

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

# FY 2022 FIELD INITIATED: ENCOURAGING INNOVATION

The webinar will begin shortly



**BJA**  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice

# Webinar Format

- Brief Overview of the solicitation
- Resources for applicants
- Questions & Answers

# Overview

- BJA seeks to prevent and reduce crime and strengthen criminal justice system outcomes by collaborating with the field to identify, define, and respond to emerging or chronic crime problems and systemic issues.
- BJA is looking for proposed strategies to address these issues, including trying new approaches, addressing gaps in responses, building or translating research knowledge, or building capacity.

# Overview

- Applications under this program should not duplicate other BJA-funded solicitations and should have the potential to broadly benefit the field of criminal justice nationally.
- In particular, BJA is seeking applications that address efforts to respond to precipitous increases in crime and/or address substance use disorders and/or efforts to prevent or respond to drug overdoses and fatalities, while also building approaches and tools that enhance criminal justice reforms that build confidence in the criminal justice system and trust between residents and the criminal justice system.

# Categories & Eligibility

- Category 1: State, local, tribal, or regional research partnerships
  - Applications that propose to test a strategy at the state, local, tribal, or regional level working with a research partner to document implementation and develop tools to support national replication. Regional projects must propose a model that is specific to a regional need or could be implemented effectively regionally and replicated elsewhere. In Category 1, applicants are required to formally partner with a researcher organization for project development, assessment, and/or evaluation activities, as well as the development of tools to support replication.

# Categories & Eligibility

- **Category 2: National strategies**
  - Applications to develop targeted national strategies that will make an impact in addressing a critical need or gap in the field. In Category 2, applicants are required to work with a research partner to document implementation and develop tools to support further implementation in the field.

# Defining Innovative

- Propose a strategy or response that has not been implemented previously, yet is supported by research, data, theory, or evidence.
- Propose a new modification to an existing strategy or response that has not been implemented previously, yet is supported by research, data, theory, or evidence.
- Propose a new approach to delivering existing evidence-based strategies or responses that has not been implemented previously and has the potential to reduce costs and increase efficiencies while maintaining effectiveness (including organizational developments and changes that may enhance the effectiveness or long-term sustainability of the existing strategy or response).

# Focus Areas

- Accelerating justice through the creation of approaches and tools that build the capacity to gather and analyze data and information to understand key decision points and levers for change to reduce rates of incarceration, community correctional control, and racial disparities, including through reforming pretrial processes, sentencing practices, mandatory minimums, and collateral consequences.
- Building alternative strategies and systems, such as restorative justice approaches and diversion programs, that enhance outcomes for those with criminal justice involvement and/or prevent unnecessary involvement in the criminal justice system. This may include efforts to expand access to services for individuals experiencing behavioral health needs, substance use disorders, and other crises, as well as supporting law enforcement and/or community-driven efforts to effectively resolve problems and reduce arrests.



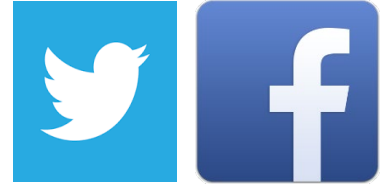
# Focus Areas

- Increasing deflection and/or diversion opportunities, particularly at the pre-arrest or pretrial phase.
- Enhancing collaboration across criminal justice, behavioral health, and public health systems to reduce barriers to success for persons in the criminal justice system with substance use and/or mental health issues.
- Developing innovative, fair, and equitable responses to combat, address, or otherwise respond to precipitous or extraordinary increases in crime, or in a type or types of crime, such as homicides, assaults, and hate crimes.

# Focus Areas

- Improving relationships between communities and the criminal justice system by building trust and confidence, increasing access to justice, and improving perceptions of fairness across the justice system.
- Enhancing and/or sustaining innovative and effective practices implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Stay Connected



## Email Updates

- Text OJP [your email address] to 468-311 to subscribe  
\*Message and data rates may apply.

## Social Media

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DOJBJA>

For information on funding opportunities, publications, and initiatives, visit

**BJA's website** – <https://bja.ojp.gov>

# Resources for Applicants

## Grants.gov Learning Center

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/learn-grants.html>

## JustGrants Application Submission Training

<https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/training/training-application-submission>

## BJA Grant Applicant Education Series

<https://www.bja.gov/funding/webinars.html#PastWebinars>

# Questions?

Enter in the Q&A box and send to All Panelists