

# 2018 Addendum

## Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice Programs Statewide Five Year Strategy

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## Overview

The Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice Program's (OCJP) five year strategic plan began in state fiscal year 2017 and will continue to be the overarching guide for the agency during its duration. In an effort to provide the most current information related to OCJP's ongoing planning process, each year OCJP will briefly outline updates in the following Chapters: (3) Strategic Planning Process, (5) Newly Identified Resource Needs and Gaps, and (6) Priorities and Select Responses . All updates will be in the form of an addendum to the five year strategic plan, from this point forward referenced only as the [2017 Plan](#).

### Chapter 3: Strategic Planning Process Addendum

In addition to the annual methods described in the 2017 Plan, OCJP leadership staff attended a week-long Women of Color Network (WOCN) training in California in October of 2015 to learn more about facilitating ways in which Community Based Organizations (CBOs) can partner with both the OCJP office and OCJP sub-grantees. This was the first step in increasing outreach to culturally specific and underserved populations. The second step was to bring WOCN to Tennessee.

In September 2016, a workshop conducted by the Women of Color Network (WOCN) was held in Nashville TN. The first day involved only OCJP staff in an effort to orient the team as a whole to the concepts of unserved, underserved and inadequately served victims, to explore what the Office was currently doing to reach these populations, and to identify additional creative solutions. A two day session immediately followed and was comprised of OCJP victim services subgrantees, CBO staffers from around the state, the TN Immigrant & Refugee Rights Coalition, the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, and OCJP staff whose contracts include all the victim service federal funding streams.

In the workshops, attendees discussed a series of questions facilitated by the WOCN Leadership. This created a framework for analyzing what is presently occurring in the State, what is lacking, and what are the next steps necessary to moving forward to better serve the underserved, unserved and inadequately served; including partnering with CBOs to provide culturally specific services. The participants had lively discussions and expressed a very real need and desire for future occasions where networking, planning, and creating collaborations could occur.

The 2017 STOP Implementation Plan creation is underway and the strategic planning for this document began with many of the meetings identified in the 2017 Plan. Much of this new Implementation Plan will continue initiatives began in the former plan and are referenced throughout the 2017 Plan. Key areas of focus include the following:

- Continuing to increase the local capacity to have a coordinated community response to both domestic violence and sexual assault;
- Continuing to increase the capacity of the state to manage high risk domestic violence cases through the implementation of LAPs and DARTs;

- Increasing the capacity of the state to address sexual assault through strengthening the local SARTs and partnering with the Department of Health in regards to SANEs; and
- Beginning to work with local communities to enhance consistency in fatality review team protocols and outcomes.

## **Chapter 5: Resource Needs and Gaps Addendum**

***System weaknesses tied to domestic violence:*** With grant funding through OCJP, Sullivan County and Scott County began planning for Family Justice Centers (FJC) in FY 2017. The FJC model, as a multidisciplinary team approach to a coordinated community response addressing domestic violence, will continue to be priority. This will bring the total number of FJC's in Tennessee to nine current fully implemented sites including: Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville, Cookeville, Chattanooga, Jackson and Johnson City.

While Tennessee has worked diligently to improve family violence systems approaches to serving both children and adults there is still additional work to be done with regards to other vulnerable populations, such as the elderly. OCJP has committed to expanding services to these vulnerable populations. This work must focus on direct contact with victims and potential victims through prevention, advocacy and direct services.

***System Weaknesses in Sexual Assault Responses:*** OCJP identified the need for increased training and mentoring of Sexual Assault Providers across the state due to vicarious trauma. This recognition lead to an increase in understanding of the issue and as a by-product identified a subsequent gap/need as it relates to vicarious trauma in law enforcement personnel. This also illuminated the issue of Organizational Wellness and has led to discussions on how to assist agencies in prioritizing personnel self-care and vicarious trauma awareness.

***Data-driven, location-based strategies to crime reduction:*** Links are being made in mapping across the state between drug activity, gang activity and domestic and sexual violence. This will inform future strategic planning.

### ***Meeting basic infrastructure issues such as law enforcement equipment, domestic violence shelter enhancements and criminal justice and victim service practitioners' training:***

Law enforcement, courts, corrections agencies, and ancillary non-profit groups, have a need for training in a variety of criminal justice topics. Issues not previously addressed extensively (underserved populations, non-profit capacity building, domestic violence, sexual assault and elder abuse) and new issues (prescription drug abuse/diversion, heroin, the increase of gang related criminal activity, and human trafficking) have created new needs relative to training. There is a continual need for domestic violence and sexual assault trainings as well.

***Community-based crime prevention & education activities:*** Tennessee is among the leaders in the nation in developing a statewide plan for addressing adverse childhood experiences (ACE) and building strong relationships and healthy neuropathways. This has illuminated the need for increase community awareness of ACEs and reparative responses, and ensuring communities have options for children; especially juveniles.

***A continuum of treatment for those incarcerated or under community supervision:*** This plan includes treatment for persons under correctional supervision and is related to their history of past trauma, including instances of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse. The continuum of treatment also includes increased supervision options for violent offenders and increased release planning options for inmates who are within 90 days of release.

***Missing collaboration and program sustainability:*** The need to expand and strengthen the role of Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs) and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) across the state has been identified and continues to be discussed with statewide partners involved in these issues.

## **Chapter 6 Tennessee's Priorities and Select Responses Addendum**

***Response to Violence in the Home:*** OCJP has worked diligently to identify underserved populations that are affected by crime, with the goal of increasing victim services to the community based organizations that serve these populations. In FY18, OCJP will expand the number of STOP Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prosecutors by two additional positions, as well as, an additional court officer position to enhance offender accountability in a yet to be confirmed Family Justice Center Site.

***Responses to Sexual Violence:*** OCJP will seek opportunities to increase trauma informed services for victims who are involved with the juvenile justice system; increase the number of sexual assault advocates and provide sexual assault services to offenders with a history of this victimization.

***Data-Driven, Location-Based Strategies to Crime Reduction:*** In the 2010 strategic planning cycle, OCJP initiated the Targeted Community Crime Reduction Project (TCCRP) - focusing targeted resources on five mid-size Tennessee cities (Clarksville, Cleveland, Columbia, Jackson, and Murfreesboro) with high rates of violent and drug-related crime. In FY 2013, 6 cities were operating TCCRPs including Johnson City, which also expanded the project by adding neighborhood revitalization efforts. The City of Knoxville has completed its planning process and is the newest city to implement a TCCRP. Over the next five years, OCJP will look for other opportunities to apply this approach in neighborhoods in other moderate to large communities.

The City of Memphis is piloting a crime based project that has four approaches: prevention, enforcement, offender intervention, and victim safety. The project addresses instances of domestic violence and uses GPS as a deterrent for domestic violence. Evaluation of this project will determine if this enforcement intervention does increase victim safety.

***Criminal Justice and Victim Service Continuing Education:*** OCJP will continue to support projects that educate professionals, such as law enforcement and social workers, as well as projects that educate the community at large, such as churches and local civic groups. This office has and will continue to fund training to all levels of practitioners within the criminal justice system, including victim service providers. The following new projects have been or will be funded:

- Non-Profit Capacity Building
- Serving Specific Populations
- Adverse Childhood Experiences

***Evidence-Based Reentry Programs:*** Funding will be sought to increase accountability of domestic violence offenders while engaged in Batterer's Intervention Programs. Ensuring offenders have a plan upon release, have basic documents that expedite re-employment, have access to services, and have basic housing and transportation needs met will be a continued focus moving forward.

***Response to Crime Victims in Tennessee:*** OCJP will continue to address all types of crime victimization through a multitude of victim service providers throughout the state. This will be done with continued funding to agencies currently supported by the OCJP, as well as, new funding for agencies, communities, and community based organizations serving underserved populations that have not historically received funding from the OCJP. Recent funding has focused on increasing treatment options for victims of sexual assault for both adults and children; increasing funding for criminal and civil legal services; and expanding domestic violence services in underserved communities. New funding opportunities will further these efforts to not only these groups, but also historically underserved victims of crime such as survivors of homicide, victims of elder abuse, human trafficking; assault, identity theft and financial crimes.