

**Juvenile Justice Planning Committee
2017 Funding Priorities**

Mission Statement

The mission of the Juvenile Justice Planning Committee is to provide resources for youth who are at-risk of becoming delinquent due to individual, school, family, peer and or community factors. These resources will also provide services for youth who are delinquent, undisciplined, or involved in the juvenile court process from intake through aftercare.

The Juvenile Justice Planning Committee is committed to providing resources for programming that makes use of promising practices and approaches specific to the program areas listed in the funding link below. Priority consideration will be given to applicants providing services in the listed program areas. These program areas were identified by the Juvenile Justice Planning Committee as being those best-suited to meet the current needs of North Carolina's youth.

- **Note that the Program Funding Priorities that follow are not in any particular order of importance.**
- **For grants to be awarded under these Program Funding Priorities, federal juvenile justice allocations must be received and processed at the state level.**
- **Allocations are typically made in the fall and as a result, many recommended projects do not receive an actual grant award until the month of September or even later.**
- **Applicants are strongly encouraged to take into account the possibility of a late award if funding is in fact recommended.**
- **Programs with fundamental strategies that decision making is based on data or based on evidence best practice and promising practices.**

1. 2017 Children's Justice

Funding under this priority is intended for systems change to improve the handling and outcomes of cases of child maltreatment in North Carolina.

Programs which may be funded include those which are designed to:

- A. Improve Investigative, Administrative, or Judicial Handling of Cases (e.g., by providing forensic interviewing training, by supporting multidisciplinary collaboration in child maltreatment cases, by upgrading the technologies used in child maltreatment cases), or
- B. Establish Experimental, Model, or Demonstration Programs (e.g., to improve responses to maltreatment perpetrated against child victims with disabilities and/or other special populations, to improve evidence collection and offender interview

techniques, to raise awareness of the signs and symptoms of maltreatment and reporting responsibilities), or

- C. Reform State Procedures or Protocols (e.g., by establishing protocols for first responders to follow when confronted with a child death scene, by implementing procedures that minimize the risk of discomfort for child victims testifying in court).

The Juvenile Justice Planning Committee is especially interested in Children's Justice proposals that build capacity to deliver training on the forensic interviewing of children, whether on a local, regional, or statewide basis.

Please note that if you are seeking funding for treatment or direct services for victims of child abuse or neglect, you should consider addressing your proposal to the Crime Victims' Services Committee. The delivery of direct services, whether of a treatment, case-handling, investigative, or prosecutorial nature, is not fundable under this program funding priority. It is highly recommended that you confirm with the Lead Juvenile Justice Planner that your proposal is within funding parameters before you commit to the preparation and submission of an application.

For more information on the Children's Justice Program, please contact Children's Justice Planner/DMC Coordinator Racquel Piper at (919) 899-9194 and at racquel.piper@ncdps.gov

2. 2017 Compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act

North Carolina is currently out of compliance with the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offender (DSO) core requirement of the JJDP Act. **Priority consideration will be given to programs that offer innovative enhanced non-secure alternatives to detention. Thus programs should address alternative placement of juvenile status offenders, thereby reducing secure detention of juveniles in custody for warrants, awaiting placement, truancy, runaways, and violations of curfew.**

The Juvenile Justice Planning Committee is seeking proposals specific to alternatives to detention programming and the provision of training and technical assistance to units of government on the issues related to the DSO requirement of the JJDP Act.

Examples of DSO-specific programming include:

- The development and practicing of jurisdiction-wide administrative reform, to include the use of objective decision-making tools and risk assessment instruments by youth serving agencies;
- Diversion programs serving status offending youth in lieu of formal court processing;
- Community-based alternatives to secure detention (e.g., house arrest **and weekly face to face contact, home confinement or day treatment programming with progress reports.**

Funding may also be awarded for monitoring secure facilities which detain juveniles, this as part of a system of JJDP Act compliance monitoring. Such monitoring includes physically entering such facilities and verifying juveniles are not being detained contrary to the Act.

For more information on this priority, please contact Community Development Specialist II Carlotta Winstead at (919) 733-4564 or at carlotta.winstead@ncdps.gov.

3. 2017 Reduction of Disproportionate Minority Contact

Minority youth are more likely to be suspended from school, held in secure detention, and processed at various decision points in the juvenile justice system. The Governor's Crime Commission supports efforts to reduce Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) in the state's juvenile justice system. In order to be considered for funding, applicants proceeding under this program priority must be prepared to address and to reduce disproportionality in one or more of the nine juvenile justice system contact points.

Examples of promising DMC-specific programming include:

- Diversion programs serving at risk youth in lieu of formal court processing (e.g., Victim Offender Mediation, Teen Courts, Community Service);
- Law Enforcement Collaboration Initiatives (Juvenile Specific);
- Programs that specifically address minority disparities at initial contact points of the juvenile system (e.g., front end diversion, school-based diversion, law enforcement-based diversion) as well as programming focused on youth who have made their way to the deeper end of the system (confinement);
- Programs that demonstrate a level of effectiveness in reducing DMC as well as innovative programmatic interventions proven useful as a tool in the reduction of DMC.

The Juvenile Justice Planning Committee is especially interested in supporting committees and other bodies that are actively involved in local and regional efforts to reduce disproportionality on the basis of race.

Proposals under this program area must address a specific juvenile justice contact point where disproportionality is present and be able to analyze, collect, and measure the Relative Rate Index (RRI) of that contact point before and after programmatic interventions.

For more information on DMC, please see the webpage of the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention at <http://www.ojjdp.gov/dmc/index.html>. Questions about the funding available for DMC reduction efforts in North Carolina may be addressed to Children's Justice Planner/DMC Coordinator Racquel Piper at (919) 899-9194 and at racquel.piper@ncdps.gov

4. 2017 Juvenile Gang, Child Trafficking, and Juvenile Re-entry

Programs, research, or other initiatives primarily to address issues related to preventing juvenile gang activity.

Programs that provide training to professionals who work with children on how to identify and assist children of sexual abuse.

Programs to prepare targeted juvenile offenders to successfully return to their communities after serving a period of secure confinement in a training school, juvenile correctional facility, or other secure institution.

Reentry programs aim to reduce offender recidivism and successfully reintegrate an offender back into the community. **Reentry efforts often begin while incarcerated and upon release transition (re-enter) into the community with continuation of service.** Typically, reentry services include case management and assistance with housing, **education (GED), employment, healthcare, substance abuse treatment, anger management educational programs, individual therapy, family therapy, clothing, job-skills readiness(resume building) and access to transportation.**

The Juvenile Justice Planning Committee is especially interested in supporting committees and other bodies that are actively involved in local and regional efforts to reduce juvenile gang/ child-trafficking and juvenile re-entry. Additional consideration may be given to gender-specific programs.

For more information on this priority, please contact Community Development Specialist II Carlotta Winstead at (919) 733-4564 or at carlotta.winstead@ncdps.gov.

5. 2017 After-School Programs, Mentoring , and Vocational Programming

Education programs and/or related services to prevent truancy, suspension, and expulsion. School safety programs may include support for school resource officers and law-related education. Programs that improve students' academic performance, prevent problem behaviors from developing, and encouraging positive youth development.

Mentoring programs to develop and sustain a one-to-one supportive relationship between a responsible adult, age 18 or older (mentor) and an at-risk juvenile and/or first-time and non-serious juvenile offender (mentee). Programs support one-to-one mentoring programs for youth at risk of educational failure, dropping out of school, children of incarcerated parents, or involvement in delinquent activities, including gangs.

Mentoring activities may include academic tutoring, music, arts, coaching (sports activities) and life skills training. Proposals should include mentoring models with a proven track record of success, guidance for matching mentors/mentees and safeguards for the safety and well-being of the mentee. Emphasis should be placed on the importance of carefully structured programs with adequate management, training, case management, policies, procedures and an establishment of clear standards. These standards relate to **background screening** of the adults and **appropriate matching** of youth(s) to mentor(s),

training and orientation of volunteers, required frequency of meetings, supervision of matches and **up-to-date data of progress and outcome.**

Vocational programs that make full use of mentoring relationships and partnerships with private industry hold special promise for the youth of our state. Such programs prepare youths by imparting concrete vocational skills and the competencies and behaviors that are essential for functioning as productive, law-abiding members of society. Proposals under this priority should seek to train program participants in the specific skills that are needed in today's **workforce**. Programming should be developed in consultation with private partners and should focus on skills and trades that are actually in demand.

Examples of program components include:

- Instruction in culinary arts, skilled trades, financial services, technology, hospitality, and other fields that are in demand;
- Short term training and job placement programs;
- Educational and employment programming that involves partnership with high schools and other educational institutions.

Agencies applying under this program area must demonstrate use of a specific vocational career curriculum and a strong collaborative partnership with the business community. Projects which provide after-school or mentoring services with only a minimal focus on vocational skills will not be considered for funding.

The Juvenile Justice Planning Committee is especially interested in After-School Programs, Mentoring, and Vocational Programming proposals that are addressed to youth who are involved with the juvenile justice system. Additional consideration may be given to gender-specific programs.

For more information on this priority, please contact Community Development Specialist II Carlotta Winstead at (919) 733-4564 or at carlotta.winstead@ncdps.gov.

6. 2017 Alternatives to Detention(combined with #2)

Alternative services provided to a juvenile offender in the community as an alternative to being placed in either secure detention or confinement facilities.

Examples of alternatives to detention include:

- Community-based programs designed to restrict activities of offenders in the community (e.g. house arrest);
- Day (or evening) treatment (e.g. day or evening reporting centers);
- Shelter care (nonsecure residential care for youths who need short-term placement).

The Juvenile Justice Planning Committee is especially interested in proposals that seek to prevent juveniles from being placed in either secure detention or confinement facilities. Additional consideration may be given to gender-specific programs.

For more information on this priority, please contact Community Development Specialist II Carlotta Winstead at (919) 733-4564 or at carlotta.winstead@ncdps.gov.