

# PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT COURTS

## Solicitations and Funding

### Adult Treatment Court Program

The Adult Treatment Court Program supports state, local, and tribal efforts to plan, implement, and enhance the operations of adult treatment courts, including tribal healing to wellness courts. Adult treatment court programs are a tool for criminal court partners and the judiciary to facilitate coordinated approaches that address the needs of nonviolent individuals involved in the justice system who have substance use disorders and/or co-occurring mental health needs. These courts effectively integrate evidence-based substance use disorder treatment, random drug testing, equitable sanctions and incentives, and recovery support services in judicially supervised court settings to reduce recidivism and substance use and misuse, as well as prevent overdoses. These initiatives can incorporate cultural elements and approaches. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/adult-treatment-court-program/overview>

### Byrne State Crisis Intervention Formula Program

Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (Byrne SCIP) provides formula funds to implement state crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs or initiatives, including, but not limited to, extreme risk protection order programs that work to keep guns out of the hands of those who pose a threat to themselves or others, mental health courts, drug courts, and veterans treatment courts. Learn more here: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/byrne-scip/overview>

### Community Courts Initiative

The Community Court Initiative supports state, local, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments to establish and enhance community courts in their jurisdictions. Community Courts are neighborhood-focused court

programs that combine the power of the community and the justice system to address local problems. They connect persons to judicially supervised behavioral health treatment, alternative sanctions, and other community-based services. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/community-courts/overview>

### Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program is the leading source of federal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. The JAG Program provides states, tribes, and local governments with critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas including law enforcement, prosecution, indigent defense, courts, crime prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning, evaluation, technology improvement, crime victim and witness initiatives, mental health programs and related law enforcement and corrections programs, including behavioral programs and crisis intervention teams, and implementation of state crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs or initiatives including, but not limited to, mental health courts, drug courts, veterans courts, and extreme risk protection order programs. Learn more here: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/overview>

### Encouraging Innovation: Field Initiated Program

Encouraging Innovation: The Field Initiated Program seeks to prevent and reduce crime and enhance the criminal justice system through innovative approaches that accelerate justice by identifying, defining, and responding to emerging or chronic crime problems and systemic issues using innovative approaches. The program supports strategies to address these issues, including trying new approaches, addressing gaps in responses, building or



translating research knowledge, or building capacity. It furthers DOJ's mission by providing resources to support state, local, tribal, and territorial efforts to reimagine their approaches and strategies to enhance fairness and access to justice; prevent and reduce crime, including violent crime; prevent and respond to overdoses; support crime victims; improve relationships and build trust between communities and the justice system; increase access to justice and supportive services; and advance innovative improvements within the justice system. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/encouraging-innovation-field-initiated-programs/overview>

## Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program

The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCPC) supports innovative cross-system collaboration to improve responses to and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders (MHDs) or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders who are in the justice system or reentering the community. JMHCPC also supports courts, prosecutors, and community supervision with training, technical assistance, and tools for the early identification of people with MHDs who may need behavioral health system interventions. Together with the Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Program, JMHCPC promotes cross-discipline training for justice and treatment professionals, and facilitates communication, collaboration, and the delivery of support services for people with behavioral health needs. To be eligible, states, tribes, and local governments must partner with their mental health authority. BJA provides technical assistance to grantees and the field at large. The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program Website provides information, resources, and successful examples of JMHCPC programs at: <https://jmhcp.org/>. To learn more about the program, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/justice-and-mental-health-collaboration-program-jmhcp/overview>

## Tribal Civil and Criminal Legal Assistance Program

The goals of the Tribal Civil and Criminal Legal Assistance (TCCLA) Program are (1) to build and enhance capacity and improve delivery of civil and criminal legal services to individuals and tribes, as well as develop policies that improve access to tribal justice systems and (2) provide training and technical assistance for development and enhancement of tribal justice systems. The TCCLA

program provides legal aid and indigent defense to low-income individuals and Indian tribes and provides training and technical assistance to TCCLA and BJA grantees and interested Indian tribes to support the goals above. To learn more, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/tribal-civil-and-criminal-legal-assistance-tccla-program/overview>

## Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning Program

The Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning Program provides federally recognized tribes and tribal consortia with funding and intensive technical assistance to help them develop a comprehensive and coordinated plan to address public safety and victimization. Through the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) Purpose Area 2, BJA provides funding for tribes to engage in comprehensive justice system strategic planning that will improve tribal justice and safety; develop, support, and enhance adult tribal justice systems to prevent crime related to opioid, alcohol, and other substance abuse; and renovate, expand, and/or replace tribal justice facilities to enhance facility conditions and/or add capacity for recidivism-reduction programming. For additional information on CTAS, visit: <https://www.justice.gov/tribal>

## Tribal Justice Systems Program

The Tribal Justice Systems Program provides federally recognized tribes and tribal consortia with funding to help them address critical public safety challenges their tribal justice systems face. Through the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) Purpose Area 3, BJA provides funding for tribes to develop, support, and enhance adult tribal justice systems to prevent and respond to tribal justice and public safety, including violent crime and crime related to illicit opioid, alcohol, and other substance use. This can include prevention, law enforcement response, tribal pretrial, court and judicial functions, tribal probation, tribal jails and reentry from corrections. For additional information on CTAS, visit: <https://www.justice.gov/tribal/grants>

## Tribal Justice Systems Infrastructure Program

The Tribal Justice Systems Infrastructure Program provides federally recognized tribes and tribal consortia with funding to strengthen tribal justice system capacity by addressing physical infrastructure needs. Through the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) Purpose Area 4, BJA provides site-based funding to

federally recognized tribes to renovate or expand existing tribal justice-related facilities or build prefabricated or permanent modular tribal justice-related facilities. The facility types supported by this program include police departments, courts, detention centers, multipurpose justice centers, transitional living facilities, correctional alternative or treatment facilities, and domestic violence shelters/safe homes/transitional living facilities/advocacy programs. For additional information on CTAS, visit: <https://www.justice.gov/tribal/grants>

## **Upholding the Rule of Law: Wrongful Conviction Review Program**

The Upholding the Rule of Law: Wrongful Conviction Review (WCR) Program supports WCR entities providing high-quality and efficient post-conviction representation for defendants in post-conviction claims of innocence. The WCR Program seeks to identify actual perpetrators of crimes, bring justice to victim(s), and enact measures to prevent future errors and ensure justice, thereby enhancing public safety. WCR also supports efforts to assess and reduce risk of error via conviction integrity efforts. BJA makes training and technical assistance available to grantees and to the field including on conviction integrity and review units (CIUs or Units) and seeks to improve collaboration between CIUs and wrongful conviction entities; develop best practices, guidelines, and policies for existing or newly created Units; and provide wider reaching trainings and information to the field. Learn more here: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/urlpwc/overview>

## **Veterans Treatment Court Program**

The Veterans Treatment Court Program supports state, local, and tribal efforts to plan and implement or enhance the operations of veterans treatment courts. These courts effectively integrate evidence-based substance use disorder treatment, mandatory drug testing, incentives and sanctions, and recovery support services in judicially supervised court settings that have jurisdiction over veterans involved in the justice system who have substance use disorders, including a history of violence and post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of their military service. Funding can also support efforts at the state level to assess, collect data, evaluate, training and build or enhance local or tribal VTCs, or to increase the identification and access to services for those underserved. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/veterans-treatment-court-program/overview>. Also check out the VTC Risk Assessment Questionnaire here: <https://bja.ojp.gov/doc/veterans-treatment-court-questionnaire.pdf>

## **Technical and Training Assistance and Other Supports**

### **National Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance Program**

The goal of the National Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Program is to assist adult drug courts and veterans treatment courts with the development and implementation of program practices to improve program effectiveness and long-term participant success. In order to accomplish this goal, BJA drug court grantees, as well as the drug court field at large, have access to a wide range of TTA services. To view more about the resources available for adult drug courts, visit here: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/adult-treatment-court-program/training-and-technical-assistance>

### **Capital Case Litigation Training and Technical Assistance Initiative**

The Capital Case Litigation: Training and Technical Assistance Initiative provides support to prosecutors, defense counsel and the judiciary on nationwide on implementing improvements throughout the field of capital case litigation, while supporting litigators with the tools and resources to mitigate risk for error. This includes support for prosecutors and defense counsel by ensuring they have the skills, training, and most up-to-date practices to litigate serious and violent crimes. This includes providing effective training programs, resources, and tools for state and local prosecutors and defense attorneys to build their capacity as capital litigators and ensure effective representation in state capital cases, including for judges. utilizing training sessions such as onsite mentoring or technical assistance, cross-site or train-the-trainer, peer-to-peer, telephone, and/or web-based trainings as well as a capital litigation listserv for prosecutors. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/ccli/training-technical-assistance>

### **Community Supervision Resource Center**

The Community Supervision Resource Center will help community supervision agencies advance along the continuum of best and emerging practices. The field of supervision has made notable advances in the last decade. Research has come a long way, but there is still a gap between what we know and what is done with that knowledge day to day in the field across all types of supervision and jurisdictions. This Center will serve as

a hub for the field and a vehicle to administer intensive technical assistance and microgrants as needed by the field.

## **Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) Training and Technical Assistance**

The COSSUP TTA Program provides TTA to states, units of local government, and Indian tribal governments with the tools they need to effectively implement the goals set forth by the COSSUP program. COSSUP TTA offers a wide array of resources, such as: peer-to-peer learning opportunities; speakers and subject matter experts for conferences and workshops to educate stakeholders and build capacity; and strategic and cross-system planning to identify community resources, establish priorities, and develop a road map to achieving goals. Learn more here: <https://www.cossup.org/Program/TTA>

## **Justice Counts**

Justice Counts envisions a more fair, effective, and efficient criminal justice system by providing policymakers with actionable data to make policy and budgetary decisions. Justice Counts helps agency leaders adopt the Justice Counts metrics, make the data available, and help policy makers use them. It has supported a broad coalition to reach consensus around a set of metrics for each part of the system—law enforcement, prosecution, defense, courts, jails, prison, community supervision. States will develop a plan to engage agencies and localities, organize their data in the Justice Counts tool, and engage policymakers to use the data. For more information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/justice-counts/overview>

## **Justice Reinvestment Initiative State-level Technical Assistance**

This Justice Reinvestment Initiative State-level Technical Assistance uses a data-driven process to help states improve the fairness, effectiveness, and efficiency of their criminal justice systems. The initiative works in partnership with states to address public safety challenges, including people who have mental illnesses in the justice system, high rates of recidivism, and the high cost of corrections, all while trying to improve services for victims and increase opportunities for people returning to communities from jail

and prison. BJA provides training and technical assistance experts to collect agency-spanning data that spotlight the most pressing trends and drivers of crime, recidivism, and costs; meet with a range of stakeholders and assess statutes, policies, and current practices; deliver findings and identify solutions for state leaders and stakeholders in clear, compelling, and actionable presentations; help address implementation challenges once changes are adopted; and establish an ongoing data monitoring process. To learn more about the Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI), visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/justice-reinvestment-initiative/overview>

## **National Center on Restorative Justice**

The National Center on Restorative Justice educates and trains the next generation of juvenile and criminal justice leaders, advanced knowledge through data and research and supports training for the criminal justice field. It engages and challenges undergraduate, graduate, and law students (in conjunction with criminal justice professionals, community members, educators, and social service providers at the state, regional, and national levels) to broaden their understanding of criminal justice systems and restorative approaches through training and education such as a degree program, a summer-term institute, or brief courses, while also encouraging access to educational opportunities for individuals who are incarcerated. The Center also supports research on restorative justice and on direct services that can address social inequities. For further information, visit: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/national-center-restorative-justice/overview>

## **National Training and Technical Assistance Center**

The Bureau of Justice Assistance National Training and Technical Assistance Center (BJA NTTAC) facilitates the delivery of training and technical assistance (TTA) to the criminal justice community. By providing rapid, expert, coordinated, and data driven TTA, the BJA NTTAC team supports practitioners in their efforts to reduce crime, recidivism, and unnecessary confinement, making communities safer. Utilizing a vast provider network, the BJA NTTAC team connects state, local, and tribal justice agencies with subject matter experts to address their communities' specific public safety needs. Learn more at: <https://bjatta.bja.ojp.gov/>

## ABOUT BJA

BJA helps America's state, local, and tribal jurisdictions reduce and prevent crime, lower recidivism, and promote a fair and safe criminal justice system. BJA provides a wide range of resources—including grants, funding, and training and technical assistance—to law enforcement, courts and corrections agencies, treatment providers, reentry practitioners, justice information sharing professionals, and community-based partners to address chronic and emerging criminal justice challenges nationwide. To learn more about BJA, visit [bja.ojp.gov](http://bja.ojp.gov) or follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/DOJBJA](https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA)) and Twitter ([@DOJBJA](https://twitter.com/DOJBJA)). BJA is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.

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