



## In the Spotlight

### Reentry and Employment

On June 30, the White House hosted a day-long event focused on improving employment outcomes for individuals with a criminal record. The event included a "Champions of Change" program honoring individuals around the country who are doing extraordinary work to facilitate employment opportunities for individuals formerly involved with the justice system. The program featured Attorney General Holder and other senior Administration officials. The [webcast](#) is now available for viewing.

In addition, the White House Domestic Policy Council, in coordination with the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center and the National Reentry Resource Center, held a half-day summit, "Pathways to Prosperity: How Public and Private Sectors Can Put People with Criminal Records to Work," which brought together business leaders, corrections experts, and workforce development and labor professionals to discuss collaborative and evidence-supported strategies for improving public safety, employment rates, and quality of the workforce.

BJA Director Denise E. O'Donnell spoke at the summit and emphasized the importance of a collaborative evidence-based framework to guide all reentry and employment work, including government, foundations, not-for-profit partners, and the private sector. She also highlighted the tremendous progress made in developing this common framework by announcing the release of a new "[Integrated Reentry and Employment Strategies: Reducing Recidivism and Promoting Job Readiness](#)" white paper and the [Integrated Reentry and Employment Strategies Pilot Project](#), a new public-private partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and the CSG Justice Center, with guidance from the U.S. Department of Labor.



Applications are currently being accepted from state and local jurisdictions interested in becoming pilot sites to test the strategies outlined in "Integrated Reentry and Employment Strategies." The jurisdictions selected for participation in the pilot project will have the opportunity to become national leaders in implementing cutting-edge strategies at the intersection of reentry and workforce development. Applications are due August 15, 2014. Visit the CSG Justice Center web site for the [application package](#) and to view a recent [webinar](#).

## DID YOU KNOW?

### Learn How CPTED Strategies Help Make Communities Safer

Law enforcement officers, city planners, and community leaders use Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies to reduce crime in their neighborhoods by considering factors such as physical environment, design, and place to prevent crime. BJA NTTAC is offering CPTED training and technical assistance (TTA) to help communities assess their needs as it relates to the environmental conditions that may be leading to crime incidents and putting their citizens at risk.

Read BJA NTTAC's recent [blog post](#), authored by Julia Ryan, Director of the Community Safety Initiative at the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), to learn how CPTED resources can help make communities safer.



## FEATURED PROGRAM

### Chapters of The Arc Selected for NCCJD's "Pathways to Justice" Training Program

In partnership with BJA, The Arc recently announced that five of its chapter organizations were selected to pilot implementation of The Arc's [National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability's](#) (NCCJD) "Pathways to Justice" training program. Through this program, chapters will help build the capacity of the criminal justice system to effectively identify, serve, and protect people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), many of whom have "mild" disabilities that often go unnoticed among criminal justice professionals without

## News You Can Use

### New Global Advisory Committee Meeting Summary Available

On June 23, 2014, in Washington, DC, Global Advisory Committee (GAC) representatives from over 30 state, local, and tribal justice organizations joined federal sponsors, partners, and guests to tackle today's public safety challenges facing our neighborhoods and nation through more effective, efficient, and appropriate justice information sharing. Read a [summary](#) of the GAC Summer 2014 meeting.



### Law Enforcement Forecasting Group Web Site Launched

The new BJA Law Enforcement Forecasting Group (LEFG) web site is now available at [BJALEFG.com](#). The LEFG, composed of 20 criminal justice executives and researchers, was created to identify emerging issues and to explore tactics and strategies that might assist law enforcement agencies in providing quality police services. The primary objectives of the LEFG are to forecast issues and concerns that might require increased law enforcement resources and attention and identify current or emerging trends, programs, and developments that could help

law enforcement perform effectively in the future.

#### Nominate an Officer for the Medal of Valor

BJA is accepting nominations through July 31, 2014 for the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor, the highest national award for valor by a public safety officer. Find out more at [www.medalofvalor.gov](http://www.medalofvalor.gov).



appropriate training.

Last year, The Arc was awarded BJA funding to develop NCCJD to create a national clearinghouse for research, information, evaluation, training, and technical assistance for justice and disability professionals and other advocates to build their capacity to better identify and meet the needs of people with I/DD.



### Grants & Funding

All BJA FY 2014 competitive grant solicitations are now closed. For other funding opportunities available through OJP, visit [ojp.gov/funding/solicitations.htm](http://ojp.gov/funding/solicitations.htm).

BJA expects to announce all FY 2014 grant awards by October 1, and they will be posted on the [OJP web site](#).

### In Focus This Month

#### New! Updated BJA State and Territory Facts Sheets

BJA has released the recently updated [BJA State and Territory Fact Sheets](#). The enhanced web site features updated state and territory statistics related to BJA investments, Byrne JAG Program highlights, crime trends, and other criminal justice information. In addition to the web site, each state has an easily accessible PDF version of the fact sheet and detailed funding information that can be used for distribution. BJA hopes these fact sheets will continue to be useful to criminal justice agencies, as they can easily obtain and reference criminal justice data across the nation for a variety of purposes.



### Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program

Enacted in 1976, the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program provides death, disability, and education benefits to those eligible for the program. For details regarding these federal benefits for law enforcement officers, firefighters, and first responders killed or catastrophically disabled in the line of duty, call the PSOB Office toll-free at 888-744-6513 or 202-307-0635, or visit the PSOB [web site](#).



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