

Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

FY 23-24 Report to Congress and The White House

January 2025

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AAG	Assistant Attorney General
ASG	Associate Attorney General
Council	Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
ED	U.S. Department of Education
DOJ	U.S. Department of Justice
DOL	U.S. Department of Labor
FY	Fiscal Year
HHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
JJDP	Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act
MDE	Major Depressive Episode
NPSS	National Partnership for Student Success
OJJDP	Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
ONDCP	Office of National Drug Control Policy
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
WIB	Workforce Investment Board

Introduction and Purpose of the Coordinating Council

Introduction

The United States Congress enacted the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act on September 7, 1974, which established the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). OJJDP supports State and local efforts to prevent delinquency and improve juvenile justice systems. Through national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to youth delinquency and victimization, OJJDP helps States, localities, and Tribes develop effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that create safer communities and empower youth to lead productive lives.

Section 206 of the JJDP Act established the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (Council) as an independent organization in the executive branch to improve the coordination of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention activities across the Federal Government.

Purpose

Per 34 U.S.C. 1116 Section 206(c)1, the Council is charged with the coordination of all Federal delinquency programs (in cooperation with State and local juvenile justice programs), all Federal programs and activities that detain or care for unaccompanied juveniles, and all Federal programs relating to missing and exploited children.

Additional functions of the Council include:

- Examine how separate programs can be coordinated among Federal, State, and local governments to better serve at-risk children and youth.
- Make recommendations to the President and Congress regarding the coordination of overall policy and development of objectives and priorities for all Federal delinquency programs and activities and all Federal programs and activities that detain or care for unaccompanied juveniles.
- Review the programs and practices of Federal agencies and reporting on the degree to which Federal agency funds are used for purposes that are consistent or inconsistent with mandates of the JJDP Act's core requirements.¹

¹ In accordance with 34 U.S.C. 1116 Section 223(a)(11), (12), (13), and (15), states participating in the Title II Formula Grants Program must provide for compliance with the JJDP Act's four core requirements. These requirements include the deinstitutionalization of status offenders, separation of youth from adults in secure facilities, and removal of youth from adult jails and lockups. In addition, participating states must implement policy, practice, and system improvement strategies to identify and reduce racial and ethnic disparities among youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system.

- Review and make recommendations regarding joint funding proposals undertaken by OJJDP and any agency represented on the Council.
- Review the reasons why Federal agencies take juveniles into custody and making recommendations regarding how to improve Federal practices and facilities for holding juveniles in custody.

Membership and Meeting Structure

Members

In Section 206(a) and (b), the JJDP Act defines membership of the Council to include representatives from eleven Federal agencies and “such other officers of Federal agencies who hold significant decision-making authority as the President may designate” (affiliate members). An additional ten members, who are practitioners in the field of youth justice and are not officers or employees of the Federal Government, are appointed by Congress and the President.

The Council’s eleven *ex officio* members include the Attorney General (chair), the Administrator of OJJDP (vice chair), the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Chief Executive Officer of AmeriCorps, and the Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Two Federal agency affiliate members include the secretaries of Agriculture and Defense.

The Council’s ten youth justice practitioner members are appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives (3), the Senate Majority Leader (3), the Chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate (1), and the President of the United States (3). Terms of membership are staggered between one and three years.

A list of current Councilmembers and their affiliations is provided in Appendix A.

Full Council Meetings

In accordance with 34 U.S.C. 1116 Section 206(d), the Council meets quarterly to fulfill its statutory functions. In the period since its post-pandemic relaunch, the Council has convened on the following dates: October 26, 2022; April 19, 2023; September 19, 2023; December 6, 2023; April 10, 2024, June 27, 2024; and September 19, 2024. Agendas, audio recordings, and other forms of meeting documentation are posted publicly on the Coordinating Council’s website.²

Subcommittees

In addition to meetings of the full Council, standing subcommittees composed of practitioners and agency designees, convene regularly to conduct the Council’s work. Included are a Policy

² <https://juvenilecouncil.ojp.gov/meetings>

Subcommittee and a Programs and Practice Subcommittee. A full list of members for each subcommittee is provided in Appendix B.

The Council's **Policy Subcommittee** conducts legislative research, regulatory analysis, and other activities that support the enhanced coordination of youth justice policy. It also assists with development of legislative and policy recommendations. The subcommittee has met nine times since the Council's October 2022 relaunch.

The Policy Subcommittee includes a total of 16 members representing 6 Federal agencies and 5 practitioners from the field. Quarterly reports of the Policy Subcommittee to the full Council are posted in conjunction with other quarterly meeting materials on the Council's [website](#).

The Council's **Programs and Practice Subcommittee** reviews youth justice programming across its member agencies to increase awareness of relevant resources and identify gaps or areas of intersection. The subcommittee also considers recommendations for coordinated action to enhance the effectiveness of youth programs and services. It has met ten times since Council's October 2022 relaunch.

The Programs and Practice subcommittee includes a total of 26 members representing 11 Federal offices, 1 independent organization, and 6 practitioners from the field. Quarterly reports of the Programs and Practice Subcommittee to the full Council are available on the Council's [website](#).

Coordinating Council Activities and Accomplishments

Following a two-year hiatus due in part to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Coordinating Council relaunched on October 26, 2022, under the leadership of Liz Ryan, Administrator of OJJDP, who serves as Council Vice Chair.

The renewed Council focused its initial meetings on a process of listening and learning from youth justice stakeholders and member agencies. This listening tour provided important context for the meetings that followed as the Council worked to identify and prioritize recommendations and steps for future action. A summary of each meeting is provided below.

Gathering Information and Listening to the Field

October 26, 2022

The Council's official relaunch on October 26, 2022, was held at the Office of Justice Programs, where then, Associate Attorney General (ASG) Vanita Gupta and then, Assistant Attorney General (AAG) Amy Solomon welcomed the Council on behalf of its Chair, Attorney General Merrick Garland. Led by OJJDP Administrator and Vice Chair Liz Ryan, the meeting featured a diverse panel of youth leaders with lived experience in the juvenile justice system. The six panelists, who hailed from states including California, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, New Jersey, and North Carolina, spoke passionately about the struggles they and other justice-involved youth face in such areas as employment, access to mental health services, housing, education, financial hardship, and equity. Many noted the failures of a system focused on incarceration and the importance of positive role models. As one panelist remarked, "We cannot be what we cannot

see” Another panelist noted, “The system is not meant for me: it’s meant to break me.” Additional details, including a full meeting recording are available at the following [link](#).

April 19, 2023

The April 19, 2023, Coordinating Council meeting was hosted by the Department of Labor, where attendees were welcomed by Acting Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, Brent Parton, and ASG Vanita Gupta. OJJDP Administrator Liz Ryan also welcomed attendees and served as Chair.

In keeping with the goal of “listening, learning, and sharing,” the Council heard from the Director of the National Institute for Work and Learning, who presented information on the Department of Labor’s Compass Rose Collaborative—an innovative program that works with communities nationwide to improve education and employment outcomes for youth with prior justice system involvement. Members also heard from U.S. Department of Agriculture representatives who shared important information on programs that provide supplemental nutrition for low-income youth and families in their home communities. As a final item of business, the Council approved a recommendation of the Programs and Practice Subcommittee, to serve as a co-sponsor of the OJJDP National Conference in November 2024. Additional details, including a full meeting recording, are available at the following [link](#).

September 19, 2023

The Council’s September 19, 2023, meeting was held in Houston, Texas, marking a first in Council history. Never before had the group convened outside the Washington, DC region. Following a welcome from then, AAG Amy Solomon and Vice Chair Liz Ryan, members learned about the Harris County Reinvestment Fund, which uses a data-driven process to reinvest funds once earmarked for detention, in community-based services for justice-involved youth. Civic Heart Community Services, which serves as an intermediary organization for the fund, interacts directly with impacted communities and selects local grantee organizations to fill service gaps in areas of greatest need.

Representatives from the Harris County Department of Juvenile Probation also presented information on the newly opened Harris County Opportunity Center. Though once an aging youth detention facility, the Center now serves as a hub for comprehensive, multi-disciplinary services that support justice-involved youth in their home communities. Members toured the facility and explored the many resources available to youth, including academic programs, vocational training, food and housing assistance, mental health treatment, life skills training, clothing, and financial literacy. Additional details, including a full meeting recording, are available at the following [link](#).

December 6, 2023

Chaired by OJJDP Administrator, Liz Ryan, the December 6, 2023, Council meeting featured two panels of juvenile justice stakeholders from communities across the United States. In their testimonies, panelists were asked to address the following questions:

- How can Federal agencies enhance the coordination of services for you to help ensure young people never enter the juvenile justice system?

- How can the member agencies coordinate to increase youth access to opportunities and services and decrease barriers so that justice-involved youth have the best chance of success in their home and in their communities?

The first panel included a juvenile defense attorney, juvenile prosecutor, a parent, State Advisory Group member and a State juvenile justice director. The second panel included a juvenile court judge, a law enforcement officer, a State Title II grants administrator, and a probation officer. Panelists uplifted successful programming, responded to Councilmember questions, and recommended numerous strategies to improve Federal programming for justice-involved youth and those at high-risk of justice involvement. Additional details, including a full meeting recording, are available at the following [link](#).

Continuum of Care for Communities Framework

April 10, 2024

The Council's April 10, 2024, meeting was held at the Office of Justice Programs, where then, AAG Amy Solomon and OJJDP Administrator Liz Ryan provided welcoming remarks and introduced OJJDP's Continuum of Care for communities ([Continuum of Care](#)).

As noted by OJJDP staff, the Continuum of Care serves as an organizing framework for understanding the broad array of programs necessary to support youth from prevention to early-through-high intervention in the community, to out-of-home placement and reintegration. The JJDP Act's 2018 reauthorization mandated OJJDP action in support of this full continuum. Following the Continuum of Care presentation, Councilmembers voted to adopt the framework as a common orientation to organize and align its work. A more detailed discussion of the Continuum of Care framework is provided in, "*The Continuum of Care as a Framework for Recommendations*" below.

The April meeting also served as the Council's first opportunity to fully explore and prioritize the many recommendations that had emerged through its listening and learning tour. More than 100 suggestions were collected through the Council's Learning Sessions and from a portal open to contributions from the community. At its April 10, 2024, meeting, Council members reviewed and approved subcommittee reports that included 16 broad recommendations drawn from the 100 suggestions. Later in the meeting, the text of the 16 recommendations was presented to the Council members. Council members each voted on their three top recommendations and discussed their choices. The recommendations with the most votes appear as the top five priorities on page **XX** of this report. Additional details, including a full meeting recording, are available at the following [link](#).

Honing the Council's Recommendations and Plans for Future Action

June 27, 2024

At the Council's June 27, 2024, meeting, Acting ASG Ben Mizer underscored the challenges our young people are facing with gun violence and mental health, and the importance of intervening with a comprehensive response. Then, AAG Amy Solomon also provided welcome remarks and thanked the Council for its work over the past two years, and announced her departure.

Chaired by OJJDP Administrator Liz Ryan, the Council’s June meeting featured a panel of representatives from the Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Labor, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, highlighting trauma-informed services in their programming for youth. Trauma-informed care and healing strategies emerged as a top priority of the field during the Council’s period of listening and learning. Language in the JJDP Act’s 2018 reauthorization also makes clear that trauma-informed programming is a necessary part of a responsive juvenile justice system.

In its subsequent discussion period, the Council reviewed and provided feedback on an updated list of recommendations for its FY24 report to Congress and the White House. In addition, members discussed core activities the Council could undertake to advance Federal coordination, independent of Congressional or the White House. or Additional details, including a full meeting recording, are available at the following [link](#).

Approving the Draft Report to Congress

September 19, 2024

[Placeholder]

The Continuum of Care for Communities as a Guiding Framework

In 2018, the Juvenile Justice Reform Act reauthorized and strengthened the original Act, including a purpose section that added:

*“[The purposes of this Act and Title II] is to **support a continuum of evidence-based or promising programs** (including delinquency prevention, intervention, mental health, behavioral health and substance abuse treatment, family services, and services for children exposed to violence) that are **trauma informed**, reflect the science of **adolescent development**, and are designed to meet the needs of at-risk youth and youth who come into contact with the justice system.”¹*

In response, OJJDP created the Youth Justice Continuum of Care (Figure 1) to guide its work.

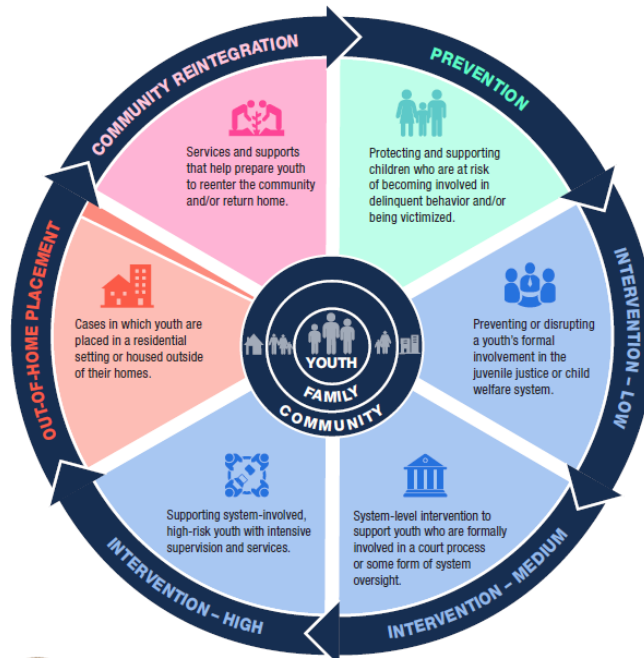


Figure 1. Continuum of Care Framework.

The Coordinating Council has adopted the Continuum of Care³ model as a framework for its recommendations on justice-involved young people. The Continuum of Care is a social and ecological model that identifies evidence-based interventions and supports for youth. Several other Federal agencies on the Council, including HHS and SAMHSA, have also adopted a Continuum of Care Framework.

The youth justice Continuum of Care provides a variety of adolescent diversion strategies and informal interventions to prevent youth from becoming more deeply involved in the formal justice system. It also helps ensure that public safety is prioritized, and that limited funds are spent in the most cost-effective ways, before the child becomes involved in the justice system.

The Coordinating Council identifies and discusses activities that facilitate and support cross-agency coordination. Activities can be designed to occur at any point in the Continuum of Care Framework and can include prevention activities, low-medium and high intervention activities, out-of-home placement, and reintegration. Programs and policies are grounded in evidence-based practices and adolescent development. Priorities should be made that focus on programming upstream to catch and support youth and families when they need it most. The Council has established successful Federal partnerships and interagency agreements and has identified methods for preventing children's exposure to violence.

The Council has focused on youth mental health and substance use disorders, trauma and healing, community-based and culturally responsive programs, and custodial and reentry challenges facing justice-involved youth. The Council has also highlighted Federal interagency efforts to improve youth outcomes. The Council has adopted recommendations solicited from the field and refined by

³ [Continuum-of-care-for-communities.pdf \(ojp.gov\)](https://www.ojp.gov/continuum-of-care-for-communities.pdf).

As approved by members at its April 2023 meeting, the Council will serve as a co-sponsor of the [OJJDP National Conference](#), which is will take place on November 19–21, 2024. The Conference commemorates the fiftieth anniversary of the JJDP Act, which also created the Coordinating Council. As co-sponsor, the Council has worked to develop an interagency track with five panels spanning the Continuum of Care, including an overview of Federal programs, resources, and initiatives that support youth and families; Federal partnerships that provide opportunities for justice-involved and at-risk youth; trauma-informed programs and initiatives for youth; the power of art, culture and mentors; and apprenticeships as workforce solutions. In addition, the Council will host two fireside chats. One will focus on promising practices of justice intermediary organizations and the other will focus on sustaining state-level youth justice reforms. Council members will serve as moderators, subject matter experts, and resources for the field.

Identifying Council Priorities

At its April 10, 2024, meeting, Council members reviewed and approved subcommittee reports that included 16 broad recommendations⁴ culled by subcommittee members from an original list of more than 100. These recommendations were collected through a lengthy process of listening and learning that included input from youth with lived experience, communities that are implementing promising approaches, a multi-disciplinary panel of experts from the field, federal agency partners, and members of the general public.

Council members subsequently ranked these 16 recommendations, which had been organized to align with sections of the Continuum of Care wheel. Through this process, the Council emerged with a list of five broad priorities that would serve as the initial focus of its Congressional and Executive recommendations as well as its independent activities. These priorities span the Continuum of Care from prevention through reintegration. They are also grounded in shared principles that extend to all 16 recommendations and include:

- Federal coordination should not create new silos.
- Strategies should reduce administrative burdens for communities.
- Programs and policies should be trauma-informed and healing focused.
- Solutions should open access to more communities.
- All stages of the Continuum of Care are important , though prevention should be prioritized.
- Federal coordination should deepen cultural competence.
- Federal agencies should engage meaningfully with community members who have lived experience.

Though many aspects of the Council’s priorities require Congressional or Executive action and are outside the group’s direct control, where feasible, these priorities will also guide work to improve alignment of the priorities, practices, and policies that impact justice-involved youth, through use of existing resources across member agencies. Additional information on this proposed work is provided in the section below titled, “*Proposed Council Activities.*”

⁴ See Appendix C for the full list of recommendations

The Council's top five priorities span the full Continuum of Care and include the following:

1. Direct and redirect funds, where possible, to concentrate investments, services and support efforts towards culturally responsive, community-based approaches that address the root causes of delinquency (such as poverty, absence of community development, poor health, lack of education, trauma, workforce disengagement, mental health, and substance use issues).
2. Promote and ensure funding, training, and implementation support for community-based, culturally, and developmentally informed, trauma and healing responsive services for youth and families. These programs need to be effective, affordable, and accessible.
3. Inform and support access to mental health and substance use programs for justice-involved youth, including youth with disabilities, to prevent and reduce out-of-home placements. These programs need to be comprehensive, community-based, and culturally responsive (e.g., family counseling, peer-to-peer supports, educational stabilization, mental health and substance use services, arts and healing centered programs).
4. Provide financial incentives and rewards for communities that successfully keep children and youth out of detention/commitment and with their families.
5. Improve access to post-secondary education, supportive services, and career training for youth exiting the justice system.

Recommendations to The White House and Congress

Building upon its five identified priorities, the Council submits the following recommendations to Congress and the White House in support of a full and robust Federal response to youth delinquency and victimization.

1. Fund comprehensive opportunities for youth in communities that include education and career pathways, mentorship, and ensure that justice-involved youth have access and their unique needs addressed in a culturally responsive manner, e.g., for example, the Department of Labor's 2000 Youth Opportunity Grant which showed great promise and outcomes and included targeted supports for justice involved youth.
2. Fund a pilot program that incorporates lessons from the Youth Opportunity Grant a five-year, \$1B investment that aimed to increase educational attainment and long-term careers for high-risk youth (14-21 years) in high poverty areas that was run by the US Department of Labor at the turn of this century. The impacts of the Youth Opportunity Grant are well documented⁵, and positive outcomes are attributed in part to the flexibility of use, coordination among service providers, and local focus.

⁵ [Youth Opportunity grant initiative: process evaluation final report \(Bruno & Pistorino 2007\) | CLEAR \(dol.gov\)](#) and [Youth Opportunity grant initiative: process evaluation final report \(Bruno & Pistorino 2007\) | CLEAR \(dol.gov\)](#)

3. Support school–justice partnerships to encourage partnerships between schools and justice to keep student in school.
4. [Support](#) student access to out-of-school activities for youth at risk of entering the justice system, including youth with disabilities. This can be supported through engaging with the U.S. Department of Education’s National Partnership for Student Success (NPSS). The NPSS focuses on five types of evidence-based student supports that can be combined to meet holistic student needs: academic tutors; mentors; post-secondary transition coaches; student success coaches; and wraparound integrated student support coordinators.
5. Fund initiatives that focus on the ecology of support (e.g., cultural connectedness and knowledge, repair and healing using a trauma-informed lens), not just punishment and cross-train on these approaches. Prioritize using these restorative approaches first in schools, then in communities, and as diversion opportunities from the justice system.
6. Through the Executive Office of the President under the Domestic Policy Council, Office of Management & Budget, and the Council on Native American Affairs, support and encourage Federal partnership and collaboration by authorizing joint funding streams among agencies that support prevention funding for youth. Support and encourage Federal partnership and collaboration by authorizing set-aside funding in discretionary awards that support prevention and intervention for Tribal youth.
7. Advance policymaker recommendations from the U.S. Surgeon General’s [Advisory On Social Media and Youth Mental Health](#) and next steps for policymakers from the interagency Kids Online Health and Safety Task Force report, [Online Health and Safety for Children and Youth: Best Practices for Families and Guidance for Industry](#) to prioritize the health, safety, and privacy of youth online. In addition, require a warning label on social media platforms to remind parents, children, and adolescents about the mental health risks associated with social media use.
8. Appropriate increased interagency funding to expand community-based access to mental health and substance use programs for justice-involved youth, including youth with disabilities.
9. Allow Federal funding and reimbursement for treatment modalities that are culturally responsive to Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (e.g., Tribal wellness practices). Ensure that these funding opportunities are equitable, flexible, and accessible to Tribes as required under EO 14112 and consider Public Law 102-477 grant consolidation where appropriate. Promote the use of match waivers to increase access to discretionary funds.
10. Publish, educate, and provide training on best practices for lawfully sharing information about youth involved in multiple systems when confidentiality protections may prohibit coordination. (e.g., Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, Legal).

11. Identify programs with strong return on investment data and shift Federal dollars to prioritize those that reduce detention and/or incarceration. For example, Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts have a 113 percent return on investment.⁶
12. Increase services to students in both residential and non-residential correctional settings and services that address successful transitions for youth back to educational settings in the community through multi-tiered systems of support. For example, Title I, Part D of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act should be expanded to address gaps identified through the Department of Education’s 2019 study⁷ as well as other gaps identified by local jurisdictions.
13. Facilitate the redevelopment of closed or under populated youth jails and prisons by forgiving the U.S. Department of Agriculture bonds that helped build the facilities. Due to decades-long declines in the committed youth population and investments in more successful community-based alternatives, many State-owned youth facilities could be closed and redeveloped for more positive community use. However, jurisdictions are prevented from this investment due to owing bonds to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to build the facilities. These bonds should be forgiven to facilitate the positive redevelopment of this land.
14. Require that expenditures on diversion at all points of contact and related supports equal the expenditures on arrest and commitment. Look to the Center for Mental Health Services and programs such as the Children’s Mental Health Initiative, Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education project (“Project Aware”), and Trauma-Informed Services in Schools as examples.
15. Improve access to behavioral health care for children and families in their communities to meet critical needs and prevent unnecessary interventions such as entry into the juvenile justice or child welfare systems. This could include expansion and investment in programs such as the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline with youth-trained responders; mental health care and support services in schools; CDC’s suicide prevention program to additional States, and tribal and territorial jurisdictions that have elevated youth at risk; investments in strengthening the behavioral health workforce, including integration of behavioral health services into primary care settings; and investments in Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics and Community Mental Health Centers.
16. For the limited number of youth who require residential treatment, ensure that they receive high-quality care that does no harm and keeps him connected to family. For example, require data collection and reporting on the use of restraints and seclusion in residential treatment.

⁶ [National Treatment Court Resource Center. \(2023\). Tribal Healing to Wellness Courts: Inaugural Survey of the Field.](https://issuu.com/ndcrc/docs/tribalhealingtowellnesscourts_nationalreport_cont) https://issuu.com/ndcrc/docs/tribalhealingtowellnesscourts_nationalreport_cont

⁷ [Promoting Education and Transition Success for Neglected and Delinquent Youth: An Evaluation of the Title I, Part D Program Volume 1 -- March 2019 \(PDF\)](https://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/neglected/volume-i.pdf) <https://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/neglected/volume-i.pdf>

17. Ensure that programs for youth at risk of or part of the justice system use a positive youth development framework⁸ and no-wrong-door policies⁹ that focus on well-being and protective factors and are informed by impacted youth. YouthBuild¹⁰ a program funded through the U.S. Department of Labor is an example of such a program.
18. Support the initiative of the Interagency Task Force on Trauma-Informed Care¹¹ to promote common language, definitions, and data collection systems related to trauma-informed care, such that grantees across Federal agencies report on similar metrics and in a common data system.

Proposed Council Activities

In pursuit of its mission, the Council has also identified activities it could undertake to improve the alignment of priorities, practices, and policies that impact justice-involved youth, independent of Congressional or Executive action. These activities would utilize existing resources across member agencies. In the coming year, the Council will explore implementation of the following:

1. Support a five-part webinar series addressing each of the Council's five priorities and highlighting the work of Council agencies in each priority area.
2. Enhance Federal coordination, highlight service gaps, and reduce duplication, by identifying existing activities and investments across Council agencies that address each wedge of the Continuum of Care for Communities.
3. Develop a short series of "Barriers and Opportunities," or one-pagers, that highlight the progress Federal agencies have made under each priority area and educate/inform consumers and constituents on flexibilities and opportunities within and across these youth-serving Federal programs.
4. Identify current fiscal year funds across Federal partner agencies that align with the Council's priority areas. Consider requests for funding support in future years that also align with these priority areas.
5. Work across Council member agencies to ensure that when youth voices, including Tribal youth, are included in stakeholder meetings they also include a young person who has had contact with the juvenile justice system, as often as possible.

⁸ [Positive Youth Development | Youth.gov](#)

⁹ No wrong door policies are coordinated systems that provide individuals with streamlined access to support and services and helps to eliminate the need to contact multiple programs to do so from [NWD-National-Elements.pdf \(acl.gov\)](#)

¹⁰ [Home Page - YouthBuild](#)

¹¹ This Task Force was established as part of the SUPPORT for Patients Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Communities (SUPPORT for Patients and Communities) Act (P.L. 115-271), passed in 2018. The Task Force's Operational Plan can be found at this weblink: [trauma-informed-care-operating-plan.pdf \(samhsa.gov\)](#)

6. Track and catalog the ways that Federal agencies are engaging youth and adult partnerships.

Joint Funding Among Federal Agencies

In the period since the Council's October 2022 relaunch, OJJDP has entered into new funding agreements with two Council member agencies to advance programming that benefits justice-involved youth. Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. 1116 Section 206 (c)1, these agreements were reviewed by the Council at its September 2024 meeting. *[Insert any additional content that emerges as a result of this meeting.]*

In FY23, OJJDP awarded \$2.5 million in funding to support AmeriCorps' service activities for second-chance youth. Working together, OJJDP and AmeriCorps are addressing the challenges that youth experience upon returning to their communities from juvenile residential or correctional facilities. This funding will be renewed in FY24 for an additional \$5 million.

In FY23, OJJDP also partnered with the USDA to support mentoring through 4-H Clubs with combined funding of \$2 million.

Accounting of Expenses

During the time period covered by this report, including FY23–FY24, the Council was supported by the equivalent of one full-time government employee. Logistical support for Council activities was contractually provided through funds issued to OJJDP for Management and Administration.

In FY23 and FY24, the Council convened seven in-person meetings. The Council held six meetings in Washington, DC, and one meeting in Houston, Texas. Logistical and travel support for these seven meetings totaled [redacted] at an average cost of [redacted] per meeting.

DRAFT

Appendix A

Membership Roster

Federal Agency/Ex Officio Members

Merrick Garland
U.S. Department of Justice
Chair, Attorney General

Liz Ryan
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Vice-Chair, Administrator

Michael D. Smith
AmeriCorps

Miguel Cardona
U.S. Department of Education

Xavier Becerra
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D.
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Administration

Patrick J. Lechleitner
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Adrienne Todman
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Deb Haaland
U.S. Department of the Interior

Julie A. Su
U.S. Department of Labor

Dr. Rahul Gupta
Office of National Drug Control Policy

Federal Agency Affiliate Members

Thomas J. Vilsack
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Lloyd J. Austin III
U.S. Department of Defense

Practitioner Members

Sheryl Evans Davis
San Francisco Human Rights Commission

Judge Renee Rodriguez-Betancourt
449th Judicial Court in Hidalgo, Texas

Mark Patterson
Hawai'i Youth Correctional Facility, Kawaihoa Youth
and Family Wellness Center

Lourdes Rosado
LatinoJustice PRLDEF

Amiyah Davis
Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown
University's McCourt School of Public Policy

Liz Simons
Heising-Simons Foundation, Marshall Project

Michael Mendoza
Juvenile and Criminal Justice, Reentry and Second
Chances

Appendix B

Subcommittee Members

Policy Subcommittee Members

Kristen Kracke, Chair, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
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Shaina Vanek, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
Bonita Williams, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Rebecca Zornick, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

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Appendix C

The Top 16 Recommendations

Of more than 100 suggestions collected through the Council’s Learning Sessions and from a portal open to contributions from the community, the Council worked through their two subcommittees to recommend accepting a shortened top 16 recommendations that support youth across the continuum for further consideration. Council members each voted on their three top recommendations and discussed their choices. The recommendations with the most votes appear as the top five priorities on page **XX** of this report.

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#	<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>Primary Affinity Group</u>	<u>Programs/Practice vs. Policy Focused</u>
1	Institutionalize leadership roles for families by designating two Council practitioner member spots for a young adult with lived experience and a parent/guardian/family member. <i>(full continuum)</i>	Engaging Families and Youth with Lived Experience	Policy
2	Support and encourage juvenile justice systems to hire a permanent youth engagement coordinator, who will strengthen and support youth voice in the review, development, and implementation of youth justice policy and programming. <i>(full continuum)</i>	Engaging Families and Youth with Lived Experience	Policy
3	Support local communities in identifying their own individual needs and provide training and technical assistance to support implementation of prevention services that are responsive to these needs. <i>(prevention)</i>	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Practice
4	Work together to address individual and collective/historic trauma. Promote and ensure funding for community-based, culturally and developmentally informed, effective, affordable, and accessible trauma-responsive services for youth and families to keep them out of the justice system. <i>(prevention & intervention-low)</i>	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
5	Invest in prevention and early intervention by [re]directing funds towards community-based programs and services that address the root causes of delinquency, such as poverty, lack of education, workforce disengagement, mental health and substance use issues. <i>(prevention & intervention-low)</i>	Healthcare and Social Services - Alternative Youth Programs/Approaches	Policy
6	Support schools to provide more counselors, social workers, intervention specialists, free meals, extra-curriculars, and after-school activities for youth at risk of entering the justice system. <i>(prevention, intervention-low, & intervention-med)</i>	Schools	Practice

7	Enhance the success of justice-involved youth in their communities and reduce out-of-home placements by improving access to comprehensive, culturally competent, supportive services like family counseling, educational support, mental health, and substance use support. Meet basic needs first, be trauma-informed (including historical trauma), and healing-centered. <i>(intervention-low, intervention-med, & intervention-high)</i>	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
8	Create a grant program that provides financial incentives to communities that successfully keep children and youth out of detention/commitment and with their families in local communities where there are resources to address the root causes of delinquency. (The program would be similar to incentives that were provided to states when youth in the child welfare system were adopted.) <i>(intervention-low, intervention-med, & intervention-high)</i>	Healthcare and Social Services - Alternative Youth Programs/Approaches	Policy
9	Assess common entry points for youth into secure detention and enhance support for programs and practices that prevent net-widening at these points of entry. <i>(intervention-low, intervention-med, & intervention-high)</i>	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Policy
10	Make mental health treatment more readily available, accessible, and culturally relevant to justice-involved youth, including approaches that integrate the arts and healing-centered practices. <i>(intervention-low, intervention-med, intervention-high, out-of-home placement, & community re-integration)</i>	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
11	Address the co-occurrence of substance use and MH/SMI issues and their relationship to youth behavior, well-being, and equity. <i>(full continuum)</i>	Healthcare and Social Services	Practice
12	Encourage and approve state Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) waiver requests (DOL) that incentivize local Workforce Investment Boards	Employment and Training	Policy

	(WIBs) to serve justice system-involved youth in their youth programs. <i>(community re-integration)</i>		
13	Improve access to post-secondary education and training for youth exiting the justice system. <i>(community re-integration)</i>	Schools	Practice
14	Expand investments in training for judicial and law enforcement personnel in areas such as de-escalation techniques, mental health awareness, and alternative dispute resolution. <i>(intervention-low, intervention-med, & intervention-high)</i>	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Policy
15	Identify effective strategies for systems to share important youth records and data across systems, while also balancing privacy concerns. <i>(intervention-low, intervention-med, intervention-high, & out-of-home placement)</i>	Cross-Governmental Collaboration	Policy
16	Ensure that judicial personnel have access to the latest research on effective interventions for reducing recidivism, promoting positive outcomes for youth, and the impacts of various sentencing options. <i>(intervention-low, intervention-med, & intervention-high)</i>	Law Enforcement and the Courts	Practice

Appendix D

An Independent Statement by the Council's Practitioner Members

(to be inserted)

The attached document is an independent report by the practitioner members of the Council making recommendations for a long-term plan. As such, the full Council did not weigh in or vote on its contents.

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