

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**Office of Justice Programs**

[OJP NO. 1048]

ZRIN 1121-ZA11

Office of Justice Programs Fiscal Year 1995 Program Plans**AGENCY:** Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs.**ACTION:** Notice of program plans.**DATES:** See specific Program Plan.**ADDRESSES:** All questions concerning these Program Plans should be addressed to the appropriate Bureau or Office at 633 Indiana Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20531.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carol Winfield of the Department of Justice Response Center at 1-800-421-6770.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Preface***OJP Bureaus' Fiscal Year 1995 Program Plans*

The increasing crime rate, particularly escalating violent crime by juvenile offenders, continues to be a major concern of the American public. No community is untouched. Law enforcement and criminal justice agencies around the country are faced with new and increasing challenges as they respond to crime.

The Fiscal Year 1995 Program Plans for the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs (OJP) Bureaus—the National Institute of Justice, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the Office for Victims of Crime—reflect an effort to address these problems aggressively. Their simultaneous publication in the **Federal Register** reflects an emphasis on collaborative relationships among the Bureaus and a strong commitment to working in partnership with communities across the country in addressing the problem of crime.

These plans not only reflect a renewed commitment to coordination among the OJP Bureaus, but also demonstrate a recognition that the only way in which we can hope to have an impact on the country's crime problems is by reaching out to public agencies at all levels of government, as well as a broad range of community and private groups. In developing their Program Plans, the Bureaus solicited input from State and local criminal justice agencies, constituent and community groups, law enforcement, prosecutors, courts,

corrections agencies, and victim service providers, as well as other Department of Justice components and other Federal agencies. Thus, in addition to embracing existing Administration and Department of Justice initiatives—reducing violent crime, developing comprehensive community-based approaches to crime and violence, focusing on youth crime and firearms, actively involving citizens in prevention efforts, and meeting the needs of crime victims—the Fiscal Year 1995 OJP Program Plans also reflect needs expressed by the field.

The Program Plans encourage applicants to forge partnerships along new frontiers, often reaching beyond criminal justice boundaries to find solutions. By approaching crime and violence in a comprehensive fashion—bringing all the players in the system together—applicants are encouraged to improve the effectiveness of their services, reduce wasteful duplication, and identify new and innovative approaches to tough problems.

For example, OJP Bureaus are working together on several initiatives, such as Project PACT (Pulling America's Communities Together), the Comprehensive Communities Program (CCP), and the new Safe Futures Program, that fund communities to mobilize their law enforcement and justice system resources together with a coalition of government agencies and private sector resources. Working in partnership with the community, key officials and community leaders develop broad-based, coordinated strategies to reduce the high rates of drug abuse and related crime and violence in their neighborhoods. Project PACT, CCP, and Safe Futures are examples of programs that empower communities to impact crime and violence, particularly youth violence, through comprehensive planning, and improved intergovernmental relationships.

Another recurrent theme in the OJP Program Plans is the Federal government's role in providing leadership and guidance on crime control, prevention and victims issues by developing and testing new approaches and determining "what works." As model programs are tested and developed through research, evaluation, and demonstration grants, information on effective programs and practices is disseminated widely to State and local criminal justice and social service agencies. Local communities should not have to "road test" new ideas without solid knowledge about what has been tried before in other jurisdictions, what has worked, and what has not. The Program

Plans also provide information on the availability of training and technical assistance to assist States and local jurisdictions interested in implementing "best practices."

Important priorities identified in the 1994 Crime Act—particularly with regard to violence against women, the illegal possession and use of firearms, and comprehensive, innovative prevention and early intervention strategies aimed at high risk youth—are also reflected in the Program Plans.

Another key goal for OJP was to make it easier for States and local communities to access OJP services, programs, and information. As a result, we have set up a new inter-department, Internet-based clearinghouse called PAVNET. PAVNET will provide information on promising programs, available funding, and technical assistance. We have also set up the Department of Justice Response Center to answer questions concerning program availability and funding.

The Program Plans that follow, describe in greater detail OJP's funding goals and priorities for this Fiscal Year. For more information about the application process, as well as about Crime Act programs, you can call the DOJ Response Center at 1-800-421-6770.

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As we move ahead with our initiatives for Fiscal Year 1995, the Office of Justice Programs is committed to working in close partnership with communities at the State and local level. Only by working together can we hope to have an impact on the enormous problems of crime and violence confronting our nation today.

Laurie Robinson,*Assistant Attorney General Office of Justice Programs.***Bureau of Justice Assistance****Fiscal Year 1995 Program Plan**

I am pleased to announce the Bureau of Justice Assistance's (BJA) Discretionary Program Plan for FY 1995. BJA assists States and local jurisdictions through the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program. Through the Byrne Discretionary Grant Program, BJA provides leadership and guidance on crime and violence prevention and control and criminal justice system improvement at the State and local levels. BJA also develops and tests new approaches in criminal justice and crime control, and encourages replication of effective programs and practices by State and local agencies.