



# REDUCING HOMELESS POPULATIONS' INVOLVEMENT IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

*RESOURCE GUIDE*

U.S. Department of Justice



## U.S. Department of Justice

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This resource guide is intended to generate greater awareness in the field among law enforcement, courts, prosecutors, defenders, state and local legislators, advocates, social service providers, and the homeless about U.S. Department of Justice resources available to serve homeless people, and those at risk of homelessness, who are involved in the criminal justice system. This population includes those with mental health and substance abuse issues, juveniles, and victims of domestic violence. This tool should be used as a guide for stakeholders seeking to implement innovative justice system strategies that reduce this vulnerable population's contact with the criminal justice system.

The Resource Guide is being released in conjunction with the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness report, *Searching out Solutions: Constructive Alternatives to the Criminalization of Homelessness*, available at [www.usich.gov/issue/alternatives\\_to\\_criminalization/](http://www.usich.gov/issue/alternatives_to_criminalization/)

More information about the U.S. Department of Justice can be found at [www.justice.gov/](http://www.justice.gov/)

More information about the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness can be found at [www.usich.gov/](http://www.usich.gov/)



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## PUBLICATIONS

### **Effective Alternatives to Incarceration: Police Collaborations with Corrections and Communities**

This publication examines the problems created by decades of growth in the U.S. prison population, and the role of police in community-based alternatives to prison. It examines police involvement in programs around the country, which are effective in dealing with crime, while keeping low risk offenders in the community. Interventions profiled include Mental Health Courts and Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT), where police, corrections and mental health professionals work together to find treatment for and lower the unnecessary confinement of the mentally ill.

<http://cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=536>

### **Homeless Encampments**

Homeless Encampments provides police with information about the problem of homeless encampments and reviews the factors that contribute to it. It also reviews responses to the problem and what is known about them from evaluative research and police practice.

<http://cops.usdoj.gov/Publications/e011013251-HomelessEncampments.pdf>

### **Panhandling**

This problem-oriented guide for police addresses the problem of panhandling. It also covers nearly equivalent conduct in which, in exchange for donations, people perform nominal labor such as cleaning the windshields of cars stopped in traffic, holding car doors open, saving parking spaces, guarding parked cars, buying subway tokens, and carrying luggage or groceries. This guide will help law enforcement understand the factors that contribute to their local panhandling problems and develop effective responses.

<http://cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=145>

### **People with Mental Illness**

Law enforcement officers encounter people with mental illness in many different types of situations, in roles that include criminal offenders, disorderly persons, missing persons, complainants, victims and persons in need of care. This guide is an essential tool for local law enforcement to analyze their local problem associated with people with mental illness and reviews responses to these problems based on evaluative research and police practice.

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=148>

### **Prisoner Reentry and Community Policing: Strategies for Enhancing Public Safety**

This report describes the effects of prisoner reentry on communities and the impact on community safety and public perceptions of crime. The role of the

police is examined by outlining the benefits of applying community policing strategies to prisoner reentry and exploring opportunities for police involvement. The report highlights specific examples from the field of how new police roles in prisoner reentry have been put into practice across the nation. A discussion of the potential organizational and community-level challenges to expanding law enforcement's role in reentry follows along with suggested strategies for overcoming these obstacles and opportunities for advancing police reentry initiatives from both a practical and a policy perspective.

<http://cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=159>

**Promoting Partnerships between Police and Community Supervision Agencies:  
How Coordination Can Reduce Crime and Improve Public Safety**

Intended for all levels of law enforcement and community supervision personnel, *Promoting Partnerships between Police and Community Supervision Agencies* describes how these organizations build partnerships to enhance public safety. The first section of this guidebook discusses the various contributions and benefits each agency can bring to a partnership; the second discusses the key elements of partnership; and the third identifies challenges both agencies might encounter. Provided throughout the guidebook, examples of partnerships in the field offer tangible illustrations of how police and community supervision collaboration can be structured.

<http://cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=606>

**Tackling Crime and Other Public-Safety Problems: Case Studies in Problem-Solving**

This compilation provides detailed descriptions of nearly 50 problem-oriented policing efforts dealing with a wide-variety of specific crime and social disorder problems.

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=202>

## RESEARCH

### **Homeless and Non-Homeless Arrestees: Distinctions in Prevalence and in Sociodemographic, Drug Use, and Arrest Characteristics Across DUF Sites**

Richard Spiegman, Rex Green (1999)

The study hypothesized that homeless persons would be arrested more often for less serious crimes than housed persons and would be more likely to be involved with drugs, but not receiving drug treatment. The rates of homeless arrestees were much higher than the rates of homelessness for the communities where arrestees lived. After distinguishing three subgroups of adult arrestees and three subgroups of juvenile arrestees based on sociodemographic, arrest-status, drug-use, and drug-history variables, tests of difference on four variables were performed between homeless and housed arrestees. Across subgroups, homeless persons consistently were less likely to be charged with violent crimes than were housed persons. Proportionately more homeless persons reported previous participation in drug treatment, which was consistent with their higher levels of drug involvement; however, levels of current participation in treatment did not differ between the two groups. This report recommends that more consistent referrals be made to drug treatment for homeless persons. Further, police agencies and the public should be made more aware that homeless persons are not apparently among the more violent offenders. The higher arrest rates of homeless persons compared with housed persons suggests the need for alternative approaches for maintaining order and promoting justice when policing the homeless.

[www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/193805.pdf](http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/193805.pdf)

### **The Experience of Violence in the Lives of Homeless Women: A Research Report**

Jana L. Jasinski, Jennifer K. Wesely, Elizabeth Mustaine, and James D. Wright (2005)

This multi-site statewide study examined the experience of violence among 800 homeless women living in one of four cities in Florida and a comparison sample of approximately 100 men. A significant number of women were victimized in their lifetime, and almost one-quarter of the women indicated that violence was one, if not the main reason, they were homeless. In fact, almost one-third of the sample of women indicated they had left a childhood home due to violence. The results of the multivariate analysis indicated that childhood violence significantly increased the risk for adult victimization net of all other factors in the model. In addition, other risk factors included current alcohol use, being divorced or separated, a greater number of children, number of times homeless, and depression. Researchers conclude that homeless women are a vulnerable population with childhood violence at the crux of this vulnerability.

[www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/211976.pdf](http://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/211976.pdf)

## GRANT PROGRAMS & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### General

**Program Name:** Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

**FY 2012 Funding** \$392,971,365

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/jag.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/jag.html)

**Program Contact** Darius LoCicero, (202) 514-2553, [Darius.LoCicero@usdoj.gov](mailto:Darius.LoCicero@usdoj.gov)

#### **Program Description**

The JAG program is the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. JAG provides states, tribes, and local governments with critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas including law enforcement; prosecution and court; prevention and education; corrections and community corrections; drug treatment and enforcement; planning, evaluation, and technology improvement; and crime victim and witness initiatives. JAG funds may be used to address crime by providing services directly to individuals and communities; and by improving the effectiveness and efficiency of criminal justice systems, processes, and procedures. JAG awards are four years in length and are distributed up front instead of on a reimbursement basis, allowing recipients to earn interest on their awards and generate additional funding for successful initiatives and future projects. On average, more than 40 percent of annual JAG funding is allocated to law enforcement personnel, initiatives, and equipment including, but not limited to, multijurisdictional drug and gang task forces, police cruisers, and less than lethal devices. Remaining JAG funding is used to support a variety of programs and initiatives in the areas of courts, corrections, treatment, and justice information sharing.

**FY 2012 Funding:** \$6,185,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [COPS](#)

**Web Link** [www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=2450](http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=2450)

**Program Contact** : Barry Bratburd (202)353-9884 [Barry.Bratburd@usdoj.gov](mailto:Barry.Bratburd@usdoj.gov)

#### **Program Description**

Community Policing Development (CPD) funds are used to advance the practice of community policing in law enforcement agencies through training and technical assistance, the development of innovative community policing strategies, applied research, guidebooks, and best practices that are national in scope. The COPS Office, a federal provider of innovative, customer-focused resources that address the continuing and emerging needs of those engaged in enhancing public safety through community policing, has designed the CPD solicitation to address critical topics in the law enforcement field by building on the principles of community policing.

The 2012 CPD grant program has been established to fund projects related to one of the following topic areas:

- Community Policing Enhancement (COPS-CPD-2012-1)
- Ethics and Integrity (COPS-CPD-2012-2)
- Policing in the New Economy (COPS-CPD-2012-3)
- Child and Youth Safety (COPS-CPD-2012-4)
- Police Operations (COPS-CPD-2012-5)

- Officer Safety and Wellness (COPS-CPD-2012-06)
- Veterans Support (COPS-CPD-2012-7)
- Open Topics (COPS-CPD-2012-8)

The CPD Program is open to all public governmental agencies, profit and non-profit institutions, universities, community groups and faith based organizations

## **Judicial System**

**Program Name** Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program

**FY 2012 Funding** \$24,675,453

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** <http://www.bja.gov/grant/drugcourts.html>

**Program Contact** Tim Jeffries, (202) 616-7385, [Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov](mailto:Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov)

### **Program Description**

This program will provide financial and technical assistance to states, state courts, local courts, and units of state, local, and tribal governments to implement and enhance drug treatment courts that effectively integrate substance abuse treatment, mandatory drug testing, sanctions and incentives, and transitional services in a judicially supervised court setting with jurisdiction over nonviolent, substance abusing offenders. Programs funded by Drug Court discretionary grants are required by law to target nonviolent offenders and must implement a drug court based on 10 key components. This program supports adult drug court implementation and enhancement and statewide drug court enhancement and coordination.

**Program Name** Adult Drug Court Training Initiative

**FY 2012 Funding** \$1,250,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** <http://www.bja.gov/grant/drugcourts.html>

**Program Contact** Tim Jeffries, (202) 616-7385, [Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov](mailto:Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov)

### **Program Description**

Through the Adult Drug Court Training Initiative, BJA provides culturally competent, interactive, drug court training services based on adult learning theory; develops and revises curricula for drug court practitioners; adjusts training delivery style based on the target audience size; develops and manages online training courses; and develops uniform protocols for evaluating and reporting on training services provided.

The BJA-approved drug court curricula accessible through this training initiative are Comprehensive Drug Court Judicial Training; Comprehensive Drug Court Coordinator Training; Comprehensive Drug Court Prosecutor Training; Comprehensive Drug Court Defense Attorney Training; Comprehensive Drug Court Treatment Provider Training; Comprehensive Drug Court Community Supervision Training; Comprehensive Drug Court Case Management Training; The Promise of Drug Court; Drug Court for Defense Counsel: A Paradigm Shift; Targeting and Eligibility; Psychopharmacology Treatment: What Works; Team Building; Confidentiality; Motivational Interviewing; Operational Tune-up Training; Incentives and Sanctions; Ensuring the Sustainability of Drug Court Programs; Supervising Methamphetamine Addicts in Drug Court; and Cultural Proficiency for Drug Court Practitioners.

**Program Name** Adult Drug Court Technical Assistance Program

**FY 2012 Funding** \$1,200,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/drugcourts.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/drugcourts.html)

**Program Contact** Tim Jeffries, (202) 616-7385, [Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov](mailto:Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov)



**Program Description**

The goal of this initiative is to assist operational adult drug treatment court programs in the development and implementation of improved program practices leading to greater program effectiveness and increased long-term participant success. The technical assistance provider serves both the BJA-funded adult implementation and enhancement drug court grantees, as well as other adult drug courts in the field.

**Program Name** Statewide Adult Drug Court Technical Assistance Program

**FY 2012 Funding** \$250,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/drugcourts.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/drugcourts.html)

**Program Contact** Tim Jeffries, (202) 616-7385, [Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov](mailto:Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

This program provides direct aid and information to state agencies to enhance the leadership of the drug court effort in their states, improve coordination and collaboration among the drug court agencies, and increase the likelihood for the institutionalization of drug courts in mainstream court operations. The Statewide Adult Drug Court Technical Assistance provider serves those states that have received BJA Statewide Adult Drug Court Enhancement grants, as well as other states through the statewide drug/problem solving court coordinators.

**Program Name** Adult Drug Court Planning Initiative (DCPI)

**FY 2012 Funding** \$1,600,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/drugcourts.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/drugcourts.html)

**Program Contact** Tim Jeffries, (202) 616-7385, [Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov](mailto:Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

DCPI consists of a standardized core curriculum based on adult learning theory and the 10 key components to support the implementation of adult drug courts. Each 5-day training event will host planning teams comprising a judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, treatment provider, coordinator, probation officer, law enforcement official, and evaluator.

DCPI also will engage mentor drug courts in the planning initiative. BJA and the training provider will jointly nominate and select exceptional drug courts to serve as mentors to new and operational courts. DCPI trainings may be hosted in or around the mentor courts so that newly forming teams can benefit from fully functioning, outcome oriented, drug court programs. BJA also has partnered with the Veterans Administration (VA) to develop a Veterans Court Planning Initiative to train existing drug court teams on how to capitalize on the substance abuse and mental health treatment, physical health services, housing subsidies, and skills training available through the VA. Additionally, tribal healing to wellness court teams will be trained on tribal drug court implementation.

**Program Name** National Drug Court Resource Center

**FY 2012 Funding** \$400,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/drugcourts.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/drugcourts.html)

**Program Contact** Tim Jeffries, (202) 616-7385, [Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov](mailto:Timothy.Jeffries@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

The National Drug Court Resource Center collects, maintains, and disseminates information about drug court operations, best practices, trends, and history. Through the center, BJA compiles and continually updates information on national drug court activities and emerging issues, maintains an extensive reference collection of drug court materials, and serves the drug court field by providing comprehensive, timely responses to all relevant requests for drug court information.

**Program Name** Family Drug Court Programs

**FY 2012 Funding** \$2,300,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [OJJDP](#)

**Web Link** [www.ojjdp.gov/](http://www.ojjdp.gov/)

**Program Contact** Gwendolyn Williams, (202) 616-1611, [Gwendolyn.Williams@usdoj.gov](mailto:Gwendolyn.Williams@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

OJJDP will implement and enhance family drug courts that serve substance-abusing adults, who are involved in the family dependency court system as a result of child abuse and neglect issues. Grantees must provide services to the children of the parents in the program, as well as to the parents.

**Program Name** Judicial Training

**Grantee** National Judicial College (NJC)

**FY 2011 Funding** \$500,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.judges.org](http://www.judges.org)

**Program Contact** Kim Ball, (202) 307-2076, [Kim.Ball@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kim.Ball@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

BJA partners with NJC to provide judges the opportunity to enhance their judicial skills through courses and programs designed specifically to meet the needs of our changing judiciary. BJA and NJC work with chief justices, state court administrators, and state judicial educators to ensure that judges have scholarship opportunities to participate in these educational experiences. The courses offered range from the two-week "General Jurisdiction" course for new judges, to courses for experienced judges, such as "Advanced Evidence and Decision Making," and from specialized training, such as "Practical Approaches to Substance Abuse Issues and Co-occurring Mental and Substance Abuse Disorders," to skills-based courses such as "Judicial Writing and Enhancing Judicial Bench Skills."

**Program Name** Answering Gideon's Call: Improving Indigent Defense Delivery Systems

**FY 2012 Funding** \$1,400,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** <https://www.bja.gov/Funding/12ImpIndigentDefenseSol.pdf>

**Program Contact** Kim Ball, (202) 307-2076, [Kim.Ball@usdoj.gov](mailto:Kim.Ball@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

The Bureau of Justice Assistance distributes grants designed to contribute to indigent defense knowledge and practice by testing approaches to providing quality indigent defense services using the Ten Principles of a Public Defense Delivery System promulgated by the American Bar Association (ABA) in 2002 ("ABA Ten Principles").

## **Justice & Mental Health**

**Program Name** Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP)

**FY 2012 Funding** \$6,668,574

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/JMHCprogram.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/JMHCprogram.html)

**Program Contact** Danica Szarvas-Kidd, (202) 305-7418, [Danica.Szarvas-Kidd@usdoj.gov](mailto:Danica.Szarvas-Kidd@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

This program increases public safety by facilitating collaboration among the criminal

justice, juvenile justice, mental health treatment, and substance abuse systems to increase access to treatment for this unique group of offenders. The program

- increases public safety through early intervention for people with mental illness or a co-occurring disorder within the criminal or juvenile justice system;
- provides courts, including existing and new mental health courts, with appropriate mental health and substance abuse treatment options;
- maximizes the use of diversion from prosecution, alternative sentences through community supervision, and graduated sanctions, as appropriate, in cases involving nonviolent offenders with mental illness;
- promotes adequate training for criminal justice system personnel regarding mental illness and substance abuse disorders and the appropriate responses to people with such illnesses, including those with developmental and learning disabilities; and
- promotes adequate training for mental health and substance abuse treatment personnel regarding criminal offenders with mental illness or co-occurring substance abuse disorders and the appropriate response to such offenders in the criminal justice system.

**Program Name** Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Training and Technical Assistance Program

**FY 2012 Funding** \$600,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/JMHCprogram.htm](http://www.bja.gov/grant/JMHCprogram.htm) and [http://consensusproject.org/issue\\_areas/justice-and-mental-health-collaboration-program](http://consensusproject.org/issue_areas/justice-and-mental-health-collaboration-program)

**Program Contact** Danica Szarvas-Kidd, (202) 305-7418, [Danica.Szarvas-Kidd@usdoj.gov](mailto:Danica.Szarvas-Kidd@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

The training and technical assistance (TTA) partner will provide technical assistance to BJA's Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program grantees that are planning, implementing, or expanding collaborative programs that improve responses to people with mental illnesses involved with the criminal justice system. TTA includes providing proactive, comprehensive, user-friendly TTA services; developing uniform protocols for the assessment and delivery of TTA, as well as tracking, evaluation, and follow-up; using TTA strategies that include developing tools and resources for grantees, such as distance learning, peer-to-peer consultations, onsite technical assistance, and ongoing technical assistance by phone and e-mail; and planning and hosting grantee meetings.

**Program Name** Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHC) State-Based Capacity Building Program (CBP)

**FY 2012 Funding** \$525,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/JMHCprogram.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/JMHCprogram.html)

**Program Contact** Danica Szarvas-Kidd, (202) 305-7418, [Danica.Szarvas-Kidd@usdoj.gov](mailto:Danica.Szarvas-Kidd@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

The primary goal of this program is to provide comprehensive resources and services to eligible but unfunded JMHC grant applicants. The Council of State Governments Justice Center will serve as the primary source of information on justice and mental health collaboration programs and will implement strategies that include developing tools and resources such as distance learning; peer-to-peer consultations; and onsite, phone, and e-mail assistance to customers. In addition, the Justice Center will plan for a national conference that will focus on criminal justice and mental health collaborations.

## **Second Chance Act**

**Program Name** Second Chance Act Adult and Juvenile Offender Reentry Demonstration Projects

**FY 2012 Funding** \$1,200,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [OJJDP](#)

**Web Link** [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/SecondChance.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/SecondChance.html)

**Program Contact** Thomas Murphy, (202) 353-8734, [Thomas.Murphy@usdoj.gov](mailto:Thomas.Murphy@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

OJJDP, in collaboration with BJA, will support additional demonstration projects under the Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Initiative, a comprehensive response to the increasing number of people who are released from prison, jail, and juvenile facilities each year and are returning to their communities. The goal of this initiative is to reduce the rate of recidivism for offenders released from a juvenile residential facility and increase public safety. Demonstration projects provide necessary services to youth while in confinement and following their release into the community. The initiative will focus on addressing the unique needs of girls reentering their communities.

**Program Name** Second Chance Act Adult and Juvenile Offender Reentry Demonstration Projects (Section 101)

**FY 2012 Funding** \$6,400,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/SecondChance.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/SecondChance.html)

**Program Contact** Gary Dennis, (202) 305-9059, [Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov); Thurston Bryant, (202) 514-8082, [Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov](mailto:Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

The Second Chance Act authorizes grants to state and local governments and federally recognized Indian tribes for demonstration projects to promote the safe and successful reintegration of incarcerated individuals into the community. Allowable funding uses include employment services, substance abuse treatment, housing, family programming, mentoring, victim services, methods to improve release and revocation decisions using risk assessment tools, and other services.

**Program Name** Second Chance Mentoring Program (Section 211)

**FY 2012 Funding** [\\$5,600,000\\*](#)

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/SecondChance.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/SecondChance.html)

**Program Contact** Gary Dennis, (202) 305-9059, [Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov); Thurston Bryant, (202) 514-8082, [Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov](mailto:Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

The Second Chance Act authorizes mentoring grants for nonprofit organizations and federally recognized Indian tribes. Project initiatives include mentoring adult offenders and offering transitional or other services to promote the safe and successful reintegration of formerly incarcerated individuals back into the community.

\*The peer review process in FY 2011 yielded a high number of qualified and competitive applications, many of which remain unfunded. The peer review process, while serving a valuable function in assisting BJA staff make funding decisions, is also costly and is funded with Second Chance Act program funds. By relying on the peer review results of FY 2011 and forgoing a new competitive application process including peer review in FY 2012, BJA is able to maximize the number of awards made to the field. Therefore, BJA will not be issuing a FY 2012 Second Chance Act Mentoring solicitation and instead will

recommend FY 2012 Second Chance Act mentoring awards from the list of unfunded, qualified, and highly competitive FY 2011 applications.

**Program Name** Second Chance Act Family-Based Prisoner Substance Abuse Treatment Program (Section 113)

**FY 2012 Funding** \$2,400,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/BJA/grant/SecondChance.html](http://www.bja.gov/BJA/grant/SecondChance.html)

**Program Contact** Gary Dennis, (202) 305-9059, [Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov); Thurston Bryant, (202) 514-8082, [Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov](mailto:Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

Section 113 of the Second Chance Act authorizes grants to states, units of local government, and Indian tribes to improve the provision of substance abuse treatment within prisons and jails and after reentry for inmates who have minor children. It also includes outreach to families and provision of treatment and other services to children and other family members of participant inmates. BJA is seeking applications from eligible applicants to plan, implement, or expand such treatment programs.

**Program Name** Second Chance Act Co-Occurring Substance Abuse and Mental Health Disorders (Section 201)

**FY 2012 Funding** \$6,000,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/SecondChance.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/SecondChance.html)

**Program Contact** Gary Dennis, (202) 305-9059, [Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov); Thurston Bryant, (202) 514-8082, [Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov](mailto:Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

Section 201 of the Second Chance Act authorizes grants to states, units of local government, territories, and Indian tribes to improve the provision of drug treatment to offenders in prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities during the period of incarceration and through the completion of parole or other court supervision after release into the community. BJA is seeking applications from eligible applicants to implement or expand offender treatment programs for re-entering offenders with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health disorders.

**Program Name** Second Chance Act Demonstration Field Experiment: Fostering Desistance through Effective Supervision

**FY 2012 Funding** \$4,000,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/grant/SecondChance.html](http://www.bja.gov/grant/SecondChance.html)

**Program Contact** Ed Banks, (202) 307-3081, [Edward.Banks@usdoj.gov](mailto:Edward.Banks@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

This Demonstration Field Experiment (DFE) will focus on techniques to improve an offender's motivation to change, and strategies to alter criminal thinking using a desistance approach. The multi-site DFE also will provide a rigorous test of a specific reentry model intended to improve offender outcomes post-release. Some of the outcomes of interest include, but are not limited to, re-offending and re-incarceration (recidivism).

The goals of the program are to (1) improve the offender's motivation to change; (2) address cognitive and behavioral functioning regarding crime-prone thoughts and behaviors; and (3) address core criminogenic needs that affect an offender's performance while on parole. The model also works on building the infrastructure of the reentry process and community-based services to deliver collaborative and seamless services.

## **Victims of Crime**

**Program Name** Wraparound Victim Legal Assistance Network Demonstration Project

**FY 2012 Funding** \$2,400,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [OVC](#)

**Web Link** [www.ovc.gov](http://www.ovc.gov)

**Program Contact** Meg Morrow (202) 307-5983, [Meg.Morrow@usdoj.gov](mailto:Meg.Morrow@usdoj.gov)

### **Program Description**

This demonstration project will fund up to six sites to develop comprehensive, wraparound, pro bono legal assistance networks to meet the wide range of legal needs of crime victims. The networks funded under this demonstration project will develop collaborative models, in jurisdictions of various sizes, for fully meeting a victim's legal needs -- models that may be replicated in other jurisdictions of similar sizes around the country. Legal services will include civil legal assistance (including but not limited to family, custody and dependency, tribal, employment, and administrative issues related to the victimization); enforcement of victims' rights in criminal proceedings; assistance for victims of financial fraud; and immigration assistance for human trafficking victims and battered immigrant women.

**Program Name** Services for Victims of Human Trafficking

**FY 2012 Funding** \$TBD

**DOJ Sponsor** [OVC](#)

**Web Link** [www.ovc.gov](http://www.ovc.gov)

**Program Contact** Brad Mitchell, (202) 514-9069, [Bradley.Mitchell@usdoj.gov](mailto:Bradley.Mitchell@usdoj.gov)

### **Program Description**

This program provides funding to victim service organizations with a demonstrated history of providing trauma-informed, culturally competent services to male and female victims of sex trafficking and labor trafficking. Funding under this program will support either a comprehensive array of services for trafficking victims in specific geographic areas or specialized mental health or legal services over larger geographic areas. Funding also will support efforts to increase the capacity of communities to respond to victims through the development of interagency partnerships and public outreach and awareness campaigns.

**Program Name** Services for American Victims of Domestic Violence Overseas

**Grantee** Americans Overseas Domestic Violence Crisis Center

**FY 2012 Funding** \$250,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [OVC](#)

**Web Link** [www.ovc.gov](http://www.ovc.gov)

**Program Contact** Sharron Chapman, (202) 305-2358, [Sharron.Chapman@usdoj.gov](mailto:Sharron.Chapman@usdoj.gov)

### **Program Description**

This demonstration program supports one organization that will provide a range of services to American victims of domestic violence overseas, including but not limited to crisis hotline support, safety planning, counseling referrals, relocation assistance, and legal assistance. The grantee will be expected to support replication of the program through the development of a series of bulletins highlighting the project, to be published by OVC. The grantee will be required to work in close coordination with agencies funded under the Services for American Victims of Crime Overseas program, a broader initiative to address the needs of all American victims of overseas crimes other than domestic violence.

**Program Name** Victim Assistance  
**FY 2012 Funding** See description below  
**DOJ Sponsor** [OVC](#)

**Web Link** [www.ovc.gov](http://www.ovc.gov)

**Program Contact** Toni Thomas, (202) 307-5983, [Toni.Thomas@usdoj.gov](mailto:Toni.Thomas@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

States and territories receive VOCA funds to support community-based organizations that serve crime victims. More than 4,000 grants are made to domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, child abuse programs, and victim service units in law enforcement agencies, prosecutors' offices, hospitals, and social service agencies. These programs provide services that include crisis intervention, counseling, emergency shelter, criminal justice advocacy, and emergency transportation.

States and territories are required to give priority to programs serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. Additional funds must be set aside for underserved victims, such as survivors of homicide victims and victims of drunk drivers.

All states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico receive a base victim assistance amount of \$500,000 each. The territories of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and American Samoa each receive a base amount of \$200,000. Additional funds are distributed based on population. Applications for VOCA formula grants may be submitted online *only* by the state agency designated by the governor to administer the VOCA victim compensation and assistance program.

**Program Name** Transitional Housing Grant Program

**FY 2012 Funding** \$25,000,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [OVW](#)

**Web Link:** [www.ovw.usdoj.gov](http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov)

**Program Contact:** (202)616-3851

**Program Description**

The Transitional Housing Assistance Program Grant for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, or Sexual Assault Program (Transitional Housing Assistance Program) focuses on a holistic, victim-centered approach to provide transitional housing services that move individuals into permanent housing. The OVW Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Program focuses on a holistic, victim-centered approach to providing transitional housing services that move survivors into permanent housing. Grants made under this grant program support programs that provide assistance to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking who are in need of transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and related support services. Successful transitional housing programs provide a wide range of flexible and optional services that reflect the differences and individual needs of victims and that allow victims to choose the course of action that is best for them. Transitional housing programs may offer individualized services such as counseling, support groups, safety planning, and advocacy services as well as practical services such as licensed child care, employment services, transportation vouchers, telephones, and referrals to other agencies."

**Program Name** Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program

**FY 2012 Funding** \$41,000,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [OVW](#)

**Web Link:** [www.ovw.usdoj.gov](http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov)

**Program Contact:** (202) 616-3851

**Program Description** The Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program (Legal Assistance Program) strengthens civil and criminal legal assistance for victims of sexual assault,

stalking, domestic violence, and dating violence through innovative, collaborative programs. These programs provide victims with representation and legal advocacy in family, immigration, administrative agency, or housing matters, protection or stay-away order proceedings, and other similar matters. The Legal Assistance Program increases the availability of civil and criminal legal assistance in order to provide effective aid to victims who are seeking relief in legal matters arising because of abuse or violence.

## **Tribal Justice Systems**

**Program Name** Tribal Criminal and Civil Legal Assistance (TCCLA)

**FY 2012 Funding** \$2,250,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link:** [www.bja.gov/funding/current-opp.html](http://www.bja.gov/funding/current-opp.html)

**Program Contact** Norena Henry, (202) 616-3205, [Norena.henry@usdoj.gov](mailto:Norena.henry@usdoj.gov)

### **Program Description**

The TCCLA program helps enhance the operations of tribal justice systems and improves access to those systems. TCCLA provides grants to organizations to provide legal services for indigent defendants and respondents in tribal justice systems. In addition, this solicitation calls for applications to provide training and technical assistance for the development, enrichment, and enhancement of judicial system personnel and practices within tribal justice systems. Eligible organizations for direct service grants are tribal and non-tribal non-profit (Internal Revenue Code (I.R.C.) § 501(c)(3)) entities, including tribal enterprises and educational institutions (public, private and tribal colleges and universities), that provide legal assistance services for federally recognized Indian tribes; members of federally recognized Indian tribes; or tribal justice systems pursuant to federal poverty guidelines. Eligible organizations for the training and technical assistance grants are national or regional membership organizations and associations whose membership or membership section consists of judicial system personnel within tribal justice systems.

## **State & Local Governments**

**Program Name** State Legislative Education and Action Project

**Grantee** National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

**FY 2012 Funding** \$75,000

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.ojp.gov/bja](http://www.ojp.gov/bja)

**Program Contact** Lesley Buchan, (202) 305-0517, [Lesley.Buchan@usdoj.gov](mailto:Lesley.Buchan@usdoj.gov)

### **Program Description**

NCSL, in a cooperative partnership with BJA, works to educate and inform state legislators and legislative staff in the 50 states and territories on priority criminal justice issues. The project fosters leadership capacity in state legislatures for examining cost-effective public safety and corrections options; and facilitates communication among state leaders on issues related to evidence-based planning and policies, reentry and recidivism reduction. Project objectives involve convening meetings and preparing publications on topics that explore and illustrate data-driven criminal justice approaches. The project employs the infrastructure of NCSL forums and products that are recognizable and credible to state lawmakers and their staff, to provide information that helps guide decision making.



**Program Name** Justice Reinvestment

**Grantees** Council of State Governments Justice Center, Vera Institute of Justice, Center for Effective Public Policy, Criminal and Justice Institute

**FY 2012 Funding** \$5,360,649

**DOJ Sponsor** [BJA](#)

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/topics/justice\\_reinvestment.html](http://www.bja.gov/topics/justice_reinvestment.html)

**Program Contact** Gary Dennis, (202) 305-9059, [Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov](mailto:Gary.Dennis@usdoj.gov); Thurston Bryant, (202) 514-8082, [Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov](mailto:Thurston.Bryant@usdoj.gov)

**Program Description**

Justice Reinvestment is a data-driven approach designed to reduce corrections spending and redirect savings to alternative criminal justice strategies aimed at increasing public safety. Based on the collection and analyses of corrections, court, crime, and resource data, the drivers of state and local criminal justice system costs are identified. Policy responses and evidence-based practices are then developed to support a strategic plan to reduce costs and invest the resulting savings in services, programs, and activities designed to prevent crime and shore up the communities that are hardest hit by the incarceration and return of criminal justice populations. The ultimate goal is to achieve greater public safety at a lower cost while supporting more prevention-oriented and community-focused strategies

## **Grant Management Resources**

**Office of Justice Programs, Grants 101:**

Provides an overview of the process for the Office of Justice Programs grant review and award process.

**Web Link** [www.ojp.gov/grants101/](http://www.ojp.gov/grants101/)

**Office of Justice Programs, Grants Management System Computer Based Training**

Provides computer based training that teaches trainees how to use the grant management system to search, apply, accept, manage, and report progress of funding opportunities from the Office of Justice Programs.

**Web Link** [www.ojp.gov/gmscbt/](http://www.ojp.gov/gmscbt/)

**Bureau of Justice Assistance, Center for Program Evaluation and Performance Measurement**

Provides useful resources for state and local agencies for planning and implementing program evaluations and for developing and collecting program performance measures required by BJA to measure program performance.

**Web Link** [www.bja.gov/evaluation/index.html](http://www.bja.gov/evaluation/index.html)

**Bureau of Justice Assistance, Grant Writing and Management Academy**

Provides an overview of project planning, management, administration, and assessment of federally funded programs.

**Web Link** <http://bjajncjrs.gov/gwma/index.html>

<b>Bureau of Justice Affairs Grants</b>	<a href="https://www.bja.gov/funding.aspx">https://www.bja.gov/funding.aspx</a>
<b>Office of Community Oriented Policing Services Grants</b>	<a href="http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/">http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/</a>
<b>Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Grants</b>	<a href="http://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingList.asp">http://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/FundingList.asp</a>
<b>National Institute of Justice Grants</b>	<a href="http://www.nij.gov/funding/welcome.htm">http://www.nij.gov/funding/welcome.htm</a>
<b>Office for Victims of Crimes Grants</b>	<a href="http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/grants/types.html">http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/grants/types.html</a>
<b>Office of Violence Against Women Grants</b>	<a href="http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/ovwgrantprograms.htm">http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/ovwgrantprograms.htm</a>
<b>Office of Justice Programs (OJP) e-mail subscription service</b>	<a href="http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/govdelivery/subscribe.htm">http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/govdelivery/subscribe.htm</a>
<p>For a comprehensive listing of all Department of Justice (DOJ) and other federal agency grants, please visit: <a href="http://www07.grants.gov/">http://www07.grants.gov/</a></p>	

## OTHER RESOURCES

Since its launch in 2010, **The Access to Justice Initiative** has worked to help the justice system efficiently deliver outcomes that are fair and accessible to all, irrespective of wealth and status. The Initiative's staff works within the Department of Justice, across federal agencies, and with state, local and tribal justice system stakeholders to increase access to counsel and legal assistance, and to improve the justice delivery systems that serve people who are unable to afford lawyers. One of the paramount goals of the Initiative is to focus with special care on the legal needs of the most vulnerable, including the homeless, juveniles, veterans, and people suffering from mental illness and substance abuse, among others.

The Access to Justice Initiative and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, with support from the Department of Housing and Urban Development convened a full day discussion with stakeholders from around the country to discuss the intersection of the nation's criminal justice systems with homelessness, and the development of constructive alternatives to the criminalization of homelessness, including implementation of innovative justice system strategies that provide alternatives to prosecution and incarceration and that offer reentry planning for individuals who are returning to the community after interaction with the criminal justice system. Such strategies include the use of specialty courts, citation dismissal programs, holistic public defenders offices, and reentry programs. The *Searching out Solutions: Constructive Alternatives to the Criminalization of Homelessness* report released in April of 2012 explores the themes and solutions identified at the convening. To learn more about the report published by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, please visit [www.usich.gov/issue/alternatives\\_to\\_criminalization](http://www.usich.gov/issue/alternatives_to_criminalization).

To learn more about the Access to Justice Initiative, please visit [www.justice.gov/atj](http://www.justice.gov/atj).

**The Housing and Civil Enforcement Section of the Civil Rights Division** works to protect some of the most fundamental rights of individuals, including the right to access housing free from discrimination, the right to access credit on an equal basis, the right to patronize places of business that provide public accommodations and the right to practice one's faith free from discrimination.

Experience has shown that organizations seeking to provide housing suited to the needs of persons who have been experiencing homelessness frequently encounter opposition from neighboring residents and municipal authorities, who are in a position to block the development through the enforcement of land use regulations. Where that opposition is based on the actual or perceived disabilities of the prospective residents, the statutes enforced by the Civil Rights Division – specifically, the Fair Housing Act and Title II of the Americans With Disabilities Act – can provide a useful tool to overcome such obstacles.

The Division's Housing & Civil Enforcement Section has litigated cases where efforts to establish residences for homeless populations have been blocked by zoning and other obstacles. In addition to these cases about housing that were specifically intended for homeless persons, the Housing & Civil Enforcement Section has brought many other cases against municipalities on behalf of providers of housing for persons with disabilities, such as mental illness and addiction of alcohol or illegal drugs. Since their disabilities put such persons at a greater risk of homelessness, housing suited for their needs also contributes to the solution of the homelessness problem, regardless of whether the residents of a particular facility have actually undergone homelessness.

Individuals who believe that they have been victims of housing discrimination may file a complaint with the [Department of Housing and Urban Development](http://www.hud.gov) [HUD], or file their

own lawsuit in federal or state court, or both. You must file the complaint with HUD within one year of the incident you believe to be housing discrimination. You have two years to file your own lawsuit in federal court.

The Housing and Civil Enforcement Section also has authority to file litigation on its own behalf, where there has been a pattern or practice of discrimination or a denial of rights to a group of persons. If you want to bring a case of this kind to the attention of the Section, you should write to:

Housing & Civil Enforcement Section  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Civil Rights Division  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

The Section can be reached by telephone: (202) 514-4713 or toll-free at 800-896-7743 or email at [fairhousing@usdoj.gov](mailto:fairhousing@usdoj.gov).

**The Special Litigation Section of the Civil Rights Division** works to protect civil rights in the following areas: 1) the rights of people in state or local institutions, including: jails, prisons, juvenile detention facilities, and health care facilities for persons with disabilities; 2) the rights of individuals with disabilities to receive services in their communities, rather than in institutions; 3) the rights of people who interact with state or local police or sheriffs' departments; 4) the rights of youth involved in the juvenile justice system; 5) the rights of people to have safe access to reproductive health care clinics; and 6) the rights of people to practice their religion while confined to state and local institutions. We also work to protect people at risk of harm in these areas.

We investigate and litigate cases against States whose mental health systems fail to serve people in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs, in violation of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Too often, individuals in these systems find themselves facing homelessness, incarceration, and unnecessary institutionalization. Our settlement agreements focus on developing community-based mental health services to support individuals in integrated settings, supported housing to keep individuals in stable housing, and crisis response systems to provide individuals in crisis (and law enforcement responding to a crisis) alternatives to emergency rooms and jails.

In addition, we investigate and litigate cases against police departments that use unnecessary and unreasonable force, the victims of which often are homeless and/or mentally ill, in violation of the U.S. Constitution. Our findings letters about police departments have focused on developing policies, training, and accountability measures regarding de-escalation techniques, appropriate uses of force, and crisis intervention.

To file a complaint, write the Special Litigation Section (SPL) explaining the situation about which you are complaining, with as much detail as possible. If you are aware of similar incidents involving others, please include that information as well. SPL does not have legal authority to represent individuals. In most of SPL's work, a single incident of mistreatment will not be sufficient to start an investigation. The Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA) and the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act (FACE) are exceptions to this general rule, and single incidents may be sufficient to start an investigation. Please include information on how to contact you if we need further information (such as an address, telephone number and e-mail address). Also, do not include original documents as we cannot guarantee their safe return.

You can send information to:

Special Litigation Section  
U.S. Department of Justice  
Civil Rights Division  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Special Litigation Section  
Washington, D.C. 20530

The Section can be reached by telephone: (202) 514-6255 or toll-free at (877) 218-5228.