Children’s exposure to violence
Juvenile reentry
Tribal youth
Evidence-based practices
Mentoring
Family engagement
Internet crimes against children
Training and technical assistance
At-risk girls
Disproportionate minority contact
Youth violence prevention
Dissemination and outreach
Commercial sexual exploitation of children
Supportive school discipline
Drug courts
Research and evaluation
Juvenile justice reform
Missing and exploited children
Youth in custody
This report covers activities undertaken by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention during fiscal year 2012 (October 1, 2011–September 30, 2012).
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The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking.
To the President, the Attorney General, the President pro tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairmen of the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, and Members of Congress

It is my honor to transmit the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s (OJJDP’s) annual report for fiscal year 2012. This report includes information pursuant to:


- Missing Children Program—JJDP Act of 1974, as amended; Public Law 93–415, section 404(a)(5) [42 U.S.C. 5773(a)(5)].

- Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program—Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968; Public Law 90–351, section 1808(b) [42 U.S.C. 3796ee–8(b)].

- Title V Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs—JJDP Act of 1974, as amended; Public Law 93–415, section 503(4) [42 U.S.C. 5782(4)].

- Boys & Girls Clubs in Public Housing Projects—Economic Espionage Act of 1996; Public Law 104–294, section 401(d) [42 U.S.C. 13751 note].

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Listenbee
Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
FOREWORD

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has two primary responsibilities: to address the needs of youth who have come into contact with the juvenile justice system or are at risk of doing so and to protect children who are victims of abuse, violence, and crime. These purposes are closely connected. In fact, years of research demonstrate that many of the youth who enter the juvenile justice system have previously been exposed to violence.

In fiscal year (FY) 2012, OJJDP awarded nearly $268 million in grants to help at-risk youth, protect children, and improve juvenile justice systems nationwide. In addition to financial support, the Office also provided a wide array of resources for stakeholders.

OJJDP’s National Conference for Children’s Justice and Safety was a major milestone in FY 2012. The conference brought together more than 2,300 juvenile justice professionals, policymakers, researchers, and advocates to focus on key issues in the juvenile justice field. OJJDP also continued its role as an important partner in the Attorney General’s Defending Childhood Initiative to combat children’s exposure to violence, supporting demonstration sites and translating vital research for the field.

In FY 2012, the Office provided funding to states to promote safe conditions for youth in confinement and reduce racial disparities through its Formula Grants program. In addition, OJJDP partnered with federal, state, local, and nonprofit providers to promote youth mentoring; protect young people from violence, abduction, and sexual exploitation; enhance family engagement in the juvenile justice system; and serve youth in Indian country.
Through these efforts and in all of its programs, OJJDP continues to emphasize evidence-based practices. Using proven approaches to juvenile justice and safety is good for our children, our communities, and our budgets. In a time of continuing fiscal challenges, it is both desirable and necessary to implement approaches that have been studied and proven to work. Throughout this report, you will find “Connecting With the Field” sidebars that highlight OJJDP’s efforts to support research, evaluation, and training and technical assistance—and to communicate findings and best practices to the broader juvenile justice community.

As OJJDP works to promote youth justice and safety, we never lose sight of the young victims, at-risk juveniles, and justice-involved youth who so desperately need assistance. After all, advocating for our country’s most vulnerable children is not just a worthy cause—it is our mission.

Robert L. Listenbee
Administrator
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
ABOUT OJJDP

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) was established by Congress through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, Public Law 93–415, as amended. A component of the Office of Justice Programs within the U.S. Department of Justice, OJJDP works to prevent and control juvenile delinquency, improve the juvenile justice system, and protect children.

Vision Statement

OJJDP envisions a nation where our children are healthy, educated, and free from violence. If they come into contact with the juvenile justice system, the contact should be rare, fair, and beneficial to them.

Mission Statement

OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP supports states and communities in their efforts to develop and implement effective and coordinated prevention and intervention programs and to improve the juvenile justice system so that it protects public safety, holds offenders accountable, and provides treatment and rehabilitative services tailored to the needs of youth and their families.

Organization

OJJDP is composed of the Office of the Administrator, three program divisions (Child Protection, Demonstration Programs, and State Relations and Assistance), the Office of Policy Development (including the Communications Unit), and the Grants Management Unit. Appendix C summarizes each component's role.
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When children are exposed to violence, their still-developing voices can be muffled or even silenced. Likewise, when youth enter the juvenile justice system, their voices are too often quieted. Ensuring that our nation’s juvenile justice and child protection systems hear—and listen to—the voices of youth and families is the core responsibility of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

OJJDP partners with juvenile justice practitioners and child safety professionals throughout the country to make sure that the needs of children and families inform policies and programs. The Office set the tone for its collaborative work in fiscal year 2012 with the National Conference for Children’s Justice and Safety, which brought together more than 2,300 experts and professionals and included numerous sessions addressing key issues in juvenile justice.
Following are snapshots of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s (OJJDP’s) major fiscal year (FY) 2012 efforts to ensure that the needs and concerns of youth who have been abused, neglected, locked up, or let down are amplified—so they can be heard loud and clear. More information about these efforts and a variety of other programs and activities is available throughout this report and on the OJJDP Web site: ojjdp.gov.

Funding Highlights

- OJJDP awarded nearly $268 million in grants to help at-risk youth, protect children, and improve juvenile justice systems nationwide. The 363 awards were made through formula, block, and discretionary grant funding.

- Through its Formula Grants program, OJJDP supports state and local efforts to prevent youth from entering the juvenile justice system and to help nonserious offenders turn their lives around. OJJDP awarded more than $27.7 million in formula grants to designated agencies in FY 2012.

- The Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) program provided more than $21.8 million in funding for states and local governments to enhance accountability for youth and for the juvenile justice system. In FY 2012, the program served nearly 300,000 youth and/or families.

- OJJDP continued its longstanding commitment to mentoring programs by awarding more than $68 million to national and local organizations that offer youth mentoring services. Through a partnership with the U.S. Department of Defense, OJJDP is supporting targeted mentoring programs for youth with a parent in the military. The Office is also funding an evaluation of its Mentoring Enhancement Demonstration program, which strives to improve mentoring programs by integrating teaching functions into mentors’ roles.

- A national network of 61 coordinated task forces, the Internet Crimes Against

“Working together, we need to do what is right for America’s children.”

—Melodee Hanes, Principal Deputy Administrator, OJJDP

National Conference for Children’s Justice and Safety: Unite, Build, Lead

More than 2,300 public officials, tribal representatives, juvenile justice practitioners, policymakers, law enforcement professionals, child advocates, educators, and researchers attended the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s National Conference for Children’s Justice and Safety in October 2011. The event featured more than 300 speakers and more than 65 workshops and sessions. With a focus on key issues in the juvenile justice field, the conference included special tracks on children’s exposure to violence, anti-gang strategies, child protection and advocacy, truancy and dropping out, at-risk girls, trends in tribal youth policy, evidence-based practices, and reforming the treatment of juveniles in custody. The conference also included breakout sessions designed to solicit feedback directly from youth and families of youth in the juvenile justice system, as well as a listening session with federal leadership.
Advisory Boards

The Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention coordinates federal programs and activities related to juvenile delinquency prevention and missing and exploited children. Composed of 22 federal agency and practitioner members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Majority Leader, and the President of the United States, the council makes recommendations to Congress regarding juvenile justice policies, objectives, and priorities. The Attorney General serves as chairperson, and the Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) serves as vice chairperson.

The Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (FACJJ) is composed of members of state advisory groups on juvenile justice. FACJJ advises the President and Congress on matters related to juvenile justice, evaluates the progress of juvenile justice activities and projects, and advises the OJJDP Administrator on the work of OJJDP. FACJJ was restructured in fiscal year 2012 to allow for deeper communication and collaboration with the leadership and staff of OJJDP and more timely responses to legislative and policy matters.

Children (ICAC) program combats technology-facilitated child exploitation with proactive investigations and criminal prosecutions. OJJDP awarded the 61 ICAC task forces across the United States $20 million for operations and public education in FY 2012 and provided $5.5 million to support training, technical assistance, and research.

Family drug courts and juvenile drug courts leverage a variety of social and community services to address the underlying drug and alcohol problems of offenders and their families. In FY 2012, OJJDP provided more than $6 million to family and juvenile drug courts throughout the country.

With nearly $2 million in funding from the Office of Management and Budget, OJJDP is administering a new Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Initiative that will help sites identify initiatives with a high return on investment that can be replicated.

Signature Initiatives

- **Defending Childhood** is a major Department of Justice initiative to combat children’s exposure to violence. OJJDP continues to provide support for eight demonstration sites that are developing multidisciplinary approaches to address trauma.

- The **National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention** is a network of cities and federal agencies that work together to prevent and reduce youth and gang violence. Launched in six cities in FY 2011, the forum’s work is already showing promising results, according to an independent, interim assessment. OJJDP provides capacity-building grants to forum cities and facilitated the addition of four cities in FY 2012. Additional grants to support violence-prevention strategies were awarded to other cities through the Community-Based Violence Prevention program.

“Protecting our nation’s children and young people from violence is a responsibility that every American shares. For today’s Justice Department, this work is one of our most important, and most urgent, priorities.”

—Attorney General Eric Holder
The **Supportive School Discipline Initiative** is a joint effort of the Departments of Justice and Education to address harsh and exclusionary school discipline policies that push youth out of school and into the justice system. OJJDP is a key member of the initiative and is helping to develop training materials and other resources for schools, as well as coordinating research and data collection efforts.

**Areas of Focus**

- **OJJDP continues to work to address the unique needs of at-risk girls and girls in the juvenile justice system.** By supporting ongoing research and bringing together stakeholders, the agency strives to promote awareness and inspire systemic changes that will improve outcomes for girls. The Office’s National Girls Institute provides training, technical assistance, and resources for local organizations that serve at-risk girls.
- **OJJDP is working to promote family engagement** and eliminate antiquated approaches to juvenile justice that isolate youth and restrict family involvement. In FY 2012, the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention invited feedback from parents of youth in the system; this feedback will be used to inform future policies and programs.
- **As part of its efforts to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children,** OJJDP has provided ongoing training for law enforcement agencies and offered mentoring programs for victims. The agency also invests in research on successful prevention strategies.
- **OJJDP’s longstanding support for tribal communities** includes discretionary grants, training and technical assistance, research, and an annual youth summit. In FY 2012, the Tribal Juvenile Accountability Discretionary Grants program included 18 active awards. The Tribal Youth and Tribal Juvenile Detention and Reentry Resource and Technical Assistance Centers provided vital information for tribes seeking to improve their services and systems. OJJDP also partnered with a range of federal agencies to help organize the 2012 National Intertribal Youth Summit, which included more than 200 youth and adult leaders from 53 tribal communities and featured seminars, lectures, and special sessions.
CONNECTING WITH THE FIELD

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is helping professionals in the juvenile justice field better serve our nation’s youth by supporting research and evaluation efforts and disseminating information to the field through training and technical assistance, Webinars, and publications.

- **Combating Children’s Exposure to Violence.** As part of the Attorney General’s Defending Childhood Initiative, OJJDP continued its efforts to translate knowledge gleaned from the National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence to make it accessible and useful to practitioners in the field. Newly released bulletins in this publication series included information on polyvictimization, child and youth victimization known to police, intimate partner violence, and victimization and delinquency.

- **Providing a Forum for Research.** In October 2011, OJJDP launched the semiannual, peer-reviewed *Journal of Juvenile Justice* to address a variety of issues in the juvenile justice field. In its first year, the Journal has covered subjects ranging from crossover youth to comprehensive restorative justice programs and from the use of truancy boards to the development of screening tools for runaway youth. The publication is an accessible, practical tool for both researchers and practitioners.

- **Promoting Model Programs.** OJJDP’s online Model Programs Guide (MPG) assists practitioners and communities in implementing evidence-based prevention and intervention programs that can make a difference in the lives of children and communities. The MPG database of more than 200 programs is updated continually and covers the entire continuum of youth services—from prevention to reentry.

- **Delivering Important News.** OJJDP News @ a Glance is a bimonthly, online newsletter that provides constituents with the most up-to-date and comprehensive information about juvenile justice issues. The newsletter, which celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2012, has evolved to meet the changing needs of readers and now has more than 30,000 subscribers.

- **Offering Online Resources.** The JUVJUST electronic listserv along with a comprehensive Web site allow OJJDP to offer stakeholders easy access to important information. JUVJUST provides e-mail notices several times a week about resources, events, funding opportunities, and other news. OJJDP’s Web site includes current information about programs, events, funding opportunities, research, and publications.

- **Supporting Training and Technical Assistance.** OJJDP has made great strides in delivering training and technical assistance (TTA) to juvenile justice professionals throughout the nation. In fiscal year 2012, OJJDP redesigned the National Training and Technical Assistance Center and centralized TTA resources to make them more easily accessible for practitioners in the field. The Office also facilitated information exchanges among its network of 57 TTA providers, enabling them to do more with less by forming partnerships and sharing resources. A new online training center was launched as a cost-effective means to deliver TTA to the field. In addition, OJJDP delivered 18 Webinars on a wide variety of topics to more than 7,500 participants.
or too many children, childhood ends abruptly when they become the victims of or witnesses to violence in their homes, schools, or neighborhoods. Research shows that many of these children are later victimized in other ways, become perpetrators of violence, or engage in dangerous or risky behaviors. An investment in the safety of our children is an investment in the future of our country.

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is committed to promoting youth safety through innovative programs. Efforts range from programs that help victims of abuse and neglect to initiatives that focus on recovery and reentry for juveniles in the justice system. OJJDP also promotes a vigorous research agenda, evaluation programs that continue to test what works, and dissemination efforts that ensure vital information reaches providers in the field.
**Defending Childhood: Combating Children’s Exposure to Violence**

Launched by Attorney General Eric Holder in 2010, the Defending Childhood Initiative aims to prevent children’s exposure to violence, mitigate the negative effects experienced by children exposed to violence, and develop knowledge about and spread awareness of this issue. Defending Childhood is a direct result of the National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence (NatSCEV), a massive research project sponsored by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. NatSCEV researchers found that more than 60 percent of children were exposed to violence, crime, or abuse in the past year.

As part of the Defending Childhood Initiative, Attorney General Holder established a National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence in fiscal year (FY) 2012. Composed of 13 experts from diverse fields, the task force was co-chaired by Robert L. Listenbee, then-Chief of the Juvenile Unit Defender Association of Philadelphia, and Joe Torre, Chairman of the Board of the Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation™ and Major League Baseball’s Executive Vice President for Baseball Operations. From late 2011 through early 2012, the task force held four public hearings around the country to receive input from practitioners, policymakers, academics, and community members about the problem of children’s exposure to violence. The hearings were held in Baltimore, MD; Albuquerque, NM; Miami, FL; and Detroit, MI.

The task force briefed Congress on the public hearings and used the input from the hearings to write a report to the Attorney General that will serve as a blueprint for addressing children’s exposure to violence. A copy of the full report is available at justice.gov/defendingchildhood.

A key component of the Defending Childhood Initiative is the multiyear demonstration program. Since FY 2010, OJJDP has been providing support to eight demonstration sites that are developing multidisciplinary approaches to address trauma. In addition, these sites are working to provide universal screening and assessment as well as evidence-based treatment and interventions to combat children’s exposure to violence. Beyond financial support, the Department of Justice (DOJ) is also providing tailored technical assistance and facilitating information sharing among the sites. In May 2012, representatives from the eight sites gathered in Washington, DC, for a meeting that featured presentations, peer-to-peer exchanges, and dialog with DOJ leadership.

Additional funding is being provided to the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Yale Child Study Center to develop and disseminate resources that will enhance the responses of law enforcement and partner agencies to children exposed to violence.

“It took decades before I finally started to talk about the violence in my childhood. And as the task force has heard from one person after another, things haven’t changed enough. Every child deserves a safe home, a safe school, and a safe community.”

— Joe Torre, Chairman of the Board of the Joe Torre Safe at Home Foundation™, Major League Baseball’s Executive Vice President for Baseball Operations, and co-chair of the Defending Childhood Initiative
Mentoring
Research shows that mentoring programs can improve behavioral, social, emotional, and academic outcomes for at-risk youth. OJJDP has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to supporting mentoring programs at the national and state levels. In FY 2012, OJJDP awarded more than $68 million to national and local organizations to strengthen, expand, and implement youth mentoring activities and youth development programs.

A partnership between the U.S. Departments of Justice and Defense was launched in FY 2011; its purpose was to award funds to support mentoring programs for youth with a parent in the military. The program has begun to make an impact—it is helping children of military service members develop resiliency skills, build healthy lifestyles, acquire career training, and connect with other military families.

To help chart the future of the mentoring field, OJJDP continues to offer new training and research opportunities. OJJDP joined with other partners to host the second annual National Mentoring Summit on January 24–25, 2012, in Washington, DC. The summit brought together major youth mentoring organizations along with government, civic, research, and corporate leaders to evaluate best practices and review new research.

Additional funding was provided to evaluate the effectiveness of OJJDP’s Mentoring Enhancement Demonstration Program, which supports collaborations to help integrate advocacy and teaching functions into the mentor’s role. The Office also funded a study of how system-involved youth receive referrals to mentoring programs; this study became the basis for a forum and a nationwide training program. Several additional studies are investigating the effectiveness of mentoring as a prevention strategy for youth who are at risk of involvement in or who are already involved in the juvenile justice system.

National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention
Launched in FY 2011 at the direction of President Obama, the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention is a network of cities and federal agencies that work together, share information, and build local capacity to prevent and reduce youth and gang violence. The first set of participating cities included Boston, MA; Chicago, IL; Detroit, MI; Memphis, TN; Salinas, CA; and San Jose, CA. An independent, interim assessment of the forum’s work, conducted by John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Temple University’s Department of Criminal Justice, indicated promising results.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America in Underserved Communities
The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) continues to work with Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) to make a significant and lasting impact on the lives of children living in disadvantaged communities.

In fiscal year (FY) 2012, OJJDP awarded $23 million to BGCA to help local clubs launch new programs and enhance existing programs for at-risk youth. The funding enabled clubs to mentor more than 30,000 youth, approximately 80 percent of whom are enrolled in programs proven to reduce substance abuse, crime, and other negative behaviors. BGCA provided mentoring funds to more than 170 clubs in Indian country and approximately 140 clubs in public housing communities. Participating clubs received support and resources to increase the number and quality of mentor-mentee matches for tribal youth. In addition, OJJDP’s FY 2012 funding supported:

- Mentoring programs for military-connected club members in 6 communities and more than 1,000 grants targeting youth in underserved communities.
- Gang Prevention Through Targeted Outreach programs in approximately 18 communities.
- Identification and recruitment of minority male mentors in 10 organizations.

Note: Data for performance measures for BGCA funding are projections. The grant is operating until September 2013.
During FY 2012, OJJDP provided capacity-building grants to forum cities to help implement their local youth violence prevention plans. OJJDP also led a competitive application process that resulted in the selection of four additional cities: New Orleans, LA; Philadelphia, PA; Minneapolis, MN; and Camden, NJ. As these cities begin to formulate and implement their comprehensive plans for addressing youth violence, they will benefit from the experiences of the original six cities.

OJJDP also awarded several grants through its Community-Based Violence Prevention program, some of which went to forum cities. These grants support existing violence prevention programs and strategies that are known to be effective. OJJDP awarded approximately $1.5 million each to Baton Rouge, LA; Detroit, MI; Los Angeles, CA; and Philadelphia, PA, to continue and expand existing programs.

**Reentry**

OJJDP has continued to serve as a central resource for Attorney General Eric Holder’s Federal Interagency Reentry Council. Launched in January 2011, the council convenes 20 federal agencies that work to make communities safer by reducing recidivism and victimization, helping those who return from prison and jail to become productive citizens, and saving taxpayer dollars by lowering the costs associated with incarceration.

Juveniles who are returning to their communities face a variety of challenges. The Federal Interagency Reentry Council released three fact sheets in FY 2012 that address issues facing juveniles and their families during reentry. OJJDP helped to develop the fact sheets, which address the following misperceptions: access to juvenile criminal records is strictly limited, youth can easily return to school after release from juvenile confinement, and Medicaid agencies are required to terminate benefits if an otherwise eligible juvenile is incarcerated.

OJJDP continued to collaborate closely with the Bureau of Justice Assistance in FY 2012 to administer appropriations under the Second Chance Act (SCA). SCA is the first legislation enacted that authorizes federal grants to government agencies and nonprofit organizations to provide employment assistance, substance abuse treatment, literacy classes, housing, family programming, mentoring, and other services to help reduce recidivism and offer ex-offenders a chance to lead productive lives.

OJJDP awarded $1.8 million in funds for the implementation of SCA reentry demonstration programs in sites across the country. Also in FY 2012, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) initiated an evaluation of OJJDP FY 2010 SCA Juvenile Offender Reentry Demonstration Projects. The Office committed more than $3.4 million to support the projects that are being considered for the NIJ evaluation.

**Internet Crimes Against Children**

The Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) program is a national network of 61 coordinated task forces engaged in proactive forensic investigations and criminal prosecutions addressing technology-facilitated child exploitation. In FY 2012, OJJDP awarded $20 million to ICAC task forces for law enforcement operations and public education, as well as more than $5.5 million to support training and technical assistance and research on Internet crimes against children.

Documented complaints of child sexual exploitation from the public and from electronic service providers continued to grow in FY 2012—ICAC task forces received 65,000 complaints as compared to 40,000 in FY 2011. Investigations from these reports led to 5,973 arrests and the forensic examination of more than 48,000 computers.
In addition to investigations and prosecutions, training is a critical element of the ICAC program’s mission. ICAC task forces supported the training of 30,000 law enforcement personnel, 2,000 prosecutors, and more than 9,000 other professionals. In addition, the April 2012 National Strategy Conference on Combating Child Exploitation was the largest training forum on child exploitation ever hosted by the U.S. Department of Justice’s Project Safe Childhood Initiative and the ICAC program. The conference, with 2,000 attendees, featured highly specialized training provided by the ICAC program, its federal partner agencies, and other organizations.

Drug Courts

Family drug courts aim to decrease the incidence of child abuse and neglect, intervene in families with risk factors, and reduce the likelihood of negative outcomes for youth by addressing parents’ substance abuse and providing services for children. In FY 2012, OJJDP provided more than $2.2 million to jurisdictions in Arizona, Colorado, Michigan, and Montana to use best practices to implement a new family drug court or enhance an existing court.

OJJDP also collaborated with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to host a symposium for family drug court professionals in September 2012. The event featured workshops, program design information, research and data, and program evaluations to help professionals implement best practices for family drug courts. During the symposium, OJJDP and the Center for Children and Family Futures announced the selection of five family drug courts as peer learning courts that will highlight national best practice models and offer peer-to-peer technical assistance.

OJJDP also awarded $3.8 million to juvenile drug courts in Florida, North Carolina, and Ohio based on the Reclaiming Futures model. This model brings together juvenile courts, probation, adolescent substance abuse treatment, and the community to improve drug and alcohol treatment for teens and connect them to positive activities and caring adults.

Supportive School Discipline Initiative

Too often, harsh and exclusionary school discipline policies push youth out of school and into the justice system. Recent research by the Council of State Governments Justice Center that tracked nearly 1 million 7th graders in public school for 6 years showed that 60 percent of these students were removed from class at least once, and 15 percent had 11 or more suspensions or expulsions between the 7th and 12th grades. The researchers found that students who were suspended or expelled experienced an increased likelihood of being involved in the juvenile justice system the subsequent year.

The Departments of Justice and Education are working together to keep children in school and out of the justice system. The joint Supportive School Discipline Initiative (SSDI) is directly addressing this problem by collecting best practices for avoiding counterproductive school discipline, coordinating research and data collection efforts, issuing guidance documents to help states and localities address
school discipline more effectively, and developing training and resources to help schools adopt more positive strategies and ensure compliance with civil rights laws.

One of the central pillars of the initiative is to build consensus through a bipartisan process that engages key stakeholders to identify the changes required to provide alternative discipline strategies and ensure safe and positive climates. The consensus-building project is supported by a public-private collaboration between foundation partners and the federal government. The Council of State Governments Justice Center has convened several advisory groups of key stakeholders to begin to shape the consensus and prepare final recommendations for improving school discipline policies and practices. OJJDP is a key member of the SSDI.

**Girls and the Juvenile Justice System**

Addressing the needs of girls in the community and in the juvenile justice system is a priority for OJJDP. The Office’s Girls Study Group has found that there are specific delinquency risk factors associated with girls, including a history of sexual abuse, early onset of puberty, depression, and anxiety. Furthermore, OJJDP’s Survey of Youth in Residential Placement showed that 42 percent of girls in custody have experienced past physical abuse, as compared with 22 percent of boys.

The fall 2012 meeting of the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention featured testimony from young women who survived abuse and were then caught up in the juvenile justice system, as well as a range of experts in the fields of juvenile justice, health, social services, public policy, and law. The discussions focused on risk factors that lead girls into the juvenile justice system, pathways to success, and policies and practices in need of reform to meet girls’ needs.

Established in 2010, OJJDP’s National Girls Institute (NGI) provides training, technical assistance, and resources to local, tribal, and private organizations that serve girls and young women in or at risk of entering the juvenile justice system. In FY 2012, NGI launched a new Web site to promote access to resources to help improve outcomes for at-risk and delinquent girls.

**Tribal Youth Initiatives**

One of the keys to building stronger tribal communities is enhanced collaboration between federal and tribal partners. Some of the strongest and most important tribal partners are tribal youth. In FY 2012, OJJDP’s Tribal Youth program provided $6.3 million to support tribal efforts to prevent and control delinquency and improve tribal juvenile justice systems.

As part of its ongoing efforts to engage tribal youth, OJJDP partnered with a range of federal agencies to organize the 2012 National Intertribal Youth Summit. During the weeklong summit, more than 200 youth and adult leaders from 53 tribal communities participated in seminars, lectures, talking circles, and special sessions on leadership development and issues

“It’s wonderful to come to Washington, DC, and have a chance to talk about issues on the reservation where we live. And we’re talking to people who really care and may be able to do something about it.”

—Minnie Two Shields, 15-year-old member of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation in North Dakota
critical to youth. Youth also had the opportunity to engage in direct dialog with federal officials and to express their concerns about a range of issues, including environmental pollution, gangs, and poverty in Indian country. Finally, working with a professional production company, the young leaders developed a public service announcement encouraging youth to support each other and to exercise their leadership potential. The video is available at justice.gov/tribal/videos.html.

In FY 2012, the Rural Alaska Community Action Program received $500,000 for the Alaska Native Youth Success Training and Technical Assistance Project. The project’s mission is to reduce delinquency rates by increasing the capacity of communities to nurture positive youth development. One of the project’s objectives is to create a resource center that draws on the expertise of multi-disciplinary professionals and youth leaders.

**Partnering To Prevent Bullying**

Bullying in all of its forms—physical, verbal, and social—can cause serious and lasting harm for victims. Sadly, nearly one in three middle and high school students report being bullied.

To help prevent bullying and protect victims, federal leaders from a variety of agencies (including OJJDP) formed the Federal Partners in Bullying Prevention. The group held its third annual summit in FY 2012. Leaders of non-profit and corporate organizations, federal officials, parents, and students attended the summit, which featured sessions focused on bullying and suicide and methods for helping students who bully others.

As part of the Federal Partners in Bullying Prevention, OJJDP co-led a Stop Bullying Video Challenge for youth. Youth were asked to create public service announcements that showcase ways in which they can take action when bullying occurs and promote an overall culture of kindness and respect in their communities and schools. The three winning videos can be seen at stopbullying.challenge.gov.

**Missing Children**

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) observed its 28th year of operation in June 2012. As a clearinghouse and resource center, NCMEC collects and distributes data regarding missing and exploited children. In partnership with OJJDP, the center offers critical intervention and prevention services to families and supports law enforcement agencies at the federal, state, and local levels in cases involving missing and exploited children. OJJDP funding for NCMEC totaled more than $32 million in FY 2012.

NCMEC operates a 24-hour, toll-free missing children’s hotline (1–800–THE–LOST); a CyberTipline for the public to use to report Internet-related child sexual exploitation; and the Child Victim Identification Program (CVIP), which uses specialized computer software to determine the identities of children whose images appear in pornography.

In FY 2012, the center’s hotline received 198,213 calls. During the same period, its CyberTipline handled 361,006 reports regarding potential child exploitation or online harm to children. As of the end of 2012, a total of 4,954 identified children were in the CVIP system. During FY 2012, NCMEC assisted in the recovery of 10,966 children; since its inception in 1984 through the end of 2012, NCMEC has assisted in the recovery of 183,174 children.

NCMEC also is a key participant in the AMBER Alert program and the annual National Missing Children’s Day commemoration.

The AMBER Alert system issues media alerts when a law enforcement agency determines that a child was abducted and is in imminent
danger. The Office of Justice Programs manages the program with assistance from OJJDP. In FY 2012, NCMEC released the AMBER Alert Report, which showed that 158 AMBER Alerts involving 197 children were issued in the United States in 2011. More than 140 of the cases in which alerts were issued ended with a recovery; 28 of the recoveries were the direct result of AMBER Alerts.

**Children’s Advocacy Centers**

Children’s Advocacy Centers (CACs) provide a coordinated response to victims of child abuse through multidisciplinary teams composed of investigators, prosecutors, medical personnel, and social service and mental health professionals. The goal of CACs is to provide services to victims and nonoffending family members while coordinating the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases.

In FY 2012, OJJDP continued to assist CACs throughout the country by providing more than $14 million in funding. This funding (through the Victims of Child Abuse Act) helped support established regional CACs, expand service in underserved geographic areas, improve

the quality of services provided to abused children, and leverage strategic partnerships to expand access to quality training programs.

**Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children**

One of Attorney General Eric Holder’s key priorities is to protect children and other victims of human trafficking and exploitation. OJJDP has helped further this goal by supporting programs that combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC). CSEC includes any crime of a sexual nature committed against juvenile victims for financial gain.

Since 2010, OJJDP has supported law enforcement agencies in their efforts to protect children from exploitation through improved training and the use of best practices. OJJDP also supports mentoring programs for victims that use promising practices and proven principles to empower girls and boys to move past their experiences.

In addition to this direct funding, OJJDP has invested in research that examines successful intervention and prevention strategies to combat CSEC. The Office is also supporting investigations into the relationship between Internet activity and offline sexually abusive behavior, as well as the risky Internet behaviors of adolescents that may increase victimization.

**Bringing Missing Children Home**

At the annual National Missing Children’s Day ceremony, the U.S. Department of Justice recognizes the outstanding efforts of law enforcement personnel and private citizens who have helped recover abducted children or protect children from exploitation. The ceremony is planned and managed by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and features several award presentations.

During the fiscal year 2012 event, OJJDP’s then-Acting Administrator Melodee Hanes highlighted the release of three new OJJDP publications: AMBER Alert Best Practices and Spanish translations of What About Me? Coping With the Abduction of a Brother or Sister (¿Y yo? Cómo Sobrellevar el Secuestro de un Hermano o una Hermana) and You’re Not Alone: The Journey From Abduction to Empowerment (No Estás Solo: El Camino del Secuestro al Empoderamiento).
CONNECTING WITH THE FIELD

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is helping professionals in the juvenile justice field better serve our nation’s youth by supporting research and evaluation efforts and disseminating information to the field through training and technical assistance, Webinars, and publications.

- **Defending Childhood by Empowering Service Providers.** The National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence (NatSCEV) was an unprecedented research undertaking. In a continuing effort to put NatSCEV research into practice, OJJDP produced a series of bulletins highlighting findings from the study. These bulletins make this important study more accessible for practitioners in the field; they include information on intimate partner violence, polyvictimization, child and youth victimization known to police, and victimization and delinquency.

  As a supplemental tool to NatSCEV, the Crimes against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire released the second edition of the Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire. The questionnaire attempts to document the full range of victimization that youth experience. In addition to functioning as a research tool, the questionnaire can also help practitioners assess youth’s needs.

  The Defending Childhood Initiative also expanded its outreach to professionals in various fields by launching a new Web page, “Take Action To Protect Children,” that includes online resources and tips for professionals. To respond to the specific needs of law enforcement, OJJDP provided support to a training and technical assistance provider to develop resources that will enhance law enforcement responses to children exposed to violence.

  The Safe Start Center is OJJDP’s national resource center for information and training related to reducing children’s exposure to violence. As part of ongoing efforts to increase awareness, the center released a toolkit about the prevalence of children’s exposure to violence.

- **New National Girls Institute Web site.** The National Girls Institute launched a new Web site to translate decades of research by the Girls Study Group into practice. The Web site provides a wealth of resources for service providers along with material geared toward girls and their families.

- **Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.** With OJJDP fiscal year (FY) 2012 funding, the National Institute of Medicine is conducting a study (in collaboration with the National Research Council’s Committee on Law and Justice) to examine the causes and consequences of commercial sexual exploitation of children and to assess current strategies to address the problem at the federal, state, and local levels.

- **Supportive School Discipline.** In partnership with the U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services, OJJDP launched the Supportive School Discipline Webinar series to increase awareness and understanding of the issue and to provide practical examples of school discipline practices that maintain school and classroom safety while ensuring academic engagement and success for all students.
Understanding Bullying. OJJDP released the bulletin Bullying in Schools: An Overview, which describes a series of studies conducted by the National Center for School Engagement, summarizes the results of the research, and makes recommendations for policies and practices. OJJDP also sponsored several Webinars to inform researchers, practitioners, educators, parents, and youth about how to help prevent and reduce the incidence of bullying in their schools and communities.

Preventing Suicide. Throughout FY 2012, OJJDP supported the work of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention, co-chairing the alliance’s Suicide Prevention Task Force for Youth in Contact With the Juvenile Justice System. The task force aims to raise awareness among individuals who work with adjudicated youth and youth at risk of delinquency, as well as the public at large, that there is an increased risk for suicide in system-involved youth and that suicide for this population is preventable. The task force also supports research on suicide and suicide prevention.

Tribal Resources. OJJDP continues to support Tribal Youth and Tribal Juvenile Detention and Reentry Resource and Technical Assistance Centers for all grantees and federally recognized tribes. The centers provide resources for tribes seeking prevention, intervention, detention, and reentry services for tribal youth.

Combating Gangs. To help local policymakers and professionals better understand gang problems and how best to combat them, OJJDP published Highlights of the 2010 National Youth Gang Survey. This fact sheet discusses the prevalence of gangs, the rates of gang activities and gang homicides, reasons for gang-member migration, and external gang influences. OJJDP also presented the Webinar “The Sexual Exploitation of Girls in Gangs,” which examined girls’ involvement in gangs, their relationships within gangs, and how they are sexually exploited.

Field-Initiated Research. In FY 2012, OJJDP provided $1.2 million to support the Community-Based Violence Prevention Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation program. This program provides funding to increase available information about the effectiveness and cost efficiency of existing community-based violence prevention programs and to identify and assess promising new community-based violence prevention models.

Model Drug Courts. With assistance from OJJDP, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges created and held the Reclaiming Futures/Juvenile Drug Court Inter-Sites Training for OJJDP grantees who are implementing hybrid Reclaiming Futures/Juvenile Drug Courts. The sites were tasked with creating models of Reclaiming Futures/Juvenile Drug Court integrations that could serve as blueprints for other jurisdictions.

Targeted Training and Technical Assistance. In FY 2012, OJJDP’s network of 57 training and technical assistance providers delivered a range of educational programs targeted to meet the needs of the field. Efforts to promote youth safety included training for law enforcement on investigating Internet crimes against children and the development of tools and strategies to increase public awareness about issues that include bullying, underage drinking, missing and exploited children, and the effects of experiencing and witnessing violence.
Since its establishment in 1974 under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) has been working to address the needs of troubled youth, their families, and their communities. From the beginning, OJJDP has focused on prevention, treatment, and recovery—helping young people and their families avoid or overcome challenges. In part due to OJJDP’s programs and research agenda, stakeholders ranging from juvenile justice professionals to the general public now overwhelmingly favor prevention and rehabilitation for nonviolent youth offenders.
Through its administration of the Formula Grants program and a variety of other activities, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) helps states and communities better meet the needs of youth. In addition to providing vital funding, OJJDP monitors performance measures that help the Office, Congress, and the juvenile justice field gauge progress and address challenges. The Office also engages in ongoing research, evaluation, and training efforts to identify best practices and promote evidence-based approaches to juvenile justice.

### Formula Grants Program

Formula grant funding has been dramatically impacted by budget cuts in recent years. In response, OJJDP has redoubled its efforts to help states and localities focus on using best practices and evidence-based programs to ensure that limited dollars have the most impact.

Through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act, OJJDP provides formula grants to support state and local efforts to plan, operate, and evaluate projects and programs that focus on preventing youth from entering the juvenile justice system or helping nonserious offenders find more positive paths. OJJDP awarded more than $27.7 million in formula grant funds to designated state agencies in fiscal year (FY) 2012. To receive funding, states must fulfill four core requirements: (1) deinstitutionalize status offenders, (2) separate juveniles from adults in secure facilities, (3) remove juveniles from adult jails and lockups, and (4) address disproportionate minority contact (DMC) with the juvenile justice system. Because of reduced funding, OJJDP is encouraging states to focus limited resources on achieving and maintaining compliance with the four core requirements stated above.

Since the JJDP Act was enacted, there has been a significant decline in state violations of the first three core requirements: detention of status offenders has decreased nearly 98 percent, instances of youth held with adults have decreased 99 percent, and occurrences of youth held in adult jails and lockups have decreased nearly 98 percent. In FY 2012, all states participating in OJJDP’s Formula Grants program complied with the requirements for reducing racial and ethnic disparities. Despite the considerable progress states have made toward achieving the goals of the JJDP Act, nationwide there is much more work to be done. In particular, OJJDP is focusing its efforts to address the detention of status offenders for any length of time and to reduce the number of youth held securely in jails and lockups.

If a state, despite its good faith efforts, fails to demonstrate compliance with any of the core requirements in any year, OJJDP will reduce its formula grant for the subsequent fiscal year by 20 percent for each requirement for which the state is noncompliant. The table above indicates the

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Deinstitutionalization of status offenders</th>
<th>Separation of juveniles from adults in secure facilities</th>
<th>Removal of juveniles from adult jails and lockups</th>
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<td>Idaho</td>
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<td>Puerto Rico</td>
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Notes: “State” means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, and the five U.S. territories: American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Wyoming does not participate in the Formula Grants program. The U.S. Census Bureau has exempted Puerto Rico from reporting racial statistics. All reporting states were in compliance with the requirement to reduce disproportionate minority contact. To access compliance data for fiscal years 2006–12, visit ojjdp.gov/compliance/compliancedata.html.
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program Funds at Work

In Rhode Island, the Department of the Attorney General uses Juvenile Accountability Block Grant dollars to support a Gun Violence and Community Gang Prosecution Unit. This unit monitors crimes in an area with a history of high firearm-related violence and prosecutes crimes committed with guns, violations of gun statutes involving drug trafficking, and gang-related crimes. Working in partnership with the Providence Police Department, federal law enforcement agencies, and the United States Attorney’s Office, the unit serves approximately 600 youth per year. The department is improving the quality of life for citizens by providing prosecutorial resources to support community-policing efforts to target gun violence.

Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program

Both juveniles and the juvenile justice system must be held accountable. This is the premise underlying the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) program. For youth, accountability is best achieved through a system of graduated sanctions imposed according to the nature and severity of the offense. For the juvenile justice system, accountability includes a responsibility to process cases efficiently and to work with community partners to keep youth from reoffending. States and units of local government implement JABG programs in any of 17 program purpose areas, which all focus on different methods for enhancing accountability. The JABG program provided $21.8 million in funding in FY 2012. Using funding from multiple years, the program served nearly 300,000 youth and/or families during the 2012 reporting period. A total of 56 JABG grantees submitted some level of performance data for the 2012 reporting period (April 1, 2011, to March 31, 2012). The states submitted information for approximately 1,610 subgrants and reported performance data for 1,588 of those subgrants. JABG grantees and subgrantees reported performance measure data regarding activities that were funded by active awards received in FYs 2007–11.

Although funds were allocated to activities across all 17 JABG purpose areas, the activities with the largest funding allocations included accountability-based programs (27 percent), court/probation programming (13 percent), and the hiring of additional juvenile court and corrections professionals (11 percent). In FY 2012, 82 percent of program youth successfully completed program requirements, 71 percent exhibited a desired change in the targeted behavior, and 9 percent reoffended during the reporting period. In addition, 77 percent of programs reported using an evidence-based program or practice.

Tribal Juvenile Accountability Discretionary Grants Program

OJJDP’s Tribal Juvenile Accountability Discretionary Grants (T–JADG) program is part of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Coordinated Tribal

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1 Hiring of additional juvenile court and corrections professionals represents an aggregate of the following JABG purpose areas: Hiring Court Staff/Pretrial Services, Hiring Prosecutors, Funding for Prosecutors, and Hiring Detention/Corrections Staff.
The Reno Sparks Indian Colony (Nevada) is an excellent example of how Tribal Juvenile Accountability Discretionary Grants (T–JADG) awards are improving Native communities. Using a fiscal year 2009 T–JADG award, the Reno Sparks Indian Colony juvenile probation department has done a remarkable job of facilitating a healthy and productive relationship with the Washoe County school district. Consistent visits to each school by a probation officer have strengthened relationships between the probation department and school administrations, which benefits each child in the tribal community. If a concern is brought to the attention of an administrator, he or she will contact the juvenile probation department to either mediate or mitigate the issue. The Washoe County school district’s interactive network, “Infinite Campus,” also allows the juvenile probation department to proactively track attendance for individual tribal students within the district.
These local programs addressed a wide range of youth behaviors. Overall, 68 percent of youth participants exhibited positive changes in behaviors targeted by the program. Specifically, youth showed improvements in the following areas: 73 percent improved their school attendance, 58 percent reduced their antisocial behavior, 84 percent improved relationships with their families, and 90 percent reduced their substance use. The ultimate outcome measure for delinquency prevention programs is a low offending rate among program participants. In FY 2012, the offending and reoffending rate of CPG program participants was 2 percent and 4 percent, respectively.

Public-Private Partnerships for Reform

OJJDP is working hard to leverage resources by forming partnerships with the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors. These partnerships not only maximize the efficiency of existing resources, but also allow for critical information sharing across disciplines and more effective problem solving. Following are a few examples of OJJDP’s ongoing collaboration with the private sector:

- In FY 2012, OJJDP partnered with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to jointly provide $2 million over 2 years to support reforms in treatment and services for youth involved in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. The four projects focus on key areas in need of improvement: mental health screening and risk/needs assessment, mental health training for juvenile correctional and detention staff, disproportionate minority contact reduction, and juvenile justice and child welfare system integration.

- The Supportive School Discipline Initiative (SSDI), which works to address school discipline practices that push children out of school and into the justice system, has drawn support from Atlantic Philanthropies, The California Endowment, NoVo Foundation, the Public Welfare Foundation, and the Open Societies Foundation. For more information about SSDI, see chapter 2.

- OJJDP and the Annie E. Casey Foundation are partnering to expand the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) model for juvenile justice reform to additional sites across the country. This partnership was established in 2010 through an investment of $1 million from each agency. These funds are supporting training and technical assistance to states and localities interested in implementing the JDAI model.

- The Courts Catalyzing Change Initiative is a collaborative effort between OJJDP, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ), and Casey Family Programs to reduce disproportionality in the child welfare system through training and technical assistance to judges and court personnel. Through this effort, NCJFCJ has developed a judicial benchcard and other tools for juvenile and family court judges and personnel.

- The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Reclaiming Futures is partnering with OJJDP to provide training and technical assistance to OJJDP’s juvenile drug courts to implement the Reclaiming Futures model. The model builds a systematic response to juvenile substance abuse that includes all aspects of the justice system and community services.
National Center for Youth in Custody

Staff in detention and confinement facilities need high-quality training and technical assistance to provide for the safety, security, and rehabilitation of youth in their custody. In 2010, OJJDP responded to the field-generated call for assistance, leadership, and support to improve conditions for juvenile offenders by creating the National Center for Youth in Custody (NC4YC).

Emphasizing the rehabilitative goals of the juvenile justice system, the center delivers training and technical assistance, promotes evidence-based approaches to working with youth in custody, and serves as a resource for stakeholders. In FY 2012, NC4YC offered several Webinars and provided a wealth of resources for professionals, including training to state Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) juvenile coordinators and information on best practices for protecting youth in confinement to the Bureau of Justice Assistance’s PREA Resource Center.

Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Initiative

Practitioners in the juvenile justice field are increasingly seeking tools to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of services for justice-involved youth. To address this need, the Office of Management and Budget awarded $1.9 million to OJJDP to administer the Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Initiative.

This new program will help sites develop and implement an integrated set of evidence-based and cost-measurement tools that will enable

"This Supreme Court decision is an indicator of the significant progress we’re making in juvenile justice. It underscores the importance of bringing scientific findings and statistical analyses into national discussions about youth justice and safety."

— Melodee Hanes, Principal Deputy Administrator, OJJDP
them to make informed decisions about resources and services for justice-involved youth. The overall goal of the program is to improve outcomes for youth while also saving money. OJJDP is also providing nearly $700,000 to fund an evaluation of the initiative.

**Raising Awareness About Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders**

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) include a range of disabilities of varying severity that affect children whose mothers drank alcohol during pregnancy. Children who are affected by FASD are at increased risk for involvement with the juvenile justice system. Because most attorneys and judges are not familiar with the effects of FASD, youth and adults with these disorders often do not receive appropriate treatment and care in the justice system.

The OJJDP-led Justice Issues Working Group is collaborating with the American Bar Association (ABA) Center on Children and the Law, NCJFCJ, and other partners to raise awareness about FASD. OJJDP’s National Conference on Children’s Justice and Safety featured sessions on the legal and health-related implications of FASD. The working group also partnered with the ABA to organize a continuing education training session on FASD.

**Engaging Families of Children in the System**

Every child needs the input and involvement of his or her parents or caretakers. This is especially true for youth in the juvenile justice system. Therefore, families need to be engaged in every step of the juvenile justice process, from courts to reentry.

In FY 2012, OJJDP’s Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention made enhancing family engagement a priority. The council invited parent activists whose children are or were involved in the juvenile justice system to speak at its May meeting. The council meeting also featured reports from members of a federal workgroup on recent activities to elevate family engagement. With input from workgroup members, Georgetown University’s Center for Juvenile Justice Reform released a set of detailed recommendations for federal agencies on how to promote family-focused policies and practices.

**National Juvenile Justice Evaluation Center**

OJJDP’s National Juvenile Justice Evaluation Center (NJJEC) helps state, local, and tribal

“We need to disabuse ourselves of the notion that when children come into our systems we can and should separate them from their families. Instead, we need to work with families to build on their strengths and overcome their weaknesses and with our youth to help them best navigate those issues. In this regard, we are at our best if families are at the core of our work, not on the periphery.”

— Shay Bilchik, Director, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform
entities evaluate juvenile justice programs and implement evidence-based initiatives. A project of the Justice Research and Statistics Association, the center provides a range of practitioner-friendly resources to guide juvenile justice agencies in selecting, implementing, evaluating, and sustaining programs supported by research.

In FY 2012, NJJEC released the first issue of its bimonthly online newsletter for practitioners. The center also conducted a needs assessment of grant-making agencies and found that many grantees need training and technical assistance in the area of evaluation. In response, NJJEC is developing a sustainability toolkit that will outline important components for continuing evidence-based programs and practices.

**Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws**

Youth who drink are more likely to abuse alcohol, cause traffic injuries, and commit crimes. Underage drinking is a serious problem for families and communities throughout the country. OJJDP has been working to combat underage drinking since the establishment of the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) program in 1998.

In FY 2012, OJJDP awarded $2.2 million to five organizations under the EUDL Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation Program. The goal of the program is to foster rigorous scientific research and evaluation that has practical applications for the prevention of underage drinking and the enforcement of underage drinking laws. An additional $1.4 million was made available for a targeted initiative to reduce underage drinking in the military. The initiative provided funds to local civilian communities to enforce underage drinking laws and prevent underage service personnel from consuming alcohol by collaborating with active-duty bases.

**Juveniles Taken Into Custody**

OJJDP monitors trends related to juvenile offenders in residential placement. The 1997–2010 Census of Juveniles in Residential Placement (CJRP) and the 2010 Juvenile Residential Facility Census (JRFC) provided valuable statistics about juveniles in custody and the facilities that hold them. Facilities included in both the CJRP and JRFC data collections represent a wide range of facility types—secure and nonsecure as well as publicly operated (state and local) and privately operated (including long-term and short-term holding). Of all juveniles in residential placement, 69 percent were held in public facilities and 31 percent were in private facilities.

**Trends**

A total of 70,792 youth were held in publicly and privately operated juvenile residential facilities on the February 2010 CJRP census date. The last time that so few juvenile offenders were counted in the national census of juvenile facilities was in 1989, when the tally was slightly less than 67,000.

The 2010 1-day count translates to a placement rate of 225 juvenile offenders in residential placement for every 100,000 juveniles in the U.S. population. In comparison, the overall placement rate in 1997 was 356. Although national placement rates declined from 1997 to 2010, not all states experienced a decline in their residential placement populations. Detention rates increased in about one-quarter of the states, while rates declined in the other three-quarters. Almost 9 in 10 (88 percent) of the states had lower commitment rates in 2010 than in 1997, but in several states the reverse was true.
At least 99 juvenile residential placement facilities had closed between the CJRP data collection in February 2010 and the October JRFC data collection. This decline in the number of facilities parallels the decline in the population of juvenile offenders. On the October 2010 JRFC census date, a total of 2,132 facilities reported holding 66,654 juvenile offenders (excluding tribal facilities and those in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands). This represents a 6-percent reduction in population in only 8 months.

Deaths in Residential Placement

Juvenile facilities reported 11 deaths of youth younger than age 21 in residential placement for the 12 months prior to the 2010 census. Deaths of juveniles in residential placement remain relatively rare, and the death rate in 2010 (1.6 per 100,000) was substantially lower than the rate in 2000 (2.8 per 100,000). There were five deaths from suicide and four deaths by illness/natural causes other than HIV/AIDS. There was one death from an accident and one death from an unknown cause. No homicides were reported.
The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is helping professionals in the juvenile justice field better serve our nation’s youth by supporting research and evaluation efforts and disseminating information to the field through training and technical assistance, Webinars, and publications.

- **Hot Spots Policing.** OJJDP released *Hot Spots of Juvenile Crime: Findings From Seattle*, which presents important results from an OJJDP-funded study. Key among these findings is the fact that juvenile crime tends to be concentrated in discrete areas where youth congregate and police can most efficiently deter crime when they focus their resources on these areas.

- **DMC Virtual Resource Center.** Reducing disproportionate minority contact (DMC) is one of the core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act. To help practitioners comply with this requirement, OJJDP launched the DMC Virtual Resource Center, which provides tools and resources to support state and local efforts to reduce DMC.

- **Underage Drinking.** OJJDP funded the national evaluation of the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Randomized Community Trial to determine the effects of local, coalition-based approaches to increasing enforcement of laws related to underage drinking. OJJDP also released *Effects and Consequences of Underage Drinking*, which presents findings from a literature review that investigated how underage drinking can affect a youth’s physical, emotional, and neurological health.

- **Juvenile Arrests.** OJJDP released *Juvenile Arrests 2009*, a new bulletin in the Juvenile Offenders and Victims National Report series. This bulletin summarizes 2009 juvenile crime and arrest data reported by law enforcement agencies across the country and shows that overall, juvenile arrests decreased by 9 percent between 2008 and 2009.

- **Delinquency Cases.** To help practitioners and policymakers better understand delinquency cases in juvenile and criminal courts, OJJDP released four fact sheets containing updated statistics: *Juvenile Delinquency Probation Caseload, 2008*; *Delinquency Cases in Juvenile Court, 2008*; *Person Offense Cases in Juvenile Court, 2008*; and *Delinquency Cases Waived to Criminal Court, 2008*.

- **Offering Access to Data.** OJJDP’s Statistical Briefing Book offers easy access to current juvenile justice data and analysis tools that allow users to create custom reports. The most recent update included 2011 data on juvenile populations, 2010 data on victims of domestic violence, FBI supplementary homicide reports through 2010, and revisions to the Frequently Asked Questions section.

- **Emergency Planning.** To assist juvenile justice residential facilities in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies, OJJDP released *Emergency Planning for Juvenile Justice Residential Facilities*. This publication is the first comprehensive planning guide to address the specific
needs of facility staff and children, youth, and families involved in the justice system during an emergency.

- **Pathways to Desistance.** Pathways to Desistance is an OJJDP-supported longitudinal study that investigates how to promote desistance from crime among youth who have committed serious offenses. The study included more than 21,000 interviews over 8 years with 1,300 juvenile felony offenders in Philadelphia, PA, and Phoenix, AZ.

  OJJDP has developed several bulletins summarizing the study, including an overview of the study findings and an explanation of the link between adolescent substance abuse and serious offending. Future publications will address more detailed knowledge gleaned from the study.

  The study has also generated some key policy recommendations, which were presented at the February 2012 meeting of the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. These suggestions included reducing the rate and duration of placement in institutions for juvenile offenders and increasing the provision of substance abuse prevention services to serious adolescent offenders.

- **Targeted Training and Technical Assistance.** In fiscal year 2012, OJJDP’s network of 57 training and technical assistance providers delivered a range of educational programs targeted to meet the needs of the field. Efforts to promote youth justice included assistance for states and communities to fully comply with the core requirements of the JJDP Act. Assistance was also provided for professionals and communities focused on intervening early with troubled youth and families and preventing juvenile delinquency and crime. Webinars were developed and delivered that focused on disproportionate minority contact and improving outcomes for multisystem youth who cross over between the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.
In fiscal year 2012, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention awarded nearly $268 million in grants to help at-risk youth, protect children, and improve juvenile justice systems nationwide. The 363 awards were made through formula, block, and discretionary grant funding.
**Formula and Block Grants**

Funding through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s (OJJDP’s) formula and block grants is available to states and territories through the state agency designated by the Governor. Juvenile Justice Specialists in each state administer the funding through subgrants to units of local government, local private agencies, and federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native jurisdictions for programs in accordance with legislative requirements. In fiscal year (FY) 2012, OJJDP awarded approximately $50 million under the following formula and block grants programs:

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<tr>
<th>Program Title</th>
<th>Total Funding</th>
<th>Number of Awards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program</td>
<td>$21,820,621</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title II Formula Grants Program</td>
<td>$27,766,825</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Discretionary Grants**

OJJDP awards discretionary grants to states, units of local government, and private organizations to administer programs. Nearly $218 million in discretionary grants was awarded in FY 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Solicitation Title</th>
<th>Total Funding</th>
<th>Number of Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alaska Tribal Youth Training and Technical Assistance</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Abuse Training for Judicial and Court Personnel</td>
<td>$1,776,976</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Protection Division Continuations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community-Based Violence Prevention Demonstration Program</td>
<td>$5,997,472</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community-Based Violence Prevention Field Initiated Research and Evaluation</td>
<td>$1,277,333</td>
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<tr>
<td>Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Membership and Accreditation Program</td>
<td>$1,810,795</td>
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<tr>
<td>Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Training and Technical Assistance</td>
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<td>Demonstration Programs Division Continuations</td>
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<td>Solicitation Title</td>
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<td>Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Discretionary:</td>
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<td>Initiative to Reduce Underage Drinking in the Military</td>
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<td>Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhancing Law Enforcement Response to Children Exposed to Violence</td>
<td>$749,998</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation of OJJDP’s Juvenile Justice Reform and Reinvestment Initiative</td>
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<td>Family Drug Court Programs</td>
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<td>Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation Program</td>
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<td>Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force: Houston Metropolitan Area</td>
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<td>Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program Continuations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juvenile Drug Courts/Reclaiming Futures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Mentoring Coordinator Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Support Services for Nonprofit Missing Children’s Organizations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mentoring Best Practices Research</td>
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<td>Mentoring Enhancement Demonstration Program</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multi-State Mentoring Initiative</td>
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<td>National Center for Missing &amp; Exploited Children Continuations</td>
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<td>National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention Expansion Project</td>
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<td>Solicitation Title</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Intertribal Youth Summit</td>
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<tr>
<td>National Juvenile Court Data Archive</td>
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<td>National Mentoring Programs</td>
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<td>Non-Participating State: Wyoming</td>
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<td>Research Continuations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Chance Act Juvenile Offender Reentry Program for Demonstration Projects</td>
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<td>State Relations and Assistance Division Continuations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tribal Field Initiated Research and Evaluation Programs</td>
<td>$437,261</td>
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<td>Tribal Juvenile Accountability Discretionary Grants Program</td>
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<td>Tribal Youth Program</td>
<td>$6,338,962</td>
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<td>Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA) Act Children’s Advocacy Centers Membership and Accreditation Program</td>
<td>$744,323</td>
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<td>VOCA Children’s Advocacy Centers Subgrant Program</td>
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<td>VOCA Training and Technical Assistance to Child Abuse Professionals</td>
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<td>VOCA Training and Technical Assistance to Child Abuse Prosecutors</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Award information for FYs 2007–12 is available on the OJJDP Web site, ojjdp.gov (click on “Funding,” then “Awards”).
All Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) publications can be viewed and downloaded from the OJJDP Web site, ojjdp.gov (select the “Publications” section). Print publications can also be ordered online at the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS) Web site, ncjrs.gov (select the “A–Z Publications/Products” section). The NCJ numbers in the chart can be used to search for or order resources from NCJRS or to locate specific resources in the NCJRS library.
Nationally, violent crime and property crime rates have declined dramatically over the past decade (Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2011; Truman, 2011). An enduring concern for many jurisdictions, however, is the continued presence of gangs and gang activity, which are often associated with violence and serious crimes (Cooper and Smith, 2011). Despite the overall decline in crime, gang violence continues at high levels in some cities (Howell and colleagues, 2011).

About the Survey
Since 1996, the National Gang Center, through the National Youth Gang Survey (NYGS), has collected data annually from a large, representative sample of local law enforcement agencies to track the size and scope of the nation’s gang problem. The sample consists of two groups: (1) all police departments in cities with more than 50,000 residents (larger cities) and all suburban county police and sheriff’s departments (collectively referred to as “larger areas”) and (2) a random sample of police departments in cities with populations between 2,500 and 50,000 (smaller cities) and rural county sheriff’s departments (collectively referred to as “smaller areas”).

Survey Findings
This fact sheet summarizes findings from the 2010 survey. Of the 2,544 survey recipients, 2,158 (85 percent) responded to the survey.

Key Points
Based on law enforcement reports, in 2010—

• There were an estimated 29,400 gangs and 756,000 gang members throughout 3,500 jurisdictions across the United States.
• Gang-related homicides increased more than 10 percent from 2009 in cities with populations of more than 100,000.
• Highly populated areas accounted for the vast majority of gang-related homicides nationally.
• Gang members were less likely to migrate to smaller areas and had most likely migrated for social, not illegitimate, reasons.

Highlights of the 2010 National Youth Gang Survey
Arlen Egley, Jr., and James C. Howell

Prevalence of Gang Activity
The figure on page 2 shows the percentage of agencies nationwide that reported gang activity between 1996 and 2010. The 15-year trend, marked by decreasing prevalence rates in the 1990s and increasing prevalence rates in the early 2000s, is statistically unchanged in the past 5 survey years. The overall estimate of gang activity in the study population remained stable from 2009 (34.5 percent) to 2010 (34.1 percent). Larger cities consistently reported greater rates of gang presence and seriousness of gang crime during the 15-year period.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication Title</th>
<th>Publication Type</th>
<th>NCJ Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OJJDP Journal of Juvenile Justice, Volume 1, Issue 1</td>
<td>Journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>OJJDP Journal of Juvenile Justice, Volume 1, Issue 2</td>
<td>Journal</td>
<td>238336</td>
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<tr>
<td>OJJDP News @ a Glance, September/October 2011</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
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<tr>
<td>OJJDP News @ a Glance, November/December 2011</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
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<td>OJJDP News @ a Glance, March/April 2012</td>
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<td>OJJDP News @ a Glance, May/June 2012</td>
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<td>OJJDP News @ a Glance, July/August 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>OJJDP: An Overview</td>
<td>InFocus Fact Sheet</td>
<td>234073</td>
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<tr>
<td>OJJDP’s Major Grant Programs</td>
<td>InFocus Fact Sheet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Person Offense Cases in Juvenile Court, 2008</td>
<td>Fact Sheet</td>
<td>236480</td>
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<td>Polyvictimization: Children’s Exposure to Multiple Types of Violence, Crime, and Abuse</td>
<td>Bulletin, NatSCEV Series</td>
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<tr>
<td>Questions and Answers About the National Survey of Children’s Exposure to Violence</td>
<td>Fact Sheet, NatSCEV Series</td>
<td>235163</td>
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<tr>
<td>¿Y yo? Cómo Sobrellevar el Secuestro de un Hermano o una Hermana (Spanish-language translation of What About Me? Coping With the Abduction of a Brother or Sister, NCJ 217714)</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>237775</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Office of the Administrator

The Office of the Administrator establishes the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s (OJJDP’s) priorities and policies, oversees the management of OJJDP’s divisions, and fosters collaboration with federal, state, and local agencies and associations that share OJJDP’s commitment to preventing and combating juvenile delinquency and addressing the problem of missing and exploited children.

Office of Policy Development

The Office of Policy Development (OPD) assists the OJJDP Administrator in coordinating national policy on juvenile justice. OPD advises the Administrator on policy and legal issues and how OJJDP can best accomplish its mission. OPD also provides leadership and direction for OJJDP’s research and training and technical assistance efforts and oversees the agency’s communications and planning activities.

Communications Unit

The Communications Unit (CU) is responsible for OJJDP’s information dissemination and outreach. CU develops OJJDP publications, manages its Web site and online services, and performs a range of writing and editing functions to support the Office. CU also serves as a liaison to the Office of Justice Programs on media-related issues.

Budget and Planning Division

The Budget and Planning Division handles OJJDP’s budget and planning operations and manages the Office’s research and training and technical assistance functions. The division also oversees all administrative and personnel matters.
Child Protection Division

The Child Protection Division (CPD) develops and administers programs related to crimes against children and children’s exposure to violence. It provides leadership and funding in the areas of enforcement, intervention, and prevention. CPD's activities include supporting programs that promote effective policies and procedures to respond to the problems of missing and exploited children, Internet crimes against children, abused and neglected children, and children exposed to domestic or community violence.

Demonstration Programs Division

The Demonstration Programs Division (DPD) provides funds to public and private agencies, organizations, and individuals to develop and support programs and replicate tested approaches to delinquency prevention, treatment, and control in areas such as mentoring, substance abuse, gangs, truancy, chronic juvenile offending, and community-based sanctions. DPD also supports and coordinates efforts with tribal governments to expand and improve tribal juvenile justice systems and develop programs and policies that address problems facing tribal youth.

State Relations and Assistance Division

The State Relations and Assistance Division (SRAD) provides funds to help state and local governments achieve the system improvement goals of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, combat underage drinking, implement delinquency prevention programs, address disproportionate minority contact, and support initiatives to hold juvenile offenders accountable for their actions. SRAD also supports and coordinates community efforts to identify and respond to critical juvenile justice and delinquency prevention needs.

Note: During fiscal year 2012, OJJDP planned an officewide reorganization to better reflect the full breadth of its work: youth development, prevention, and safety; juvenile justice system improvement; state and community development; innovation and research; budget and administration; and audit and compliance. The new structure integrates research, policy, program, and capacity-development activities and is designed to enhance OJJDP’s ability to support the juvenile justice community in its efforts to serve our nation’s youth and families.