COMMUNITY POLICING

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) provides resources and support to federal, state, and local entities to improve community safety through partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate needs and goals of communities.

GOALS

- Establishing and strengthening partnerships effective in crime prevention, pipeline repair, and community relations.
- Increasing access to comprehensive and culturally competent victim services.
- Improving the quality of community-based and corrections-related services.
- Improving the integrity of the criminal justice system through the use of integrity management techniques and training, and by dealing with allegations of misconduct.
- Promoting and implementing evidence-based and best-practice community programs.
- Enhancing public confidence in the justice system.
- Increasing public safety and reducing crime through better accountability and management of community-oriented programs.

SERVICES

- Community Policing Initiatives.
- Crime Prevention Program Services.
- Community Policing Training Services.
- Community Policing Literature and Publications.
- Community Policing Technical Assistance (TA).
- Community Policing Training and Technical Assistance.
- Community Policing Research.
- Community Policing Technical Services.

For more information:

For more information, please visit BJA at www.bja.gov or contact BJA’s National Community Policing Program at 1-800-284-4109.
**OVERVIEW**

**JUVENILE TRIBAL HEALING TO WELLNESS COURTS**

The Juvenile 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 juvenile 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; inventorizing 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 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 a Tribal juvenile 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 grantees 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 webinar and a required initial Strategic Planning meeting (i.e., Strat Pak).

Strategic Planning
The Strategic Planning phase was created to support OJJDP CTAS grantees 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 a special condition of the Tribal grant. All awardees 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 grantees are required to participate in a web-based new grantee orientation. This training provides all new grantees an opportunity to meet the OJJDP leadership and program management team. The orientation gives grantees an opportunity to ask any questions about the goals, objectives, and key upcoming activities of the Juvenile Healing to Wellness Courts program.

OJJDP’s Tribal Yout h TTA center is also available to provide assistance to all federally recognized Tribes and can be accessed at www.tribalyouthprogram.org.

FUNDING & ELIGIBILITY
Applicants purposeing new Juvenile Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts are eligible to apply. Only federally recognized Tribes are eligible to apply for funding under Purpose Area 8 (Juvenile 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 Juvenile 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 grantees are the increased collaboration with other jurisdictions that results from development of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs). 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.

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 Programs’ 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.

Established in 1988 through an amendment to the Victims of Crime Act (VCOA) 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, emergency relief, and other services to address the needs of crime victims and their families.

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.

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is a component of the United States Department of Justice. In recognition of the severity of the crimes associated with domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, Congress passed the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (VAWA 1994) as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. VAWA is a comprehensive legislative package designed to end violence against women and was reauthorized in both 2000 and 2005. The legislative history of VAWA indicates that Congress seeks to remedy the legacy of laws and social norms that serve to justify violence against women. Since the passage of VAWA, there has been a paradigm shift in how the issue of violence against women is addressed nationwide.

OVW was created specifically to implement VAWA and subsequent legislation. OVW administers financial and technical assistance to communities around the country to facilitate the creation of programs, policies, and practices aimed at ending domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act established OJJDP, a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system. 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 juveniles.

OJJDP strives to strengthen the juvenile justice system’s efforts to protect public safety, hold offenders accountable, and provide services that address the needs of youth and their families.

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 programming.