

Corrections Partnerships Concept Paper

February 24, 1998

Dear Colleague:

The National Institute of Justice and the Corrections Program Office of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) are pleased to announce a unique opportunity to foster researcher-practitioner partnerships to undertake research in the areas of corrections; community corrections; probation; parole; or sentencing impacts of the 1994 Crime Act. We are requesting that researcher-practitioner partnerships be developed to submit a concept paper proposing a research or evaluation activity in one of the suggested areas attached.

All those submitting concept papers will be invited to a working session sponsored by OJP to help translate the concept papers into full proposals; the workshop will be held in early May in Washington DC. Topics to be discussed at this workshop will include issues such as "when is a partnership really a partnership;" barriers to effective partnerships; methodological issues raised through concept paper review; writing effective proposals; NIJ proposal review process; and CPO technical assistance.

Those attending will be encouraged to submit full proposals. For the *Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT) partnership solicitation*, the relevant process evaluation cycle deadline will be 9/15/98, where up to ten awards of a maximum of \$60,000 each are expected to be given. For the *partnership section of the Research and Evaluation on Sentencing Reforms and Their Effects on Corrections Solicitation*, the relevant cycle deadline will be June 29, 1998, where up to ten awards of a maximum of \$150,000 are expected to be given.

Concept papers should be five to ten double-spaced pages in length, and are due to NIJ no later than close of business on **Tuesday, April 7th**. The concept papers should outline the following:

1. Statement of the problem and importance to the field;
2. General goals and objectives of the research;
3. General study design and methodological approach expected;
4. Expected management plan;
5. Description of the working partnership, and supporting letters.

Detailed budgets are not required, but the scope of the proposed work should be in line with the amounts described above, i.e., up to \$60,000 for the RSAT process evaluation solicitation and up to \$150,000 for the Violent Offender/Truth in Sentencing (VOI/TIS) solicitation. Please send five copies to:

*Partnerships Concept Paper
National Institute of Justice
810 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531*

If you have any questions, you may call NIJ staff, including Laura Winterfield (202-616-3482; email address winterfi@ojp.usdoj.gov); Voncile Gowdy (202-307-2951; email address voncile@ojp.usdoj.gov); or Pam Lattimore (202-307-2961; email address pam@ojp.usdoj.gov).

Sincerely,

Jeremy Travis

National Institute of Justice

Larry Meachum

Corrections Program Office

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Suggested Topics

Suggested topics are listed below. Other related topics may be appropriate.

VOI/TIS Topics

- Impact on correctional admissions, or on time served/length of stay.
- Impact on prison release and release procedures.
- Impact on the long term offender.
- Impact on inmate population.
- Impact on inmate classification systems.
- Impact on services delivered.
- Impact on time credits and inmate discipline.
- Impact on prison safety, order and discipline.
- Impact on delivery of prison health care.
- Impact of an aging prison population.
- Impact on correctional practices.
- Impact on the organization and management of correctional systems/institutions.
- Impact on correctional staff.
- Impact of use and growth of SuperMax prisons.
- Issues surrounding the use of privatization to expand capacity.
- Impact of violent juveniles sentenced as adults.
- Impact on juvenile justice systems.
- Impact on criminal justice system cost.
- Impact on sentencing statutes, policy and practice.
- Impact on courts and prosecutors.
- Impact on plea bargaining.
- Impact on criminal justice system responses to crime and punishment.
- States' efforts at freeing up bed space to incarcerate violent offenders.
- Impact on community corrections.
- Impacts as they relate to race, gender and ethnicity.
- Impact on communities, neighborhoods and families.
- Impact on reducing recidivism and other common measures of success.
- Impact on crime, crime patterns and crime rates.
- Impact on the rights and needs of crime victims.

Tribal Topics

- Relationship between alcohol, substance abuse and crime.
- Examination and assessment of the effectiveness of culturally appropriate programming and intermediate sanctions for adults and youth under tribal jurisdiction.
- Examination and assessment of culturally appropriate sanctioning approaches.
- Intended and unintended outcomes of sanctioning.
- Assessment of case management, criminal justice history information, and crime statistics in tribal justice systems.
- Appropriate security accommodations.
- Significance of aftercare and supervision in the treatment of Indian juvenile and adult criminal offenders.
- Assessment of sex offender treatment programs in Indian country, including probation and monitoring.
- Assessment of tribal prosecution and coordination of tribal-federal prosecution strategies on sexual offenses.
- Role of the tribe and extended family in tribal justice administration, sanction, and intervention.
- Innovative correctional and rehabilitative facility design for Indian country.

RSAT Topics

- Assessment of treatment approaches in correctional substance abuse treatment.
- Treatment models in correctional substance abuse treatment.
- Outcome measurement in correctional substance abuse treatment.
- Management information systems and their use in evaluating correctional substance abuse treatment.
- Screening and assessment in correctional substance abuse treatment.
- Linking aftercare with correctional substance abuse treatment