

States Attorney's Offices (USAOs) in 93 districts across the country.

- ▶ OVC provided the Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys (EOUSA) with funding for training and technical assistance. For example, EOUSA used remaining FY 2006 funding (\$177,045) and about \$86,000 in FY 2007 funding to train federal victim-witness personnel, prosecutors, and law enforcement on how to comply with the Crime Victims' Rights Act and the amended *Attorney General Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance*. OVC funded 32 victim-related training programs nationwide, including district specific multidistrict and Indian Country conferences, which are annual multidisciplinary conferences to train and educate victim assistance personnel, mental health professionals, and law enforcement agents who work with crime victims in Indian Country.

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

Each April, America recognizes National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW), which honors victims, survivors, allied practitioners, and dedicated service providers. The theme for 2007 was "Victim Rights: Every Victim. Every Time," which embodied the work of the individuals, networks and partnerships to forge a national commitment to help victims rebuild their lives. As a prelude to NCVRW, OVC hosts a national candlelight observance and an awards ceremony in Washington, DC, to pay tribute to crime victims and those who serve them. At the 2007 candlelight observance, OVC was honored to host Mark Lunsford, father of murdered daughter, Jessica Marie Lunsford and founder of the Jessica Marie Lunsford Foundation that works to pass legislation to protect children from predators. The second Ronald Wilson Reagan Public Policy Award, given to honor an individual whose work on behalf of victims has led to significant changes in public policy was presented by Attorney General

Alberto Gonzalez to Dan Levey for his efforts that resulted in several public policy changes in Arizona concerning the treatment of crime victims and their families. Among others honored was a doctor who dedicated himself to the care of sexual assault victims. Through his writings and training video, he educated physicians and nurses in 15 countries about the critical process of forensic evidentiary examinations of rape victims. Also honored was a victim advocate who turned his personal tragedy into improved services for crime victims by creating and maintaining support groups for families and victims of violent crime, including grief and bereavement services. The DVD *DNA Evidence: Critical Issues for Those Who Work With Victims* was released during the event.

OVC produces an annual resource guide to help local communities raise public awareness about victims' rights, protections, and services, and to provide information on how to coordinate NCVRW events tailored to their own needs. To further encourage communities to raise awareness, OVC supported the NCVRW Community Awareness Projects. This initiative provided grants of up to \$5,000 to 62 communities in support of local public awareness events and activities during NCVRW.

CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT PROJECT

Since the passage of the 1982 Victim and Witness Protection Act, tremendous strides have been made to enact crime victims' rights laws and improve victim services. In 2004, the Crime Victims' Rights Act (CVRA) authorized funding for the provision of legal counsel and support services to victims in the enforcement of their rights in federal, state, and tribal jurisdictions. In 2007, under the authority of the CVRA, OVC issued a competitive solicitation for the Crime Victims' Rights Enforcement Project. Under this project, OVC has

National Crime Victims' Rights Week
APRIL 22-28 ★ 2007

RIGHT TO PROTECTION ★ RIGHT TO RESTITUTION

EVERY

RIGHT TO BE HEARD ★ RIGHT TO ENFORCEMENT

VICTIM

RIGHT TO COMPENSATION ★ RIGHT TO DIGNITY

EVERY

RIGHT TO ATTEND ★ RIGHT TO RETURN OF PROPERTY

TIME

RIGHT TO A SPEEDY TRIAL ★ RIGHT TO BE INFORMED

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expanded its ongoing support for a cohesive, national effort to advance crime victims' rights laws at the state, federal, and tribal level. OVC awarded three grants under the competitive solicitation to establish or enhance victim legal clinics for the enforcement of victims' rights laws in criminal court. Awards were made to: (1) the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI) which will continue to support victim legal clinics in Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Maryland, New Jersey, New Mexico, South Carolina, and Utah; (2) the Southwest Center for Law and Policy which will establish a victim legal clinic in Oklahoma to represent Native American victims of crime; and (3) the Justice League of Ohio which will establish a victim legal clinic to represent victims of crime in Ohio. NCVLI will provide intensive technical assistance, training, and support to the clinics it funds. Through this project, NCVLI, the NCVLI-supported clinics, the Southwest Center for Law and Policy, and the Justice League also will undertake efforts to educate and train criminal justice professionals and victim service providers on victims' rights nationally, regionally, and locally.

NATIONWIDE AUTOMATED VICTIM INFORMATION AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

The Victim Information and Notification System (VNS) is a shared Web-based application involving the FBI, the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the U.S. Attorneys' Offices, DOJ's Criminal Division, and the Bureau of Prisons. Notification of case events begins during the investigative stage and continues throughout the prosecution and corrections stages of a case. VNS provides victims with access to a VNS toll free number where they can access current case information. VNS also supports the Victim Internet System (VIS) Web site that allows victims to view their notifications and update their personal contact information. In cases with numerous victims, use of the VIS and the VNS Call Center becomes the most cost-effective and efficient means of notifica-

tion. OVC funding provides for technical support, four positions (one within EOUSA), training costs, software licensing, and mailings. As of September 2007, VNS was serving more than 6,823,276 crime victims nationwide.

VICTIMS' RIGHTS COMPLIANCE PROJECT

OVC provided funding for the Oregon Department of Justice and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to plan, develop, and implement statewide programs to facilitate compliance with state victims' rights laws. In the first year, each of the grantees conducted a statewide needs assessment, obtained the necessary support from stakeholders for the initiative, and planned a strategy to implement a compliance initiative that involves coordination and collaboration with victim service organizations and state and local criminal justice agencies.

Accomplishments of the Oregon Department of Justice during their third year of implementing its strategy include development of a process for reporting noncompliance and a system for review and response to such reports. The project also developed numerous tools and resources related to victims' rights compliance and training on victims' rights for criminal justice professionals and victim advocates. By the end of September 2007, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency began implementation of its strategy.

It is anticipated that these projects will result in an increase in the number of collaborative partners, as well as increased compliance with victims' rights laws in the respective states. At the end of the OVC grant projects, the grantees will produce reports documenting the development of the victims' rights compliance programs that may be incorporated by OVC into a bulletin to promote the replication of such programs in other states.

NATIONAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY

The National Victim Assistance Academy (NVAA) was established in 1995 as a product of a cooperative agreement between OVC and the Victims' Assistance Legal Organization (VALOR) on behalf of a consortium of national victim assistance organizations. Its purpose is to offer an academic-based curriculum emphasizing foundation-level education in victimology and victims' rights and services. Since 1995, more than 2,000 victim service professionals throughout the United States and several foreign countries have attended the academy.

OVC redesigned the program strategy based on evaluation findings and convened a working group to develop a revised comprehensive foundation-level training curriculum. In FY 2007, OVC modified the curriculum based on the input of the working group and re-launched the academy. The new NVAA model provides victim service providers and allied professionals with an academy experience that includes three distinct tracks: Foundation-Level Training, Specialized Training and a Leadership Institute, which will be offered during the week-long 2008 Academy. OVC is committed to using NVAA to educate and train victim service providers on special and emerging victim issues, and to deliver the first-ever training targeted exclusively toward program managers who oversee and direct the efforts of an estimated 10,000 victim service programs nationwide.

STATE VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY

The State Victim Assistance Academy (SVAA) initiative began in 1999 to support state efforts to provide comprehensive, academic-based, fundamental education for victim assistance providers, advocates, and allied professionals who routinely interact with crime victims. Each of the funded states receives a 3-year funding commitment to support planning,

implementation, and refinement of its academy text and format.

With development of the first SVAA, OVC has made a major commitment to the victims' field to help institutionalize comprehensive, academic-based training for a diverse group of victim service providers, including federal, tribal, state, and local justice and allied professionals. OVC has provided funding for 34 states to develop and offer an SVAA for training and for educating victim service providers.

WEB FORUMS

OVC developed the HELP for Victim Service Providers message board as a tool for victim service providers and allied professionals to share ideas, suggestions, and recommendations concerning promising practices, best practices, and victim issues. An average of 3,832 individuals per month have visited the OVC Web Forum at least one time since it was launched in August 2004. In 2007, OVC hosted 25 Web Forums. Forum topics included: "Child Victims," "Children Exposed to Domestic Violence," "Domestic Abuse in Later Life," "Drug Endangered Children," "Ethics in Victim Services," "Families of Missing Children," "Intimate Partner Stalking," "Sexual Assault Response Teams," "Victim Services in Urban High Crime Neighborhoods," and "Working with the Media" among others.

IDENTITY THEFT

OJP established an internal working group composed of representatives from each program office to discuss research, statistics, programs, projects, training, education, prevention, and victim assistance related to identity theft. During FY 2007, this working group provided input to several subcommittees responsible for developing recommendations for the President's Task Force on Identity Theft. In April 2007, the task force issued its final report, which offers the following insight into this widespread crime, the needs of its victims, and responses that help meet those needs.



Key Recommendations:

- ▶ Improve government /public sector handling of sensitive personal data.
- ▶ Develop alternate means of authenticating identities.
- ▶ Encourage the Administration to support an amendment to the federal restitution statues allowing victims to be compensated for time spent rectifying the consequences of identity theft.
- ▶ Develop a universal police report that a victim of identity theft can complete, print, and take to a local law enforcement agency for verification and incorporation into the police department's report system.

OVC will continue to take a prominent role in federal efforts addressing identity theft victimization and efforts assisting law enforcement,

prosecutors, victim advocates, and state agencies through education, outreach, research, and innovative programs to help victims recover. FY 2007 grant funds in the amount of \$1.7 million will provide direct assistance to victims of identity theft and financial fraud. The awards will expand existing services and strengthen law enforcement's response to victims of identity theft and financial fraud nationwide.

OVC'S TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

OVC's Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC) was established to support victim services across the country. The center assists victim service providers, advocates, and allied professionals in learning new skills and adopting best practices to enhance their continued success in providing quality victim services. The mission of OVC TTAC is to bridge the gap between knowledge, experience, and the victim assistance practice to help the still-evolving victim assistance field successfully meet the challenges of an increasingly complex service delivery environment.

In FY 2007, OVC TTAC supported 73 requests for training and technical assistance to 38 states via the field generated requests system; supported 4 state conferences and 5 national conferences; and awarded, on behalf of OVC, 216 professional development scholarships, 2 OVC state crime victim/survivor scholarships, 82 scholarships via the National Conference Support program, and 20 scholarships via the State Conference Support program.

8

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND CRIME

The programs below represent some of the key efforts OJP is undertaking to help reduce crime related to substance abuse. Please refer to the sections on Court Research and Drugs and Crime Research in Chapter 10 on Research, Evaluation, and Statistics for information on efforts underway at NIJ to help understand and better respond to this issue.

RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT (RSAT) FOR STATE PRISONERS FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM

The RSAT program is a critical aspect of offender reentry programs and addresses the issue of substance abuse dependence and the direct link to public safety, crime, and victimization by providing treatment and services within the institution and in the community. All 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories receive RSAT grants and operate about 400 RSAT programs. Ultimately, every RSAT-funded program's goal is to help offenders become drug-free and learn the skills needed to remain drug-free upon their return to the community. In FY 2007, the RSAT program provided \$9.3 million in funding.

JUVENILE DRUG COURTS/ RECLAIMING FUTURES PROGRAM

OJJDP, the Department of Health and Human Services' Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation have collaborated to enhance the capacity of states, state courts, local courts, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments to serve substance-abusing juvenile offenders by developing and establishing juvenile drug courts adopting the Reclaiming Futures model. The juvenile drug court system has been a pioneer in providing intervention, treatment, and structure to youth involved in substance abuse and delinquency. To fully realize the vision of the juvenile drug court, work is needed to develop additional capacity to provide treatment services and retool the service infrastructure so that it can accommodate the volume and complexity of cases in partnership with communities. In June 2007, OJJDP issued a solicitation inviting communities to propose the implementation of a juvenile drug court program committed to integrating the Reclaiming Futures model with best practices in substance abuse treatment.

The goal of the program is to build the capacity of states, state courts, local courts, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments to develop and establish juvenile drug courts adopting the Reclaiming Futures model for juvenile offenders who are abusing substances. The Reclaiming Futures model embodies three essential elements: designing a system of care that coordinates services, involving the community in

creating new opportunities, and improving treatment services for drug and alcohol use. Emphasis will be placed on screening and assessments, and training and technical assistance will be provided in the effective use of screening and assessment tools. The integration of the juvenile drug court and Reclaiming Futures models should enable communities to identify substance abusing youth, match them with appropriate treatment options, and deliver services through a coalition of providers working under the guidance of a local court.

OJJDP awarded a total of \$1.275 million over 4 years to three jurisdictions in Greene County, MO, Hocking County, OH, and the New York State Unified Court System to implement a juvenile drug court program integrating the Reclaiming Futures program model.

- ▶ Greene County will apply the Reclaiming Futures model to their pilot juvenile drug court, launched in January 2007 under the Greene County Juvenile Court. The integrated system will enhance and expand treatment services, implement a system of care to coordinate all social services, and increase opportunities for youth and families in Greene County. In 2005, the Greene County Juvenile Court participated in the Office of Justice Programs' 2005 Drug Court Planning Initiative. The training and technical assistance received provided a strong foundation to implement the pilot program. The Hocking County Juvenile Court, which has been operating for 9 years, will integrate the juvenile drug court program with the Reclaiming Futures model to reduce the number of substance abusing youth, help youth meet educational goals, and increase the number of youth living responsible lives free from substance abuse and crime. The New York State Unified Court System will apply the Reclaiming Futures model to the Nassau County Juvenile Treatment Court program to improve coordination among the Nassau County Family Court and public and nonprofit agencies working with justice-involved juveniles. The goal is to improve the

identification of juveniles requiring substance abuse treatment, expand the screening and assessment of respondents in juvenile delinquency petitions; and engage youth more effectively in treatment by increasing the number and range of effective treatment options.

- ▶ Each grantee received approximately \$425,000 for a 4-year period, beginning October 1, 2007. In the first year, CSAT will provide \$200,000 in technical assistance to support the treatment component, a key aspect in integration of the juvenile court and Reclaiming Futures models. Throughout the program, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation will provide up to \$1 million in technical assistance to grantees to implement the Reclaiming Futures model.

INDIAN ALCOHOL AND CRIME DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

BJA administers the Indian Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program (IASAP). IASAP provides resources to American Indian and Alaska Native communities to plan, develop, and implement tribal justice strategies to control and prevent alcohol- and substance abuse-related crime and violence. In FY 2007, the program focused attention on controlling and preventing the growing methamphetamine problem in Indian Country.

- ▶ In FY 2007, BJA awarded 12 grants totaling \$3 million to tribes.
- ▶ BJA, Fox Valley Technical College's Criminal Justice Center for Innovation, the IASAP Advisory Forum (comprising representatives from each funded tribe), and other partners conducted four training conferences, 14 regional and local training sessions, and three focus groups. Nearly 2,000 individuals representing more than 180 tribes participated.

9

TECHNOLOGY TO FIGHT CRIME

PAUL COVERDELL GRANTS

NIJ administers the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program. Coverdell grants are intended to improve state and local forensic science and medical examiner services. In 2007, NIJ provided \$16.1 million in awards to 88 state and local agencies. These awards could be used to eliminate forensic backlogs, improve the timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services, and train and employ personnel. The funding awarded has steadily increased since FY 2003 when the appropriation was \$4.9 million. This has enabled a tremendous increase in support to agencies across the country.

PRESIDENT'S DNA INITIATIVE

Advancing Justice Through DNA Technology is the President's multimillion dollar, 5-year federal initiative launched in 2003 to strengthen and improve the current federal and state DNA collection and analysis systems. The President's DNA Initiative is a comprehensive strategy designed to maximize the use of forensic DNA technology to solve crimes, protect the innocent, identify the missing, and save lives. The initiative includes formula grants to state and local laboratories to: (1) reduce the nationwide backlog of DNA casework; (2) reduce the nationwide backlog of convicted offender DNA samples; and (3) increase the capacities of DNA laboratories to efficiently and effectively manage DNA evidence and prevent future DNA backlogs. Since the DNA Initiative was

MOVING FORWARD IN UTAH

The Utah Bureau of Forensic Services receives hundreds of requests a year for analysis of fingerprints and other impression evidence (e.g., footprints). However, its ability to process requests was limited because it did not have the funds to buy expensive cameras and imaging equipment. The Bureau needed zooming digital cameras to record evidence at crime scenes and advanced video and imaging software to analyze and process evidence. NIJ's Paul Coverdell program provided funds to the Bureau, allowing it to buy the forensic equipment it needed and give staff related training seminars.

launched in 2003, OJP has awarded more than \$426.6 million to state and local government agencies across the country. Of these funds, 75 percent went to state and local governments

to fund capacity, casework and convicted offender initiatives, 9.5 percent supported research and development efforts, 7 percent went to training development, 6 percent supported solving cold cases, and 2.2 percent funded the missing persons initiative.

In 2007, NIJ reported the following accomplishments under the President's DNA Initiative:

- ▶ Convicted Offender Backlog Reduction Program—Over \$44 million in grant funds was awarded under this program in FY 2007. The Convicted Offender Backlog Reduction Program aims to:
 - ❖ help states reduce their backlog of convicted offender and arrestee samples
 - ❖ help states review backlogged convicted offender and arrestee samples so samples can be entered into CODIS
 - ❖ increase the number of convicted offender arrestee samples entered into CODIS
 - ❖ increase the number of CODIS hits to solve crime

From 2002 to 2007, NIJ provided funding to analyze 103,824 backlogged DNA cases and paid for the testing of over 2.5 million convicted offender and arrestee samples. There were 5,516 reported CODIS hits between 2005 and 2007. The funds have produced dramatic results such as in the South Dakota Forensic Laboratory. The Laboratory's director, Craig Price, reports that NIJ funding helped reduce their laboratory backlog from 420 to 100 cases. The changes are expected to reduce processing time from 150 days to fewer than 60.

- ▶ Missing Persons and Cold Cases—The President's DNA Initiative helps to ensure that forensic DNA technology is used to its full potential to identify missing persons and unidentified remains. NIJ awards grants to law enforcement

agencies to identify, review and investigate cold cases. The program awarded more than \$8 million to 21 police departments in 2007. These funds allow agencies to start cold case units, hire and train personnel, or buy equipment and supplies. NIJ also provides training on cold cases; in 2007, NIJ funding helped train 347 investigators. NIJ has implemented programs to identify, collect, and perform DNA analysis free of charge on unidentified human remains as well as reference samples from relatives of missing persons. A few success stories are reported below.

The National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) database was launched by NIJ in 2007. It grew out of NIJ's efforts to assist the New York City Medical Examiner's Office in identifying 9/11 victims. NamUs is the first national repository for missing persons and unidentified dead cases. It will eventually allow anyone to research records of missing persons and unidentified human remains simultaneously. This national database of unidentified decedents will combine with a national missing persons database in 2008. These databases will be linked in 2009 at www.namus.gov. In September 2007, OJP held a meeting at the National Press Club to solicit the participation of medical examiners and coroners across the United States and inform the public about the resources available through the system.

- ▶ DNA and Property Crime—Using DNA evidence to catch career burglars can have a major impact on solving cases and reducing crime rates. Commonly used to investigate rapes and homicides, DNA evidence can be a major asset in property crime cases, too.

An NIJ-funded field experiment is examining whether the use of DNA evidence in property crime cases is effective and cost-efficient. NIJ provided funds for the 18-month experiment to Denver, CO;

COLD CASE SUCCESS STORIES

In 1985, 5-year-old Kizzy Brooms was raped and murdered. Although DNA evidence from a cigarette linked a suspect to the murder, the case was unsolved because of evidence contamination. However, in 2007, funds from NIJ allowed analysts to test DNA from three hairs found on Brooms' sweatshirt and chest, and investigators finally solved the 22-year-old case. Tests showed the original suspect had committed the crime.

Police solved a second case by analyzing DNA evidence from the body of Jody Lynn Wolfe, a 14-year-old girl from Fresno, Calif., who was murdered in 1985. A Fresno cold case team used grant money from NIJ to analyze the DNA sample obtained from Wolfe's body and linked it to a career criminal, who police subsequently charged with the crime.

Los Angeles and Orange County, CA; Phoenix, AZ; and Topeka, KS. When officers find DNA evidence at a property crime scene, they send it for analysis so it can be matched with evidence from other scenes and with DNA profiles of known criminals. The final report will be published in 2008; preliminary results are promising. District Attor-

ney Mitch Morrissey of Denver said one area's burglary rate fell 31 percent when DNA evidence was used to capture two prolific burglars, one of whom confessed to looting 54 homes. According to an NIJ analysis, many burglars have several prior arrests and convictions for felonies, and sample analysis costs about \$4,500 for every suspect identified.

- ▶ DNA Research and Training—NIJ funded studies on DNA research that were published in prominent journals in the field. Research also supported the development of several free training programs available online. In 2007, these included:
 - ❖ “Principles of Forensic DNA for Officers of the Court”
 - ❖ “Communications Results for Forensic Analysis”
 - ❖ “Crime Scene and DNA Basics for Forensic Analysis”

Over \$9 million was awarded by NIJ to 13 training providers to develop or deliver knowledge-based forensic science curricula at the state or local level through the Forensic Science Training Development and Delivery Program.

NIJ research has led to technology that improves the ability to get DNA profiles from skeletal remains and other samples that are severely damaged or degraded. The technology—called mini STRs—can be used to identify missing persons, victims of mass disasters, and casualties of military conflicts.

- ▶ As part of the President's DNA Initiative, NIJ manages the Web site www.dna.gov.

JUSTICE INFORMATION SHARING

Overcoming obstacles of sharing information among law enforcement and other justice system components is a significant issue

that affects public safety. Doing so not only increases their ability to solve crimes and keep communities safer, but also helps them meet their increasing responsibilities. BJA has been active in providing the resources and assistance needed to make the sharing of information among criminal justice agencies as easy and secure as possible.

- ▶ BJA is active in supporting the sharing of information between all levels of government through the DOJ Global Justice Information Sharing Initiative (Global). This initiative has brought together national leaders to craft solutions to some of the biggest problems facing information sharing, including security, privacy, and a common transfer language. Global's committees meet on a regular basis and develop useful guidance and reference materials for executives and justice practitioners.
- ▶ One of the BJA-administered programs, the Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS), has been a leader in intelligence sharing for years. The network consists of six regional information centers servicing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. Three foreign countries are authorized to be RISS members: Canada, England, and Australia (foreign country members must be approved by the U.S. State Department). In 2007, RISS membership grew to 8,000 criminal justice agencies with over 81,000 access officers representing almost 1 million officers around the globe.
- ▶ One avenue that is often excluded from discussions about information sharing is cyber crime issues. Nearly all crimes have some link back to an electronic device such as a computer, cellular phone, or handheld device. These types of crimes span the nation, and BJA is working to bring cyber crime initiatives together by working with other federal agencies and grantees like the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) and

SEARCH to discuss common crime methods and ways to share information. In FY 2007, NW3C trained more than 4,400 law enforcement officers on identity theft, "phishing," and cybercrime.

- ▶ The DOJ Global Justice Extensible Markup Language (XML) was created to give justice leaders a common language, allowing for easier exchange of justice data while maintaining security and local control. The National Sex Offender Registry relies on this model.

NIJ's COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (COMMTECH) PROGRAM

The CommTech program's mission is to assist state and local law enforcement agencies to effectively and efficiently communicate with one another within and across agency and jurisdictional boundaries to enhance public safety. This capability requires inter-operability among diverse radio systems. Many agencies and first responders still lack interoperability because of the different systems and wavelengths that exist, even within a single locality. The CommTech program focuses on research and development of open architecture standards for voice, data, image, and video communication systems; testing and evaluation; pilot programs; technology transfer and assistance; and outreach. CommTech works closely with several federal partners in interoperability, mainly the Departments of Homeland Security and Defense. Examples of a CommTech efforts in 2007 are described below.

- ▶ Adapting military radios—Police on joint missions that span county or state lines must be able to talk to one another directly. However, they typically receive instructions through dispatchers for each department, and bottlenecks can occur if an officer must relay messages through multiple dispatchers. An NIJ pilot project in Orangetown, N.Y., is

testing the effectiveness of military radios that let officers from different jurisdictions communicate directly. The radios have multiple channels, giving officers several communication lines. NIJ worked with the Federal Communications Commission to get a special waiver that allows police to use the additional channels offered by the military radios.

- ▶ Advancing information sharing—NIJ sponsored research to allow different jurisdictions to exchange critical information needed for crime analysis and investigations. For example, the Automated Regional Justice Information System helped different jurisdictions throughout California identify 56 alien street gang members involved in violence, illegal weapons and narcotics trafficking. The system allowed San Diego police officers to use their wireless personal digital assistants to identify the suspects quickly by searching a dozen historically disparate databases with a single query.
- ▶ Exchanging driver's license photos. Criminals regularly cross state lines and use false names. Normally, police departments in these states share text data, not photos. To help officers accurately identify individuals, NIJ sponsored a pilot program through which police departments in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina exchange driver's license photos. The pilot program uses revolutionary technology that makes it much more difficult for criminals to mislead police officers.

TECHNOLOGY CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

In September 2007, NIJ announced the creation of four Technology Centers of Excellence, which will serve as a specialized criminal justice technology resource for law enforcement

and criminal justice practitioners. The Technology Centers of Excellence operate within the existing National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center System, a component of NIJ which serves as a nationwide network of technology research facilities. Under this initiative, the following awards were made:

- ▶ Pennsylvania State University's Applied Research Laboratory received \$3.2 million to establish the Weapons and Protective Systems Technology Center to support OJP's efforts to enhance the safety of law enforcement and corrections officers including efforts related to introducing into practice safer, more effective less lethal devices and equipment to protect them against chemical and biological weapons and improvised explosive devices. The Center also will provide technical and administrative support to the National Bomb Squad Commander's Advisory Board as well as establish a bomb technology test and evaluation program.
- ▶ The National Forensic Science Technology Center received \$6 million to form the Forensic Technology Center of Excellence that will support numerous OJP research and development initiatives specifically related to forensic science and technology. It also will serve as the National Clearinghouse for Science, Technology, and the Law's online resource and support forensics technology working groups' activities.
- ▶ Drakontas of Camden, N. J. received over \$3.6 million to establish the Communications Technologies Center of Excellence that will generally provide a means for testing, evaluating and demonstrating communications tools and technologies. Drakontas will establish and manage a law enforcement wireless pilot project, support a Communications Technology Working Group, and provide specialized communications technology assistance to law enforcement, when needed.

- ▶ The International Biometric Group of New York is receiving \$2.9 million to establish the Sensors, Surveillance, and Biometric Technologies Center that will support OJP's law enforcement and corrections biometrics and surveillance technology projects, including concealed weapons detection and through-the-wall surveillance programs. These efforts will ultimately lead to the adoption of new technologies for use by state and local criminal justice agencies.

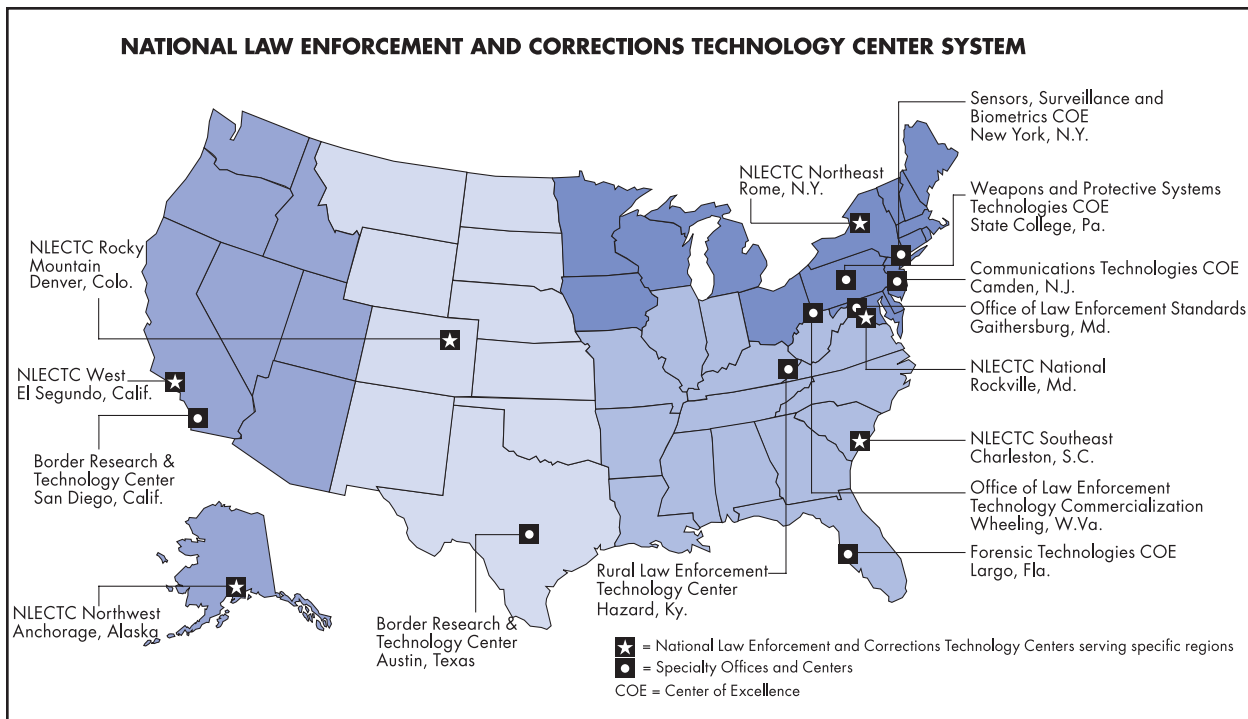
The map below details all of the centers.

CRIMINAL RECORDS IMPROVEMENT

From 1995 to 2007, BJS distributed \$515 million under the National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) to states to support improvements to state records systems. These improvements permit participation in national background check systems for presale firearms transfers, sex offender registries, national protection order files, and automated fingerprint identification systems. States have made

progress in automating their criminal history files and in improving access to and the utility of these files. Since the inception of NCHIP, the number of records available for sharing under the FBI's Interstate Identification Index (III) climbed threefold, or as fast as the rate of growth in all criminal records. In 2007, BJS distributed \$9 million in NCHIP funding.

- ▶ At the end of 2003, the states and the FBI maintained criminal history records on 71 million individuals. Of these, more than 50.5 million records were available for interstate background checks. Since the inception of NCHIP in 1995, the national number of criminal history records has increased 49 percent. Over the same period, the number of records available for sharing under III has climbed 210 percent.
- ▶ Since 1993, the number of states participating in III has grown from 26 to 49. The most recent data indicate that 71 percent of criminal records nationwide are now accessible for a background check through the III system.



- ▶ The National Instant Criminal Background Check System supports eight million checks annually at the presale stage of firearms transfers. From the inception of the Brady Act on March 1, 1994, over 87 million applications for firearm transfers were subject to background checks. About 1.6 million, or 1.9 percent of all applications, were rejected, primarily for the presence of a prior felony conviction. State and local agencies conducted checks on about 50 percent of the applications for firearm transfers or permits in 2007, and the FBI handled the rest.
- ▶ NCHIP funds have facilitated the integration of databases within states. The number of rejections by state and local agencies for reasons other than felony convictions increased 50 percent from 1999 to 2007. The percentage of rejections for non-felony reasons increased from 28 percent to 64 percent. Over the last several years, more states have devoted part of their NCHIP funds to the improvement of mental health databases to support background checks. However, a principal focus of NCHIP funding continues to be on the building of complete disposition information associated with each arrest transaction.
- ▶ NCHIP funds have assisted the states in building sex offender registries and participating in the FBI's National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR), which became operational in July 1999. All 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands have provided records to NSOR. As of September 30, 2007, NSOR maintained registry records for more than 494,000 sex offenders nationwide.
- ▶ States have used NCHIP funds to initiate the flagging of criminal history records evidencing convictions for domestic violence or the issuance of a protection order. See the Violence Against Women Act II Stalking Databases description at

the end of the chapter below for additional information.

- ▶ The federal-state partnership under NCHIP established the national infrastructure that now allows about 73.4 million records maintained in 13 different databases to be scanned instantly at the time of a firearms purchase for prohibiting background characteristics. This infrastructure will play an increasingly important role in criminal justice background checks and, when supported by fingerprints, will assist in other kinds of background checks for both homeland security and various non-criminal justice checks required under new legislative requirements.

TRIBAL CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Tribal Criminal History Record Improvement Program (T-CHRIP), administrated by BJS, assists tribes in improving the accuracy, completeness, and interstate availability of criminal history records by automating the capture and reporting of fingerprints and arrest records to tribal, state, and national databases. T-CHRIP is designed to improve the ability of tribes to identify individuals for criminal justice and non-criminal justice purposes, including persons: convicted of serious crimes occurring in Indian Country either by tribal or other law enforcement; ineligible to hold positions involving children, the elderly, or the disabled; subject to protection orders or wanted for violation of protection orders; arrested, or convicted of stalking and/or domestic violence; ineligible to be employed or hold licenses for specified positions; ineligible to purchase firearms; or potentially presenting threats to public safety.

- ▶ Between FY 2004–2007, T-CHRIP made 13 awards totaling about \$3 million.

- ▶ Tribes in Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, and Wisconsin received grant funding. The efforts of the T-CHRIP program grantees may serve a model for other tribes for the full implementation of the requirements for the Violence Against Women Act III of 2005 and the Adam Walsh Act of 2006.
- ▶ *Improving Criminal History Records in Indian Country, 2004–2006*, was published in July 2007.
- ▶ Assistant Attorney General Schofield participated in Tribal roundtables in Arizona in August 2007. Topics covered included available grant resources, training and technical assistance critical to public safety infrastructures, Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act implementation, sexual assault, criminal record development and data sharing, AMBER Alerts, behavioral health, and methamphetamine abuse. Other federal agencies involved in the discussions included the Department of the Interior, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Small Business Administration.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT II STALKING DATABASES

This program provides assistance to states and units of local government to improve processes for entering data regarding stalking and domestic violence into local, state, and national crime information databases. Funds provided to states are being used to upgrade the quality of state and local protection order systems and ensure that such systems are capable of supplying data on a real-time basis to the FBI's NCIC Protection Order File. In addition, funds are being used to ensure that states are in position to initiate or enhance efforts to collect and flag misdemeanor records that involve domestic violence and that represent a prohibiting category of firearm purchases under the Brady Act. BJS administers this program as a component of NCHIP.

There are now forty-seven states, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands submitting data to the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Protection Order File, which became operational in May 1997 and includes more than one million records of protection orders. Funds awarded under NCHIP will allow several states and territories that were not yet submitting records to the NCIC Protection Order file to fully participate. Awards also allowed some states to initiate special data collection and submission activities around misdemeanor convictions for domestic violence.

10

RESEARCH, STATISTICS, AND EVALUATION

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND EVALUATION PROGRAMS

Violence Against Women and Family Violence

Research and evaluation about violence against women, family violence, and victimization remains a high priority at NIJ. The NIJ portfolio contains projects to better understand and prevent violence and victimization, to effectively detect and respond to violence, and to increase the system's capacity to respond to an increasingly diverse population. NIJ works closely with DOJ's Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) to determine the research topics of most importance to the field. Descriptions of many of these programs are found below.

Violence Against Indian Women

Under Title IX, Section 904 of the Violence Against Women Act, NIJ is actively involved in developing a program of research on violence against American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) women, also known as the National Baseline Study on Violence Against Indian Women. Because of the broad scope of the study and the complexity of the topic, however, NIJ has chosen to refer to the mandate as a program of research, rather than a single baseline study. The reason for that is that multiple research projects over a period of time would have to be commissioned to address the entire statutory mandate. In preparation for the program of research, NIJ established

a research and dissemination-working group to assist with the work mandated by Title IX, Section 904(a) of the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act 2005. The participants include staff from NIJ and OJP bureaus and offices, as well as other DOJ representatives. Federal partners include the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Census Bureau, and the Department of Health and Human Services. The working group met several times to outline the steps necessary to meet the Congressional mandate.

The Office on Violence Against Women was charged with collecting nominations for and appointing a Task Force for this program of research. In preparation for the first meeting of the Task Force, NIJ commissioned a report highlighting the relevant literature and extant research and evaluation in the area of violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women. The next step for NIJ will be to present a research agenda and program plan at the second Task Force meeting after which NIJ plans to begin issuing research solicitations to address this mandate. Other NIJ activities associated with this initiative include: the development of a comprehensive outreach component to all 562 federally recognized Indian tribes and Alaskan Native Villages and Corporations regarding this program of research and an agreement to oversample American Indian and Alaska Native respondents in CDC's National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Surveillance System, expected to begin in FY 2009.

Elder Abuse

- ▶ In 2007, NIJ published *Innovations Assessment of the Elder Abuse Forensic Center of Orange County, CA*. The research findings showed evidence of the effectiveness of the Elder Abuse Forensic Center's multidisciplinary response model is lacking, restricted to a limited number of studies, and dominated by process-oriented evaluations. However, the evidence that exists does support the "thesis that multidisciplinary intimate partner violence intervention models provide better service for victims and their children, brings more awareness of domestic violence issues by the criminal justice system, and establishes a high level of cooperation and collaboration among system actors."

All of the Center's members stated that the model had improved Orange County's response to elder abuse, had improved and increased the number of cases prosecuted, and had broken down communication barriers between various players.

However, there is little empirical data to support the program's effectiveness with the exception of a group satisfaction and perception study. The Center's mission is to have unobstructed collaboration of the different professionals to assist agencies (medical, legal, and social services) in being able to effectively and comprehensively identify cases of elder abuse, facilitate prosecution where appropriate, and point out the best legal course and service opportunities for these cases. NIJ evaluated the Center to determine the effectiveness of the model used by the Center. The model has been touted as the premier method when responding to a large number of underreported crimes like intimate partner violence, sexual violence, child abuse, and elder abuse. NIJ staff performed intensive interviews with all members of the Center's staff to determine "implementation fidelity" and subsequently compared the comments

they provided. Interviews confirmed a steady caseload of 448 Center cases.

- ▶ In 2007, NIJ received the findings of the Statewide Analysis of Elder Abuse in Rhode Island. The study, conducted by the Advocates for Human Potential, examined the state's entire population of reported abuse of women aged fifty and older. Every domestic violence report that was made to law enforcement in 2002 was included in the study. A key finding was that as women victims of abuse age, the percent abused by an intimate partner declined from 62 percent for those aged 50 to 59 to 34 percent for those aged 60 and older. Correspondingly, abuse by non-intimate partners increased from 36 percent among the women aged 50 to 59 to 65 percent for those 60 and older. The primary non-intimate perpetrators of abuse of elder women were sons (46 percent), daughters (27 percent) and grandsons (9 percent). The research determined that non-intimate family members had more substantial criminal histories than intimate abusers, including other crimes against persons, and drug and alcohol related offenses. The substantial criminal histories of perpetrators of reported elder abuse suggests that in many cases vulnerable older family members (especially older parents) provide easy targets for individuals already engaged in criminal activity.
- ▶ In 2007, NIJ administered the study Bruising as a Forensic Marker of Elder Abuse. The study was conducted by the University of California-Irvine and is a companion study to a 2001 NIJ-funded study on accidental bruising in older adults. The results of the current study are based on examination of bruises in 74 elders with confirmed cases of elder abuse, who were referred by Adult Protective Services in southern California. Preliminary findings indicate that bruises that were accidental or had unknown causes were far more

likely to be on the extremities, while inflicted bruises were more likely to be on the head and trunk. The average size of all bruises found on abused elders was much larger (19 cm) than those found on non-abused older adults (7 cm - as reported in the 2001 study). Of the bruises that were reported by the participant to have been inflicted intentionally, the average size was 24 cm. The results of this research will help Adult Protective Services workers, police, doctors and other practitioners who serve elder populations identify bruising patterns that may be signs of abuse.

Sexual Assault

- ▶ Adolescent Sexual Assault victims' Experiences with SANE-SARTs and the Criminal Justice System is a study that uses two approaches to answer two questions related to adolescents experience with Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) and Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART). The first is a quantitative quasi-experimental design that examines eight years of reporting and prosecution data in two counties that differ in terms of how their SANE programs function within multidisciplinary SART teams. The second study involves qualitative interviews with adolescent victims who received SANE-SART services to learn how these experiences influenced their participation in prosecution. The questions the study seeks to answer are: 1) Which cases make it through the system and why? and 2) What role do SANE-SARTs play in encouraging victims to participate in prosecution? This study will assist in filling a gap in the literature because while research has shown that SANE-SART programs can be helpful throughout reporting and prosecution this topic has not been studied with adolescents.
- ▶ The Sexual Assault Among Latinas (SALAS) Project will address significant gaps in the literature on sexual assault

of Latina women especially concerning polyvictimization, help-seeking efforts, and the influence of cultural factors on experience, impact, and responses to sexual victimization. The findings will also be pertinent to shaping practice and policy. Data will be collected via phone interviews with a targeted sample of approximately 2,000 Latina women living throughout the United States. Participants will be asked about lifetime victimization, help-seeking efforts, psychological distress, PTSD symptomatology, religiosity, acculturation, gender-role ideology, and demographic information. Ultimately, a better, more culturally-based, understanding of sexual victimization among Latina women will be gained.

- ▶ The Historically Black College and University Campus Sexual Assault Study will be a collaboration with four Historically Black College and University (HBCU) campuses to generate data on the prevalence, context, consequences, and reporting of sexual assault, as well as the criminal justice and service provider responses to sexual assault on HBCU campuses. Data regarding drug facilitated sexual assault also will be collected. This will be accomplished via a Web-based survey that will collect data from 4,000 undergraduate HBCU women at geographically diverse campuses, and a mail survey to obtain data from campus criminal justice personnel and service providers at the participating HBCU campuses.

Domestic Violence

- ▶ A Statewide Study of Stalking and Its Criminal Justice Response will explore the impact of identifying and charging for the crime of stalking in the state of Rhode Island. Offender accountability will be measured by successful prosecution, victim safety, and re-arrest for domestic violence within two years. Researchers will use a multimethods approach that includes secondary data analysis of a mandated law enforcement reporting system

as well as court based data regarding prosecution and qualitative interviews with select Rhode Island law enforcement officers, prosecutors, defense lawyers and court advocates for a more complete understanding of the factors influencing the criminal justice response to stalking. The researcher plans to explore answers to the question, “Does identifying the crime of stalking have an effect on prosecution outcomes, as well as longer term outcomes in regard to subsequent arrests for domestic violence?”

- ▶ The study, *Testing the Efficacy of Judicial Monitoring: A Randomized Trial at the Rochester Domestic Violence Courts* will determine the efficacy of a carefully designed, robust model of judicial monitoring. In addition to examining the impact of monitoring on official recidivism and victim reports of re-abuse, the impact on intervening offender perceptions regarding the swiftness, certainty, and severity of further sanctions in response to violations of the court’s orders also will be examined.
- ▶ The *Domestic Violence Shelter Study* will describe the experiences of a sample of 3,000 residents of domestic violence shelter programs in up to eight states. Shelter residents will be asked to complete two brief surveys—one at the time of admission and a different one as close as possible to shelter exit. Analysis will focus on descriptions of survivors and their needs, their experiences in shelter (the extent to which they obtained the services they wanted, their perceptions of treatment and issues they encountered), and immediate outcomes. Analysis will also examine the ways in which survivors’ demographic characteristics and local program and community variables may be related to service receipt, perceived treatment, and outcomes.
- ▶ The goal of research regarding “*Custody Evaluators’ Beliefs About Domestic Abuse Allegations*,” is to reduce violence

against women and their children by improving the knowledge and ability of custody evaluators and other professionals who make recommendations to the court regarding child custody and visitation matters. The safety of women can be jeopardized when ongoing intimate partner violence is not adequately considered in the court arrangements regarding child custody and visitation. Ultimately this study aims to prevent violent crimes against women by eliminating particular vulnerable occasions and having decision-makers focus on the safety needs of abused mothers at times of separation. The findings of the study will form the foundation for studies of training for decision-makers and for policy development.

Human Trafficking

- ▶ *Finding Victims of Human Trafficking* is an exploratory study of the prevalence, context, and characteristics of human trafficking cases and victims across the country. The research team will interview 240 state and local key stakeholders in 60 locations not affiliated with task forces about their experiences with human trafficking to collect information about victims, cases, and perpetrators they have encountered in their efforts to combat these activities. A primary focus of the interviews will be on identification of victims and potential victims that have not come to the attention of law enforcement. Using this information, good practices for finding trafficking victims and bringing traffickers to justice will be developed.
- ▶ The “*Human Trafficking Literature Review*” will include a comprehensive literature search on human trafficking and subsequent analysis of the rigor of the literature they uncover. The products of this project will provide decision-makers with vital information to identify and protect victims and prosecute traffickers, craft effective policies, and develop

efficient and culturally and linguistically appropriate programs. Those responsible for addressing human trafficking will be able to differentiate between sensational publications intended to raise awareness about trafficking, and serious literature, based on robust empirical research, intended to analyze the root causes of human trafficking; provide estimates of the number of victims; map and analyze trafficking trends and routes; examine the different types of exploitation; understand the resiliency and the suffering of trafficked victims; and assess the appropriateness of treatment modalities and psycho-social programs aimed at rehabilitating victims.

Court Research

NIJ sponsors criminal court research and court-based program evaluation to further understanding of case processing issues given offender and organizational differences, and to identify tools, programs, and policies that satisfy public safety and other criminal justice goals. NIJ's court research projects are designed to address: court operations and case management, specialized or problem-solving courts, adjudication and sentencing, and technology. NIJ activities in FY 2007 include sponsored meetings, research continuation awards, and technology application dissemination.

- ▶ NIJ gathered researchers, practitioners, and other pretrial experts in May 2007 for a Pretrial Research Meeting, in collaboration with BJA and BJS. The objectives were to: assess what we have learned from past research and practice, discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the body of research and its applications in the field, and identify next steps including building on current research and identifying research gaps. Through its Data Resources Program, NIJ funded Pretrial Research of Latino Defendants in State Courts study.
- ▶ Ongoing is NIJ's Multisite Adult Drug Court Evaluation, a five-year \$6 million

longitudinal process, impact and cost evaluation study of adult treatment drug court programs. It examines the influence of offender, court, and community characteristics on offender perceptions (motivation), service access, compliance, relapse, recidivism, and other areas (employment). Data is from 29 rural, suburban and urban jurisdictions nationwide for about 1800 probationers. Preliminary findings based on 6-month follow-up interviews indicate positive outcomes. Final results will be available by fall 2009.

- ▶ NIJ funded efforts to examine the application of technology to criminal trials resulted in two products: *Digital Evidence in the Courtroom: A Guide for Law Enforcement and Prosecutors* and *Using and Presenting Digital Evidence in the Courtroom*.

Corrections Research

NIJ's work in FY 2007 influenced state and local policies about prisoners, jails and probation programs across the nation. In addition to the development of a mental health screening assessment for use in jails and efforts to determine which parolees are sent back to prison and why, NIJ supported projects in the areas of correctional health care, Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) research, and inmate tracking devices, as outlined below.

Correctional Health Care

The substantive nature of the Correctional Health Care portfolio can be characterized by work in infectious and chronic disease as well as mental illness. The 10th Survey of HIV, TB, STDs and Hepatitis was completed in the last five years. More recent work has been in the mental health arena. Work in this area has included validation of brief mental health screens, federal disability benefits, and assessing treatment approaches to post traumatic stress disorder. Specifically, the brief mental health screens were validated for use in correctional settings. Beyond research on strategies employed by correctional

agencies to assist soon-to-be-released disabled offenders with instatement or reinstatement of disability benefits, work also was done to determine the degree to which federal disability beneficiaries lose benefits as a result jail detention; 3 percent lose benefits due to a jail stay. In the realm of PTSD treatment, study findings suggest that sufferers in correctional settings may derive some limited benefit from short course versus long-term, more expensive psychotherapy. Work continues to explore the psychological impact of long-term stays in administrative segregation. There are no findings to date.

Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)

- ▶ PREA supports the elimination, reduction, and prevention of sexual assault and rape in federal, state, and local adult and juvenile corrections facilities. Since 2003, NIJ has funded 10 projects related to PREA (8 grants and 2 inter-agency partnerships). In 2007, NIJ funded one award under a solicitation requesting proposals to evaluate programs and technologies designed to prevent sexual violence in corrections facilities. NIJ also funded a project thru a partnership created between NIJ, BJS, and the CDC.
- ▶ As part of the 2003 Prison Rape Elimination Act, BJS and NIJ have requested assistance from the CDC, National Center for Hepatitis, HIV, STD, and TB Prevention, and the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control to establish a national passive surveillance system for clinical (medical, dental, mental health) indicators of sexual violence in the largest prisons and jails in the United States. The goals of the Clinical Indicators of Sexual Violence Surveillance Project are to identify and monitor clinical indicators of sexual violence at a facility level anticipating that this data will correlate with allegations or self-reported sexual violence. The long-term goal of this study will be to establish a sensitive and specific passive surveillance system that is sustainable to monitor sexual violence in the correctional setting.

Inmate Tracking

The Radio Frequency Identification Device (RFID) technology project will evaluate the use of RFID on inmates at the Northeast Pre-Release Center, a women's state correctional institution in Ohio. RFID technology enables corrections officials to track the locations of inmates every 30 seconds, mapping and recording their movements over time. Incident reports of sexual violence and other violent incidents will be tracked pre- and post-implementation of RFID to determine if the technology reduces violence in this facility. The results of this evaluation are likely to have significant impact for corrections administrators.

Offender Job Training and Placement

The substantive nature of the Offender Job Training and Placement portfolio consists of work in the following areas: correctional industries (state-use), private sector prison industries, and post-release employment. NIJ's most recently completed study in this area was the first-ever national evaluation of private sector prison industries. This study involved an outcome comparison of offenders employed in traditional prison industries (state-use), those employed in private sector prison industries, and those involved in other than work (idle, correctional education, treatment). Offenders employed in private sector prison industries were employed sooner post-release, were employed longer, earn more than, and recidivated less than offenders involved in other than work or employed by traditional industries.

Work continues in this area with ongoing studies of the role of race and criminal or arrest record on post-release employment. Interim findings in a study of the role of race and criminal record on post-release employment reveal that employers slightly prefer to hire male white felons over black males with no criminal record. Additionally, blacks with a criminal record "pay" more or are "punished" more by employers for their criminal record than are whites. That is, white males with a criminal record had approximately a 50 percent chance of receiving a call back from an interview.

Blacks with a record received call backs only one-third of the time. Hence, the price paid for a criminal record is higher for blacks than for whites. Finally, work also is underway on a actuarial risk assessment of criminal background checks. There are no findings to date.

Prisoner Reentry

- ▶ Nearly 650,000 prisoners are released each year, in the U.S. According to BJS, over 50 percent of those released from incarceration will be in some form of legal trouble within 3 years. Work under the Prisoner Reentry area was authorized to reduce this cycle of arrest and re-arrest while ensuring public safety. While other work has been done in the past three to five years, the substantive nature of this portfolio during this time period has been one large study: the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI).

Preliminary SVORI evaluation findings indicate that SVORI participants are doing better on average on most outcome measures, if sometimes only moderately; most programs are small and enrolled fewer people than originally projected; many of the SVORI programs have developed strong collaborations with local faith-based agencies; SVORI participants are more likely to receive more programs and services than comparable non-participants; although the overall level of service provision is low; and most programs are continuing at least some parts of their SVORI programs since federal funding ended. An evaluation Web site was created that contains information on the progress of the evaluation, presentation workshop power points, and numerous topical documents.

- ▶ NIJ also funded a guidebook that enables practitioners to use mapping technology for prisoner reentry strategies. The reentry mapping guidebook has been used by both practitioners developing local reentry strategies and other federal agencies

developing solicitations for funding new reentry efforts.

Although it is too early to report results, in FY 2007 NIJ funded four additional prisoner reentry studies looking at housing, faith-based, employability and risk assessment issues.

Community Corrections

With more than two-thirds of offenders in this country being supervised in the community, it is particularly important that NIJ's commitment to addressing criminal justice and public safety include a thoughtful and robust portfolio of research and evaluation focusing on issues facing community corrections. NIJ continues to hold meetings of the Community Corrections Research Network that uses input from field-based community corrections practitioners and probation and parole researchers to assist NIJ in developing a strategic research agenda. Moreover, the Network provides an opportunity for the participants to share problems as well as examine possibilities for pooling resources, developing collaborations, reducing duplications, and increasing capabilities to answer key questions in the community corrections arena.

Ongoing NIJ projects in this portfolio are examining the impact of progressive, swift and certain sanctioning in probation and parole, reduced caseloads, causes and consequences of parole violations, developing data-driven parole supervision protocols, assessing GPS and other electronic monitoring technologies. While the grants in this portfolio are too new to have generated dissemination material, NIJ has had a significant impact on the field through numerous presentations at the American Probation and Parole Association conferences and the NIJ Conference.

Results from an evidence-based probation partnership between the National Institute of Corrections, NIJ, and the Crime and Justice Institute are currently under review; however, preliminary findings from Maine suggest small reductions in recidivism across three cohorts within

the state and less subtle differences in the individual regions. The data suggests that across the state, use of the LSI-R instrument to determine the risks and needs of probationers is effective in the management of high risk offenders.

Children of Parents Under Supervision

While other work has been done in the past three to five years, the substantive nature of the Children of Parents Under Criminal Justice Supervision portfolio during this time period has been one large study of incarcerated mothers and their children (n=17,000 mothers & n=35,000 children) and one of the only studies that has been conducted to date that does not rely on self report—Illinois Incarcerated Mothers, Their Children and Foster Care. This study relied on matching large administrative data sets: wage and hour, food stamp, lead paint poisoning, foster care, school records, and so on.

The findings from this study provided sound evidence that some previously held assumptions concerning this population are not likely to be true. For example, contrary to earlier thought, it is a rare rather than a common occurrence that that children of incarcerated mothers end up in foster care due to the arrest and incarceration of the mother; over 80 percent lost their children up to three years prior to arrest and incarceration. Additionally an examination, over time, of the children's annual achievement tests reveal no change in the children's academic performance pre- and post-incarceration of the mother.

Drugs and Crime Research

NIJ sponsors drugs and crime research in the context of the criminal justice system to develop and evaluate effective law enforcement, court, and corrections responses to criminal behavior related to alcohol and other drugs. This research informs crime reduction through several approaches: epidemiology, prevention and intervention, drug markets, market disruption and technology. In FY 2007, NIJ activities included sponsoring expert panels, commissioning research papers, and awarding grants and other projects.

- ▶ NIJ hosted a panel on medication-assisted treatment for heroin and other opioid abusing offenders. This included policy, practice, and research experts who addressed drug use and treatment issues in community and institutional corrections.
- ▶ NIJ commissioned the National Academy of Sciences Committee on Law and Justice for a Workshop on Understanding and Controlling the Demand for Illegal Drugs. Researchers presented papers on: treatment and demand reduction; heavy user behavior; drug use career dynamics; law enforcement impact on local users and dealers; drug price estimation; and early drug use and adult dependency. That report is due in FY 2008.
- ▶ NIJ partnered with the National Institute on Drug Abuse for a Joint Initiative for Research on Retail Drug Markets, with a focus on methamphetamine. The solicitation for research that integrates epidemiology with behavioral and economic studies of the composition and dynamics of drug markets—including drug manufacture, sale, and use—resulted in four grants. NIJ is coordinating meetings and work products, beginning with an FY 2008 grantee workshop. Publications will follow this meeting, and the final briefing in FY 2009.
- ▶ NIJ awarded a task order under its Analytic Support Program for a Controlled Substance Case Processing Descriptive Study. This study will describe the flow of drug evidence, including procedures and criteria for submitting, analyzing, and using controlled substance evidence across jurisdictions, to identify promising standards and practices associated with specific success measures, such as reduced case backlogs and increased guilty pleas, as well as indicators of system-level inefficiencies.
- ▶ Through its Graduate Research Fellowship Program, NIJ awarded two grants: a study of the impact of

California's Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 that mandates treatment in lieu of incarceration for non-violent drug offenders; and a study of the gendered effects of depression and substance abuse and treatment on criminal behavior, and interactions with the criminal justice system on current depression and substance abuse, based on analysis of the 2004 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICAL PROGRAMS

In 2007, BJS carried out more than four dozen statistical series that cover each stage of the criminal justice system, including

- ▶ the *National Crime Victimization Survey*, the nation's primary source of information on criminal victimization
- ▶ cyber crime statistics on the incidence, magnitude, and consequences of electronic and computer crime to households and businesses
- ▶ law enforcement data from more than 3,000 agencies on the organization and administration of police and sheriffs' departments
- ▶ nationally representative prosecution data on resources, policies, and practices of local prosecutors
- ▶ court and sentencing statistics, including federal and state case processing data
- ▶ data on correctional populations and facilities from federal, state, and local governments

BJS released 34 publications, 11 of these were in electronic and CD format only.

In addition, the BJS Web site now provides users with access to over 14,019 products on-

line, including spreadsheets and data files, for use by Web visitors seeking time series and geographically distributed data on crime and justice. The BJS Web site is currently recording up to 24,000 users daily. In FY 2007, BJS estimates that the average number of user sessions per month was over 558,341.

Many BJS reports are accompanied by press releases or placed directly on the newswire and are given prominent coverage in the nation's electronic and print media. BJS data are frequently cited in Congressional testimony and findings, court opinions, law reviews, and social science journals. In FY 2007, 20 federal and state court decisions cited BJS. Over 1,535 citations of BJS data were recorded in law reviews and journals, social science journals, and secondary analyses publications.

Courts and Sentencing Statistics

BJS published the following reports and findings on courts and sentencing statistics in 2007:

- ▶ *Medical Malpractice Insurance Claims in Seven States, 2000-2004* reported that the majority of medical malpractice insurance claims closed without compensation payments and among persons receiving compensation insurance payouts were highest for claimants who suffered lifelong major or grave permanent injuries. In Florida and Missouri claimants with these types of injuries received median payouts ranging from \$278,000 to \$350,000.
- ▶ *Felony Sentences in State Courts, 2004* reported that between 1994 and 2004, the number of felony convictions in State courts increased 24 percent and that 7 in 10 convicted felons in State courts were sentenced to incarceration.
- ▶ *Pretrial Release of Felony Defendants in State Court*, presents findings on the pretrial release phase of the criminal justice process using data collected from a representative sample of felony cases filed in the 75 largest U.S. counties in

May during even-numbered years from 1990 to 2004.

- ▶ *Federal Prosecution of Child Sex Exploitation Offenders, 2006* reported that a total of 2,039 suspects were prosecuted for Federal sex offenses in 2006, representing about 2.5 percent of the 83,148 suspects prosecuted in federal courts. The main sex exploitation offense referred to U.S. attorneys shifted from sex abuse (73 percent) in 1994 to child pornography (69 percent) in 2006.

Corrections Statistics

BJS published the following findings on corrections statistics in 2007:

- ▶ *Medical Causes of Death in State Prisons, 2001-2004*, reported that death rates were lower in state prisons than in the general population, state prisoner mortality rates increased steadily with age, and 89 percent of all state prisoner deaths were result of medical conditions.
- ▶ *Veterans in State and Federal Prison, 2004*, reported that male veterans were less than half as likely as male non-veterans to be in prison in 2004. Also, veterans were older and better educated than other state and federal prisoners.
- ▶ *Prison and Jail Inmates at Midyear, 2006*, reported the largest increase in prison and jail inmate populations since midyear 2000. More than 2.24 million were incarcerated as of June 30, 2006. The increase was due to an increase in prison admissions and a slowing of state prison release rates.
- ▶ *HIV in Prisons, 2005*, reported that HIV cases among state and federal prison inmates fell for the sixth straight year during 2005. The estimated number of AIDS-related deaths continued to decline. Between 1999 and 2005, New York state prisons accounted for more

than three-quarters of the reported national decline of 3,327.

- ▶ *Arrest-Related Deaths in the United States, 2003-2005* found that states reported more than 2,000 arrest-related deaths from 2003 through 2005 and that homicides by officers made up more than half of such fatalities.
- ▶ *Prisoners in 2006* reported that during 2006, the prison population grew at a faster rate than in the previous 5 years. On December 31, 2006, there were 1,570,861 inmates under state and federal jurisdiction, an increase of 42,932 (or 2.8 percent) in 2006.
- ▶ *Probation and Parole in the United States, 2006* reported that one in every 31 U.S. adults was in a prison or jail or on probation or parole at yearend 2006. Also, the number of men and women who were being supervised on probation or parole in the United States at year-end 2006 reached 5 million for the first time, an increase of 87,852 (or 1.8 percent) during the year.

Prison Rape Elimination Act Statistics

- ▶ In 2007, BJS continued to implement the national data collection requirements of PREA using multiple-measure, multiple-mode data collection strategy. The Survey of Sexual Violence (SSV) in Correctional Facilities collects data annually on the incidence of sexual violence in adult and juvenile correctional facilities. This administrative records collection which was first conducted in 2004, measures 4 different types of sexual violence and it is administered to a sample of at least 10 percent of the nearly 8,700 correctional facilities covered under PREA.

Between January 1 and June 30, 2007, BJS completed the third annual SSV in adult correctional facilities. The 2006

administrative records survey provided the basis for the annual statistical review required under the Act. The survey included all federal and state prison systems and facilities operated by the U.S. Military and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The survey also included representative samples of jail jurisdictions, privately operated adult prisons and jails, and jails in Indian country. Altogether, the SSV included facilities housing more than 1.8 million inmates, or 81 percent of all inmates held in adult facilities in 2006.

In 2007 BJS published the third national report entitled *Sexual Violence Reported by Correctional Authorities, 2006*. Highlights include the following:

- ❖ There were 2.91 allegations of sexual violence per 1,000 inmates held in prison, jail, and other adult correctional facilities in 2006, up from 2.46 per 1,000 inmates in 2004.
 - ❖ More than one inmate was reported to have been victimized in 8 percent of the substantiated inmate-on-inmate incidents in 2006 and 4 percent of those in 2005.
 - ❖ Most incidents of sexual violence among inmates involve force or threat of force and occur in the victim's cell, in the evening.
- The National Inmate Survey (NIS) collects data directly from inmates in a private setting using Audio Computer-Assisted Self Interview (ACASI) technology with a laptop touch screen and an audio feed to maximize inmate confidentiality and minimize literacy issues. Between April and August 2007, BJS completed the first NIS of 146 state and federal prisons. A total of 23,398 inmates participated in the survey. In December 2007 BJS released the first report presenting data from the NIS entitled *Sexual Victimization in State and Federal*

Prisons as Reported by Inmates, 2007. Highlights include the following:

- ❖ An estimated 60,500 inmates (or 4.5 percent of all state and federal inmates) experienced one or more incidents of sexual victimization involving other inmates or staff.
 - ❖ Nationwide, about 2.1 percent of inmates reported an incident involving another inmate and 2.9 percent reported an incident involving staff.
 - ❖ Among the 146 prison facilities in the 2007 NIS, 6 had no reports of sexual victimization from the sampled inmates; 10 had an overall victimization rate of at least 9.3 percent.
 - ❖ Among the 10 facilities with the highest overall prevalence rates, 3 had prevalence rates of staff sexual misconduct that exceeded 10 percent.
- The Former Prisoner Survey (FPS) will provide a national estimate of the incidence of sexual victimization based on reports of former state prison inmates. Data will be collected on the totality of the prior term of incarceration, including any time in a police lockup, local jail, state prison, or community correctional facility prior to final discharge. The FPS was tested in 16 parole offices with 788 former inmates on active parole supervision. In May 2007, the collection was submitted to OMB for review. National implementation began in early 2008. When fully implemented the survey will include about 16,500 former inmates in a sample of 285 parole offices.

The National Survey of Youth in Custody (NSYC) will provide facility level estimates of youth reporting sexual victimization in juvenile facilities, as required under PREA. The collection will include a sample of 10 percent of facilities holding adjudicated youth. After obtaining either individual parental consent or *in*

loco parentis from the facility, a sample of youth in each selected facility will be interviewed in a private setting using Audio Computer-Assisted Self-Interview.

Testing of the NSYC was completed in June 2007. The test involved 12 juvenile facilities in 6 States with more than 750 completed interviews. Results of the testing and plans for implementation was presented to juvenile administrators and other stakeholders on August 28, 2007. When fully implemented, the NSYC will include about 15,000 adjudicated youth in a sample of 208 state operated facilities and 48 large non-state facilities (that had an average daily population of 90 or more youth during 2005).

Victimization Statistics

- ▶ BJS conducts the *National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)* which collects data from a nationally representative sample that contacts approximately 76,000 households comprising more than 135,300 persons on the impact, frequency, and consequences of criminal victimization in the United States. Survey data reveal the number of rapes, sexual assaults, robberies, assaults, thefts, household burglaries, and motor vehicle thefts United States residents and their households experience each year. NCVS, which is continuously conducted, provides details on victims and offenders and the circumstances under which they come together and the contingencies of crime, such as weapon use, place and time of occurrence, costs of crime, and perceived alcohol and drug use by the offender. NCVS also serves as a national platform to periodically conduct special data collections on topical issues, such as cyber crime-related victimizations, school crime, workplace violence, and police-public contacts. In 2007, BJS released its annual report titled *Criminal Victimization, 2006*, which presents estimates of rates and

levels of personal and property victimization for 2006.

- ▶ BJS, in collaboration with OVW, conducted a supplement to the NCVS to estimate the extent and characteristics of stalking in the United States. Currently, there are no national estimates of the prevalence and incidence of stalking. The survey obtained information about the identity of the stalker, the nature of the stalking incidents, the consequences to the victim, and actions the victim took in response to the victimization, including whether it was reported to the police. BJS expects findings to be released in early 2009.
- ▶ *Intimate Partner Violence in the United States*, reported that intimate partner violence declined between 1993 and 2005, there were 2.3 victimizations per 1,000 individuals, and that long term trends differ by gender. Also, the average annual rate of non-fatal intimate partner violence from 1993-2005 is generally higher for American Indian and Alaskan Native females while similar for black females and white females. Victims, both female and male, were likely to turn to a government agency for assistance.
- ▶ *Black Victims of Violent Crimes*, reported that black Americans were victims in 15 percent of all nonfatal violent crimes and 49 percent of all homicides during 2005.
- ▶ *Identity Theft, 2005* reported that about 1.6 million households experienced theft of existing accounts other than a credit card (such as a banking account), and 1.1 million households discovered misuse of personal information (such as social security number). Ten percent of the households with incomes of \$75,000 or higher experienced identity theft; that was about twice the percentage of households earning less than \$50,000.

Law Enforcement and Forensic Statistics

BJS published the following findings from its data collections on law enforcement and forensic statistics and carried out the following statistical studies in 2007:

- ▶ In 2007, BJS completed data collection for the *Census of Law Enforcement Training Academies*. First conducted in 2002, the survey collects data on personnel, facilities and resources, trainees, and training curricula of law enforcement academies in the United States. Selective findings will include training issues, training policies as they relate to terrorism, community policing, and racial profiling. Findings are expected in early 2009.
- ▶ BJS completed the statistical data collection of *Campus Law Enforcement Agencies in 2006*. The Census collected data describing some 600 campus law enforcement agencies serving U.S. 4-year universities or colleges with 2,500 or more students. Data was analyzed and published on agency personnel, expenditures and pay, operations, equipment, computers and information systems, policies, and special programs. Findings were released in 2008.
- ▶ BJS released *Census of State Local Law Enforcement Agencies, 2004* which reported that there were about 1.1 million full-time state and local law enforcement employees in the U.S., including about 732,000 sworn personnel as of September 30, 2004. From 2000 to 2004, full-time employment by state and local law enforcement agencies nationwide increased overall by 57,400 (or 5.6 percent).
- ▶ BJS released *Contacts between the Police and Public, 2005*, which reported that 19 percent of U.S. residents 16 and older had a face-to-face contact with a police officer in 2005, a decrease from the 21



percent in 2001, and 1.6 percent of those who had contact with a law enforcement officer said force was used or they were threatened. Almost 18 million people said their most recent contact was as a driver in a traffic stop which represents 8.8 percent of drivers.

- ▶ BJS released *Medical Examiners and Coroners' Offices, 2004*, which reported that about 2,000 medical examiners' and coroners' offices investigated almost 1 million human deaths during 2004, 40 percent of all deaths were referred to medical offices and coroners, and as of 2004, there are almost 13,500 unidentified human remains on record in medical examiner and coroners offices.
- ▶ BJS released *Unidentified Human Remains in the United States, 1980-2004*, which reported that of the 2,900 National Crime Information Center records that contained data on the manner of death, 27 percent were ruled homicides; 12 percent, accidental deaths; 7 percent, natural causes; and 5 percent, suicides. The majority of unidentified persons were white (70 percent); blacks made up 15 percent of unidentified persons; and race could not be determined in 13 percent of the cases.

Tribal Justice Statistics

- ▶ 2007 marked the fourth year of the implementation of the Tribal Criminal History Record Improvement Program (T-CHRIP). In FY 2007, BJS awarded T-CHRIP funds for the SEARCH Tribal Violence Prevention Technology Assistance Program, which will be designed to assist and guide Tribal jurisdictions in responding to specific provisions included in the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 and the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. Under the 3-year \$800,000 project, SEARCH Group, Inc., will use funds to support activities

aimed at developing and/or improving tribal record systems and processes for the collection, sharing, and use of tribal criminal history records as well as encompassing efforts to address cultural sensitivities to information sharing and privacy concerns. BJS also provided \$226,261 in continuation funding for the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians in Michigan to implement and facilitate the development of an integrated justice information system among the tribal nations in Michigan.

- ▶ OJP launched the Tribal Justice and Safety Web site in November 2006 to serve as a single source of information about courts, corrections, law enforcement, crime statistics, crime prevention, and legal and other public safety issues. It also provides a resource for tribal communities to solicit information about how OJP can meet their informational, training, and funding needs.
- ▶ In 2007, BJS held a Tribal Crime Data and Information Sharing Conference. The conference was held in conjunction with OJP's fourth tribal consultation and training session in Phoenix, Arizona. The session was a multidepartment effort aimed at addressing public safety and criminal justice needs as well as health and welfare needs of tribal communities.

State Justice Statistics Program

BJS administers the State Justice Statistics program for Statistical Analysis Centers (SACs). Through the years, SACs have been established in all states and most territories to centralize and integrate criminal justice statistical functions within the state. BJS provides financial and technical assistance to the state SACs to coordinate statistical activities within the state, conduct research as needed to estimate impacts of legislative and policy changes, and serve a liaison role to assist BJS in gathering data from respondent agencies within their states. During 2007, BJS encouraged many states to use SAC funds to assist BJS in the col-


lection of data on deaths in custody. Other areas of research being conducted by the SACs include: criminal victimization, domestic violence and sexual assault, civil justice statistics, performance measurement, and analysis of criminal history records and incident-based crime data.

Juvenile Justice Research and Statistics Programs

OJJDP has primary responsibility for developing and disseminating statistical information on the juvenile justice system and does so through several mechanisms.


- Available on the OJJDP Web site, the *Statistical Briefing Book* offers an array

Other Violent Crime http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/ojstatbb/offenders/qa03201.asp?qaDate=19990930



Statistical Briefing Book

- Juvenile Population Characteristics
- Juvenile as Victims
- Juvenile as Offenders
 - Overview
 - Related FAQs
 - Related Publications
 - Related Links
 - Data Analysis Tools->
- Juvenile Justice System Structure & Process
- Law Enforcement & Juvenile Crime
- Juveniles in Court
- Juveniles on Probation
- Juveniles in Corrections
- Juvenile Reentry & Aftercare
- Home



Home > Statistical Briefing Book > Juveniles as Offenders > Other Violent Crime

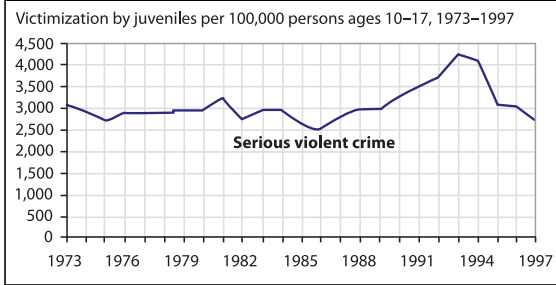
Juveniles as Offenders

Other Violent Crime

Q: What are the trends in serious violent crime offending by juveniles?

A: The rate at which juveniles committed serious violent crimes changed little between 1973 and 1989, peaked in 1993, then declined to the lowest level since 1986.

Victimization by juveniles per 100,000 persons ages 10–17, 1973–1997



Serious violent crime

Note: Serious violent crime includes incidents involving rape and other sexual assaults, robbery, and aggravated assault. Data are collected through personal interviews with persons ages 12 and older; thus, murder is not included for obvious reasons. Data collected prior to 1992 were adjusted to be consistent with newer data collection procedures.

[[Text only](#)] [[Excel file](#)]

- The Bureau of Justice Statistics' National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) asks a nationally representative sample of persons ages 12 and older about violent crimes in which they were the victim. Since 1973, the NCVS has been a national barometer of crime trends.
- Serious violent victimizations in the U.S. peaked in 1993 at 4.2 million, the highest level since the NCVS began in 1973. Between 1993 and 1997, the number of these victimizations dropped by 27%—to 3 million, the lowest level since the NCVS began.
- The rate at which juveniles committed aggravated assaults declined 33% between 1994 and 1995 and remained relatively stable thereafter.
- The rate of robberies by juveniles rose in 1981 and 1993, but by 1997, had dropped below the rates seen in the 1970's.

Internet citation: *OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book*. Online. Available: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/ojstatbb/offenders/qa03201.asp?qaDate=19990930>. Released on September 30, 1999.

Adapted from Snyder, H. & Sickmund, M. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*, p. 62. Washington, D.C.: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 1999.

Data Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, *1973–1997 National Crime Victimization Survey data* [Web site data files]. Washington, D.C.: BJS, 1998.

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of statistical information on juveniles, including offending, victimization, and involvement in the juvenile justice system. It provides timely and reliable answers to questions that practitioners, policymakers, the media, and concerned citizens frequently ask. In recent years, the OJJDP *Statistical Briefing Book* has become a primary source of information on juvenile crime and the juvenile justice system for individuals within the United States and throughout the world. During 2007, nearly 15.7 million pages were requested from the *Statistical Briefing Book* Web site, or more than 43,000 each day. In 2007, the Statistical Briefing Book included updates to the FBI's Arrest and Supplementary Homicide Statistics to support cross-tabular analysis of state-level homicide data; an update to NIBRS: Victims of Domestic Violence with data from 2005, and updates to the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement and the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement Databook to include data for 2006. New data from the National Juvenile Court Data Archive was also added and the site's National Disproportionate Minority Contact Databook was updated to include data from 1990 to 2005.

- ▶ OJJDP supports the Crimes Against Children Research Center (CCRC) at the University of New Hampshire. The mission of the CCRC is to combat crimes against children by providing high-quality research and statistics to the public, policymakers, law enforcement personnel, and other child welfare practitioners. CCRC is concerned with research about the nature of crimes including child abduction, homicide, rape, assault, and physical and sexual abuse, as well as their impact. In 2007, the center was involved in the OJJDP research projects listed below.
 - ❖ The project on reducing the negative impact of publicity in child victim cases is analyzing the role of the

media and publicity in child abuse and its effect on both families and investigations. The final research report will be published in 2009, however, preliminary findings have been presented at recent meetings of the American Psychological Association and the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children.

- ❖ The Youth Internet Victimization Prevention Survey project focuses on preventing unwanted exposure to sexual solicitations and pornography in children ages 10–17, as well as measuring the impact of these exposures. Findings suggest there is a decrease in the online sexual solicitation of children; however, they also indicate an increased children's risk for online bullying (cyber bullying) and exposure to pornography. Furthermore, there is evidence to suggest visiting social networking sites (MySpace, Facebook, etc.) is not related to an increased risk of cyber bullying or exposure to pornography.
- ❖ The Developmental Victimization Survey project is a national survey to capture victimization experiences and measure the effects of those experiences on delinquency and mental health. This three-wave longitudinal study revealed that the level of exposure to violence in childhood is higher than originally thought. A large proportion of children experience multiple victimizations (polyvictimization).
- ❖ The juvenile victimization questionnaire project is developing an understanding of polyvictimization among youth and identifying predictive factors (i.e., family, social, community, and school factors). This project has found that polyvictimized children have more adverse affects that persist over time, such as psychological distress.

- ❖ The goals of the assessment of child neglect in the community and agency samples project are to develop two survey instruments to measure neglect (a parent self-report tool and a child self-report tool) and test the reliability and validity of both instruments. Results of this completed study have been published. A computer-assisted touch screen instrument is now available.

CSEC Research

The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Research Cluster Conference was convened jointly in September 2007 by OJJDP and NIJ. The purpose of the 2-day meeting was to bring together researchers on sexual exploitation of children projects funded by the two agencies and discuss their common experiences, the challenges they faced, and the gaps in the research to better meet the needs of victims of CSEC. The meeting consisted of presentations on five OJJDP-sponsored research projects and two evaluation studies sponsored by NIJ.

EVALUATION OF JUVENILE JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Replication and Evaluation of Promising Programs for Substance Abuse

OJJDP has funded replications of evaluations of two programs, Project ALERT and Project SUCCESS, both designed to prevent or reduce substance use among youth. The Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE) is conducting process and outcome evaluations of these two programs in multiple sites. These programs are currently listed as “promising” and could possibly reach “model” status if the outcome evaluations produce positive results.

The evaluation calls for recruiting a total of 24 schools for the evaluation of Project ALERT and

14 schools for the evaluation of Project SUCCESS. PIRE will implement its longitudinal randomized control trial of each program in two cohorts, each of which will last approximately 30 months, which will allow for a 1-year follow-up of all students after program completion. PIRE is collecting baseline data from students in an initial cohort of 10 Project ALERT and 6 Project SUCCESS schools. Final evaluation results will be available in late 2008.

Evaluation of Other Juvenile Justice Programs

Tribal Youth Research

In early 2007, OJJDP focused on enhancing its program of research in the area of tribal youth. The following four tribal youth research awards were made in 2007:

- ▶ Evaluation of the Southern Ute (TuuCai) Tribal Juvenile Wellness Court, conducted by the American Indian and Alaska Native Programs Office, University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center—The Healing Wellness Court was established through OJJDP’s juvenile drug court program for substance-involved American Indian youth on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation in Ignacio, CO. The project is fostering a collaborative evaluation to describe the implementation process, assess and facilitate movement toward full implementation, evaluate short-term outcomes, and provide groundwork to evaluate long-term youth outcomes. The project is scheduled for completion in late 2008.
- ▶ Evaluation of the Tribal Youth Program, conducted by Consulting Services and Research, Inc., in Arlington, VA—This 2-year process evaluation focuses on all Tribal Youth Programs funded by OJJDP between FY 2003 and FY 2006. The evaluation’s goal is to gather information about the Tribal Youth Program, its grantees, and the impact of its funded activities that will allow OJJDP and other

federal agencies to better serve tribal communities and AI/AN youth and families. The project focuses on identifying factors that contribute to successful implementation and sustainability of programs, and best practices for federal agencies in working with tribal communities. The evaluation is expected to conclude near the end of 2008 and final report is expected by mid-2009.

- ▶ **Meta Analysis of Data on Justice Involved Minority and Tribal Youth**, conducted by Pima Prevention Partnership, AZ—The study will implement the Minority Youth Border Research Initiative which will explore the underlying factors for why justice-involved, tribal and minority youth in Southwestern border communities are at greater risk for early onset of substance abuse, and long-term persistence of delinquency, victimization, and mental illness as compared with their non-minority youth peers.
- ▶ **Tribal Youth Victimization and Juvenile Delinquency: Understanding the Connection to Prevent the Cycle**, conducted by Prevent Child Abuse America in collaboration with Purdue University and the Indian Child Welfare Association—The study will use mixed methods of quantitative and qualitative data collection to increase knowledge of the extent and severity of tribal youth victimization and delinquency.

Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation Program

Under its Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation Program, OJJDP made several new competitive research awards in 2007. They include:

- ▶ **University of Southern California, Sustained Impact of a Community-Based Intensive Supervision Probation Program on Minority Youth at Varying Risk Levels**—This study will evaluate the sustained impact of a particular kind of intensive supervision probation model,

the Youth and Family Accountability Model, implemented in Los Angeles, California, and used in many jurisdictions today.

- ▶ **Rutgers, State University of New Jersey, Bridges and Barriers: Educational Attainment of Youth Returning from Detention and Correctional Facilities**—This study will examine the educational and behavioral consequences of both re-enrollment in mainstream schools, as facilitated by a specialized admissions center for school-aged ex-offenders, and enrollment in a model transitional school.
- ▶ **Urban Institute, Norms and Networks of Latino Gang Youth**—This study will use a social network framework to understand the patterns of relations among Latino gang/group members and the nature of the links binding these groups to their social contexts.
- ▶ **University of Pittsburgh, Pathways to Desistance**—This award supports an ongoing, multisite, collaborative, longitudinal research project following 1,354 serious juvenile offenders, examining factors related to positive and negative psychological and behavioral outcomes during this critical developmental period. The study identifies variations in patterns of desistance from antisocial activity and examines the role of social context and developmental change in promoting positive outcomes, as well as the effects of sanctions and interventions in this process.
- ▶ **North Carolina State University, Fathers Count Study**—This study is designed to establish an empirically validated longitudinal model of how fathers, father figures, peers, and contextual factors relate to delinquent behaviors in Latino and African American adolescent boys. The study will conduct three waves of surveys with adolescent minority boys and minority fathers/father figures in three regions across the U.S.

- ▶ ICF Incorporated, L.L.C., A Randomized Controlled Trial Study of Amachi Texas— This study, to be conducted in partnership with Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion, proposes to conduct a randomized control evaluation of Amachi Texas, a statewide mentoring program for children of incarcerated parents. The study

will include both a process and outcome evaluation, and will determine the impact of Amachi Texas on outcomes for children of incarcerated parents and/or family members. Long-term goals include determining whether the Amachi model is evidence-based and should be replicated on a national level.

APPENDIX

FISCAL YEAR 2007 AWARDS

Program	Grant Count	Grant Amount (in \$)	Non-Grant Count	Non-Grant Amount (in \$)
LAW ENFORCEMENT				
Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program	2	1,160,330.00	3941	29,253,356.97
Byrne Discretionary	308	181,917,581.00	0	0.00
Public Safety Officers' Death Benefit	4	1,820,169.00	0	0.00
Weed and Seed	213	42,169,650.00	0	0.00
COURTS				
Capital Litigation Improvement Grant Program	11	899,573.00	0	0.00
Mentally Ill Offender	25	3,356,677.00	0	0.00
Tribal Courts	42	7,897,087.00	0	0.00
CORRECTIONS				
Corrections Indian Discretionary Program	3	517,268.00	0	0.00
Prisoner Reentry	25	10,609,969.00	0	0.00
GANGS				
Gang Prevention	293	62,090,113.00	0	0.00
JUVENILE JUSTICE				
Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)	2	11,014,323.00	0	0.00
Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws Program	62	24,518,371.00	0	0.00
Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program	75	46,055,189.00	0	0.00
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Formula Grant	71	70,556,365.00	0	0.00
Missing Children	34	45,178,665.00	0	0.00
Title V Local Delinquency Prevention Incentive Grants	63	5,451,548.00	0	0.00
Tribal Youth Program	31	10,066,799.00	0	0.00
Youth Mentoring	16	9,175,529.00	0	0.00
VICTIMS OF CRIME				
Crime Victim Assistance	56	370,600,463.00	0	0.00
Crime Victim Compensation	53	165,716,000.00	0	0.00
Federal Technical Assistance & Training	65	13,447,399.00	0	0.00
Native American Child Abuse/Children's Justice Act	14	2,746,950.00	0	0.00
Services for Trafficking Victims Discretionary Grant Program	41	5,270,557.00	0	0.00
Victim Notification System	17	12,498,341.00	0	0.00

Program	Grant Count	Grant Amount (in \$)	Non-Grant Count	Non-Grant Amount (in \$)
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND CRIME				
Drug Courts	32	10,845,386.00	0	0.00
Indian Alcohol and Crime Demonstration Program	18	4,186,606.00	0	0.00
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program	57	9,861,171.00	0	0.00
TECHNOLOGY TO FIGHT CRIME				
Paul Coverdell Grants	90	17,252,705.00	0	0.00
President's DNA Initiative	197	85,278,668.00	0	0.00
National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP)	31	8,745,678.00	0	0.00
National Stalker & Domestic Violence Reduction	11	1,327,542.98	0	0.00
Regional Information Sharing System	10	45,529,517.00	0	0.00
RESEARCH, STATISTICS AND EVALUATION				
Criminal Justice Statistical Programs	60	8,237,030.00	0	0.00
Research, Development, and Evaluation Programs	94	41,287,027.00	0	0.00
Prison Rape Prosecution & Prevention	11	13,768,282.00	0	0.00