

# PSN TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

*Monthly Newsletter*



Thank you for following our monthly Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) bulletin. The monthly bulletin highlights TTA and resources provided to PSN teams and local law enforcement agencies. TTA requests can be made online [here](#). If you have questions regarding TTA, please contact your regional TTA liaison or the PSN TTA team at [psntta@cna.org](mailto:psntta@cna.org).

## *Inside This Issue*

### **PSN SPOTLIGHT ON THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

*Read more about the district's PSN strategy, which features a collaborative team serving children and families who are exposed to violence.*

*See below*

### **NEW PSN TTA RESOURCES**

*Scroll down to discover two new PSN resources! One is for new PSN members and the other explores working with a research partner.*

*See pages 2 & 3*

### **GRANTS SPOTLIGHT: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FY 2024 PROGRAM PLAN**

*The FY 2024 program plan has been released! Read about how you can use it for your grant writing below!*

*See page 4*

## **PSN SPOTLIGHT: CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA'S PROGRAM SUPPORTING CHILDREN EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE**

The Central District of California has used some of their PSN funding to support and evaluate [the REACH team](#) created by the Los Angeles City Attorney's (LACA's) Office in partnership with the Children's Institute, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), the LAPD Community Safety Partnership Bureau, and other nonprofit organizations. The REACH team works to address trauma among children who have been directly or indirectly exposed to violence by intervening quickly after exposure and taking preventative efforts to mitigate any negative outcomes of that exposure. Services include provision of care packages, crisis counseling, long-term counseling, life skills courses, after-school programs, tutoring, mentorships, college guidance, and trade school guidance.

Read more about LACA's Children Exposed to Violence Unit that supports this project [here](#).

Read more the Children's Institute [here](#).

# NEW RESOURCE ANNOUNCEMENT



## PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS: **WHERE DO I BEGIN?**

A common question for Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Coordinators and Law Enforcement Coordinators (LEC), particularly for those newly involved in PSN, is, “Where do I begin?” It is important to know how to work with your PSN team to ensure that our goal of reducing violent crime and enhancing the quality of life in our communities is successful. Although prosecutors and law enforcement professionals are experts at responding to crime, investigating crime, and ensuring the delivery of justice through arrest and prosecution as appropriate, they rarely have been trained in leading a multiagency and multipartner team and developing a proactive strategy of prevention, intervention, enforcement, and community development and accountability as envisioned in an effective PSN strategy. Fortunately, there are numerous lessons learned through two decades of PSN implementation. There also are a variety of resources available to support PSN Coordinators and LECs.

**[Check out the full resource here!](#)**



# NEW RESOURCE ANNOUNCEMENT



## IDENTIFYING AND WORKING WITH A RESEARCH PARTNER

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**This resource developed by the PSN TTA team explores frequently asked questions such as who is a research partner and crime analyst, how to find and interview a research partner, how research partners meet the needs of PSN teams, and what research partners can do for you. Explore the first page of the resource below and click the link at the bottom to access the full document.**

#### **WHAT IS A PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS (PSN) RESEARCH PARTNER?**

The PSN strategy requires the United States Attorney's Office (USAO) and its partners to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in the districts and to use intelligence and data to identify causes and drivers of violence so that comprehensive solutions can be developed to reduce violent crime. It is highly recommended that USAOs engage a research partner as they are developing and implementing their violent crime reduction strategies. This will help to provide structure and focus, allowing districts to use limited resources in the most effective and efficient way possible.

#### **WHO IS A RESEARCH PARTNER?**

In traditional terms, a research partner is someone who has received formal training in research and evaluation methods and has applied those skills in a specified field (e.g., criminal justice). They tend to have advanced quantitative and qualitative skills as well as significant training in criminological theory. As experts in their fields, research partners tend to be well versed in relevant crime control and prevention literature and well informed of the state of practice in criminal justice. Research partners are most often found in university and college criminology, criminal justice, sociology, public policy, and urban affairs programs. Research partners can also be found in private research or consulting firms, research centers, and state and local agencies.

**[Check out the full Resource here!](#)**





## **GRANTS SPOTLIGHT BY JOAN BRODY: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FY 2024 PROGRAM PLAN**

Dear Grant Seekers,

As a self-proclaimed grant geek (my biggest compliment!), I am so happy to announce that the [US Department of Justice \(USDOJ\) FY 2024 Program Plan](#) has been released.

I know that I have been talking about this strategic and proactive grant seeking tool for months. But you will soon see firsthand how helpful this document is after you scroll down the first page to arrive at the search bars. You can now enter relevant information for your organization's needs and view one-page summaries of forthcoming USDOJ grant solicitations that are anticipated to be released.

I use the word "anticipated" because not every funding opportunity listed in the Program Plan will be released. Program priorities and funding levels can change mid-grant season. I estimate that around 90 percent of the grant programs listed in the Program Plan will become active solicitations during the next four months or so. Also, please note that sometimes information listed in the Program Plan may differ slightly from what you find in the associated grant solicitation document when it is released. The grant solicitation always has the final word! But even with these caveats, the Program Plan will help you plan your grant season, because this site contains a wealth of information in a concise, one-page document:



## GRANTS SPOTLIGHT, CONTINUED

Each page of the USDOJ Program Plan contains:

- A short and sweet summary of the funding opportunity—*Kind of like an elevator pitch for each FY 2024 USDOJ grant opportunity.*
- Information about who is eligible to apply—*Even if your agency is not eligible you may be able to pass this intel on to a partner who is.*
- Intel about when the grant solicitation should hit the street—*This is an estimated time frame that can inform your game plan.*
- The estimated average award amount—*In other words, how much funding you can ask for in your proposal.*
- The number of awards DOJ anticipates making—*Always helpful info to give you confidence, or the opposite!*

Good luck and happy grant planning! And as always, please reach out with any questions.

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### WEBINARS

FY 2024 Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) Solicitation Webinar

Date: March 19,  
2:00–3:00 p.m. ET  
[Registration Link](#)

Person, Place, Thing:  
Understanding the Context of Community Violence

Dates: March 24,  
1:00–2:00 p.m. ET  
[Registration link](#)

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