OMB No. 1121-0329
Approval Expires 02/28/2027

BJA FY 2026 The Kevin and Avonte Program: Reducing Injury and Death of Missing Individuals with Dementia and Developmental Disabilities

Grants.gov Funding Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2026-172697

Application Deadlines in Eastern Time (ET):

1. Complete SF-424 and submit in Grants.gov: **October 6, 2026, by 11:59 PM ET**
2. Submit full application in JustGrants: **October 13, 2026, by 8:59 PM ET**

Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

Contents

1. Basic Information 3
2. Eligibility 4
3. Program Description 5
4. Application Contents and Format 8
5. Submission Requirements and Deadlines 13
6. Application Review Information 13
7. Award Notices 14
8. Post-Award Requirements & Administration 14
9. Questions? 14

Appendix 15

1. BASIC INFORMATION

Purpose of the Funding

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) is committed to advancing work that furthers the U.S. Department of Justice's (DOJ) mission to keep our country safe and secure and uphold the rule of law and protect the rights of American citizens. OJP provides federal leadership, funding, and other critical resources to directly support law enforcement, combat violent crime, protect American children, provide services to American crime victims, and address public safety challenges, including human trafficking and the opioid crisis.

This is a notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for the **BJA FY 2026 Kevin and Avonte Program: Reducing Injury and Death of Missing Individuals with Dementia and Developmental Disabilities**. This opportunity supports public safety efforts to reduce deaths and injuries of individuals with forms of dementia, such as Alzheimer's disease, or developmental disabilities, such as autism, who, due to their condition, wander from safe environments. This program provides funding to law enforcement, other public safety agencies, and health care agencies to implement locative technologies that track missing individuals. It also provides funding to such agencies and partnering nonprofit organizations to develop or operate programs to prevent wandering, increase safety for vulnerable individuals, and facilitate rescues.

See the Eligible Applicants section for eligibility details.

Funding Details

Announcement Type	Initial
Assistance Listing Number	16.015
Statutory Authority	Pub. L. No. 103-322, Sec. 240001 (codified at 34 U.S.C. 12621)
Grants.gov Opportunity Number	O-BJA-2026-172697
Expected Total Amount of Funding	Up to $2,105,869
Anticipated Number of Awards	14
Award Type(s)	Grant
Anticipated Award Amount	Up to $150,000
Expected Award Period(s)	36 months starting on October 1, 2026

Key Dates and Times

NOFO Release Date	August 17, 2026
SAM.gov Registration/Renewal	Begin the process by September 5, 2026, and no later than September 21, 2026
Step 1: Grants.gov Deadline	11:59 p.m. ET on October 6, 2026
Step 2: JustGrants Deadline	08:59 p.m. ET on October 13, 2026

See Questions? at the end of this NOFO for agency contact information.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Eligible Applicants

The types of entities that are eligible to apply are:

- **Government Entities**
  - State governments
  - County governments
  - City or township governments
  - Special district governments
  - Native American Tribal governments (federally recognized)

- **Educational Organizations**
  - Independent school districts
  - Public and state-controlled institutions of higher education
  - Private institutions of higher education

- **Nonprofit Organizations**
  - Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), other than institutions of higher education
  - Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education

- **Other**
  - Health care agencies
  - Other units of local government

"Other" Entities Definition:

- **Other Units of Local Government:** For the purposes of this notice of funding opportunity, other units of local government include towns, boroughs, parishes, villages, or other general purpose political subdivisions of a state.

- **Health care agencies:** For the purposes of this notice of funding opportunity, this includes state, local, or tribal government-operated health departments, hospitals, and medical centers as well as non-profit health clinics, behavioral health providers, and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) working with individuals with forms of dementia, such as Alzheimer's disease, or developmental disabilities, such as autism.

Cost Sharing (Match) Requirement: This NOFO does **not** require cost sharing (match).

Limit on Number of Applications: You may submit only one application for this NOFO. If a project will be carried out by two or more entities (project partners), only one entity may submit the application. The other entities (project partners) should be proposed as subrecipients rather than co-applicants. Read the Application Resource Guide for additional information on subawards.

Additional Eligibility Factors

Certifications: You must submit the following certifications. See Additional Application Components for how to submit.

Certification Required (state or local government applicants): In order to request a federal grant award under this program, an applicant that is a state or local government entity must submit a certification (using only the template provided in Appendix entitled "Certification by the Chief Executive Officer (or senior official) of the Applicant Government"). Tribal government entities and educational organizations (e.g., public or state-controlled institutions of higher education) are not required to submit this certification. This certification is a basic minimum requirement of this funding opportunity, such that applications from applicants required to submit it and fail to do so, will be denied.

Also, such applicants should anticipate that awards to state or local government entities under this NOFO will include an award condition addressing compliance with 8 U.S.C. § 1373.

3. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Statutory Authority

Pub. L. No. 103-322, Sec. 240001 (codified at 34.U.S.C. 12621)

Agency Funding Priorities

To help meet its mission, OJP may give priority consideration to applications proposing (as applicable within the scope of this NOFO) projects designed to advance the goals listed below:

(a) Directly supporting law enforcement operations (including immigration law enforcement operations);
(b) Combatting violent crime;
(c) Supporting services to American citizens;
(d) Protecting American children;
(e) Supporting American victims of trafficking and sexual assault; and
(f) State/local law enforcement efforts that are coordinated with federal law enforcement efforts (including immigration law enforcement efforts)—at minimum as shown by:

(1) compliance with 8 U.S.C. § 1373, which provides that state and local government entities may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, receiving from, maintaining, or exchanging information regarding citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual with components of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security or any other federal, state or local government entity; and

(2) having in place a statute, ordinance, rule, regulation, policy, or practice that is designed to ensure both (A) that agents of the United States acting under color of federal law in fact are given access to any pertinent correctional facility for the purpose of permitting such agents to meet with individuals who are (or are believed by such agents to be) aliens and to inquire as to such individuals' right to be or remain in the United States and (B) that, when any such facility receives from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security a formal written request authorized by the Immigration and Nationality Act that seeks advance notice of the scheduled release date and time for a particular alien in such facility, then such facility in fact will honor such request and (as early as practicable) provide the requested notice to such Department.

Note: Addressing these priorities is one of many factors that OJP considers in making funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration does not guarantee funding.

Unallowable Activities: The following are certain unallowable costs and certain activities that are out of the program scope and will not be funded.

1. Out of program scope is any program or activity, at any tier that, directly or indirectly, violates (or promotes or facilitates the violation of) federal immigration law (including 8 U.S.C. § 1373) or impedes or hinders the enforcement of federal immigration law—including by failing to comply with 8 U.S.C. § 1373, give access to DHS agents, or honor DHS requests and provide requested notice to DHS agents.
2. Out of program scope is any program or activity, at any tier that violates any applicable Federal civil rights or nondiscrimination law. This includes violations

that (1) indirectly violate the law, including by promoting or facilitating violations; or (2) unlawfully favor individuals in any race or protected group, including on a majority or minority, or privileged or unprivileged, basis, within a given area, population, or sector.

3. As specified in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide, in Chapter 3.13 "Unallowable Costs" ("Legal Services for Aliens"), any obligations of funds, at any tier, under this award to provide (or to support the provision of) legal services to any removable alien or any alien otherwise unlawfully present in the United States shall be unallowable costs for purposes any award made under this notice, but the foregoing shall not be understood to apply: (1) to legal services to obtain protection orders for victims of crime; or (2) to immigration-related legal services that may be expressly authorized or required by any law, or any judicial ruling, governing or applicable to the award.

Goals and Objectives of This Funding Opportunity

Goal 1: Reduce the number of deaths and injuries of people living with forms of dementia or developmental disabilities who wander from safe places because of their condition.

- **Objective 1:** Reduce wandering incidents and associated injuries through implementation of local programs.
- **Objective 2:** Implement tracking technology that enables the safe recovery of individuals who wander, with a documented increase in successful rescue rates within six months of technology deployment.
- **Objective 3:** Enhance collaboration and training, leading to improved response time and outcomes for at-risk individuals.
- **Objective 4:** Develop and implement public education and awareness campaigns that teach families, caregivers, teachers, and communities about the risks of wandering and effective strategies to keep individuals with forms of dementia or developmental disabilities safe.

For a description of how awards under this NOFO will contribute to achieving these goals and objectives, see the Performance Reports section below.

Expected Outcomes

OJP expects recipients to submit deliverables and performance reports, as described below. Read the Application Resource Guide for more information. OJP will measure success by reviewing a recipient's submission of performance reports and data and the extent to which project implementation reflects progress toward the goals and objectives of this NOFO.

Deliverables

Recipients do not need to submit any deliverables other than the standard items in the Post-Award Requirements and Administration section.

Performance Reports

OJP requires recipients to submit regular performance reports that communicate progress toward achieving Program Goals and Objectives. Read information on performance reporting.

Award recipients will receive further guidance on post-award reporting requirements.

4. APPLICATION CONTENTS AND FORMAT

Application Contents List

OJP will only consider applications that contain all required parts, which are marked ***Required*** below. Refer to the DOJ Grant Application Submission Checklist for application instructions.

Application Item	Submission Type
Step 1: Grants.gov	
Application for Federal Assistance: SF-424 ***Required***	Online Form
Step 2: JustGrants	
Standard Applicant Information ***Required***	Online Form
Proposal Abstract	Text Box
Data Requested With Application • Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including Applicant Disclosure of High-Risk Status) • Agency Funding Priorities Inventory	Online Form
Proposal Narrative ***Required***	Attachment
Budget ***Required***	Online Form
Other Budget/Financial Attachments • Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) • Consultant Rate (if applicable)	Attachment

• Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards Over $250,000; Waiver (if applicable) • Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable)	
Additional Application Components • Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable) • Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement (if applicable) • Tools, Instruments, Questionnaires • Certification by the Chief Executive Officer (or senior official) of the Applicant Government *applicant state or local government entities only* ***Required***	Attachment

In addition to the items marked ***Required*** in the table above, the following are considered basic minimum requirement elements that are considered in the responsiveness review:

- The application is submitted by an eligible applicant.
- The requested award amount does not exceed the award ceiling.
- The application is responsive to the scope of the NOFO.

Standard Applicant Information *Required*

Review and edit as needed the information imported from the SF-424 submitted in Grants.gov. Add ZIP codes for areas affected by the project.

Proposal Abstract

In JustGrants, enter a proposal abstract (limited to 2,000 characters) summarizing the proposed project. As abstracts for funded projects are public, do not include any personally identifying information (e.g., staff names). The abstract should include the following information:

- The name of the applicant's proposed project.
- The purpose of the proposed project (i.e., what the project will do and why it is necessary).
- Where the project will take place (i.e., the service area, if applicable).
- Who will be served by the project (i.e., who will be helped or have their needs addressed by the project).
- What activities will be carried out to complete the project.
- The subrecipient(s)/partner organizations or entities, if known.

- Deliverables and expected outcomes (i.e., what the project will achieve).

View an example of a proposal abstract.

Data Requested With Application

Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (including Applicant Disclosure of High-Risk Status)

Review information on this questionnaire.

Agency Funding Priorities Inventory

Applicants seeking priority consideration under the Agency Funding Priorities section should answer the inventory questions in their entirety in the web-based form in JustGrants.

Proposal Narrative *Required*

Format of the Proposal Narrative

Submit the narrative as an attachment in JustGrants. The document should:

- Be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point size font.
- Have no less than 1-inch margins.
- Have numbered pages.
- Not exceed 10 pages.

If the Proposal Narrative does not follow this format, OJP may reduce the score/ranking of the application.

Sections of the Proposal Narrative

The Proposal Narrative must include the four sections listed below. If you want priority consideration, the Proposal Narrative must state which priority(ies) your project will advance and describe how it will do so.

1. Description of the Need (5% of application score): What critical issue or problem do you propose to address with this project? Please include:

- A brief explanation of the need, gap, or issue to be addressed by the proposed project.
- Provide specific data that demonstrate the extent of wandering incidents in your community (e.g., number of reported incidents, population affected, injuries or fatalities related to wandering).
- Describe any trends or patterns related to wandering in your community and explain why addressing this issue is urgent. Describe the potential impact of wandering behavior on your community, including on public safety, caregivers, and local agencies.

2. Project Goals and Objectives (15% of application score): How will the proposed project address the need identified and address the purpose of the NOFO? Please include:

- Project goals (goals are broad, visionary statements on what you hope to accomplish). Goals should focus on improving safety, reducing wandering, and supporting at-risk individuals and their caregivers.
- Project objectives (objectives are specific outcomes you plan to achieve through project activities). For example, state how many people will be trained, the number of wandering incidents you expect to reduce, or how tracking technology will be used.
- How your project goals and objectives relate to the goals and objectives of the funding opportunity. Focus on how your project will directly help people at risk of wandering and their families or caregivers.

3. Project Design and Implementation (35% of application score): How will you implement project activities that meet the project goals and objectives? Please include:

- What activities you will conduct to achieve the proposed goals and objectives to prevent or respond to wandering.
- How you will deliver or complete those activities.
- When the activities will take place.
- Who in your organization will staff the activities, including key staff.
- Who will participate in and benefit from the activity including how it will help individuals at risk of wandering, their caregivers, and other stakeholders.
- What deliverables, reports, and other items will be produced as part of the project.
- If you plan to use subrecipients to help conduct the project, please name them (if they are known) or describe how you will identify them. Please describe their role in conducting project activities.

4. Capabilities and Competencies (30% of application score): Describe how your organization has the expertise and resources to successfully complete this project. Show how your organization and team can meet the needs of individuals with dementia or developmental disabilities who are at risk of wandering. Please include:

- A description of your experience, resources, and systems that demonstrate your capacity to manage and complete this project.
- A description of projects or activities your organization has conducted, or is currently conducting, that demonstrates your ability to undertake the proposed project activities. Provide examples of similar projects that have prepared you to carry out the proposed activities.

- An explanation of how the knowledge and skills of your team make them qualified to complete this project. Highlight any staff experience working with individuals at risk of wandering.
- A summary of relevant experience of team members with key responsibilities for implementing the project, including their roles and specific qualifications.

Project Evaluations: An applicant that proposes to use award funds to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance on project evaluations.

Budget and Associated Documentation

Budget (15% of application score) *Required*

Use the Budget Detail Worksheet (Web-Based Form) to submit the budget. Read information on budget preparation and JustGrants Application Submission Training.

- List each cost needed to implement the project under the appropriate cost category.
- Clearly name and describe each cost.
- Show the computation of each cost (e.g., cost per unit, number of units, and total cost).

Enter narrative, as needed, to explain the cost calculations and connection to your project goals, objectives, and activities.

- Include only costs that are reasonable, allocable, and necessary to implement the project. They must be allowable under the funding statute and agency requirements.[1]

Budget/Financial Attachments

- **Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable):** If the budget includes indirect costs calculated using a current, federally approved indirect cost rate, upload your indirect cost rate agreement. Read information about indirect costs.
- **Consultant Rate (if applicable):** Read information on limits to consultant rates and whether you need to request approval to exceed those limits.
- **Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation for Awards Over $250,000; Waiver (if applicable):** Read information on this limitation and to determine whether you need to submit a waiver.
- **Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation (if applicable):** An applicant that is a nonprofit organization may be required to make certain disclosures relating to the processes it uses to determine the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees. Read information about this disclosure and documentation to upload.

[1] See 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E and the DOJ Grants Financial Guide. Read information on unallowable costs that apply to all funding opportunities.

Additional Application Components

Attach these in JustGrants:

- **Tribal Authorizing Resolution (if applicable):** Read information on whether you may need to submit a Tribal Authorizing Resolution.
- **Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement (if applicable):** Read information whether you may need to submit this statement.

Tools, Instruments, Questionnaires: If you plan to use federal funds to apply tracking technology to a person, submit a copy of the informed consent form that the program beneficiary (or their legal guardian) will sign. This form must confirm that the beneficiary (or their guardian) understands and voluntarily agrees to wear the tracking device.
Certification by the Chief Executive Officer (or senior official) of the Applicant Government *applicant state or local government entities only* ***Required*:** See Appendix for this form.

Disclosures and Assurances

Read the disclosures and assurances and complete them in JustGrants:

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
- Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (if applicable)
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances
- DOJ Certifications
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification—DOJ High-Risk Grantees (if applicable)

5. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

The DOJ Grant Application Submission Checklist provides instructions for how to submit your application by the deadlines. Executive Order (E.O.) 12372 (Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs) does not apply to this funding opportunity: read the Application Resource Guide for details. Read OJP's policy for applicants to request late submission due to technical difficulties, severe weather, or natural or manmade disasters.

6. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

The Application Resource Guide explains the responsiveness review, review criteria, and review and selection process, including risk review, and deciding official. Refer to the Application Contents List for all required application components and other basic minimum requirement elements that are considered in the responsiveness review. The Proposal Narrative and Budget sections of this NOFO indicates the weight of peer review criteria.

7. AWARD NOTICES

Read about the award notification process.

8. POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS & ADMINISTRATION

Read the Application Resource Guide for more information about: standard award terms and conditions, administrative and national policy requirements, and post-award reporting requirements.

9. QUESTIONS?

NOFO Contact	Name: OJP Response Center Phone: 800-851-3420 or 202-353-5556 (TTY for hearing-impaired callers only) Email: OJP.ResponseCenter@usdoj.gov Hours: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET, Monday–Friday
SAM.gov Help Desk	Website: sam.gov/help Hours: 8 a.m.–8 p.m. ET, Monday–Friday (closed federal holidays)
Grants.gov Help Desk	Phone: 800-518-4726 Email: support@grants.gov Website: grants.gov/support Hours: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (closed federal holidays)
JustGrants Help Desk	Phone: 833-872-5175 Email: JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov Hours: 7:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m. ET, Monday–Friday and 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. ET on Saturday, Sunday, and federal holidays.

Appendix

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS

Certification by the Chief Executive Officer (or senior official) of the Applicant Government

On behalf of the applicant named below, and in support of its application, I certify under penalty of perjury to the Office of Justice Programs ("OJP"), U.S. Department of Justice ("USDOJ"), that all of the following are true and correct:

(1) I am the chief executive officer of the State or local government ("the jurisdiction") of which the applicant entity named below is a part (or a senior official of the jurisdiction, with the legal authority to bind the same), I have received appropriate legal advice as to this certification, and I have the authority to make this certification on my own behalf as chief executive officer (or senior official) and on behalf of the jurisdiction and the applicant entity. I understand that OJP will rely upon this certification as a material representation in any decision to make an award to the applicant entity.

(2) I have carefully reviewed (or have received pertinent legal advice concerning) 8 U.S.C. §§ 1373(a) & (b) and 1644, including the prohibitions on certain actions by State and local government entities, agencies, and officials regarding information on citizenship and immigration status.

(3) I (and the applicant entity) understand that, for purposes of this certification, the term "program or activity" means what it means under title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (see 42 U.S.C. § 2000d-4a), and that terms used in this certification that are defined in 8 U.S.C. § 1101 mean what they mean under that section 1101, except that the term "State" also shall include American Samoa (cf. 42 U.S.C. § 901(a)(2)).

(4) I (and the applicant entity) assure that the applicant entity (and its officials and other personnel) will comply with 8 U.S.C. §§ 1373 and 1644 in any "program or activity" receiving federal financial assistance under any award made by OJP pursuant to this application. I further certify that any subrecipient (at any tier) of such federal financial assistance (and its officials and other personnel) will also comply with 8 U.S.C. §§ 1373 and 1644.

I acknowledge that a materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement (or concealment or omission of a material fact) in this certification, or in the application that it supports, may be the subject of criminal prosecution (including under 34 U.S.C. § 10271 or under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 or 1621, and may subject me and the applicant entity to civil penalties and administrative remedies for false claims or otherwise (including under 31 U.S.C. §§ 3729–3730 and §§ 3801–3812). I also acknowledge that OJP awards, including certifications provided in connection with such awards, are subject to review by USDOJ, including by OJP and by the USDOJ Office of the Inspector General.

Signature of Chief Executive Officer (or senior official) of Applicant Government	Date of Certification
Printed Name of Chief Executive Officer (or senior official)	Title of Chief Executive Officer (or senior official)
Name of Applicant Government Entity	