



MAY 05		NIJ
Solicitation for Proposals		
Evaluation of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Demonstration Programs		
Notice: You <i>must</i> submit your application using the Office of Justice Programs' automated Grants Management System. Paper applications will not be accepted. We suggest you begin the process as soon as possible. To start the process, go to http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fundopps.htm .		Deadline: June 21, 2005 8 p.m. eastern time SL 000700

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Evaluation of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Demonstration Programs

I. Introduction

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice and a component of the Office of Justice Programs. NIJ provides objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to enhance the administration of justice and public safety. NIJ solicits proposals to inform its search for the knowledge and tools to guide policy and practice.

NIJ seeks proposals to conduct formative evaluations of two pilot programs supported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) that address the problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC). The programs were chosen for their promising strategies to improve the community response to CSEC. The programs are described in a background paper on the New York City and Atlanta/Fulton County programs appended to this solicitation. Also available online for further information is a [program proposal](#) submitted by the New York site and [planning](#) and [implementation](#) proposals from the Atlanta sites.

The evaluation will require collaboration among the evaluator, OJJDP, NIJ, and the sites to establish data collection and performance monitoring systems and to build the site's capacity to assess program performance. Ultimately, this evaluation will identify a set of model strategies and practices to address CSEC in other communities.

Due date: The due date is June 21, 2005. Extensions to the deadlines are generally not granted.

Page limit: The program narrative section of your proposal must not exceed 30 double-spaced pages in 12-point font with 1-inch margins. Abstract, table of contents, charts, figures, appendixes, and government forms do not count toward the 30-page limit for the narrative section.

Reasons for rejection: NIJ may reject applications that are incomplete, do not respond to the scope of the solicitation, do not comply with format requirements, or are submitted after the deadline. No additions to the original submission are allowed.

How to submit applications to NIJ: Instructions for applying are in “Guidelines: How to Submit Applications,” available on the NIJ Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>.

II. Proposal Topics

Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) refers to a continuum of abuse of a minor for economic gain and may include pornography, prostitution, and smuggling of minors for unlawful purposes.

The children who are victims of commercial sexual exploitation are often vulnerable or troubled even before they are victimized—many have experienced physical, psychological and/or sexual abuse by adult family members or friends. Long-term physical and emotional injury from commercial sexual exploitation remains with minors as they develop into adults, posing complex service challenges for the criminal justice system.

The extent to which minors are sexually exploited for economic gain is not known. Estimates have been made of the extent of child sexual exploitation, but it is not known what portion of these cases involve commercial sexual exploitation.

In extreme cases, children have been kidnapped and sold into forced labor in the illegal sex industry or held in servitude to be sexually exploited while beaten, forced to use drugs, malnourished, and threatened with further harm to themselves and their families. Children are also exploited for sexual purposes by family and friends for monetary or other personal gain.

Atlanta and New York are two U.S. cities that have experienced a marked rise in the incidence of child sexual exploitation in recent years. With funding from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Atlanta and New York have developed programs specifically targeting this problem.

This solicitation seeks proposals to conduct formative, participatory evaluations of the programs established in Atlanta/Fulton County and New York City that respond to victims of CSEC. A formative evaluation investigates the process of initiating and delivering a program and collects credible information to assess and improve the program.

The evaluator is expected to:

- 1) Conduct a formal needs assessment that:
 - a. Documents the scope and characteristics of CSEC in target communities.
 - b. Assesses the needs of clients/victims.
 - c. Ascertains the operational needs of the organization/collaboration in order to establish a baseline for the evaluation.
- 2) Refine or update the services and activities plan (including development or refinement of a logic model) with the goal of expanded and improved programming, public awareness, professional development and training, and coordination among human services and criminal justice agencies.
- 3) Assist in the development of a data management system that will improve data collection and information sharing on victims and services.
- 4) Develop the capacity of the collaboration to evaluate performance (e.g. establishment of performance measures and assessment of how collaboration contributes to achievement of program goals).
- 5) Document the ongoing implementation of the CSEC programs at each site.
- 6) Establish mechanisms that feed research findings to program staff to enhance program development and improvement.
- 7) Provide ongoing technical assistance (e.g. developing a logic model, assessing and refining a data management system, establishing performance measures, etc.).
- 8) Document, in the final report, model strategies and practices to address CSEC in other areas.

The proposed evaluation should consistently relate back to the goals of the pilot programs:

- 1) Expanded programming and services for exploited youth.
- 2) Increased public awareness, public education, and training of professionals regarding the problem of child sexual exploitation.
- 3) Improved coordination and collaboration among human services agencies, law enforcement, and courts to effectively prosecute adults who exploit children.

A critical aspect of the formative evaluation will be significant involvement and participation of program staff, local government, community representatives, and the Federal Government in the entire evaluation process. The proposed approach should, therefore, reflect the philosophy of this type of evaluation and should demonstrate a practical recognition of the role of the evaluator as

facilitator, collaborator, and learning resource to the program staff. Both quantitative and qualitative methods of inquiry are encouraged. Applicants should demonstrate competency in conducting this type of evaluation.

III. General Requirements and Guidance

NIJ is asking you to submit a proposal that states the problem under investigation (including goals and objectives of the proposed project) and the relevance of the project to public policy, practice, or theory. The program narrative section should state the research question and objectives and explain how the work will contribute to knowledge and practice. It should describe in sufficient detail the research methods and analytic strategy.

Your application should include these elements:

- 1. Program Narrative.**
- 2. Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative.**
- 3. Other Program Attachments.**

1. Program Narrative

The Program Narrative includes:

- a. Abstract (not to exceed 400 words).
- b. Table of contents.
- c. Main body. Includes:
 - Purpose, goals, and objectives.
 - Review of relevant literature.
 - Research design and methods.
 - Implications for policy and practice.
 - Management plan and organization.
 - Dissemination strategy.
- d. Appendixes. (Not counted against solicitation page limit.) Includes:
 - Bibliography/References. (If applicable.)
 - List of key personnel (Required.)
 - Résumés of key personnel. (Required.)
 - List of previous and current NIJ awards (Required.)
 - Letters of cooperation/support or administrative agreements from organizations collaborating in the project. (If applicable.)
 - Chart for timeline, research calendar, or milestones. (Required.)
 - Other materials required by the solicitation.

2. Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative

Contains three elements:

- a. Budget Detail Worksheet.
- b. Budget Narrative.
- c. Negotiated Indirect Rate Agreement. (If applicable.)

3. Other Program Attachments

These include several forms, available on OJP's funding page at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/forms/htm>.

Instructions for submitting proposals can be found in "Guidelines: How to Submit Applications," (available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>) and the Office of Justice Programs Grants Management System Handbook (available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fundopps.htm>).

- A. Submit applications online:** Paper applications are not accepted. Applications must be submitted through the Office of Justice Programs' online Grants Management System. NIJ suggests you begin the process early, especially if this is the first time you have used the system. To begin, go to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fundopps.htm>. There are three types of documents that can be uploaded to an application package: PDFs, Word documents, and text documents.
- B. Relevance of the project for policy and practice:** Higher quality proposals clearly explain the practical implications of the project. They connect technical expertise with policy and practice. To ensure that the project has strong relevance for policy and practice, some researchers and technologists collaborate with practitioners and policymakers. You may include letters showing support from practitioners, but they carry less weight than clear evidence that you understand why policymakers and practitioners would benefit from your work and how they would use it. While a partnership may affect State or local activities, it should also have broader implications for others across the country.
- C. Equal opportunity for all applicants:** It is OJP's policy that faith-based and community organizations that statutorily qualify as eligible applicants under OJP programs are invited and encouraged to apply for awards. Faith-based and community organizations will be considered for an award on the same basis as any other eligible applicants and, if they receive an award, will be treated on an equal basis with nonfaith-based and community organization grantees in the administration of such awards. No eligible applicant or grantee will be discriminated against on the basis of its religious character or affiliation, religious name, or the religious composition of its board of directors or persons working in the organization.

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- D. Cofunding:** A grant made by NIJ under this solicitation may account for up to 100 percent of the total cost of the project. You must indicate whether you believe it is feasible for you to contribute cash, facilities, or services as non-Federal support for the project. Your proposal should identify generally any such contributions that you expect to make and your proposed budget should indicate in detail which items, if any, will be supported with non-Federal contributions.
- E. Number of grants to be awarded:** NIJ's grant award process is highly competitive. The number of awards NIJ makes is always subject to the availability of funds and the number and quality of applications received.
- F. When awards will be made:** All applicants, whether they are accepted or rejected, will be notified. The review and approval process takes about 6 months. You should not propose to begin work until at least 6 months after the proposal deadline on the cover of this solicitation. Also, you should not expect to receive notification of a decision for at least 6 months after that date. Lists of awards are updated regularly on NIJ's Web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>.
- G. Financial audits are required:** If your organization spends \$500,000 or more of Federal funds during the fiscal year, you may be asked to submit an organization-wide financial and compliance audit report before any award is made. The audit must be performed in accordance with the U.S. Government Accountability Office Government Accounting Standards and must conform to Chapter 19 ("Audit Requirements") of the Office of Justice Programs' Financial Guide (available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/FinGuide>). You may include the costs of complying with these audits in the proposed budget submitted as part of your application. Detailed information regarding the independent audit is available in Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133 (available at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars>).
- H. An environmental assessment may be required:** All award recipients must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). To ensure NEPA compliance, NIJ may require some award recipients to submit additional information.
- I. Protection of confidentiality:** Federal regulations require applicants for NIJ funding to outline specific procedures for protecting private information about individuals as part of the Privacy Certificate submitted with the application package. For additional information, see "Guidelines: How to Submit Applications" at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>.
- J. A DUNS number is required:** The Office of Management and Budget requires that all businesses and nonprofit applicants for Federal funds include a DUNS (Data Universal Numeric System) number in their application for a new award or renewal of an award.

Applications without a DUNS number are incomplete. A DUNS number is a unique nine-digit sequence recognized as the universal standard for identifying and keeping track of entities receiving Federal funds. The identifier is used for tracking purposes and to validate address and point of contact information. NIJ will use the DUNS number throughout the grant life cycle. Obtaining a DUNS number is a free, one-time activity. Obtain one by calling 1–866–705–5711 or by applying online at <http://www.dunandbradstreet.com>. Individuals are exempt from this requirement.

K. Funds cannot be used to lobby: Under the Anti-Lobbying Act (18 U.S.C. § 1913), grantees generally may not use funds to support the enactment, repeal, or modification of any law, regulation, or policy at any level of government. For additional information on rules and regulations, see “Guidelines: How to Submit Applications” at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm> and OJP’s Financial Guide at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/FinGuide>.

L. What will *not* be funded:

1. Provision of training or direct service.
2. Proposals primarily to purchase equipment, materials, or supplies. (Your budget may include these items if they are necessary to conduct applied research, development, demonstration, evaluation, or analysis, but NIJ does not fund proposals that are primarily to purchase equipment.)
3. Only evaluations of the programs in Atlanta and New York City will be considered under this solicitation. NIJ will not review proposals submitted under this solicitation to fund other research and evaluation projects.

M. Cost of proposed work: NIJ anticipates making either one award of up to \$1 million for the evaluation activity for both sites or two awards of up to \$500,000 for the individual sites. You may apply to conduct the proposed evaluation activity for one site or both sites. If applying for award at only one site, identify steps to be taken to coordinate with the evaluation at the second site. All NIJ awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds. If you propose a project that exceeds the amount of money that may be available for this solicitation, we recommend that you divide the project into phases, stages, or tasks so that NIJ can consider making an award for a specific portion of the work. NIJ cannot guarantee that subsequent phases, stages or tasks will be funded. Such additional funding depends on NIJ’s resources and your satisfactory completion of each phase, stage, or task. Note: Deliverables (e.g., a final report) will be required at the end of each phase, stage, or task.

N. Call for assistance:

For technical guidance about using the Grants Management System, call the hotline at 1–888–549–9901. For questions about this solicitation, the research being solicited, or other

NIJ funding opportunities, see the NIJ web site at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij> or contact NIJ at 202–307–2942.

IV. Selection Criteria

NIJ is firmly committed to the competitive process in awarding grants. All proposals are subjected to an independent peer-review panel evaluation. External peer-review panelists consider both technical and programmatic merits. Panelists are selected based on their expertise in subject areas pertinent to the proposals.

Peer-review panelists will evaluate proposals using the criteria listed below. NIJ staff then make recommendations to the NIJ Director. The Director makes final award decisions.

Successful applicants must demonstrate the following:

A. Understanding of the problem and its importance.

B. Quality and technical merit.

1. Awareness of the state of current research or technology.
2. Soundness of methodology and analytic and technical approach.
3. Feasibility of proposed project and awareness of pitfalls.
4. Innovation and creativity (when appropriate).

C. Impact of the proposed project.

1. Potential for significant advances in scientific or technical understanding of the problem.
2. Potential for significant advances in the field.
3. Relevance for improving the policy and practice of criminal justice and related agencies and improving public safety, security, and quality of life.
4. Affordability and cost-effectiveness of proposed end products, when applicable (e.g., purchase price and maintenance costs for a new technology or cost of training to use the technology).
5. Perceived potential for commercialization and/or implementation of a new technology (when applicable).

D. Capabilities, demonstrated productivity, and experience of applicants.

1. Qualifications and experience of proposed staff.
2. Demonstrated ability of proposed staff and organization to manage the effort.
3. Adequacy of the plan to manage the project, including how various tasks are subdivided and resources are used.
4. Successful past performance on NIJ grants and contracts (when applicable).

E. Budget.

1. Total cost of the project relative to the perceived benefit.
2. Appropriateness of the budget relative to the level of effort.
3. Use of existing resources to conserve costs.

F. Dissemination strategy.

1. Well-defined plan for the grant recipient to disseminate results to appropriate audiences, including researchers, practitioners, and policymakers.
2. Suggestions for print and electronic products NIJ might develop for practitioners and policymakers.

V. Requirements for Successful Applicants

If your proposal is funded, you will be required to submit several reports and other materials as follows:

- A. Final report:** The final report should be a comprehensive overview of the project and should include a detailed description of the project design, data, and methods; a full presentation of scientific findings; and a thorough discussion of the implications of the project findings for criminal justice practice and policy. It must contain an abstract of no more than 400 words and an executive summary of no more than 2,500 words.

A draft of the final report, abstract, and executive summary must be submitted 90 days before the end date of the grant. The draft final report will be peer reviewed upon submission. The reviews will be forwarded to the author with suggestions for revisions. The author must then submit the revised final report, abstract, and executive summary by the end date of the grant. The abstract, executive summary, and final report must be submitted in both paper and electronic formats.

For evaluation studies, the final report should include a section on measuring program performance. This section should outline the measures used to evaluate program effectiveness, modifications made to those measures as a result of the evaluation, and recommendations regarding these and other potential performance measures for similar programs. (This information will be particularly valuable to NIJ and other Federal program agencies in implementing performance measures for federally funded criminal justice programs.)

- B. Interim reports:** Grantees must submit quarterly financial reports, semi-annual progress reports, and a final progress report. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. Post-award reporting requirements are described in "Guidelines: How to Submit Applications," available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>.

C. Materials concerning protection of confidential information and human subjects:

Recipients of NIJ research funds must comply with Federal regulations concerning the protection of private information about individuals. Recipients also must comply with Federal regulations concerning protection of human subjects. In general, all research involving human subjects that is conducted or supported by NIJ funds must be reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board before Federal funds are expended for that research. NIJ may also ask grant recipients for additional information related to privacy and human subjects testing.

Additional general information regarding NIJ's requirements for privacy and protection of human subjects appears in "Guidelines: How to Submit Applications," available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>. Complete information about NIJ's requirements can be found at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/humansubjects>.

- D. Electronic data:** Some grant recipients will be required to submit electronic data and supporting documentation, such as a codebook or dictionary, capable of being re-analyzed and used by other researchers. The materials must be submitted by the end date of the grant. Grant applicants should ensure that the proposed timeline and budget accommodate these requirements.
- E. Performance guidelines:** As part of governmentwide efforts to measure the performance of Federal funding, in May 2002, the White House issued guidance on how to evaluate the performance of Federal research programs. Research should be: (1) relevant—that is, important and appropriate for meeting the needs of the field, (2) of high quality, and (3) well-managed by grantees and well-monitored by the Federal agency. Therefore, in addition to the reporting requirements discussed above, a grantee's performance on an award made under this solicitation will be evaluated on whether the final research report was (1) relevant to the needs of the field as measured by whether the grantee's substantive scope did not deviate from the funded proposal or any subsequent agency modifications to the scope; (2) of high quality as assessed by peer reviewers; and (3) well-managed as measured by whether significant interim project milestones were achieved, final deadlines were met, and costs remained within approved limits. For more information see "Guidelines: How to Submit Applications," available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>.

Appendix

Background Paper on the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Pilot Initiative New York, NY and Atlanta/Fulton County, GA

Background

The commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) describes a collection of crimes of a sexual nature committed against minors primarily or entirely for financial or other economic reasons. These crimes include, for example, trafficking for sexual purposes, prostitution, sex tourism, mail-order-bride trade and early marriage, pornography, stripping, and performing in sexual venues such as peep shows or clubs. The commercial sexual exploitation of children is not only illegal and horrific but it brings about significant often life-threatening physical, mental, and emotional harm to these children and youth.¹ Moreover, CSEC has long-term, devastating impacts particularly on the communities subjected to these crimes, and to the society as a whole. It is difficult to estimate how many children and youth are sexually exploited in the United States each year; some research puts that figure in the hundreds of thousands.² Boys and girls of any age from infancy through adolescence may be victimized.³ The average age at which children enter prostitution, for example, is reported as 14.⁴

OJJDP's Commitment to Preventing CSEC

OJJDP's goal for this initiative is trifold: (1) to support pilot sites' efforts to improve programming and services for exploited youth; (2) to raise public awareness and provide training to professionals to help prevent future exploitation; and (3) to improve coordination and

¹ Voss, M.J. (1999). *The Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: An Overview*. New York: End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography, and Trafficking in Children for Sexual Purposes (ECPAT).

Klain, E.J. (1999). *Prostitution of Children and Child-Sex Tourism: An Analysis of Domestic and International Responses*. Alexandria, VA.: National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

² Barnitz, L. (2001). Effectively responding to the commercial sexual exploitation of children: A comprehensive approach to prevention, protection, and reintegration services. *Child Welfare* 80(5)597-610.

³ Finkelhor, D., and R. Ormrod. (forthcoming). *Prostitution of Juveniles: Patterns from NIBRS*. Washington, D.C.: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

⁴ Educational Development Center and the American Bar Association. (1994). *Program to Increase Understanding of Child Sexual Exploitation Assessment Report, Volume II*.

collaboration among human services, law enforcement, and courts to effectively prosecute adults who exploit children. By the end of this five-year initiative, OJJDP anticipates a set of model strategies and practices addressing CSEC that other communities can use to successfully replicate similar efforts.

OJJDP Pilot Sites

New York City and Atlanta/Fulton County were chosen to be pilot sites for OJJDP's CSEC initiative because both had already identified CSEC as an issue needing attention and both had made progress in creating public/private partnerships. Specifically, in Atlanta, Georgia, RICO (racketeering) statutes were used to prosecute individuals who directly facilitated the commercial sexual exploitation of children (e.g. panderers), while NYC formed police-service provider partnerships and initiated innovative prosecution strategies in the district attorney's offices to prevent and reduce child sexual exploitation.

OJJDP has made a five year commitment to support each pilot site's collaborative activities between law enforcement, the courts, and youth service practitioners. The overall goals are to improve the identification and delivery of services to exploited youth, the prevention of future exploitation, and the investigation and prosecution of the adults who exploit youth. Atlanta/Fulton County and New York received funds for the first year of the initiative to plan their strategies, and will receive annual supplemental funding to implement their plans. OJJDP manages the initiative under a cooperative agreement with the Office of the Mayor in New York and with the Juvenile Justice Fund, a nonprofit public/private collaboration in Atlanta.

New York

The commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) is a growing problem in New York City. From 2000 to 2003, the number of juveniles arrested for prostitution increased 60 percent. In response, the New York City's Mayor's Office of the Criminal Justice Coordinator (CJC), with funding from OJJDP, convened the Coalition to Address the Sexual Exploitation of Children (CASEC), a multidisciplinary/interagency collaborative to address CSEC. The Coalition recognizes the need to combine rigorous social services for victims and law enforcement. Thus, the demonstration project has two purposes: more efficiently linking CSEC victims to services that can help them escape the streets and bringing stronger prosecutions against the offenders (e.g., panderers) for their crimes. In the coming year, the CASEC project will add new tools designed to

increase information available to law enforcement and provide enhanced access to services for CSEC victims.

In 2003, OJJDP awarded the New York City CJC a planning grant to spearhead the development and implementation of a four-pronged strategy to expand and strengthen an integrated collaboration of city agencies and local service providers as a demonstration project for responding to CSEC. The demonstration project in New York involved collaborations between the Department of Education, Friends of Island Academy, Green Chimneys, Lawyers for Children, Midtown Community Court, End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography, and Trafficking in Children for Sexual Purposes (ECPAT), Youth at Risk, Safe Horizon, Queens County district attorney's office, Kings County district attorney's office, Richmond County district attorney's office, U.S. Attorney's Offices for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York, New York County Supreme Court Judge Michael Corriero, and Legal Aid Society Juvenile Rights Division.

At the end of the planning period, the project held a one-day training that drew upon the strengths of the project's criminal justice and social service partners and produced a strategic plan for the first year of operations. This training included the following topics: identification of victims; the juvenile justice system; investigation and charging CSEC cases; and asset forfeiture. The project also produced a CSEC Law Enforcement Manual to assist those directly involved in the investigation and prosecution of CSEC cases.

The May 2004 training was attended by approximately 70 people, representing various district attorney's offices, the New York Police Department (NYPD), and the Administration for Children's Services (ACS). The topics included: (1) NYPD and CSEC Investigations; (2) the role of Family Court and the Administration for Children's Services; (3) presentations by Girls Education and Mentoring Services (GEMS) and the Paul and Lisa Program; (4) intake and screening of CSEC cases; (5) interviewing and working with victims of commercial sexual exploitation; (6) investigations, grand jury practice, financial crimes and asset forfeiture in CSEC cases; (7) bail and related issues; and (8) Federal prosecutions.

In October 2004, CJC was awarded a separate grant by OJJDP to execute the fourth prong of the strategy calling for dedicated housing for children who engage in prostitution. The objectives of the New York pilot project are as follows:

- Enhance Services and Prosecutions at the Queens district attorney's office

CSEC cases are extremely difficult to pursue because victims often are uncooperative with law enforcement. They are typically found in the middle of the night in profound need of services. Law enforcement can not effectively engage victims in pursuing a case against their exploiters before the immediate needs of victims can be addressed. Project funds will support a part-time, CSEC-dedicated social worker at the Queens County district attorney's office (QCDA) to respond to and engage CSEC victims upon first contact with the criminal justice system. Because prosecutors spend considerable time gaining the victim's trust and conducting multiple victim interviews, the project will also support a part-time CSEC-dedicated assistant district attorney to work on cases related to investigatory, financial, and asset forfeiture issues.

- Enhance Prosecutions Through Centralization of Information

Intelligence about panderers and others who profit from and facilitate the sexual exploitation of children and intelligence about the activities of these individuals is critical to building strong cases. Currently, units within NYPD that work on CSEC cases compile their own CSEC case information in binders containing hard copies or arrest photos, Polaroids, and missing persons flyers. There is no immediately accessible, centralized or electronic repository of information. To meet this need, a database will be developed as a central repository of intelligence on CSEC. Laptop computers will be used to facilitate the direct entry of information about locations, names/nicknames, tattoos, and other relevant data.

- Enhance Services for CSEC Witnesses in Criminal Cases

CSEC victims who are cooperating with prosecutors require a variety of personal supports and services in the effort to wean them away from a life on the streets, sustain their participation in the criminal justice process, and help restore their health, well-being and functioning. A Request for Proposal will be issued to service providers to hire a full time legal advocate/social worker to work solely with CSEC victims involved as witnesses in the criminal justice system.

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- Establish Dedicated Housing and Support for CSEC Victim

One issue has consistently surfaced as critical in helping victims: dedicated housing with specialized services. CJC will be developing a residential placement for CSEC victims in partnership with the Office of Family and Children's Services (OCFS) and the Administration for Children's Services (ACS). This project will add specialized services to an existing residence that would serve juveniles placed with OCFS by Family Court, and possibly juveniles in the custody of ACS. Specialized services are expected to include: CSEC training for staff members; intensive case management; medical and mental health services; substance abuse counseling; educational reconnection; long-term and transitional planning; peer and group therapy; incentives for participation and successful goal completion; supervised activities; and heightened security precautions.

Atlanta/Fulton County

Atlanta/Fulton County was chosen by OJJDP to participate as a pilot site in the OJJDP CSEC demonstration project aimed at bringing together legal professionals, youth service providers, and law enforcement, both locally and on the Federal level, who are assisting in the prosecution of persons responsible for the sexual exploitation of children, and those who are providing services to victims.

The demonstration project in Atlanta/Fulton County focuses on the collaborative activities of various governmental agencies, nonprofits, and individuals who meet on a regular basis to coordinate their efforts and to exchange information. The Juvenile Justice Fund administers the program and coordinates regular meetings of the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative. The collaborative consists of policymakers and practitioners from two counties (Fulton and Dekalb), the city of Atlanta, the state of Georgia, the Federal government and local and state community, faith-based and civic organizations.

OJJDP chose to fund the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative through the Juvenile Justice Fund because of the work of its existing Center to End Adolescent Sexual Exploitation (CEASE). Additionally, the existing mission of the Juvenile Justice Fund is to collaborate with leading providers of child and family services and other partners to address the needs of juveniles who appear before the Fulton County Juvenile Court.

In 2003, the Juvenile Justice Fund was awarded a planning grant from OJJDP to coordinate a communitywide initiative to identify specific barriers, opportunities, and strengths to combat

commercial child sexual exploitation. Representatives from more than 30 agencies in the Atlanta Metro area participated in a six-month long effort which resulted in the development of a series of recommendations to be implemented during the next five years. Among the partners who developed the recommendations were Atlanta and Fulton County public school districts, Atlanta and Fulton County Police Departments, the district attorneys of both counties, the Fulton County Children's Advocacy Center, the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services (DFACS, child welfare), Fulton County and Douglas County Juvenile Courts, along with the Georgia Council of Juvenile Court Judges, the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice, the faith community, nonprofit agencies, and the United Way.

The recommendations called for ensuing efforts to be focused in four broad areas. These areas included: professional training and education; data collection and development of cross agency protocols; enhancing victim support and services; and public education. Based on the recommendations, the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative began work in each of these areas.

As part of the professional training and education goal, the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative began a series of training programs for individuals and organizations that may be in contact with victims of child sexual exploitation. The Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative provided training to the schools, Department of Family and Child Services employees, law enforcement, and judicial systems. The intent of the training was to improve the identification of possible victims of child sexual exploitation and once identified, to facilitate a better response to those victims. To date, more than a dozen trainings have occurred.

In the area of data collection and the development of cross agency protocols, a case tracking database system was purchased in collaboration with the Fulton County Child Advocacy Center. Use of this database will begin in Spring 2005. To date, eleven members of the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to facilitate the sharing of information related to suspected or identified child victims. All signatories of the MOU agreed to use the database to record and track case information. The intent of the MOU is to make information sharing a priority for all the signatories. The information will then be used to make productive recommendations about what services a child victim should receive. In addition, the database will keep track of the names and geographical locations of perpetrators. Because of privacy restrictions, the schools will not be participating in the database. However, a system of accelerated court orders has enabled the schools to share necessary information in an expedited fashion. Through the case tracking system, the MOU, and a system of court orders, a

long-identified barrier of efficient systems coordination and integration will be overcome. Once the case tracking system is implemented, the plan calls for a common intake assessment instrument for youth who come in contact with child protective services in order to identify those at risk for child prostitution and to determine which youth should undergo further screening for services.

To reach the greater Atlanta community, the Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative will also engage in a public education campaign. Plans for the campaign include a media campaign (in partnership with the United Way) to inform the citizens and businesses of Atlanta about the problem of sexual exploitation of children and to highlight its impact on the community's image and well-being. The Atlanta/Fulton County Demonstration Collaborative will also sponsor community meetings and pursue prevention educational programs in partnership with schools, youth organizations, and the faith community. To date, over 30 pilot awareness programs for middle school students are in place in Fulton County schools and the Capitol Area Mosaic (YMCA).

Tips for Submitting Your Application

1. Begin the application process early—especially if you have never used the online Grants Management System before. NIJ will not accept applications received after the closing date and time listed on the cover. To start the process, go to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fundopps.htm>.
2. Review “Guidelines: How to Submit Applications” for complete instructions, available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>.
3. Although your proposal may budget for the purchase of equipment if the equipment is necessary to conduct the project, NIJ will not fund applications that are primarily to purchase equipment, materials, or supplies.
4. Call for help:
 - For technical guidance about the Grants Management System, call the hotline at 1–888–549–9901.

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