Background Screening and Prevention Training Resources for Projects Involving Minors

To aid in the safeguarding of minors involved in U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)–funded youth-centered programs, we have identified two relevant training programs that are available free of charge through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)–funded National Children’s Advocacy Center (NCAC): (1) Preventing Child Sexual Abuse in Youth-Serving Organizations and (2) Rethinking Sexual Violence Prevention: Innovations With Bystanders, The Internet, and Youth Serving Organizations. These programs are accessible via the NCAC Virtual Training Center (www.nationalcac.org); grantees can search the training program by name from the home page.

In addition, the COPS Office is currently working with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) to update a 2013 publication titled What You Need to Know About Background Screening (https://cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/ric.php?page=detail&id=COPS-P260) for dissemination to DOJ grantees. This publication addresses the importance of background screening, the range of screening options available to organizations, and best practices in conducting background screening and acting upon the results. The COPS Office anticipates that the updated version of this publication will be available during FY 2020.

Contact the COPS Office
For more information about COPS Office programs and resources, please call the COPS Office Response Center at 800-421-6770 or visit the COPS Office website at www.cops.usdoj.gov.