

Kansas News

OJJDP Title II Grant Applications Coming Soon

In July 2016, the Kansas Department of Corrections - Juvenile Services (KDOC-JS), and the Kansas Advisory Group on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (KAG) will be announcing a Request for Proposals for the Title II Formula Grants Program through the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

The Formula Grants Program supports state and local delinquency prevention and intervention efforts as well as juvenile justice system improvements. Through this program, OJJDP provides funds directly to states, to help them implement comprehensive state juvenile justice plans based on detailed studies of needs within their jurisdictions.

Funding will be granted out by a competitive grant process. Grants will provide funding for communities in two areas:

Alternatives to Detention (ATD) - These are community and home-based alternatives to incarceration and institutionalization. This may include youth who need temporary placement such as crisis intervention, shelter and after-care or for youth who need residential placement such as a continuum of foster care or group home alternatives that provide access to a comprehensive array of services. For more information on ATD, [click here](#)

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) – These are programs, research, or other initiatives primarily to address the disproportionate number of juvenile members of minority groups who come into contact with the juvenile justice system, pursuant to Section 223(a)(22) of the JJDP Act. For more information on DMC, [click here](#)

For more information on OJJDP formula grants, [click here](#)
For an application packet available after July 15, [click here](#)
To access model program guides for ATD, [click here](#)
To access model program guides for DMC, [click here](#)

There will be an informational conference call after the grant announcement. Brock Landwehr, Kansas Juvenile Justice Specialist will be the contact person for these grants. Brock can be reached by phone at 785-296-4120 or by e-mail at brock.landwehr@doc.ks.gov.

Hard Work and Teamwork Pay Off for KJCC

The Kansas Juvenile Correctional Complex is proud to announce the Performance Based Practices (PbS) achievement of Level 3 status. The facility has been attempting to reach the status for several years, since 2004 when we began participation in the PbS [Read more](#)

A Triad of Talent from Kansas Juvenile Justice Complex

The [Performance-based Standards](#) (PbS) State/Agency Coordinators Training and Awards Ceremony in Boston, MA are only two months away! Our participants are anxious to see the Kids Got Talent live performance. This year PbS again challenged facilities to step outside of the box and participate in the [PbS Kids Got Talent Contest](#). Youths in PbS facilities were invited to submit video or audio recordings of their talents for the second year in a row. With over 80 very entertaining performances, 15 finalists were chosen after careful consideration. [Read more and watch the videos](#)

Disproportionate Minority Contact Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities

Racial Disparities Persist Even as School Suspensions Decrease, Federal Data Shows

Out-of-school suspensions dropped 20 percent nationally in recent years, but students of color and students with disabilities are still more likely to face harsh discipline than their peers, according to new [federal data](#). The Department of Education said the drop in suspensions from the 2011-12 to 2013-14 school years shows more schools are finding alternative ways to address nonviolent student behavior. But sharp disparities endure in the results of the 2013-2014 Civil Rights Data Collection, which covers [Read more](#)

Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice

The Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Juvenile Justice Certificate Program is an intensive training program designed to support local jurisdictions in their efforts to reduce racial and ethnic disparities in their juvenile justice systems. The program seeks to reduce over-representation of youth of color in the juvenile justice system, disparate treatment of youth of color as compared to white youth within the juvenile justice system, and unnecessary entry and movement deeper into the juvenile justice system for youth of color. While the program will primarily address disparities in the juvenile justice system, it will also include a focus on the relationships [Read more](#)

The Juvenile Justice Corner

By Randy Bowman, Director
DOC – Juvenile Community-Based Services

This month, the work which has begun in Kansas to implement SB367 received an additional enhancement with an announcement from The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). OJJDP announced that Kansas is the sixth state to be part of *Smart on Juvenile Justice: A Comprehensive Strategy to Juvenile Justice Reform*. Kansas joins five states – Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, South Dakota and West Virginia – that have passed comprehensive juvenile justice reform and received assistance from OJJDP and its grantee Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) to support the implementation of reforms. [To read more](#)

As a Smart on Juvenile Justice State, Kansas is eligible to receive comprehensive support, technical assistance and training, to assist with implementation and build capacity that will sustain these reforms for the long term. Just as the policy reforms in SB367 were an inter-branch, bi-partisan effort, this support is now available to the multiple agencies responsible for implementation including our Courts, Education, Attorney General, Law Enforcement, and the Department of Corrections. *Continued next page . . .*

National News – Diversion Programing

Diversion Programs Can Help Keep Youth Out of "the System" by Preventing Arrests

Each year, over [1 million](#) youth are arrested across the country, and 95% of those arrests are for non-violent offenses. Students are increasingly being arrested by police officers working in schools for behaviors that schools used to handle as routine disciplinary problems: [throwing an eraser, chewing gum, or arguing in the hallway](#). Most youth arrests are for low-level misdemeanors, and in many cases youth are released without prosecution because the behavior prompting the arrest was so trivial. Yet, a juvenile record is created the moment a kid is arrested, and [these records can follow youth into adulthood](#), even if they never appeared in juvenile court or were adjudicated (found "guilty"). [Read more](#)

"When youth get in legal trouble in Manhattan Beach" with Joan Jenkins, Manhattan Beach City Prosecutor

[Watch video](#)

Crime Causation and Diversion Paper

Why do juvenile delinquents behave the way that they do? This paper highlights two diversion programs that are used in the state of Louisiana and discusses each program's major goals, objectives, and core beliefs. Also addressed are each program's key participants, the different types of services each program offers and will explain each program's effective way at reducing juvenile crime. Lastly, the paper will end with a discussion about which program out of the two programs that work the best to reduce crimes committed [Read more](#)

Campaign for Youth Justice

California Moves Closer to Eradicating Direct File

In California, ongoing efforts backed by Gov. Jerry Brown have inched the state that much closer to eradicating the direct filing of youth into the adult justice system. Direct filing (a practice that allows prosecutors to determine whether to charge a youth in adult criminal court) has resulted in the incarceration of thousands of youth serving lengthy sentences. A new [report](#) by the W. Haywood Burns Institute suggests that direct filing is a worsening problem in the state. [Read more](#)

New OJJDP Report Shows New Trends in Residential Placement of Juveniles

A [new report](#) of the [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) analyses the juvenile residential placement data for the year 2013, and finds that overall, more than 60,000 youth were in residential placement across the United States on October 23, 2013, a drop of over 12% compare to [2011](#) and of more than 44% since 2003. [Read more](#)

Annie E Casey Foundation

Upcoming Webinar: Shifting Gears on Juvenile Justice Communications

The Casey Foundation will host a webinar later this month to inform advocates and practitioners about messages that can effectively engage the public as allies in juvenile justice reform. The webinar, *Shifting Gears on Juvenile Justice Communications*, is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., Thursday, June 30, 2016. Participants will be among the first to learn key findings about communications strategies that advance juvenile justice reform and discuss their implications for advocacy and outreach. This webinar is free, but requires registration. [Register here](#)

Information Technology Update

Due to unforeseen challenges in the development of the Kansas Information Data System (KIDS), it will not be released in July 2016. Communications regarding system training and deployment will be shared once we have a clearer understanding of what it will take to address the current issues with production. Thank you for your continued patience as our programmers remain committed and work diligently towards delivering a quality information system.

Human Trafficking

Kansas City Woman Accused of Forcing Teens into Prostitution

An 18-year-old Kansas City woman faces charges accusing her of forcing two underage teens into prostitution, according to the Jackson County prosecutor's office. Jessi C. Larkie faces two counts of sexual trafficking of a child under 18 in connection with incidents that occurred between late March and mid-May. Online court records don't list a lawyer for Larkie. Court records show that a 15-year-old girl told investigators she met Larkie on Facebook and Larkie later suggested the girl move in with her. [Read more](#)

Human Trafficking Cases on the Rise in Fort Wayne, Learn How to Spot a Victim

Right now, Fort Wayne law enforcement is working four human trafficking cases. These cases are increasing, but experts suspect it's because more people are being taught what to look out for. The numbers shed the most light on the problem of human trafficking and who the victims are. About 18,000 people were trafficked in the U.S. last year with 50 percent being children, and 75 % [Read more and watch video](#)

Human Trafficking in Savannah

One hundred girls are sexually exploited each and every night in Georgia. Another disturbing number is 12,400. That's how many men buy sex with young women in one month. Call it sexual slavery or human trafficking, it is a growing trend worldwide, and it's happening right here in Savannah. Girls, boys, some who could be one who lives right next door. "Her innocence has been taken" [Read more and watch video](#)

Data Science Leveraged to Stop Human Trafficking

Finding missing children and unraveling the complex web of human trafficking is no easy task. The relevant datasets are massive and often unstandardized. It can be difficult to find the right data at all, as it often disappears from websites and pages on a regular basis. When data is hard enough for scientists to capture and evaluate, how can law enforcement agencies even begin to get a handle on it? These agencies, with little funding or know-how, need real help if they want to leverage big data and get a grip on human [Read more](#)

National News

Law to Create More Rational Juvenile Justice Policies, Governor Says

Gov. Peter Shumlin June 1 signed a law to more closely align Vermont's juvenile justice system with brain development research and best practices for serving young people who interact with the criminal justice system. Vermont is one of the few states where 16- and 17-year-olds are currently charged in criminal court as adults for any offense, including misdemeanors. The new law will change that, allowing juvenile offenders to be tried in family court. [Read more](#)

Grants will Help Iredell Juvenile Offender Programs

Two new grants will continue operations for programs that help juvenile offenders involved with the local court system. The grants will provide a variety of youth offender services, including teen court, community service and sex offense treatment. A \$112,000 state grant will be used for a replacement for Appropriate Placement Options Inc., which provided teen court and restitution and community service programs, but is ceasing operations on June 30 [Read more](#)

Kansas United for Youth Justice

Now that the Kansas Legislature passed Senate Bill 367 this year reforming the juvenile justice system in Kansas, it is largely up to communities to implement many of the changes in the system. If you haven't already, please take a moment to fill out this seven-question survey designed by Kansans United for Youth Justice. Your responses will help us gather information to better understand the resources communities need to implement the juvenile justice reforms in Senate Bill 367. The deadline to submit responses is June 29th. To complete the survey, [click here](#)

Juvenile Justice Information Exchange

Youth Need Substance Abuse Help in Communities, Experts Say

BALTIMORE — Adolescents with substance abuse problems too often cannot access treatment unless they land in the juvenile justice system, experts say. The juvenile justice system has developed some effective interventions for adolescents dealing with substance abuse, but they would be better served accessing treatment outside the system, said Evan Elkin, national executive director of [Reclaiming Futures](#). "We have to move these evidence-based treatments and approaches out of the justice system and back into the community," he said Wednesday at a panel discussion hosted by the [Open Society Institute-Baltimore](#). [Read more](#)

Truth About How to Reduce Juvenile Crime Is Not Political

When personal politics are more important than the truth, immoral judgments will prevail. When immoral judgments prevail, people are harmed. But when these people are children, the immoral becomes unconscionable. Legislators who have abandoned their independent judgment pass laws that harm kids. Just because it's law doesn't make it morally right. Segregation and Jim Crow laws have shown us this truth. [Read more](#)

Trauma and Juvenile Justice

We Must Decriminalize Trauma for Girls with Histories of Abuse or Neglect

Girls' involvement in the juvenile justice system is growing disproportionately at a time when arrest rates for boys are declining. And yet, girls' behavior has not changed; rather, our response to their behavior has changed. This is especially true for girls in the child welfare system. [Read more](#)

The Juvenile Justice Corner continued from page 1

Implementation needs in Kansas are specific to our laws, service delivery system, current resources utilization, and the policies adopted in SB367. As such, the assistance to Kansas will be tailored to fit our specific juvenile justice system and defined by each state agency. Some examples of assistance Kansas is eligible to request include: assistance in creating policies and protocols to guide practices, developing and delivering training including the development of capacity to train trainers for sustainability, the establishment of model fidelity processes for evidence-based programs, and in the development of program models. These additional resources of CJI, when paired with the many dedicated and experienced professionals serving our justice involved youth, position our state to embrace a community-based approach that promotes evidence based practices that are developmentally appropriate and maximizes the potential to reinvest system resources into needed system changes.

As a state, we have demonstrated our commitment to improving outcomes for youth and public safety by examining our system and passing comprehensive reform. The commitment by OJJDP to support Kansas in this work is welcomed and will contribute significantly to the success of these reforms.

The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges . . .

Final ICWA Regulations Focusing on Family Unification

The [Bureau of Indian Affairs](#) (BIA) released binding regulations on the implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). This marks the first time the agency has offered comprehensive enforceable regulations since the passage of the act in 1978. The BIA will be providing regional training opportunities and webinars to provide education on these regulations before it goes into effect in [Read more](#)

From The Council of State Governments Justice Center Updates . . .

Risk and Needs Assessment and Race in the Criminal Justice System

A recent [ProPublica](#) story on [risk and needs assessment](#) asked some important questions about a particular risk and needs assessment tool and the broader implications of its use. As the national discussion continues about the use and value of risk and needs assessment, The Council of State Governments Justice Center offers the following comments on risk and needs assessment as it relates to racial disparity and bias in the criminal justice system. [Read more](#)