



OCT. 05

NIJ

Solicitation for Proposals

**Evaluation of OJJDP's Commercial Sexual
Exploitation of Children Demonstration
Program in Atlanta/Fulton County**

Notice:

You *must* submit your application electronically using Grants.gov.

Go to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding/howto.htm> for application instructions. For Grants.gov technical support, call 1-800-518-4726.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 16.560

CFDA Title: National Institute of Justice Research, Evaluation, and Development Project Grants

Deadline:

November 29, 2005

8 p.m. eastern time

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U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
810 Seventh Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20531

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Evaluation of OJJDP's Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Demonstration Program in Atlanta/Fulton County

I. Introduction

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice and a component of the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). NIJ provides objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to enhance the administration of justice and public safety. NIJ solicits proposals to inform its search for the knowledge and tools to guide policy and practice.

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) seeks proposals to conduct a formative evaluation of the Atlanta/Fulton-County pilot project supported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) that addresses the problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC). The project, chosen for its promising strategies to improve the community response to CSEC, is described in the appendix to this solicitation.

The evaluation will require collaboration between the evaluator, OJJDP, NIJ, and the Atlanta/Fulton County site to establish a data collection and performance monitoring system as well as build the site's capacity to assess program performance. Ultimately, this evaluation will assist OJJDP in identifying a set of model strategies and practices to address CSEC in other communities.

Due date: The due date is November 29, 2005. Extensions to the deadlines are generally not granted.

Page limit: The program narrative section of your proposal must not exceed 30 double-spaced pages in 12-point font with 1-inch margins. Abstract, table of contents, charts, figures, appendixes, and government forms do not count toward the 30-page limit for the narrative section.

Reasons for rejection: NIJ may reject applications that are incomplete, do not respond to the scope of the solicitation, do not comply with format requirements, or are submitted after the deadline. No additions to the original submission are allowed.

How to apply: Detailed instructions for using Grants.gov to apply are available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding/howto.htm>. For Grants.gov technical support, call 1-800-518-4726.

II. Proposal Topics

Commercial sexual exploitation of children refers to a continuum of abuse of a minor for economic gain and may include pornography, prostitution, and smuggling of minors for unlawful purposes.

The children who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation are often vulnerable or troubled even before they are victimized—many have experienced physical, psychological and/or sexual abuse by adult family members or friends. Long-term physical and emotional injury from commercial sexual exploitation remains with minors as they develop into adults, posing complex service challenges for the criminal justice system.

The extent to which minors are sexually exploited for economic gain is not known. Estimates have been made of the extent of child sexual exploitation, but it is not known what portion of these cases involve commercial sexual exploitation. In extreme cases, children have been kidnapped and sold into forced labor in the illegal sex industry or held in servitude to be sexually exploited while beaten, forced to use drugs, malnourished, and threatened with further harm to themselves and their families. Children are also exploited for sexual purposes by family and friends for monetary or other personal gain.

Atlanta is a city that has experienced a marked rise in the incidence of child sexual exploitation in recent years. With funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Atlanta has developed a program specifically targeting this problem.

This solicitation seeks proposals to conduct a formative, participatory evaluation of the Atlanta/Fulton County demonstration program that responds to victims of CSEC. A formative evaluation investigates the process of initiating and delivering a program while obtaining credible information for the purposes of program improvement and assessment.

The evaluator is expected to:

1. Conduct a formal needs assessment that:
 - a. Documents the scope and characteristics of CSEC in target communities.
 - b. Assesses the needs of clients/victims.

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- c. Ascertains the operational needs of the organization/collaborative in order to establish a baseline for the evaluation.
 2. Refine or update the services and activities plan (including development or refinement of a logic model) with the goal of expanded and improved programming, public awareness, professional development and training, and coordination among human services and criminal justice agencies.
 3. Assist in the enhancement of a data management system that will improve data collection and information sharing on victims and services.
 4. Develop the capacity of the collaborative to evaluate performance (e.g., establish performance measures and assess how collaboration helps achieve program goals).
 5. Document the ongoing implementation of the CSEC program.
 6. Establish mechanisms that feed research findings to program staff to enhance program development and improvement.
 7. Provide ongoing technical assistance (e.g., developing a logic model, assessing and refining a data management system, establishing performance measures, etc.).
 8. Document, in the final report, model strategies and practices to address CSEC in other areas.
 9. Identify steps to be taken to coordinate with an ongoing formative evaluation at a second program site in New York City.

The proposed evaluation should consistently relate back to the goals of the pilot program:

1. Expanded programming and services for youth sexually exploited for commercial purposes.
2. Increased public awareness and public education regarding the problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children.
3. Increased provision of training to professionals to help prevent future commercial sexual exploitation of children.
4. Improved coordination and collaboration among human services agencies, law enforcement, and courts to effectively prosecute adults who sexually exploit children for commercial purposes.

A critical aspect of the formative evaluation will be significant involvement and participation of program staff, local government, community representatives, and the federal government in the entire evaluation process. The proposed approach should, therefore, reflect the philosophy of this type of evaluation and should demonstrate a practical recognition of the role of the evaluator

as facilitator, collaborator, and learning resource to the program staff. Both quantitative and qualitative methods of inquiry are encouraged. Applicants should demonstrate competency in conducting this type of evaluation. In addition, applicants should demonstrate experience and competency in conducting culturally sensitive research in diverse and vulnerable communities.

The Atlanta/Fulton County program is located in a culturally diverse metropolitan area. As part of their project the Atlanta/Fulton County site plans to establish a community awareness campaign to address CSEC. An evaluation of this project will need to reflect an awareness of culturally appropriate strengths and limitations of such an effort.

III. General Requirements and Guidance

NIJ is asking you to submit a proposal that states the problem under investigation (including goals and objectives of the proposed project) and the relevance of the project to public policy, practice, or theory. The program narrative section should state the research question and objectives and explain how the work will contribute to knowledge and practice. It should describe in sufficient detail the research methods and analytic strategy.

Your application should include these elements:

• Program Narrative

The Program Narrative includes:

- a. Abstract (not to exceed 400 words).
- b. Table of contents.
- c. Main body, which includes:
 - Purpose, goals, and objectives.
 - Review of relevant literature.
 - Research design and methods.
 - Implications for policy and practice.
 - Management plan and organization.
 - Dissemination strategy.
- d. Appendixes (not counted against solicitation page limit) include:
 - Bibliography/References (if applicable).
 - List of key personnel (required).
 - Résumés of key personnel (required).
 - List of previous and current NIJ awards (required).
 - Letters of cooperation/support or administrative agreements from organizations collaborating in the project (if applicable).
 - Chart for timeline, research calendar, or milestones (required).
 - Other materials required by the solicitation.

- **Budget Detail Worksheet**

Templates for filling out the Budget Detail Worksheet may be found through the Internet at http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/Forms/budget_fillable.pdf, OJP Standard Forms & Instructions. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the Comptroller's Customer Service Center at 1-800-458-0786.

- **Budget Narrative**

- **Negotiated Indirect Rate Agreement** (if applicable)

- **Other Program Attachments**

These include several forms, available on OJP's funding page at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/forms.htm>.

- A. Submit applications online:** Paper applications are not accepted. Applications must be submitted online at Grants.gov. See <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding/howto.htm> for application instructions.
- B. Relevance of the project for policy and practice:** Higher quality proposals clearly explain the practical implications of the project. They connect technical expertise with policy and practice. To ensure that the project has strong relevance for policy and practice, some researchers and technologists collaborate with practitioners and policymakers. You may include letters showing support from practitioners, but they carry less weight than clear evidence that you understand why policymakers and practitioners would benefit from your work and how they would use it. While a partnership may affect State or local activities, it should also have broader implications for others across the country.
- C. Cofunding:** A grant made by NIJ under this solicitation may account for up to 100 percent of the total cost of the project. You must indicate whether you believe it is feasible for you to contribute cash, facilities, or services as non-Federal support for the project. Your proposal should identify generally any such contributions that you expect to make and your proposed budget should indicate in detail which items, if any, will be supported with non-Federal contributions.
- D. Number of grants to be awarded:** NIJ's grant award process is highly competitive. The number of awards NIJ makes is always subject to the availability of funds and the number and quality of applications received.
- E. When awards will be made:** All applicants, whether they are accepted or rejected, will be notified. The review and approval process takes about 6 months. You should not propose to begin work until at least 6 months after the proposal deadline on the cover of this solicitation.

Also, you should not expect to receive notification of a decision for at least 6 months after that date. Lists of awards are updated regularly on NIJ's Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>.

- F. Financial capability questionnaire:** Any applicant that is a nongovernmental entity and has not previously received an award from OJP will be required to complete and submit a financial capability questionnaire before any award is made.
- G. An environmental assessment may be required:** All awards are subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To ensure NEPA compliance, NIJ may require some award recipients to submit additional information.
- H. Protection of confidentiality:** Federal regulations require applicants for NIJ funding to outline specific procedures for protecting private information about individuals as part of the Privacy Certificate submitted with the application package. For additional information, see the chapter on confidentiality of information in "Guidelines: How to Submit Applications," <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm#gsya>.
- I. A DUNS number is required:** The Office of Management and Budget requires that all businesses and nonprofit applicants for Federal funds include a DUNS (Data Universal Numeric System) number in their application for a new award or renewal of an award. Applications without a DUNS number are incomplete. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of entities receiving Federal funds. The identifier is used for tracking purposes and to validate address and point of contact information. NIJ will use the DUNS number throughout the grant life cycle. Obtaining a DUNS number is a free, one-time activity. Obtain one by calling 1-866-705-5711 or by applying online at <http://www.dunandbradstreet.com>. Individuals are exempt from this requirement.
- J. Funds cannot be used to lobby:** Under the Anti-Lobbying Act (18 U.S.C. § 1913), grantees generally may not use funds to support the enactment, repeal, or modification of any law, regulation, or policy at any level of government. For additional information on rules and regulations, see OJP's Financial Guide at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/FinGuide>.
- K. What will *not* be funded:**
1. Provision of training or direct service.
 2. Proposals primarily to purchase equipment, materials, or supplies. (Your budget may include these items if they are necessary to conduct applied research, development, demonstration, evaluation, or analysis, but NIJ does not fund proposals that are primarily to purchase equipment.)
 3. Work that will be funded under another specific solicitation.

4. Only evaluation of the program in Atlanta will be considered under this solicitation. NIJ will not review proposals submitted under this solicitation to fund other research and evaluation projects.

- L. Cost of proposed work:** NIJ anticipates that up to \$500,000 may become available for an award made through this solicitation. All NIJ awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds. If you propose a project that exceeds the amount of money that may be available for this solicitation, we recommend that you divide the project into phases, stages, or tasks so that NIJ can consider making an award for a specific portion of the work. NIJ cannot guarantee that subsequent phases, stages, or tasks will be funded. Such additional funding depends on NIJ's resources and your satisfactory completion of each phase, stage, or task. Note: Deliverables (e.g., a final report) will be required at the end of each phase, stage, or task.
- M. Information technology standards compliance:** As appropriate, all equipment and software developed under awards that result from this solicitation must be compliant with U.S. Department of Justice Information Technology interface standards, including the National Criminal Intelligence Sharing Plan (see http://it.ojp.gov/documents/National_Criminal_Intelligence_Sharing_Plan.pdf), Global Justice XML Data Model (see <http://it.ojp.gov/jxdm/>), and the Law Enforcement Information Sharing Plan (LEISP). A list of additional standards can be found at the OJP Standards Clearinghouse (<http://it.ojp.gov/jsr/intro/intro03.html>).
- N. Funding to faith-based and community organizations:** Consistent with President George W. Bush's Executive Order 13279, dated December 12, 2002, and 28 C.F.R. Part 38, it is OJP policy that faith-based and community organizations that statutorily qualify as eligible applicants under OJP programs are invited and encouraged to apply for assistance awards to fund eligible grant activities. Faith-based and community organizations will be considered on the same basis as any other eligible applicants and, if they receive an award, will be treated on an equal basis with all other grantees in the administration of such awards. No eligible applicant or grantee will be discriminated for or against on the basis of its religious character or affiliation, religious name, or the religious composition of its board of directors or persons working in the organization. Faith-based organizations receiving OJP awards retain their independence and do not lose or have to modify their religious identity (e.g., removing religious symbols) to receive awards. OJP grant funds, however, may not be used to fund any inherently religious activity, such as prayer or worship. Inherently religious activity is permissible, although it cannot occur during an activity funded with OJP grant funds; religious activity must be separate in time or place from the OJP-funded program. Further, participation in such activity by individuals receiving services must be voluntary. Programs funded by OJP are not permitted to discriminate in the provision of services on the basis of a beneficiary's religion.

O. Call for assistance:

For technical guidance about applying through Grants.gov, call Grants.gov Technical Support at 1–800–518–4726. For questions about this solicitation, the research being solicited, or other NIJ funding opportunities, see the NIJ Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij> or contact NIJ at 202–305–7807.

IV. Selection Criteria

NIJ is firmly committed to the competitive process in awarding grants. All proposals are subjected to independent peer-review panel evaluations. External peer-review panelists consider both technical and programmatic merits. Panelists are selected based on their expertise in subject areas pertinent to the proposals.

Peer-review panelists will evaluate proposals using the criteria listed below. NIJ staff then make recommendations to the NIJ Director. The Director makes final award decisions.

Successful applicants must demonstrate the following:

A. Understanding of the problem and its importance.

B. Quality and technical merit.

1. Awareness of the state of current research or technology.
2. Soundness of methodology and analytic and technical approach.
3. Feasibility of proposed project and awareness of pitfalls.
4. Innovation and creativity (when appropriate).

C. Impact of the proposed project.

1. Potential for significant advances in scientific or technical understanding of the problem.
2. Potential for significant advances in the field.
3. Relevance for improving the policy and practice of criminal justice and related agencies and improving public safety, security, and quality of life.
4. Affordability and cost-effectiveness of proposed end products, when applicable (e.g., purchase price and maintenance costs for a new technology or cost of training to use the technology).
5. Perceived potential for commercialization and/or implementation of a new technology (when applicable).

D. Capabilities, demonstrated productivity, and experience of applicants.

1. Qualifications and experience of proposed staff.
2. Demonstrated ability of proposed staff and organization to manage the effort.

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3. Adequacy of the plan to manage the project, including how various tasks are subdivided and resources are used.
 4. Successful past performance on NIJ grants and contracts (when applicable).

E. Budget.

1. Total cost of the project relative to the perceived benefit.
2. Appropriateness of the budget relative to the level of effort.
3. Use of existing resources to conserve costs.

F. Dissemination strategy.

1. Well-defined plan for the grant recipient to disseminate results to appropriate audiences, including researchers, practitioners, and policymakers.
2. Suggestions for print and electronic products NIJ might develop for practitioners and policymakers.

V. Requirements for Successful Applicants

If your proposal is funded, you will be required to submit several reports and other materials as follows:

- A. Final substantive report:** The final report should be a comprehensive overview of the project and should include a detailed description of the project design, data, and methods; a full presentation of scientific findings; and a thorough discussion of the implications of the project findings for criminal justice practice and policy. It must contain an abstract of no more than 400 words and an executive summary of no more than 2,500 words.

A draft of the final report, abstract, and executive summary must be submitted 90 days before the end date of the grant. The draft final report will be peer reviewed upon submission. The reviews will be forwarded to the principal investigator with suggestions for revisions. The author must then submit the revised final report, abstract, and executive summary by the end date of the grant. The abstract, executive summary, and final report must be submitted in both paper and electronic formats.

For evaluation studies, the final report should include a section on measuring program performance. This section should outline the measures used to evaluate program effectiveness, modifications made to those measures as a result of the evaluation, and recommendations regarding these and other potential performance measures for similar programs. (This information will be particularly valuable to NIJ and other Federal program agencies in implementing performance measures for federally funded criminal justice programs.)

B. Interim reports: Grantees must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, a final progress report, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. Post-award reporting requirements are described in “Guidelines: How to Submit Applications,” available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm#gsya>.

C. Materials concerning protection of confidential information and human subjects: Recipients of NIJ research funds must comply with Federal regulations concerning the protection of information about individuals or non-governmental entities. Recipients also must comply with Federal regulations concerning protection of human subjects or identifiable private information. In general, all research involving human subjects or identifiable private information that is conducted or supported by NIJ funds must be reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board before Federal funds are expended for that research. NIJ may also ask grant recipients for additional information related to confidentiality and human subjects.

Information regarding NIJ’s requirements for confidentiality and protection of human subjects appears in the chapter on human subjects protection in “Guidelines: How to Submit Applications,” available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm#gsya>, and at NIJ’s Human Subjects Protection Web page, <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/humansubjects>.

D. Electronic data: Some grant recipients will be required to submit electronic data and supporting documentation, such as a codebook or dictionary, capable of being re-analyzed and used by other researchers. The materials must be submitted by the end date of the grant. Grant applicants should ensure that the proposed timeline and budget accommodate these requirements.

E. Performance Measures: To assist OJP in fulfilling its responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), P.L. 103-62, applicants who receive funding under this solicitation must provide data that measures the results of their work. This data will also contribute to achieving NIJ’s overall research, development, and evaluation mission. NIJ expects research to be accurate, objective, relevant, and useful. Performance measures for this solicitation are as follows:

Objective	Performance Measures	Data Grantee Provides
<p>Develop and analyze information and data having clear implications for criminal justice policy and practice.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Relevance to the needs of the field as measured by whether the grantee's substantive scope did not deviate from the funded proposal or any subsequent agency modifications to the scope. 2. Quality of the research as assessed by peer reviewers. 3. Quality of management as measured by whether significant interim project milestones were achieved, final deadlines were met, and costs remained within approved limits. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A final report providing a comprehensive overview of the project and a detailed description of the project design, data, and methods; a full presentation of scientific findings; and a thorough discussion of the implications of the project findings for criminal justice practice and policy. 2. Quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, and a final progress report.

APPENDIX

Background Paper on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Pilot Initiative New York, NY and Atlanta/Fulton County, GA

Background

The commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) describes a collection of crimes of a sexual nature committed against minors primarily or entirely for financial or other economic reasons. These crimes include, for example, trafficking for sexual purposes, prostitution, sex tourism, mail-order-bride trade and early marriage, pornography, stripping, and performing in sexual venues such as peep shows or clubs. The commercial sexual exploitation of children is not only illegal and horrific, but it brings about significant, often life-threatening physical, mental, and emotional harm to these children and youth.¹ Moreover, CSEC has long-term, devastating impacts particularly on the communities subjected to these crimes and to the society as a whole. It is difficult to estimate how many children and youth are sexually exploited in the United States each year; some research puts that figure in the hundreds of thousands.² Boys and girls of any age from infancy through adolescence may be victimized.³ The average age at which children enter prostitution, for example, is reported as 14.⁴

OJJDP's Commitment to Preventing CSEC

OJJDP's goal for this initiative is tri-fold: (1) to support pilot site efforts to improve programming and services for exploited youth; (2) to raise public awareness and provide training to professionals to help prevent future exploitation; and (3) to improve coordination and collaboration among human services, law enforcement, and courts to effectively prosecute adults who exploit children. By the end of this 5-year initiative, OJJDP anticipates a set of model strategies and practices addressing CSEC that other communities can use to successfully replicate similar efforts.

OJJDP Pilot Sites

New York City and Atlanta/Fulton County were chosen to be pilot sites for OJJDP's CSEC initiative because both had already identified CSEC as an issue needing attention and both had

¹ Voss, M.J. (1999). *The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: An Overview*. New York: End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography, and Trafficking in Children for Sexual Purposes (ECPAT).

Klain, E.J. (1999). *Prostitution of Children and Child-Sex Tourism: An Analysis of Domestic and International Responses*. Alexandria, Va.: National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

² Barnitz, L. (2001). Effectively responding to the commercial sexual exploitation of children: A comprehensive approach to prevention, protection, and reintegration services. *Child Welfare* 80(5)597-610.

³ Finkelhor, D., and R. Ormrod. (forthcoming). *Prostitution of Juveniles: Patterns from NIBRS*. Washington, D.C.: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

⁴ Educational Development Center and the American Bar Association. (1994). *Program to Increase Understanding of Child Sexual Exploitation Assessment Report, Volume II*.

made progress in creating public/private partnerships. Specifically, in Atlanta, Georgia, RICO (racketeering) statutes were used to prosecute individuals who directly facilitated the commercial sexual exploitation of children (e.g., panderers), while New York City formed police/service provider partnerships and initiated innovative prosecution strategies in the district attorney's offices to prevent and reduce child sexual exploitation.

OJJDP has made a 5-year commitment to support each pilot site's collaborative activities between law enforcement, the courts, and youth service practitioners. The overall goals are to improve the identification and delivery of services to exploited youth, the prevention of future exploitation, and the investigation and prosecution of the adults who exploit youth. Atlanta/Fulton County and New York City received funds for the first year of the initiative to plan their strategies and will receive annual supplemental funding to implement their plans. OJJDP manages the initiative under a cooperative agreement with the Office of the Mayor in New York City and with the Juvenile Justice Fund, a nonprofit public/private collaboration in Atlanta.

Atlanta

Atlanta/Fulton County was chosen by OJJDP to participate as a pilot site in the OJJDP CSEC demonstration project aimed at bringing together legal professionals, youth service providers, and law enforcement—both locally and on the Federal level—who are providing services to victims and assisting in the prosecution of persons responsible for the sexual exploitation of children.

The demonstration project in Atlanta/Fulton County focuses on the collaborative activities of various government agencies, nonprofits, and individuals who meet on a regular basis to coordinate their efforts and to exchange information. The Juvenile Justice Fund administers the program and coordinates regular meetings of the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative. The collaborative consists of policymakers and practitioners from two counties (Fulton and DeKalb); the city of Atlanta; the State of Georgia; the Federal government; and State and local community, faith-based, and civic organizations.

OJJDP chose to fund the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative through the Juvenile Justice Fund because of the work of its existing Center to End Adolescent Sexual Exploitation (CEASE). Additionally, the existing mission of the Juvenile Justice Fund is to collaborate with leading providers of child and family services and other partners to address the needs of juveniles who appear before the Fulton County Juvenile Court.

In 2003, the Juvenile Justice Fund was awarded a planning grant from OJJDP to coordinate a communitywide initiative to identify specific barriers, opportunities, and strengths to combat commercial child sexual exploitation. Representatives from more than 30 agencies in the Atlanta Metro area participated in a 6-month effort that resulted in the development of a series of recommendations to be implemented during the next 5 years. Among the partners who developed the recommendations were Atlanta and Fulton County public school districts, Atlanta and Fulton County Police Departments, the district attorneys of both counties, the Fulton County Children's Advocacy Center, the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services (DFACS), Fulton County and Douglas County Juvenile Courts, along with the Georgia Council of Juvenile Court Judges, the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice, the faith community, nonprofit agencies, and the United Way.

The recommendations called for ensuing efforts to be focused in four broad areas. These areas included professional training and education, data collection and development of cross agency protocols, enhancing victim support and services, and public education. Based on the recommendations, the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative began work in each of these areas.

As part of the professional training and education goal, the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative began a series of training programs for individuals and organizations that may be in contact with victims of child sexual exploitation. The Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative provided training to the schools, DFACS employees, law enforcement, and judicial systems. The intent of the training was to improve the identification of possible victims of child sexual exploitation and once identified, to facilitate a better response to those victims. More than a dozen trainings have occurred.

In the area of data collection and development of cross agency protocols, a case tracking database system was purchased in collaboration with the Fulton County Child Advocacy Center. Use of this database began in Spring 2005. Members of the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to facilitate the sharing of information related to suspected or identified child victims. All signatories of the MOU agreed to use the database to record and track case information. The intent of the MOU is to make information sharing a priority for all the signatories. The information will then be used to make productive recommendations about what services a child victim should receive. In addition, the database will keep track of the names and geographical locations of perpetrators. Because of privacy restrictions, the schools will not be participating in the database; however, a system of accelerated court orders has enabled the schools to share necessary information in an expedited fashion. Through the case tracking system, the MOU, and a system of court orders, a long-identified barrier of efficient systems coordination and integration will be overcome. Once the case tracking system is implemented, the plan calls for a common intake assessment instrument for youth who come in contact with child protective services in order to identify those at risk of child prostitution and to determine which youth should undergo further screening for services.

To reach the greater Atlanta community, the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative will also engage in a public education campaign. Plans for the campaign include a media campaign (in partnership with the United Way) to inform the citizens and businesses of Atlanta about the problem of sexual exploitation of children and to highlight its impact on the community's image and well-being. The Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative will also sponsor community meetings and pursue prevention educational programs in partnership with schools, youth organizations, and the faith community. More than 30 pilot awareness programs for middle school students are in place in Fulton County schools and the Capitol Area Mosaic (YMCA).

Tips for Submitting Your Application

1. Begin the application process early—especially if you have never used Grants.gov. NIJ will not accept applications received after the deadline listed on the cover. To start the process, go to <http://www.grants.gov>.
2. Go to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding/howto.htm> for detailed application instructions.
3. Although your proposal may budget for the purchase of equipment if the equipment is necessary to conduct the project, NIJ will not fund applications that are primarily to purchase equipment, materials, or supplies.
4. Call for help:
 - For technical guidance about Grants.gov, call 1–800-518–4726.
 - For questions about this solicitation, the research being solicited, or other NIJ funding opportunities, contact NIJ at 202–305–7807 or visit NIJ's Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>.

View or print a copy of this document from the NIJ Web site (<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>) or request one by calling NCJRS at 1–800–851–3420 or e-mailing askncjrs@ncjrs.org.

The National Institute of Justice is the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. NIJ's mission is to advance scientific research, development, and evaluation to enhance the administration of justice and public safety.

NIJ is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime.