



Fact Sheet

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Child Sexual Predator Program Protecting Communities and America's Children from Predators

The COPS Office is committed to supporting state, local, and tribal law enforcement as they work aggressively to prevent and respond to predatory crimes against children.

Background

The Child Sexual Predator Program (CSPP), administered by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office), is aimed at reducing and preventing child endangerment and protecting communities from sexual predators. Launched as a new grant initiative in 2008, CSPP provides grants to help locate, arrest, and prosecute child sexual predators and exploiters, and enforce state sex offender registration laws. The program supports community policing initiatives throughout the United States by promoting partnerships between law enforcement and United States Attorneys' Offices (USAO), as well as with other community partners, such as the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), parole and probation offices, social service agencies, and state or local prosecutors, to collectively reduce and prevent child endangerment by sexual predators. To date, CSPP grants totaling more than \$22.5 million have been distributed to 49 agencies across the country.

Grant Program Funding Provisions

In fiscal year 2010, approximately \$10.2 million in funding is available under CSPP. Each CSPP grant is funded up to \$500,000 per jurisdiction with no local match required. The grant period is two years (24 months) in duration and projects include such activities as:

- Developing, enhancing, or maintaining sex offender registration programs or functions
- Improving information sharing between law enforcement and other service providers to investigate and prevent child sex crimes and to increase offender accountability
- Managing high-risk offenders in the community through strategic problem analysis and response development
- Establishing or enhancing any other efforts to locate, arrest, and prosecute known child sex offenders.

Agencies awarded under CSPP are required to partner and coordinate with their district USAO and USMS office to implement this initiative. Preference is given to those agencies that request items that assist them in complying with the required minimum sex offender registration and notification standards set forth in the Sexual Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA). Preference is also given to those applicants that demonstrate a multi-jurisdictional and/or multi-disciplinary approach to locating, arresting, and prosecuting child sexual predators. In addition, the COPS Office encourages the development or support of existing task forces focused exclusively on these efforts by agencies funded under this initiative.

The COPS Office offers a variety of publications and products that support CSPP including:

- *Child Pornography on the Internet*, to help police identify and respond to Internet child pornography crimes;
- *Juvenile Runaways*, a street-smart guide to aid police officers as they encounter juveniles who have run away from home;
- *Teen Action Toolkit: Building a Youth-Led Response to Teen Victimization*, a hands-on implementation guide for the Teen Action Partnership Program.
- *Child Abuse and Neglect in the Home*, a publication that supports community policing partnerships and strategies in combating predatory crimes against children. It provides police with information about the problem of child abuse and neglect in the home, reviews factors that increase its risks, and evaluates responses to the problem.

Additional COPS publications and resources are posted online at www.cops.usdoj.gov.

Under CSPP, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children® (NCMEC) will provide technical assistance and training to the CSPP grantees. NCMEC will assist CSPP grantees in developing partnerships and sharing information and strategies with each other. A document highlighting best practices will also be produced under this award.

NCMEC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established by Congress in 1984 that offers law enforcement powerful resources, free of charge, to help investigate cases of missing and sexually exploited children, track attempted abductions of children, and locate noncompliant registered sex offenders. To learn more about NCMEC or request assistance with a case, call the toll-free, 24-hour hot line at 1.800.THE.LOST® (1.800.843.5678) or visit the web site at www.missingkids.com and click the *Law Enforcement* link under the *Resources* heading on the left side of the home page.

The safety and well-being of America's children are crucial to healthy communities, and the COPS Office is committed to supporting state, local, and tribal law enforcement as they work aggressively to prevent and respond to predatory crimes against children. We assist agencies through grant funding and a variety of resources that support community policing partnerships and strategies in combating this problem.

Contact the COPS Office

For more information, call the COPS Office Response Center at 800.421.6770, or visit COPS Online at www.cops.usdoj.gov.