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# OJJDP NEWS @ a Glance

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## Mentoring Makes a Difference

One mentor, one person can change a life forever.

— President George W. Bush

Mentoring is an effective way to prevent at-risk youth from becoming involved in delinquency and also to help already delinquent youth change their lives for the better. Mentoring relationships have been shown to improve youth's self-esteem, behavior, and academic performance. For these reasons, OJJDP has long been a leading supporter of mentoring programs, partnering with national organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, MENTOR National Mentoring Partnership, and the National Network of Youth Ministries and directly sponsoring local efforts via the Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP). In October 2003, OJJDP expanded its activities with the "Coach a Kid in the Game of Life" public service campaign and Web page.

### JUMP Initiative

Since 1994, OJJDP's JUMP initiative has sponsored programs that provide one-to-one mentoring. The initiative focuses on intervening with youth at risk of entering or reentering the juvenile justice system. Its ultimate goal is to develop a population of healthy youth through structured relationships with caring adults. JUMP matches volunteer adult mentors and at-risk youth with the specific intent of improving academic performance and reducing school dropout rates, youth gang involvement, and delinquency. OJJDP provides JUMP sites with training and technical assistance through the National Mentoring Center ([www.nwrel.org/mentoring](http://www.nwrel.org/mentoring)).

In FY 2003, OJJDP awarded 30 JUMP grants to mentoring programs across the nation, bringing to 299 the total number of grants awarded. JUMP projects have provided more than 9,200 youth with mentors. Grantees range in size from small organizations that focus on mentoring alone, to larger organizations that offer mentoring as one of many services to children and families. JUMP funds support school-based, community-based, and faith-based projects serving youth of all races and ethnic origins. (See sidebar on page 2 for more on OJJDP's National Faith-Based Mentoring Recruitment Initiative.) Some JUMP projects are gender specific and some target populations such as teen parents, court-involved youth, youth living in residential facilities, and youth who are reentering their communities from juvenile facilities.

JUMP grantees receive awards for a 3-year project period, with the specific goal of becoming self-sustaining. Preliminary findings from the JUMP National Evaluation show that many grantees have successfully developed new funding streams.

*(Continued on page 2)*


*Mentoring (continued from page 1)*

## Coach a Kid in the Game of Life . . .

As part of its continuing effort to support mentoring nationwide, OJJDP recently developed a promotional campaign and Web page to encourage adults to become mentors and to facilitate the establishment of mentoring relationships. The “Coach a Kid in the Game of Life” mentoring Web page ([www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp/mentoring](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp/mentoring)), which was advertised in the official programs of Major League Baseball’s League Championships and World Series, provides interested adults with information about mentoring and links to mentoring organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and the I Have a Dream Foundation. A link to the MENTOR National Mentoring Partnership ([www.mentoring.org](http://www.mentoring.org)) allows adults to find mentoring opportunities in their community by simply entering their ZIP code.

## OJJDP’s Mentoring Activity Under the JJDPA of 2002

As specified in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002, OJJDP’s mentoring program will be consolidated with several other program areas under the Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Block Grant Program. OJJDP will continue to support the development of mentoring programs through block grants, with a special emphasis on helping states develop mentoring programs that use the special expertise of faith-based and other community-based organizations. ■




Coach a Kid in the Game of Life ...

Be A Mentor.

*“One mentor, one person can change a life forever”*  
– President George W. Bush

Volunteer to mentor a child in your community.  
Go to [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp/mentoring](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp/mentoring) to find out how.

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### **Reaching Out to the Faith-Based Community To Recruit Mentors**

Through its National Faith-Based Mentoring Recruitment Initiative, OJJDP is supporting the National Mentoring Partnership and the National Network of Youth Ministries (NNYM) in a campaign to recruit and refer adult mentors from the faith-based community. The “More Mentors for Youth Campaign” will educate NNYM affiliates (including 250,000 youth workers and 100,000 churches) about mentoring and will help NNYM develop and implement a recruitment and referral strategy. For more information about this new mentoring initiative and to tell your mentoring story, visit [www.mentoryouth.com](http://www.mentoryouth.com).

## New Publications

Publications may be viewed and downloaded at OJJDP's Web site ([www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojdp](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojdp)). Print publications may also be ordered from the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse (call 800-851-3420 or order online at [puborder.ncjrs.org](http://puborder.ncjrs.org)).

**Juvenile Arrests 2001.** Analyzes juvenile arrest trends through 2001, based on data from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program.

Bulletin. December 2003. NCJ 201370.

**Juvenile Court Statistics 1999.** Profiles nearly 1.7 million delinquency cases handled by the juvenile courts during 1999 and examines trends in case processing since 1990.

Online Report. November 2003. NCJ 201241.

### Online Fact Sheets Summarize Juvenile Court Activity

OJJDP has recently made available seven online Fact Sheets summarizing the most current statistics available on juvenile court cases. The Fact Sheets draw on data from *Juvenile Court Statistics 1999* to present a concise picture of juvenile court activity in 1999 and to highlight key trends during the 1990s.

**Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Courts, 1999.** Presents a statistical overview of delinquency cases processed by juvenile courts in 1999.

Online Fact Sheet. 2 pp. September 2003. FS 200302.

**Person Offenses in Juvenile Court, 1990-1999.** Presents statistics on cases involving person offenses (assault, robbery, rape, and homicide) handled by juvenile courts between 1990 and 1999.

Online Fact Sheet. 2 pp. September 2003. FS 200303.

**Delinquency Cases Waived to Criminal Court, 1990-1999.**

Presents estimates of the number of cases transferred from juvenile court to criminal

court through the judicial waiver mechanism between 1990 and 1999.

Online Fact Sheet. 2 pp. September 2003. FS 200304.

**Juvenile Court Placement of Adjudicated Youth, 1990-1999.** Presents statistics on juvenile delinquency cases that resulted in out-of-home placement between 1990 and 1999.

Online Fact Sheet. 2 pp. September 2003. FS 200305.

**Juvenile Delinquency Probation Caseload, 1990-1999.** Presents statistics on delinquency cases that resulted in probation between 1990 and 1999.

Online Fact Sheet. 2 pp. September 2003. FS 200306.

**Detention in Delinquency Cases, 1990-1999.** Presents statistics on the use of detention in delinquency caseloads handled by juvenile courts between 1990 and 1999.

Online Fact Sheet. 2 pp. September 2003. FS 200307.

**Drug Offense Cases in Juvenile Courts, 1990-1999.** Presents statistics on delinquency cases involving drug offenses between 1990 and 1999.

Online Fact Sheet. 2 pp. September 2003. FS 200308.

### A Note About the National Center for Juvenile Justice

All of the publications described on this page were prepared for OJJDP by its grantee the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ), the research division of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. NCJJ is a private, nonprofit organization established in

1973 in Pittsburgh, PA, to improve the effectiveness of the juvenile justice system's response to juvenile delinquency, child abuse, and child neglect through research and technical assistance. A primary goal of the Center has been to provide juvenile justice practitioners and the public with objective, factual information.

With OJJDP sponsorship, NCJJ maintains the National Juvenile Court Data Archive, which contains the most detailed information available on juvenile court activity. The Archive is the source of the information presented in the annual *Juvenile Court Statistics* Report and the Fact Sheets derived from it. The Archive's data files are also available to policymakers, researchers, and students.

Researchers at NCJJ prepare statistical publications, including OJJDP's comprehensive *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: National Report*. NCJJ also supports the Statistical Briefing Book portion of OJJDP's Web site, a source of reliable answers to questions most frequently asked about juvenile offending, victimization, and involvement in the juvenile justice system. NCJJ's State Juvenile Justice Profiles Web site features descriptive information and analysis about each state's juvenile justice system.

To access the Statistical Briefing Book, go to [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojdp](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojdp) and click on Statistics. The National Juvenile Court Data Archive Web site can be accessed through the Briefing Book. To learn more about NCJJ and to access State Juvenile Justice Profiles, visit [www.ncjj.org](http://www.ncjj.org).

## Implementing Blueprints for Violence Prevention

The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence (CSPV) at the University of Colorado at Boulder launched the Blueprints for Violence Prevention project in 1996 to identify programs that effectively reduce juvenile violence, aggression, delinquency, and substance abuse. To meet the Blueprints criteria, a program must be formally evaluated, demonstrate significant treatment effects, sustain these effects for at least a year, be replicated in at least one location, and have benefits that exceed costs.

To date, CSPV has reviewed some 600 programs. Eleven have been identified as Blueprints programs (see sidebar), and another 21 have been designated as promising programs. OJJDP has partnered with CSPV to promote replication of the Blueprints models by providing sites with detailed handbooks and training and technical assistance.

During summer 2003, OJJDP informally surveyed state juvenile justice specialists about implementation of the Blueprints programs. Of the 46 states that provided information, 40 have implemented one or more programs. The most widely implemented programs are Multisystemic Therapy (30 states),

Functional Family Therapy (21 states), Big Brothers Big Sisters (15 states), and the Bullying Prevention Program (12 states). Funding for Blueprints implementation comes from OJJDP formula and block grants (21 states), state/local/private sources (19 states), or a

combination of OJJDP grants and other sources (9 states).

For additional information about the Blueprints project, visit the OJJDP Web site at [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp), click on Programs, and select Search. ■

### Blueprints Programs

- **Big Brothers Big Sisters of America**, a nationwide mentoring program.
- **Bullying Prevention Program**, a school-based intervention to reduce and prevent bullying.
- **Functional Family Therapy**, a family therapy diversion program for at-risk youth with behavior disorders.
- **The Incredible Years**, three curriculums to promote emotional and social competence in young children.
- **Life Skills Training**, an intervention designed to prevent or reduce gateway drug use in teens.
- **The Midwestern Prevention Program**, a community-based adolescent drug abuse prevention program.
- **Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care**, an alternative to confinement or detention for chronic juvenile offenders with behavior or drug abuse problems.
- **Multisystemic Therapy**, a multidimensional, home-based family therapy program designed for young chronic and violent offenders.
- **Nurse-Family Partnership**, a nurse home visitation program for pregnant, first-time mothers.
- **Project Toward No Drug Abuse**, a drug abuse prevention program for high school-age youth.
- **Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies**, a program that promotes emotional and social competency and reduces aggression and behavior problems in grade school children.

## Police Athletic Leagues Receive Olympic Award

The National Association of Police Athletic Leagues has received the 2003 United States Olympic Committee Ring of Gold Award in recognition of efforts to nurture the Olympic dreams and life goals of children. Police Athletic Leagues serve 2 million youth participating in 25 Olympic sports in 1,700 facilities nationwide. The organizations seek to prevent juvenile crime and violence through recreation/athletics-oriented programs, which also provide mentoring opportunities and foster good relations between police officers and youth.

The National Association of Police Athletic Leagues is an OJJDP grantee. For more information about its mission and activities, visit its Web site at [www.nationalpal.org](http://www.nationalpal.org). ■

## Funding Update

Be sure to check the OJJDP Web site ([www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp)) regularly for the latest news on OJJDP funding opportunities, including grant application information, deadlines, and links to the Office of Justice Programs' online Grants Management System. To receive e-mail notification of new funding opportunities, subscribe to the JUVJUST listserv via the OJJDP Web site.

### Girls Study Group

OJJDP received 31 applications from organizations and agencies interested in convening a group of researchers and practitioners to help OJJDP identify strategies for combating female delinquency. Peer review of the Girls Study Group applications is currently underway. One 2-year cooperative agreement will be awarded. OJJDP expects to announce the award in early 2004.

### ICAC Task Force Program

The Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program supports regional task forces that address the use of online technology to victimize children. The FY 2004 ICAC Task Force Program solicitation, which will be available soon, will target areas that do not currently have ICAC Task Forces. Therefore, the 2004 solicitation will be limited to Illinois, Iowa, New Mexico, Oregon, West Virginia, and the Northern Virginia/Washington, DC, metro area (excluding Maryland).

### Drug-Free Communities Support Program

The Drug-Free Communities Support Program funds efforts of community coalitions to reduce substance abuse among youth. At the time this newsletter went to press, OJJDP anticipated that the FY 2004 solicitation for this program would be available in early 2004.

### Formula Grants

As noted in the March/April 2003 issue of *OJJDP News @ a Glance*, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 2002 consolidates seven previously independent programs into a single

prevention block grant program. Block funding, through Formula Grants and Title V Community Prevention Grants, goes to states and territories and is administered by Designated State Agencies that distribute the funds through subgrants. With the anticipated addition of South Dakota, 55 states and territories participate in the Formula Grants program.

The JJDP Act of 2002 reaffirmed the four core requirements that participating states and territories must address to receive grants under the JJDP Act:

- Deinstitutionalization of status offenders.
- Separation of juveniles from adults in institutions.
- Removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups.
- Reduction of disproportionate minority contact, where it exists.

While upholding the four core requirements, the JJDP Act of 2002 slightly modified the penalties for states that do not comply with them. Failure to achieve or maintain compliance, despite good faith efforts, reduces the Formula Grant to the state by 20 percent for each core requirement not met. In addition, the noncompliant state must agree to expend 50 percent of its allocation for that year to achieve compliance.

In September 2003, OJJDP held a 2-day working group meeting to review the JJDP Act of 2002 and its impact on state compliance. As a result, OJJDP has updated and revised its Guidance Manual and other tools provided to the compliance monitors who oversee and certify states' adherence to the core requirements. OJJDP is currently finalizing regulations that will govern the compliance monitoring process. The final regulations will be published in the *Federal Register* and will be posted on OJJDP's Web site ([www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp)). ■



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## OJJDP Selects TCAP Pilot Sites

In September 2003, OJJDP announced the first seven pilot sites for its Targeted Community Action Planning (TCAP) initiative. The sites are Louisville, KY; Santa Fe, NM; Champaign, Delaware, Madison, and Union Counties, OH; Providence, RI; North Charleston, SC; Hopewell, VA; and Sawyer County, WI.

The TCAP initiative will help communities identify and respond to their most critical juvenile justice and delinquency prevention needs. The four-phase TCAP approach includes diagnostic assessment, problem analysis, response development, and response implementation.

The process of selecting pilot sites began in May 2003, when OJJDP asked Designated State Agencies to nominate local jurisdictions. Of the 27 nominations received from 15 states, 25 proceeded to submit applications. The TCAP Steering

Committee considered the following factors in selecting sites:

- Delinquent/criminal offending rates.
- Prevalent problem behaviors (e.g., status offenses).
- Presence of local decisionmakers.
- State and local readiness and ability to respond appropriately to TCAP technical assistance.

In late 2003 and early 2004, OJJDP will coordinate meetings with local site coordinators and state juvenile justice specialists to discuss the parameters of the TCAP initiative and establish federal-state-local partnerships.

For additional information about TCAP, visit the OJJDP Web site at [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp), click on Programs, and select Search. ■

*The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, and the Office for Victims of Crime.*

News @ a Glance is OJJDP's bimonthly newsletter, bringing you up-to-date notices of agency activities, recent publications, funding opportunities, and upcoming events—with an emphasis on providing quick access to online sources for publications and other resources. Let us know what types of features would be most useful to you (e-mail [askjij@ncjrs.org](mailto:askjij@ncjrs.org)).

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