

# **Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Quarterly Meeting**

**March 3, 2006  
White House Conference Center  
Truman Room  
726 Jackson Place, NW  
Washington, DC 20503**

## **Abstract**

At the March 2006 Quarterly Meeting of the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Council members continued to discuss ways to increase their level of coordination in 2006. Reports on the following projects were made and discussed: the January 2006 National Conference held in Washington, DC; interagency agreements with the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the Corporation for National and Community Service; and other federal coordination efforts.

Members heard presentations from officials of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) on drug usage trends and anti-drug strategies. John Walters, ONDCP Director, and John Horton, Associate Deputy Director for State and Local Affairs, discussed the downward trends in drug use among young people and efforts to continue the decline. Laura-Ashley Overdyke, Project Manager, played public service announcements for television and outlined ONDCP's Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign, and David Murray, Special Assistant to the ONDCP Director, talked about random student drug testing. Gregg Wertz, Director of DOL's Office of Youth Services, described the Civic Justice Corps Project, and Dennis Maloney, Associate Director of the Cascades Center for Community Governance in Bend, Oregon, explained the civic justice model. Dr. Peter Scheidt, Director of the National Children's Study, outlined plans for the 26-year study sponsored by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Action items emanating from the March 2006 meeting of the Council include exploring areas of increased partnership between ONDCP and the Council to solve national drug abuse problems, considering new ideas for coordination to be implemented with another round of interagency agreements, exploring another Council-sponsored National Conference in 2007, providing input to the National Children's Study, and assisting HUD in relief efforts onsite in New Orleans.

The next meeting will take place at Health and Human Services on Friday, June 2, 2006.

## Action Items

The following action items emanated from discussions at the March 3, 2006, quarterly meeting:

- John C. Horton, Associate Deputy Director for State and Local Affairs, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), discussed random student drug testing, the National Anti-Drug Youth Media Campaign, and the President's national drug control strategy. He expressed the aim of partnering more with the Coordinating Council and learning new ways to solve drug abuse problems nationally. Members are invited to contact Mr. Horton directly.
- J. Robert Flores, Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), stated that interagency agreements will be available again in 2006 and notice will be given once budgets have been cleared. Agencies are asked to consider ideas for coordination projects to be implemented with a future grant.
- The Council's next National Conference is anticipated for 2007. Mr. Flores lauded the level of participation of member agencies in the 2006 conference and invited them to take on the coordination role in 2007. Member agencies may discuss their interest in coordinating the 2007 conference with Mr. Flores or Ms. Robin Delany-Shabazz, Designated Federal Official for the Council.
- Agencies may provide input to the National Children's Study regarding variables that would otherwise not be included in the protocol and suggest adjunct studies to provide greater depth to the study. Comments may be shared with Dr. Marion Balsam at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).
- Ron Ashford, designee member from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), announced that a team from HUD headquarters will be traveling to New Orleans to provide intake, job development, transportation, and connections to other agencies. Help is needed from agencies such as the Substance Abuse and Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), and others, and he invited staff from federal agencies to join the effort "on the ground" in New Orleans and other cities affected. Contact Mr. Ashford for more information.

All other comments, information, and questions may be directed to Ms. Delany-Shabazz, who may be reached through the contact function of the Council's Web site: [www.juvenilecouncil.gov](http://www.juvenilecouncil.gov).

## **Meeting Summary**

### **Call to Order**

***J. Robert Flores, Vice Chair, Coordinating Council; Administrator, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)***

Mr. Flores called the March 2006 quarterly meeting of the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to order and thanked ONDCP for hosting the meeting.

### **Introduction to John Walters, Director, ONDCP**

***John C. Horton, Associate Deputy Director for State and Local Affairs, ONDCP***

John Horton introduced ONDCP Director John Walters, who was confirmed December 2001. Mr. Walters worked at the Philanthropy Roundtable prior to joining the White House staff, and was first Chief of Staff and then Deputy Director for Supply Reduction to the first “Drug Czar,” Bill Bennett. He also was responsible for antidrug programs at the U.S. Department of Education (ED). During Director Walters’ tenure at ONDCP, drug use among teens has declined 19 percent.

### **Opening Remarks**

***John Walters, Director, ONDCP***

Director Walters thanked the members of the Coordinating Council for their work in helping to protect young people and keep them “on track.” A brief overview of recent trends in drug abuse and links between drug abuse and crime followed. From peaks in teen drug use in 1978, steady declines were seen until 1992 when use again climbed and doubled during the 1990s. ONDCP’s comprehensive and balanced approach to addressing drug abuse includes prevention, treatment, law enforcement, and reduction of supply and demand. President Bush set national goals in 2001 for the reduction of drug use among teens: 10 percent in 2 years and 25 percent in 5 years. To date, a 19-percent reduction has been attained in 4 years. The decline by two-thirds in the use of ecstasy and LSD since 2001 and a decrease of 37 percent in the use of steroids have been particular successes.

The administration believes that, although the drug war has been waged for some time, it remains an important initiative to sustain, similar to society’s other needs that are supported year after year, such as education, health care, and law enforcement. ONDCP continues to support several national programs, including the Drug-Free Communities Program, which has doubled the number of communities involved since 2001 and now has more than 700 communities, including Native American nations. The Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign sends messages to young people and parents through mass media channels and covers underage drinking and marijuana use, the largest single drug of abuse among the young.

Random student drug testing, an ONDCP program priority as of 2004, allows prevention and intervention activities to be brought to drug-using students and their peers. ONDCP aggressively supports such testing programs when they are used, not as punishment, but as confidential tools to identify users and help them get the services they need. The Access to Recovery program will expand treatment for young people and adults and drug courts will be expanded. Finally, ONDCP is working to expand routine drug testing in the public health system and meeting with medical education providers in this regard.

### **Presentation on ONDCP Priorities, Operations, and Initiatives**

*John C. Horton, Associate Deputy Director for State and Local Affairs, ONDCP*

Mr. Horton elaborated on the issues of random student drug testing, the National Anti-Drug Youth Media Campaign, and the President's national drug control strategy. He expressed the aim of partnering more with the Coordinating Council and learning new ways to solve drug abuse problems nationally. ONDCP's strategy contains elements of supply and demand reduction—a market-based, economy-minded strategy.

ONDCP is attempting to change the mind set of adults and youth regarding the dangers of the major drugs of abuse, particularly marijuana, the most commonly abused drug among both youth and adults. Some sectors of society believe that marijuana is harmless and simply a rite of passage. The abuse of prescription drugs, the second most commonly abused type, is rising, making it an emerging area of concern. Cocaine, methamphetamine, and heroin (in descending order) remain the most prevalent drugs of abuse.

### **Member-Related Announcements and Certification of December 2005 Meeting Summary**

*J. Robert Flores*

Mr. Flores introduced David Hagy, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, DOJ, who is responsible for policies and programs, to the Coordinating Council members and guests. He also announced that Judge Adele Grubbs, practitioner member of the Coordinating Council, was married in February. Standing in for Deborah Price, Camille Welborn represented the U.S. Department of Education at the meeting, and Maria Stokes of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security stood in for John Pogash.

Council members had no comments or corrections regarding the summary of the December 2005 quarterly meeting, which is available on the Council Web site, [www.juvenilecouncil.gov](http://www.juvenilecouncil.gov), along with summaries of other previous meetings.

## **Administrative Announcements**

***Robin Delany-Shabazz, Designated Federal Official for the Council***

Ms. Delany-Shabazz asked that Council members complete the evaluation form in the packet and return it to staff at the end of the meeting. She also reminded members that a meeting of the planning team will be held in the afternoon.

## **Presentation of Certificates**

***J. Robert Flores***

Certificates of appreciation for hosting the March 2006 meeting of the Coordinating Council were presented to John Horton and Jason Cole, Policy Analyst, both of ONDCP.

## **Presentation on Random Student Drug Testing**

***David W. Murray, Special Assistant to the Director, ONDCP***

Dr. Murray discussed the controversial issue of random drug testing of students in schools, outlining the initial objections the public may have about its potential punitive uses and impact on civil rights, trust, and confidentiality, among others. He countered that such programs have, instead, had positive responses from teachers and other school staff, parents, and even students, who are provided another rationale for turning away from drugs.

In 2002, the U.S. Supreme Court gave greater scope and latitude to the types of programs permissible under the law. Funding is available, but this is not a nationally imposed program; instead, it is an accommodation to the needs of local school districts. Student drug testing is part of a balanced strategy that includes law enforcement, prevention, and treatment. Early intervention during the period of initiation of drug use, ages 12 to 18, is very effective at stopping future adult drug use. Student drug testing serves as a sentinel monitoring device, a public health intervention—not to be used to punish students, or expel students, or crack down on them. Instead, it should identify those who are struggling or getting into trouble by using drugs and reach them with resources and interventions. Testing is also a deterrent, a rationale for not using drugs, and therefore a protective mechanism. Students want to resist because they want to stay in football, band, and drama and don't want their parents to be notified. Drug use also may be a signal of an underlying pathology such as learning disabilities, abuse in the home, and mental illness, among many others. Testing reveals the underlying problem, which can then be dealt with. Data from student drug testing programs indicate that they lower drug use rates and that participants endorse the programs.

Questions were fielded on the sources of data reported, the 2002 Supreme Court decisions and the punitive aspects of random student drug testing, costs and funding sources, potential testing for alcohol and tobacco use, select (student) versus universal testing, the science of why youth take drugs, and details about the interventions used in schools.

Council members asserted that the denial of participation in sports and other activities due to a positive drug test would be, in fact, punitive. Dr. Murray responded that local communities can craft consequences into their drug testing policies and that these actions are not punitive in the sense that they stay within the school and do not involve law enforcement. In addition, the use of consequences is part of the larger intervention of providing needed services. A Council member stated that the Search Institute has found that one of the best predictors of a positive outcome is involvement in various activities. Therefore, any policy that works against involvement in activities, works against staying in school and positive youth development generally.

Universal testing—including all individuals in the school setting, i.e., staff and students—perhaps should be the goal, an idea agreed upon by both the Council member who raised it and Dr. Murray.

Although the costs related to testing are not excessive, the costs related to providing services to help those who are identified in the testing program can be substantial. Dr. Murray asserts that the costs are, in the long run, worthwhile since they prevent the much greater costs to society of involvement in the mental health and criminal justice systems in the future.

Previous federal funding was at the level of \$22 million; the president has requested \$25 million in federal funding to be available from the U.S. Department of Education. ONDCP does not have separate budgets for funding of such programs; instead, ONDCP oversees and certifies drug program budgets in other federal agencies.

A question was raised about the potential for testing for alcohol and tobacco use since their prevalence is 10 times greater than all other drugs combined. Dr. Murray noted that programs that effectively target substance abuse also have a positive effect on alcohol use. He also stated that for those under 18, marijuana is more prevalent, consequential, and problematic than alcohol; more youth enter into treatment for marijuana addiction than alcohol addiction.

A Council member stated that more knowledge is needed on the reasons young people take drugs and the reasons the usage of some drugs is declining. Programs such as random student drug testing should be based on sound science and not be promoted until the data are strong.

Dr. Murray described the steps of the interventions used in random student drug testing programs when a positive drug test is found: the positive test is reported to school administrators, the nurse, and the counselor to determine a possible false positive; a medical referral is made to confirm usage; the school counselor and parents are gathered together to discuss the problem, possible responses to the problem, and resources to help the student; a treatment referral is made for counseling; and parental involvement is solicited.

## **Followup to Presentation and Discussion About Random Student Drug Testing**

Mr. Flores thanked Dr. Murray for his presentation on random student drug testing programs and encouraged Council members to contact Dr. Murray and follow up with him regarding their concerns and ideas on the topic. He also suggested that members (and guests) feel free to make their opinions known to ONDCP—and other federal agencies—about budget issues and funding sources for counseling, treatment, and other services needed to help young people be free of drugs and other criminal activities.

Mr. Flores announced that OJJDP, the DOJ agency responsible for enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws program, will soon begin a new partnership with a large federal agency to curb underage drinking using a multigenerational approach.

A Council member brought up the issue of the growing use of inhalants, such as gasoline, which currently are used by more youth than methamphetamine, steroids, cocaine, and heroin combined. Children in Indian Country have even higher usage rates and fewer advocates to help them escape their habit. However, funding for the only “huffing” program in existence has been eliminated.

## **Presentation on ONDCP Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign**

*Laura-Ashley Overdyke, Project Manager, Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign*

Ms. Overdyke presented for viewing seven 10- and 20-second television ads targeting both teens and parents, including new spots within the “Above the Influence” subcategory. Two messages within the ads—reject negative influences and practice good parenting skills—are universal and applicable to not only drug use but also other problem areas. The Council’s response to the ads was overwhelmingly positive.

A concern was raised about the need to make it clear that heroin is not “just another drug,” like marijuana or cocaine. Does overemphasizing the dangers of marijuana use minimize the dangers of heroin use? Ms. Overdyke responded by citing usage data among high school sophomores: the prevalence of drugs such as heroin is very low. Additionally, the mass media, mostly movies and television, are usually good about showing the negative consequences of the use heroin, methamphetamine, and cocaine. Mass media, however, tend to not show the consequences of marijuana, thus another reason for addressing it in the ONDCP ad campaign. ONDCP offers other resources to youth and parents, including Web sites with comprehensive information about drugs from tobacco to heroin and their consequences. The youth Web sites, [www.freevibe.com](http://www.freevibe.com) and [www.AboveTheInfluence.com](http://www.AboveTheInfluence.com), are visited by almost 2 million young people a month.

The ONDCP media campaign targets youth 14 to 16 years old and parents on the subject of marijuana use and is based on research, thanks to the use of research and media specialists and an expert panel on behavior change. Both the messages and the final products are tested on members of the target audiences and tested for any unintended effects. Marijuana was chosen as the drug to spotlight with the early teen audience because of its addictive nature, increased potency (compared with the past), links to

violence and risky behaviors such as impaired driving, and effects on learning and academic efforts. It appears that no “replacement effect” has occurred with the strategic emphasis on marijuana; i.e., the rate of drug usage generally among teens has dropped 19 percent since 2001.

ONDCP believes that its media campaign has contributed to this drop in drug use among teens. The survey, *Monitoring the Future*, has been tracking both drug use and perception of risk among youth for 30 years. Historically, as perception of risk has increased, usage rates have decreased. A similar pattern was found once the media campaign focused on marijuana: the perception of risk of marijuana among teens rose and usage rates for marijuana among teens fell.

The campaign speaks to parents, with several messages collectively referred to as love with limits, engaged parenting, or balanced parenting: Parents must set rules and consequences and follow through even when it is difficult, parents must monitor their children’s friends and activities, and parents must be engaged in the lives of their children. Tools created by the campaign for parents in addition to the television spots include a new CD-ROM and brochure and a Web site, *TheAntiDrug.com*. The parent Web site offers, for example, information about drugs and their effects, a quiz to see if a teen is using drugs, a mechanism to talk with other parents, an advice column, an “Ask an Expert” feature, a “panic button” for parents, and 24/7 toll-free telephone numbers to learn about treatment options and other issues. ONDCP partners with groups such as the National Parent Teacher Association, the American Medical Association, and community coalitions to disseminate these and other campaign resources to parents across the nation.

**Discussion of Intersections and Opportunities to Coordinate**  
*Bill Gibbons, District Attorney, Memphis and Shelby County, Tennessee*

Council members, as well as the audience, were asked earlier in the meeting to submit questions about coordination opportunities to Mr. Gibbons for discussion by the group as a whole. Mr. Gibbons presented the questions submitted and facilitated responses and discussion.

The topics discussed during this session included the number of schools implementing random student drug testing and its funding; reaching school dropouts; raising mandatory school attendance to age 18; involving uninvolved parents and using levers from the National Council on Juvenile and Family Courts’ Guidelines for Juvenile Courts of Excellence to activate parents; the emerging problem of diversion of prescription and over-the-counter drugs to youth; the number and efficacy of juvenile drug courts and their lack of sustainability after federal funding is gone; the widespread use of psychiatric drugs in the United States, many of which have not been tested on youth; the need for comprehensive programs that address more than one problem; and ONDCP’s review and certification of other federal agencies’ drug-related budgets.



The issue of the national prevalence of random student drug testing was raised. The percentage of schools that have implemented drug testing is not known; however, Mr. Horton indicated that it is not a majority and is probably less than 10 percent. He stated that school districts might have been waiting to see what would happen with the Supreme Court decisions in 2002, which allowed restriction only of voluntary school activities and not involuntary ones, such as expulsion from school, as a consequence of drug use. The most vulnerable students—school dropouts—are being missed by the school testing programs. Therefore, they must be reached them before they drop out and start using substances. A testing program in Tennessee, which encourages drug counseling and treatment, found 24 students testing positive in their first search; 2 years later, no positives were found. (For detail on the questions and answers raised at the meeting, you may reference the Council web site – [www.juvenilecouncil.gov](http://www.juvenilecouncil.gov) .)

## **Review and Discussion of Past and Current Council Activities**

### ***J. Robert Flores***

Mr. Flores reviewed recent Council activities:

**January 2006 National Conference.** Mr. Flores thanked both federal agency and practitioner members of the Council for their planning and participation in the National Conference and congratulated everyone on an “extraordinary effort by every department around the table.” He asked, on behalf of Attorney General Gonzales, that federal agency members pass along his thanks to their cabinet-level secretaries. More than 2,100 participants attended this first interagency conference to demonstrate ownership by such a diverse set of planners. Highlights included remarks by First Lady Laura Bush, who is leading the Helping America’s Youth initiative, and a celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Amber Alert Program with the unveiling of a stamp representing the program. Mr. Flores also thanked Dennis Mondoro, conference coordinator from OJJDP, and conference staff for their hard work and diligence. The next conference is planned for 2007 and will be coordinated by a federal agency of the Coordinating Council other than DOJ.

**Interagency agreements (IAAs).** In 2005, OJJDP awarded \$100,000 through interagency agreements to DOL, HUD, SAMHSA, and CNCS to increase federal agency collaboration. IAAs will be available again in 2006, and Ms. Delany-Shabazz will contact federal agency Council members to announce the program and convey the details in the near future. Agencies are asked to consider ideas for coordination projects to be implemented with a future grant.

Each federal agency that received an IAA project in 2005 updated the status of its project:

- **DOL.** Improving integration of state-level programs and services that serve the neediest youth was the aim of the DOL IAA. Ultimately, 5 to 10 states will be chosen to serve as models on how to integrate a youth strategy for preparing young people for their futures in the workplace, school, parenthood, and other

adult roles. The model states will receive assistance in mapping of federal and state resources to help identify service gaps so that they can be filled. DOL, which is partnering with ED, DOJ, and HHS in this, is working currently to include HUD and CNCS in the effort.

- **HUD.** Young people from various federally funded agencies in Camden, NJ, Philadelphia, PA, and the San Francisco Bay area, CA, were asked to collaborate on a project of their choice. They produced a video about the problems youth face both in their communities and from adults. The videos focused from the youth's perspective on the intersection between policy makers and those the policy affects. The IAA focused from HUD's perspective on problems inherent in delivering services from different federal sources to young people in local areas and how to streamline the process and collaborate more effectively. A report of the findings will be delivered to the Council.
- **SAMHSA.** Researchers studying community-based substance abuse treatment outcomes for youth historically have not been in contact with researchers studying incarcerated youth in substance abuse treatment programs. The IAA sought to bring the two groups of researchers together to allow cross-fertilization of knowledge and ideas regarding common issues and programs. This communication among the two groups could then be brought to the federal funders so that information-sharing is institutionalized and shared with grantees at the local level. A second effort provides seed money to bring representatives from tribal communities together to advise SAMHSA on how to structure its process for soliciting juvenile justice policy academies in tribal communities. A third effort is exploring how SAMHSA's public health approach to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention can work with OJJDP's public safety approach.
- **CNCS.** An interagency mentoring council has been established, and institutionalization is being developed by hiring a staff person to coordinate it using CNCS funds for the next 2 to 3 years. The mentoring council's first meeting was held in January 2006. CNCS is updating a database of CNCS mentoring programs and will share it with Coordinating Council members. The database eventually will be expanded to include other federal partners and nonfederal, private-sector organizations.

**Federal coordination.** As stated previously, the formal membership of the Council will be extended to several federal agencies. In addition, informal relationships will be pursued with national agencies and organizations. For example, the Council is working with the Institute of Museum and Library Services to promote the use of libraries, museums, schools, and other public buildings during off hours for youth activities.

## **Coordination Opportunities: Preview of Planning Meeting Topics** *Robin Delany-Shabazz*

Ms. Delany-Shabazz noted that much of the work of the Coordinating Council takes place between quarterly meetings during planning team conference calls and meetings where issues can be explored in greater depth and in individual meetings. She stated that the planning team has initiated the practice of face-to-face meetings immediately following the Council meeting to begin that afternoon. Two of the topics to be addressed, DOL's Civic Justice Corps and the National Children's Study, were previewed for the full Council. Ms. Delany-Shabazz then introduced Gregg Weltz (DOL) to discuss the Civic Justice Corps Project.

### **Civic Justice Corps Project** *Gregg Weltz, Director, Office of Youth Services, DOL*

Mr. Weltz described the Civic Justice Corps Project, which incorporates the strategies of alternative sentencing and reentry of juvenile offenders. An impact study of six selected Civic Justice Corps sites will seek to determine the effectiveness of alternative sentencing as a viable substitute to incarceration. Community service, an aspect of alternative sentencing, is an important way to prepare offenders for employment and to offer labor to clean up and improve business environments. Community service, enhanced supervision, and other integrated services, all of which must be carefully structured within the juvenile courts, help to reduce recidivism.

### **The Civic Justice Model** *Dennis Maloney, Associate Director of the Cascades Center for Community Governance, Bend, OR*

Mr. Maloney, who helped establish the Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) model, explained the concept and programmatic approach of civic justice and why federal agencies such as those on the Coordinating Council might want to know more about it.

Research shows that casework probation and casework parole as most commonly practiced and incarceration do not stand up under rigorous review when attempting to reduce recidivism, provide restitution and community service, and develop skills among juveniles.

On the other hand, the civic justice approach, which incorporates community safety, accountability, and competency development along with accountability-based service learning, works. Juvenile who are considered liabilities in the community are challenged to become assets to the community in the civic engagement model. In Civic Justice Corps projects, juvenile probation and parole officers enlist groups of offenders to engage in highly visible community service projects—such as building houses for Habitat for Humanity and restoring computers to donate to poor families—and offenders pay monetary restitution to their victims.

Working with DOL, Mr. Maloney and Douglas Dodge, a founder of the National Restitution Initiative, are trying to convince local juvenile justice systems about the value of high-level community service by offenders. Offenders with a record of civic service and trustworthiness are more likely to be hired by private-sector employers. Mentoring programs can also benefit from this service orientation: in service-centered mentoring, the service to the community provides a context and purpose for the mentoring relationship, and both participants become more highly engaged and less likely to drop out.

### **National Children's Study**

*Peter Scheidt, Director, National Children's Study, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*

Dr. Scheidt described the National Children's Study, a large, 26-year research project on environmental influences on child health and development, the need for such a study, and the benefits that the results of the study will offer. More than 100,000 women who represent a cross-section of ethnic, geographic, and socioeconomic groups and are likely to have a child in the near future will be recruited starting in 2007 and followed until their children are 21 years old.

Issues to be studied include obesity, diabetes, and physical development; injuries; asthma; pregnancy-related outcomes; and child development and mental health. The following are examples of research questions to be examined: Are prenatal exposures to pesticides linked to increased risk for learning and developmental disabilities? Are early childhood viral infections linked to asthma? Do individual, family, and community factors affect childhood injuries?

Led by HHS—through the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—and by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the study will rely on more than 40 federal agencies and departments as well as child and environmental advocacy and support groups, private industries and foundations, community leaders, university-based scientists, and local medical sites across the country.

Collaboration in the study's planning and implementation brings benefits to both the study and its partners. DOJ and other federal agencies will be able to tap into the rich database of information that will be collected and analyze it to answer future questions that will arise over the next 21 years. Agencies may also provide input regarding variables that would otherwise not be included in the protocol and suggest adjunct studies to provide greater depth to the study. For the National Children's Study, collaboration broadens the perspective of the study and brings subject matter expertise to the process.

Costs for the study are estimated at \$100 million on average per year for a period of 26 years—totaling \$2.6 billion. The study's Web site, [www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov](http://www.nationalchildrensstudy.gov), contains more information.

## **Announcements by Council Members and Other Business**

***J. Robert Flores***

Attorney General Gonzales has announced a DOJ-wide antigang initiative that addresses prevention and the underlying causes of gang activity, along with law enforcement efforts. OJJDP and OJP will support the prevention and intervention strategies, and BJA will support the suppression and enforcement strategies. OJJDP will reach out to partners on the Council such as HHS (particularly SAMHSA and the Administration for Children and Families), DOL, and HUD to augment the initiative. Also, the OJJDP Gang Reduction pilot will be expanded to an additional six cities (which have not been selected), and support from U.S. Attorney's Offices will be strengthened.

Also announced was the Project Safe Childhood Initiative, which is designed to strengthen DOJ's child exploitation, prostitution, and trafficking-in-persons collaborations with other federal agencies in areas such as antigang efforts.

It is likely that the six additional cities selected for the new anti-gang initiative will be close to some of the practitioners on the Council. If so, OJJDP will reach out to them for direction and support.

Information about DOJ's gang suppression activities will be made available on the OJJDP and DOJ web sites as efforts progress.

Ron Ashford (HUD) announced that HUD is working with the public housing authority (PHA) in New Orleans, LA, to assist with the return of PHA residents to their city. Out of 10,000 people who lived in PHA home before Hurricane Katrina hit, 800 have returned to date, and many more are expected. Due to limited staff, no support services are being offered. A team from HUD headquarters will be traveling to New Orleans to provide intake, job development, transportation, and connections to other agencies. Help is needed from agencies such as SAMHSA, DOL, and others, and he invited staff from federal agencies to join the effort "on the ground" in New Orleans and other cities affected. For more information, contact Mr. Ashford.

## **Adjournment**

***J. Robert Flores***

Mr. Flores announced that the next Council meeting will be held on June 2, 2006, and will be hosted by HHS.

Reminder to Council planning team members: A working meeting will be held in the afternoon following the public quarterly meeting.

Mr. Flores thanked Council members and guests for attending and adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

## **Attendees**

### **Federal Agency Members**

#### **U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)**

J. Robert Flores, Vice Chair, Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

#### **White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)**

*John P. Walters, Director*

John C. Horton, Associate Deputy Director, State and Local Affairs

#### **U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)**

*For Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor*

Gregg Weltz, Director, Office of Youth Services

#### **U.S. Department of Education (ED)**

*For Margaret Spellings, Secretary of Education*

L. Camille Welborn, Chief of Staff, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools

#### **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**

*For Michael Leavitt, Secretary of Health and Human Services*

Martha Moorehouse, Director, Children and Youth Policy Division

#### **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

*For Alphonso Jackson, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development*

Ron Ashford, Director, HOPE VI Community and Supportive Services

#### **U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)**

*For Julie L. Myers, Assistant Secretary, Immigration and Customs Enforcement*

Maria R. Stokes, Department Officer, National Juvenile Coordination Unit

#### **Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)**

*For David Eisner, Chief Executive Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service*

John Foster-Bey, Senior Policy Advisor

### **Practitioner Members**

Bray Barnes, Attorney, Toms River, NJ

Larry K. Brendtro, President, Reclaiming Youth International, Lennox, SD

William L. Gibbons, District Attorney General, Memphis and Shelby County District Attorney General's Office, Memphis, TN

Judge Steven H. Jones, Juvenile Court of Sullivan County, Division II, TN

Gordon A. Martin, Jr., Associate Judge (retired), Newton Centre, MA

## **Federal Agency Staff**

### **Institute of Museum and Library Services**

Marsha Semmel, Director, Strategic Partnerships

Abby Swetz, Program Specialist, Strategic Partnerships, Institute of Museum and Library Services

### **Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)**

Jason R. Cole, Policy Analyst and Intergovernmental Affairs Liaison

David W. Murray, Special Assistant to the Director

Laura-Ashley Overdyke, Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign

### **U.S. Department of Agriculture**

*Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service*

Suzanne Le Menestrel, Ph.D., National Program Leader, Youth Development Research

### **U.S. Department of Defense**

*Office of Children and Youth*

Karen Morgan, Senior Program Specialist

### **U.S. Department of Education**

*Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools*

Sigrid Melus, Program Analyst

### **U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**

*Children and Youth Division*

Lisa Trivits, Research and Policy Analyst

*Family and Youth Services Bureau*

Courtney A. Workman, Program Specialist

*Indian Health Service*

Candace Jones, Acting Deputy Director, Office of Clinical and Prevention Services

Ramona Williams, Social Worker

*National Institute of Child Health and Human Development*

Marion J. Balsam, Research Partnerships Program Director, National Children's Study

Peter Scheidt, Director, National Children's Study

*Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion*

Woodie Kessel, Assistant Surgeon General

*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration*

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**U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ)**

*National Institute of Justice*

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*Office of Justice Programs*

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Maria Fuentes, Senior Advisor

David Hagy, Deputy Assistant Attorney General

*Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)*

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Emily Gloss, Intern

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Lou Ann Holland, Program Manager, Child Protection Division

Donnie LeBoeuf, Special Assistant to the Administrator

Dennis Mondoro, Region II Chief

Linda Rosen, State Advisor

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Bradley C. Varley, Law Student Intern

*Office on Violence Against Women*

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**U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)**

*Office of Youth Services*

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**Other Attendees**

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Thaddeus Ferber, Program Director, The Forum for Youth Investment

Erika Fitzpatrick, Executive Editor, Criminal Justice Funding Report

Paul Fleischmann, President, National Network of Youth Ministries

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Sally T. Prouty, President, National Association of Service and Conservation Corps

J.J. Smith, Editor, Drug Detection Report, Business Publishers, INC.

Malcolm Spicer, Editor, Community Development Publications



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Delores H. Ward, Director, National Juvenile Justice Prosecution Center, American  
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Debra Whitcomb, Director, Grant Programs and Development, American Prosecutors  
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