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Jeff Slowikowski, Acting Administrator

What Is OJJDP's Mission?

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP supports states, communities, and tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to implement effective prevention and intervention programs and to improve the juvenile justice system so that it protects public safety, holds offenders accountable, and provides treatment services tailored to the needs of juveniles and their families.

Learn more at ojjdp.gov.

OJJDP: An Overview

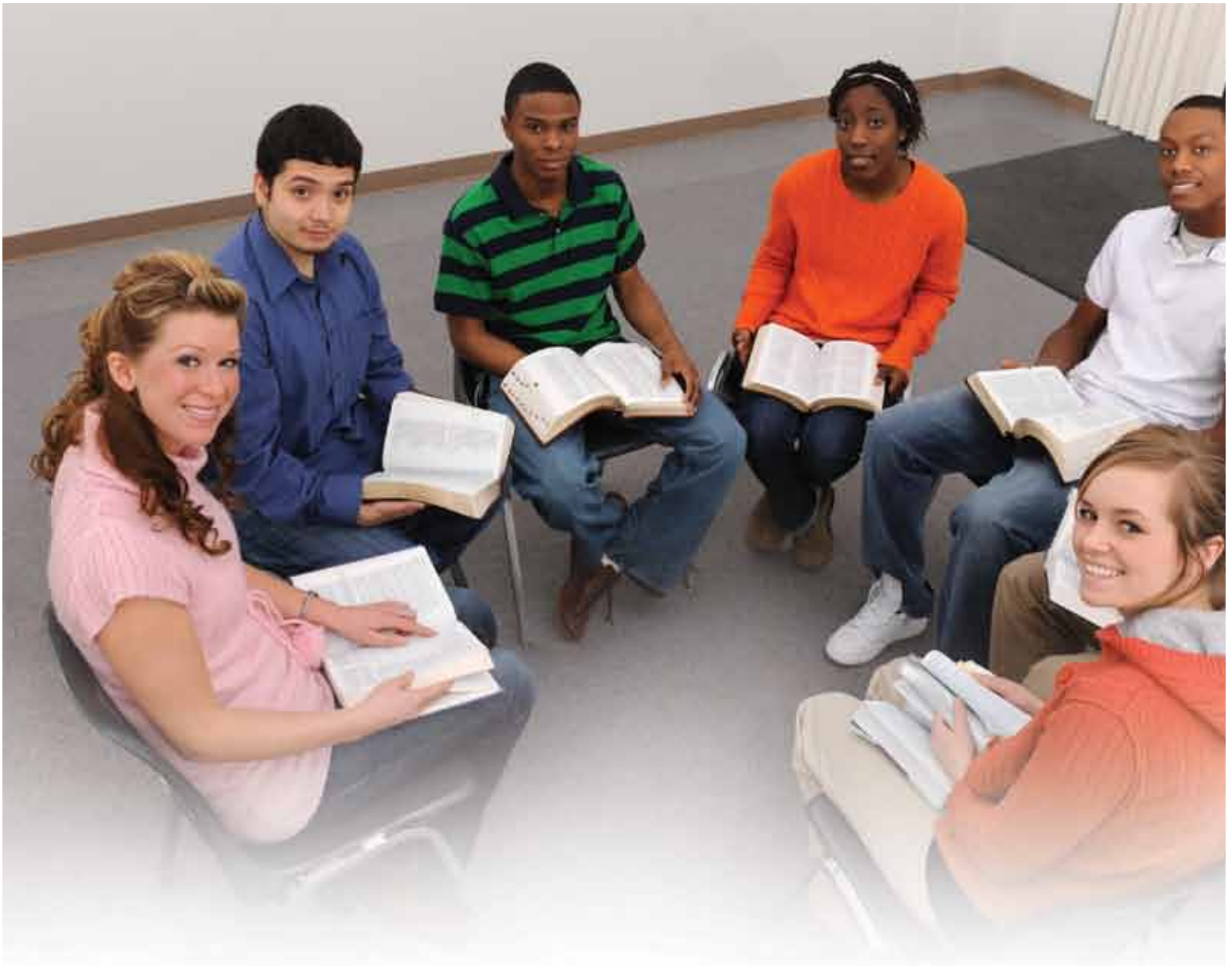
The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, as amended, governs the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP's) activities.

OJJDP sponsors research and demonstration programs, offers training and technical assistance, and develops and distributes resources. Under the direction of the Office of the Administrator, OJJDP's work is carried out through the following components—a policy office that provides leadership and coordinates national policy on juvenile justice (see sidebar on page 3) and three program divisions that administer grant programs to strengthen the juvenile justice system and prevent juvenile delinquency and child victimization.

The **Child Protection Division** (CPD) administers programs related to crimes against children and children's exposure to violence. CPD provides leadership and funding to promote effective policies and procedures to address the problems of missing and exploited children, abused or neglected children, and children exposed

to domestic or community violence. CPD programs include:

- **Defending Childhood:** Harnesses resources from across the federal government to prevent children's exposure to violence, mitigate its impact, and create awareness. CPD oversees a demonstration program to prevent and reduce children's exposure to violence in their homes, schools, and communities.
- **Internet Crimes Against Children:** Helps state and local law enforcement agencies prevent and respond to cyberenticement and child pornography cases through the use of specialized task forces.
- **National Center for Missing & Exploited Children:** Serves as a national resource center and clearinghouse to help prevent child abduction and sexual exploitation; find missing children; and provide assistance to child victims, their families, and the professionals who serve them.



- **AMBER Alert:** Creates voluntary partnerships between law enforcement agencies, local media, transportation agencies, and other entities to notify and solicit the help of the public when a child has been abducted.
- **Children's Advocacy Centers:** Coordinate the investigation, treatment, and prosecution of child abuse cases through teams representing child protective and victim advocacy services, law enforcement and prosecution, and physical and mental health disciplines.

The **Demonstration Programs Division (DPD)** provides discretionary funds to public and private agencies, organizations, and individuals to develop and support programs and replicate tested approaches to delinquency prevention, treatment, and control in areas such as mentoring, gangs, chronic juvenile offending, and community-based sanctions. DPD also coordinates efforts with tribal governments to expand and improve tribal juvenile justice systems. DPD programs include:

- **Mentoring Program:** Funds national and community initiatives to develop and expand mentoring services for at-risk youth who are underserved due to where they live, a shortage of mentors, special physical or mental challenges, and other extenuating situations.
- **Anti-Gang Programs:** Support the National Gang Center, which offers training and technical assistance, research, and resources on evidence-based gang prevention, intervention, and suppression strategies and the Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) program, a school-based curriculum taught by law enforcement officers that helps students avoid delinquency, violence, and gang membership.
- **Second Chance Act Youth Offender Reentry Initiative:** Supports juvenile offenders as they transition from residential confinement back to their communities through the delivery of evidence-based treatment and services. The program's goal is to reduce reoffending and improve public safety.

OJJDP'S OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The Office of Policy Development (OPD) assists the Administrator by providing leadership and direction for national juvenile justice policy, research, training, and compliance efforts. OPD advises the Administrator on policy and program issues and on how OJJDP can best accomplish its mission. OPD also manages OJJDP's planning and information dissemination efforts. Entities integral to OPD's efforts include:

- **Concentration of Federal Efforts Program:** Advances interagency collaboration among federal agencies with responsibilities in the area of juvenile justice.
 - **Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention:** Coordinates federal programs and activities related to juvenile delinquency prevention, the care or detention of unaccompanied juveniles, and missing and exploited children. Composed of 22 federal agency and practitioner members, the Council makes annual recommendations to Congress regarding juvenile justice policies, objectives, and priorities.

- **Tribal Youth Program:** Funds tribal communities to develop juvenile delinquency prevention and control programs, reduce violent crime, and improve juvenile justice systems.
- **Drug Courts Grant Program:** Provides grants to support the development and implementation of juvenile and family drug courts.

The **State Relations and Assistance Division (SRAD)** provides funds to help state and local governments achieve the system improvement goals of the JJDP Act, implement delinquency prevention programs, and support initiatives to hold juvenile offenders accountable for their actions. SRAD programs include:

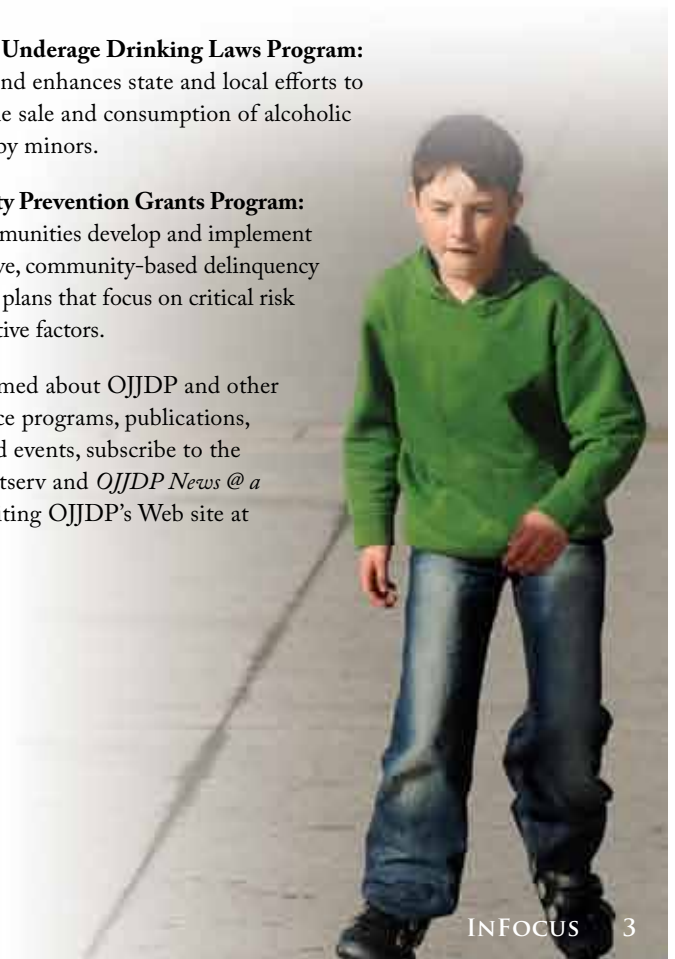
- **Formula Grants Program:** Provides funds directly to states to help them implement comprehensive state juvenile justice plans based on detailed studies of needs in their jurisdictions.
- **Juvenile Accountability Block Grants Program:** Provides block grants to states to reduce juvenile offending through accountability-based programs that are targeted to both offenders and the juvenile justice system.

The Attorney General serves as chairperson and the Administrator of OJJDP serves as vice chairperson.

- **Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice:** Advises the President and Congress on matters related to juvenile justice and advises the OJJDP Administrator on the work of OJJDP. A consultative body established by the JJDP Act, the Committee is composed of appointed representatives of State Advisory Groups.
- **Budget and Planning Division:** Handles OJJDP's budget and planning operations and manages the Office's research and training and technical assistance functions. The division also oversees all administrative and personnel matters.
- **Communications Unit:** Responsible for OJJDP's information dissemination and outreach. The unit develops OJJDP publications, manages its Web site and online services, and performs a range of writing and editing functions to support the Office. The unit also handles media-related inquiries and issues.

- **Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program:** Supports and enhances state and local efforts to prohibit the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors.
- **Community Prevention Grants Program:** Helps communities develop and implement collaborative, community-based delinquency prevention plans that focus on critical risk and protective factors.

To stay informed about OJJDP and other juvenile justice programs, publications, resources, and events, subscribe to the JUVJUST listserv and *OJJDP News @ a Glance* by visiting OJJDP's Web site at ojjdp.gov.





OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

*Serving Children, Families,
and Communities*



The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking.

For more information,
go to ojjdp.gov.

