



CCAS

Assessing the need for and coordinating the delivery of high quality, research driven training and technical assistance to improve juvenile justice policy and practice.



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OJJDP, CCAS, and CJJ release toolkit to help build State Advisory Groups' capacity for reform

Toolkit will help assess ways groups can serve as leaders for juvenile justice reform in their states.

Washington, D.C. – A new toolkit released today provides State Advisory Groups with the instruments they need to become leaders of reform in the field of the juvenile justice.

The Center for Coordinated Assistance to the States (CCAS) is releasing the toolkit through funding provided by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). This toolkit was created by the Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) and includes:

- **State Advisory Groups in Action** - a detailed explanation of who SAGs are, how they operate, and what role they play in implementing a developmental approach to juvenile justice;
- **The Five Principles of SAG Effectiveness** – an overview of the five characteristics that help make SAGs effective leaders in their state;

- **Gauging State Advisory Group Effectiveness** - an instrument to help SAGs evaluate their current strengths and areas for growth; and
- **Challenges and Solutions: Overcoming Road Blocks and Becoming Agents of Change** - examples of common challenges and suggestions for how to overcome them.

“As the national organization that represents State Advisory Groups, CJJ recognizes SAGs’ unique ability to become juvenile justice change agents,” said CJJ’s Executive Director, Marie Williams. “These governor-appointed bodies have the important task of allocating federal money and setting a vision, mission, and goals for juvenile justice in their state. In an era of limited resources, we know that this can be a difficult task. Tools like those released today will help empower SAGs to fully embrace, and overcome, the challenges associated with the developing fair, effective, and developmentally appropriate juvenile justice systems.”

“SAGs have an important role to play in reform. This role was highlighted in *Implementing Juvenile Justice Reform: The Federal Role*. Tools such as these help equip the SAGs with the tools they need to take up the mantle and go beyond the role they have traditionally played,” said Lisa Hutchinson, Project Director for the Center for Coordinated Assistance to the States.

To access the toolkit click [here](#). To learn more about OJJDP and CCAS visit www.nttac.org. For more information about CJJ and State Advisory Groups visit www.juvjustice.org.

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