

In the Spotlight

BJA's Training and Technical Assistance Expands Services for the Field

A recent survey of law enforcement officials found that 55 percent of respondents say the current economic situation has resulted in a serious or severe problem for their agency. Additionally, 85 percent of the agencies reported that they were forced to reduce their budget over the last year.¹

During the current economic time, the realization that we have fewer dollars and fewer opportunities is evident. In a recent meeting of key BJA training and technical assistance (TTA) partners, BJA and our partners discussed how we can best support criminal justice practitioners that will give them the opportunities to build capacity and institute innovative, creative, and cost effective practices. BJA views TTA services as the vehicle through which BJA can enhance their response to the needs of the criminal justice community and ensure sustainability of policies and practices that are shown to be effective.

In FY 2010, BJA and its national TTA partners held over 5,400 training and technical assistance events, reaching over 68,000 practitioners and policymakers through training events alone. BJA currently works with over 200 partner organizations to provide TTA to the field on a wide range of criminal justice topics. BJA is committed to providing flexible assistance to the field, translating what works to others, and building capacity for state, local, and tribal jurisdictions based on effective practices.

¹ www.theiacp.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=tbBGd4RKEGE%3d&tabid=937

News You Can Use

Become a Certified Crime Prevention Specialist

With support from BJA, the National Crime Prevention Council has created a national certification program, the [National Crime Prevention Specialist \(NCPS\) certification](#). NCPS certification is designed to help professionalize the field of crime prevention. Any individual with an interest in crime prevention who works or volunteers in government or in the private sector can apply to become an NCPS.

Register Now for a Law Enforcement Volunteer Program E-Learning Course

The Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) Program offers the [Building Blocks of a Law Enforcement Volunteer Program](#) e-learning course. This course is designed for persons charged with implementing a program in state, local, tribal, or campus law enforcement agencies. These building blocks will resonate for those with new law enforcement volunteer programs or those in the planning and program development phase.

Upcoming Webinar: Community as Change Agent: Incorporating Peer-to-Peer Learning in RSAT Programs

On July 20, 2011 at 2:00 p.m., Advocates for Human Potential, the TTA provider for BJA's Residential Substance Abuse and Treatment (RSAT) Program, will host a webinar that will focus on the many benefits of creating a culture that supports accountability to a peer group that is, in turn, accountable to a "rational authority." This model of accountability has been implemented and empirically validated in a prison-based RSAT as well as in community corrections and sober house settings. Participants will learn about the advantages and structure of a therapeutic community approach. [More>>>](#)

Grants & Funding

The following competitive solicitations are open:

- [Building Neighborhood Capacity Program Training and Technical Assistance Coordinator](#)
Applications are due July 25, 2011
 - [Bulletproof Vest Partnership \(BVP\) Program](#)
Applications are due July 7, 2011
 - [Improving Criminal Courts](#)
Applications are due July 8, 2011
 - [Prison Industry Enhancement Certification Technical Assistance Program](#)
Applications are due July 7, 2011
 - [Prison Rape Elimination Act: Demonstration Projects to Establish "Zero Tolerance" Cultures for Sexual Assault Program](#)
Applications are due July 7, 2011
 - [Public Safety Officers' Benefits \(PSOB\) National Firefighter Survivor Support](#)
Applications are due July 14, 2011
 - [Second Chance Act Demonstration Field Experiment: Fostering Desistance through Effective Supervision](#)
Applications are due July 11, 2011
- [Read more](#) about the Demonstration Field Experiment

[More](#) funding opportunities

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](#).

DID YOU KNOW?

BJA TTA services span the entire criminal justice system, including courts, corrections, justice information sharing, tribal justice, substance abuse and mental health, crime prevention, and law enforcement. Services include providing information on evidence-based practices, providing access to subject matter experts for onsite consultations, assessments and reviews, peer-to-peer collaboration and assistance, training in the latest technology and emerging topics, and support for strategic planning, program sustainability, and program evaluation. For more information, visit BJA's [National Training and Technical Assistance Center](#).

FEATURED PROGRAM

With funding from BJA, the Justice Management Institute (JMI), the Pretrial Justice Institute (PJI), and the National Association of Counties (NACo), are bringing together leaders and top-level staff from up to 12 [Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils](#) (CJCCs) across the country that have major roles in shaping decisions regarding criminal justice. The goal of this National CJCC Network is to provide a central place for the leaders and senior staff of CJCCs to share information and ideas about common problems and promising approaches to addressing these problems.

The Network members will address local criminal justice planning; how to assess the costs and benefits associated with different justice strategies; creative uses of technology for planning and management of justice system operations; and evidence-based practices and decision making in local criminal justice systems. Network members also will have the opportunity to see and experience, first-hand, what their colleagues are doing around the country to address the various systemic challenges CJCCs face. Network members met this month in Portland, Oregon to participate in sessions with local justice system leaders to learn about how they are approaching evidence-based decision making and data-driven planning efforts. The Portland, Oregon criminal justice coordinating council has applied these strategies in the creation of a court notification system and the development of a public safety brief that outlines key performance indicators for the justice system.

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