

# State of Alaska – Division of Juvenile Justice Title II Formula Grants Program - Proposal Narrative Three Year Plan - Federal Fiscal Years 2021/2022/2023

## Table of Contents

<b><i>I. System Description: Structure and Function of the Juvenile Justice System</i></b>	<b><i>1</i></b>
<b><i>II. Analysis of Juvenile Delinquency Problems and Needs</i></b>	<b><i>3</i></b>
<b><i>III. Project Goals and Objectives</i></b>	<b><i>15</i></b>
<b><i>IV. Project Design and Implementation</i></b>	<b><i>21</i></b>
<b><i>V. Plans for Compliance and Monitoring</i></b>	<b><i>32</i></b>
<b><i>VI. Additional Requirements</i></b>	<b><i>33</i></b>
<b><i>VII. Plan for Collecting Data Required for Performance Measurement</i></b>	<b><i>33</i></b>

### **Attachments:**

1. Alaska Division of Juvenile Justice Admissions by Race and Gender
2. Alaska Waived Minor JJRA Update
3. Additional Requirements

## **I. System Description: Structure and Function of the Juvenile Justice System**

The State of Alaska’s Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) is the division within the Department of Health and Social Services responsible for all probation, detention, and institutional treatment services for delinquent youth in Alaska. Under statutory authority (AS 47.12.020(a)(b) the division is the sole agency in Alaska responsible for supervision and administration of statewide juvenile justice services as found in the three-year plan<sup>1</sup> The mission of DJJ is to hold juvenile offenders accountable for their behavior, promote the safety and restoration of victims and communities, and assist offenders and their families in developing skills to prevent future crime. Alaska ensures all youth served by DJJ are treated equitably on the basis of gender, race, family income

---

<sup>1</sup> Assurance of Compliance with JJPD Act [42 U.S.C. 5633, Section 223(a)] 1;2

and disability.

Juveniles are referred to the Division by law enforcement officer upon the allegation of a criminal offense. Intake investigations are completed by the Division's Juvenile Probation Officers to determine how the referral will be addressed. Decisions are based on division policy, screening tool results, the juvenile's history, community safety, and other factors. Possible outcomes of this investigation include: dismissal, informal adjustment, informal probation, diversion, a delinquency petition, or screening and service referral. If the Division becomes involved with a juvenile on a formal basis, they will be released from DJJ supervision after completing the terms of their court order. Youth who have been waived into the adult criminal justice system under the auto waiver or discretionary waiver statutes shall be detained in a DJJ facility until age 18<sup>2</sup>.

Division services are directed through four geographic regions: Anchorage, Southeast, Southcentral, and Northern Alaska. The division has a Statewide Probation Chief and Statewide Facility Superintendent that oversee the services provided through each of these sections within the state. The division director, deputy directors, senior managers and other state office staff are located in Juneau, Anchorage, and Fairbanks. There are fourteen juvenile probation offices located in Alaska, six of which are co-located with DJJ facilities. Three offices are located in Alaska's urban areas, the rest serve rural Alaskan communities. Youth facilities in Alaska perform two primary functions: detention and secure treatment. DJJ operates six secure youth facilities, four of which provide both short-term detention and long-term treatment services. Detention units provide short-term, secure confinement and basic services to alleged juvenile offenders. DJJ's four treatment units are designed for youth ordered by the court into long-term

---

<sup>2</sup> Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(1)(B)

secure treatment due to the serious and/or chronic nature of their offenses. There are a total of two hundred seven beds in Alaska’s DJJ’s facilities. DJJ recognizes its staff as its greatest resource. Investing in staff development is a high priority. Prior to employment, all DJJ staff undergo screening and background checks and receive training prior to working with DJJ youth.

## II. Analysis of Juvenile Delinquency Problems and Needs

The delinquency data in this section is derived from DJJ’s Juvenile Offender Management Information System (JOMIS). JOMIS provides offense data, placement and other case management information for all delinquency cases in the state<sup>3</sup>. It includes limited information on status offenses that are outside the DJJ’s jurisdiction.

### Analysis of DJJ Referrals by Charge Type: FY18-FY20

#### *FY20 Referrals by Gender*

Gender	Against							Grand Total
	Against Persons	Against Property	Public Order	Drug & Alcohol	Misc.	PV/CV	Weapon	
Female	207	149	20	76	14	132	1	599
Male	486	519	78	117	80	315	22	1617
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2216</b>

#### *FY20 Referrals by Race*

Race	Against							Grand Total
	Against Persons	Against Property	Public Order	Drug & Alcohol	Misc.	PV/CV	Weapon	
Alaska Native/Am Indian	314	369	44	56	26	199	5	1013
Asian	15	11	1	4	2	7		40
Black/African American	68	25	13	8	10	50	2	176
Multi-race	26	15	2	6	1	27		77
Native Hawaii/Pacific Islander	37	25	4	7	2	35	1	111
Unknown	29	34	6	24	4		2	99
White/Caucasian	204	189	28	88	49	129	13	700
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2216</b>

<sup>3</sup> JJDP Act Section 223(a)7.A

*FY20 Referrals by Age*

Age	Against							Grand Total
	Against Persons	Against Property	Public Order	Drug & Alcohol	Misc.	PV/CV	Weapon	
< 10	3	17			1		1	22
10 - 12	80	93	7	17	7	2		206
13 - 14	184	173	32	57	29	67	5	547
15 - 17	404	371	55	119	54	316	17	1336
18+	22	14	4		3	62		105
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2216</b>

*FY19 Referrals by Gender*

Gender	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
Female	159	427	178	2	766
Male	621	786	437	13	1857
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>1213</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2623</b>

*FY19 Referrals by Race*

Race	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
Alaska Native/Am Indian	323	525	287	2	1137
Asian	14	17	7		38
Black/African American	58	106	64	4	232
Multi-race	34	44	43		121
Native Hawaii/Pacific Islander	25	47	29	1	102
Unknown	36	61			97
White/Caucasian	290	413	185	8	896
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>1213</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2623</b>

*FY19 Referrals by Age*

Age	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
< 10	12	19			31
10 - 12	73	124	6		203
13 - 14	197	340	113	1	651
15 - 17	484	714	424	11	1633
18+	14	16	72	3	105
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>1213</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2623</b>

*FY18 Referrals by Gender*

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Felony</b>	<b>Misdemeanor</b>	<b>PV/CV</b>	<b>Violation/Other</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
Female	170	428	134	4	736
Male	612	781	413	19	1825
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2561</b>

*FY18 Referrals by Race*

<b>Race</b>	<b>Felony</b>	<b>Misdemeanor</b>	<b>PV/CV</b>	<b>Violation/Other</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
Alaska Native/Am Indian	363	474	221	3	1061
Asian	10	16	7		33
Black/African American	70	124	71	5	270
Multi-race	29	53	47	1	130
Native Hawaii/Pacific Islander	13	56	9	1	79
Unknown	30	54		1	85
White/Caucasian	267	432	192	12	903
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2561</b>

*FY18 Referrals by Age*

<b>Age</b>	<b>Felony</b>	<b>Misdemeanor</b>	<b>PV/CV</b>	<b>Violation/Other</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
< 10	7	14			21
10 - 12	72	109			181
13 - 14	211	340	91	3	645
15 - 17	474	725	400	18	1617
18+	18	21	56	2	97
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2561</b>

Total DJJ delinquency referrals generally exceed unduplicated youth offender counts because some youth offenders have multiple referrals within a single year. Similarly, total delinquency charges exceed total delinquency referrals because some referrals include multiple charges. The number of youth referred for delinquent offenses and the number of total delinquency referrals in FY20 continued to decline for a total of 2,216 referrals. The COVID-19 pandemic is suspected to be a factor in decreased referrals during this time. Alaska, like many states, experienced “hunker down” orders in many urban and rural communities, travel restrictions, and virtual learning environments for youth, potentially reducing opportunities for delinquent behavior. The Division required that probation officers receive supervisory approval in order to detain youth for new criminal offenses or probation violations and encouraged probation officers to explore all options for community-based placement for low level crimes and probation violations. This was an effort to keep the detention capacity at a manageable level to account for screening, mitigation, quarantine, and other protocols that were developed due to the pandemic.

Over the last three years a slim majority of DJJ delinquency referrals were for offenses against property, closely followed by offenses against persons. In FY20, approximately 61% of all DJJ delinquency offenses fell into one of these charge classes. Alaskan youth aged 15-17 years continue to receive the majority of all DJJ referrals. Continuing in the three-year trend is a large number of referrals for conduct/probation violations for Alaska Native/American Indian (AN/AI) youth, as compared to other youth in Alaska.

**Analysis of DJJ Referrals by Offense Class: FY18-20**

*FY20 Referrals by Gender*

Gender	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
Female	137	330	132		599
Male	571	723	315	8	1617
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>1053</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2216</b>

*FY20 Referrals by Race*

Race	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
Alaska Native/Am					
Indian	347	467	199		1013
Asian	19	14	7		40
Black/African American	49	75	50	2	176
Multi-race	13	37	27		77
Native Hawaii/Pacific					
Islander	29	47	35		111
Unknown	41	58			99
White/Caucasian	210	355	129	6	700
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>1053</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2216</b>

*FY20 Referrals by Age*

Age	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
< 10	10	12			22
10 - 12	83	121	2		206
13 - 14	191	287	67	2	547
15 - 17	400	617	316	3	1336
18+	24	16	62	3	105
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>708</b>	<b>1053</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2216</b>

*FY19 Referrals by Gender*

Gender	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
Female	159	427	178	2	766
Male	621	786	437	13	1857
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>1213</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2623</b>

*FY19 Referrals by Race*

Race	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
Alaska Native/Am Indian	323	525	287	2	1137
Asian	14	17	7		38
Black/African American	58	106	64	4	232
Multi-race	34	44	43		121
Native Hawaii/Pacific Islander	25	47	29	1	102
Unknown	36	61			97
White/Caucasian	290	413	185	8	896
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>1213</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2623</b>

*FY19 Referrals by Age*

Age	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
< 10	12	19			31
10 - 12	73	124	6		203
13 - 14	197	340	113	1	651
15 - 17	484	714	424	11	1633
18+	14	16	72	3	105
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>1213</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2623</b>

*FY18 Referrals by Gender*

Gender	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
Female	170	428	134	4	736
Male	612	781	413	19	1825
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2561</b>

*FY18 Referrals by Race*

Race	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
Alaska Native/Am Indian	363	474	221	3	1061
Asian	10	16	7		33
Black/African American	70	124	71	5	270
Multi-race	29	53	47	1	130
Native Hawaii/Pacific Islander	13	56	9	1	79
Unknown	30	54		1	85
White/Caucasian	267	432	192	12	903
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2561</b>



*FY18 Referrals by Age*

Age	Felony	Misdemeanor	PV/CV	Violation/Other	Grand Total
< 10	7	14			21
10 - 12	72	109			181
13 - 14	211	340	91	3	645
15 - 17	474	725	400	18	1617
18+	18	21	56	2	97
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>1209</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2561</b>

Over the last three years the number of total felony and misdemeanor referrals to DJJ has declined. The proportion of misdemeanor offenses to total offenses has remained relatively steady, at approximately 47% of all offenses. Felony referrals for Alaska Native/American Indian and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander youth increased in FY20, while felony referrals for Black/African American youth decreased in FY20.

The majority of felony referrals continue to be from the 15-17 year age group. Referrals for conduct violations or probation violations decreased in FY20. The majority of referrals for conduct violations or probation violations continue to be from the 15-17 year age group.

**Analysis of DJJ Cases (Referrals) Handled Informally and Formally: FY18-20**

*FY20 Referrals by Gender*

Gender	Adjust- ed	Community Justice Panel	Dismiss- ed	In Process	Informal Probation	Petitioned Petitioned	Petitioned - Adjudicated	Screen & Refer	Grand Total
Female	185	38	197	5	57	37	80		599
Male	448	55	533	18	162	187	207	7	1617
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2216</b>

*FY20 Referrals by Race*

Race	Adjusted	Comm- unity Justice Panel	Dismiss- ed	In Process	Informal Probation	Petit ione d	Petition- ed Adjudi- cated	Screen and Refer	Total
Alaska Native/ Am Indian	328	19	337	10	93	95	129	2	1013
Asian	8	3	14	1		6	7	1	40
Black / African American	33	3	67	1	13	28	30	1	176
Multi-race	14	2	33	1	2	12	13		77
Native Hawaii / Pacific Islander	22	1	28	3	16	20	21		111
Unknown	58	11	18		11	1			99
White/ Caucasian	170	54	233	7	84	62	87	3	700
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2216</b>

*FY20 Referrals by Age*

Age	Adjusted	Community Justice Panel	Dismiss ed	In Process	Informal Probation	Petitioned	Petitioned- Adjudicated	Screen & Refer	Total
< 10	17	1	4						22
10 - 12	97	15	47		31	13	3		206
13 - 14	180	25	179	1	61	57	43	1	547
15 - 17	324	50	452	22	121	146	217	4	1336
18+	15	2	48		6	8	24	2	105
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2216</b>

*FY19 Referrals by Gender*

Gender	Adjusted	Community Justice Panel	Dismissed	In Process	Informal Probation	Petitioned	Petitioned - Adjudicated	Screen & Referral	Total
Female	236	55	265	8	78	21	99	4	766
Male	428	86	673	21	194	84	348	23	1857
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2623</b>

*FY19 Referrals by Race*

Race	Adjusted	Community Justice Panel	Dismissed	In Process	Informal Probation	Petitioned	Petitioned - Adjudicated	Screen & Referral	Total
Alaska Native / Am Indian	301	42	433	18	100	36	194	13	1137
Asian	7	3	10		8	1	9		38
Black / African American	46	9	86	1	28	20	39	3	232
Multi-race Native	22	3	49	2	11	12	21	1	121
Hawaii/Pacific Islander	19		43	1	10	8	20	1	102
Unknown	52	13	24	1	6			1	97
White/Caucasian	217	71	293	6	109	28	164	8	896
<b>Total</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2623</b>

*FY 19 Referrals by Age*

Age	Adjusted	Community Justice Panel	Dismiss -ed	In Process	Informal Probation	Petitioned	Petitioned - Adjudicated	Screen & Refer	Total
< 10	18	6	6		1				31
10 - 12	102	12	55	1	19	5	6	3	203
13 - 14	192	37	216	10	82	26	88		651
15 - 17	346	84	612	16	162	72	318	23	1633
18+	6	2	49	2	8	2	35	1	105
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2623</b>

*FY 18 Referrals by Gender*

Gender	Adjusted	Community Justice Panel	Dismissed	In Process	Informal Probation	Petitioned	Petitioned - Adjudicated	Screen & Refer	Total
Female	189	62	257	9	115	15	87	2	736
Male	334	95	690	11	243	61	372	19	1825
<b>Total</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2561</b>

*FY 18 Referrals by Race*

Race	Adjusted	Community Justice Panel	Dismissed	In Process	Informal Probation	Petitioned	Petitioned - Adjudicated	Screen & Refer	Total
Alaska Native/Am Indian	259	35	418	9	113	25	189	13	1061
Asian	4	5	10		6	1	7		33
Black/African American	36	9	100	2	43	15	64	1	270
Multi-race	11	4	62	2	19	4	27	1	130
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	21	6	19	1	17	1	14		79
Unknown	40	8	21	1	13	1		1	85
White/Caucasian	152	90	317	5	147	29	158	5	903
<b>Total</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2561</b>

*FY 18 Referrals by Age*

Age	Adjusted	Community Justice Panel	Dismissed	In Process	Informal Probation	Petitioned	Petitioned - Adjudicated	Screen & Refer	Total
< 10	15		5		1				21
10 - 12	84	18	48		17	2	7	5	181
13 - 14	139	48	223	9	104	11	111		645
15 - 17	274	85	640	11	225	61	306	15	1617
18+	11	6	31		11	2	35	1	97
<b>Total</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2561</b>

DJJ monitors the number of delinquent and status offenders admitted, by gender and race, to juvenile detention facilities, adult jails, and lockups for FY18-FY20 (see Attachment 1).

### **Alaska's Poverty Rate**

Alaska's statewide poverty rates are lower than the national average; however poverty rates are considerably higher in Alaska's rural census areas. Alaska is ranked as the third most expensive in the country for highest cost of living in 2017<sup>4</sup>. The majority of rural communities with the highest poverty rates and highest rates for cost of living are not connected to a road system, are geographically isolated, and youth in these communities have limited access to resources and services. The socioeconomic disparity between rural and urban Alaska, and higher rates of children living in poverty in these areas, means special emphasis must be paid to rural delinquency prevention efforts for Alaskan Native youth<sup>5</sup>.

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigations Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics (both adult and juvenile offender information), Alaska continues to have a higher violent crime rate, forcible rape rate and aggravated assault rate than the national average. Alaska also had the highest forcible rape rate (legacy definition) in the United States for at least the last 3 years.

Alaska has long been challenged by extremely high rates of child abuse and maltreatment, which have long term impacts on childhood experiences of youth involved in Alaska's juvenile justice system. According to the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services in 2019, Alaska had over double the amount of child victims as compared to the national average with a rate of 17 (per 1000 children) as compared to 8.9 (per 1000 children). Additionally, Alaska is ranked fourth

---

<sup>4</sup> Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the Council for Community and Economic Research

<sup>5</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(iii)

in the nation for the amount of child victims, per capita.

Suicide rates for Alaska teens are higher than the national average statewide, especially rural areas. Alaska Native teenagers, especially boys, are far more likely than other Alaska teenagers to commit suicide. Because of the higher rate of abuse, neglect and suicide, trauma informed care is an essential framework for Alaska’s juvenile justice system. Alaska will to the maximum extent practicable, implement a system to ensure that if a juvenile is before a court in the juvenile justice system, public child welfare records (including child protective services records) relating to such juvenile that are on file in the geographical area under the jurisdiction of such court will be made known to such court so as to provide for (A) data in child abuse or neglect reports relating to juveniles entering the juvenile justice system with a prior reported history of arrest, court intake, probation and parole, juvenile detention, and corrections; and (B) a plan to use the data described in subparagraph (A) to provide necessary services for the treatment of such victims of child abuse or neglect, including victims of human trafficking.

### **III. Project Goals and Objectives**

The goal of the State of Alaska’s Department of Health and Social Services is to promote and protect the health and well-being of Alaskans. To meet that goal the mission of the Division is to hold juvenile offenders accountable for their behavior, to promote the safety and restoration of victims and communities, and to assist offenders and their families in developing skills to prevent crime. DJJ is a restorative justice agency, dedicated to providing trauma-informed care to all DJJ youth. The priority goals for the Division of Juvenile Justice during this three-year plan cycle include:

**Goal 1: Maintain full compliance with the four core mandates of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018.**

This goal and the following objectives are relevant to Program Areas: W-Compliance Monitoring;

---

A-Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders; 26-Jail Removal; 31-Separation of Juveniles from Adult Inmates; 21-Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED), and A-Alternatives to Detention and Placement.

**Objective 1.1:** *Collect complete, accurate data and facility classification information quarterly, to assist with the reduction of violations of core mandates of the JJDP Act reported in the Annual Compliance Monitoring Report<sup>6</sup>*

Alaska will continue contracting with Professional Administrative Services, Inc. (PAS) to contact each adult jail and lockup facility in the state on a monthly basis, compiling reports of youth holds and reporting that information to the compliance monitor. This system allows for consistent contact with statewide jail and lock-up facilities, timely notification of any violations, and the ability to track and assess patterns to be addressed through training or technical assistance.

Additionally, the DJJ compliance monitor will annually update the compliance monitoring universe, bi-annually review the statewide Village Public Safety Officer roster, compile and analyze results of facility site audits, and submit annual reporting data to OJJDP. Compliance monitoring staff will identify chronic compliance problems and recommend strategies to address them. A primary activity during the first year of the three-year cycle will be the update and distribution of compliance monitoring training for DJJ staff and rural law enforcement.

**Objective 1.2:** *Maintain compliance with national standards for the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO), Jail Removal, and Separation of Juveniles from Adult Inmates through expansion of programs including alternatives to detention, especially in rural Alaska.*

Alaska has made significant progress towards compliance of “who are treated as adults for

---

<sup>6</sup> JJPD Act Section 223(a) 11; 14



purposes of prosecution in criminal court and housed in a secure facility,” pursuant to 34 U.S.C. §11133(a)(11)(B), (see Attachment 2). Alaska will continue efforts to maintain compliance with these core mandates through quarterly analysis of violation report data to assess potential patterns; develop strategies to address issues and barriers to compliance such as transportation, weather, and time constraints; continue collaboration with other state agencies to develop and provide resources to assist rural communities with minor consuming and mental health issues; maintain and expand alternative to detention programs such as non-secure shelters, electronic monitoring, and diversion programs; visit all secure facilities in the monitoring universe at least once every three years and continue training for DJJ’s Compliance Monitoring Site Auditors<sup>7</sup>. If a juvenile is taken into custody for violating a valid court order issued for committing a status offense (A) an appropriate public agency shall be promptly notified that such status offender is held in custody for violating such order; (B) not later than 24 hours during which such status offender is so held, an authorized representative of such agency shall interview, in person, such status offender; (C) not later than 48 hours during which such status offender is so held (D) there are procedures in place to ensure that any status offender held in a secure detention facility or correctional facility pursuant to a court order described in this paragraph does not remain in custody longer than 7 days or the length of time authorized by the court, whichever is shorter. Alaska complies with this requirement, and the documentation can be found on pages 29-34 of the information submitted in the compliance monitoring tool.

There are a number of initiatives being developed to strengthen diversion programs and address systemic issues to ensuring the availability of appropriate non-secure placements. These efforts include reducing the number of youth who are housed in secure detention who are awaiting

---

<sup>7</sup> 34 U.S.C. 11133(a)(7)(B)(iv)

---

placement in residential treatment programs<sup>8</sup>. This is a priority both internally for the DJJ, the Office of Children's Services, as well as at the larger departmental level for Alaska Health and Social Services.

**Objective 1.3:** *Maintain compliance with the JJDP Act to assess and address racial and ethnic disparities within Alaska's juvenile justice system.*

Alaska will continue annual calculation and analysis of relative rate indices; develop racial and ethnic disparity intervention strategies that focus on specific intervention points with the highest disproportionality; provide targeted training and technical assistance to DJJ staff and community partners; and support efforts to establish local community or tribal-based diversion panels, specifically in rural Alaskan communities. The division plans to identify entities in urban communities to provide services for additional youth subject to racial and ethnic disparities including; African American, Asian, and Native Hawaii/Pacific Islander youth.

**Goal 2: Promote safe and responsible individuals, families and communities, and increase the number of juveniles who remain crime free.**

This goal and the following objective is relevant to Program Areas: L-Positive Youth Development; 22-Diversion; 30-Rural Area Juvenile Programs.

**Objective 2.1:** *Support delinquency prevention and diversion programs to keep youth out of the juvenile justice system.*

DJJ will continue the highly successful partnership with Rural Alaska Community Action Program to support their Youth Development and Culture camp programming, which referral data demonstrates is a successful delinquency prevention technique. DJJ will also expand training, technical assistance, and outreach for community and tribal-based diversion panels.

The Division coordinates with a wide array of treatment providers across the state to

---

<sup>8</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(iv)

facilitate youth utilization of evidence-based programs to reduce delinquency and build resiliency. This includes programs to improve educational success, substance use prevention and treatment, healthy activities, tribal services and gatherings, and other health and welfare programs throughout the department<sup>9</sup>.

**Goal 3: Reduce overall youth recidivism rates, specifically targeting recidivism rates for Alaska Native Youth.**

This goal and the following objective is relevant to Program Areas 24-Indian Tribal Programs; 21-Racial and Ethnic Disparity; D- Provide Treatment for victims of Child Abuse; T- Programs Providing Mental Health Treatment

**Objective 3.1:** *Respond to the behavioral health needs of Alaskan Youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system to more effectively address youth's treatment and reentry needs.*

DJJ will continue efforts to enhance mental health clinical services, programs, and policy including continuation of the Seven Challenges program; continue efforts to strengthen Trauma Informed Care including utilization of the division Trauma Screening and Resiliency Measurement Tools in case planning and for building community support services<sup>10</sup>.

DJJ staff participate in many local and regional collaborative efforts seeking to build understanding on factors leading to delinquent behavior in juveniles, and address delinquency prevention services and programs for community based or 'front-end' youth<sup>11</sup>. DJJ will support efforts to expand these collaborative efforts to new partners, focusing on relationships with Alaska Native Tribes and communities.

**Goal 4: Enhance Alaska's juvenile justice system through coordinated system improvement efforts.**

This goal and the following objectives are relevant to Program Areas: 27-Juvenile Justice System

---

<sup>9</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(8)

<sup>10</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(viii)

<sup>11</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(vii)

---

Improvement; 32-State Advisory Group, 28-Planning and Administration.

**Objective 4.1:** *Support the efforts of the Alaska Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee to strengthen and improve Alaska's juvenile justice system.*

DJJ will support the State Advisory Group (SAG), titled the Alaska Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (AJJAC) by providing staff liaison support in convening telephonic or in-person meetings no less than quarterly; supporting the creation of the annual report and recommendations to the Governor; work with the committee in the preparation and administration of the three year compliance plan; review progress and accomplishments of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention and diversion projects funded under the state plan; and contact and seek regular input from juveniles currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system. AJJAC shall be afforded the opportunity to review and comment, not later than 30 days after their submission to the advisory group on all juvenile justice and delinquency prevention grant applications submitted to the state agency designated under paragraph (1).

The Division will, to the extent practicable, give priority in funding to programs and activities that are based on rigorous, systematic, and objective research that is scientifically-based; from time to time, but not less than annually, review its plan and submit to the Administrator an analysis and evaluation of the effectiveness of the programs and activities carried out under the plan, and any modifications in the plan, including the survey of State and local needs, that it considers necessary<sup>12</sup>.

**Objective 4.2:** *Conduct planning and administration activities to effectively manage and implement the Title II Formula Grant Program.*

---

<sup>12</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(22)

DJJ will continue annual submission of the Title II application, plans and all associated reporting; coordination of Formula activities with other departmental grant managers; ongoing monitoring of sub-grantees and provision of technical assistance; ongoing travel, both in and out-of state, in support of training for and compliance with the JJDP Act core mandates; ongoing provision of staff support to the State Advisory Group; ongoing planning and resource development to support compliance with core mandates and other grant requirements.

#### **IV. Project Design and Implementation**

Based on the FY18-20 youth crime data analysis, feedback from the Alaska Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee and other qualitative and quantitative factors, the following activities have been identified as the primary activities to support the achievement of the above- listed goals.

Maintaining compliance with the four core mandates of the JJDP Act requires significant investment in the state of Alaska's compliance monitoring infrastructure. This investment includes funding for compliance monitoring staff to coordinate statewide compliance activities and reporting, and funding to complete required site audits on the identified three-year cycle.

The state crime analysis and needs assessment made clear there is a growing need for ongoing compliance monitoring training targeted at rural law enforcement officials. First responders to delinquent offenses are often rural law enforcement officers with limited training and resources to address juvenile issues. Often there is a lack of law enforcement presence until a State Trooper can arrive by plane or boat. During the first year of the three-year planning cycle, compliance monitoring training and resources will be developed specifically for rural law enforcement partners. The statewide VPSO program is divided into 10 individual programs. DJJ plans to develop annual training plans to bring VPSOs to DJJ facilities to learn about Juvenile Justice. Training which will include: touring a DJJ facility, how to serve high risk youth in rural

---

Alaska, required reporting for holding youth in adult facilities, and meeting with community partners for ongoing collaboration planning.

DJJ does not detain juveniles in secure facilities for the commission of status offenses. Non-secure alternative to detention programs are provided in Alaska's two largest communities. Additionally, ongoing training is provided to law enforcement in rural locations regarding the core mandates and how to handle juveniles charged with status offenses. Juvenile survivors of commercial sexual exploitation are not detained solely on the basis of those activities. Youth admitted into a DJJ detention facility are screened for trauma, including sexual exploitation. DJJ makes referrals to community-based services whenever possible. The DJJ Policy Team will assess the current status of policy related to survivors of commercial sexual exploitation for necessary additions or revisions<sup>13</sup>.

DJJ ensures the coordinated use of funding provided under the award with other Federal and State funds directed at juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention programs<sup>14</sup>. Alaska's Non-Secure Attendant Care Shelter programs provide a non-secure setting for youth to be held, helping to prevent the admission of status offenders into secure detention facilities. DJJ intends to continue to provide funding for Electronic Monitoring (EM) services, providing a reliable alternative to detention option for appropriate youth.

Alaska will continue a long-standing successful partnership with the Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP), Inc. The division provides pass-through funds to RurAL CAP to support positive youth development and culturally relevant programming to youth age 12-18 in rural Alaska Native communities. Data collected from this program indicate it is an

---

<sup>13</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(iv)

<sup>14</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(28)

effective method for preventing delinquency among rural Alaska Native youth<sup>15</sup>.

During the first year of the planning cycle, Alaska will be assessing the current structure and effectiveness of the Racial and Ethnic Disparities (RED) infrastructure in the state. As needed, the RED advisory groups and coalitions will be restructured to better reflect the representation needs of community partner agencies. A targeted partnership with Alaska Native law enforcement entities will be established to collaborate on training and technical assistance needs of rural law enforcement, in an effort to decrease the Alaska Native/American Indian youth RRI at the point of arrest. Identified needs and activities generated by these new partnerships will inform activities for subsequent years of the three year plan cycle.

Lastly, in order to effectively administer and monitor activities under the Title II Formula grant program, it is necessary to support adequate administrative and planning infrastructure. Planning and Administration funds will be used to support management and staffing, travel for OJJDP and/or locally sponsored trainings and conferences, and sub-grantee monitoring.

## **Population-Specific Plans**

### **1. Gender Specific Services<sup>16</sup>**

Historically the only secure female treatment program in the state was located in Anchorage. In July 2020, the Girls Treatment Program Unit was moved to Johnson Youth Center in the community of Juneau after a system-wide review of overall facility capacity, utilization and improved programming throughout DJJ. This 15-bed unit provides a safe, secure and therapeutic environment for female residents who are institutionalized. The treatment program includes development of an individualized treatment plan for each resident implemented through a variety

---

<sup>15</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(28)

<sup>16</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(i)/ 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(ii)

---

of services including individual, group and family counseling. The program focuses on developing pro-social, coping, thinking and educational skills, and addresses areas such as victim impact, empathy, substance abuse, personal victimization, self-esteem, and anger management. The Girls Treatment Program utilizes the Strength Based and Trauma Informed Effective Reinforcement System (TIERS) framework.

Current gender-specific programming offered at the Johnson Youth Center includes the ‘Voices’ curriculum appropriate for girls and young women. Voices is a female led, gender responsive curriculum that reaches across cultures, race and ethnicity, demographics, economics, sexual orientation and identity, and religion. The program focuses on strengths-based personal development and leadership, as well as positive life-skills development<sup>17</sup>. Another gender-specific program being established at the Johnson Youth Center includes a partnership with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). This collaboration involves NAMI staff and volunteers visiting the Girl’s Treatment Unit to facilitate the group ‘Why I Stay.’ This seven- week program where participants work with writing facilitators to craft their narrative of mental health struggles and successes. Further programming focused on Alaska Native culture and our female population includes storytelling, drum circles, traditional foods, art projects, and mentoring opportunities by elders.

Use of physical and mechanical restraints and the use of force are addressed in DJJ policy H-105: Use of Physical and Mechanical Restraints. This policy states that only the amount of force and type of restraint necessary to address a given situation shall be used and that in most cases, youth behaviors can be addressed using non-physical methods. Additionally, physical or mechanical restraints will not be used as a form of discipline. DJJ employs a variety of programs

---

<sup>17</sup> JJPD Act Section 223 (a) 9.K



in an effort to de-escalate youth and avoid mechanical restraints including the Trauma Informed Effective Reinforcement System, Verbal Judo, and Control Tactics. While this policy addresses all juveniles under DJJ jurisdiction, there is not specific language regarding known pregnant juveniles and the criteria described above<sup>18</sup>. The DJJ policy team will review and amend current policies to add this language, as appropriate including the elimination of abdominal, leg, ankle, wrist restraints behind the back, and four-point restraints on known pregnant juveniles unless (1) credible, reasonable grounds exist to believe the youth presents an immediate and serious threat of hurting herself, staff or others; or (2) reasonable grounds exist to believe the detainee presents an immediate and credible risk of escape that cannot be reasonably minimized through any other method. All DJJ staff providing direct services to youth in a facility or under probation supervision are trained on behavior management techniques and policies. Specifically, working to eliminate the use of dangerous practices, unreasonable restraints, and unreasonable isolation.

Additionally, DJJ policy M-102: Isolation, Confinement, and Quarantine addresses the limited circumstances in which youth are isolated or confined within secure facilities. The use of room confinement is tracked in the Juvenile Offender Management Information System<sup>19</sup>.

Some DJJ facilities also utilize ‘COMPASS: A Guide for Men,’ which is a program designed specifically for young Alaskan males. Developed by the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Assault, COMPASS presents opportunities and activities designed to support young men as they explore and identify their values, goals, and unique identities. The activities, teachable moments, and discussions described in the guide create a safe atmosphere for boys to learn about and practice healthy lifestyles<sup>20</sup>. The Fairbanks Youth Facility recently implemented One Circle

---

<sup>18</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(ix)

<sup>19</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(29)

<sup>20</sup> JJPD Act Section 223 (a) 9.K

---

Foundation's Council for Boys and Young Men curriculum to male treatment youth. This gender specific program for boys is used to engage, challenge, celebrate, develop, and unite boys.

### **Services for the Prevention and Treatment of Youth Delinquency in Rural Areas**

Activities proposed by the Division of Juvenile Justice not only provide for the equitable distribution of Title II resources to rural areas<sup>21</sup>, but provide delinquency prevention programming to reduce the number of rural youth who come in contact with the juvenile justice system and to reduce recidivism rates in rural communities. During the FY21-23 cycle, DJJ will continue providing grant funds to rural communities to support delinquency prevention, non-secure attendant care shelter and Alaska Native/Tribal programs such as culture camps and other culturally focused programs. DJJ will also continue active efforts to provide outreach and technical assistance support to Alaska tribes and rural communities to establish community diversion panels. This collaboration will more effectively respond to and rehabilitate juvenile offenders at the local village level.

DJJ probation staff travel to rural communities to perform community outreach by meeting with families, youth, Tribal Council members, elders, school staff, local law enforcement and other appropriate community members. Targeted outreach helps support interventions preventing youth from entering the DJJ system, and to support youth transitioning back to communities after treatment in secure DJJ facilities<sup>22</sup>. In assessing programs to incorporate into the state plan, DJJ identifies evidence-based programming with demonstrated positive impact on youth in the juvenile justice system. Programmatic research is conducted by staff to ensure programming considers not only adolescent development, but also the unique cultural needs of Alaskan youth. Interventions are provided with a goal of ensuring the long-term success of a youth. As such, DJJ has

---

<sup>21</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(6)

<sup>22</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)

implemented evidence-based programs with positive outcomes for adolescent populations including the Intensive Aftercare Transitional Services model, Seven Challenges, Aggression Replacement Training, Trauma Informed Care, and use of the Youth Level of Service /Case Management Inventory<sup>23</sup>.

### **Services Provided to Youth in the Juvenile Justice System**

DJJ regularly utilizes community-based services to respond to the needs of at-risk youth or youth who have come into contact with the juvenile justice system. DJJ assesses each case to determine individualized services and the least restrictive placement options. Community-based providers are used to respond to a variety of needs including mental health, substance abuse counseling, vocational training, educational needs, and other services as identified on the individual treatment plans. Alaska collaborates with the State educational agency receiving assistance under part A of title I<sup>24</sup> to develop and implement a plan to ensure that, (A) the student records of adjudicated juveniles, including electronic records if available, are transferred in a timely manner from the educational program in the juvenile detention or secure treatment facility to the educational or training program into which the juveniles will enroll; (B) the credits of adjudicated juveniles are transferred; and (C) adjudicated juveniles receive full or partial credit toward high school graduation for secondary school coursework satisfactorily completed before and during the period of time during which the juveniles are held in custody, regardless of the local educational agency or entity from which the credits were earned; and in order to support educational progress.

Though DJJ recognizes that access to community-based services is often a challenge in remote, rural locations, the division works to support development of services or expansion of programs to

---

<sup>23</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(viii)

<sup>24</sup> Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.)

better serve these communities. While there is not one specific policy that addresses the use of community-based services, utilization of community providers is the practice of DJJ staff and referenced in multiple policies across the spectrum of services provided to youth including the protection of their rights to privacy<sup>25/26</sup>.

DJJ involves parents, families, and caregivers in placement decisions, the development and implementation of institutional treatment services, and release planning. DJJ provides opportunities for family involvement in the institutional treatment process through family contact visits, facilitated family therapy, and the recent implementation of Zoom videoconferencing technology for family contact. In the past, DJJ has distributed parent feedback surveys to gain insight on different elements of the DJJ system; internal leadership will assess the feasibility of re-instating this practice. Additionally, information is publicly posted for the Alaska Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, whose membership is available to receive such feedback<sup>27</sup>.

The Division of Juvenile Justice uses specific youth orientated substance abuse screenings and assessments related to the status of a youth in the DJJ system. For example, DJJ uses screenings such as the *Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI)* and *Car, Relax, Alone, Forget, Friends, Trouble (CRAFFT)* screening early in a youth's engagement with DJJ to determine if substance use may be a factor in youth delinquent behaviors. DJJ Mental Health Clinicians use detailed assessment tools, such as the *American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Criteria*, to determine substance abuse diagnoses and develop treatment plans for youth receiving court-ordered treatment in a DJJ facility. Mental health and substance abuse disorder treatment is provided for juveniles placed in DJJ detention and treatment facilities. Referrals to community

---

<sup>25</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(vii)

<sup>26</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(18)

<sup>27</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(vii)

---

based service providers are made for youth, in need of services<sup>28</sup>.

DJJ currently has 13 mental health clinicians serving six facilities around the state. Mental health clinicians work primarily with youth in secure DJJ facilities, but also provide services to probation youth in the community. All clinicians working in detention and treatment facilities provide direct mental health interventions including crisis intervention, individual therapy, group therapy, family therapy, reviewing mental health and suicide screens and conducting suicide/self-harm risk assessment for youth on suicide status<sup>29</sup>. Indirect clinical services may include staff consultation, assisting with referrals to contract psychiatric and psychological providers, and conducting trainings on suicide prevention and other mental health topics<sup>30</sup>.

DJJ is a trauma-informed agency that regularly incorporates trauma-responsive curriculum into regular training, such as the Division Fundamentals training that all new staff complete. Another specific example of trauma informed programming is the implementation of the Trauma Screening Tool (TST). This tool is a set of 15 questions adapted from the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) study that is administered to all youth in DJJ detention and treatment facilities, as well as community-based youth on formal probation<sup>31</sup>. The TST screens for the identification of victims of domestic human trafficking, or those at risk of such trafficking and requires intervention and support strategies, including diversion and counseling programs.

The Division's mental health clinicians are trained in Advanced Trauma Informed Care and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). DJJ clinicians are trained and certified in Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, which is evidence-based treatment<sup>32</sup> for children and

---

<sup>28</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(30)

<sup>29</sup> JJPD Act Section 223(a) 9.S

<sup>30</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(vi)

<sup>31</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(7)(B)(viii)

<sup>32</sup> JJPD Act Section 223 (a) 21.A

adolescents impacted by trauma and their parents or caregivers. DJJ's mental health clinical staff are also trained in Seven Challenges Substance Abuse Counseling, Seven Challenges which has a weekly group therapy session for substance abuse and once monthly family therapy. As a part of Seven Challenges, the clinicians also provide weekly clinical supervision to Juvenile Justice Officers who co-facilitate Seven Challenges<sup>33</sup>.

Other group therapy currently being offered by DJJ mental health staff is a psychoeducational trauma focused group therapy program called S.E.L.F, which addresses the fundamental problems surrounding exposure to violence without needing to focus on specific individual events within a group setting. The division received training for Neurofeedback, an intervention that works in conjunction with psychotherapy to help reduce problematic behaviors/symptoms by teaching the brain to self-regulate and function better. Neurofeedback is very effective due to the plasticity of the brain and works especially well in resolving issues related to trauma, ADHD, anxiety, depression, anger and other mental health diagnoses. It can also be used to help with addictive behaviors and substance abuse.

The Division of Juvenile Justice provides all juveniles admitted to and released from secure juvenile treatment programs with transitional services to improve the juvenile's successful return to the community and to reduce recidivism. DJJ's transitional services program is based on the national Intensive Aftercare Program Model. These services are collaborative between families, probation, caregivers, treatment programs, community resources, GALs and OCS workers culminating in the development and facilitation of a transition plan. These plans identify the areas of risk/need and the resources and services necessary to assist juveniles in their return to the community. Transition planning begins when a juvenile is first placed into a secure juvenile

---

<sup>33</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(30)

treatment program or a non-secure residential treatment program and continues as a coordinated exercise of pre-release supervision and post-release services provided to a juvenile upon discharge from the program. Case Planning Meetings are held approximately every 30 days throughout the duration of this process to review the plan. The Individual Reentry plan is a written document that addresses counseling, referrals to appropriate agencies, specialized treatment needs, vocational and/or educational training, job placement, living arrangements, restitution, victim mediation/clarification, drug testing, electronic monitoring, and other services as appropriate<sup>34</sup>.

### **Consultation and Participation of Units of Local Government**

DJJ works in active partnership and consultation with other divisions in the Department of Health and Social Services and other State of Alaska Departments to develop the state plan and provide appropriate services to Alaskan youth<sup>35</sup>. Collaborative state agency partners include: the Division of Behavioral Health; the Office of Children’s Services; Division of Health Care Services; Division of Public Assistance; Division of Public Health; Department of Education and Early Development; Department of Corrections, Department of Public Safety, and Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Additionally, DJJ has well-established, diverse, and dedicated partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and Alaska Native Tribes. These partnerships enhance and expand the ability of the division to provide programs and services to Alaskan youth including improving outcomes for Alaska Native youth, reducing recidivism rates, and targeting ‘front-end’ youth with delinquency prevention activities.

There are 229 federally recognized Alaska Native Tribes in Alaska. Iñupiat, Yupik, Aleut, Eyak, Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian, and a number of Northern Athabaskan tribes comprise the diverse cultural heritage of Alaska’s indigenous peoples. DJJ staff will resume travel to rural Alaskan

---

<sup>34</sup> 34 U.S.C. § 11133(a)(31)

<sup>35</sup> JJPD Act Section 223(a) 4

---

communities to meet with Tribal Council members, elders, school staff, local law enforcement, and other appropriate community members to support interventions preventing youth from entering the DJJ system as well as to support youth transitioning back to communities after treatment in secure DJJ facilities or residential programs. The majority of this travel was restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic and health and safety concerns.

Previously, DJJ developed Memorandums of Agreement (MOA) with twenty-nine Alaska Tribes for formal collaborations in the implementation, training, and support of diversion programs for juvenile offenders in rural Alaskan communities. The intent of these collaborations is to use restorative justice principles to effectively respond to appropriate juvenile offenders at a local level, and to potentially serve as a model program for other rural communities.

## **V. Plans for Compliance and Monitoring**

The three-year compliance and monitoring plans for the four federal core mandates were submitted separately via OJJDP's online Compliance Monitoring Tool. Alaska ensures compliance with the requirement to provide for an effective system of monitoring jails, lock-ups, detention facilities, and correctional facilities to ensure that the core requirements are met, and for annual reporting of the results of such monitoring to the Administrator, except that such reporting requirements shall not apply in the case of a state which is in compliance with the other requirements of this paragraph, which is in compliance with the requirements in paragraphs (11) and (12), and which has enacted legislation which conforms to such requirements and which contains, in the opinion of the Administrator, enforcement mechanisms to ensure that such legislation will be administered effectively. Alaska complies with this requirement, and the documentation can be found on pages 4 and 17 of the information submitted in the compliance tool.



---

## **VI. Additional Requirements**

DJJ has documented eight additional requirements that are detailed in Attachment 3.

## **VII. Plan for Collecting Data Required for Performance Measurement**

The overarching goal of the division is to implement a balanced statewide juvenile justice continuum. DJJ is an information-based agency that requires standardized practices across the state to assure efficiency and to improve the quality of service to Alaska's youth. Performance measurement of the Title II Formula Grant documents program outputs and program success leading to improved outcomes benefiting Alaska's youth, families, and communities. DJJ has developed adequate research, training, and evaluation capacity within the Programs and Planning Unit. Specifically, the data team provides division information to an array of internal and external entities.

DJJ requires internal tracking and documentation of performance measurement for each program area. All Title II subgrantees are required to submit performance measurement plans in their grant applications and track and report on performance measurement quarterly throughout the term of the grant. DJJ understands the reporting requirements and mandatory performance measures for each program area, as documented and provided by OJJDP. Through the combination of internal monitoring and quarterly sub-grantee reporting, DJJ is able to collect the required data on all mandatory performance measures including prior performance. DJJ does not identify any barriers in meeting the federal reporting requirements and is able to submit timely and accurate reports in the online Performance Measurement Tool. DJJ affirms that funds will not be provided to carry out a program if the recipient of funds has failed during the preceding 2-year period to demonstrate, before the expiration of the 2-year period, that the program achieved substantial success in achieving the specified goals.