



Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

FALL MEETING - SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

MARCY MISTRETT

FY24 Report to Congress & The White House

- SEC. 206. 34 U.S.C. 11116 (c)(1) *“The Council shall examine how the separate programs can be coordinated among Federal, State, and local governments to better serve at-risk children and juveniles and shall make recommendations to the President, and to the Congress, at least annually with respect to the coordination of overall policy and development of objectives and priorities for all Federal juvenile delinquency programs...”*
- Due by not later than 120 days following the last Council meeting of the fiscal year.
- As an independent entity in Federal government, the Council’s report is branded and published under the Coordinating Council logo.
- A separate report by the Council’s practitioner members—independent from that of the full Council—is also statutorily required.

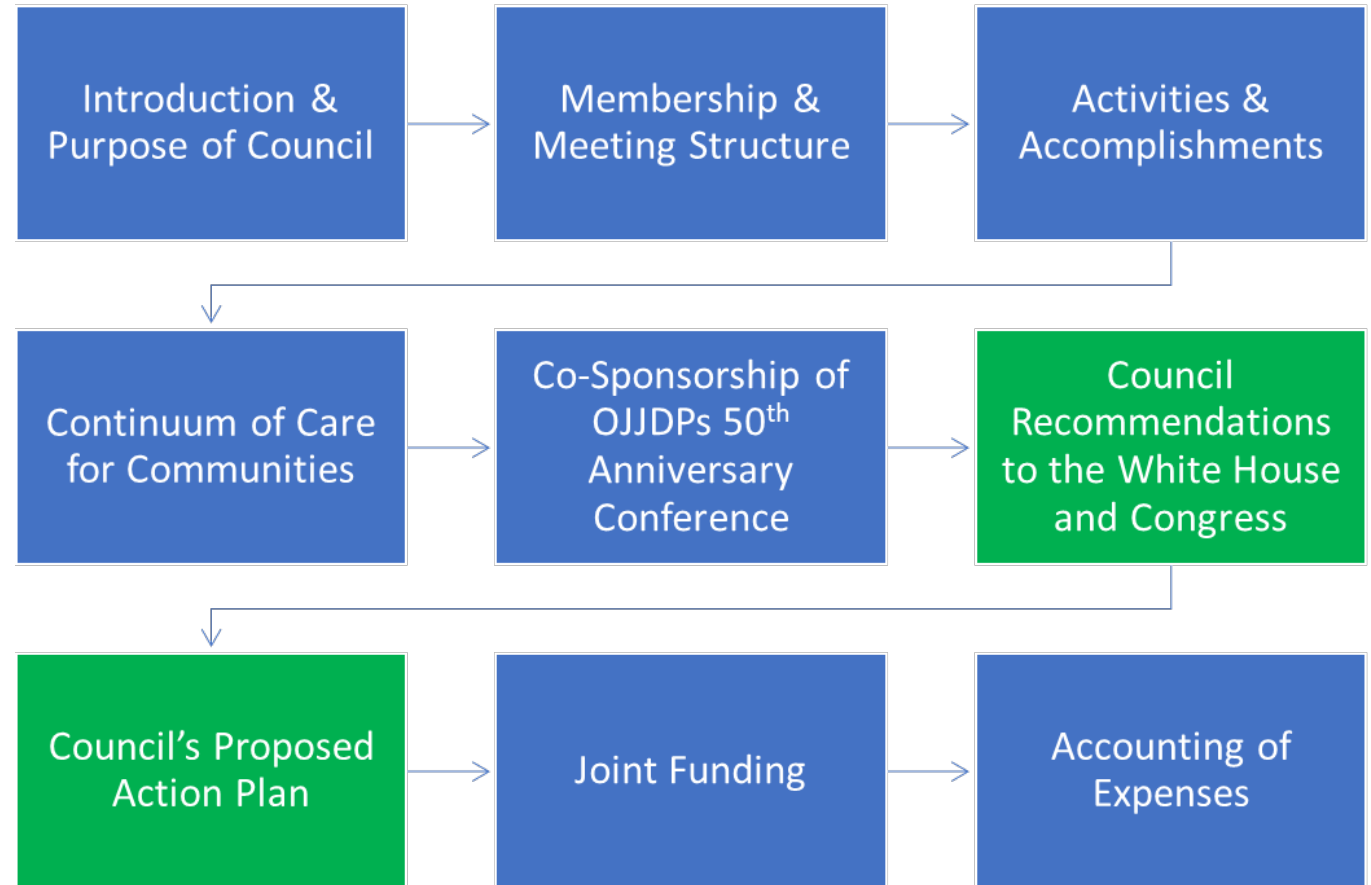
How Did We Get Here?



Adoption of OJJDP Continuum of Care



Key Sections of the Report



18 Recommendations

FY24 REPORT TO CONGRESS & THE WHITE HOUSE



Council Recommendations 1-3

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 are addressed in a culturally responsive manner, 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 U.S. Department of Labor at the turn of this century. The impacts of the Youth Opportunity Grant are well documented, and positive outcomes are attributed in part to the flexibility of use, coordination among service providers, and local focus.
3. Support school–justice partnerships to encourage partnerships between schools and justice to keep student in school.

Council Recommendations 4-5

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.

Council Recommendations 6-8

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.

Council Recommendations 9-11

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 fund.
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.

Council Recommendations 12-13

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 1, Part D of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act should be expanded to address gaps identified through the Department of Education's 2019 study as well as other gaps identified by local jurisdictions.
13. Facilitate the redevelopment of closed or underpopulated 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.

Council Recommendations 14-15

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.

Council Recommendations 16-18

16. For the limited number of youth who require residential treatment, ensure that they receive high-quality care that does no harm and keeps youth connected to family. For example, require data collection and reporting on the use of restraints and seclusion in residential treatment.
17. Ensure that programs for youth at risk of or part of the justice system use a positive youth development framework and no-wrong-door policies that focus on well-being and protective factors and are informed by impacted youth. YouthBuild, 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 Care 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.

6 Proposed Action Steps

FOR THE COORDINATING COUNCIL 2025-2026

ACTION STEPS



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.

ACTION STEPS



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



For More Information

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Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

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