



## Tribal Youth Program

### 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 Tribal Youth Program, contact:

#### Kara McDonagh

Program Manager  
Office of Juvenile Justice and  
Delinquency Prevention  
Office of Justice Programs  
Kara.McDonagh@ojp.usdoj.gov  
(202) 305-1456

### HISTORY

#### OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

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

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

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

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

### OVERVIEW

#### COORDINATED TRIBAL ASSISTANCE SOLICITATION

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

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

## 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](http://www.bja.gov)

Email [tribalgrants@usdoj.gov](mailto: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](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov)



**Office of Juvenile Justice and  
Delinquency Prevention**

810 Seventh Street NW  
Washington, DC 20531  
(202) 307-5911 | [www.ojjdp.gov](http://www.ojjdp.gov)



**Office for Victims of Crime**

810 Seventh Street NW, Second Floor  
Washington, DC 20531  
(202) 307-5983 | [www.ovc.gov](http://www.ovc.gov)

overarching structure, under which ten separate grant program applications are collected. CTAS is currently operated through collaborative efforts across many department components, bureaus, and offices, including:

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

## OVERVIEW

### TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM

OJJDP's Tribal Youth Program (TYP) is Purpose Area 9 under the CTAS. OJJDP's Tribal Youth Program (TYP) seeks to support and enhance Tribal efforts to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and strengthen a fair and beneficial juvenile justice system response for American Indian/Alaska Native Youth. OJJDP understands that Tribal nations have widely varying circumstances, strengths, and needs that may challenge their ability to prevent juvenile delinquency or to intervene and treat Tribal youth when necessary. The funding in this purpose area is made available to enable tribes to create, expand, or strengthen approaches along the juvenile justice continuum that can range from prevention to intervention and treatment. This program helps tribes develop and sustain effective and equitable services and programs that contribute to the reduction of Tribal youth involved in juvenile justice systems and that create safer communities and empower youth to lead healthy and productive lives.

We recommend that applicants propose a project that initially focuses on one aspect of the continuum, such as diversion or treatment, based on determined need. OJJDP also recommends applicants ensure proposals for TYP funding are created with broad, tribal-wide planning efforts and with community support, which will be critically important in sustaining efforts beyond the award period. This may include the substantive involvement of key stakeholders such as tribal youth, elders and tribal leaders as well as service providers, law enforcement, child welfare, court and probation officials, and schools, as appropriate and applicable to the proposed program design. Tribal Youth Program, Purpose Area 9 can also be used to support services related to the development of a Tribal youth healing to wellness courts, supported under CTAS Purpose Area 8.

**Seeding Change Planning Grant** (*Category 1*) This category will support a dedicated planning period for Tribes to develop strategies to improve and/or enhance Tribal juvenile justice systems that include prevention, intervention, and treatment programs and services for youth. This grant is intended for Tribes that are new to receiving OJJDP funding for Purpose Area 9; therefore, Tribes that have an active TYP Purpose Area 9 award at the time of application are not eligible to apply for this grant award. The intended outcome of the Seeding Change planning grant is to increase Tribal leadership and youth, family and community involvement in planning activities that culminate in a high quality strategic plan and related proposal for an implementation grant that reflects the Tribe's needs, values, culture and priorities.

**Cultivating Change Implementation Grant** (*Category 2*) This category will support the implementation of a new Tribal Youth Program for Tribes that seek funding to support programs, services, and/or system improvements. This grant is intended to support Tribes in implementing a Tribal Youth Program. Tribes with an active OJJDP Purpose Area 9 award are not eligible for this award. Tribes that have a Purpose Area 9 award with an end date in 2024 that are interested in applying for additional funding for their program should apply for an award in Category 3. The intended outcome of the Cultivating Change grant is to increase the capacity of Tribes to launch, implement and sustain services, programs and supports for Tribal youth. The Cultivating Change award will include comprehensive training and technical

assistance to support the development of a strategic plan to guide implementation.

### **Harvesting Change Enhancement/Expansion Grant** (Category 3)

This category is to continue, expand, or enhance a current OJJDP-funded Tribal Youth Program. The only tribes that are eligible to apply for this category are:

- Tribes that have an OJJDP-funded Purpose Area 9 award with a project period end date that occurs in 2024.
- Tribes that had an OJJDP-funded Purpose Area 9 award that ended in 2023 that did not apply for or receive a TYP award in FY 2023.

The intended outcome of a Harvesting Change award is to increase Tribal capacity to sustain effective youth programs, services and supports after the conclusion of the grant award. This may include training and technical assistance to support the Tribe in collecting data and measuring effectiveness of Evidence based and Tribal best practices and through expanding local, inter-Tribal and regional partnerships.

*Note:* The population of youth served under this award must be under the age of 21 at the time of entering the Tribal Youth Program.

Priority areas eligible for funding include prevention services to impact risk factors for delinquency and promote protective factors for youth, interventions for court-involved tribal youth, treatment services for youth and effective use of data to create or improve abilities to track youth in detention, placement, or community-based programs with the goal of improving understanding of and responses to youth and community needs. For more information and additional examples please see CTAS FY 24 Fact Sheet for Purpose Area 9 at [www.justice.gov/tribal/grants](http://www.justice.gov/tribal/grants)

## **1. Prevention**

**Prevention services to impact risk factors for delinquency and promote protective factors.** This may include mentoring, youth development, anti-gang education, truancy and school dropout prevention programs, after-school programs, and anti-bullying and programs that emphasize youth, family and community engagement.

**Prevention, intervention, and treatment for children exposed to violence.** This includes development and implementation of trauma-informed practices in programs and services that address child abuse and neglect and the effects and issues of childhood trauma or exposure to violence. Applicants should familiarize themselves with the DOJ report on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence.

**Development and implementation of Tribal best practices and traditional healing methods to support Tribal youth.** This may include engaging youth in activities centered on cultural preservation, land reclamation, green or sustainable tribal traditions, and language preservation.

## **2. Intervention**

**Interventions for court-involved tribal youth.** This may include therapeutic services, mentoring, graduated sanctions, restitution, diversion, home detention, foster and shelter care, and other alternatives to detention.

**Intervention and treatment services for children exposed to sex trafficking.** This may include the development of or implementation of programs and services for children who are victims of sex trafficking. Please see the OJJDP Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children/Sex Trafficking Literature Review:

[ojjdp.ojp.gov/model-programs-guide/literature-reviews/commercial\\_sexual\\_exploitation\\_of\\_children\\_and\\_sex\\_trafficking.pdf](http://ojjdp.ojp.gov/model-programs-guide/literature-reviews/commercial_sexual_exploitation_of_children_and_sex_trafficking.pdf)

## **3. Treatment**

**Treatment services for at-risk and high-risk youth.** This may include alcohol and drug abuse treatment and prevention programs; mental health treatment (counseling, referral and placement); and development of comprehensive screening tools, crisis intervention, intake assessments, treatment team planning, and therapeutic services for co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders.

### **Services for youth in detention or out-of-home placement.**

This may include green or sustainable tribal traditions, risk and needs assessments, educational and vocational programming, mental health and substance abuse services, family strengthening, recreational activities, and aftercare and re-entry services to help successfully reintegrate the youth into the tribal community.

## **4. Effective Use of Data**

**Improvement or establishment of data collection systems.** This may include efforts to create or improve abilities to track youth in detention, placement, or community-based programs with the goal of improving understanding of and responses to youth and community needs.

## **ONGOING SUPPORT**

OJJDP's Tribal Youth Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) centers assists selected project sites as they work to achieve their goals and objectives. Through this TTA, OJJDP assists Tribal Grantees to increase their skills, knowledge and capabilities in developing effective and sustainable programs for reducing juvenile delinquency and increasing youth potential in Tribal Communities. The TTA provided to the OJJDP CTAS grantees includes intensive strategic planning support, onsite visits and long-distance support as well as the opportunity for peer-to-peer learning throughout the life of the grant award. OJJDP's Tribal Youth Program TTA Centers are also available to provide assistance to all federally recognized tribes and can be accessed at [www.tribalyouth.org](http://www.tribalyouth.org) and at [www.resourcebasket.org](http://www.resourcebasket.org).

**Tribal New Grantee Orientation** OJJDP CTAS grantees are required to participate in a new grantee orientation. This training provides all new grantees an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of key grant administration resources and a greater awareness of recommended practices in grant administration.

## FUNDING & ELIGIBILITY

Only federally recognized Tribes are eligible to apply for funding under Purpose Area 9 (Tribal Youth Program). This includes Alaska Native Villages and Tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally recognized Indian Tribes. Please see the CTAS solicitation for more information on funding amounts.

*Seeding Change Planning Grant (Category 1)* - Tribes that have an active TYP Purpose Area 9 award at the time of application are not eligible to apply for this grant award.

*Cultivating Change Implementation Grant (Category 2)* - Tribes with an active OJJDP Purpose Area 9 award at the time of application are not eligible for this award.

*Harvesting Change Continuation Grant (Category 3)* - The only Tribes that are eligible to apply for this Category are:

- Tribes that have an OJJDP funded Purpose Area 9 award with a project period end date that occurs in 2024.
- Tribes that had an OJJDP funded Purpose Area 9 award that ended in 2023 that did not apply for or receive a TYP award in FY 22.

## BENEFITS

The need for culturally-based prevention, intervention and treatment programs for at-risk American Indian and Alaska Native Youth is well documented. Purpose Area #9 funding provides support for Tribes to develop and implement culturally based programs for Tribal Youth to impact risk factors for delinquency; interventions for court-involved youth; improvements to the juvenile justice system; alcohol and substance abuse prevention programs; and mental health program services. The Tribal Youth Program supports these goals and Tribal efforts to achieve fair and beneficial juvenile justice system responses for American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

## STRATEGIES

OJJDP recognizes that the opportunity to develop and implement Tribal best practices, Indigenous practices that have longevity within Tribal communities and/or traditional healing methods to support Tribal youth exist throughout the juvenile justice continuum. These approaches may be proposed as prevention, intervention or treatment strategies and may be proposed alone or in combination with other approaches.

OJJDP also recognizes that many Tribes are impacted by state and local juvenile justice efforts and endeavor to ensure that their youth receive effective and culturally sensitive services. Proposals that include efforts to develop or strengthen State-Tribal partnerships can be incorporated at any point along the juvenile justice continuum as a component of a Tribal Youth Program.

## 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.