

Call for Presentations



Law Enforcement Solutions for Reducing Racial Disparities & Disproportionate Minority Contact in Juvenile Justice

September 7-10, 2006, in New Orleans, Louisiana, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency (OJJDP) through a grant to the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) will present the 11th Annual DMC Conference. The 2006 conference is designed to expand partnerships between state juvenile justice advisory groups, local juvenile justice practitioners and law enforcement officers, jointly seeking solutions to reduce racial disparities and disproportionately high rates of juvenile justice system contact for youth of color.

Special attention will be given to the first points of contact that law enforcement officers have with at-risk and offending youth, exploring opportunities for positive outcomes and community partnerships. States' progress and challenges in addressing the federal core protection on DMC (disproportionate minority contact) will be highlighted. The conference format will emphasize small group discussions and information sharing.

Location

Omni Royal Orleans, 621 St. Louis Street - in the French Quarter, New Orleans, LA
Omni Hotels: 1-888-444-OMNI and Royal Orleans: 504-529-5333

Workshop/Session Opportunity

OJJDP and CJJ are seeking proposals for presentations that address a range of topics and strategies for law enforcement partnerships and alliances with state advisory groups designed to reduce racial disparities and disproportionate minority contact in the juvenile justice system.

Ideas for Workshop/Session Topics

- Law enforcement-led workshops that provide juvenile justice advisors, practitioners and advocates with opportunities to learn about how police officers view and/or wish to address DMC and racial disparities.
- Innovations in policing practice (including in schools) that have promise to reduce DMC; and which reduce the sweep of youth of color and linguistic minority youth into the juvenile justice system for relatively low-level, first-time offenses.
- Community resource/community provider responses that provide alternatives to detention at the point of arrest.

- Partnerships between State Juvenile Justice Advisory Groups and law enforcement agencies designed to reduce racial disparities and DMC—and the results of such.
- Law enforcement programs aimed at positive youth development, which have shown measurable impact on reducing court-involvement of youth of color.
- Law enforcement and faith institution partnerships designed to reduce the flow of youth of color into the court system.

Guidelines for Submission

Please provide:

- An abstract of your session/workshop of 50-75 words.
- A 500-1,500 word description, including a suggested workshop title. Identify specific strategies and the results of such strategies employed to reduce DMC. Detail how the session will build on the strengths and assets of “first responders” (among law enforcement and related community providers) in their efforts to provide alternatives to arrest, detention and/or adjudication of youth of color who may be better served by home or community-based options. Explain why your ideas have promise, how they can be supported by public stakeholders such as state advisory groups, and any other unique features or impacts.
- Specifics regarding the amount of time needed (workshop sessions may be 45 minutes or 75 minutes) and list any audio-visual needs or set-up required, including room arrangements that differ from “classroom-style.”
- A page listing each presenter, with title and agency affiliation. Include a brief biographical summary for each person of no more than 200 words. Be sure to include all contact information including telephone and email contacts.
- A list of strategies the presenters will employ to ensure audience understanding and participation.

Selection Criteria

Presentations will be selected based on:

1. Overall relevance to the conference theme and focus.
2. How the presentation adds value to the conference as a whole, so that a range of DMC reduction strategies are presented, addressing various pre-arrest and point-of-arrest concerns and circumstances.
3. Whether the program, practice, policy or system innovation presented has the potential to inspire similar state and/or local efforts.
4. The degree to which the presentation provides interaction, and resources for attendees to take home.

Submission Information

Mail, fax or email submissions to:

Coalition for Juvenile Justice
1710 Rhode Island Ave, 10th Floor
Washington, DC 20036
Fax: 202-887-0738
Email: wood@juvjustice.org (Lindsay Wood)
Attn: OJJDP/CJJ 11th Annual DMC Conference

Deadline for submission 5:00 p.m. EDT, July 14, 2006

Notice of Selection:

Presenters/workshop leaders selected to join OJJDP and CJJ in New Orleans will be notified by **July 31, 2006**, via telephone and email.

Conference registration for all selected presenters, as well as transportation and hotel accommodations for long-distance presenters will be provided *gratis* by CJJ. Honoraria are not available.

About the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ)

For two decades, the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) has served as a nationwide association of state advisory groups on juvenile justice. CJJ is based in Washington, DC, yet reaches every U.S. state and territory. More than 1,500 state advisory group volunteers, from the public and private sectors—juvenile court and youth-serving professionals, concerned citizens, and advocates for children and families—participate in CJJ. The organization also welcomes individual members, who share our interests and concerns about the well being of youth and communities, to join as members at-large.

CJJ was among the first national juvenile justice organizations to exercise positions opposing the juvenile death penalty, opposing prosecutorial waiver and other policies that automatically send youth to adult court, and exposing disproportionate minority confinement and disparate treatment of youth of color. In fact, it was CJJ that generated congressional support to include the “Disproportionate Minority Confinement (now Contact)” requirement in the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, first included as a federal requirement in 1992. CJJ has always been a prominent champion for a strong focus on preventive and developmentally appropriate services and supports in all federal grants that flow to the states for juvenile justice and delinquency prevention.

About OJJDP

Juveniles in crisis—from serious, violent, and chronic offenders to victims of abuse and neglect—pose a challenge to the nation. Charged by Congress to meet this challenge, OJJDP collaborates with professionals from diverse disciplines to improve juvenile justice policies and practices. OJJDP, a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, accomplishes its mission by supporting states, local communities and tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for juveniles. OJJDP also strives to enable the juvenile justice system to better protect public safety, hold offenders accountable, and provide services tailored to the needs of youth and their families.

Under the leadership of its Administrator, OJJDP sponsors numerous research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming nationwide through its five organizational components.