

Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning

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 Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning contact:

Patricia (Trish) Thackston

Policy Advisor
Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs
(202) 307-0581
M.Patricia.Thackston@usdoj.gov

HISTORY

COMPREHENSIVE TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning program was designed to allow tribes to engage in comprehensive justice system-wide strategic planning to improve tribal justice and safety including improving community wellness, increasing capacity to prevent crime and addressing violent crime, activities outlined in the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA), such as strategic planning and the development of a Tribal Action Plan (TAP). This planning process will be guided and supported by a training and technical assistance (TTA) provider provided by DOJ.

Purpose Area 2 is administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance in the Office of Justice Programs on behalf of all CTAS participating DOJ Components. Award amounts are up to \$150,000 for up to 5 years, although most grantees complete the strategic planning process within 2-3 years.

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. CTAS is not a program, but rather is the overarching structure, under which seven separate grant program applications are collected.

Through the establishment of 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. The first coordinated Tribal grant process launched in Fiscal Year 2010, through the 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)

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

OVERVIEW

COMPREHENSIVE TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS STRATEGIC PLANNING

To engage in comprehensive, justice system-wide strategic planning to improve tribal justice and safety, including improving services for victims of crime, improving community wellness, increasing capacity to prevent crime, and addressing violent crime. Activities can also include development of a Tribal Action Plan as outlined in the Tribal Law and Order Act in addition to a comprehensive strategic plan. This planning process will be guided and supported by a training and technical assistance (TTA) provider supplied by DOJ at no cost to the grantees.

The strategic plan should address improving public safety through community-oriented strategies that are victim centered to address issues such as violent crimes, murder of Indigenous people, domestic violence, overdose- and drug-related crime, and/or human trafficking. The plan can address implementing strategies such as community courts, community prosecution, community corrections, and community policing. It should include organizational strategies to reorient the mission and activities of law enforcement toward the community policing philosophy and 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. DOJ welcomes incorporating traditional elements into the planning process and overall strategic plan, as well as restorative and problem-solving approaches that seek to understand and address the risk factors for future crime.

To best meet the needs of the grantees as they develop their written strategic plans, the training and technical assistance (TTA) providers developed the Tribal Justice System Planning Process (TJSPP). This process was developed to be implemented in three phases of training for the planning team. The TTA partners guide the grantee planning team through all three phases of training and work together throughout the project period with on-going office-based assistance. By the end of phase three, the grantee strategic planning team will have the building blocks of a comprehensive community justice strategic plan to submit at the end of their award. By the end of the award period grantees submit their strategic plans to DOJ for review. To assist with the implementation of TJSPP strategic plans, grantees have the opportunity to request priority consideration one time for each CTAS Purpose Area (PA) that is directly connected to their approved strategic plan. (The grantee must be eligible for the PA at the time of the request.) For tribes that do not receive PA 2 awards, NCJTC will provide services, as approved by BJA, through technical assistance.

The three phases of training are as follows:

Phase One: Working Together

This phase involves a 2-day training to confirm the Action Planning Advisory Board Members; develop a strategy to gain support from the Tribal Council; develop a Resolution or Memorandum of Agreement (MOA); identify tools for working together and problem-solving; define quality of life, vision, and mission; and identify resources.

Upon completion of Phase One, the tribe will have a clear roadmap for working together throughout the planning process, a schedule for meeting times and dates, and a timeline for completion of the remaining phases of the project. Follow up

and action items resulting from this training is anticipated to take approximately 1-2 months.

Phase Two: Identifying Strengths/Needs

This phase of training involves action planning to develop a strategy to conduct focus groups and stakeholder interviews, facilitate community meetings, and implement a written questionnaire/assessment that will build the tribe's capacity to define their community, assess the current state of the justice system, identify and access existing crime and behavioral health data to inform the plan and identify needs and gaps in services.

Analysis of data from this assessment process provides the framework for development of a written response/plan, which is the focus of Phase Three. After this two-day training on the needs assessment process, the TTA providers will work one-on-one with the grantee through onsite visits, email, phone, and Go-To-Meeting/Skype to complete the assessments. Follow up and action items resulting from this training is anticipated to take approximately 5-6 months.

Phase Three: Goals and Action Steps

This two-day training assists grantees to analyze emerging themes, learn the fundamentals of writing effective goals, and outlining realistic, achievable, and measurable action steps. This third phase of the training

includes evaluation and measures of success for the strategic plan. Follow up and action items resulting from this training is anticipated to take approximately 1-2 months.

On-going Support

Once the plan is complete, future support of the planning efforts may focus on resource development, capacity-building, or planning for implementation and sustainability of the project. NCJTC will provide services, as approved by BJA, through technical assistance.

Training and Technical Assistance is provided by:

The National Criminal Justice Training Center at Fox Valley Technical College
Justine Souto | Program Manager | (855) 866-2582 | justine.souto2963@fvtc.edu

BENEFITS

Tribes will have the resources to develop a data-informed, comprehensive justice system strategic plan. Through the 3-phase planning process, grantees conduct needs assessments to gain a comprehensive understanding of the needs and resources across all departments within their justice system, and even across jurisdictions. This provides for efficiencies in addressing community needs and ensures more effective allocation of resources. The increased communication through the data gathering process helps to build and promote collaboration to share resources when possible. Community safety concerns are better addressed when justice-wide solutions to crime are proactively developed rather than typical reactionary responses to symptoms of crime.

Other benefits reported by grantees are the increased collaboration with other jurisdictions that results from development of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs). Tribes are working to build relationships with non-Tribal agencies in the areas of law enforcement, courts, domestic violence shelters and advocacy and treatment services. Often times, there are mutual benefits to building these partnerships that weren't considered prior to formal planning.

One of the most prominent benefits to planning is that the tribes can take the time to develop strategies to address crime, safety and wellness issues that now have data to back the strategies developed. This means that they are better prepared to seek funding resources and other sustainable means to meet their justice needs.

Purpose Area 2 grantees that submit approved strategic plans will be eligible to receive priority consideration for CTAS funding to implement their strategic plans in whole, or in part, in a future fiscal year, or years, following submission of applications under purpose areas directly connected to the approved strategic plan (once per purpose area). Priority consideration for CTAS funding will be granted one time per purpose area.

STRATEGIES

For continuity, each grantee is assigned a single TTA point of contact. A Mentor Team is assigned to each grantee to guide them through the planning process as needed. This Mentorship concept has helped to gain trust with the grantees and provides an easier path for them to request and receive assistance and resources.

It is the Mentors' role to ensure the grantee's efforts are on task. To achieve this, on-site training, webinars and conference calls are used to maintain communication with the point of contact and, in some cases, the whole planning team. A series of planning-related benchmarks help to ensure the plans are moving along, based on an established timeline.

For planning resources, visit www.ncjtc.org/TJSPP.

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.

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.

REV. 11/13/2023



This project was supported by Grant No. 2019-IC-BX-K002 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.