

# Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS)

Purpose Area Factsheets | FY 2025

# CTAS PURPOSE AREAS

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2	Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning (BJA, COPS Office, OJJDP, OVC), CFDA #16.608
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## **OVERVIEW**

# COORDINATED TRIBAL ASSISTANCE SOLICITATION

The Department of Justice (DOJ) launched its Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) in Fiscal Year 2010 in direct response to concerns raised by tribal leaders about the Department's grant process that did not provide the flexibility tribes needed to address their criminal justice and public safety needs.

Through CTAS, federally recognized tribes and Tribal consortia were able, for the first time ever, to submit a single application for most of DOJ's Tribal grant programs. DOJ designed this comprehensive approach to save time, resources and allow tribes and DOJ to gain a better understanding of the tribes' overall public safety needs. CTAS is not a program but is the overarching structure, under which eight separate grant program applications are collected. CTAS is currently operated through collaborative efforts across many department components, bureaus, and offices, including:

- Executive Office for United States Attorney's (EOUSA)
- Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)
- Office of Justice Programs (OJP) including:
  - Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
  - Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
  - Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)
- Office of Tribal Justice (OTJ)



For more information about CTAS, scan the QR code or visit www.justice.gov/tribal/grants.

# **FUNDING AGENCY OVERVIEW**

BJA | OVC | COPS | OJJDP



The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, supports law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, victim services, technology, and prevention initiatives that strengthen the nation's criminal justice system. BJA provides leadership, services, and funding to America's communities by emphasizing local control; building relationships in the field; developing collaborations and partnerships; promoting capacity building through planning; streamlining the administration of grants; increasing training and technical assistance; creating project accountability; encouraging innovation; and ultimately communicating the value of justice efforts to decision makers at every level.

BJA works with the Office of Tribal Justice, the Office of Justice Program's American Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Desk, and other federal agencies, in addition to many culturally appropriate organizations, to maintain focus with the field and to ensure the program's goals and objectives are achieved.

Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs | U.S. Department of Justice
999 N. Capitol St. NE
Washington, DC 20531
www.bja.gov | (202) 616-6500

Email **tribalgrants@usdoj.gov** for questions regarding the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitations.

Established in 1988 through an amendment to the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is charged by Congress with administering the Crime Victims Fund (the Fund). Through OVC, the Fund supports a broad array of programs and services that focus on helping victims in the immediate aftermath of crime and continuing to support them as they rebuild their lives. Millions of dollars are invested annually in victim compensation and assistance in every U.S. state and territory, as well as for training, technical assistance, and other capacity-building programs designed to enhance Helping Crime Survivors Find Their Justice service providers' ability to support victims of crime in communities across the Nation.



#### Office for Victims of Crime

999 N. Capitol St. NE Washington, DC 20531 www.ovc.gov | (202) 307-5983



The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) was created through the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The COPS Office is the component of the U.S. Department of Justice responsible for advancing the practice of community policing by the nation's state, local, territory, and Tribal law enforcement agencies through information and grant resources.

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime. The COPS Office has also produced and compiled a broad range of information resources that can help law enforcement better address specific crime and operational issues, and help community leaders better understand how to work cooperatively with their law enforcement agency to reduce crime.

> **U.S.** Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services 145 N Street NE Washington, DC 20530 www.cops.usdoj.gov | (800) 421-6770

The Juvenile Justice and Delinguency Prevention Act of 1974, Public Law 93-415, as amended. established the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinguency Prevention (OJJDP) to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve juvenile justice systems.



A component of the Office of Justice Programs within the U.S. Department of Justice, OJJDP works to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and protect children.

Through its divisions, OJJDP sponsors research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local

OJJDP envisions a nation where all children are free from crime and violence. Youth contact with the justice system should be rare, fair, and beneficial.

OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and victimization. The Office helps states, localities, and tribes develop effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that create safer communities and empower youth to lead productive lives.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

999 N. Capitol St. NE Washington, DC 20531 www.ojjdp.gov | (202) 307-5911



## **PURPOSE AREA 1**

Public Safety and Community Policing, contact:

## **DOJ Response Center**

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services tribalgrants@usdoj.gov | (800) 421-6770

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY POLICING

## HISTORY

## PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY POLICING

Under CTAS, the COPS Office offers funding through Purpose Area #1: Public Safety and Community Policing, Purpose Area #1 is designed to expand the implementation of community policing and meet the most serious needs of law enforcement in Tribal Nations through a broadened comprehensive program. The funding can be used to hire or re-hire full-time career law enforcement officers, village/tribal police officers, village public safety officers, school resource officers, as well as procure basic equipment, technology and training to assist in the initiation or enhancement of Tribal community policing efforts. Purpose Area #1 hiring grants are for a 60-month implementation period. If your tribe is awarded a hiring grant, it will receive funding to cover the entry-level salary and approved benefits of full-time awarded officer positions incurred during the 60 months following the grant award start date, unless an extension for additional time is granted. Purpose Area #1 equipment and training grants are for a 36 month implementation period. If your tribe is awarded an equipment and training grant, it will receive funding to cover the one-time purchases for allowable costs incurred during the 36 months following the grant award start date, unless an extension for additional time is granted. If awarded civilian full time methamphetamine and or anti-opioid coordinator positions, these positions fall under the 36 month implementation period (three years).

#### Goals

- To address the most serious Tribal law enforcement needs
- To increase the capacity of Tribal law enforcement agencies through prevention strategies, improved criminal investigations (human trafficking, missing or murdered Indigenous persons), crime control and illegal drugs (methamphetamine,
- To implement or enhance community policing strategies

The following table provides a summary of COPS' grant funding for Purpose Area 1 for the past 4 years.

Fiscal Year	# of Tribes	Total Amount Funded
FY 2021	40	\$25,493,738
FY 2022	47	\$27,721,343
FY 2023	49	\$29,924,556
FY 2024	49	\$31,273,595

# ADVANCING COMMUNITY POLICING \_\_\_\_\_\_

Below are examples of items that receive funding to advance community policing:

#### Officers

Entry-level salaries and fringe benefits of newly hired or rehired full-time sworn career law enforcement officers including tribal/village police officers, village public safety officers and school resource officers

## Officer Background Investigations/Basic Law Enforcement Training

Background investigations and basic law enforcement training (required) for all officers hired with TRGP-HIRE funding

#### Equipment

Uniforms, bullet-proof vests, body worn cameras, basic-issue equipment, and police vehicles

#### **Technology**

Computers hardware and software, mobile data terminals, dispatch, and communication systems

#### Training

Basic (required), comprehensive, and specialized law enforcement training, community policing, crime reporting (e.g. National Incident-Based Reporting System), anti-methamphetamine/anti-opioid, and human trafficking training

#### Travel

Airfare, lodging, and mileage reimbursement for meeting or training costs, including DOJ required CTAS new awardee orientation

## **Anti-Methamphetamine/Anti-Opioid Activities**

Civilian Meth/Opioid coordinator positions and public awareness campaigns

#### Overtime

Overtime for sworn officers engaged in community policing activities



## **PURPOSE AREA 2**

For additional information on the Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems
Strategic Planning contact:

Patricia (Trish) Thackston | Policy Advisor Bureau of Justice Assistance | Office of Justice Programs M.Patricia.Thackston@usdoi.gov | (202) 307-0581

## COMPREHENSIVE TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS STRATEGIC PLANNING

# HISTORY \_\_\_\_\_

## COMPREHENSIVE TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning program was designed to allow tribes to engage in comprehensive justice system-wide strategic planning to improve tribal justice and safety including improving community wellness, increasing capacity to prevent crime and addressing violent crime, activities outlined in the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA), such as strategic planning and the development of a Tribal Action Plan (TAP). This planning process will be guided and supported by a training and technical assistance (TTA) provider provided by DOJ.

Purpose Area 2 is administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance in the Office of Justice Programs on behalf of all CTAS participating DOJ Components. Award amounts are up to \$150,000 for up to 5 years, although most grantees complete the strategic planning process within 2-3 years.

# OVERVIEW \_\_\_\_\_

## COMPREHENSIVE TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS STRATEGIC PLANNING

To engage in comprehensive, justice system-wide strategic planning to improve tribal justice and safety, including improving services for victims of crime, improving community wellness, increasing capacity to prevent crime, and addressing violent crime. Activities can also include development of a Tribal Action Plan as outlined in the Tribal Law and Order Act in addition to a comprehensive strategic plan. This planning process will be guided and supported by a training and technical assistance (TTA) provider supplied by DOJ at no cost to the grantees.

The strategic plan should address improving public safety through community-oriented strategies that are victim centered to address issues such as violent crimes, murder of Indigenous people, domestic violence, overdose- and drug-related crime, and/or human trafficking. The plan can address implementing strategies such as community courts, community prosecution, community corrections, and community policing. It should include organizational strategies to reorient the mission and activities of law enforcement toward the community policing philosophy and support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime. DOJ welcomes incorporating traditional elements into the planning process and overall strategic plan, as well as restorative and problem-solving approaches that seek to understand and address the risk factors for future crime.

To best meet the needs of the grantees as they develop their written strategic plans, the training and technical assistance (TTA) providers developed the Tribal Justice System Planning Process (TJSPP). This process was developed to be implemented in three phases of training for the planning team. The TTA partners guide the grantee planning team through all three phases of training and work together throughout the project period with on-going office-based assistance. By the end of phase three, the grantee strategic planning team will have the building blocks of a comprehensive community justice strategic plan to submit at the end of their award. By the end of the award period grantees submit their strategic plans to DOJ for review. To assist with

the implementation of TJSPP strategic plans, grantees have the opportunity to request priority consideration one time for each CTAS Purpose Area (PA) that is directly connected to their approved strategic plan. (The grantee must be eligible for the PA at the time of the request.) For tribes that do not receive PA 2 awards, NCJTC will provide services, as approved by BJA, through technical assistance.

The three phases of training are as follows:

#### **Phase One: Working Together**

This phase involves a 2-day training to confirm the Action Planning Advisory Board Members; develop a strategy to gain support from the Tribal Council; develop a Resolution or Memorandum of Agreement (MOA); identify tools for working together and problem-solving; define quality of life, vision, and mission; and identify resources.

Upon completion of Phase One, the tribe will have a clear roadmap for working together throughout the planning process, a schedule for meeting times and dates, and a timeline for completion of the remaining phases of the project. Follow up and action items resulting from this training is anticipated to take approximately 1-2 months.

## Phase Two: Identifying Strengths/Needs

This phase of training involves action planning to develop a strategy to conduct focus groups and stakeholder interviews, facilitate community meetings, and implement a written questionnaire/assessment that will build the tribe's capacity to define their community, assess the current state of the justice system, identify

and access existing crime and behavioral health data to inform the plan and identify needs and gaps in services. Analysis of data from this assessment process provides the framework for development of a written response/plan, which is the focus of Phase Three. After this two-day training on the needs assessment process, the TTA providers will work one-on-one with the grantee through onsite visits, email, phone, and Go-To-Meeting/Skype to complete the assessments. Follow up and action items resulting from this training is anticipated to take approximately 5-6 months.

#### **Phase Three: Goals and Action Steps**

This two-day training assists grantees to analyze emerging themes, learn the fundamentals of writing effective goals, and outlining realistic, achievable, and measurable action steps. This third phase of the training includes evaluation and measures of success for the strategic plan. Follow up and action items resulting from this training is anticipated to take approximately 1-2 months.

#### **On-going Support**

Once the plan is complete, future support of the planning efforts may focus on resource development, capacity-building, or planning for implementation and sustainability of the project. NCJTC will provide services, as approved by BJA, through technical assistance.

#### **Training and Technical Assistance is provided by:**

The National Criminal Justice Training Center at Fox Valley Technical College Justine Souto | Program Manager (855) 866-2582 | justine.souto2963@fvtc.edu

## **BENEFITS**

Tribes will have the resources to develop a data-informed, comprehensive justice system strategic plan. Through the 3-phase planning process, grantees conduct needs assessments to gain a comprehensive understanding of the needs and resources across all departments within their justice system, and even across jurisdictions. This provides for efficiencies in addressing community needs and ensures more effective allocation of resources. The increased communication through the data gathering process helps to build and promote collaboration to share resources when possible. Community safety concerns are better addressed when justice-wide solutions to crime are proactively developed rather than typical reactionary responses to symptoms of crime.

Other benefits reported by grantees are the increased collaboration with other jurisdictions that results from development of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs). Tribes are working to build relationships with non-Tribal agencies in the areas of law enforcement, courts, domestic violence shelters and advocacy and treatment services. Often times, there are mutual benefits to building these partnerships that weren't considered prior to formal planning.

One of the most prominent benefits to planning is that the tribes can take the time to develop strategies to address crime, safety and wellness issues that now have data to back the strategies developed. This means that they are better prepared to seek funding resources and other sustainable means to meet their justice needs.

Purpose Area 2 grantees that submit approved strategic plans will be eligible to receive priority consideration for CTAS funding to implement their strategic plans in whole, or in part, in a future fiscal year, or years, following submission of applications under purpose areas directly connected to the approved strategic plan (once per purpose area). Priority consideration for CTAS funding will be granted one time per purpose area.

# STRATEGIES \_\_\_\_\_

For continuity, each grantee is assigned a single TTA point of contact. A Mentor Team is assigned to each grantee to guide them through the planning process as needed. This Mentorship concept has helped to gain trust with the grantees and provides an easier path for them to request and receive assistance and resources.

It is the Mentors' role to ensure the grantee's efforts are on task. To achieve this, on-site training, webinars and conference calls are used to maintain communication with the point of contact and, in some cases, the whole planning team. A series of planning-related benchmarks help to ensure the plans are moving along, based on an established timeline.

For more information on planning resources, scan the QR code or visit www.ncjtc.org/TJSPP





# **PURPOSE AREA 3**

For additional information on the Tribal Justice Systems program, contact:

Patricia (Trish) Thackston | Policy Advisor Bureau of Justice Assistance | Office of Justice Programs M.Patricia.Thackston@usdoj.gov | (202) 307-0581

# TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS

# ABOUT PURPOSE AREA 3

## TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS

Under CTAS, the BJA offers funding through Purpose Area #3: Tribal Justice Systems. BJA has structured Purpose Area 3 to be as broad and flexible as possible to support a variety of Tribal justice programs.

The overall purpose of Purpose Area #3 is to provide key funding to Tribal justice systems to develop, support, and enhance adult Tribal justice systems and the prevention of violent crime and crime related to opioid stimulant, alcohol, and other substance use disorders. This funding supports a broad range of needs in the adult tribal justice system, from law enforcement to courts to corrections.

Programs can include but are not limited to the following: Tribal courts, alternative justice courts, risk and needs assessment, diversion and alternatives to incarceration, prevention, treatment, corrections including community corrections, re-entry, law enforcement, and strategic planning. Additionally, Purpose Area #3 supports projects to prevent, investigate and prosecute violent crimes, including cold case crimes, to enhance intergovernmental collaboration and address gaps in enforcement, and including the needs of frontier communities including rural Alaska.

# OVERVIEW \_\_\_\_\_

## TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS

Purpose Area #3 (PA #3) supports the critical and priority needs of Tribal justice systems, to prevent crime and to ensure Tribal safety through the development, implementation, and enhancement of strategies, including, but not limited to the following:

- To plan new or enhance existing tribal courts. Support staffing of prosecutors, attorneys, advocates, probation and pretrial service officers, tribal court judges and other court staff, and clerical support staff, including indigent defense services to effectively respond to crime and related Tribal safety. This includes supporting an effective response to Supreme Court decisions and other court decisions.
- Support an effective response to jurisdictional changes resulting from Supreme Court and other court-related decisions. Support activities relating to implementation of the enhanced sentencing authority provisions of the Tribal Law and Order Act and the special criminal jurisdiction under the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2022, including Alaska pilot project-related activities, and/or address crimes related to missing or murdered Indigenous persons.
- Plan new or enhance existing peacemaking courts, healing to wellness courts, veteran's treatment courts, sentencing circles, community courts, and other traditional or alternative justice courts. This can include access to medication-assisted treatment and other recovery support services, including building peer recovery support expertise and services and efforts to prevent overdoses.

- Develop and integrate the use of risk and needs assessment tools into the tribal justice system decision making process. To follow up on results, coordinate access to key social and behavioral health services, tracking and case management of services, and ongoing risk assessment reviews.
- Employ decision making models and programming to divert low-risk persons with tribal justice involvement, including juveniles at high risk for involvement in the adult system, from prosecution or incarceration. This includes law enforcement, pretrial and prosecution diversion, community supervision, mental health services and substance use disorder treatment, electronic alcohol and offender monitoring, recovery support services including job training and placement, housing assistance and education, and family, peer, and community supports.
- Develop, implement, and enhance culturally appropriate re-entry programs. This can include providing treatment, aftercare, and other re-entry supportive services to individuals re-entering communities from tribal, local, state, and federal correctional facilities.
- To develop, enhance, and continue programs to improve the safety and effectiveness of Tribal law enforcement officers such as planning for and developing their own law enforcement agency, law enforcement support as part of a larger strategy in PA #3.
- Identify, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who illegally transport, distribute, and misuse illegal substances in tribal communities (subject to existing legal authority). Support programming to improve officer safety and improve the delivery of law enforcement services related to opioid, stimulant, and other substance use disorder-related overdose and crimes in the tribal community. Develop strategies to enhance the capacity to collect and analyze data in collaboration with federal, state, and local partners by using justice information strategies that complement the efforts of DOJ's Tribal Access Program.
- Support programming to improve officer safety and improve the delivery of law enforcement services in the tribal community or court security issues such adding an officer at the courthouse to improve court security. Support law enforcement intergovernmental collaboration to enhance public safety and support and facilitate efforts to improve investigations of violent crime.
- To develop, implement, and enhance substance misuse and crime prevention, interventions, and alternatives to incarceration to address crime related to the opioid epidemic. This can include opioid, alcohol, and other substance abuse and related crime prevention; healing to wellness courts; intervention; or treatment, including those that prevent and address the needs of drug-endangered children.
- Improve public safety by addressing issues such as lighting, surveillance equipment, and community emergency alert and telephone systems.
- Provide behavioral health treatment services and/or integrate tribal, federal, state, and local services with culturally appropriate treatment for individuals who are at risk of justice system involvement, diverted from the tribal justice system, or involved in the tribal justice system (including the incarcerated population), as well as re-entering individuals and their families.
- Develop, implement, and enhance programming for tribal members incarcerated in tribal, federal, state, or local correctional facilities or under community supervision to reduce their risks for reoffending and support successful rehabilitation. Programming could include collaborations to address behavioral health needs, effective treatment such as cognitive behavioral therapy, education and vocational services, and other programming to reduce the risk for recidivism.
- Develop, implement, and enhance culturally appropriate reentry programs. This can include providing treatment, aftercare, and other reentry support services to individuals reentering communities from tribal, local, state, and federal correctional facilities.

## TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS \_

## TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Training & Technical Assistance (TTA) BJA has several TTA providers who support PA #3 grantee and non-grantee tribes.

## TTA PROVIDERS

Tribal Courts, and Tribal Justice Systems: The Tribal Law and Policy Institute https://walkingoncommonground.org/ and https://tribaljustice.org/

Opiates, Alcohol and Other Substance Use Disorders: The National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College - www.ncjtc.org/trasm

Tribal Corrections: The National Criminal Justice Training Center of Fox Valley Technical College www.ncjtc.org/tribal

 $Tribal\ Responses\ to\ Violent\ Crime:\ Tribal\ Judicial\ Institute\ -\ https://law.und.edu/npilc/tji/index.html$ 

Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts: Tribal Law and Policy Institute https://www.WellnessCourts.org and https://www.EnhancementTraining.org

Alaska Specific TTA: Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP) - www.atjrc.org



For more information about PA 3 TTA providers, scan the QR code or visit https://bja.ojp.gov/program/tribal-justice-systems-program-ctas-purpose-area-3/training-and-technical-assistance

#### **Training and Technical Assistance Services and Resources**

- Publications, fact-sheets, and model codes
- Code drafting assistance
- Peer-to-peer consultations and community of practice session
- Listserv communications
- Onsite training and technical assistance.
- Technical assistance via teleconference, videoconference, and email mentoring services
- Policy and procedure review
- Resource provision
- Distance learning training and technical assistance via interactive online training modules, webinars and Live Online Instructor Led Training
- In-person training at regional events and national conferences



# **PURPOSE AREA 4**

For additional info on TJSIP, contact:

Julius C. Dupree, Jr. | Policy Advisor U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance 999 N. Capitol St. NE | Washington, DC 20531 Julius.Dupree@usdoj.gov | (202) 598-9495

# TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

## ABOUT PURPOSE AREA 4

## TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

The overall goal of BJA's Tribal Justice System Infrastructure Program (TJSIP) is to strengthen tribal justice system capacity by addressing physical infrastructure needs. TJSIP provides site-based funding to federally recognized tribes to renovate or expand existing tribal justice-related facilities or build new tribal justice-related facilities (prefabricated, permanent modular, new standalone permanent facility, or pre-engineered steel building options only). The facility types supported by this program include police departments, courts, detention centers, multipurpose justice centers (including police departments, courts, and/or corrections), transitional living facilities (halfway houses), correctional alternative or treatment facilities, and domestic violence shelters/safe homes/transitional living facilities/advocacy programs.

# OVERVIEW \_\_\_\_\_

## TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

The following table provides a summary of BJA's grant funding for TJSIP for the past 5 years.

Fiscal Year	# of Grants	Total Amount Funded
FY 2020	9	\$8,768,582
FY 2021	8	\$7,667,424
FY 2022	6	\$8,117,440
FY 2023	10	\$12,095,722
FY 2024	9	\$10,367,293

The TJSIP assists tribes with building justice system infrastructure capacity by providing funding to support the renovation, expansion, or replacement of existing single jurisdiction or regional tribal justice facilities and the establishment of new single jurisdiction or regional buildings (prefabricated, permanent modular, new standalone facility, or steel manufactured options only) where there are no existing permanent structures available or sufficient to address staff/resident/detainee/inmate safety and security issues; add capacity for recidivism reduction programming; enhance facility service/function capacity; provide capacity, equipment, or infrastructure to support staff training, fitness, and wellness. Tribal justice facilities supported by this program include:

- Correctional facilities
- Correctional alternative/treatment facilities
- Courts
- Police departments
- Multipurpose justice centers (including police departments, courts, and corrections)
- Transitional living facilities (halfway houses)
- Domestic violence shelters/programs/transitional living facilities

TJSIP funding can be used to address justice system needs of adult and juvenile populations on Indian land that are subject to tribal jurisdiction. Also, TJSIP funding is a resource that can be used to complement efforts to implement enhanced authorities and provisions under the Tribal Law and Order Act and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 and 2022 by enhancing justice system infrastructure.

Funding may be used to support the following activities as it relates to justice system needs:

Renovation and/or expansion: Renovation and/or expansion of a new or existing facility to provide new or continued services for justice facilities that are no longer considered safe and secure, add capacity for recidivism reduction programming, and/or enhance facility service/function capacity.

Prefabricated, permanent modular, new standalone permanent facility or pre-engineered steel buildings: To build prefabricated, permanent modular, new standalone permanent facility, or pre-engineered steel buildings to replace existing buildings or erect new buildings where there are no existing permanent structures available or sufficient to address the tribe's justice system infrastructure needs.

Other costs associated with renovation/expansion of an existing facility, new permanent facility, or the completion of existing construction projects: Infrastructure costs such as roads, sewer and water hook-ups, land preparation, and other costs normally associated with construction site work; items associated with managing the planned construction or renovation process and construction materials necessary to construct or renovate facilities and associated infrastructure; furniture, surveillance cameras, or other items affixed or integral to the facility; staff housing.

Travel: Airfare, lodging, and mileage reimbursement for meeting or training costs related to purpose area activities, including costs associated with DOJ-required training. This should include travel for two people to one PA-specific training event in addition to the CTAS orientation. Please use Washington, D.C., as the destination when calculating the estimated costs for required travel.

# ONGOING SUPPORT \_\_\_\_\_

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) partners with the University of North Dakota Tribal Judicial Institute (UND TJI) and Blue Trident to provide technical assistance (TA) for CTAS Purpose Area 4 grant recipients. Preferred TTA services include onsite, telephonic, and webinar technical assistance.

While UND TJI services focus on operational planning activities such as operational programming, operational budgeting, staffing assessment, and project feasibility, Blue Trident is available to provide construction management technical assistance services. TTA activities include: project management technical assistance including bidding, design, and construction; and review of construction/renovation/permanent modular budgets, delivery approach, schedules, contractor selections, contract agreements, invoicing, progress, and construction closeout.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (Public Law 90-190; 42 U.S.C. § 4371, et seq.) established a national policy to promote the protection and enhancement of the environment. This policy was in response to growing concerns about the ecological balance and preservation of wildlife in the United States while meeting the demands of a growing population. If an award recipient is required to conduct an Environmental Assessment, BJA, in partnership with The Clark Group, will provide this service free of charge to the award recipient. Applicants do not need to allocate funding for this process in their CTAS Purpose Area 4 grant applications. For more information regarding NEPA, please visit https://bja.ojp.gov/national-environmental-policy-act-nepa-guidance.

# FUNDING AND ELIGIBILITY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Only federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for funding under Purpose Area 4 (Tribal Justice System Infrastructure Program). This includes Alaska Native Villages and Tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally recognized Indian tribes. BJA provides renovation, expansion, and replacement justice infrastructure funding for approximately \$1.9 million per award for single jurisdiction facilities and approximately \$2.8–\$5.6 million per award per award for regional (two or more Tribes) facilities.

# STRATEGIES \_\_\_\_\_

Tribes are encouraged to explore community-based options for addressing rehabilitative needs of justice-involved individuals. Community-based, non-secure facilities are generally less expensive to renovate than more secure facilities. As a result of funding under this program, tribes have renovated existing facilities to serve as halfway houses and treatment facilities. Tribes are also encouraged to seek other funding sources to supplement and/or complement TJSIP projects.



# **PURPOSE AREA 5**

For additional information on the Tribal Justice Systems program, contact:

Patricia (Trish) Thackston | Policy Advisor Bureau of Justice Assistance | Office of Justice Programs M.Patricia.Thackston@usdoj.gov | (202) 307-0581

# **ADULT TRIBAL TREATMENT COURTS**

# ABOUT PURPOSE AREA 5 \_\_\_\_\_

## TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS

In FY 25, in response to feedback received in Government-to-Government Consultation with Tribal Leaders, and listening session with Tribal justice practitioners, BJA added Adult Tribal Treatment Courts as Purpose Area 5 under CTAS.

The goal of Purpose Area #5 is to support tribal efforts to develop, implement and enhance adult treatment courts, including healing to wellness courts (HTWC), Veteran's treatment courts (VTC), driving while intoxicated (DWI) courts, and other treatment focused courts or court dockets. The purpose of the Adult Tribal Treatment Court Program is to reduce the misuse of opioids, stimulants, and other substances by people involved in the criminal justice system.

An Adult Tribal Treatment Courts program is an evidence-based model based on key components (wellnesscourts.org/tribal-key-components) and best practices. Treatment courts serve high-risk and high-need individuals. These are individuals who (1) are at significant risk for committing a new crime or failing to complete less intensive dispositions like probation, and (2) have a moderate to severe substance use disorder that includes a significant inability to reduce or control their substance use, persistent substance cravings, withdrawal symptoms, and/or a pattern of recurrent substance use binge episodes (i.e., use often substantially exceeds the person's intentions or expectations). Recognizing the significant increase in overdose deaths and their public health impact, BJA also encourages applicants to focus on preventing overdose and overdose deaths. The applicant is required to describe a plan to provide access to medication approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to support individuals with substance use disorders (SUDs).

## OVERVIEW \_\_\_\_\_

## ADULT TRIBAL TREATMENT COURTS

Purpose Area #5 (PA #5) BJA seeks to provide financial and technical assistance to federally recognized Indian tribal governments to plan, implement, and enhance the operations of adult tribal treatment courts and tribal veterans' treatment courts (VTC) including service coordination, participant service and supervision coordination, fidelity to the tribal adult treatment court model, and recovery support services. Tribal adult treatment courts effectively integrate evidence-based substance use treatment, mental health disorder (MHD) treatment, treatment for co-occurring disorders, including those with a history of violence and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and/or traumatic brain injury (TBI) as a result of their military service. VTCs integrate mandatory drug testing, incentives and sanctions, and transitional services in judicially supervised criminal court settings that have jurisdiction over adults and veterans with treatment needs to reduce recidivism, increase access to treatment and recovery support, and prevent overdose.

The Tribal Adult Treatment Court must have capacity to provide critical treatment services, case management and coordination, judicial supervision, sanctions and incentive services, and other key services such as transitional housing, relapse prevention, employment, and peer recovery support to reduce recidivism.

The goal of PA 5 funding is to ensure that grantees have the necessary resources to:

- Increase the number of potential participants screened (i.e., determine eligibility) and assessed (i.e., identify criminogenic risk with validated risk assessment tools, substance use disorder, or mental health conditions).
- Administer mandatory and random drug and alcohol testing of program participants to help monitor substance use and treatment progress.
- Provide or develop access to evidence-based, culturally appropriate, substance use disorder treatment, as well as recovery support services.
- Provide or develop the capacity to access all three types of FDA-approved medications to treat substance use disorders.
- Increase graduation rates for all treatment court participants actively participating in the grant program.
- Reduce the current recidivism rate among program participants actively participating in the grant program.
- Provide judicial and community supervision, mandatory and random drug testing, substance use, mental health disorder treatment, culturally appropriate interventions, and culturally appropriate incentives and sanctions.
- Ensure the use of evidence-based practices and principles that incorporate the Best Practice Standards and other relevant research. For more information about Adult treatment courts best practices please see: <u>All-Rise-Adult-Treatment-Court-Best-Practice-Standards-2nd-Ed.-I-VI final.pdf (allrise.org)</u> and <u>Tribal key components (wellnesscourts.org/tribal-key-components)</u>
- Ensure that all individuals eligible for the treatment court program have equivalent access as measured by the collection and examination of program data.

Applicants may apply for funding to include the following:

## Plan, Implement or Enhance Tribal Healing to Wellness Programs

- Salary and fringe benefits for positions to support the design and implementation of the program and oversee staff that provide direct assistance to adult participants
- Scaling up its existing court program's capacity
- Providing access to or enhance treatment capacity or other critical support services, including employment, life skills, peer support, housing and traditional practices
- Enhancing court operations
- Expanding or enhancing court services
- Building or enhancing collection and use of key drug operation and outcome data
- Improving the quality and/or intensity of treatment and recovery support services based on needs assessments
- Administrative, management, and operational activities that support the court and treatment and services for adult treatment court participants
- Necessary equipment and supplies
- Airfare, lodging, and mileage reimbursement for meeting or training costs related to program activities, including costs associated with DOJ-required training

#### **Strategic Planning**

- Increase coordination with relevant nontribal agencies and organizations and, at all levels of the tribe, engage in strategic planning efforts to address the needs of the tribe's justice system
- Comprehensively address alcohol and substance use disorder-related crime
- Engage in strategic planning to address a specific part of the tribal justice system such as courts or law enforcement

This Purpose Area is partially funded with Adult Treatment Court (ATC) funding. Per 34 U.S.C. § 10612, ATC funding may not be used to provide treatment or services for violent offenders. More detailed information is available at: <a href="https://atc-violent-offender-prohibition-faq.pdf">atc-violent-offender-prohibition-faq.pdf</a> (bja.ojp.gov/funding/atc-violent-offender-prohibition-faq.pdf). See also 34 U.S.C. § 10613.

This Purpose Area is also partially funded with Veterans' Treatment Court and Tribal Assistance funding which are not subject to 34 U.S.C. § 10612. If an applicant intends to serve any violent offenders as participants in their program, they MUST declare this at the time of application in the PA 5 question set and must be able to track these expenditures to ensure that no more than 15% of grant funding is used for this purpose. Funding will be immediately suspended if DOJ determines that violent offenders are being included that did not identify that they would include violent offenders at the time of application or if the percentage of violent offenders served exceeds 15% of the total award.

# ADULT TRIBAL TREATMENT COURTS \_\_\_\_\_

#### TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

#### **Tribal Law and Policy Institute**

WellnessCourts.org and EnhancementTraining.org

Angélica Juárez-Monger | (970) 779-9382 | Tribal Wellness Court Specialist | Angie@TLPI.org

#### Services and Training and Technical Assistance

- Publications, fact-sheets, and model codes
- Peer-to-peer consultations and community of practice session
- Listserv communications
- Onsite training and technical assistance
- Technical assistance via teleconference, videoconference, and email mentoring services
- Policy and procedure review
- Resource provision
- Distance learning training and technical assistance via interactive online training modules, webinars and Live Online Instructor Led Training
- In-person training at regional events and national conferences



# **PURPOSE AREA 6**

For additional info on the Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities Program, contact:

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Victim Justice Program Specialist
Office for Victims of Crime
Office of Justice Programs | U.S. Department of Justice
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## CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT PARTNERSHIPS FOR INDIAN COMMUNITIES

## HISTORY \_\_\_\_

## CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT PARTNERSHIPS FOR INDIAN COMMUNITIES

The mission of the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is to enhance the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to provide leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices in ways that will promote justice and healing for all victims. OVC is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, within the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ).

Established in 1988 through an amendment to the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984, OVC is charged by Congress with administering the Crime Victims Fund, a major source of funding for victim services throughout the Nation. The Fund consists primarily of fines, special assessments, and bond forfeitures from convicted federal offenders. Without relying on American tax dollars, the Fund serves as a unique, self-sufficient source of support for thousands of programs annually that represent millions of dollars invested in victim compensation and assistance in every U.S. state and territory, as well as training and demonstration projects designed to enhance the skills of those who provide services to victims. The Fund provides state victim compensation and assistance formula grants; support for victim-witness coordinators in U.S. Attorneys' Offices, FBI victim specialists, and the Federal Victim Notification System; formula grants to states through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, as mandated by the Children's Justice Act; and discretionary grants, including the Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities Program.

# OVERVIEW \_\_\_\_\_

## CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT PARTNERSHIP FOR INDIAN COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

The Children's Justice and Assistance Act (CJA) of 1986 provided states funding to establish programs to effectively handle child abuse cases. In 1988, the Anti-Drug Abuse Act amended the VOCA of 1984, authorizing the use of a portion of the state CJA funds to help Tribal communities develop and establish programs to improve the investigation, prosecution, and case management of child sexual abuse cases. Since 1989, OVC has worked to enhance the capacity of Tribal communities to address the needs of child abuse victims by providing funding through the CJA Partnerships for Indian Communities Program (CJA Program). The CJA Program was integrated into the CTAS as Purpose Area 6 in 2012.

The goal of the Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities (CJA) program is to provide funding to help American Indian and Alaska Native communities develop, establish, and operate programs designed to improve the investigation, prosecution, and handling of cases of criminal child abuse and neglect, particularly child sexual abuse cases, in a manner which lessens trauma for child victims. The statutory authority for the CJA program is the Children's Justice Act, 34 U.S.C. § 20101 (g).

The objectives of Purpose Area 6 are provided below:

- 1. Establish or enhance a legal system to conduct criminal investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases, for example:
- Developing or updating tribal code to support the criminal investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases.
- Developing or updating trauma-informed policies and procedures for investigators, prosecutors, and other staff supporting child abuse victims.
- Training criminal investigators, prosecutors, and other staff on tribal code, policies and procedures, and trauma-informed practices.

- 2. Support strategies for criminal investigation, prosecution, and judicial handling of cases of child abuse and neglect, particularly child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner that limits additional trauma to the child victim, for example:
- Creating a multidisciplinary team to work on child abuse cases
- Using a multidisciplinary team approach to forensic interviewing of child victims.
- Dedicating specific police investigators and/prosecutors for child abuse cases, particularly child sexual abuse cases.
- 3. Provide emergency and crisis intervention services to aid child abuse victims and their family members in recovering from abuse and neglect. For purposes of the CJA program, "family members" refers to (1) members of the abused or neglected child's family or individuals acting as the child's legal guardian or caregiver; (2) individuals who are providing care and support to the child; and (3) individuals who are NOT the accused or actual perpetrators of the abuse/victimization for which the child is receiving services.
- 4. Provide trauma-informed support services to criminal child abuse victims and their non-offending family members. Such support services might include, but are not limited to:
- Establishing or supporting child advocacy centers to provide a neutral and child-friendly area for trained professionals to conduct forensic interviews.
- Providing victims of child sexual abuse with access to sexual assault forensic medical exams performed by medical professionals with specialized training in conducting pediatric exams.
- Providing advocates to accompany the child victim to court to provide emotional support.
- Preparing child victims to participate in the judicial process by using developmentally appropriate language and resources.
- Facilitating victim impact statements.
- Implementing appropriate practices within the court setting to mitigate the trauma for child victims testifying in the physical presence of the accused.
- Ensuring that child victims and their family members receive access to victim assistance, medical, mental health, and social services from the initial report through the judicial process and recovery.
- Providing trauma-focused counseling for child victims, families, secondary victims (such as siblings or grandparents), and for groups of victims, as appropriate.

Applicant may request funding for the following:

# FUNDING AREAS \_\_\_\_\_

Personnel: Funding may support the salary and fringe benefits for personnel involved in investigation, prosecution, and victim services focused on cases of criminal child abuse and neglect. Staffing may include dedicated prosecutors, law enforcement investigators, child protection services personnel, forensic interviewers, case managers, clinical mental health professionals, pediatric sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs), and other victim assistance and allied professionals.

**Victim Assistance:** Services must be linked to the child's victimization. Victim assistance may include developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed counseling for primary victims and secondary victims (such as siblings or grandparents); family therapy; group therapy; assistance for emergency/short-term needs, and case management services.

Coordination/Outreach: Funding may support purchase of supplies and travel associated with multidisciplinary team meetings, community forums, and the development, production, and distribution of awareness materials such as public service announcements, posters, brochures, fact sheets, etc., designed to increase the public's awareness and understanding of child abuse and neglect and the availability of grant-funded services.

Development of Tribal Code, policies and procedures: Funding may support the development and distribution of written tribal code, policies, and standard operating procedures manuals

that promote trauma-informed approaches to the delivery of services to victims of child abuse and neglect and their family members. Funds may also be used to develop or update tribal codes related to defining and expanding victims' rights and crimes against children.

Cultural and Traditional Practices: Funding may be used to incorporate cultural and traditional practices in proposed activities for example, smudging, sweat lodges or other traditional healing ceremonies, for victims of child abuse and neglect and their family members.

**Expanding services:** Funding may support expanding existing victim service programming to provide a more comprehensive array of services to child victims and their families. Funds may also be used to support outreach and education activities that educate the community about child abuse and neglect and how to access the services that are available.

**Travel:** DOJ-required trainings. Funding may support airfare, lodging, per diem, and other allowable incidental costs for meetings or trainings related to purpose area activities, including costs associated with travel for at least two appropriate staff to attend DOJ-required trainings

(i.e., one CTAS grantee orientation, one OVC mandatory training, and the biennial OVC- sponsored National Indian Nations Conference) using Washington, D.C. as the destination location. Please see the GSA web site for determining allowable per diem travel costs: www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates.

**Training:** Funding may be used for costs associated with developing and conducting local in-service trainings relevant to the investigation and prosecution of criminal child abuse and neglect cases, including trainings on trauma-informed, age appropriate practices. Funding may also be used to send grant-funded personnel and staff who work closely with the program to program-related training events.

**Equipment:** Funding may be used for equipment and technology expenses that meet the federal equipment cost threshold. Examples might include program vehicles, forensic interviewing recording equipment, and medical equipment for a pediatric SANE program.

**Supplies:** Costs may include supplies for digital cameras, rape kits, office furniture, consumable office supplies, printers, scanners, etc.

Procurement contracts: Funding can be used for contracted services or consultants to carry out program activities to include, but are not limited to: telemedicine/telemental health access; cell phone service; or leasing a vehicle, photocopier, or other equipment essential to the operation of the project.

Other costs: Funds can be used to support other program expenses as necessary to fulfill the project's goals and activities related to child victimization, for example, short-term emergency assistance, facility and equipment, maintenance fees, or conference registration fees, etc.

## ONGOING SUPPORT \_\_\_\_\_

Upon award, OVC will provide access to two types of training and technical assistance (TTA) at no cost to grantees: (1) programmatic, to build grantee's capacity to develop and implement their grant funded project; and (2) financial, to build grantee capacity to administer federal grant funds. TTA may include professional development training, specific training for project staff and staff members from collaborative partner agencies and organizations or experts on how to serve victims of crime; assistance with establishing mechanisms to capture required performance measurement data; development of project deliverables; or other training and technical assistance needs that may be identified. OVC expects all awardees to actively participate in activities and services offered through OVC and to use the OVC-designated training and technical assistance providers as their primary training and technical assistance resource.

# FUNDING & ELIGIBILITY \_\_\_\_\_

A federally recognized Tribe or an organization that is acting as the authorized designee of a federally recognized Indian Tribe may apply. If the applicant is a Tribal designee under Purpose Area 6, OVC Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities (CJA) program, the applicant will need a Tribal resolution or equivalent legal enactment from the Tribe as part of the application. Eligible applicants can request up to \$450,000 to support a CJA Program. All award periods for CJA Program grants are 36 months. The funds for this program are authorized

by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984. VOCA states that the funds are available for award recipients to use during the Federal Fiscal Year that the award is made, plus three additional Federal Fiscal Years (e.g. VOCA funds awarded in Fiscal Year 2025 are available for use through the end of Fiscal Year 2028.)

NOTE: No applicant is eligible to apply for grant funding under Purpose Area 6 who received funding in that purpose area the prior two fiscal years. [For example: If an applicant received Purpose Area 6 funding in FY 2023 or FY 2024, then the applicant cannot apply for Purpose Area 6 funding in FY 2025. FY 2022 award recipients would be eligible to apply in FY 2025.]

## BENEFITS \_\_\_\_\_

In a 2014 report, the U.S. Attorney General's Advisory Committee on American Indian and Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence, noted that Native children are exposed to violence at rates higher than children of any other racial or ethnic group, which places Native children at a high-risk for poor developmental outcomes, poor academic achievement, drug addiction and alcoholism, and helps to explain their disproportionate contact with the juvenile justice system. Tribes that receive funding from the CJA Program have an opportunity to intervene in the cycle of abuse and trauma that keeps so many Native children from thriving.

<sup>1</sup> Attorney General's Advisory Committee on American Indian and Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence, Ending Violence So Children Can Thrive, Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, November 2014.



# **PURPOSE AREA 8**

For additional information on the Youth Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts program, contact:

Heather McDonald Grants Management Specialist, OJJDP heather.mcdonald2@usdoj.gov | (202) 598-5280

## YOUTH HEALING TO WELLNESS COURTS

## HISTORY \_\_\_\_\_

## OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 established the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system. In December 2018, the Juvenile Justice Reform Act (JJRA) of 2018 was signed into law, reauthorizing and substantially amending the JJDP Act. ojjdp.ojp.gov/about/legislation OJJDP collaborates with professionals from diverse disciplines to improve juvenile justice policies and practices by supporting states, local communities, and Tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for youth.

OJJDP's three priorities reflect the Office's guiding philosophy: to enhance the welfare of America's youth and broaden their opportunities for a better future. To bring these goals to fruition, OJJDP is leading efforts to transform the juvenile justice system into one that will—

- Treat Children as Children. The juvenile justice field's decisionmaking must be informed by science and research to ensure young people are adjudicated fairly and given opportunities to learn and recover from youthful mistakes.
- Serve Children at Home, With Their Families, in Their Communities. Community-based programs that involve families as a critical component enhance youth outcomes, increase public safety, and strengthen neighborhoods.
- Open Up Opportunities for System-Involved Youth. Juvenile justice practitioners must recognize and address the barriers to success that involvement with the juvenile justice system creates for youth.

OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and victimization. The Office helps states, localities, and tribes develop effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that create safer communities and empower youth to lead productive lives.

# OVERVIEW \_\_\_\_\_

## YOUTH TRIBAL HEALING TO WELLNESS COURTS

The Youth Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts program was incorporated into the CTAS in Fiscal Year 2015 as Purpose Area 8, the first time that an OJJDP CTAS Purpose Area included a specific court focus. This program aims to develop and enhance the capacity of Tribal court to respond to the alcohol and substance use related issues of youth under the age of 21. This includes the development of a new youth healing to wellness court. The principal objectives of this program include: identifying the relevant data that is being collected with regard to Tribal underage alcohol possession and consumption, and its related issues; inventorying policies, procedures, assessment tools, and services that address youth under age 21 who possess or consume alcohol and suffer from alcohol-related issues; determining gaps in such policies, procedures, assessment tools and services; and developing or enhancing the same. Gaps to be addressed by grantees may include culturally appropriate provisions for right to counsel for persons under age 21 who have substance and/or alcohol-related issues; and judicial policies that work appropriately in Tribal justice systems to allow for delinquent charges/records to be expunged after completion of court-ordered action or programming.

Under this program, grantees can direct funding to develop or enhance an existing youth healing to wellness court in accordance with the OJJDP Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Guidelines and the following Tribal Healing to Wellness Court 10 key components:

- 1. Individual and community healing focus The court uses a team approach to achieve the physical and spiritual healing of the individual participant and to promote Nation building and the well-being of the community.
- 2. Referral points and legal process Participants enter Tribal healing to wellness court through various referral points and legal processes that promote Tribal sovereignty and the participants' due (fair) process rights.
- 3. Screening and eligibility Eligible participants are identified early through legal and clinical screening for eligibility. Grant funds may not be used to serve violent offenders. For purposes of this grant program, the term violent offender means a juvenile who has been convicted of or adjudicated delinquent for a felony-level offense that (1) has as an element the use, attempted use, or threatened use of physical force against the person or property of another or the possession of a firearm; or (2) by its nature involved a substantial risk that physical force against the person or property of another may have been used in the course of committing the offense.
- **4. Treatment and rehabilitation** Tribal healing to wellness court provides access to holistic, structured, and phased alcohol and drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation services that incorporate culture and tradition.
- **5. Intensive supervision** Tribal healing to wellness court participants are monitored through intensive supervision that includes frequent and random testing for alcohol and drug use, while participants and their families benefit from effective team-based case management.
- **6. Incentives and sanctions** Progressive rewards (or incentives) and consequences (or sanctions) are used to encourage participant compliance with the Tribal healing to wellness court requirements.
- **7. Judicial interaction** Ongoing involvement of a Tribal healing to wellness court judge with the Tribal wellness court team and staffing and ongoing Tribal wellness court judge interaction with each participant are essential.
- **8. Monitoring and evaluation** Process and performance measurement and evaluation are tools used to monitor and evaluate the achievement of program goals; identify needed improvements to the Tribal healing to wellness court and to the Tribal court process; determine participant progress; and provide information for governing bodies, interested community groups, and funding sources.
- **9. Continuing interdisciplinary and community education** Continuing interdisciplinary and community education promote effective Tribal healing to wellness court planning, implementation, and operation.
- **10. Team interaction** The development and maintenance of ongoing commitments, communication, coordination, and cooperation among Tribal healing to wellness court team members, service providers and payers, the community, and relevant organizations, including the use of formal written procedures and agreements, are critical for Tribal healing to wellness court success.

# ONGOING SUPPORT \_\_\_\_\_

OJJDP's Tribal Youth training and technical assistance (TTA) center assists selected project sites as they work to achieve their goals and objectives under each of these programs. Through this TTA, OJJDP assists Tribal grantees to increase their skills, knowledge and capabilities in developing effective and sustainable programs for reducing juvenile crime and increasing youth potential in Tribal communities. The TTA provided to the OJJDP CTAS grant recipients includes both onsite visits and long-distance support consisting of email, phone, and online meetings. It also includes the opportunity for peer-to-peer learning through a new grantee orientation and a required initial Strategic Planning meeting (i.e., Strat Pak).

**Strategic Planning** The Strategic Planning phase was created to support OJJDP CTAS grant recipients through a strategic planning process that includes developing a mission and vision statement, developing an advisory board, creating a logic model, action planning, and communications and sustainability planning. The strategic planning process helps to identify program challenges and strategies to address them and to create partnerships that are important for implementation and sustainability.

The Strategic Plan is required by OJJDP as an award condition of the Tribal grant. All grant recipients will be required to travel to a strategic planning training and submit a comprehensive plan for implementation of their program.

The Tribal New Grantee Orientation OJJDP CTAS grant recipients are required to participate in a new grantee orientation. This training provides all new grant recipients an opportunity to meet the OJJDP leadership and program management team. The orientation gives grant recipients the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of key grant administration resources (such as the OJP post-award requirements, DOJ Grants Financial Guide, and reporting requirements) as well as a greater awareness of common shortfall in grant administration. Finally, this training offers an opportunity for grant recipients to ask any questions about the goals, objectives, and key upcoming activities of the Youth Healing to Wellness Courts program.

OJJDP's Tribal Youth TTA center is also available to aid all federally recognized Tribes and can be accessed at www.tribalyouth.org or by scanning the QR code



# FUNDING & ELIGIBILITY \_\_\_\_\_

Applicants proposing new, or the enhancement of an existing Youth Healing to Wellness Courts are eligible to apply. Only federally recognized Tribes are eligible to apply for funding under Purpose Area 8 (Youth Healing to Wellness Court). This includes Alaska Native Villages and Tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally recognized Indian Tribes. Please see the CTAS solicitation document for more information on funding amounts.

# BENEFITS \_\_\_\_\_

The Purpose Area 8 funding provides support for Tribes to implement Youth Healing to Wellness Courts focused on issues related to underage drinking and substance use. The issues of alcohol and substance use and abuse among American Indian and Alaska Native youth is well documented. The rehabilitation and treatment-focused approach of the Healing to Wellness court is supportive of individual needs of the youth and can include programming that honors the culture of each Tribe. Other benefits reported by grant recipients are the increased collaboration with other jurisdictions that results from development of Memoranda of Understanding (MOU's). This can include partnerships between Tribal and non-Tribal organizations.

# STRATEGIES \_\_\_\_\_\_

Program examples for youth funded by OJJDP include the Gila River Indian Community Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court which offers a culturally focused program designed to help youth maintain a clean and sober lifestyle. The program consists of four treatment levels that include random drug screening and assessments, substance abuse counseling and educational support services. Each level has specific requirements for promotion to subsequent levels. The program assigns a probation officer to each youth participant to assess needs and assist with resources coordination and outpatient court processes. Youth participating in the program receive ongoing support, transportation and links to peer networks, mentors and elders to support sobriety.

# **PURPOSE AREA 9**



For additional information on the Tribal Youth Program, contact:

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# TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM

## HISTORY

# OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 established the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system. In December 2018, the Juvenile Justice Reform Act (JJRA) of 2018 was signed into law, reauthorizing and substantially amending the JJDP Act. ojjdp.ojp.gov/about/legislation OJJDP collaborates with professionals from diverse disciplines to improve juvenile justice policies and practices by supporting states, local communities, and Tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for youth.

OJJDP's three priorities reflect the Office's guiding philosophy: to enhance the welfare of America's youth and broaden their opportunities for a better future. To bring these goals to fruition, OJJDP is leading efforts to transform the juvenile justice system into one that will—

- Treat Children as Children. The juvenile justice field's decision making must be informed by science and research to ensure young people are adjudicated fairly and given opportunities to learn and recover from youthful mistakes.
- Serve Children at Home, With Their Families, in Their Communities. Community-based programs that involve families as a critical component enhance youth outcomes, increase public safety, and strengthen neighborhoods.
- Open Up Opportunities for System-Involved Youth. Juvenile justice practitioners must recognize and address the barriers to success that involvement with the juvenile justice system creates for youth.

OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and victimization. The Office helps states, localities, and tribes develop effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that create safer communities and empower youth to lead productive lives.

# OVERVIEW \_\_\_\_

## TRIBAL YOUTH PROGRAM

OJJDP's Tribal Youth Program (TYP) is Purpose Area 9 under the CTAS. OJJDP's Tribal Youth Program (TYP) seeks to support and enhance Tribal efforts to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and strengthen a fair and beneficial juvenile justice system response for American Indian/Alaska Native Youth. OJJDP understands that Tribal nations have widely varying circumstances, strengths, and needs that may challenge their ability to prevent juvenile delinquency or to intervene and treat Tribal youth when necessary. The funding in this purpose area is made available to enable tribes to create, expand, or strengthen approaches along the juvenile justice continuum that can range from prevention to intervention and treatment. This program helps tribes develop and sustain effective and equitable services and programs that contribute to the reduction of Tribal youth involved in juvenile justice systems and that create safer communities and empower youth to lead healthy and productive lives.

We recommend that applicants propose a project that initially focuses on one aspect of the OJJDP Continuum of Care (www.oip.gov/oiidp/framework), such as prevention or treatment, based on determined needs of youth. OJJDP also

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Overview of Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts, 2nd Edition, September 2014. A product of the Tribal Law and Policy Institute, West Hollywood, CA.

recommends applicants ensure proposals for TYP funding are created with broad, tribal-wide planning efforts and with community support, which will be critically important in sustaining efforts beyond the award period. This may include the substantive involvement of key stakeholders such as tribal youth, elders and tribal leaders as well as service providers, law enforcement, child welfare, court and probation officials, and schools, as appropriate and applicable to the proposed program design. Tribal Youth Program, Purpose Area 9 can also be used to support services related to the development of a Tribal youth healing to wellness courts, supported under CTAS Purpose Area 8.

Seeding Change Planning Grant (Category 1) This category will support a dedicated planning period for Tribes to develop strategies to improve and/or enhance Tribal juvenile justice systems that include prevention, intervention, and treatment programs and services for youth. This grant is intended for Tribes that are new to receiving OJJDP funding for Purpose Area 9; therefore, Tribes that have an active TYP Purpose Area 9 award at the time of application are not eligible to apply for this grant award. The intended outcome of the Seeding Change planning grant is to increase Tribal leadership and youth, family and community involvement in planning activities that culminate in a high-quality strategic plan and related proposal for an implementation grant that reflects the Tribe's needs, values, culture and priorities.

Cultivating Change Implementation Grant (Category 2) This category will support the implementation of a new Tribal Youth Program for Tribes that seek funding to support programs, services, and/or system improvements. This grant is intended to support Tribes in implementing a Tribal Youth Program. Tribes with an active OJJDP Purpose Area 9 award are not eligible for this award. Tribes that have a Purpose Area 9 award with an end date in 2025 that are interested in applying for additional funding for their program should apply for an award in Category 3. The intended outcome of the Cultivating Change grant is to increase the capacity of Tribes to launch, implement and sustain services, programs and supports for Tribal youth. The Cultivating Change award will include comprehensive training and technical assistance to support the development of a strategic plan to guide implementation.

Harvesting Change Enhancement/Expansion Grant (Category 3) This category is to continue, expand, or enhance a current OJJDP-funded Tribal Youth Program. The only tribes that are eligible to apply for this category are:

- Tribes that have an OJJDP-funded Purpose Area 9 award with a project period end date that occurs in 2025.
- Tribes that had an OJJDP-funded Purpose Area 9 award that ended in 2024 that did not apply for or receive a TYP award in FY 2024.

The intended outcome of a Harvesting Change award is to increase Tribal capacity to sustain effective youth programs, services and supports after the conclusion of the grant award. This may include training and technical assistance to support the Tribe in collecting data and measuring effectiveness of Evidence based and Tribal best practices and through expanding local, inter-Tribal and regional partnerships.

**Note:** The population of youth served under this award must be under the age of 21 at the time of entering the Tribal Youth Program.

Priority areas eligible for funding include prevention services to impact risk factors for delinquency and promote protective factors for youth, interventions for court-involved tribal youth, treatment services for youth and effective use of data to create or improve abilities to track youth in detention, placement, or community-based programs with the goal of improving understanding of and responses to youth and community needs. For more information and additional examples please see CTAS FY 24 Fact Sheet for Purpose Area 9 at <a href="https://www.justice.gov/tribal/grants">www.justice.gov/tribal/grants</a>

## ONGOING SUPPORT \_\_\_\_\_

OJJDP's Tribal Youth Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) centers assists selected project sites as they work to achieve their goals and objectives. Through this TTA, OJJDP assists Tribal Grantees to increase their skills, knowledge, and capabilities in developing effective and sustainable programs for reducing juvenile delinquency and increasing youth potential in Tribal Communities. The TTA provided to the OJJDP CTAS grantees includes intensive strategic planning support, onsite visits, and long-distance support as well as the opportunity for peer-to-peer learning throughout the life of the grant award. OJJDP's Tribal Youth Program TTA Centers are also available to provide assistance to all federally recognized tribes and can be accessed at www.tribalyouth.org and at www.resourcebasket.org.

**Tribal New Grantee Orientation** OJJDP CTAS grantees are required to participate in a new grantee orientation. This training provides all new grantees an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of key grant administration resources and a greater awareness of recommended practices in grant administration.

## FUNDING & ELIGIBILITY \_\_\_\_\_

Only federally recognized Tribes are eligible to apply for funding under Purpose Area 9 (Tribal Youth Program). This includes Alaska Native Villages and Tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally recognized Indian Tribes. Please see the CTAS solicitation for more information on funding amounts.

Seeding Change Planning Grant (Category 1) - Tribes that have an active TYP Purpose Area 9 award at the time of application are not eligible to apply for this grant award.

Cultivating Change Implementation Grant (Category 2) - Tribes with an active OJJDP Purpose Area 9 award at the time of application are not eligible for this award.

Harvesting Change Continuation Grant (Category 3) - The only Tribes that are eligible to apply for this Category are:

- Tribes that have an OJJDP funded Purpose Area 9 award with a project period end date that occurs in 2025.
- Tribes that had an OJJDP funded Purpose Area 9 award that ended in 2024 that did not apply for or receive a TYP award in FY 23.

# BENEFITS \_\_\_\_\_

The need for culturally-based prevention, intervention and treatment programs for at-risk American Indian and Alaska Native Youth is well documented. Purpose Area #9 funding provides support for Tribes to develop and implement culturally based programs for Tribal Youth to impact risk factors for delinquency; interventions for court-involved youth; improvements to the juvenile justice system; alcohol and substance abuse prevention programs; and mental health program services. The Tribal Youth Program supports these goals and Tribal efforts to achieve fair and beneficial juvenile justice system responses for American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

## STRATEGIES \_\_\_\_\_

OJJDP recognizes that the opportunity to develop and implement Tribal best practices, Indigenous practices that have longevity within Tribal communities and/or traditional healing methods to support Tribal youth exist throughout the juvenile justice continuum. These approaches may be proposed as prevention, intervention or treatment strategies and may be proposed alone or in combination with other approaches.

OJJDP also recognizes that many Tribes are impacted by state and local juvenile justice efforts and endeavor to ensure that their youth receive effective and culturally sensitive services. Proposals that include efforts to develop or strengthen State-Tribal partnerships can be incorporated at any point along the juvenile justice continuum as a component of a Tribal Youth Program.

