



Youth Healing to Wellness Courts

CTAS PURPOSE AREAS

- 1** COPS Office's Public Safety and Community Policing (COPS Office), CFDA #16.710
- 2** Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning (BJA, COPS Office, OJJDP, OVC), CFDA #16.608
- 3** BJA's Tribal Justice Systems (BJA), CFDA #16.608
- 4** BJA's Tribal Justice System Infrastructure Program (BJA), CFDA #16.596
- 6** OVC's Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities (OVC), CFDA #16.583
- 8** OJJDP's Youth Healing to Wellness Courts (OJJDP), CFDA #16.585
- 9** OJJDP's Tribal Youth Program (OJJDP), CFDA #16.731

For additional information on the Youth Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts program, contact:

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HISTORY

OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 established the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system. In December 2018, the Juvenile Justice Reform Act (JJRA) of 2018 was signed into law, reauthorizing and substantially amending the JJDP Act. ojjdp.ojp.gov/about/legislation OJJDP collaborates with professionals from diverse disciplines to improve juvenile justice policies and practices by supporting states, local communities, and Tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for youth.

OJJDP's three priorities reflect the Office's guiding philosophy: to enhance the welfare of America's youth and broaden their opportunities for a better future. To bring these goals to fruition, OJJDP is leading efforts to transform the juvenile justice system into one that will—

- **Treat Children as Children.** The juvenile justice field's decisionmaking must be informed by science and research to ensure young people are adjudicated fairly and given opportunities to learn and recover from youthful mistakes.
- **Serve Children at Home, With Their Families, in Their Communities** Community-based programs that involve families as a critical component enhance youth outcomes, increase public safety, and strengthen neighborhoods.
- **Open Up Opportunities for System-Involved Youth.** Juvenile justice practitioners must recognize and address the barriers to success that involvement with the juvenile justice system creates for youth.

OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and victimization. The Office helps states, localities, and tribes develop effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that create safer communities and empower youth to lead productive lives.

OVERVIEW

COORDINATED TRIBAL ASSISTANCE SOLICITATION

The Department of Justice (DOJ) launched its Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) in Fiscal Year 2010 in direct response to concerns raised by Tribal leaders about the Department's grant process that did not provide the flexibility Tribes needed to address their criminal justice and public safety needs.

Through CTAS, federally recognized Tribes and Tribal consortia were able, for the first time ever, to submit a single application for most of DOJ's Tribal grant programs. DOJ designed this comprehensive approach to save time and resources and allow Tribes and DOJ to gain a better understanding of the Tribes' overall public safety needs. CTAS is not a program but is the overarching structure, under which ten separate grant program applications are collected.

PURPOSE AREA PROVIDERS



Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs
U.S. Department of Justice
810 Seventh Street NW, 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20531
(202) 616-6500 | www.bja.gov

Email tribalgrants@usdoj.gov for questions regarding the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitations.



U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services
145 N Street NE
Washington, DC 20530
(800) 421-6770 | www.cops.usdoj.gov



Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
810 Seventh Street NW
Washington, DC 20531
(202) 307-5911 | www.ojjdp.gov



Office for Victims of Crime
810 Seventh Street NW, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20531
(202) 307-5983 | www.ovc.gov

CTAS is currently operated through collaborative efforts across many department components, bureaus, and offices, including:

- Executive Office for United States Attorney's (EOUSA)
- Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)
- Office of Justice Programs (OJP) *including:*
 - Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
 - Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
 - Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)
- Office of Tribal Justice (OTJ)

OVERVIEW

YOUTH TRIBAL HEALING TO WELLNESS COURTS

The Youth Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts program was incorporated into the CTAS in Fiscal Year 2015 as Purpose Area 8, the first time that an OJJDP CTAS Purpose Area included a specific court focus. This program aims to develop and enhance the capacity of Tribal court to respond to the alcohol and substance use related issues of youth under the age of 21. This includes the development of a new youth healing to wellness court. The principal objectives of this program include: identifying the relevant data that is being collected with regard to Tribal underage alcohol possession and consumption, and its related issues; inventorying policies, procedures, assessment tools, and services that address youth under age 21 who possess or consume alcohol and suffer from alcohol-related issues; determining gaps in such policies, procedures, assessment tools and services; and developing or enhancing the same. Gaps to be addressed by grantees may include culturally appropriate provisions for right to counsel for persons under age 21 who have substance and/or alcohol-related issues; and judicial policies that work appropriately in Tribal justice systems to allow for delinquent charges/records to be expunged after completion of court-ordered action or programming.

Under this program, grantees can direct funding to develop or enhance an existing youth healing to wellness court in accordance with the OJJDP Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines and the following Tribal Healing to Wellness Court 10 key components:

1. Individual and community healing focus

The court uses a team approach to achieve the physical and spiritual healing of the individual participant and to promote Nation building and the well-being of the community.

2. Referral points and legal process

Participants enter Tribal healing to wellness court through various referral points and legal processes that promote Tribal sovereignty and the participants' due (fair) process rights.

3. Screening and eligibility

Eligible participants are identified early through legal and clinical screening for eligibility. Grant funds may not be used to serve violent offenders. For purposes of this grant program, the term violent offender means a juvenile who has been convicted of or adjudicated delinquent for a felony-level offense that (1) has as an element the use, attempted use, or

threatened use of physical force against the person or property of another or the possession of a firearm; or (2) by its nature involved a substantial risk that physical force against the person or property of another may have been used in the course of committing the offense.

4. Treatment and rehabilitation

Tribal healing to wellness court provides access to holistic, structured, and phased alcohol and drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation services that incorporate culture and tradition.

5. Intensive supervision

Tribal healing to wellness court participants are monitored through intensive supervision that includes frequent and random testing for alcohol and drug use, while participants and their families benefit from effective team-based case management.

6. Incentives and sanctions Progressive rewards (or incentives) and consequences (or sanctions) are used to encourage participant compliance with the Tribal healing to wellness court requirements.

7. Judicial interaction Ongoing involvement of a Tribal healing to wellness court judge with the Tribal wellness court team and staffing and ongoing Tribal wellness court judge interaction with each participant are essential.

8. Monitoring and evaluation Process and performance measurement and evaluation are tools used to monitor and evaluate the achievement of program goals; identify needed improvements to the Tribal healing to wellness court and to the Tribal court process; determine participant progress; and provide information for governing bodies, interested community groups, and funding sources.

9. Continuing interdisciplinary and community education Continuing interdisciplinary and community education promote effective Tribal healing to wellness court planning, implementation, and operation.

10. Team interaction The development and maintenance of ongoing commitments, communication, coordination, and cooperation among Tribal healing to wellness court team members, service providers and payers, the community, and relevant organizations, including the use of formal written procedures and agreements, are critical for Tribal healing to wellness court success.

ONGOING SUPPORT

OJJDP's Tribal Youth training and technical assistance (TTA) center assists selected project sites as they work to achieve their goals and objectives under each of these programs. Through this TTA, OJJDP assists Tribal grantees to increase their skills, knowledge and capabilities in developing effective and sustainable programs for reducing juvenile crime and increasing youth potential in Tribal communities. The TTA provided to the OJJDP CTAS grant recipients includes both onsite visits and long-distance support consisting of email, phone, and online meetings. It also includes the opportunity for peer-to-peer learning through a new grantee orientation and a required initial Strategic Planning meeting (i.e., Strat Pak).

Strategic Planning The Strategic Planning phase was created to support OJJDP CTAS grant recipients through a strategic planning process that includes developing a mission and vision statement, developing an advisory board, creating a logic model, action planning, and communications and sustainability planning. The strategic planning process helps to identify program challenges and strategies to address them and to create partnerships that are important for implementation and sustainability. The Strategic Plan is required by OJJDP as an award condition of the Tribal grant. All grant recipients will be required to travel to a strategic planning training and submit a comprehensive plan for implementation of their program.

The Tribal New Grantee Orientation OJJDP CTAS grant recipients are required to participate in a new grantee orientation. This training provides all new grant recipients an opportunity to meet the OJJDP leadership and program management team. The orientation gives grant recipients the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of key grant administration resources (such as the OJP post-award requirements, DOJ Grants Financial Guide, and reporting requirements) as well as a greater awareness of common shortfall in grant administration. Finally, this training offers an opportunity for grant recipients to ask any questions about the goals, objectives, and key upcoming activities of the Youth Healing to Wellness Courts program.

OJJDP's Tribal Youth TTA center is also available to aid all federally recognized Tribes and can be accessed at www.tribalyouth.org.

FUNDING & ELIGIBILITY

Applicants proposing new, or the enhancement of an existing Youth Healing to Wellness Courts are eligible to apply. Only federally recognized Tribes are eligible to apply for funding under Purpose Area 8 (Youth Healing to Wellness Court). This includes Alaska Native Villages and Tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally recognized Indian Tribes. Please see the CTAS solicitation document for more information on funding amounts.

BENEFITS

The Purpose Area 8 funding provides support for Tribes to implement Youth Healing to Wellness Courts focused on issues related to underage drinking and substance use. The issues of alcohol and substance use and abuse among American Indian and Alaska Native youth is well documented. The rehabilitation and treatment-focused approach of the Healing to Wellness court is supportive of individual needs of the youth and can include programming that honors the culture of each Tribe. Other benefits reported by grant recipients are the increased collaboration with other jurisdictions that results from development of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU's). This can include partnerships between Tribal and non-Tribal organizations.

STRATEGIES

Program examples for youth funded by OJJDP include the Gila River Indian Community Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court which offers a culturally focused program designed to help youth maintain a clean and sober lifestyle. The program consists of four treatment levels that include random drug screening and assessments, substance abuse counseling and educational support services. Each level has specific requirements for promotion to subsequent levels. The program assigns a probation officer to each youth participant to assess needs and assist with resources coordination and outpatient court processes. Youth participating in the program receive ongoing support, transportation and links to peer networks, mentors and elders to support sobriety.

¹Overview of Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts, 2nd Edition, September 2014. A product of the Tribal Law and Policy Institute, West Hollywood, CA.

FUNDING AGENCY OVERVIEW

BJA | OVC | COPS | OJJDP



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

BJA works with the Office of Tribal Justice, the Office of Justice Program's American Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Desk, and other federal agencies, in addition to many culturally appropriate organizations, to maintain focus with the field and to ensure the program's goals and objectives are achieved.



Established in 1988 through an amendment to the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984, **Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)** is charged by Congress with administering the Crime Victims Fund (the Fund). Through OVC, the Fund supports a broad array of programs and services that focus on helping victims in the immediate aftermath of crime and continuing to support them as they rebuild their lives. Millions of dollars are invested annually in victim compensation and assistance in every U.S. state and territory, as well as for training, technical assistance, and other capacity-building programs designed to enhance service providers' ability to support victims of crime in communities across the Nation.



The **Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)** was created through the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The COPS Office is the component of the U.S. Department of Justice responsible for advancing the practice of community policing by the nation's state, local, territory, and Tribal law enforcement agencies through information and grant resources.

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime. The COPS Office has also produced and compiled a broad range of information resources that can help law enforcement better address specific crime and operational issues, and help community leaders better understand how to work cooperatively with their law enforcement agency to reduce crime.



The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, Public Law 93-415, as amended, established the **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)** to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve juvenile justice systems.

A component of the Office of Justice Programs within the U.S. Department of Justice, OJJDP works to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and protect children.

Through its divisions, OJJDP sponsors research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming.

OJJDP envisions a nation where all children are free from crime and violence. Youth contact with the justice system should be rare, fair, and beneficial.

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