

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention

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Comprehensive Program Plan for
Fiscal Year 2000

AGENCY: Office of Justice Programs,
Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention, Justice.

ACTION: Notice of Final Program Plan for
fiscal year 2000.

SUMMARY: The Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention is
publishing this notice of its Final
Program Plan for fiscal year (FY) 2000.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
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[This is not a toll-free number.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office
of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
Prevention (OJJDP) is a component of
the Office of Justice Programs in the
U.S. Department of Justice. Pursuant to
the provisions of Section 204 (b)(5)(A)
of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
Prevention Act of 1974, as amended, 42
U.S.C. § 5601 *et seq.* (JJDP Act), the
Administrator of OJJDP published for
public comment a Proposed
Comprehensive Plan describing the
program activities that OJJDP proposed
to carry out during fiscal year (FY) 2000
under Parts C and D of Title II of the
JJDP Act, codified at 42 U.S.C. 5651-
5665a, 5667, 5667a. The public was
invited to comment on the Proposed
Plan (published on October 15, 1999, at
64 FR 56084) by November 29, 1999.
The OJJDP Administrator analyzed the
public comments received, and the
comments and OJJDP's responses are
provided below. The Administrator took
these comments into consideration in
developing this Final Comprehensive
Plan describing the particular program
activities that OJJDP intends to fund
during FY 2000, using in whole or in
part funds appropriated under Parts C
and D of Title II of the JJDP Act.

OJJDP acknowledged in the Proposed
Plan that at the time of publication its
reauthorization legislation was still in
conference and its FY 2000
appropriation was not yet final. OJJDP
indicated that, depending on the
outcome of those legislative actions, it
might alter how its programs are
structured and make any necessary
modifications in the Final Plan
following the public comment period.
This Final Plan is consistent with
OJJDP's FY 2000 appropriation and

reflects its response to the public
comments on the Proposed Plan.

Notice of the official solicitation of
grant or cooperative agreement
applications for competitive programs to
be funded under the Final
Comprehensive Plan will be published
at a later date in the **Federal Register**.
No proposals, concept papers, or other
forms of application should be
submitted at this time.

Background

In developing its program plan for
Parts C and D each year, OJJDP takes
into consideration the latest available
data on juvenile crime and victimization
in the United States and views these
statistics in relation to those of recent
years. To know where the Nation's
juveniles are headed, it is necessary to
know where they are and where they
have been. OJJDP has two primary
source materials that provide a
comprehensive picture of the nature of
juvenile crime and violence across the
Nation: *Juvenile Offenders and Victims:
1999 National Report* (National Report)
which assembles the latest data
available on juvenile crime,
victimization, and risk behavior; and
Juvenile Arrests 1998, an OJJDP Bulletin
that highlights just-released data from
the Federal Bureau of Investigation
regarding juvenile arrests and violence.¹

At the end of the 1990's, juvenile
crime and violence are continuing a
downward trend that began in 1994,
bringing a halt to the dramatic annual
increases that had alarmed the Nation
since 1988. *Juvenile Arrests 1998*
indicates that for the fourth consecutive
year, the total number of juvenile arrests
for violent crimes—murder, forcible
rape, robbery and aggravated assault—
declined (p. 1). Specifically, serious
violence by juveniles dropped 19
percent between 1994 and 1998,
compared with a reduction of 6 percent
in violence by adults in the same period
(*Juvenile Arrests*, p.1). Between 1993
and 1998, juvenile arrests for murder
declined about half, with the number of
arrests in 1998 (2,100) about 15 percent
above the 1987 level (*Juvenile Arrests*, p.
1). Despite well-publicized instances of
shocking school violence, students are
safer at school than elsewhere, and
school crime declined from 1993
through 1996 (National Report, p. 31).

On the other hand, gang problems
now affect more jurisdictions than ever
before—including rural and suburban
areas (p. 77). Illicit drug use by

juveniles, which had declined during
the 1980's, has increased since 1992 (p.
74), although the National Household
Survey on Drug Abuse reported that the
percentage of 12- to 17-year-olds who
reported using illegal drugs in the
preceding month dropped from 11.4
percent in 1997 to 9.9 percent in 1998.
Looking at arrest data, while drug
arrests continued to increase for both
juveniles and adults between 1993 and
1997, arrests for most serious violent
offenses and property offenses
declined—with violent crime arrests
down 6 percent for juveniles and
property crime arrests down 3 percent
(p. 117). In 1997, the juvenile violent
crime arrest rate, which had increased
62 percent from 1988 to 1994, was at its
lowest level in this decade: just 7
percent above the 1989 rate, but still 25
percent above the 1988 rate (p. 120).

Even in the area of violent behaviors
that do not reach the attention of the
justice system, positive trends are seen.
A recent Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention (CDC) biennial survey of
16,000 9th through 12th graders found
sharp decreases in certain categories of
violent activity by teenagers between
1991 and 1997. For example, 18.3
percent of the students surveyed in 1997
reported having carried a gun, knife, or
club in the previous month, compared
with 26.1 percent of those surveyed in
1991, and the percentage carrying such
weapons on school property decreased
from 11.8 percent in 1993 to 8.5 percent
in 1997. The frequency of fighting also
declined, with 37 percent of the 1997
surveyed youth reporting involvement
in a physical fight in the previous year,
compared with nearly 43 percent of
those surveyed in 1991.

This mixture of some reassuring and
some still troubling statistics serves as a
reminder that while great progress has
been made in reducing juvenile
delinquency, violence, and
victimization, much more needs to be
done. Although it is impossible to
definitively identify the reasons for the
downward trend in juvenile violence,
factors cited by the authors of the CDC
study include community policing and
an expansion of violence prevention
programs. As research and evaluation,
much of it supported by OJJDP funding,
continue to provide information about
what works in the areas of prevention
and intervention, policymakers,
practitioners, and citizens can make
informed decisions as to what programs
and approaches will best serve to
reinforce and continue existing trends
away from juvenile delinquency,
violence, and victimization.

In this Final Comprehensive Plan,
OJJDP describes its funding activities

¹ Copies of the National Report or *Juvenile Arrests
1998* can be obtained by calling OJJDP's Juvenile
Justice Clearinghouse at 800-638-8736 or by
visiting OJJDP's Web site at www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org
and clicking on "Publications."

authorized under Part C (National Programs) and Part D (Gang-Free Schools and Communities; Community-Based Gang Intervention) of Title II of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act. The activities authorized under Parts C and D constitute part, but not all, of OJJDP's overall responsibilities, which are outlined briefly below.

In 1974, the JJDP Act established OJJDP as the Federal agency responsible for providing national leadership, coordination, and resources to develop and implement effective methods to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and improve the quality of juvenile justice in the United States. OJJDP administers State Formula Grants under Part B of Title II, State Challenge Grants under Part E of Title II, and Community Prevention Grants under Title V of the JJDP Act to assist States and territories to fund a range of delinquency prevention, control, and juvenile justice system improvement activities. OJJDP provides support activities for these and other programs under statutory set-asides that are used to provide related research, evaluation, statistics, demonstration, and training and technical assistance services.

Under Part C of Title II of the JJDP Act, OJJDP funds Special Emphasis programs and—through its National Institute for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention—numerous research, evaluation, statistics, demonstration, training and technical assistance, and information dissemination activities. OJJDP funds school and community-based gang prevention, intervention, and suppression programs under Part D and mentoring programs under Part G of Title II of the JJDP Act. OJJDP also coordinates Federal activities related to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention through the Concentration of Federal Efforts Program and serves as the staff agency for the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; both of these activities are authorized in Part A of Title II of the JJDP Act. Another OJJDP responsibility under the JJDP Act is to administer the Title IV Missing and Exploited Children's Program.

Other programs administered by OJJDP include the Drug Prevention Program, the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program, the Safe Schools Initiative, the Tribal Youth Program, the Safe Start: Children Exposed to Violence Initiative, and the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants program. OJJDP also administers programs under the Victims of Child

Abuse Act of 1990, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 13001 *et seq.*

OJJDP focuses its assistance funding and support activities on the development and implementation of programs with the greatest potential for reducing juvenile delinquency and improving the juvenile justice system by establishing partnerships with State and local governments, American Indian and Alaska Native jurisdictions, and public and private agencies and organizations. OJJDP performs its role of national leadership in juvenile justice and delinquency prevention through a cycle of activities. These include collecting data and statistics to determine the extent and nature of issues affecting juveniles; funding research and studies that can lead to demonstrations funded by discretionary grants; evaluating demonstration projects; sharing lessons learned from the field with practitioners through a range of information dissemination vehicles; providing seed money to States and local governments through formula and block grants to implement programs, projects, or reform efforts; and providing training and technical assistance to assist States and local governments to implement programs effectively and to maintain the integrity of model programs as they are being replicated.

As noted previously, OJJDP is a component of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). This Department of Justice agency emphasizes the importance of coordination among its components and with other Federal agencies whenever possible in order to obtain maximum results from OJP programs and initiatives. OJJDP's coordination efforts include joint funding, interagency agreements, and partnerships to develop, implement, and evaluate projects. This Final Plan reflects OJJDP's coordination efforts. For a more complete picture of OJP program activities that affect the field of juvenile justice, readers are encouraged to review the Office of Justice Programs Fiscal Year 2000 Program Plan when it becomes available. (Readers should check the OJP Web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov periodically for an announcement of the availability of the OJP Program Plan.)

Fiscal Year 2000 Program Planning Activities

The OJJDP program planning process for FY 2000 was coordinated with the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, and all OJP components. The program planning process involved the following steps:

- Internal review of existing programs by OJJDP staff.
- Internal review of proposed programs by OJP bureaus and Department of Justice components.
- Review of information and data from OJJDP grantees and contractors.
- Review of information contained in State comprehensive plans.
- Review of comments from youth service providers, juvenile justice practitioners, and researchers who provide input in proposed new program areas.
- Consideration of suggestions made by juvenile justice policymakers concerning State and local needs.
- Consideration of all comments received during the period of public comment on the Proposed Comprehensive Plan.

Discretionary Grant Continuation Policy

OJJDP has listed on the following pages continuation projects currently funded in whole or in part with Part C and Part D funds and eligible for continuation funding in FY 2000, either within an existing project period or through an extension for an additional project or budget period. A grantee's eligibility for continued funding for an additional budget period within an existing project period depends on the grantee's compliance with funding eligibility requirements and achievement of the prior year's objectives. The amount of award is based on prior projections, demonstrated need, and fund availability.

The only projects described in this Final Program Plan are those that will receive Part C or Part D FY 2000 continuation funding under project period or discretionary continuation assistance awards. The Final Program Plan also references new program areas that OJJDP is considering for awards under Part C or D in FY 2000. This plan does not include descriptions of other OJJDP programs, including mentoring programs under Part G of Title II of the JJDP Act, the Drug Prevention Program, the Drug-Free Communities Support Program, the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program, the Safe Schools Initiative, the Tribal Youth Program, the Safe Start: Children Exposed to Violence Initiative, and the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants program. When appropriate, OJJDP issues separate solicitations for applications for funding for these or other programs that are not authorized under Parts C and D. Readers interested in learning about all OJJDP funding opportunities are encouraged to call

OJJDP's Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse at 800-638-8736 or visit OJJDP's Web site at www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org and click on "Grants & Funding."

Consideration for continuation funding for an additional project period for previously funded discretionary grant programs was based on several factors, including the following:

- The extent to which the project responds to the applicable requirements of the JJDP Act.

- Responsiveness to OJJDP and Department of Justice FY 2000 program priorities.

- Compliance with performance requirements of prior grant years.

- Compliance with fiscal and regulatory requirements.

- Compliance with any special conditions of the award.

- Availability of funds (based on appropriations and program priority determinations).

In accordance with Section 262 (d)(1)(B) of the JJDP Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 5665a, the competitive process for the award of Part C funds is not required if the Administrator makes a written determination waiving the competitive process:

1. With respect to programs to be carried out in areas in which the President declares under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act codified at 42 U.S.C. 5121 *et seq.* that a major disaster or emergency exists, or

2. With respect to a particular program described in Part C that is uniquely qualified.

Summary of Public Comments on the Proposed Comprehensive Plan for Fiscal Year 2000

OJJDP published its Proposed Comprehensive Plan for FY 2000 in the *Federal Register* (Vol. 64, No. 199) on October 15, 1999, for a 45-day public comment period. OJJDP received 42 letters commenting on the Proposed Plan. Forty-one letters had one signature (although one of the single-signature letters provided comments from three law enforcement units). One letter was signed by two officials of an organization. All comments have been considered in the development of OJJDP's Final Comprehensive Plan for Fiscal Year 1999.

Thirteen law enforcement officers, including police chiefs, deputies, and lieutenants, commented. (One of the law enforcement letters was from an individual with a tribal police department, and one was the director of research and development for the police department.) In related fields, OJJDP heard from one individual in

corrections, one in probation, one in court evaluation, and one in a domestic violence agency. A psychologist wrote, as did the director of a psychiatric clinic and a professor of nursing. An associate school superintendent also wrote.

Comments were received from an Assistant Commonwealth Attorney and from two individuals in State juvenile justice agencies. Thirteen persons who commented were associated with a variety of organizations, associations, agencies, and programs, and one vice president of a private firm provided comments. Four commenters did not mention any profession or affiliation.

The writers expressed support for one or more of the 10 proposed priority areas, and several writers praised the list of 10 priority areas as a whole. Many of the commenters also wrote in support of prevention programming, and others expressed appreciation for OJJDP's publications and Web site. One or two writers supported one of several general programming areas, including truancy, teen courts, learning disabled youth in the juvenile justice system, capacity building, overrepresentation of minorities in the juvenile justice system, cooperation between police and the juvenile justice system, and mental health needs. Several writers expressed support for demonstration programs and training and technical assistance. Some writers indicated their interest in obtaining funding for their programs.

All comments received are summarized below together with OJJDP's responses. Those writers who supported various new program areas were all told that their comments will be considered in the planning process for FY 2000 and beyond, but that the funding available for this fiscal year limits OJJDP's ability to support new programming. In other instances where more than one writer commented on a particular program or area of programming, to avoid needless repetition in this summary, after an initial response below, subsequent responses refer the reader to the first response on that topic.

Comment: One writer, a law enforcement planner with a tribal police department, expressed concern that only one program in the Proposed Plan (the Tribal Youth Program) targeted American Indians. The writer noted that Indian Reservations are in rural areas and that most programs and services are located in cities and therefore not available to American Indian youth, who face a variety of problems, such as exposure to violence and child abuse, drugs, underage drinking, and violence in the schools and on the streets. "Tribal resources to fund prevention and

intervention activities," the writer indicated, "are limited." The writer also stated that many tribes do not have the staff needed to prepare competitive grant applications and pointed out that, although the Proposed Plan mentions funds for technical assistance to tribes, no information was given as to how to contact the grantee, the American Indian Development Associates. Finally, the commenter asked if funds spent on "numerous research, evaluation and data collection projects" would not "be better used in actual program implementation?"

Response: OJJDP recognizes the severity of the issues facing Native American youth. A recent Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) publication, *American Indians and Crime*, provides some statistics that demonstrate the growing problem of violence and crime in Indian country, including the following:

- American Indians experience per capita rates of violence that are more than twice those of the U.S. resident population.

- Nearly a third of all American Indian victims of violence are between the ages of 18 and 24.

- The 1997 arrest rate among American Indians for alcohol-related offenses (driving under the influence, liquor law violations, and public drunkenness) was more than double that found among all races.

These and other data provided in the BJS report show the need for increased funding, resource enhancement, and infrastructure/capacity building within Indian country. Research is a critical factor in documenting the need for increased funding to tribes. By funding and conducting research and evaluation programs, we obtain valuable information about what works and about best practices in the areas of program development and effective approaches for working with tribes.

OJJDP has had several funding opportunities for which all communities could apply, and, depending on the availability of funding, we expect to offer such opportunities again in the future. Examples of these programs include the Juvenile Mentoring Program, the SafeFutures initiative, Safe Start, Healthy Students/Safe Schools, and the Drug-Free Communities Support Program, to name a few. Indian communities have applied for and been selected to participate in some of these programs. However, with the Tribal Youth Program, Congress for the first time appropriated funds to OJJDP solely for the American Indian community. This program is part of the joint U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and U.S.

Department of the Interior Indian Country Law Enforcement Initiative, which addresses the compelling need to improve law enforcement and the administration of criminal and juvenile justice in Indian country. It should be noted that no more than 10 percent of the Tribal Youth Program funds may be used for research.

In addition to the Tribal Youth Program, there are several initiatives either in development or being implemented to address some of the issues that the writer raised. Three such initiatives are described briefly below:

- *Native American Mental Health Initiative.* A project of the White House's Domestic Policy Council designed to bring together several agencies within DOJ and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in an effort to provide services to American Indian country.

- *Comprehensive Indian Resources for Community and Law Enforcement (CIRCLE).* A project of the U.S. Attorney General that brings together several DOJ agencies to provide funding and resources to three pilot sites in Indian country.

- *Substance Abuse.* OJJDP and other Office of Justice Programs agencies are beginning discussions with the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (within the HHS Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) on working together to provide services, programs, and funding to Native Americans. These discussions are expected to lead to interagency collaboration and possibly result in joint funding opportunities.

In addition to recognizing the obvious need in Indian country, OJJDP is also committed to providing training and technical assistance to tribes that have juvenile justice issues and programs. An OJJDP Fact Sheet (*Training and Technical Assistance for Indian Nation Juvenile Justice Systems*, FS 99105) provides information about the technical assistance available via OJJDP's grant with American Indian Development Associates. Copies of the Fact Sheet can be obtained by calling OJJDP's Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse at 800-638-8736 or by sending an e-mail request to puborder@ncjrs.org. The Fact Sheet is also available online at www.ncjrs.org/jjfact.htm#99105.

OJJDP's response suggested that the writer might want to be put on the mailing list for OJJDP's program announcements by calling the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse at 800-638-8736 or send an e-mail request to askncjrs@ncjrs.org. Program announcements are also posted online

at www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org (click on "Grants & Funding").

Most of OJJDP's funding is not provided under Parts C and D but is distributed to the States and territories through our Formula Grants, Challenge, and Title V (Community Prevention) programs. One example is the Native American Pass-Through Program. The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act specifies that a portion of each State's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Formula Grant program funding be made available to fund programs for Indian tribes. This allocation, known as the Native American Pass-Through Program, provides funds to Indian tribes to perform law enforcement functions pertaining to the custody of children and youth. Areas receiving funding include police efforts to prevent, control, and reduce crime and delinquency; apprehension of criminal and delinquent offenders; and activities of juvenile corrections, probation, or parole authorities. The minimum pass-through for FY 1998 was \$358,842. This amount was allocated to Indian tribes in 36 States. Historically, in many States, the actual amount awarded to tribes by States far exceeds the statutorily required amount. The name, address, and telephone number of the Juvenile Justice Specialist for the writer's State were provided, so that the writer could pursue these possible sources of funding.

Comment: A psychologist who works with juvenile offenders recommended that the plan include provisions for "direct job placement services to help older juvenile offenders obtain and maintain employment." The writer suggested funding for either demonstration projects or research studies that could lead to more effective ways at helping this population find work.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's interest in job readiness training, placement, and retention for older juvenile offenders and shares his views that such activities are important in deterring delinquent activity and providing meaningful career opportunities for youth. Over the past 2 years, OJJDP has partnered with the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration in the development of a comprehensive strategy to create education, training, and employment opportunities for at-risk and delinquent youth. Recently, the Department of Labor funded three sites to develop a model school-to-work education and job training curriculum in a correctional setting that emphasizes the importance of developing

competency and life skills in a multitude of professions and providing the necessary support, advocacy, and followup upon a youth's return to the community. These sites are located in Florida, Ohio, and Indiana. OJJDP is providing the funding for a 12-month process evaluation and impact feasibility assessment at two of the three sites. It is intended that the comprehensive services developed under these grants will serve as models for other juvenile correctional facilities across the country.

OJJDP is also collaborating with the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration across several other program areas:

- OJJDP and the Department of Labor have provided funding support to the Boys & Girls Clubs of America to implement the TeenSupreme Career Preparation Initiative. This program provides employment training and other related services to at-risk youth through 41 local Boys and Girls Clubs.

- In order to encourage local communities to adapt best practices to improve the employability of at-risk and delinquent youth, the two departments are working toward having juvenile justice agencies represented on local youth councils. The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 established local youth councils to guide the development and operation of programs for youth at the local level. Youth councils are composed of members of the local workforce investment boards and representatives of youth service agencies, local public housing authorities, parents of youth seeking assistance, youth, the Job Corps and others as deemed appropriate.

- The two departments are providing collaborative technical assistance to both youth employment programs and OJJDP programs that involve juvenile offenders and high-risk youth.

- A live satellite videoconference is planned for the coming year to disseminate information concerning the programs available throughout the country that address employment issues and court-involved youth.

OJJDP is committed to developing model programs that address these issues and is equally concerned with supporting evaluations of these efforts that will measure both process and outcome variables.

Comment: An Assistant Commonwealth Attorney wrote in support of programming for three categories of offenders: female offenders, sex offenders, and status offenders, singling out programming for female offenders as the area he thought to be of primary concern in his

community. He also called for more emphasis on prevention. He indicated that before funding programs in Native American and Alaskan Native communities, OJJDP should "strongly consider whether or not your programs are working in the rest of the country." The writer found the field-initiated research and evaluation programs "too vague for comment" and was unaware of "many cases in our area involving lead or environmental hazards for children, although it is always important to do everything possible to protect children." Finally, the letter stated that OJJDP's focus should not be on research but on applying "some of the knowledge from research to treatment and prevention."

Response: OJJDP appreciates knowing the writer's view that, of the 10 areas proposed for consideration for new programming, the need for programs for female offenders is the area of most concern to his community.

In regard to the development of more programs and treatment for sex offenders, in FY 1998, OJJDP funded two projects designed to assess the feasibility of creating a juvenile sex offender typology based on national-level data. The researchers, one with the University of Baltimore, the other with the University of Virginia, each used a different method for typology construction. The University of Baltimore project relied on archival (information from official records) data, while the University of Virginia project used a combination of archival and prospective (interviews and questionnaire completed by juvenile sex offenders themselves) data.

As a result of their feasibility studies, both researchers concluded that it would be possible to create a juvenile sex offender typology based on a large, national sample of juvenile sex offenders. Each researcher has therefore submitted a new proposal to create this typology, and these proposals are currently under peer review. The goal of creating such a typology is to identify different subgroups of juvenile sex offenders who may present different levels of risk and need. Some juvenile offenders, for example, may safely be placed in community-based programs, while others will require institutional placement. At present, the tools are not available to make these distinctions easily or well. Additionally, a comprehensive typology may facilitate better decisionmaking about which youth will benefit from which type(s) of treatment.

OJJDP agrees with the writer's comment on the importance of prevention and treatment programs for

status offenders. As noted in the Proposed Plan, prevention and treatment efforts at the early stages of delinquency are "less expensive and more effective than efforts to change subsequent delinquent behavior."

In regard to the writer's statement that OJJDP's focus "should not be on research," OJJDP responded that the Office is continually striving to attain the appropriate balance among three vital and interrelated elements of OJJDP's mission: research, demonstration projects, and training and technical assistance. OJJDP believes that the Proposed Plan achieved a reasonable apportioning of resources among these three elements.

Comment: A chief of police wrote in support of prevention initiatives, such as programs to keep young people in school. The chief commented that parents who are "victims of the social welfare system" are likely to have children who will repeat their experience, and he offered specific suggestions for shoring up the welfare system. The chief also labeled the juvenile justice system "inept" and "the major contributor to juvenile delinquency."

Response: OJJDP agrees that it is imperative to focus strongly on prevention, and believes that the Proposed Plan does reflect such an emphasis. From mentoring programs to programs that seek to prevent the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs and from violence prevention to early intervention programs, OJJDP is committed to supporting a comprehensive, communitywide approach as an effective way to promote healthy childhood development and address the problems affecting our youth. For example, collaborative efforts among OJJDP, the U.S. Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services are under way to address some of the very issues raised in the writer's letter regarding school attendance, societal influences, and family issues that contribute to the delinquency of our youth.

Without directly responding to the writer's negative view of the juvenile justice system, OJJDP sent him information about current levels of juvenile crime and violence and the juvenile justice system response and about OJJDP's comprehensive approach to preventing and intervening with juvenile delinquency. One document was the recently released *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*, which includes up-to-date data and offers an indispensable resource for informed policy decisions that will shape the juvenile justice system in the

21st century. A brochure on OJJDP's Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders was also provided. This brochure outlines a strategy that, when implemented, can provide appropriate prevention methods to children, families, and communities and intervene in the lives of first-time offenders with structured programs and services.

Comment: An individual who works in State law enforcement training as a curriculum specialist suggested the need for more emphasis on interactive dialog and cooperation between police and juvenile justice agencies. He also indicated that OJJDP publications are valuable in his work.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's suggestion about the need for interactive dialog between police and juvenile justice agencies. The Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and OJJDP are sponsoring the Community Policing and Youth Study as part of our Youth Focused Community Policing program. This project is designed to assist the Department of Justice in planning youth and law enforcement issues. The project will provide communities across the country with current information on the innovative and promising practices of law enforcement agencies in addressing youth issues through community policing. Through this project, information will be developed and shared with the field through product dissemination, training and technical assistance, and a national conference in 2001.

In addition to this study, OJJDP has sponsored the replication of a unique collaborative effort between the New Haven Department of Police Services and the Child Study Center at Yale University that addresses the psychological impact of chronic exposure to violence on children and families. The Child Development-Community Policing Program brings police and mental health professionals together to provide each other with training, consultation and support and to provide direct interdisciplinary interventions to children who are victims of or witnesses to violent crimes.

Comment: A police chief wrote in support of teen courts, which he reports have been extremely successful in his county.

Response: OJJDP appreciates learning of the success of teen courts in the writer's jurisdiction. In 1999, the National Youth Court Center was created by OJJDP and funded by the

Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants program, in collaboration with the U.S. Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, and Transportation. The National Youth Court Center at the American Probation and Parole Association and four affiliated agencies will offer training and technical assistance; develop products such as volunteer youth membership training materials, national guidelines on youth courts, and regional training programs; and provide a wide range of other services.

Youth courts are the fastest growing crime prevention program in the country, with more than 650 youth court programs in 49 States at this time. Youth court programs provide swift and immediate sanctions for youth experiencing their first contact with the juvenile justice system.

Most of OJJDP's funding is not provided under Parts C and D but is distributed to the States and territories through OJJDP's Formula Grants, Challenge, and Title V (Community Prevention) programs. OJJDP encouraged the writer to explore these possible sources of funding and referred him to the Juvenile Justice Specialist for his State.

Comment: A police lieutenant wrote that OJJDP's 10 areas being considered for funding priorities are "appropriate and worthy" but suggested that another priority area be added: information exchange among a wide variety of human service providers. He also indicated that he found OJJDP's Web site and publications "helpful and informative."

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's support of the 10 program areas presented for consideration in the Proposed Plan and positive feedback about OJJDP's Web site and publications. OJJDP recognizes the importance of information exchange among a wide variety of human service providers.

In regard to the need for additional emphasis on confidentiality in the Proposed Program plan, for several years the issue of information sharing and confidentiality has been at the foundation of many of the programs and activities supported by the Missing and Exploited Children's Program (MECP) and other components within OJJDP. As such, issues relating to confidentiality and information sharing are addressed throughout the many programs, activities, training, and technical assistance activities supported by OJJDP.

MECP supports a number of training programs that focus on improving the systems response to missing and

exploited children's issues. Several of these training programs are multidisciplinary in nature, requiring the participation of various agencies within a community. In addition to providing information on ways to improve the system's response to child sexual abuse and exploitation issues, topics relating to cooperation, interagency collaboration, information sharing, and confidentiality of juvenile records are addressed in these training sessions.

Recognizing the complexity of this issue and its broad implications for the various components of the juvenile justice system, in June 1997, OJJDP, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education, published *Sharing Information: A Guide to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and Participation in Juvenile Justice Programs*. This publication, which is available at no cost from OJJDP's Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse (800-638-8736), provides educators, law enforcement personnel, juvenile justice professionals, and community leaders with information to help them forge partnerships, improve information sharing, and enhance the operation and functioning of the juvenile justice system.

In addition to these activities, OJJDP's Youth Focused Community Policing initiative is working with communities to help them tackle difficult issues relating to information sharing and confidentiality. OJJDP is preparing a Bulletin on information sharing, which should be ready early next year. In addition, OJJDP, in cooperation with the Department of Education, is currently developing a solicitation for an information-sharing training and technical assistance program. OJJDP provided the writer with information on how to be put on the mailing list for program announcements and how to access them online.

Comment: An individual commented that behavior must have "sure and swift" consequences and that sanctions must be appropriate and timely.

Response: To address these concerns, OJJDP described the comprehensive approach to juvenile delinquency that it has been pursuing for the past several years. Since OJJDP published the *Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders* in 1993, it has advocated that States, local governments, and communities adopt a research-based comprehensive strategy approach to address the problems of juvenile crime and victimization. OJJDP has synthesized decades of research and practice from practitioners and established a

framework for implementing an effective juvenile justice system. Through support of research, demonstration programs, and training and technical assistance, OJJDP encourages States, local governments, and communities to use the Comprehensive Strategy to develop coordinated, community-wide approaches to preventing and intervening with juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP focuses its support on programs and initiatives that further one or more of the basic principles of the Comprehensive Strategy:

- Strengthen families in their role of guiding, disciplining, and instilling sound values in their children.
- Support core social institutions and their role in supporting families and helping children develop to their maximum potential.
- Promote prevention strategies and activities that reduce the impact of negative (risk) factors and enhance the influence of positive (protective) factors in the lives of youth at greatest risk of delinquency.
- Intervene immediately and appropriately at the first signs of trouble in a child's life.
- Establish a system of graduated sanctions and a continuum of services, including aftercare, to respond appropriately to the needs of each juvenile offender.
- Protect the public from the most serious, violent, and chronic juvenile offenders by providing for their incapacitation while at the same time addressing their treatment needs.

OJJDP believes that, as the Comprehensive Strategy and its principles are implemented in communities throughout the country, we will see a continued decline in juvenile violent crime, which has been decreasing for each of the past 4 years, and an increase in public safety and in the well-being of the Nation's youth.

Comment: A deputy chief of police expressed concern that OJJDP's support for assessment centers focused exclusively on what he called "the Florida model." He urged OJJDP to look at other programs that may be as effective and that are designed for the local community.

Response: OJJDP has supported the concept of assessment centers through its Community Assessment Center (CAC) demonstration effort. CAC's provide a 24-hour centralized point of intake and assessment for juveniles who have or are likely to come into contact with the juvenile justice system. The main purpose of a CAC is to facilitate earlier and more efficient prevention

and intervention service delivery at the "front end" of the juvenile justice system. OJJDP's CAC concept was not based on the Florida Juvenile Assessment Centers; it was developed from the Office's Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders.

In FY 1997, two communities (Denver, CO, and Lee County, FL) began or enhanced their ongoing CAC planning process. Two additional communities with existing assessment centers (Jefferson County, CO, and Orlando, FL) also began enhancing their operations to become more consistent with OJJDP's CAC concept. The selection of the sites for this demonstration effort was not related to the implementation of the "Florida model" but was directly related to the implementation of the CAC concept as outlined in OJJDP's concept paper *Community Assessment Centers: A Discussion of the Concept's Efficacy*. In addition, a 2-year independent evaluation of the funded projects was initiated, and a separate grantee began providing training and technical assistance to the project sites. OJJDP believed this program provided the opportunity to examine OJJDP's CAC concept, while allowing communities to customize it to their local needs.

During the second year of the demonstration effort, a limited competition was held among the four CAC sites for increased funding to two sites to develop a fully operational CAC, including all four CAC conceptual elements. Although the Jefferson Center for Mental Health did not choose to apply for the increased funding to implement all four elements of OJJDP's concept, OJJDP provided funding for another 12 months to further enhance the Jefferson County Assessment Center by conducting an intensive review of existing assessment tools and enhancing the case management process. The two sites that received increased funding to develop a fully operational CAC were Denver and Orlando.

OJJDP sent the writer copies of the original concept paper, *Community Assessment Centers: A Discussion of the Concept's Efficacy*, the *Fact-Finding Report on Community Assessment Centers*, and a recent OJJDP Fact Sheet on CAC. As mentioned in the CAC Fact Sheet, OJJDP anticipates the publication of a CAC Bulletin in a few months. OJJDP referred the writer to the appropriate Program Manager for specific questions regarding OJJDP's CAC demonstration effort.

Comment: One individual wrote in support of prevention programming

such as teen centers and Neighborhood Watch.

Response: OJJDP agrees with the writer's position on the importance of focusing on prevention and provided a brief summary of its Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders. (See detailed response: to the comment: on "sure and swift" consequences, above.)

Comment: An official with the American Psychological Association expressed support for OJJDP's comprehensive and empirically based plan and its efforts to address critical concerns related to juvenile justice, delinquency prevention, and child maltreatment. The writer especially praised the emphasis on prevention and early intervention and lauded the 10 areas being considered for new programming. In regard to research needs, the writer suggested continued efforts in the areas of mental health, educational services for children within the juvenile justice system (including those with disabilities and those who are gifted and talented), and minority overrepresentation in the system. The letter also included specific recommendations for additional text to be added to the plan, generally consisting of references to cultural competence and mental health needs.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's expression of strong support for the Comprehensive Plan and shares his concern about the need to address issues of cultural competence. OJJDP explained how several of the writer's specific suggestions for changes will be incorporated into the Final Program Plan. These changes are reflected in the following paragraphs.

Introduction to Fiscal Year 2000 Program Plan (64 FR 56086, Nov. 29, 1999)

Goals three and four:

- OJJDP supports efforts in the area of corrections, detention, and community-based alternatives to preserve the public safety in a manner that serves the appropriate development and best use of secure detention and corrections options, while at the same time fostering the use of community-based programs for juvenile offenders that provide developmentally appropriate, culturally competent mental health and other critical services.

- OJJDP seeks to support law enforcement, public safety, and other justice agency efforts to prevent juvenile delinquency, intervene in the development of chronic delinquent careers, and collaborate with the juvenile justice system to meet the needs of dependent, neglected, and

abused children, children who need mental health interventions, and children with disabilities.

Sentence 3 Under "Public Safety and Law Enforcement" (64 FR 56086, Nov. 29, 1999)

Funds would also be provided to a partnership between youth and health and mental health agencies to continue school-based activities and efforts to address the effects on children of exposure to domestic violence.

OJJDP did not include the writer's recommended changes for new program areas because funding restraints have limited the Office's ability to consider new programming and thus it would serve no purpose to modify the areas of interest this year. OJJDP assured the writer that his concerns will be given serious consideration in the planning process for FY 2001.

Comment: A lieutenant in a sheriff's office commented that he would like to see more sex offender programs, more burglary reduction efforts, and more violence prevention programs for the juvenile population. He also called for strengthening public education efforts with all juveniles.

Response: OJJDP described its programming efforts that focus on preventing and intervening with serious violent offending, particularly those that further one or more of the principles outlined in the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders. (See earlier, detailed response to the comment on "sure and swift" consequences.)

Comment: An officer with a private nonprofit agency working in the area of substance abuse assessments and treatment found all 10 broad programming areas relevant to her agency but singled out 5 top priorities (listed in order): status offender programs; female offender programs; "blueprint" program development, replication, and evaluation; improvements in sanctioning; and sex offender programs. While recognizing the usefulness of research and development, the writer would give higher priority to demonstrations and training and technical assistance. The commenter described OJJDP's Web site as a useful resource but noted that materials mailed by OJJDP did not always arrive in a timely fashion.

Response: In the area of research and development versus demonstrations and training and technical assistance, OJJDP is continually striving to attain the appropriate balance among these three vital and interrelated elements of OJJDP's mission and believes that the Proposed Plan did achieve a reasonable

apportioning of resources among research, demonstrations, and training and technical assistance.

OJJDP appreciates the writer's positive feedback on the usefulness of the Office's Web site as well as her concern about the mailing delays she has experienced in receiving information from OJJDP. The Office will try to identify any possible problem that may be causing the delays she has encountered in receiving OJJDP mailings.

Comment: The vice president of a private firm strongly supported one of OJJDP's 10 broad areas being considered for new program funding. The ninth area (prevention and treatment programs for status offenders), according to the writer, is one that should be reviewed to see what progress has been made and to identify best practices that help divert status offenders from the juvenile corrections system. The commenter also approved of OJJDP's renewed emphasis on school truancy, which "can influence a child's path toward delinquency."

Response: OJJDP appreciates learning of the writer's support for developing prevention and treatment programs for status offenders. OJJDP agrees that this is an important area of work and has been pleased by both the positive response from the field and the work already under way in this area as part of the Office's ongoing programs.

With regard to school truancy and its effect on children, OJJDP is in the process of evaluating truancy reduction projects in eight demonstration sites: Athens, GA; Contra Costa, CA; Honolulu, HI; Houston, TX; Jacksonville, FL; King County, WA; Suffolk County, NY; and Tacoma, WA. The purpose of the evaluation is to determine how community collaboration can impact truancy reduction and lead to systemic reform and assist OJJDP in the development of a community collaborative truancy reduction program model.

Comment: A manager of a gender-specific program in juvenile correctional services encouraged OJJDP to take a leadership role on programs for female juvenile offenders, particularly in locating and funding a model program, with guidelines for staffing and training. The individual expressed appreciation for OJJDP grants, site evaluations, training opportunities, and publications.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's comments on the proposed priority area of programming for female juvenile offenders and is pleased to learn that OJJDP funding has been beneficial to the youth served at the Rhode Island Training School.

OJJDP noted that at the present time it is addressing some of the important issues raised in the letter through its training and technical assistance co-agreement with Greene, Peters, and Associates and Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory. For example, OJJDP plans include the following:

- Developing and piloting training curriculums for decisionmakers and entry- to mid-level staff.
- Offering "training of trainers" courses to staff with training responsibilities in their jurisdictions to ensure quality and consistency of the training approach and design. (Selection will be made through a competitive application process.)
- Developing and piloting an advanced training series on emerging topic-specific gender issues affecting adolescent girls.
- Establishing a Web site with a capacity for delivering timely information on trends and challenges in juvenile justice to aid policymakers and program staff in improving gender programming in their jurisdictions.
- Recruiting, orienting, and managing a diverse cadre of consultants able to address the training and technical assistance needs of those who work with girls.
- Developing an educational media package for use by community leaders, agency staff, and decisionmakers to build awareness of gender-specific issues.

Comment: The director of a psychiatric institute and clinic wrote that there is a need to enhance the quality of research and program evaluations in the area of juvenile sex offending. The writer encouraged OJJDP to make considerable funding available to conduct field-initiated research and evaluation programs in this field.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's thoughtful comments on the importance of addressing the problem of juvenile sex offending and support for more programs and treatment in this area. For a detailed description of OJJDP's work in this area, readers should refer to the earlier response to the comment from the Assistant Commonwealth Attorney.

While OJJDP agreed that field-initiated research and evaluation programs offer the potential to expand knowledge of juvenile offending and develop methods to assess and treat these types of problems, funding available for this fiscal year will impact the Office's ability to support new programming under Parts C and D.

Comment: The director of public policy in an organization that provides comprehensive youth development

programming to school-age girls wrote that the "increased general level of domestic violence, violence in the media, and the apparent increasing tolerance for violence in society" should be addressed in the new program area focusing on female offenders. The writer proposed that in the program description "unique needs" of female offenders be changed to "additional needs" of female offenders and suggested that when specifying these needs OJJDP should include "sexual abuse, teen pregnancy, and responsibility for their children." Because a high proportion of status offenders are females, this individual suggested that OJJDP develop prevention and early intervention programs in a gender-sensitive manner, with recognition of the additional needs of young women. Lastly, the writer expressed surprise that OJJDP is planning to fund capacity building to help a program "establish itself in an already crowded field."

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's specific comments and suggestions on 2 of the 10 programming areas presented for consideration in the Program Plan: those dealing with female offenders and prevention and treatment programs for status offenders. In regard to using "additional" instead of "unique" to describe the needs of female juvenile offenders in the description of the proposed new program area, the descriptions of the 10 program areas included for consideration for new funding in the Proposed Plan are not being repeated in the Final Plan. However, in future documents addressing this issue, OJJDP will reword the phrase to read "additional and unique needs" of female juvenile offenders. The writer also recommended that OJJDP acknowledge the responsibility of single parenthood many female offenders are faced with. OJJDP believes this is important and provided the writer with copies of two OJJDP Fact Sheets that discuss adolescent motherhood and responsible fatherhood.

OJJDP agreed with the writer's position that prevention and early intervention programs should be developed in a gender-sensitive manner, with full recognition of the additional needs that young women often carry. OJJDP is funding a program in Cook County, IL, that is directed at juvenile female offenders. The county has developed gender-specific needs, strengths, and risk assessments for juvenile female offenders; provided training in implementing gender-appropriate programming; and designed a pilot program with a community-

based continuum of care and a unique case management system. OJJDP hopes to see this approach replicated across the country.

OJJDP noted the writer's disagreement with its plans to fund America's Promise. It is true that there are many such organizations in existence, but OJJDP believes that, when possible, it is worth supporting organizations that are in a unique position to mobilize and energize communities and provide role models for young people. As part of its commitment to this effort, OJJDP chairs the Public/Private Mentoring Alliance, which is composed of Federal and private organizations involved in mentoring. OJJDP looks forward to working with a number of alliances and groups in the coming year in an effort to help young people develop into healthy, productive adults.

Comment: The assistant coordinator of a project that addresses the need for gender-specific programs for female juveniles wrote about the program's goals and stated that OJJDP's support will assist the program to continue their work with female juvenile offenders.

Response: OJJDP appreciates learning about the writer's Girls Advocacy Project and support for the Office's continued work in the area of developing and studying programs addressing female offenders. OJJDP is supporting several projects that address the unique needs of female offenders. In 1996, OJJDP awarded a grant to design pilot training and technical assistance resources for entry-level staff in detention and correctional facilities, social service agencies, and youth-serving organizations responsible for working with female juvenile offenders or those at high risk of offending. This training will help improve gender programming services in many jurisdictions.

Most of OJJDP's funding is not provided under Parts C and D, but is distributed to the States and territories through the Formula Grants, Challenge, and Title V (Community Prevention) programs. OJJDP provided the writer with contact information for the Juvenile Justice Specialist in his State to explore these possible sources of funding.

Comment: The commissioner for a State juvenile justice agency wrote that OJJDP should perhaps focus on the target age population most at risk for offending, rather than early childhood prevention programs (citing the OJJDP priority to reduce lead and environmental hazards) that could be served by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The writer also stated that there is a need for

opportunities for major Federal agencies to partner for children and that it would be extremely helpful to have Federal assistance and support for efforts to build community mobilization efforts. The writer considers status offenders to be an ongoing priority area in his State and asked that OJJDP take a leadership role in this area. Lastly, this individual wrote that OJJDP could be far more effective in providing technical assistance and suggested an alternative approach for responding to such requests.

Response: OJJDP agrees that Federal assistance can be helpful to communities seeking to "grow capacity." OJJDP is involved in extensive capacity-building efforts, particularly through its training and technical assistance programs, projects, and activities.

Including the reduction of lead and environmental hazards as one OJJDP's program priorities for consideration fits within the Office's strong emphasis on prevention activities. This Administration has aggressively pursued interagency partnerships in crossover areas of interest, and it is clear that the effects of elevated levels of lead in the bloodstream can cause children to suffer from physical, neurobiological, and cognitive problems that may lead to aberrant behavior, including aggression and delinquency.

With respect to the writer's concern regarding the provision of technical assistance, OJJDP has recently awarded a contract to operate the Formula Grants Training and Technical Assistance Program to Developmental Associates, Inc. (DA). The transition from the previous technical assistance provider, Community Research Associates, is now complete. The mission of OJJDP's partnership with DA continues to be the effective and expedient delivery of technical assistance to States and local agencies for implementing the provisions of the comprehensive State Plan. OJJDP will continue to explore the most efficient manner to provide States and local agencies technical assistance in a wide variety of policy and program areas dealing with planning and evaluation, delinquency prevention, diversion and early intervention, secure detention and alternatives to it use, corrections, graduated sanctions, and other specialized priorities delineated in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Comment: A deputy director of public safety wrote that the programs most worthy of funding are those that "demonstrate success upon which other financially assisted departments could build." He also acknowledged three

areas of OJJDP's focus that would provide the most benefits to his community: Developing Blueprint Programs Through Replication and Evaluation, Developing Prevention and Treatment Programs for Status Offenders, and Supporting Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation Programs.

Response: OJJDP appreciates learning which programming areas presented for consideration in the Program Plan would, in the writer's view, be most beneficial to the his community. OJJDP agreed that these are particularly important areas of work and has been pleased by both the positive response from the field and the work already under way in these areas as part of the Office's ongoing programs.

Comment: The associate executive director of a child-and family-focused agency expressed appreciation for OJJDP publications. Although agreeing that the program priorities in the Proposed Plan were appropriate, the writer identified the following additional areas for more OJJDP attention: family violence—focus on family prevention strategies; early childhood violence and primary prevention alcohol/drug prevention models; violence prevention in schools—alternatives to suspension for "zero tolerance" policies; and models for early identification of troubled youth. This individual supported funding demonstration projects and program evaluations and encouraged OJJDP to sponsor training events. Lastly, the writer indicated that direct Federal discretionary grants to community programs is a better opportunity than block grant funding.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's positive feedback on its priority areas and its publications program and noted that information dissemination will remain a priority for the Office. During FY 1999, OJJDP produced more than 90 documents and distributed almost 4 million publications. During FY 1999, the OJJDP home page received almost 750,000 "hits." The site is continually updated with "subpages" highlighting specific OJJDP programs to provide users with the most current information.

With regard to the writer's comment on block grant funding, both the Congress and OJJDP seek to establish a balance between State and local block and formula grant funding and categorical discretionary grants. Block and formula grants allow States and local communities to meet priority problems and needs identified through planning efforts that are suggested through Federal research, evaluation, training and technical assistance, and

information resources. Innovation and expansion of services are hallmarks of these programs. Discretionary grants provide an opportunity to meet national needs through demonstration and replication programs. Demonstration programs are based on research and seek to determine whether program models are effective in a variety of settings. Replications establish proven effective programs in communities across the country. OJJDP believes that this is currently an appropriate balance of these program types.

Comment: A chief of police wrote in support of OJJDP's funding priority areas and expressed the need for more programs that assist law enforcement officers who must process juvenile offenders and more information for those officers processing juvenile offenders who commit serious offenses. The writer stated that enhanced training and technical assistance from OJJDP would be of greater benefit to the law enforcement community than research and development. He also indicated that his department made use of OJJDP's Web site.

Response: OJJDP is pleased to learn that each of the 10 programming areas listed as priorities in the Program Plan were relevant to the writer's agency. OJJDP noted the writer's comment on the importance of enhanced training and technical assistance for the law enforcement community, especially in the area of interagency computer network access.

OJJDP also appreciated hearing that the Crime Analysis/Planning and Research Division in the writer's department uses the Office's Web site to stay informed about grants and publications. The OJJDP home page is an important dissemination tool, and it is continually updated with "subpages" on specific programs to provide users with the most current information.

Comment: An adult probation and parole supervisor wrote in support of partnerships between juvenile justice and the Department of Education and discussed the necessity for both departments to adopt prevention efforts for students with learning disabilities.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's comments about the need for juvenile justice and education agencies to work together to address the needs of learning disabled youth. OJJDP and the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, recently awarded a grant to the University of Maryland to establish a new Center for Students with Disabilities in the Juvenile Justice System. The Secretary of Education and the Attorney General expect this project

to have a significant impact on the improvement of services for students with disabilities in the justice system. Improvements in the areas of prevention, educational services, and reintegration based on a combination of research, training, and technical assistance will lead to improved results for children and youth with disabilities. The Center will provide guidance and assistance to States, schools, justice programs, families, and communities on designing, implementing, and evaluating comprehensive education programs. These programs will be based on research-validated practices for students with disabilities in the juvenile justice system. OJJDP referred the writer to the appropriate contacts for more information about the Center.

Comment: A professor of nursing wrote to support the priorities for funding, particularly field-initiated research. The writer described an interdisciplinary, university-based research and service program that features home visitation and support group intervention. She also stated that it is imperative for university-based programs developed in collaboration with communities to have the ability to compete for OJJDP funding.

Response: OJJDP appreciates hearing the writer's support for the 10 broad priority areas for new funding in the Proposed Plan and of her particular interest in funding for field-initiated research. OJJDP thanked the writer for providing articles describing the success of the Project Healthy Grandparents program that supports positive development in children. OJJDP suggested that the writer watch for program announcements on OJJDP's Web site during the coming months for possible funding opportunities from funding streams other than those that support programs under Parts C and D of the JJD Act.

Comment: The director of a youth services organization wrote in support of funding prevention programs for youth and commented on the usefulness of OJJDP services, publications, and national statistics.

Response: OJJDP appreciates hearing that its publications with national statistics and information on juvenile justice issues help the writer to shape programs on a local level. One of OJJDP's most recent publications, *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*, provides a comprehensive overview of juvenile crime, violence, and victimization and the response of the juvenile justice system. It illustrates OJJDP's efforts to make critical information available to

local and national juvenile justice policymakers and community leaders.

Disseminating information about research, statistics, and programs that work has been, and remains, a priority at OJJDP. During FY 1999, OJJDP produced more than 90 documents and distributed almost 4 million publications. OJJDP referred the writer to its Web site (www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org) for more information about the National Report and other OJJDP publications.

Comment: A mental health advocate wrote to support OJJDP's publications, its Web site, and particularly its "fax on demand" service.

Response: OJJDP appreciates hearing that its publications program is helpful. As noted above, disseminating quality information continues to be a priority and several OJJDP publications have won national awards. OJJDP encouraged the writer to access other electronic resources besides the "fax-on-demand" service, including OJJDP's electronic mailing list, JUVJUST, and the Office's recently redesigned Web site (www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org). JUVJUST alerts subscribers to new documents, funding opportunities, and other OJJDP news.

Comment: An individual suggested that OJJDP develop a set of "value-screens" and provided mathematical instructions on how decisions should be made. The writer provided a list of priorities in order of importance based on his intuition and another list based on a matrix of values, using the value-screen method.

Response: OJJDP is intrigued by the writer's idea about using value-screens for decisionmaking and noted that the information would be passed along to the program planning team for their consideration.

Comment: An individual wrote to share his personal priorities, including getting parents—especially fathers—involved with their children, extending services for children from childhood to young adulthood, sharing news/information about children in other States with children across the country, providing summer activities for students, and developing community centers/sports for youth.

Response: OJJDP believes that its proposed program priorities for FY 2000 reflect a commitment to prevention activities similar to the personal priorities shared in the comment letter. OJJDP provided the writer with a recent OJJDP Fact Sheet on the topic of responsible fatherhood.

Comment: A police sergeant identified five areas that he believes would have the most direct impact on his jurisdiction, including improvement of the juvenile sanctioning system;

programs for female offenders; developing, evaluating, and replicating blueprint programs; juvenile sex offending; and prevention and treatment programs for status offenders. The writer indicated that it is important to fund new and innovative programs, but provision of enhanced training and technical assistance should not be overlooked.

Response: OJJDP appreciates learning of the five program areas that would have the most impact in the writer's jurisdiction. OJJDP agreed that these are important areas of work and has been pleased by both the positive response to them from the field and the work already under way in these areas as part of the Office's ongoing programs.

OJJDP appreciates the positive feedback about the Office's training seminars and agrees with the writer's statement that providing enhanced training and technical assistance to juvenile justice practitioners is essential. OJJDP will continue to keep this activity a priority.

Comment: The executive director for an agency that provides support to families of incarcerated persons wrote about the need for attention to youth who have an immediate family member in prison. The writer indicated that mentoring programs are not reaching this population of youth and that they are particularly at high risk for incarceration themselves as juveniles.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's sharing information about her program and agrees with the need for prevention programs that address the issues she raises. In all of OJJDP's efforts, consistent with the OJJDP Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders, emphasis is placed on risk-focused prevention. The youth referenced in the letter, assuming that there are other community, individual, peer and/or family-related risk factors present, are definitely considered at risk and are recommended for priority targeting in any OJJDP-supported program.

OJJDP advised the writer that most of OJJDP's funding is not provided under Parts C and D, but is distributed to the States and territories through our Formula Grants, Challenge, and Title V (Community Prevention) programs. OJJDP provided the writer with contact information for the Juvenile Justice Specialist in her State to explore these possible sources of funding.

With regard to funding for mentoring programs, Part G of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, as amended, authorizes OJJDP to fund a Juvenile Mentoring Program

(JUMP). In fiscal year 2000, Congress appropriated \$12 million to support this program, including demonstration projects, technical assistance, evaluation, and support for other specific programs such as the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. The goal of the JUMP program is to reduce juvenile delinquency and gang participation by at-risk youth, to improve academic performance of at-risk youth, and to reduce the dropout rate for at-risk youth through the establishment of one-to-one mentoring between an adult and a juvenile. OJJDP encouraged the writer to consider submitting an application for a forthcoming competitive solicitation the Office will issue in early 2000 to fund additional mentoring sites around the country.

Comment: The executive director of the agency designated to administer a State's OJJDP funds wrote in support of the OJJDP Plan's broad view and its programs tailored to specific needs of special populations, including status offenders, female offenders, and Native American young people, with an emphasis on research and evaluation. The writer expressed the need for programs that address the mental health needs of young people and aftercare programs for juveniles leaving the system.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's positive comments about the work of the Office. With regard to meeting the mental health needs of youth in the juvenile justice system, the writer was provided with a copy of an OJJDP Fact Sheet entitled Mental Health Disorders and Substance Abuse Problems Among Juveniles. OJJDP intends to keep mental health needs of juveniles at the forefront as new programs are developed within the juvenile justice system. In the near future, OJJDP will release a new competitive solicitation for a multiyear research and development effort to examine current research and theoretical literature on mental health and related substance abuse issues among juvenile offenders.

OJJDP has committed extensive resources in the area of aftercare/reintegration services for juvenile offenders. Since 1987, OJJDP has supported a long-term research, demonstration, and testing project focused on aftercare. The Intensive Aftercare Program (IAP) model has evolved from this research. The goal of the IAP model is to reduce recidivism among high-risk parolees. The model assumes that effective intervention requires not only intensive supervision and services following institutional

release, but also a focus on reintegration during incarceration. In addition, the IAP proposes a highly structured and gradual transitional process that serves as a bridge between institutionalization and aftercare. An independent outcome evaluation will examine recidivism using a followup period of 1 year after release from the institution and multiple measures of reoffending behavior. These measures will include arrest, arrest with adjudication, and days to recidivism. OJJDP is sharing its interim findings with the Attorney General's "reentry court" project team. The writer was provided copies of relevant OJJDP publications on the topic of aftercare.

In addition to the IAP, OJJDP has been collaborating with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America to implement a pilot project known as "Targeted Reintegration." This project is an effort to provide Boys & Girls Club services to youth in residential placement and, upon their reentry to the community, to encourage youth to become involved in activities sponsored by the Boys & Girls Clubs. Once released, youth are provided a mentor through the Boys & Girls Club, are seen by their parole officer, and are expected to attend a Boys & Girls Club at least three times a week.

Comment: The director for policy advocacy for a faith-based organization that is part of the Boston Ten Point Coalition and that works on gang prevention and intervention, youth crime, and delinquency wrote that to his knowledge, only one faith-based organization (FBO) is receiving direct funding from OJJDP. The writer provided suggestions for how OJJDP might help "to get more FBO's eligible for OJJDP funding." This individual indicated that his organization has been doing much work with at-risk girls and OJJDP should consider FBO's as possible recipients of these grants. Faith-based organizations are also providing arts programs, and the writer would like funding expanded to include cultural education curriculums offered by such organizations to incarcerated and at-risk youth.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's interest in seeing greater involvement of faith-based organizations in gang prevention and intervention and other youth delinquency programs. OJJDP further requested the writer's assistance in enhancing the Office's current mailing list to include a special tier of faith-based organizations and provided the appropriate agency staff contact to start a dialog on this matter.

As to direct funding, OJJDP informed the writer that it is currently providing

funding to faith-based Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP) sites. In addition, to be eligible for OJJDP's Drug-Free Communities program, applicants had to "demonstrate that a community coalition has been established," containing at least one representative of several specified groups, including "religious or fraternal organizations."

OJJDP supports the work being done by the Ten Point Coalition and looks forward to joining the ongoing discussions within the U.S. Department of Justice to help promote the good work the Coalition is doing.

The writer's comments concerning FBO's, arts programs for incarcerated youth, and programs for female offenders will all be considered in OJJDP's planning process for FY 2000 and beyond.

Comment: The directors of program development and research for a law enforcement agency wrote to suggest modification of the plan to incorporate projects that develop the role of community policing for the prevention and reduction of juvenile crime. The writers suggested three projects that would further these efforts: a publication series that would educate law enforcement personnel as to the potential of community-oriented approaches to juvenile crime, demonstration projects modeled after the faith-based approach initiated in Boston by the Ten Point Coalition working in cooperation with police departments, and the development of evaluation of efforts that expand on the school-based problem-solving model.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writers' thoughtful and insightful synopses of the three project areas that would further the role of community policing in juvenile crime reduction and prevention. OJJDP is particularly excited about the work being done by the Ten Point Coalition and is involved in ongoing discussions about promoting work in the juvenile justice area by faith-based organizations. OJJDP looks forward to continuing its dialog with the Police Executive Research Forum concerning the areas of interest they raised in their letter.

Comment: Three units within a police department reviewed OJJDP's plan and provided comments. The commander of the investigative services unit indicated that equal priority and emphasis should be given to research, practical application, and training for intervening professionals and to continuation and growth of a national resource center for safe schools that could provide technical assistance, research, and information. The supervisor of the sex crimes unit noted an increase in

juveniles involved in sexual offenses and would like a focus on the impact of pornography films and VCR's on these offenses. He also is concerned about child victims not showing up for court and suggests that OJJDP investigate why this happens and how often. A supervisor of a gang squad listed, in order of priority, the areas that he thinks could be implemented by his department: juvenile crime trends; field-initiated research and evaluation programs; developing, replicating, and evaluating model programs; prevention and treatment programs for status offenders; and improving the juvenile sanctions system. This individual listed programs that he believes should be given consideration in his community and suggested future studies and research in the following areas: transient and migrating gangs; Asian gang factions; skinhead/white supremacist factions of gangs; coordination of a national strategy to identify and combat these criminal groups, including immigration issues, teamed with State, Federal, and local authorities; and studies and research into the sources of firearms used in violent crimes.

Response: OJJDP appreciates hearing comments from the representatives of the police department units and their suggestions for directing OJJDP programming resources. OJJDP acknowledged the concern about the nationwide incidents of school violence and the need for training and technical assistance on the issue. OJJDP plans to continue funding the National Resource Center for Safe Schools in Portland, OR, which produces a number of training and technical assistance materials to combat this issue. OJJDP also promised to look into the questions raised about trends in the increase of Part II sex offenses and the number of child abuse cases dropped. A representative from the Office's Research and Program Development Division will respond to the commenter directly on those issues. Finally, OJJDP noted the five programming areas judged as having the most impact on the writers' department and agreed with their importance. The Office has been pleased by the positive response from the field about the work already under way in these areas as part of its ongoing programs.

Finally, in response to the need for continued emphasis to combat juvenile gangs, OJJDP reaffirmed that gang prevention, intervention, and suppression remains one of the Office's highest priorities. OJJDP appreciates the positive comments about its National Youth Gang Center as well as interest in its Gang-Free Communities Initiative, which will likely entail a replication of

the OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model in multiple U.S. cities. Early evaluation data from the five existing demonstration sites indicate promising preliminary evaluation results in terms of reducing gang crime, violence, drug use, and drug sales. OJJDP is excited about the possibility of replicating this model with local adaptations around the country. OJJDP acknowledged the comment that many communities lack good research on intervening with migratory gangs of various ethnicities and on white supremacist/skinhead groups.

Comment: The program director of a military academy that works with at-risk youth wrote to suggest the use of intervention and education to positively impact youth's behaviors. The writer noted that there is a lack of programs for middle and high school students and for youth who are marginally involved in the juvenile justice system. Information about the academy's program, which includes elements of mentoring, was provided. The writer closed with a request that OJJDP look into this type of program.

Response: OJJDP noted that the writer's program fulfills a need to support youth at risk of entering the juvenile justice system or youth who have marginally been involved with the juvenile justice system and agreed that there is a need to address these youth. OJJDP provided a brief summary of its comprehensive approach and sent the writer a copy of its Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders, which lists a variety of model intermediate sanctions programs that provide structure, education, and leadership training to youth. (See the detailed response to the comment on "sure and swift" consequences above for more information about the Comprehensive Strategy.)

Most of OJJDP's funding is not provided under Parts C and D, but is distributed to the States and territories through Formula Grants, Challenge, and Title V (Community Prevention) programs. OJJDP provided contact information for the writer's State Juvenile Justice Specialist to explore these possible sources of funding and an agency contact for more information about the Office's programs.

Comment: A law enforcement officer wrote that field-initiated research and evaluation is most important and that there is a need for the development, replacement, and evaluation of model "blueprint" programs and for model practices in delinquency and dependency courts. The writer also expressed a need for facilities for

troubled youth and for appropriate sanctions for their actions. Finally, there is a need for prevention and treatment programs for status offenders.

Response: OJJDP is actively engaged in advancing the program areas raised by the writer. OJJDP will pass on the writer's concerns about the issues facing his jurisdiction to the Office's program planning team for their consideration.

Comment: The director of a truancy center described the program's approach, including targeting of middle school-age children and younger, to enhance successful intervention. The program works closely with probation, counselors, judges, law enforcement, school administrators, social workers, and parents to provide coordinated services and case management. The writer asks that OJJDP recognize the center's approach as "unique and worthy of consideration" during evaluation and prioritization of funding activities. He also indicated the two programming areas that would be most useful in his work.

Response: OJJDP appreciates learning that, of the 10 programming areas presented for consideration in the Program Plan, two—"blueprint" program development and prevention and treatment programs for status offenders—would best serve the writer's needs.

In response to the writer's description of his truancy program, OJJDP acknowledged truancy as a major problem in this country that negatively influences the future of youth and costs taxpayers thousands of dollars. OJJDP is in the process of evaluating truancy reduction projects in eight demonstration sites: Athens, GA; Contra Costa, CA; Honolulu, HI; Houston, TX; Jacksonville, FL; King County, WA; Suffolk County, NY; and Tacoma, WA. The purpose of the evaluation is to determine how community collaboration can impact truancy reduction and lead to systemic reform and assist OJJDP in the development of a community collaborative truancy reduction program model.

Most of OJJDP's funding is not provided under Parts C and D, but is distributed to the States and territories through our Formula Grants, Challenge, and Title V (Community Prevention) programs. OJJDP referred the writer to his State Juvenile Justice Specialist to explore these possible sources of funding.

Comment: The program coordinator of a court evaluation unit wrote in support of three of the proposed priority areas: developing and studying programs addressing female offenders, developing prevention and treatment programs for

status offenders, and developing and evaluating model practices regarding the efficacy of delinquency and dependency courts. The writer also noted that "prevention and initial treatment is often a less costly approach to addressing delinquent behavior."

Response: OJJDP appreciates learning of the writer's choice of priority program areas and strongly agrees with the observation about the cost-effectiveness of prevention and initial treatment.

Comment: The domestic violence coordinator at a county agency wrote that OJJDP needs to more directly address the problem of gender violence, specifically male to female violence, and to include school violence programs that consider the violence directed at girls, not just gang or gun violence. The writer also stated that "young men are assaulting others in their families, but especially their mothers." It was noted that curriculums and responses that address domestic/dating violence by young men are beginning to be developed in the writer's county.

Response: OJJDP shares the writer's concern about violence perpetrated against female adolescents, particularly in light of research that indicates the median age at which girls report first becoming victims of sexual assault is 13. In response to this concern, OJJDP has awarded funds to Greene, Peters, and Associates of Nashville, TN, to foster comprehensive gender-specific programming for female juvenile offenders and girls at risk of offending, with work in this area including attention to the critical issue of victimization. The grantee also will provide training and technical assistance to help policymakers, service providers, detention workers, educators, service providers, parents, and community leaders address the complex needs of female adolescents who are at risk for delinquent behavior.

OJJDP is supporting several school-based programs that address problems of interpersonal violence and promote peaceful resolution. The National Center for Conflict Resolution Education in Urbana, IL, and the National Resource Center for Safe Schools in Portland, OR, are working with schools to teach students alternatives to violence, including date violence. The National Hate Crime Prevention Center in Newton, MA, is examining the complexities of gender violence in its trainings with domestic violence and law enforcement personnel.

OJJDP is also a collaborator with the National Advisory Council on Violence Against Women. The Council is charged with designing a national agenda on

violence against women. When completed, this document will serve as a call to action and a guide to specific strategies to end violence against women and girls. OJJDP will continue to give priority to this area of activity.

Comment: The president and CEO of a mental health organization wrote that it is important for OJJDP to continue to promote evidence-based programs and would like OJJDP to take a greater leadership role in contradicting punitive measures and policies that do not work. The writer also stated that his organization would like OJJDP to decrease its emphasis on programs addressing a small number of serious and violent offenders and concentrate more on prevention of delinquency and early intervention with at-risk youth. The writer indicated OJJDP's investment in reducing child abuse, neglect, and dependency seems inadequate, particularly among girls, but was pleased about the focus on mental health. Other areas the writer supported for potential new funding were studying and developing programs that address female offenders, prevention and treatment programs for status offenders, and expansion of blueprint programs. This individual questioned why OJJDP would fund a program to reduce lead and environmental hazards based on the scope of the mission of OJJDP and suggested that the focus should be broadened to address the relationship between health status and delinquency. Other thoughts included concerns that efforts be closely coordinated, that treatment should not be viewed as a sanction, and that OJJDP is not focusing enough attention on the overrepresentation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system, while focusing too much on gang prevention and suppression. The letter listed four "unaddressed" or "insufficiently addressed" areas: a focused effort to evaluate and replicate promising community-based models, the prevalence of violence exposure and trauma among justice system-involved youth, conditions of confinement issues for youth with mental health and other treatment needs, and an emphasis on family outreach and meaningful inclusion in the juvenile justice system.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's comments concerning where OJJDP's program emphasis should lie as it provides the kind of feedback necessary for sound decisionmaking. OJJDP noted that the writer's comments also highlight the ever-present challenge of balancing resources among competing needs while addressing the continuum of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention needs.

OJJDP acknowledged the writer's support for new programming in the areas of female offenders and replication of the "Blueprints" programs. With regard to his inquiry about the inclusion of "the reduction of lead and environmental hazards" in the 10 areas proposed for consideration, OJJDP responded that this area is consonant with the Office's strong emphasis on prevention activities. This Administration has aggressively pursued interagency partnerships in crossover areas of interest, and it is clear that the effects of elevated levels of lead in the bloodstream can cause children to suffer from physical, neurobiological, and cognitive problems that may lead to aberrant behavior, including aggression and delinquency.

OJJDP is committed to promoting research-based programs that demonstrate a positive impact on the lives of at-risk and delinquent youth and their families. This commitment extends to all of the Office's work, including those projects in the area of mental health. This area has gained increasing emphasis in recent years, concomitant with an increasing recognition of the interconnections among mental health, substance abuse, and juvenile justice.

In FY 2000, OJJDP will be funding several efforts in the area of mental health. OJJDP is pleased to support an update of the 1992 monograph, *Responding to the Mental Health Needs of Youth in the Juvenile Justice System*. The 1992 document remains the single-most comprehensive source of information on issues related to the mental health needs of youth in the juvenile justice system, but a new publication is needed to capture the progress and innovation that has occurred during the past 8 years. In addition, OJJDP is supporting a project to review the issue of screening and assessment in the juvenile justice system. The goal is to determine what instruments and models are currently in use, identify their strengths and weaknesses, and produce recommendations regarding best practices and future research needs.

OJJDP is also sponsoring basic research to identify the prevalence of mental health and substance abuse disorders in a large population of detained youth in Cook County, Illinois. In addition to prevalence rates, this study will explore service needs and service provision for this population. In combination with a similar study in New York City, this research may provide the clearest evidence yet of the level of unmet mental health needs among youth in the juvenile justice

system. Another project, supported through an interagency agreement with the National Institute of Mental Health, is examining the connections between different types of treatment for attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (a known risk factor for delinquency) and youth's later contact with the juvenile justice system.

Finally, OJJDP is in the midst of planning a major mental health demonstration project, which is still in the developmental stages and which will be highly dependent on future funding levels. However, the goal of this project will be to develop a comprehensive model for delivering mental health services to youth at all points in the juvenile justice system, from intake to aftercare. Subsequently, this comprehensive model would be implemented and evaluated at diverse sites, to determine its ability to meet the mental health needs of youth in the juvenile justice system.

All the writer's comments, including suggestions of four unaddressed or insufficiently addressed areas, will be considered in the planning process for FY 2000 and beyond.

Comment: The associate superintendent of public schools wrote to discuss her collaborative work with the State department of juvenile justice. As part of a pilot program, probation officers were placed in a cluster of schools to provide assistance and support in preventing violence. The writer believes that "this program has had a significant influence in assisting delinquency reduction in the community" and therefore should be carefully considered as policy decisions are made regarding future funding.

Response: OJJDP commends the collaborative efforts between the Prince Georges County Public Schools and the State of Maryland Department of Juvenile Justice. OJJDP acknowledged that the work of these two agencies in providing a seamless mesh of services to an at-risk population has become a statewide model for Maryland's Spotlight on Schools initiative. OJJDP is pleased to learn that this program has had a significant influence in assisting in delinquency reduction in the community.

Most of OJJDP's funding is not provided under Parts C and D, but is distributed to the States and territories through our Formula Grants, Challenge, and Title V (Community Prevention) programs. OJJDP referred the writer to the Juvenile Justice Specialist in her State to explore these possible sources of funding.

Comment: The director of research and development in a law enforcement

agency wrote in support of all of OJJDP's proposed areas as critical issues, with attention to what works and guidelines for replication. The writer indicated that improving the juvenile sanctioning system is of key importance and that development and implementation of transition programs for juvenile offenders is critical. It would be useful to have a focus on understanding juvenile crime trends, particularly if applied research is part of the methodology. The individual wrote that OJJDP should continue to encourage, if not mandate, collaboration with community organizations as well as the development of a continuum of services. The writer also stated that "the need for training and technical assistance for public and community organizations and service providers is paramount," urging OJJDP to include a training component with additional support in the development and implementation of local initiatives.

Response: OJJDP appreciates the writer's support for all 10 program areas and acknowledged her assessment that improving the juvenile sanctioning system is of key importance. In response to the writer's comment about the need for useful and timely information to help law enforcement agencies understand the "whys" behind juvenile crime trends, OJJDP sent a copy of the recently published, *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 1999 National Report*. The National Report is the most comprehensive and up-to-date source of information about juvenile crime, violence, and victimization and about the response of the juvenile justice system to these problems.

OJJDP agrees with the writer's position on the need for collaboration between community and resident organizations, the development of a continuum of services, and training and technical assistance. The Office has been pleased by the positive response from the field about the work already under way in these areas as part of OJJDP's ongoing programs and intends to continue to promote them.

Introduction to Fiscal Year 2000 Program Plan

In administering the discretionary grants program under Parts C and D of Title II, OJJDP has identified four goals as the major elements of a sound policy that ensures public safety and security while establishing effective juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs. Achieving these goals, which are discussed below, is vital to protecting the long-term safety of the public from juvenile delinquency and violence.

- OJJDP promotes delinquency prevention and early intervention efforts that reduce the flow of juvenile offenders into the juvenile justice system, the numbers of serious and violent offenders, and the development of chronic delinquent careers. While removing serious and violent juvenile offenders from the street serves to protect the public, long-term solutions lie primarily in taking aggressive steps to stop delinquency before it starts or becomes a pattern of behavior.

- OJJDP seeks to improve the juvenile justice system and the response of the system to juvenile delinquents, status offenders, and dependent, neglected, and abused children.

- OJJDP supports efforts in the area of corrections, detention, and community-based alternatives to preserve the public safety in a manner that serves the appropriate development and best use of secure detention and corrections options, while at the same time fostering the use of community-based programs for juvenile offenders that provide developmentally appropriate, culturally competent mental health and other critical services.

- OJJDP seeks to support law enforcement, public safety, and other justice agency efforts to prevent juvenile delinquency, intervene in the development of chronic delinquent careers, and collaborate with the juvenile justice system to meet the needs of dependent, neglected, and abused children, children who need mental health interventions, and children with disabilities.

In 1993, OJJDP published its Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders, which set forth a research-based comprehensive approach for addressing the problems of juvenile crime and victimization and for achieving its program goals. The Comprehensive Strategy was developed to assist States and local communities in preventing at-risk youth from becoming serious, violent, and chronic juvenile offenders and in crafting a practical response to those who do. Over the past few years, OJJDP has tested and refined the prevention and graduated sanctions components of the Comprehensive Strategy. In 1996, OJJDP began assisting three pilot sites to formulate the Comprehensive Strategy plans at the local level. Lessons learned from those sites are being used in eight States to implement a strategic planning and implementation process through State partnerships with up to six local jurisdictions that are developing and

implementing their own comprehensive strategies.²

This Final Plan also supports the Coordinating Council's 1996 National Juvenile Justice Action Plan, which grew out of the Comprehensive Strategy. This Action Plan, which the Coordinating Council is currently updating, provides eight objectives to reduce juvenile violence and describes ways to meet these objectives. Together, the Comprehensive Strategy and the Action Plan constitute a sound strategy for translating research findings and innovative programs into action.

Continuation Programs

OJJDP organizes its proposed programs under four broad categories that reflect its program goals and the principles of the Comprehensive Strategy. The following summaries briefly describe some of the types of activities that will receive continuation funding in each category.

Public Safety and Law Enforcement. Eight programs related to the important public policy issue of proliferating youth gangs are a major focus of OJJDP's proposals in this category. The programs range from demonstrations and replication of models to technical assistance and from evaluation to data collection and analysis. Funds will also be provided to a partnership between law enforcement and mental health services agencies to continue school-based activities and efforts to address the effects on children of exposure to domestic violence. Two programs deal with a problem of increasing public concern, gun violence. An evaluation is looking at the effect of transferring the responsibility for child protective investigations to law enforcement agencies.

Delinquency Prevention and Intervention. OJJDP will fund a range of programs that focus on reducing risk factors and increasing protective factors in children's lives. The types of programs include demonstrations, pilots, and replication of model programs; outreach; studies and evaluations; and training and technical assistance. Beginning with early programs such as prenatal nurse home visitation, OJJDP's delinquency prevention and intervention efforts feature arts programs for at-risk youth

and for those in detention and corrections facilities; programs that assess the role of alcohol, illegal drugs, mental health problems, and learning disorders in juvenile delinquency and programs that study effective interventions for these risk factors. Funding will also be provided for programs to reduce truancy and keep students from dropping out of school and to evaluate those efforts, conflict resolution programs, programs that discourage violence, and programs that provide opportunities for positive development and promote public awareness of effective solutions to juvenile crime.

Strengthening the Juvenile Justice System. In this category, OJJDP will support efforts to develop comprehensive approaches to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, including programs designed to reform juvenile justice systems in specific locations. Research-based guidance will be provided to States and others to improve juvenile justice services for students with disabilities. Some programs attempt to increase youth's accountability for their behavior and to prevent violence, while others seek to improve the quality of youth's legal representation and the equity and efficiency of the treatment of youth (including girls and minorities) at all points within the juvenile justice system, including points where the justice and mental health systems intersect and the time when youth return to the community from residential facilities. In addition, OJJDP will fund programs focusing on providing the information base necessary for sound policymaking. Examples include censuses and surveys of juveniles in facilities and on probation, an accurate program directory for use in the censuses and surveys, and a data analysis project.

Child Abuse and Neglect and Dependency Courts. Three programs fall within this category: Safe Kids/Safe Streets: Community Approaches to Reducing Abuse and Neglect and Preventing Delinquency, its national evaluation, and a research program focusing specifically on the issue of child neglect.

Overarching. In addition to the activities in the four categories described above, OJJDP supports programs in a broader, overarching category. These are programs with significant elements common to more than one of the other four categories. Among the overarching programs is a major longitudinal study of the causes and correlates of delinquency, which is also providing an opportunity for an

² For more information about the Comprehensive Strategy, readers can request a copy of OJJDP Fact Sheet No. 9883, An Update on the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders, by calling the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse at 800-638-9736. Additional information is available from the Comprehensive Strategy program section of OJJDP's Web site at www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/strategy/index.html.

examination of the intergenerational transmission of antisocial behavior. School violence is addressed by a university-based consortium and by a national resource center. One initiative is assisting six communities in implementing comprehensive programs to reduce youth violence and delinquency. OJJDP will continue to fund a crime prevention center whose tasks include investigating the reasons for the overrepresentation of minorities in the Texas juvenile justice system. Finally, national-level statistical support, training and technical assistance programs, and a clearinghouse are included in the overarching category, as are an OJJDP management evaluation contract and telecommunications assistance.

Descriptions of the specific programs in each of the five categories follow the discussion of new programs.

New Programs

Because the Proposed Plan was published before the FY 2000 appropriation was enacted, possible new programming was discussed only in the most general terms with descriptions of 10 broad areas in which new programs might be funded in FY 2000. The public was asked to comment on the proposed areas, which are listed below.

1. *Improving the Juvenile Sanctioning System*
2. *Developing and Studying Programs Addressing Female Offenders*
3. *Monitoring and Understanding the "Whys" Behind Juvenile Crime Trends*
4. *Developing Blueprint Programs Through Replication and Evaluation*
5. *Replicating Effective Juvenile Delinquency Prevention and Treatment Program Models on Native American Tribal Lands and in Alaskan Native Communities*
6. *Developing and Evaluating Model Practices Regarding the Efficacy of Delinquency and Dependency Courts*
7. *Reducing Lead and Environmental Hazards*
8. *Addressing the Problem of Juvenile Sex Offending*
9. *Developing Prevention and Treatment Programs for Status Offenders*
10. *Supporting Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation Programs*

It appears that the funding available to OJJDP for this fiscal year limits its ability to support new programming. Information regarding the FY 2000 appropriation, feedback from the juvenile justice field, other public comments on the Proposed Plan, and staff review have resulted in a narrowing down and refinement of the

10 proposed priority areas. Final determination of all FY 2000 programs will depend, however, on the completion of the review of congressional program priorities for OJJDP and funding availability.

OJJDP will give priority to funding two new program areas: improving the juvenile sanctioning system and improving the response to juvenile sex offenders. If additional monies become available or interagency agreements can be negotiated, other areas of interest that OJJDP would prioritize for funding include the following: evaluation of model dependency courts; survey of correctional education; a national survey of youth; and reducing lead and environmental hazards.

In addition, depending on availability of funds, the Office intends to enhance or restructure existing efforts to better focus its work in the following areas: girls in the juvenile justice system; disproportionate minority confinement; hate crime prevention; gang-free schools and communities initiatives; State and local juvenile justice policymaking; the engagement of faith-based organizations; "Blueprint" program replication and evaluation; detention and corrections programming; and monitoring and understanding the "whys" behind juvenile crime trends.

Two additional points should be made concerning new programming listed for consideration in the Proposed Plan:

First, consistent with the public comments received, OJJDP is cognizant of the need to give the States good guidance on the handling of status offenders. The Office is currently conducting work around underage drinking, family strengthening, runaways and missing youth, and truancy programs. In addition, OJJDP will explore possible ways to gather and disseminate the best information available about status offending, including training and technical assistance support through its new training and technical assistance provider.

Second, it may be possible to support some field-initiated research in FY 2000 by identifying funding streams other than those that support programs under Parts C and D of the JJDP Act (e.g., Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants).

Those who commented on the Proposed Plan and other interested parties should watch for program announcements on OJJDP's Web site (www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org—click on "Grants & Funding") during the coming months to learn of any new programming that may be funded in FY 2000. Readers can

also obtain this information by calling the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse (800-638-8736) or subscribing to OJJDP's electronic newsletter, JUVJUST, by sending an e-mail message to listproc@ncjrs.org, leaving the subject line blank, and typing *subscribe juvjust your name* in the body of the message.

Fiscal Year 2000 Programs

The following are the programs that OJJDP intends to continue to fund in FY 2000. These programs are listed alphabetically and summarized within each of the five categories: Overarching, Public Safety and Law Enforcement, Strengthening the Juvenile Justice System, Delinquency Prevention and Intervention, and Child Abuse and Neglect and Dependency Courts.

With regard to implementation sites and other descriptive data and information, program priorities within each category will be determined based on grantee performance, application quality, fund availability, and other factors.

As part of the appropriations process, Congress identified a number of programs for priority funding consideration by OJJDP with regard to the grantee(s), the amount of funds, or both. These programs, which are listed below, are not included in the program descriptions.

Achievable Dream After School Program
Catholic Charities, Inc., Louisville, Kentucky
Center on Crimes/Violence Against Children
Culinary Arts for At-Risk Youth
Innovative Partnerships for High Risk Youth
Juvenile Justice Tribal Collaboration and Technical Assistance
Kids With A Promise Program
L.A. Best Youth Program
L.A. Dads/Family Programs
L.A. Bridges After School Program
Lincoln Action Programs-Youth
Violence Alternative Project
Low Country Children's Center Program
Mecklenburg County's Domestic Violence HERO Program
Milwaukee Safe and Sound Program
Mount Hope Center
National Association of State Fire Marshals-Juvenile Firesetters Initiative
National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
Law-Related Education
No Workshops * * * No Jump Shots Program
Operation Quality Time Program
Parents Anonymous
Rio Arriba County, New Mexico, After School Program
Suffolk University Center for Juvenile Justice

University of Missouri-Kansas City
Juvenile Justice Research Center
University of Montana Juvenile After
School Program
Vermont Association of Court Diversion
Youth Crime Watch Initiative of Florida
Youth Challenge Program

In addition, OJJDP is directed to
examine each of the following
proposals, provide grants if warranted,
and report to the Committees on
Appropriations on both the House and
Senate on its intentions for each
proposal.

At Risk Youth Program in Wausau,
Wisconsin
Consortium on Children, Families, and
the Law
Hawaii Lawyers Care Na Keiki Law
Center
Juvenile Justice program in Kansas City,
Missouri
Learning for Life Program
New Mexico Cooperative Extension
Service 4-H Youth Development
Program
OASIS
Oklahoma State Transition and
Reintegration Services (STARS)
Rapid Response Program, Washington/
Hancock County, Maine
St. Louis City Regional Violence
Prevention Initiative
University of South Alabama's Youth
Violence Project

Fiscal Year 2000 Program Listing

Overarching

Coalition for Juvenile Justice
Hamilton Fish National Institute on
School and Community Violence
Insular Area Support
Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse
Juvenile Justice Statistics and Systems
Development
National Resource Center for Safe
Schools
National Training and Technical
Assistance Center
OJJDP Management Evaluation Contract
OJJDP Technical Assistance Support
Contract—Juvenile Justice Resource
Center
Program of Research on the Causes and
Correlates of Delinquency
SafeFutures: Partnerships To Reduce
Youth Violence and Delinquency
Technical Assistance for State
Legislatures
Telecommunications Assistance
Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center
at Prairie View A&M University—
Enhancing Personal Training and
Understanding Minority
Overrepresentation in the Juvenile
Justice System
Training and Technical Assistance
Coordination for the SafeFutures and
Safe Kids/Safe Streets Initiatives

Public Safety and Law Enforcement

Child Development-Community-
Oriented Policing (CD-CP)
Education on Gun Violence and Safety
Evaluation of the Comprehensive
Community-Wide Approach to Gang
Prevention; Intervention, and
Suppression Program
Evaluation of the Partnerships To
Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence
Program
Evaluation of the Rural Gang Initiative
Evaluation of the Transfer of
Responsibility for Child Protective
Investigations to Law Enforcement
Agencies
Gang Prevention Through Targeted
Outreach (Boys & Girls Clubs)
Juvenile Justice Law Enforcement
Training and Technical Assistance
Program
National Youth Gang Center
Partnerships To Reduce Juvenile Gun
Violence
Rural Gang Initiative Demonstration
Sites
Technical Assistance to Gang-Free
Schools and Communities Initiatives
Training and Technical Assistance for
the Rural Gang Initiative

Delinquency Prevention and Intervention

America's Promise: Enhanced
Collaboration
Arts and At-Risk Youth
Arts Programs for Juvenile Offenders in
Detention and Corrections
Assessing Alcohol, Drug, and Mental
Health Disorders
Communities in Schools—Federal
Interagency Partnership
A Demonstration Afterschool Program
Diffusion of State Risk- and Protective-
Factor Focused Prevention
Evaluation of the Truancy Reduction
Program
Hate Crime
Intergenerational Transmission of
Antisocial Behavior Project
Investing in Youth for a Safer Future—
A Public Education Campaign
Multisite, Multimodal Treatment Study
of Children With Attention Deficit/
Hyperactivity Disorder
National Center for Conflict Resolution
Education
Partnerships for Preventing Violence
Proactive Youth Program
Professional Development in Effective
Classroom and Conflict Management
Risk Reduction Via Promotion of Youth
Development
Strengthening Services for Chemically
Involved Children, Youth, and
Families
Training and Technical Assistance
Program for the Arts Programs for

Juvenile Offenders in Detention and
Corrections Initiative
Truancy Reduction Demonstration
Program

Strengthening the Juvenile Justice System

Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ)
Training Project
Building Blocks for Youth
Census of Juveniles in Residential
Placement
Center for Students with Disabilities in
the Juvenile Justice System
Circles of Care Program
Community Assessment Center
Comprehensive Children and Families
Mental Health Training and Technical
Assistance
Development of the Comprehensive
Strategy for Serious, Violent, and
Chronic Juvenile Offenders
Evaluation of the Department of Labor's
Education and Training for Youthful
Offenders Initiative
Evaluation of the Intensive Community-
Based Aftercare Program
Evaluation of Teen Courts
Helping Communities To Promote
Youth Development
Intensive Community-Based Aftercare
Demonstration and Technical
Assistance Program
Juvenile Defender Training, Technical
Assistance, and Resource Center
The Juvenile Justice Prosecution Unit
Juvenile Residential Facility Census
Linking Balanced and Restorative
Justice and Adolescents (LIBRA)
Longitudinal Study To Examine the
Development of Conduct Disorder in
Girls
National Juvenile Justice Data Analysis
Project
National Juvenile Justice Program
Directory
The National Longitudinal Survey of
Youth 97
Performance-Based Standards for
Juvenile Correction and Detention
Facilities
San Francisco Juvenile Justice Local
Action Plan—Delancy Street Initiative
Survey of Juvenile Probation
Technical Assistance to Native
American Tribes and Alaskan Native
Communities
TeenSupreme Career Preparation
Initiative
Training and Technical Support for
State and Local Jurisdictional Teams
To Focus on Juvenile Corrections and
Detention Overcrowding
*Child Abuse and Neglect and
Dependency Courts*
National Evaluation of the Safe Kids/
Safe Streets Program
Nurse Home Visitation

Research on Child Neglect
Safe Kids/Safe Streets: Community
Approaches to Reducing Abuse and
Neglect and Preventing Delinquency

Overarching

Coalition for Juvenile Justice

This project supports the Coalition in its efforts to meet the statutory mandates through the development of a technical assistance capability that provides training, technical assistance, and information to the State Juvenile Justice Advisory Groups. This will be accomplished through a series of regional training and information workshops and a national conference designed to address the needs of the membership of the Coalition.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the Coalition for Juvenile Justice. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Hamilton Fish National Institute on School and Community Violence

The Institute, with assistance from OJJDP, was founded in 1997 to serve as a national resource to test the effectiveness of school violence prevention methods and to develop more effective violence prevention strategies. The Institute's goal is to determine what works and what can be replicated to reduce violence in America's schools and their immediate communities. The Institute works with a consortium of seven universities whose key staff have expertise in adolescent violence, criminology, law enforcement, substance abuse, juvenile justice, gangs, public health, education, behavior disorders, social skills development and prevention programs. The George Washington University develops and tests violence prevention strategies in collaboration with the following universities: Eastern Kentucky University, Florida State University, Morehouse School of Medicine, Syracuse University, University of Oregon, and University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, George Washington University. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Insular Area Support

The purpose of this statutorily required program is to provide support to the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Funds are available to address the special needs and problems of juvenile delinquency in these insular

areas, as specified by Section 261(e) of the JJDP Act of 1974, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 5665(e).

Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse

A component of the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS), the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse (JJC) collects, synthesizes, and disseminates information on all aspects of juvenile justice. OJJDP established the Clearinghouse in 1979 to serve the juvenile justice community, legislators, the media, and the public. JJC offers toll-free telephone access to information; prepares specialized responses to information requests; produces, warehouses, and distributes OJJDP publications; exhibits at national conferences; maintains a comprehensive juvenile justice library and database; and administers several electronic information resources. NCJRS is administered by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) under a competitively awarded contract to Aspen Systems Corporation.

This program will be implemented by the current contractor, Aspen Systems Corporation. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Juvenile Justice Statistics and Systems Development Program

The Juvenile Justice Statistics and Systems Development (SSD) Program was competitively awarded in 1990 to the National Center for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ) to improve national, State, and local statistics on juveniles as victims and offenders. The SSD project has traditionally consisted of three tracks of work: National Statistics, Dissemination, and Systems Development. In FY 2000, NCJJ will continue many activities under the first two tracks, including maintaining an extensive library of data files, producing Easy Access software packages and the Web-based OJJDP Statistical Briefing Book, and continuing to service requests for juvenile justice information. In FY 2000, additional funding from OJJDP will also enable NCJJ to enhance activities under the Systems Development track of the project.

To meet the challenge of managing the cases of youth within their jurisdiction effectively and efficiently, juvenile court administrators and judges need ready access to information that will support the operation, management, and decisionmaking of the full-service juvenile court system. Knowledge and decisionmaking (which should be the hallmark of every juvenile justice system) requires not just the collection of data, but the collaboration of the community leaders who will give

meaning to the data. This is the focus of the forthcoming book, *Juvenile Justice With Eyes Open*, which will be published in FY 2000 as part of the Statistics and Systems Development Project (Systems Development Track). Also in FY 2000, NCJJ will use the principles outlined in this publication to develop and field-test an approach that local jurisdictions can employ to systematically identify and then fulfill their local information needs. This includes training local juvenile justice leaders in the rational decisionmaking model (RDM) as a design tool for management information systems; developing data specifications for an effective information system to meet operational, management, and research needs; identifying data needs from collateral service providers and data that will be of use to collaterals; and modeling agreements and protocols with collateral service providers to share case-level and/or aggregate data.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the National Center for Juvenile Justice. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

National Resource Center for Safe Schools

Since 1984, OJJDP and the U.S. Department of Education have provided joint funding to promote safe schools. This work has focused national attention on cooperative solutions to problems that disrupt the educational process. Because an estimated 3 million incidents of crime occur in America's schools each year, it is clear that this problem continues to plague many schools, threatening students' safety and undermining the learning environment. With FY 1998 funding, the U.S. Department of Education's Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program and OJJDP established the National Resource Center for Safe Schools under a 3-year project period. This project expanded the scope and provision of previous training and technical assistance to communities and school districts across the country. The grantee is working to help schools develop and put in place comprehensive safe school plans. It does this through onsite training and consultation to schools and communities, by creating and distributing resource materials and tools, through Web-based information services, and by partnering with State-level agencies to build State capacity to assist local education agencies. Through the inclusion on the project's Advisory Committee of representatives of Hamilton Fish National Institute on School and Community Violence and

other school-related training and technical assistance providers, this project has developed training materials and information resources based on the latest research findings on effective programs and best practices.

The project will continue to be implemented by the current grantee, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

National Training and Technical Assistance Center

The National Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) was established in FY 1995 under a competitive 3-year project period award. NTTAC serves as a national training and technical assistance clearinghouse, inventorying and coordinating the integrated delivery of juvenile justice training and technical assistance resources and establishing a database of these resources.

NTTAC's funding in FY 1996 provided services in the form of coordinated technical assistance support for OJJDP's SafeFutures and gang program initiatives, continued promotion of collaboration between OJJDP training and technical assistance providers, developed training/technical assistance materials, and completed and disseminated the first OJJDP Training and Technical Assistance Resource Catalog.

In FY 1997, NTTAC disseminated a second, updated Training and Technical Assistance Resource Catalog; created a Web site for the Center and a ListServe for the Children, Youth and Affinity Group; held three focus groups on needs assessments; and coordinated and provided 38 instances of technical assistance in conjunction with OJJDP's training and technical assistance grantees and contractors.

In FY 1998, NTTAC finalized the jurisdictional team training and technical assistance packages on critical needs in the juvenile justice system, updated the resource catalog, facilitated the annual OJJDP training and technical assistance grantee and contractor meeting, continued to update the repository of training and technical assistance materials and the electronic database of training and technical assistance materials, and continued to respond to training and technical assistance requests from the field.

In FY 1999, NTTAC was operated by OJJDP staff with the support of the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse, providing clearinghouse services and maintenance of the 800 number. The Fourth Grantee-Contractor meeting was

conducted by OJJDP staff in Chicago and the training and technical protocols developed in 1998 were discussed for final issue. These are being finalized and will be disseminated in FY 2000. A contract was awarded to Caliber Associates to continue implementation of the Center.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, Caliber Associates. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

OJJDP Management Evaluation Contract

This contract was competitively awarded in FY 1999 to Caliber Associates for a period of 3 years to provide OJJDP with an expert resource to perform independent program evaluations and assist in implementing evaluation activities. Evaluations may be conducted on OJJDP-funded programs and on other programs designed to prevent and treat juvenile delinquency. The time and cost of each evaluation depends on program complexity, availability of data, and purpose of the evaluation. Because the purpose of many evaluations is to inform management decisions, the completion of an evaluation and submission of a report may be required in a specific and, often, short time period.

This program will be implemented by the current contractor, Caliber Associates. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

OJJDP Technical Assistance Support Contract—Juvenile Justice Resource Center

This contract has been competitively awarded since the mid-1980's when OJJDP identified the need for technical assistance support in carrying out its mission. The Juvenile Justice Resource Center (JJRC) provides technical assistance and support to OJJDP, its grantees, and the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in the areas of program development, evaluation, training, and research. With assistance from expert consultants, JJRC coordinates the peer review process for OJJDP grant applications and grantee reports, conducts research and prepares reports on current juvenile justice issues, plans meetings and conferences, and provides administrative support to various Federal councils and boards.

This contract will be implemented by the current contractor, Aspen Systems Corporation. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency

Since 1986, this longitudinal study has addressed a variety of issues related to juvenile violence and delinquency and has produced a massive amount of information on the causes and correlates of delinquent behavior. Three project sites participate: Institute of Behavioral Science, University of Colorado at Boulder; Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, University of Pittsburgh; and Hindelang Criminal Justice Research Center, University at Albany, State University of New York. These projects are designed to improve the understanding of serious delinquency, violence, and drug use by examining how youth develop within the context of family, school, peers, and community. The three sites engage in both collaborative and site-specific research. From the beginning, the three research teams have worked together to ensure that certain core measures are identical across the sites. This strengthens the findings from these projects by allowing for replications of findings in individual sites and enabling cross-site analyses.

Results from the study have been used extensively in the field of juvenile justice and contributed significantly to the development of OJJDP's Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders and other program initiatives. Over the years, findings from the Causes and Correlates research have been presented in a number of OJJDP Bulletins and Fact Sheets. In an effort to make these important findings increasingly accessible to the public, OJJDP recently added to its Web site a subpage devoted to the Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency. This subpage, under the "Programs" topic of the OJJDP Web site, includes descriptions of the individual projects and a bibliography of all the publications resulting from these projects.

In the upcoming year, the Causes and Correlates projects will continue collaborative and site-specific analyses of the data. Topics for upcoming reports will include defining characteristics and predictors of very young offending, delinquency and victimization at school, and the causes of violence in disadvantaged neighborhoods. In addition, there are plans for a meeting to bring together all the Federal agencies that have contributed to the Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency to discuss future plans and directions for these projects.

This program will be implemented by the current grantees. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Safe Futures: Partnerships To Reduce Youth Violence and Delinquency

OJJDP is awarding grants of up to \$1.4 million annually to each of six communities for a 5-year project period that began in FY 1995, to assist in implementing comprehensive community programs designed to reduce youth violence and delinquency. Boston, MA; Contra Costa County, CA; Fort Belknap, MT (tribal site); Imperial County, CA (rural site); St. Louis, MO; and Seattle, WA, were competitively selected to receive awards under the SafeFutures program on the basis of their substantial planning and progress in community assessment and strategic planning to address delinquency.

SafeFutures seeks to prevent and control youth crime and victimization through the creation of a continuum of care in communities. This continuum enables communities to be responsive to the needs of youth at critical stages of their development by providing an appropriate range of prevention, intervention, treatment, and sanctions programs.

Each of the six sites will continue to provide a set of services that builds on community strengths and existing services and fills in gaps within their existing continuum. These services include family strengthening; after school activities; mentoring; treatment alternatives for juvenile female offenders; mental health services; day treatment; graduated sanctions for serious, violent, and chronic juvenile offenders; and gang prevention, intervention, and suppression. During the fourth year of the project, specific attention will be given to care coordination and program sustainability.

A national evaluation is being conducted by the Urban Institute to determine the success of the initiative and track lessons learned at each of the six sites. OJJDP has also committed a cadre of training and technical assistance (TTA) resources to SafeFutures through a full-time TTA coordinator for SafeFutures and a host of partner organizations committed to assisting SafeFutures sites.

SafeFutures activities will be carried out by the six current grantees. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Technical Assistance for State Legislatures

Since FY 1995, OJJDP has awarded annual grants to the National Conference of State Legislatures to provide relevant, timely information on comprehensive approaches in juvenile justice to aid State legislators in improving State juvenile justice systems. Nearly every State has enacted, or is considering, statutory changes affecting the juvenile justice system. This project has helped policymakers understand the ramifications and nuances of juvenile justice reform. The grant has improved capacity for the delivery of information services to legislatures. The project also supports increased communication between State legislators and State and local leaders who influence decisionmaking regarding juvenile justice issues.

The project will be implemented by the current grantee, the National Conference on State Legislatures. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Telecommunications Assistance

OJJDP uses information technology and distance training to facilitate access to information and training for juvenile justice professionals. This cost-effective medium enhances OJJDP's ability to share with the field salient elements of the most effective or promising approaches to various juvenile justice issues. In FY 1995, OJJDP awarded a competitive grant to Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) to produce live satellite teleconferences. To date, EKU has produced 21 telecasts. In FY 1999, OJJDP continued the cooperative agreement with EKU to provide program support and technical assistance for a variety of information technologies and to explore linkages with key constituent groups to advance mutual information goals and objectives. During the past year, EKU has experimented with cybercasting "live" satellite videoconferences on the Internet.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, Eastern Kentucky University. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center at Prairie View A&M University—Enhancing Personal Training and Understanding Minority Overrepresentation in the Juvenile Justice System

This 3-year project was initially funded in FY 1998. The purpose of the program was to create the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center at Prairie View A&M University (the

Center) and to have the Center undertake three initial tasks. These tasks included the development of a master's degree in Forensic Psychology, the development of a training institute for the coordinators of 13 community youth development projects, and a study to investigate the factors contributing to the disproportionate representation of minority youth in the Texas juvenile justice system.

The master's degree in Forensic Psychology includes a minimum of 30 semester hours, exclusive of thesis. The development of the curriculum and an instrument to test its effectiveness will occur in the first 2 years of the grant. The courses for the master's degree will be taught in the second and third years with the testing of the effectiveness of the curriculum being completed by the end of the third year. The objectives of this curriculum development are to increase the understanding, knowledge, and skills of in-service professionals regarding juvenile behaviors; to increase the number of qualified professionals working with juvenile offenders; and to decrease the number of juveniles who become repeat offenders.

The training institute at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) will focus training on the coordinators of the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services Community Youth Development Project. The 12 counties in Texas with the highest number of juvenile arrests were selected to design comprehensive approaches to support families and enhance the positive development of youth. PVAMU is offering the project coordinators program management and evaluation skills courses. Each year for 3 years an intensive 2-week course will be offered to the coordinators on managing and monitoring service delivery and basic research and evaluation skills development.

Funding in FY 2000 will allow PVAMU to implement and test the curriculum that has been developed in the first 2 years, hold a third 2-week seminar that develops skills in managing and monitoring services and basic research and evaluation skills of the youth development coordinators, and continue support for the study of the overrepresentation of minorities in the Waller County Juvenile Court.

The project will be implemented by the current grantee, the Texas Juvenile Crime Prevention Center at Prairie View A&M University. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Training and Technical Assistance
Coordination for the SafeFutures and
Safe Kids/Safe Streets Initiatives

OJJDP will continue funding for long-term training and technical assistance to the SafeFutures and Safe Kids/Safe Streets initiatives. This coordination effort builds local capacity for implementing and sustaining effective continuum-of-care and systems change approaches in six SafeFutures and five Safe Kids/Safe Streets sites. Project activities include assessment, identification, and coordination of the implementation of training and technical assistance needs at each of the sites and the administration of cross-site training.

This program will be implemented by the current grantee, Patricia Donahue. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Public Safety and Law Enforcement

Child Development–Community-
Oriented Policing (CD–CP)

The Child Development–Community-Oriented Policing (CD–CP) program is an innovative partnership between the New Haven Department of Police Services and the Child Study Center at the Yale University School of Medicine that addresses the psychological burdens on children, families, and the broader community as children witness increasing levels of community violence. In FY 1993, OJJDP provided support to document Yale-New Haven's child-centered, community-oriented policing model. The model consists of interrelated training of police officers, consultation, and teaming mental health clinicians with law enforcement in intervening onsite with children and families who witness violence. OJJDP, with first-year support from the Office of Justice Programs' Bureau of Justice Assistance, funded a 3-year replication of the model in Buffalo, NY; Charlotte, NC; Nashville, TN; and Portland, OR. Other OJP components joined OJJDP in funding an expansion of CD–CP in FY 1998. This expansion moved the project into school-based activities and the area of addressing exposure to violence in domestic settings and will continue to do so in FY 2000.

This project will be continued by the current grantee, the Yale University School of Medicine, in collaboration with the New Haven Department of Police Services. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Education on Gun Violence and Safety

OJJDP will continue partnering with the Bureau of Justice Assistance to

support Education on Gun Violence and Safety. This project seeks to educate gunowners and parents about how to safely use and store guns and how to protect children from gun violence.

Through a coordinated communications, education, grassroots, and media campaign, the project will reach gunowners and other caring adults with important information on preventing youth's illegal access to and unlawful use of guns. In FY 2000, based upon critical communications research with gunowners, the communications campaign will disseminate appropriate educational materials.

The program will be implemented by the current grantee, the National Crime Prevention Council and the Ad Council. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Evaluation of the Comprehensive
Community-Wide Approach to Gang
Prevention, Intervention, and
Suppression Program

OJJDP will continue funding this evaluation in FY 2000. Under a competitive cooperative agreement awarded in FY 1995, the evaluation grantee assisted the five program sites (Bloomington, IL; Mesa, AZ; Riverside, CA; San Antonio, TX; and Tucson, AZ) in establishing realistic and measurable objectives, documenting program implementation, and measuring the impact of this comprehensive approach. It has also provided interim feedback to the program implementors and trained the local site interviewers. The grantee will continue to gather and analyze data required to evaluate the program, monitor and oversee the quality control of data, provide assistance for completion of interviews, and provide ongoing feedback to project sites.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the University of Chicago, School of Social Service Administration. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Evaluation of the Partnerships To
Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence Program

This project began with a competitive award in FY 1997 to document and evaluate the process of community mobilization, planning, and collaboration needed to develop a comprehensive, collaborative approach to reducing gun violence involving juveniles. The Partnerships to Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence Program is being implemented in three sites: Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Oakland, California; and Syracuse, New York. The grantee, COSMOS Corporation, will complete data collection for the impact portion of

this evaluation and submit a final report in the next year. In addition to working with the three Partnership sites, COSMOS Corporation completed work in FY 1998 on the Promising Strategies To Reduce Gun Violence Report. COSMOS will develop a training and technical assistance protocol based on its experience with the Partnership sites and the gun violence report. This training and technical assistance package will be used with additional communities across the country that are focused on reducing gun violence through a collaborative planning process.

This evaluation and training development will be implemented by the current grantee, COSMOS Corporation. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Evaluation of the Rural Gang Initiative

This initiative is a continuation of ongoing efforts to test OJJDP's Comprehensive Gang Model. In FY 1999, four rural sites began conducting comprehensive assessments of their local gang problem and engaging in program design to implement the Comprehensive Gang Model. These sites are Elk City, OK; Glenn County, CA; Mt. Vernon, IL; and Longview, WA. The National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) is conducting case studies to document and analyze the 1-year community assessment and program planning efforts in the four sites. These case studies will contribute to the development of a model approach to assessment of community gang problems in rural areas. NCCD will also be developing an outcome evaluation design for sites that are funded to implement the model in subsequent years. FY 2000 funding will support the first year of the outcome evaluation.

This program will be implemented by the current grantee, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Evaluation of the Transfer of
Responsibility for Child Protective
Investigations to Law Enforcement
Agencies

In response to concerns about the increasing demands on public child welfare agencies, the safety of children, and the effectiveness of law enforcement and social service agencies to deliver critical services, the State of Florida has passed legislation that allows for the transfer of the entire responsibility for child protective investigations to a law enforcement agency. Currently, three counties in Florida are in various stages of

implementing this transfer of responsibility. This project will compare the outcomes in the three counties where responsibility is being transferred to the Sheriff's Office with three comparison counties in the State of Florida. The project will primarily be concerned with whether children are safer, whether perpetrators of severe child abuse are more likely to face criminal sanctions, and whether there are impacts on other parts of the child welfare system. Also, a thorough process evaluation will be conducted to describe and compare the implementation process across the three counties.

This project will be conducted by the School of Social Work at the University of Pennsylvania. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Gang Prevention Through Targeted Outreach (Boys & Girls Clubs)

The purpose of this program is to enable local Boys & Girls Clubs to prevent youth from entering gangs, intervene with gang members in the early stages of gang involvement, and divert youth from gang activities into more constructive programs. This program reflects the ongoing collaboration between OJJDP and the Boys & Girls Clubs to reduce problems of juvenile delinquency and violence. The Boys & Girls Clubs of America provides training and technical assistance to local gang prevention and intervention sites, including some at SafeFutures and OJJDP Comprehensive Gang sites, and other clubs and organizations through regional trainings and national conferences. In FY 1999, the Boys & Girls Clubs added as many as 30 new gang prevention sites, 5 new gang intervention sites, and at least 2 "Targeted Reintegration" sites where clubs work to provide services to youth returning to the community from juvenile correctional facilities to prevent them from returning to gangs and violence. The Boys & Girls Clubs of America will also hold a Delinquency and Gang Prevention Symposium in March 2000. A national evaluation of this program is being implemented by Public/Private Ventures.

This program will be implemented by the current grantee, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Juvenile Justice Law Enforcement Training and Technical Assistance Program

Over the past decade, alarming reports of youth violence have appeared

with increasing frequency in publications and the news media. Law enforcement agencies across the Nation are responding to this sense of national emergency by changing many of their policies and practices to cope with juvenile crime and victimization.

The Juvenile Justice Law Enforcement Training and Technical Assistance Program examines adolescent violence in the United States both as a social phenomenon and a policy issue. The program covers the range of youth violence issues from crime statistics to new legislation. The program also sets forth comprehensive analysis of key areas of youth violence policy and practice: youth firearm possession and use, school violence and safety, youth-oriented community policing, gang and drug involvement, serious habitual offenders, multidisciplinary communitywide youth violence reduction strategies, police management of youth programs, tribal juvenile crime, and Chief Executive Officer responses to delinquency and violence.

Throughout the program, the core issues of youth violence are examined through an appropriate set of responses to youth violence that are consistent with effective police practice and a positive future for America's youth. In addition, key leaders from law enforcement, prosecution services, the courts, corrections, probation, and other juvenile justice agencies are offered information, materials, solutions to management issues, and technical assistance in the prevention and control of youth crime.

FY 1998 and 1999 funds supported the continuation of eight State, local, and tribal program workshops: The Chief Executive Officer Youth Violence Forum (CEO Forum); Managing Juvenile Operations (MJO); Gang, Gun, and Drug Policy; School Administrators for Effective Operations Leading to Improved Children and Youth Services (SAFE POLICY); Youth-Oriented Community Policing; Tribal Justice Training and Technical Assistance; the Serious Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP); and the Youth Violence Reduction Comprehensive Action Program.

This program will be implemented by the current grantee, the International Association of Chiefs of Police under a cooperative agreement with OJJDP. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

National Youth Gang Center

The proliferation of gang problems over the past two decades led OJJDP to develop a comprehensive, coordinated

response to America's gang problem. This response involved five program components, one of which was implementation and operation of the National Youth Gang Center (NYGC). Competitively funded with FY 1994 funds to expand and maintain the body of critical knowledge about youth gangs and effective responses to them, NYGC provides support services to the National Youth Gang Consortium, composed of Federal agencies with responsibilities in this area. NYGC is also providing technical assistance for the Rural Gang Initiative planning and assessment phase. OJJDP will extend the NYGC project an additional year and provide FY 2000 funds to NYGC to (1) conduct more indepth analyses of the National Youth Gang Survey results that track changes in gang membership and gang-related crime, (2) produce timely information on the nature and scope of the youth gang problem, and (3) continue efforts to foster integration of gang-related items into other relevant surveys and national data collection efforts.

This program will be implemented by the current grantee, the Institute for Intergovernmental Research. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Partnerships To Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence

OJJDP will award continuation grants to each of three competitively selected communities that initially received funds in FY 1997 to increase the effectiveness of existing youth gun violence reduction strategies by enhancing and coordinating prevention, intervention, and suppression strategies and strengthening linkages among community residents, law enforcement, and the juvenile justice system. Baton Rouge, LA; Oakland, CA; and Syracuse, NY, were selected to receive 3-year awards. The goals of this initiative are to reduce juveniles' illegal access to guns and address the reasons they carry and use guns in violent exchanges. A national evaluation currently under way will document the process of community mobilization, planning, and collaboration needed to develop a comprehensive, collaborative approach to reducing juvenile gun violence.

The Partnerships To Reduce Juvenile Gun Violence program will be carried out by the three current grantees, Baton Rouge, LA; Oakland, CA; and Syracuse, NY. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Rural Gang Initiative Demonstration Sites

In FY 1999, OJJDP supported four rural communities (Elk City, OK; Glenn County, CA; Longview, WA; and Mount Vernon, IL) to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the local youth gang problem in these communities. Each site has collected relevant data from multiple sources, including police, schools, courts, and community residents, and has gathered various types of data, including gang crime data, data on the presence of risk factors for gang membership, community demographics, and community surveys and focus groups. Once data collection is complete, the communities will use these data in a comprehensive program planning process to adapt and implement the OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model. In FY 2000, OJJDP will support these communities in the implementation of the OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model. An independent evaluation of this effort will also be conducted, along with technical assistance through the National Youth Gang Center.

This initiative will be implemented by the four current grantees: Elk City, OK; Glenn County, CA; Longview, WA; and Mount Vernon, IL. No additional applications will be solicited for this initiative in FY 2000.

Technical Assistance to Gang-Free Schools and Communities Initiatives

In FY 1999, OJJDP began planning for a potential school-centered gang initiative and a multisite replication of the OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model. In FY 2000, OJJDP will fund the National Youth Gang Center to provide technical assistance during the developmental stages of this initiative and during the implementation of these efforts in selected communities across the country. The National Youth Gang Center is currently providing technical assistance on OJJDP's model to communities involved in OJJDP's Rural Gang Initiative and to other OJJDP grantees.

OJJDP will provide a supplemental award to the National Youth Gang Center to provide the technical assistance. No new applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Training and Technical Assistance for the Rural Gang Initiative

In FY 1998, OJJDP provided supplemental funding support to the National Youth Gang Center to provide training and technical assistance to demonstration sites under OJJDP's Rural Gang Initiative. In FY 2000, training and

technical assistance will continue to be provided to those sites chosen to implement the OJJDP Comprehensive Gang model. Training and technical assistance will focus on adapting the OJJDP model to rural jurisdictions and on implementing the model in a theoretically sound manner. Assistance will be delivered through onsite visits, conferences, meetings, and other means such as telephone and electronic media.

This initiative will be implemented by the current grantee, the National Youth Gang Center. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Delinquency Prevention and Intervention

America's Promise: Enhanced Collaboration

The Presidents' Summit for America's Future held in April 1997 in Philadelphia represented the first-ever call to action by all living Presidents on a social initiative to encourage concerned citizens, communities, and the business, nonprofit, and government sectors to work together to improve the lives of children in the United States. The goals of America's Promise, the 501.c.3 established by General Colin Powell in response to this summit, state that young people should have access to five fundamental resources that are necessary to maximize their potential: (1) An ongoing relationship with a caring adult (mentor, tutor, coach); (2) safe places and structured activities during nonschool hours to learn and grow; (3) a healthy start; (4) marketable skills through effective education; and (5) an opportunity to give back through community service. Hundreds of communities and organizations have made commitments to reaching these goals. OJJDP has been supporting those commitments through its various programs and initiatives over the past 2 years but now will commit funding support to America's Promise, to enhance the program's focus on volunteerism, and to support further coordination and expansion of existing community resources, service programs, and initiatives that address the needs of the Nation's children and youth.

The program will be implemented by America's Promise. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Arts and At-Risk Youth

OJJDP will provide continuation funding for an afterschool and summer arts program that combines the arts with job training and conflict resolution skills. This project includes summer

jobs or paid internships to enable youth to put into practice the job and conflict resolution skills they are learning. By combining the arts with practical life experiences, at-risk youth gain valuable insights into their own abilities and the possibilities that await them in the world of work if they continue to attend school, study, and graduate. The goal of this program is to prevent and reduce the incidence of juvenile delinquency, crime, and other problem behaviors (e.g., substance abuse, teen pregnancy, truancy, and dropping out of school) in at-risk youth 14 to 17 years old by providing a multicomponent arts program that includes life skills training, the link between art and employment, and practical experiences in the workforce. In FY 1999, in collaboration with the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program of the U.S. Department of Education, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the U.S. Department of Labor, OJJDP awarded grants to three competitively selected communities (Chicago, IL; Philadelphia, PA; and Tulsa, OK) to develop and implement this pilot demonstration program in the arts. The grantees are receiving training and technical assistance support through a provider selected by the National Endowment for the Arts and OJJDP.

This program will be implemented by the current grantees, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Tulsa. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Arts Programs for Juvenile Offenders in Detention and Corrections

OJJDP will provide continuation support for arts programs for youth in juvenile detention centers and corrections facilities. This initiative is designed to increase opportunities to establish visual, performing, media, and literacy artist-in-residence programs in juvenile detention centers and corrections facilities. The corrections and detention sites are encouraging the development of these programs by convening interested arts organizations and juvenile justice agencies to provide training in arts program development to three competitively selected demonstration sites (Gainesville, TX; Riviera Beach, FL; and Rochester, NY) and three competitively selected enhancement sites (Bronx, NY; Seattle, WA; and Whittier, CA). The demonstration sites will develop and implement new arts-based programs for adjudicated youth, and the enhancement sites will demonstrate practices that have achieved sustainable programs. In addition to being required

to provide juvenile offenders in detention and corrections facilities with arts programming, sites also are required to develop collaborative arts programs for youth returning to their communities. The grantees are receiving training and technical assistance support through a provider selected by the National Endowment for the Arts and OJJDP.

This program will be implemented by the six current grantees. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Assessing Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Disorders Among Juvenile Detainees

This project will supplement an ongoing National Institute of Mental Health longitudinal study assessing alcohol, drug, and mental health disorders among juveniles in detention in Cook County, Illinois. The project has three primary goals: (1) To determine how alcohol, drug, and mental disorders develop over time among juvenile detainees; (2) to investigate whether juvenile detainees receive needed psychiatric services after their cases reach disposition (and they are back in the community or serving sentences); and (3) to study the development of dangerous and risky behaviors related to violence, substance use, and HIV/AIDS. The study is investigating how violence, drug use, and HIV/AIDS risk behaviors develop over time, what the antecedents of these behaviors are, and how these behaviors are interrelated. This project is unique because the sample is so large: it includes 1,833 youth from Chicago who were arrested and interviewed between 1996 and 1998. The sample is stratified by gender, race (African American, non-Hispanic white, Hispanic), and age (10–13, 14–17). Initial interviews have been completed, and extensive archival data (arrest and incarceration history, health and mental health treatment, etc.) collected on each subject. The investigators have been tracking the subjects, and are now beginning to reinterview the adolescents. Because of their extensive and thorough tracking procedures, the investigators will be able to reinterview subjects regardless of whether they are back in the community, incarcerated, or have left the immediate area. The large sample size will provide sufficient statistical power to study rarer disorders (especially comorbidity), patterns of drug use, and risky, life-threatening behaviors. OJJDP funding for this project began in FY 1998.

The project will be implemented by the current grantee, Northwestern

University. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Communities In Schools, Inc.—Federal Interagency Partnership

This program will continue an ongoing national school dropout prevention model developed and implemented by Communities In Schools, Inc. (CIS). CIS, Inc., provides training and technical assistance in adapting and implementing the CIS model in States and local communities. The model brings social, employment, mental health, drug prevention, entrepreneurship, and other resources to high-risk youth and their families in the school setting. Where they exist, CIS State organizations assume primary responsibility for local program replication during the Federal Interagency Partnership. The Partnership is based on enhancing (1) CIS, Inc., training and technical assistance capabilities; (2) CIS capability to introduce selected initiatives for youth at the local level; (3) the information dissemination capability of CIS; and (4) the capability of CIS to network with Federal agencies on behalf of State and local CIS programs. With OJJDP's support, CIS, Inc. will place a special focus within the CIS Network on family strengthening initiatives that benefit both youth and their families.

The program will be implemented by the current grantee, Communities In Schools, Inc. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

A Demonstration Afterschool Program

The Demonstration Afterschool Program was funded in FY 1998 as a pilot afterschool program to reduce juvenile delinquency and increase school retention. This program, known as Estrella, offers the basic building blocks that are critical for preventing juvenile delinquency and provides youth with a chance to succeed academically and physically in an environment that is conducive to learning. Through a curriculum of hands-on science and reading projects and supervised recreation, Estrella is providing a constructive alternative to afternoons of unsupervised free time. Elementary students are the target population for this effort. New Mexico Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (NM MESA) provides the academic component of the program, and middle and high school students act as mentors to the elementary students in a highly interactive learning environment. The Regents of the University of New Mexico's Institute for Social Research designed this program and is evaluating it, using both

qualitative and quantitative methods. This project is at two sites, Loma Linda and Desert Trail Schools in the Gadsden Independent School District, in Don Ana County, New Mexico, and serves approximately 50 middle school students and 100 elementary school students from the six Gadsden High School feeder schools.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the Regents of the University of New Mexico. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Diffusion of State Risk- and Protective-Factor-Focused Prevention

Since FY 1997, OJJDP has provided funds to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, through an interagency agreement, to support this 5-year study of the public health approach to prevention, focusing on risk and protective factors for substance abuse at the State and community levels. The study is identifying factors that influence the adoption of the public health approach and assessing the association between this approach and the levels of risk and protective factors and substance abuse among adolescents. The study will also examine State substance abuse data gathered from 1988 through 2001 and use interviews to describe the process of implementing the epidemiological risk- and protective-factor approach in Colorado, Kansas, Illinois, Maine, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the Social Development Research Group at the University of Washington School of Social Work. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Evaluation of the Truancy Reduction Demonstration Program

In FY 1999, OJJDP awarded funds to eight sites around the country to implement truancy reduction projects. These sites included Athens, GA; Contra Costa, CA; Honolulu, HI; Houston, TX; Jacksonville, FL; King County, WA; Suffolk County, NY; and Tacoma, WA. Grantees represent a diversity of models and geographic locations. OJJDP also selected the Colorado Foundation for Families and Children (CFFC) to conduct the national evaluation of the Truancy Reduction Demonstration Program. As part of the evaluation, CFFC will (1) determine how community collaboration can impact truancy reduction and lead to systemic reform, and (2) assist OJJDP in the development of a community collaborative truancy reduction program model and identify the essential

elements of that model. To this end, CFFC is helping project sites to further identify and document the nature of the truancy problem in their communities, enhance the process of effective truancy reduction planning and collaboration, and incorporate that process into the implementation of the Truancy Reduction Demonstration Program at each site. In addition, CFFC is assisting sites in collecting information on truant youth and documenting services. The project is scheduled to last 3½ years.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, Colorado Foundation for Families and Children. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Intergenerational Transmission of Antisocial Behavior Project

The purpose of this project is to expand on the Rochester Youth Development Study by examining the development of antisocial behavior and delinquency in the children of the original Rochester, NY, subjects of OJJDP's Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency. By age 21, 40 percent of the original Rochester subjects were parents. This provides a unique opportunity to examine and track the development of delinquent behavior across three generations in a particularly high-risk sample. Results of the study should provide useful findings with policy implications for prevention programs. The program is being funded under an FY 1998 interagency agreement between OJJDP and the National Institute of Mental Health.

The project will be implemented by the current grantee, SUNY Research Foundation. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Investing in Youth for a Safer Future—A Public Education Campaign

OJJDP will continue its support, which began in FY 1997, of the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) advertising campaign Investing in Youth for a Safer Future through the transfer of funds to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) under an intra-agency agreement. OJJDP and BJA are working with the NCPC Media Unit to produce, disseminate, and support effective public service advertising and related media to inform the public of effective solutions to juvenile crime and to motivate young people and adults to get involved and support these solutions. The featured solutions include effective prevention programs and intervention strategies.

The program will be administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance through

its existing grant to the National Crime Prevention Council. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Multisite, Multimodal Treatment Study of Children With Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

OJJDP will transfer funds under an interagency agreement with the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to support this research, funded principally by NIMH. In 1992, NIMH began a study of the long-term efficacy of stimulant medication and intensive behavioral and educational treatment for children with attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Although ADHD is classified as a childhood disorder, up to 70 percent of afflicted children continue to experience symptoms in adolescence and adulthood. The study will continue through 2000 and will follow the original families and a comparison group. OJJDP's participation, which began in FY 1998, will allow for investigation into the subjects' delinquent behavior and contact with the legal system, including arrests and court referrals.

OJJDP will support this study through an interagency agreement with the National Institute of Mental Health. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

National Center for Conflict Resolution Education

Funded under a competitively awarded cooperative agreement in FY 1995, the National Center for Conflict Resolution Education works to integrate conflict resolution education (CRE) programming into all levels of education in schools, juvenile facilities, and youth-serving organizations. In FY 1998, OJJDP entered into a partnership with the U.S. Department of Education to expand and enhance this project. The grantee provides training and technical assistance through onsite training and consultation for teams from schools, communities, and juvenile facilities; by providing resource materials including Conflict Resolution Education: A Guide to Implementing Programs in Schools, Youth-Serving Organizations, and Community and Juvenile Justice Settings and an enhanced, interactive CD-ROM that teaches conflict resolution skills through the presentation of real-life situations that confront young people; and by partnering with State-level agencies to establish State training institutes and otherwise build local capacity to implement successful CRE programs for

youth. The Center also facilitates peer-to-peer mentoring.

The project will be implemented by the current grantee, the Illinois State Bar Association—Illinois LEARN. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Partnerships for Preventing Violence

This program will continue for a second year in a multiple funding agreement among OJJDP, the U.S. Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to provide support for distance training using satellite videoconferencing as the medium. The project, funded under a 3-year grant, consists of a series of six live, interactive satellite training broadcasts that focus on violence prevention programs and strategies that have proven promising or effective. The training is targeted to school and community violence prevention personnel, health care providers, law enforcement officials, and other service providers representing a variety of community-based and youth-serving organizations. To date, three events have been held with a fourth planned by October 15, 1999.

The project will be implemented by the current grantee, Harvard University School of Public Health. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Proactive Youth Program

In FY 1998, OJJDP funded the New Mexico Proactive Youth Program. The New Mexico Police Activities League (PAL) has implemented a statewide prevention project consisting of recreational, educational, and cultural activities for at-risk youth and their families. The goal of this effort is to reduce negative behavior and promote healthy behavioral patterns among New Mexico's youth by providing activities that unite youth with law enforcement officers, educators, and other positive adult role models. PAL programs and activities are open to all youth between the ages of 5 and 18 and their families. Special outreach efforts are made to target at-risk youth, including children from persistently low-income families, children with incarcerated family members, Native American youth living on reservations, and juveniles involved in gang activities. Local PAL programs have been initiated in the following New Mexico communities: Bloomfield, Cochiti, Gallup, Las Cruces, Lordsburg, Roswell, Santa Fe, and Tohatchi. During FY 2000, additional programs will be developed in Clovis, Grants, and Silver City and in Dona Ana County. This

program is being evaluated by the Regents of the University of New Mexico's Institute for Social Research. The research design includes a process and outcome evaluation that will document and assess the implementation, effectiveness, and impact of this program.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the Regents of the University of New Mexico. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Professional Development in Effective Classroom and Conflict Management

This North Carolina pilot initiative was designed to improve classroom management and to assist in the creation of safe learning environments. Funds will be awarded in FY 2000 to the current grantee, the Center for the Study of School Violence, to complete the initial phase of its pilot in partnership with the University of North Carolina and the North Carolina State Board of Education. The purpose of the pilot program is to increase the ability of teachers and administrators to model and use sound conflict resolution practices by integrating skills training into preservice curriculums at North Carolina schools of education and by working with the North Carolina State Board of Education to change curriculum requirements to include conflict resolution skills training in the context of effective classroom management.

The project will be implemented by the current grantee, the Center for the Study of School Violence. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Risk Reduction Via Promotion of Youth Development

This program, also known as Early Alliance, is a large-scale prevention study involving hundreds of African American and Caucasian children in several elementary schools in lower socioeconomic neighborhoods of Columbia, SC. This project is designed to promote coping-competence and reduce risk for conduct problems, aggression, substance use, delinquency and violence, and school failure beginning in early elementary school. Children are being followed longitudinally throughout the 5 years of the project. The program is funded through an interagency agreement with the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), whose grantee is the University of South Carolina. Funding has also been provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

This program will be implemented under the interagency agreement with the National Institute of Mental Health by the current grantee, the University of South Carolina. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Strengthening Services for Chemically Involved Children, Youth, and Families

The U.S. Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services (HHS) provide services to children affected by parental substance use or abuse. OJJDP administers this training and technical assistance program, which began in FY 1998, with funds transferred to OJJDP by HHS's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, through a cooperative agreement with the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA), a nonprofit organization. CWLA recognizes that children and youth in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems are among the most at risk for developing an alcohol or other drug problem (AOD). Typically these children have more risk factors than other children and fewer protective factors. This is especially true of youth in residential placement who have often witnessed or committed violent acts, have been physically or psychologically abused, have experienced failure and truancy in school, and have mental health and substance abuse problems.

Staff members in the residential child care system often have little or no substance abuse training. CWLA's 1997 AOD survey documented that less than 25 percent of State child welfare agencies provide training to group residential staffs on recognizing and dealing with AOD problems. What further complicates this matter is that partnerships between AOD programs and child welfare facilities rarely exist, creating a lack of coordinated services for children of substance abusers and/or for substance abusing youth in residential care.

As a 2-year project, CWLA will identify five residential child welfare sites, one in each of the CWLA's five regions, to demonstrate the effectiveness of integrating AOD prevention/treatment strategies into existing child welfare and juvenile justice programs and services, in order to educate staff and improve outcomes for adolescents participating in the programs. CWLA will also provide technical assistance to other member agencies replicating the various program models identified through their evaluations of the programs.

This jointly funded project will be implemented by CWLA. No additional

applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Training and Technical Assistance Program for the Arts Programs for Juvenile Offenders in Detention and Corrections Initiative

OJJDP is collaborating with the National Endowment for the Arts in providing the technical assistance program for the Arts Programs for Juvenile Offenders in Detention and Corrections Initiative. Grady Hillman has been awarded a grant to provide technical assistance in the area of art-based programming for juvenile offenders to support program development and implementation; provide ongoing technical assistance, and publish a document on the implementation of arts programming in juvenile corrections and detention. The technical assistance will be for the purpose of ensuring focused, professional technical support for program development and implementation, including program design, artist selection and training, and interaction between the arts organizations and the juvenile justice system. The technical assistance materials that will be developed through this national initiative will provide a blueprint for communities that seek to undertake similar programs. The nature of the Arts Programs for Juvenile Offenders in Detention and Corrections affords a unique opportunity to develop new programs and enhance existing programs while creating documentation instrumentations for the juvenile justice system. The sites provided technical assistance are Bronx, NY; Gainesville, TX; Riviera Beach, FL; Rochester, NY; Seattle, WA; and Whittier, California.

This program will be implemented by the current grantee, Grady Hillman. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Truancy Reduction Demonstration Program

In FY 1998, OJJDP, the Executive Office for Weed and Seed within the Office of Justice Programs, and the U.S. Department of Education jointly engaged in a grant program to address truancy. This program specifically outlines four major comprehensive components: (1) System reform and accountability, (2) a service continuum to address the needs of children and adolescents who are truant, (3) data collection and evaluation, and (4) a community education and awareness program from kindergarten through grade 12 that addresses the need to prevent truancy and to intervene with youth who are truant. The goals of this

program are to develop and implement or expand and strengthen comprehensive truancy programs that pool education, justice system, law enforcement, social services and community resources; identify truant youth; cooperatively design and implement comprehensive, systemwide programs to meet the needs of truant; and design and maintain systems for tracking truant youth. OJJDP has awarded funds for this program to eight sites: three non-Weed-and-Seed sites received up to \$100,000 each (Honolulu, HI; Jacksonville, FL; and King County, WA), and five Weed and Seed sites received up to \$50,000 each (Athens, GA; Houston, TX; Martinez, CA; Tacoma, WA; and Yaphank, NY). All sites are currently involved in a 6-month planning phase.

It is anticipated that during the next 2 years, this program will focus on the development of implementation and evaluation plans that link youth and adolescents who are truant with community-based services and programs, as well as on a full implementation of the community's comprehensive systemwide plan to prevent and intervene with the problem of truancy. This program will be evaluated by the Colorado Foundation for Families and Children who will conduct a process evaluation that will identify factors contributing or impeding the successful implementation of a truancy program.

Truancy activities will be carried out by the current grantees. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Strengthening the Juvenile Justice System

Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) Training Project

The BARJ project's goal is to control juvenile delinquency through increased use of restitution, community service, and other innovative programs as part of a jurisdictionwide juvenile justice change from traditional retributive or rehabilitative system models to balanced and restorative justice orientation and procedures. The specific steps for achieving this goal involve preparation of materials and training of personnel interested in restorative justice and the "balanced approach." The steps also include providing onsite technical assistance to selected State and local jurisdictions committed to implementing the balanced approach. Materials development in FY 2000 will include documents containing information on restorative justice programs, practices, and policy

directions. The materials will be useful for training juvenile justice system practitioners and managers on the BARJ model and for onsite technical assistance. The training and technical assistance will be delivered at regional and national roundtables, juvenile justice conferences, and specialized workshops. "Training of trainers" programs will also be offered. There will be some concentration of BARJ technical assistance at the State level and on advancing judges' and prosecutors' leadership in the area of restorative justice. Further, there will be an effort to involve corporations and foundations in supporting BARJ and initial exploration of introducing BARJ in higher education.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, Florida Atlantic University. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Building Blocks for Youth

The goals of this initiative are to protect minority youth in the justice system and promote rational and effective juvenile justice policies. These goals are accomplished by the following components: (1) Conducting research on issues such as the impact on minority youth of new State laws and the implications of privatization of juvenile facilities by profit-making corporations; (2) undertaking an analysis of decisionmaking in the justice system and development of model decisionmaking criteria that reduce or eliminate disproportionate impact of the system on minority youth; (3) building a constituency for change at the national, State, and local levels; and (4) developing communication strategies for dissemination of information. A fifth component, direct advocacy for minority youth, is funded by sources other than OJJDP. Funding by OJJDP began in FY 1998. Youth Law Center has undertaken tasks to move this initiative forward and will require additional time and funding to complete the initial identified goals.

This continuation will be implemented by the current grantee, the Youth Law Center. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement

In FY 1997, the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) replaced the biennial Census of Public and Private Juvenile Detention, Correctional, and Shelter Facilities, known as the Children in Custody census. CJRP collects detailed information on the population of juveniles who are in

juvenile residential placement facilities as a result of contact with the juvenile justice system. New methods developed for CJRP are expected to produce more accurate, timely, and useful data on the juvenile population, with less reporting burden for facility respondents. The CJRP was conducted for the second time in October 1999. Data collection efforts will continue into 2000. OJJDP anticipates delivery of the final data file by the end of FY 2000.

This program will be implemented through an existing interagency agreement with the Bureau of the Census. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Center for Students With Disabilities in the Juvenile Justice System

During FY 1999, OJJDP undertook a joint initiative with the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, U.S. Department of Education to establish a Center for Students with Disabilities in the Juvenile Justice System. The Secretary of Education and the Attorney General expect this project to have a significant impact on the improvement of juvenile justice system services for students with disabilities. Improvements in the areas of prevention, educational services, and reintegration based on a combination of research, training, and technical assistance will lead to improved results for children and youth with disabilities. The Center for Students with Disabilities in the Juvenile Justice System will provide guidance and assistance to States, schools, justice programs, families, and communities to design, implement, and evaluate comprehensive educational programs, based on research-validated practices, for students with disabilities who are within the juvenile justice system.

This program will be implemented by the University of Maryland through an award by the U.S. Department of Education. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Circles of Care Program

In FY 1998, the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) initiated a program entitled "Circles of Care" to build the capacity of selected Native American Tribes to develop a continuum of care for Native American youth at risk of mental health, substance abuse, and delinquency problems. As part of multiyear joint efforts with CMHS, OJJDP entered into a 3-year interagency agreement to provide funding support to the Circles of Care Program. OJJDP transferred funds in FY's 1998 and 1999 to CMHS to support the funding of one of nine sites. The

Circles of Care Program is designed to facilitate the planning and development of a continuum of care.

The currently funded projects will continue in FY 2000 through an interagency agreement with the Center for Mental Health Services. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Community Assessment Center

The Community Assessment Center (CAC) program is a multicomponent demonstration initiative designed to test the efficacy of the CAC concept. CAC's provide a 24-hour centralized point of intake and assessment for juveniles who have or are likely to come into contact with the juvenile justice system. The main purpose of a CAC is to facilitate earlier and more efficient prevention and intervention service delivery at the "front end" of the juvenile justice system. In FY 1997, OJJDP funded two planning grants and two enhancement grants to existing assessment centers for a 1-year project period, a CAC evaluation, and a technical assistance component.

Based on a limited competition among the four sites, in FY 1998, OJJDP provided additional funding for 12 months to one of the initial planning sites (Lee County Sheriff's Office in Lee County, FL) and to one of the initial enhancement sites (Jefferson Center for Mental Health in Jefferson County, CO). The two other sites (Human Service Associates, Inc. (HSA) in Orlando, FL, and the Denver Juvenile Court in Denver, CO) received increased funding from Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant funds to develop a fully operational CAC, including all four CAC conceptual elements. Increased funding was also provided to the national evaluator, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.

During year 2, the Lee County Sheriff's Office worked to design and implement a comprehensive management information system that will serve as the backbone of the future assessment center. The Jefferson Center for Mental Health further enhanced its assessment center by conducting an intensive review of existing assessment tools and enhancing the case management process. In addition, both Denver and Orlando (HSA) began developing fully operational CAC's.

In FY 2000, OJJDP will provide additional funding to support the full implementation of OJJDP's CAC concept to the current grantees in Denver and Orlando. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Comprehensive Children and Families Mental Health Training and Technical Assistance

Under an FY 1999 interagency agreement, OJJDP transferred funds to the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) to support the new contract for training and technical assistance for the CMHS-funded Comprehensive Mental Health sites. These funds will be used to enhance the involvement of the juvenile justice system in the systems of care that are being developed in each of the CMHS-funded sites. Funds will again be transferred to CMHS in FY 2000 to support the training and technical assistance and to meet the terms of the 3-year interagency agreement.

OJJDP will support this initiative through an interagency agreement with the Center for Mental Health Services. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Development of the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders

OJJDP has been providing support for development of its Comprehensive Strategy for several years. This project will complete ongoing strategic planning efforts in two States, Oregon and Wisconsin, and provide implementation support in six States that have completed the strategic planning process. OJJDP will also explore the addition of two or more Comprehensive Strategy States in FY 2000. As in the original eight States, up to six local jurisdictions will be identified to receive Comprehensive Strategy planning training and technical assistance. OJJDP will continue to provide technical assistance to further assist States and local jurisdictions, through training and technical assistance, in developing and implementing the Comprehensive Strategy. Further development and update of the Guide for Implementing the Comprehensive Strategy for Serious, Violent, and Chronic Juvenile Offenders will be completed in FY 2000.

This project will be implemented by the current grantees, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency and Developmental Research and Programs, Inc. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Evaluation of the Department of Labor's Education and Training for Youthful Offenders Initiative

This evaluation will document the activities undertaken by two States awarded grants under the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL's)

Education and Training for Youthful Offenders Initiative. Each DOL grantee will provide comprehensive school-to-work education and training within a juvenile correctional facility and followup and job placement services as youth return to the community. It is intended that the comprehensive services developed under these grants will serve as models for other juvenile correctional facilities across the country.

The OJJDP-sponsored evaluation of these projects will be conducted in two phases. During Phase I, a process evaluation will be conducted at each site to document the extent to which educational, job training, and aftercare services were enhanced with DOL funding. Also, the feasibility of conducting an impact evaluation at each site will be determined during Phase I. Phase II will entail conducting an impact evaluation at one or both sites. For those sites where a rigorous impact evaluation can be conducted, the effects of the program on job-related skills, employment, earnings, academic performance, and recidivism will be measured.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Evaluation of the Intensive Community-Based Aftercare Program

In FY 1995, OJJDP competitively awarded a grant to the National Council on Crime and Delinquency to perform a process evaluation and design an outcome evaluation of the Intensive Community-Based Aftercare Demonstration and Technical Assistance Program. In FY 1998, the project was supplemented and extended for an additional 2 years to continue the outcome evaluation, which seeks to determine the extent of the differences between the Intensive Community-Based Aftercare Program (IAP) participants and the "regular" parolees, the supervision and services provided to both groups, and the cost-effectiveness of IAP. Data collection is being accomplished using several methods including searching State police records to measure recidivism and analyzing State agency and juvenile court data to estimate costs.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Evaluation of Teen Courts

This project, which OJJDP began in FY 1997, is measuring the effect of

handling young, relatively nonserious law violators in teen courts rather than in traditional juvenile or family courts. Researchers are collecting data on several dimensions of program outcomes, including postprogram recidivism and changes in teens' perceptions of justice and their ability to make more mature judgments. Analyses of these dimensions will be used to compare youth handled in at least three separate teen court programs with those processed by the traditional juvenile justice system. In addition, the study will conduct a process evaluation of the teen court programs, exploring legal, administrative, and case processing factors that affect the ability of the programs to achieve their goals.

This evaluation will be implemented by the current grantee, the Urban Institute. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Helping Communities To Promote Youth Development

OJJDP will continue to provide support to the Institute of Medicine/ National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences for a review and synthesis of existing evidence regarding the effectiveness of community-level interventions and service programs designed to promote positive youth development. The strengths and limitations of measurement and methodologies used to evaluate these interventions will be assessed, as well as policy and programmatic implications of this research. In addition to a final report that will synthesize the work of the committee, brief summary "fact sheets" will be widely disseminated to policymakers, local decisionmakers, program administrators, service providers, researchers, community organizers, and other key stakeholders.

OJJDP will implement this program through an interagency agreement with the National Academy of Sciences. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Intensive Community-Based Aftercare Dissemination and Technical Assistance Program

This initiative supports implementation, training and technical assistance, and an independent evaluation of an intensive community-based aftercare model in three competitively selected demonstration sites. The overall goal of the intensive aftercare model is to identify and assist high-risk juvenile offenders to make a gradual transition from secure confinement back into the community. The Intensive Aftercare Program (IAP)

model has three distinct, yet overlapping segments: (1) Prerelease and preparatory planning activities during incarceration, (2) structured transitioning involving the participation of institutional and aftercare staffs both prior to and following community reentry, and (3) long-term reintegrative activities to ensure adequate service delivery and the required level of social control. The three sites will complete 5 years of program development and implementation in FY 2000. Followup data collection will continue into FY 2000 to capture information on youth who transitioned back into the community. In late FY 1999, Johns Hopkins University, the current grantee, will shift its focus from primarily providing training and technical assistance to grantees to developing a comprehensive dissemination, training, and technical assistance effort to State juvenile justice systems throughout the United States.

The IAP project will be implemented by the current grantee, the Johns Hopkins University. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 1999.

Juvenile Defender Training, Technical Assistance, and Resource Center

In FY 1999, OJJDP competitively funded the American Bar Association (ABA) to develop and implement the Juvenile Defender Training, Technical Assistance, and Resource Center (Juvenile Defender Center) to support training and technical assistance and to serve as a clearinghouse and resource center for juvenile defenders in this country. Recognizing that a lack of training, technical assistance, and resources for juvenile defenders weakens the juvenile justice system and results in a lack of due process for juvenile offenders, OJJDP provided seed money in FY 1999 to fund the initial planning and implementation of a Juvenile Defender Center. The grantee is expected to develop a partnership with other agencies and organizations that will provide or help develop financial resources to assist in sustaining a permanent Center. The Center will be designed to provide both general and specialized training and technical assistance to juvenile defenders in the United States. The design will also incorporate a resource center for purposes such as serving as a repository for the most recent litigation on key issues, a collection of sample briefs, and information on expert witnesses.

This project will be carried out by the current grantee, the American Bar Association. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Juvenile Justice Prosecution Unit

This American Prosecutors Research Institute project's goal is to increase and improve prosecutor involvement in juvenile justice. The Project will pursue continuing needs assessment by a working group of experienced prosecutors regarding district attorney requirements in the juvenile area. The project will design and present specialized training events for elected and appointed district attorneys and for juvenile unit chiefs. The training will deal with prosecutor leadership roles in the juvenile justice system and with the clarification or resolution of important juvenile justice issues. Such issues are expected to include juvenile policy, code revisions, resource allocation, charging, transfer to criminal courts, alternative juvenile programs, confinement, record confidentiality, and collaboration with other agencies. Training will also address certain evolving juvenile justice areas, such as community prosecution, community justice, restorative justice, community assessment centers, and mental health concerns, among others. In addition, the project will continue to develop training and reference materials pertaining to significant juvenile justice topics.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the American Prosecutors Research Institute. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Juvenile Residential Facility Census

As part of a long-term relationship with the Bureau of the Census, OJJDP will continue to fund the development and testing of a new census of juvenile residential facilities. This census will focus on those facilities that are authorized to hold juveniles based on contact with the juvenile justice system. From interviews with facility administrators and staff at 20 locations, project staff have produced a detailed report discussing how best to capture information on education, mental health and substance abuse treatment, health services, conditions of custody, staffing, and facility capacity. Project staff have also drafted and tested a questionnaire based on the interview results. The census was tested in October 1998. Census Bureau staff will prepare a report on the results of this test and make specific recommendations concerning changes and census implementation. In 2000, OJJDP and Census will work together to finalize the census format and data collection methods. The census will be administered for the first time in October 2000.

This project will be conducted through an interagency agreement with the Bureau of the Census, Governments Division and Statistical Research Division. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Linking Balanced and Restorative Justice and Adolescents (LIBRA)

This project addresses effective interventions with the at-risk and delinquent youthful population of Vermont, combined with Vermont's determination to raise, support, teach, and nurture youth in their communities. As a rural state, Vermont faces many of the same issues plaguing larger, urban States, including underage drinking, drug abuse, education failure, and mental health issues. The goal of this program is to continue development of a comprehensive, integrated, balanced, and restorative system of justice for youthful offenders that holds them accountable for their actions to victims, protects the community, builds offender skills and competencies, and offers opportunities for positive connections to community members. OJJDP funding for the program began in FY 1998. Based on the Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) philosophy of reparation, rather than retribution, the LIBRA project has created a network of Juvenile Reparative Boards, which hold youth immediately accountable for their actions and provide direct services to youth, parents, victims, and community members. The project will also continue to pilot Community Justice Centers, which demonstrate that the community is the core of the justice process and recognize youth as a vital part of the community. Also, a curriculum of Competency Training Classes for youthful offenders and youth at risk of delinquency will be maintained and will focus on conflict resolution, social skills, problem solving, and decisionmaking.

This program will be implemented by the current grantee, the Vermont Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Longitudinal Study To Examine the Development of Conduct Disorder in Girls

The purpose of this project is to examine the development of conduct disorder in a sample of 2,500 inner-city girls who are ages 6 to 8 at the beginning of the study. The study will follow the girls annually for 5 years and will provide information that is critical to the understanding of the etiology, comorbidity, and prognosis of conduct disorder in girls. This project is

important because delinquency in girls has been steadily increasing over the past decade and a better understanding of the developmental processes in girls will help in identifying effective means of prevention and provide direction for juvenile justice responses to delinquent girls. The program is being funded under an FY 1999 interagency agreement between OJJDP and the National Institute of Mental Health.

The project will be implemented by the current grantee, the University of Pittsburgh. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

National Juvenile Justice Data Analysis Project

In 1998, OJJDP established the National Juvenile Justice Data Analysis Project (NJJDAP) to serve the critical information needs of the juvenile justice community and OJJDP. The NJJDAP produces analyses and disseminates statistical information to the public and to State and local policymakers. The project serves as a principal resource to accentuate and enhance OJJDP's ability to provide quality information to the field of juvenile justice. The project uses many national data sources to examine issues critical to the juvenile justice system. The data sources used are not limited to criminal justice or juvenile justice data. In 1999, the NJJDAP has produced analyses based on the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (NLSY), operated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The NLSY is a national self-report survey of youth that includes several measures of juvenile offending. Also, the NJJDAP has produced analyses of the Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement.

The project will be implemented by the current grantee, the National Center for Juvenile Justice. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

National Juvenile Justice Program Directory

To conduct its statistical functions, OJJDP must maintain a current and accurate list of all entities surveyed either in the various censuses or in surveys. This list currently consists of a complete list of juvenile residential facilities and a list of juvenile probation offices. As OJJDP expands its statistical work, it will need to expand this listing as well. The list needs to contain contact information for the various facilities or agencies and appropriate information for sampling. During 2000, the Census Bureau will continue to maintain the currently available portions of the directory and will explore expansions needed to monitor

other areas of juvenile justice such as nonresidential correctional programs and juvenile court staff.

This project will be conducted through an interagency agreement with the Bureau of the Census, Governments Division. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

The National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 97

OJJDP will continue to support the third round of data collection, begun in FY 1997, by the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 97 (NLSY97) through an interagency agreement with the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The NLSY97 is studying school-to-work transition in a nationally representative sample of 8,700 youth ages 12 to 16 years old. BLS is also collecting data on the involvement of these youth in antisocial and other behavior that may affect their transition to productive work careers. The survey provides information about risk and protective factors related to the initiation, persistence, and desistance of delinquent and criminal behavior and provides an opportunity to determine the generalizability of findings from OJJDP's Program of Research on the Causes and Correlates of Delinquency and other longitudinal studies to a nationally representative population of youth.

The program will be implemented by the BLS under an interagency agreement. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Performance-Based Standards for Juvenile Correction and Detention Facilities

Performance-Based Standards for Juvenile Correction and Detention Facilities Program, which began with a competitive OJJDP cooperative agreement awarded to the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA) in FY 1995, has developed a performance management system for the management of juvenile correctional facilities. The system provides tools for monitoring and improving outcomes in six critical facility functions: providing security, safety, order, health care, educational, and mental health programming within a context that protects individual rights. Currently, 32 facilities, including 2 State systems, have begun the implementation process, which consists of the data collection and analysis of baseline data; the development of an initial facility improvement plan, which may include financial support to make improvements; and reassessment and revision of the facility improvement

plan. During FY 2000, the program itself is undergoing refinements to improve management of the process for the facilities. In addition, approximately 15 new sites will begin the process, using streamlined data collection and new diagnostic tools. In addition to working with the participating facilities during this funding period, the project will finalize the implementation model; revise instruments, as needed; and develop criteria for determining full implementation, including the testing of community release measures. Where appropriate, the project will establish performance benchmarks and develop analytical reports regarding facility and system change that has occurred in the test sites.

This program will be implemented by the current grantee, the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

San Francisco Juvenile Justice Local Action Plan—Delancy Street Initiative

In FY 1998, OJJDP provided funding to the City and County of San Francisco, CA, to support the implementation of a comprehensive effort to reform the city's juvenile justice system. San Francisco's Comprehensive Juvenile Justice Local Action Plan, facilitated by the Delancy Street Foundation CIRCLE (Coalition to Revitalize Communities, Lives and Environments), represents the culmination of a unique, collaborative needs assessment of the existing juvenile justice system. Based on this assessment, San Francisco identified six of the most critical gaps in the juvenile justice system and proposed programs to fill those gaps: Community Assessment and Referral Center, Early Risk and Resiliency, Safe Haven, Safe Corridor, the Life Learning Academy, and the Life Learning Residential Center for Girls. These six programs originated from the needs assessment and are a product of teams composed of representatives from San Francisco and its diverse communities.

In FY 1999, OJJDP provided funding to enhance services offered at the Life Learning Residential Center (Academy), an intensive life-changing, day treatment program designed to turn around the lives of youth with multiple problems that include multigenerational poverty, gang involvement, drug abuse, disciplinary problems, and school dropouts and failure. The Academy aims to strengthen a youth's bond with his family and extended family and the community, while providing complete "life learning" instruction and education. Funding will also be used for

program replication throughout the country.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the City and County of San Francisco, in FY 2000. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Survey of Juvenile Probation

OJJDP will continue to support the development of a survey of juvenile probation offices. This survey will lead directly to national estimates of the numbers of juveniles on probation at a given time. OJJDP began this effort in 1996 with assessments of current knowledge of probation and the need for information on this aspect of juvenile justice. The development efforts have so far included site visits to three State probation departments and local probation departments in those States. An additional seven States will be visited in the coming year. Based on this information, the Center for Survey Methods Research (CSMR) at the Bureau of the Census will develop a survey methodology and a survey questionnaire. The plans for this survey have expanded by necessity to include efforts (already under way under a separate agreement with the Bureau of the Census) to list and categorize juvenile probation offices nationally. Working with OJJDP, the Census Bureau will develop a list of probation offices and several categorizations of these offices to facilitate the development of a sampling scheme. In the coming year, OJJDP and the Census Bureau will continue working on the specifications for this list and continue efforts to develop the list. Also, working with the Governments Division of the Bureau of the Census, OJJDP will continue to take the steps needed to implement the survey. OJJDP anticipates the first Survey of Juvenile Probation will take place in calendar year 2002.

This project will be conducted through an interagency agreement with the Bureau of the Census. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Technical Assistance to Native American Tribes and Alaskan Native Communities

The Technical Assistance to Native American Tribes and Alaskan Native Communities Program is designed to equip tribal governments with the necessary information and tools to enhance or develop comprehensive, systemwide approaches to reduce juvenile delinquency, violence, and victimization and increase the safety of their communities. In FY 1997, OJJDP awarded a 3-year cooperative agreement

to the American Indian Development Associates (AIDA) to provide training and technical assistance to Indian nations seeking to improve juvenile justice services to children, youth, and families.

Throughout FY's 1998 and 1999, AIDA continued to provide technical assistance to Indian nations and developed information materials for Indian juvenile justice practitioners, administrators, and policymakers. Topic areas covered Indian youth gangs; personnel competency building, such as conducting effective preadjudication investigations and preparing reports; developing protocols to implement State Children's Code provisions that affect Native American children; establishing sustainable, comprehensive community-based planning processes that focus on the needs of tribal youth; and developing and implementing culturally relevant policies, programs, and practices. The technical assistance and materials also addressed the overlapping roles and jurisdiction of Federal, State, and tribal justice systems, particularly in understanding the laws and public policies applicable to or effective in Indian communities.

In FY 2000, OJJDP will continue to promote and provide technical assistance to tribes seeking to develop and enhance their juvenile justice systems. AIDA will provide training and technical assistance in the following emphasis areas: Developing a community-based secondary prevention program; developing a tribal justice probation system; developing multidisciplinary approaches to youth gang violence prevention; establishing risk assessment and classification systems; developing comprehensive strategies to handle offenders; expanding referral and service delivery systems; developing cooperative interagency and intergovernmental relationships; and developing technology to improve systems and increased access to juvenile justice information.

This program will be implemented by the current grantee, the American Indian Development Associates. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

TeenSupreme Career Preparation Initiative

In FY 1998, OJJDP, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL's) Employment and Training Administration, provided funding support to the Boys & Girls Clubs of America to demonstrate and evaluate the TeenSupreme Career Preparation Initiative. This initiative provides

employment training and other related services to at-risk youth through local Boys & Girls Clubs with TeenSupreme Centers. In FY 1998, DOL funds supported program staffing in the existing 41 TeenSupreme Centers, and in 1999, the number of sites was expanded to 45. These 45 clubs are provided funding support to hire an employment specialist to work with the youth. Boys & Girls Clubs of America provides intensive training and technical assistance to each site and administrative and staffing support to the program from the national office. OJJDP funds support the evaluation component of the program, which is being implemented by an independent evaluator.

This jointly funded Department of Labor and OJJDP initiative will be implemented by the current grantee, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 1999.

Training and Technical Support for State and Local Jurisdictional Teams To Focus on Juvenile Corrections and Detention Overcrowding

Through systemic change within local juvenile detention systems or statewide juvenile corrections systems, this project seeks to reduce overcrowding in facilities where juveniles are held. Competitively awarded in FY 1994 to the National Juvenile Detention Association (NJDA), in partnership with the San Francisco Youth Law Center, the project provides training and technical assistance materials for use by State and local jurisdictional teams. NJDA selected three jurisdictions (Camden, NJ; Oklahoma City, OK; and the Rhode Island Juvenile Corrections System) for onsite development, implementation, and testing of procedures to reduce crowding. All three original sites have completed their work. The grantee is exploring additional sites for comprehensive training and technical assistance in FY 2000. NJDA will also be initiating its Jurisdictional Team Training Course in FY 2000 at three sites that are experiencing overcrowding in their juvenile facilities.

This project will be implemented by the current grantee, the National Juvenile Detention Association. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Child Abuse and Neglect and Dependency Courts

National Evaluation of the Safe Kids/Safe Streets Program

OJJDP will continue funding the grant competitively awarded in FY 1997 to Westat, Inc., Rockville, MD, for a national evaluation to document and explicate the process of community mobilization, planning, and collaboration that has taken place before and during the Safe Kids/Safe Streets awards; to inform program staff of performance levels on an ongoing basis; and to determine the effectiveness of the implemented programs in achieving the goals of the Safe Kids/Safe Streets program. The initial 18-month grant began a process evaluation and an assessment of the feasibility of an impact evaluation. Westat will continue the process evaluation, which will now focus on tracking the implementation efforts at each of the sites; continue developing the national impact evaluation; and continue working with local evaluators to develop their capacity to evaluate programs. Also, Westat will add a fifth site to the evaluation.

This evaluation will be implemented by the current grantee, Westat, Inc. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Nurse Home Visitation

In FY 2000, OJJDP will continue the integration of Prenatal and Early Childhood Nurse Home Visitation into five Operation Weed and Seed sites (Clearwater, FL; Fresno, CA; Los Angeles, CA; Oakland, CA; and Oklahoma City, OK) and one combined Weed and Seed/Safe Futures site (St. Louis, MO). Operation Weed and Seed is a national initiative to make communities safe through law enforcement activities and to rebuild crime-ridden communities across the country through social services and economic redevelopment. SafeFutures is an OJJDP initiative to assist in implementing comprehensive community programs designed to reduce youth violence, delinquency, and victimization through the creation of a continuum of care in communities. The integration of the Prenatal and Early Childhood Nurse Home Visitation Program is co-funded by OJJDP, OJP's Executive Office for Weed and Seed, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Several rigorous studies of the Prenatal and Early Childhood Nurse Home Visitation Program model indicate that it reduces the risks for early antisocial behavior and prevents

problems associated with youth crime and delinquency, such as child abuse, maternal substance abuse, and maternal criminal involvement. A 15-year followup of the original Nurse Home Visitation program found that adolescents whose mothers received home visitation services over a decade earlier were less likely to have run away, been arrested, and been convicted of a crime than those whose mothers had not received a nurse home visitor. They also had lower levels of cigarette and alcohol use.

The current program being implemented in the six sites targets low income, first-time mothers and their infants to accomplish three goals: (1) Improve pregnancy outcomes by helping women alter their health-related behaviors, including use of cigarettes, alcohol and drugs; improve their nutrition; and reduce risk factors for premature delivery; (2) improve child health and development by helping parents provide more responsible and competent care for their children; and (3) improve families' economic self-sufficiency by helping parents develop a vision for their own future, plan future pregnancies, continue their education, and find work.

The project will be implemented by the current grantee, the University of Colorado Health Services Center. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Research on Child Neglect

In FY 2000, OJJDP will continue to join several other Federal agencies, including the Office of Justice Program's National Institute of Justice, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Department of Health and Human Services' National Institutes of Health and Administration on Children, Youth, and Families (the Neglect Consortium), in funding research projects that will enhance understanding of the etiology, extent, services, treatment, management, and prevention of child neglect. This multiagency effort addresses the lack of research focusing specifically on the issue of child neglect. Child neglect may relate to profound health consequences, place children at higher risk for a variety of diseases and conditions, and interfere with normal social, cognitive, and affective development. Thus, child neglect is a serious public health, justice, social services, and education problem, not only compromising the immediate health of the Nation's children, but also threatening their growth and intellectual development, their long-term physical and mental health outcomes, their propensity for prosocial behavior, their future

parenting practices, and their economic productivity.

The research studies funded by this initiative can focus on a range of issues, including, but not limited to, the following: the antecedents of neglect; the consequences of neglect; the processes and mediators accounting for or influencing the effects of neglect; and treatment, preventive intervention, and service delivery.

This program will be implemented through an interagency agreement with the National Institutes of Health. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

Safe Kids/Safe Streets: Community Approaches To Reducing Abuse and Neglect and Preventing Delinquency

This 5½ year demonstration program is designed to foster coordinated community responses to child abuse and neglect. Several components of the Office of Justice Programs joined in FY 1996 to develop this coordinated program response to break the cycle of early childhood victimization and later criminality and to reduce child abuse and neglect and resulting child fatalities. OJJDP awarded competitive cooperative agreements in FY 1997 to five sites (Chittenden County, VT; Huntsville, AL; Kansas City, MO; the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, MI; and Toledo, OH). Funds were provided by OJJDP, the Executive

Office for Weed and Seed, and the Violence Against Women Office.

In FY 2000, continuation awards will be made to each of the current demonstration sites. No additional applications will be solicited in FY 2000.

The programs described above will further OJJDP's goals and help to consolidate and continue the gains made in the past few years in combating juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP welcomes comments on this Proposed Program Plan.

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Shay Bilchik,

Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

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