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### Office of Criminal Justice Programs Annual Report FY 2017/2018

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Department of  
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Administration

# Office of Criminal Justice Programs Annual Report

## FY 2017/2018

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## Executive Summary

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) under the State Department of Finance and Administration functions as a strategic planning agency that secures, distributes, and manages federal and state funds related to criminal justice and services to victims. OCJP utilizes strategic program management, a structured process that looks three to five years ahead of daily grants management activities to identify the changing needs of Tennessee's justice system and the needs of its victims of violent crime. OCJP tracks problems surfacing in the criminal justice system, monitors trends in Tennessee's communities, assesses the condition of the state's resources, and measures the recent performance of OCJP-funded programs. To address crime and victimization in Tennessee, OCJP manages a systematic, year-round cycle for determining the communities' needs, identifying the justice system's problems, setting program priorities, making grant allocation decisions, managing those funded projects, and evaluating the results of those decisions.

Fiscal Year 2018 saw a change in leadership at OCJP. Director William "Bill" Scollon retired after an almost 20 year career with OCJP, serving as the director for the past eight (8) years and deputy director prior. Director Scollon's leadership through an increase in Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funding, provided structure and expanded the office's focus on breaking down silos throughout the criminal justice system through the development of coordinated community responses to crime. He ensured that there was a thoughtful plan to distribute the funds across the state. Under his tenure as Director, grant funds available for distribution increased from \$19 million to \$54 million annually. Director Scollon led OCJP through a massive restructure, expanding the office to 25 positions and combining program monitoring with program grant management.

Jennifer Brinkman was named Director upon Mr. Scollon's retirement in March 2018. Director Brinkman has been with OCJP for six (6) years serving in the assistant director role. Director Brinkman brings her expertise in working in the field of domestic violence and sexual assault to the Department of Finance and Administration, Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP), with over twenty years of professional experience working within the criminal justice field. In her time at OCJP, Jennifer has been responsible for implementing Governor Haslam's Public Safety initiatives to decrease domestic violence in the state. Her work includes: increasing the number of family justice centers from 2 in 2012 to nine in 2018; implementing a statewide lethality assessment program with law enforcement; and coordinating statewide stakeholder meetings on domestic violence and sexual assault.

OCJP continued the work of the Governor's Public Safety Plan. The year of 2018 marked the last year of the Second Public Safety Plan. As a member agency of the Governor's Public Safety Subcabinet Group, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs assisted in meeting the Plan's goals and objectives. OCJP continued funding for projects to address the Plan's Action Steps to include the Domestic Violence (DV) Public Service Announcement (PSA), which expanded during this fiscal year with a DV PSA campaign with the University of Memphis football and men's basketball programs; the expansion of the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP), including a grant with the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy to establish a position to continue the implementation of the LAP; and the Sullivan County and Scott County Family Justice Centers opened in 2018. All Family Justice Centers strengthened their services with the addition of navigators to facilitate a victim's engagement with the center.

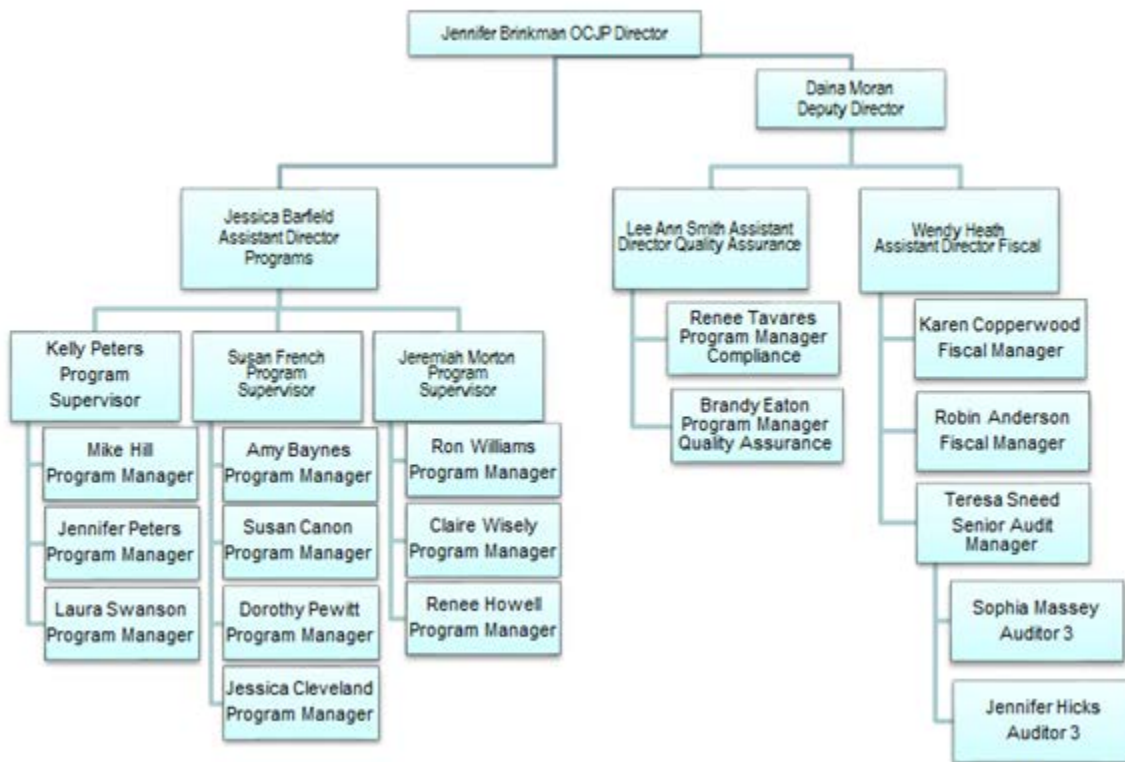
In fiscal year 2018, OCJP was responsible for 23 different state and federal fund sources; approximately 300 grants totaling \$43,640,389.00 in funding to various State Departments, local governments and non-profit agencies for criminal justice and victim service grants.

The focus of the funding provided by the Office of Criminal Justice Programs centered on the following themes:

- Supporting Governor Haslam's Second Public Safety Plans' goals and objectives;
- Promoting evidence-based programs/strategies in criminal justice approaches and direct victim services to ensure victim safety and offender accountability;

- Promoting a multidisciplinary team approach to a coordinated community response to address domestic violence, sexual assault, crimes against children and to improve the criminal justice system's response to crime;
- Promoting data driven funding decisions based on population, crime rate, service availability, and regional topography;
- Continuation and expansion of training opportunities for professionals in the criminal justice and victim services fields;
- Support Multijurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces and Gang Task Forces to decrease drug trafficking, human trafficking and gang violence throughout the State;
- Support local law enforcement through equipment and technology grants to enhance their ability to combat crime;
- Improve technology to enhance the quality, completeness, and accessibility of criminal history record information (including purchasing new Livescan machines), continued improvements to the Tennessee Instant Check System (TICS), the ongoing development of the technology for automated case judgments, improvements to the TN State Automated Victim Information Notification (SAVIN) program, as well as, piloting a GPS project to track domestic violence offenders; and
- Continuation and an expansion of victim service programs, including: domestic violence programs; sexual assault programs; child advocacy centers; victim-witness coordinators; legal aids; Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA); human trafficking; and elder abuse projects.

# OCJP ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# INTRODUCTION

## ***OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS MISSION STATEMENT:***

“The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) under the State Department of Finance and Administration functions as a strategic planning agency that secures, distributes, and manages federal and state grant funds for Tennessee. While collaborating with other public and non-profit agencies, OCJP utilizes these grant monies to support innovative projects statewide in efforts to reduce criminal activity, provide services for victims of crime and promote overall enhancement of the criminal justice system in Tennessee”.

## ***OCJP STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS***

Foremost in assisting OCJP to determine avenues of funding for state and local entities is Strategic Planning, one of the core functions of OCJP. To address crime and victimization in Tennessee, OCJP manages a systematic, year-round cycle for determining the communities’ needs, identifying the justice system’s problems, setting program priorities, making grant allocation decisions, managing those funded projects, and evaluating the results of those decisions.

Strategic program management is a structured process that looks three to five years ahead of daily grants management activities at the changing needs of Tennessee’s justice system. OCJP tracks problems surfacing in the criminal justice system, monitors trends in Tennessee’s communities, assesses the condition of the state’s resources, and measures the recent performance of OCJP-funded programs. This is, in part, accomplished through the use of the Governor’s Public Safety Sub-Cabinet Working Group.

Additionally, OCJP convenes a group of experts in the field of criminal justice to help determine the greatest need and possible approaches. This stakeholder focus group consists of Sheriffs, Chiefs of Police, District Attorneys General, Public Defenders, judges, criminal justice practitioners and victim advocates. These roundtable members represent all three grand divisions of the state as well as urban, suburban and rural areas of the state. This information helps OCJP focus its future program descriptions, set its funding priorities, prepare its budget requests, and direct its limited resources into areas that promise the best return for the public’s investment.

With completion of the decision making process for allocation of funds, OCJP distributes notification of funding intent, then canvases the state for both local and state level submitted projects that appear to be a fit for the program models that have been determined to meet the needs of Tennessee. The projects are reviewed, by a team of criminal justice professionals and other stakeholders, to assure that the very best submitted project applications will then receive a chance for funding.

## ***GRANTS MANAGEMENT***

Funded projects are then monitored (which includes an agency site visit); by professionally trained grant monitors as well as OCJP program staff. Contacts occur frequently throughout the agency’s funding period to assist them (if necessary) in maintaining their stated goals and objectives as originally agreed upon in their contract(s) with OCJP. Quarterly and annual data-driven reports are required to ensure the previously established outputs and outcomes are being tracked and outcomes, as indicated in the grant, are being met.

These reports reflect any impact the program may be having on the intended problem area. Any continuation of agency funding is based on all agreed upon performance measurements being met.

## ***EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMMING***

In today’s fiscal climate where federal, state and local funds are fluctuating, and agencies are continually being asked to do more (often without increased funding), it is imperative to ensure that scarce grant dollars

are directed towards areas with the greatest needs and that those funds are utilized in such a way as to garner a positive outcome. Evidence-Based Programming is one way to attempt to affect such an outcome. Evidence-Based Programs have been researched and have a history of producing a positive change on the identified problem the program addresses. By strongly encouraging and at times requiring agencies to implement evidenced based projects and programs, the OCJP increases the likelihood that the funding creates a positive impact on the issue at hand.

### ***LOOKING AHEAD***

The next sections of this report will provide greater detail regarding the types state and federal funding received and disbursed by this office; examples of the projects funded and the impact of those on local communities, victims and their families, and the citizens of Tennessee. Finally, the Office of Criminal Justice Program's perspective on monitoring is defined and a review of the outcomes of project monitoring is provided. The results of the program monitoring and fiscal reviews of grant funded projects in one year provide an opportunity for increased technical assistance and training of the projects by the OCJP program managers in the next fiscal year.



## **CHAPTER 2**

### ***FUND SOURCE OVERVIEW***

As a result of numerous funding sources, OCJP must stay abreast of the current funding climate at both the state and the federal level. This includes anticipating potential increases or decreases in funding and preparing for the impact of these changes at the local community level in order to best meet the public safety needs of Tennessee's citizens.

When planning the award of grants funds, OCJP looks to maximize opportunity, increase resource availability, and establish new programs in Tennessee that benefit the population as a whole. OCJP routinely reviews statistics from the Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Reports, the Department of Justice, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, and other State and Federal resources. OCJP gathers information from state and local experts to determine priorities. One example of a planning resource is the Governor's Public Safety Subcabinet, established by Governor Haslam in his first term, to reduce crime and improve public safety. OCJP, along with other State Agencies, participate in the subcabinet meetings to maximize State resources. One of the priorities of this public safety plan is addressing domestic violence in Tennessee. OCJP has participated in the Public Sector Meetings of the ACE- Building Strong Brains initiative. OCJP is well versed in the impact of early childhood trauma on healthy brain development and has supported efforts to enhance current projects with related training and resources and prioritizes funding towards programs that mitigate the lasting impact of childhood trauma.

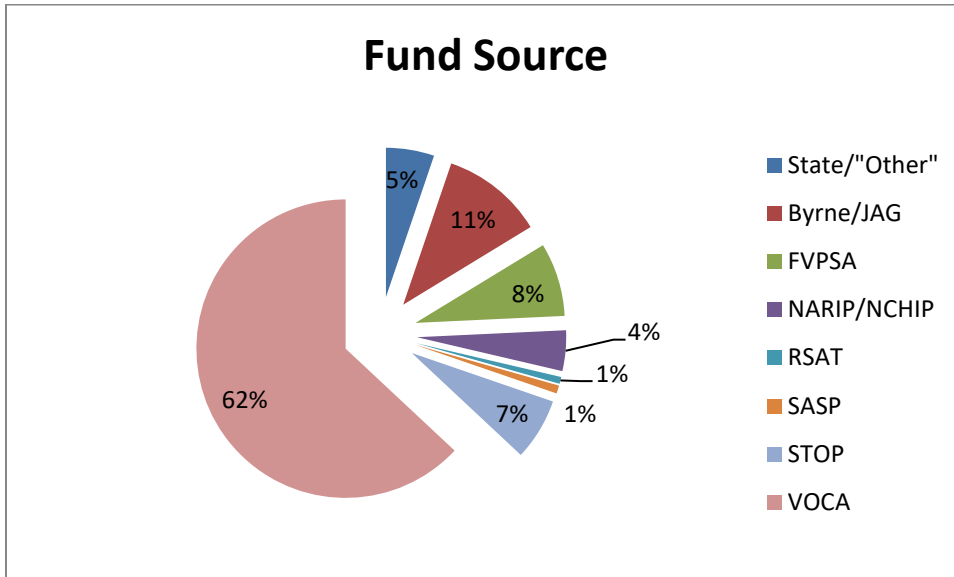
Since the state is at the forefront of addressing the traumas that affect children, including domestic violence and sexual assault, OCJP focused on these issues for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018.

OCJP funding centered on the following themes:

- Supporting Governor Haslam's Second Public Safety Plan through expansion of public awareness around domestic violence and an expansion of the lethality assessment program by law enforcement;
- Supporting Multijurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces, Gang Task Forces to decrease drug trafficking, human trafficking and gang violence throughout the State;
- Supporting local law enforcement through equipment and technology grants to enhance their ability to combat crime;
- Promoting a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to improving the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence through partnership among law enforcement, prosecution, the courts, victim advocates, and service providers to ensure victim safety and offender accountability.
- Improving technology to enhance the quality, completeness, and accessibility of criminal history record information (including purchasing new Livescan machines), continued improvements to the Tennessee Instant Check System (TICS), the ongoing development of the technology for automated case judgments, improvements to the TN State Automated Victim Information Notification (SAVIN) program, as well as, piloting a GPS project to track domestic violence offenders;
- Increasing funding for training opportunities for professionals in the criminal justice and victim services fields.
- Prevention activities focused on increasing awareness of issues such as Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking; and
- Continuation and an expansion of victim service programs, including: domestic violence programs; child advocacy centers; sexual assault programs; victim-witness coordinators, civil legal assistance projects; Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA); Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD); and elder abuse projects.

In fiscal year 2018, OCJP awarded a total of \$ 51,546,260 in funding, this included \$ 39,422,304 in Federal dollars and \$ 4,218,085 in State dollars. Additionally, \$ 7,905,871 in state and local community matching funds contributed to the projects.

### PERCENTAGE OF FUNDING BY ALL FUND SOURCES



## **CHAPTER 3**

### **STATE FUND SOURCE OVERVIEW**

#### **Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)**

The Automated Fingerprint Imaging Systems (AFIS) Program is funded through TCA § 67- 4-606 (a) (12) which requires 2.3056% of litigation tax proceeds to be deposited in the state general fund for grants awarded and administered by OCJP. Automated fingerprint identification is the process of automatically matching one or many unknown fingerprints against a database of known and unknown prints. Automated fingerprint identification systems are primarily used by law enforcement agencies for criminal identification initiatives, such as identifying a person suspected of committing a crime or linking a suspect to other unsolved crimes.

#### **Domestic Violence State Coordinating Council (DVSCC)**

The purpose of the Domestic Violence State Coordinating Council (DVSCC) is to increase awareness and understanding of domestic and family violence within the state. The DVSCC's responsibilities include: designing statewide policy for law enforcement and judicial response to domestic violence; designing training for law enforcement personnel across the state that focuses on the dynamics of domestic violence and the handling, investigation and response procedures concerning reports of domestic violence; and designing training for all judges and judicial personnel across the state that focuses on the dynamics of domestic violence and the handling and response procedures concerning allegations of domestic violence. Additionally, the DVSCC develops regulations for batterers' intervention programs and is the certifying body for these regulations. Membership is legislated by TCA §38-12-103 and meets quarterly.

#### **Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)**

The State of Tennessee Internet Crimes Against Children program awards grants to three Metropolitan Police Departments to establish, implement, and operate a statewide network of regional Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task forces. Funding from this program arises from a state appropriation. This state funding program is intended to support the national mission of the Department of Justice to help state and local law enforcement agencies develop an effective response to cyber enticement and child pornography cases. This assistance encompasses forensic and investigative components, training and technical assistance, victim services, and community education.

#### **Methamphetamine Initiative (METH)**

The Methamphetamine Initiative (METH) was created to address the impact of methamphetamine (Meth) use and production in Tennessee. This funding assists with the clean-up of the contaminated areas and the neutralization of dangerous contaminants, as well as increasing awareness of the impact of use of drugs on individuals, their children and families as a whole, enhancing services to assist drug endangered children.

#### **Victim Assistance Academy (Senator Tommy Burks)**

The purpose of the Senator Tommy Burks Victim Assistance Academy is to improve services to victims of all types of crime by providing a comprehensive, basic-level victim assistance curriculum and training program to victim services providers and allied professionals. The week-long Academy offers a Tennessee-specific 40-hour curriculum modeled after the National Victim Assistance Academy.

### **Ignition Interlock System Program**

In FY 2010, TCA § 55-10-403 was expanded by enhancing the penalty for violations of §55-10-401 through 55-10-404 and providing a portion of the fees assessed to be transmitted to the Department of Finance and Administration, Office of Criminal Justice Program. The fees are utilized for funding grant awards that allow law enforcement to purchase equipment needed in the enforcement of alcohol related traffic offences. The fees also support halfway houses whose primary focus is to assist drug and alcohol offenders. In FY 2013, TCA Section 55 was amended to require ignition interlock devices for all convicted drunk drivers with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 or greater. Beginning July 1, 2013, the new law went into effect, requiring first-time drunk driving offenders to use an interlock device for a period of six months as a condition of a restricted license.

### **Statewide Automated Victim Information and Notification Program**

The Tennessee Statewide Automated Victim Information Notification (SAVIN) program is responsible for ensuring victim notification and providing immediate and accurate information concerning the movement of offenders in county jails. The TN SAVIN program is funded through § 67-4- 602, enacted in 2009, which added an additional privilege tax upon conviction in relation to criminal cases. OCJP is the designated state office to administer funds collected and annually issues a grant to finance the TN SAVIN project. The Tennessee Sheriff's Association (TSA) is charged with the statutory duty of administering the notification program.

Utilizing offender information provided by local jails in all ninety-five (95) counties, the program has sought to stay current with the methods of communication that are relevant to the citizens of Tennessee by adding modules to enable postal service, phone, e-mail, and text messaging so that an individual can select their preferred method of communication. In 2017 the state expanded its goals seeking to replace the Tennessee Department of Correction's victim notification system with TN-VINE so that the convenient access to information will be available on persons housed within state prisons.

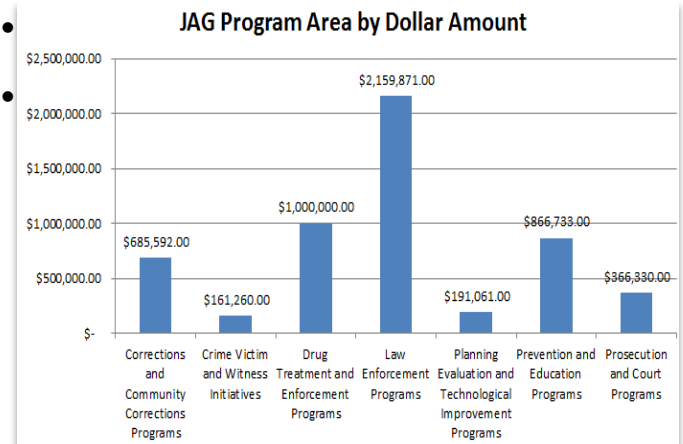
In FY 2018 TN-VINE recorded more than 2,094,000 total offender searches and provided approximately 745,000 offender updates to registered users.

## CHAPTER 4 FEDERAL FUND SOURCE OVERVIEW

### Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

JAG grants support:

- Law Enforcement;
- Prosecution and Courts;
- Crime Prevention and Education;
- Corrections and Community Corrections;
- Drug Treatment and Enforcement;
- Planning, Evaluation, and Technology Improvement; and
- Crime Victim and Witness Programs



The purpose of the JAG Formula Grant Program is to counter the violent crime and the threat of violent crime that has seriously eroded the quality of life for all citizens. JAG formula grant programs are intended to allow states to broaden their strategies in addressing both drug and violent crime issues. Tennessee’s JAG formula grant program is instrumental in addressing the priorities set forth by the Public Safety Subcabinet, providing funding for varied projects such as Family Justice Centers, Gang Task Forces, Training Professionals, and **public awareness campaigns addressing Domestic Violence**:



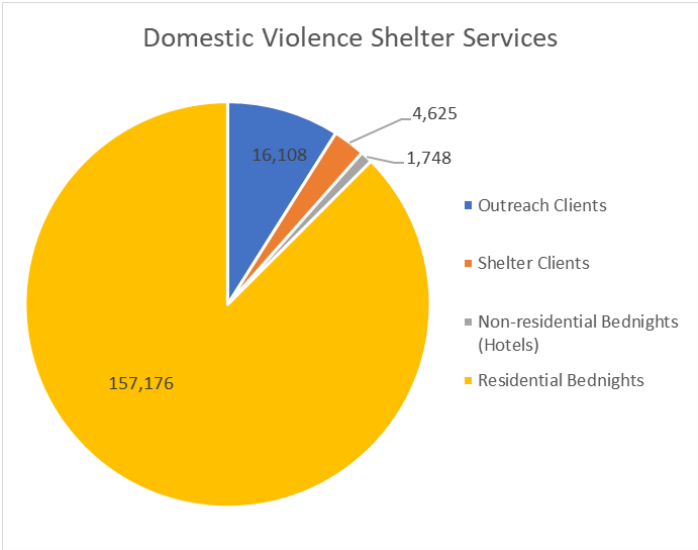
A partnership between the TN Dept. of Safety and Homeland Security and the University of Memphis Tiger Sports program led to a Domestic Violence PSA campaign utilizing print, social, and TV spots featured at home games during the football and basketball season.

In October 2018, Tiger Sports also partnered with the local YWCA for Domestic Violence Awareness Month bringing information and resources about domestic violence to Tiger Fans..

**This campaign made over 300k web impressions!**

**Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA)**

The funding for Tennessee domestic violence programs comes from the federal fund source FVPSA, and three (3) legislated state funding sources. The State Family Violence Shelter (FVS) fund sources are: Original Marriage License Fee- TCA 67-4-411; Additional Marriage License Fee- TCA 36-6-413; and Defendant Fine- TCA 39-13-111. TCA 71-6-203 establishes an Advisory Committee on Family Violence Services. The committee consists of five members. The primary goal of the Advisory Committee is to provide input on the allocation of funds for Family Violence programs in Tennessee. The Advisory Committee helped develop the [Family Violence Shelter Standards](#), effective December 2001, which are still guiding the family violence services providers today.



FVPSA supports programs that prevent incidents of family violence, domestic violence and dating violence. FVPSA Programs provide immediate shelter, supportive services and access to community-based programs for victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence as well as for their dependents.

OCJP funded shelters spent over \$19,604,664 in Federal, State, and Local Dollars in FY 2018 for training opportunities, answering hotline calls, and provided Volunteer Hours as Match to support their projects:

Training Opportunities	
Trainings/Education Events	1,835
Attendees	72,083

Answering Hotline Call	
Domestic Violence Hotline Calls	12,714

Volunteer Support	
Volunteers	2,085
Volunteer Hours	107,760

“The **YWCA Greater Memphis** shelter services allowed me to rebuild my life after a domestic violence incident. Being a man recovering from domestic violence; I was uncertain of how staff would view me. The shelter was so clean, staff was kind, and the cook dinners tasted like my momma’s cooking. Case management helped me with my goals and assistance with permanent housing.” *Survivor*

► FVPSA funding allows **Families in Crisis (FIC)** to provide the only 24 hour emergency domestic violence shelter and 24 hour emergency crisis hotline in Warren, Grundy, and Sequatchie counties, giving domestic violence survivors and their dependents, access to immediate shelter. FVPSA allows FIC to employ advocates that offer individual and group counseling, court advocacy, transportation, referral services to domestic violence survivors. ◀ **FIC Employee**

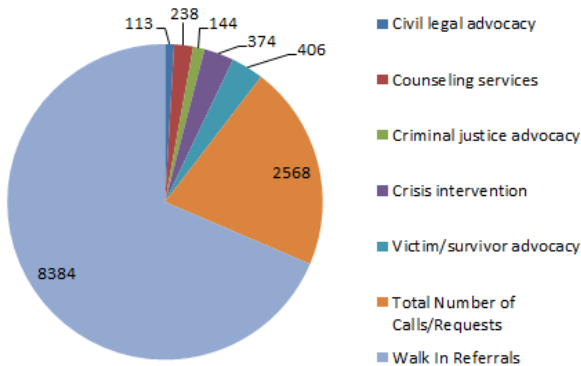
**Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)**

The Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) was created by the Violence Against Women Act and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (VAWA 2005), 42 U.S.C. §14043g, and is the first Federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault. Overall, the purpose of SASP is to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment (e.g., accompanying victims to court, medical facilities, police departments, etc.), support services, and related assistance for adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault, family and household members of victims and those collaterally affected by the sexual assault.

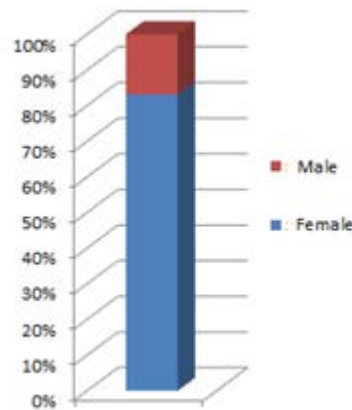
In addition to federal funds, OCJP utilizes State Sexual Assault funds to supplement federal funds. The state sexual assault collection fund is legislated by TCA 40-24-108 and is funded from proceeds from a fine imposed on those convicted of a sexual offense. TCA 71-6-303 establishes an advisory committee, consisting of five members. The committee makes recommendations as to the allocation of funds under the sexual assault fund collections.

► When I came to **Center of Hope**, I was broken, tattered & in desperate need of every basic life necessity. Here, I not only healed but I began to flourish for the first time in many years ◀ **Survivor**

**Services Provided to Victims**



**Victims Served with SASP funds by Gender**



“A client of ours was emotionally, physically, and sexually abused by her husband (a trafficker). This client had been planning her getaway for some time but she had a daughter which made escape difficult. While at shelter she received legal assistance, counseling and specific assistance that helped her regain her sense of self sufficiency.” – **Genesis House Employee**

► SASP funding allows the **Avalon Center** to provide a high level of trauma informed services. We are able to provide extensive crisis intervention, safety planning, court advocacy, employment and financial advocacy, education on the dynamics of sexual assault, professional counseling, support groups, emergency crisis line, emergency shelter, child and youth programs and a Legal Advice Clinic. ◀ **Avalon Center Employee**

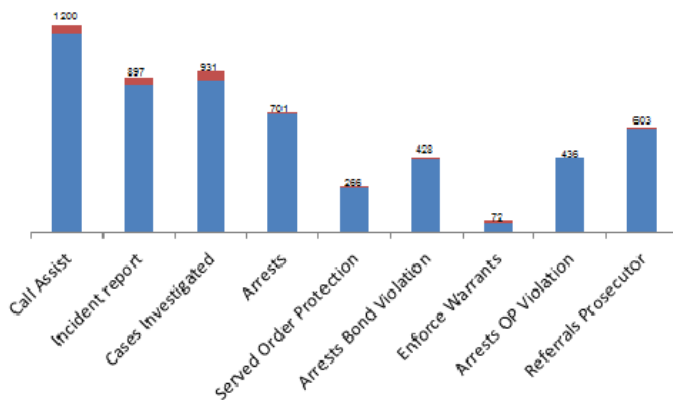
**S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Formula Grants (STOP)**

STOP Grants promote a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to improving the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. This approach envisions a partnership among law enforcement, prosecution, the courts, victim advocates and service providers to ensure victim safety and offender accountability. STOP funding is included in the Violence Against Women Act, which was reauthorized in 2013. STOP funding is divided into projects in the following categories: Victim Services; Law Enforcement; Prosecution; and Court.

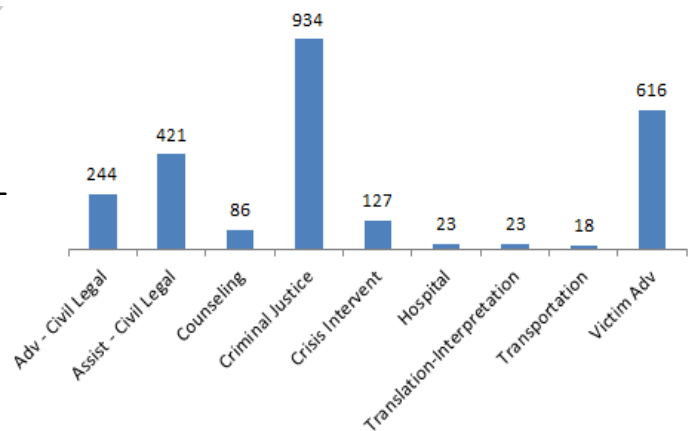
**FY 2018 STOP Facts:**

- 200 Trainings conducted
- 4,700 Participants trained
- 1,469 Law Enforcement trained
- **100 positions** funded to assist victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking throughout Tennessee

**Law Enforcement Calls and Responses (DV/SA Combined)**



**Victims Served with STOP Funds**



Additionally, STOP funds were used to bring training and awareness to college campuses in Tennessee. The Sexual Assault Center went on the road to bring sexual assault training to colleges and universities. Training dollars were also used by the Sexual Assault Center to develop a regional peer support training group to bring service providers together to collaborate on future training.

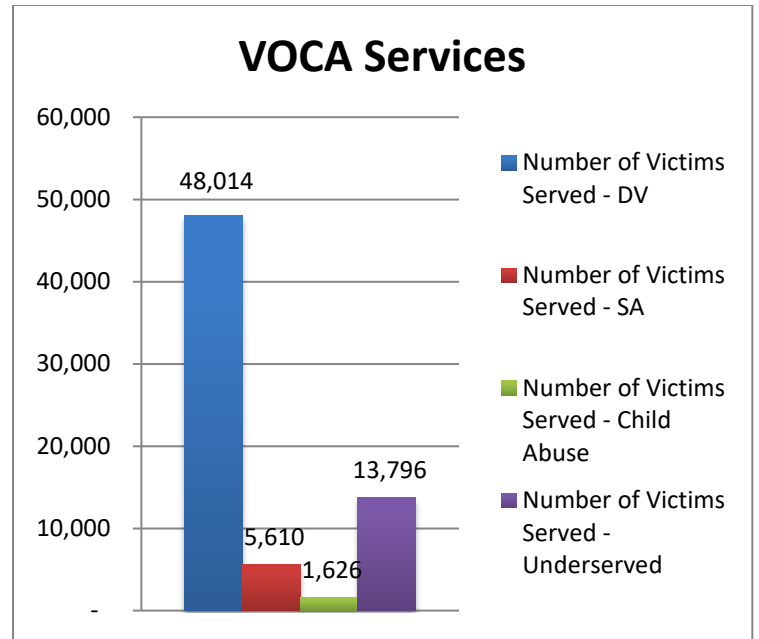
**Collaboration Works:**

**West Tennessee Legal Services, Inc.**'s client, who had been mentally and physically abused for over 20 years by her husband, received services under an OCJP Legal Aid STOP grant. She had never reported her husband to the police, but he assaulted her again. With the encouragement of her children, who felt the offender was a danger to the client's life, she concluded it was time to take action. With the help of legal aid, the husband pled guilty and the client was able to receive a divorce, including child support for their minor children.



**Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)**

In 1984, VOCA established the Crime Victims Fund in the U.S. Treasury and authorized the Fund to receive deposits of fines and penalties levied against criminals convicted of federal crimes. The Department of Justice is responsible for the distribution of the funds, which are collected by U.S. Attorney’s Offices, U.S. Courts, and the U.S. Bureau of Prisons. This Fund provides the source of funding for all activities authorized by VOCA. The purpose of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) is to provide high quality services that directly improve the health and well-being of victims of crime with priority given to victims of child abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault and services for previously underserved victims.



**DV Victims Served with VOCA Dollars**

The Office for Crime Victims (OVC) makes annual VOCA crime victim assistance grants from the Fund to states.

“I’m so excited to be able to move out on my own, become more independent, and get involved in the community. I am finally going to have the opportunity to contribute good things to society.”

- Survivor

“A young lady who was a victim of human trafficking was assigned a **Wilson County CASA volunteer**. By the end of the case, the youth was participating in a meaningful therapeutic relationship with an individual counselor. CASA staff met with the police detective who handled her criminal case and obtained documentation of the crime committed against her to aid in the Criminal Injuries Compensation application. She was safely returned to her father’s custody in Wilson County, TN. She is currently doing well in her all her classes.” – **CASA Employee**

VOCA funds are used to support many different types of agencies – from District Attorneys’ Offices, shelter agencies, human trafficking services agencies, sexual assault agencies, law enforcement agencies – to **Child Advocacy Centers**:

► In January 2018, a nine-year-old female client, along with her family, began receiving therapy and advocacy services from the CAC. The client struggled with lack of sleep, nightmares, fear of court hearings related to the abuse, intrusive thoughts about her abuse and abuser, low grades, and loss of friendships. Over the course of eight months this client steadily improved. She began to be able to sleep, her grades rose, and she began to reconnect with her friends. The CAC’s therapy dog, Pavlov, accompanied the client when it was necessary for her to testify. The client completed therapy a few weeks ago and is now living a life free from the harmful effects of her abuse. ◀ **CAC Employee**

### **National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP)**

The National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) awards grant funds to States to help improve the Nation's safety and security by enhancing the quality, completeness, and accessibility of criminal history record information and by insuring the nationwide implementation of criminal justice and noncriminal justice background check systems.

### **NICS Act Records Improvement Program (NARIP)**

The NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007, Pub. L. 110-180 (NIAA or the Act), was signed into law on January 8, 2008, in the wake of the April 2007 shooting tragedy at Virginia Tech. The NIAA seeks to address the gap in information available to NICS about such prohibiting mental health adjudications and commitments, and other prohibiting factors. Filling these information gaps will better enable the system to operate as intended to keep guns out of the hands of persons prohibited by federal or state law from receiving or possessing firearms. The automation of records will also reduce delays for law-abiding persons to purchase firearms.

The NIAA authorized a grant program to assist states in providing certain information to the NICS and prescribes grant penalties for noncompliance with the NIAA's record completeness goals. Additionally, pursuant to the Act, there are certain conditions, described under "Eligibility," that a state must satisfy in advance of receiving grants under the Act.

### **Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants (Coverdell)**

The Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program (Coverdell) awards grants to States and units of local government to help improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services. Among other things, funds may be used to eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic evidence and to train and employ forensic laboratory personnel, as needed, to eliminate such a backlog.

### **Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program for State Prisoners (RSAT)**

The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 established a program of federal grants administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. This program, known as Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT), assists states and units of local government in developing and implementing residential substance abuse treatment programs within State and local correctional and detention facilities.

## CHAPTER 5 INNOVATIVE PROJECTS

On occasion, OCJP has the exciting opportunity to afford funding towards innovative, evidence-based projects. These projects have the ability to increase Tennessee's capacity to serve victims of crime and impact the operations and efforts of the criminal justice system. Many of these types of projects are highly collaborative and provide foundational efforts for statewide replication.

**Human Animal Bond in Tennessee (HABIT)** is a volunteer-based animal assisted therapy program sponsored by the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine. Established in 1986 in Knoxville, HABIT coordinates pet visitation by medically and behaviorally screened dogs, cats, and rabbits to a variety of facilities including nursing homes, assisted-living residences, retirement centers, mental health centers, hospitals, residential facilities, schools, etc. Currently, HABIT has over 600 volunteers and 200 facilities throughout East Tennessee.



Through strategic planning meetings, OCJP identified the need for animal assisted interventions in facilities throughout the state that serve victims of crime. This three-year grant has allowed HABIT to expand the services it already provides in East Tennessee into Middle Tennessee focusing on agencies that provide services to victims such as family justice centers, domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, child advocacy centers, courts, and more.

The first six months of this grant were spent establishing HABIT's presence in Middle Tennessee. Dr. Bethanie Poe, LMSW began her position as the Middle Tennessee HABIT Coordinator at the end of February 2018. Dr. Poe has spent almost ten years as a part of the UT Veterinary Social Work program, specializing in the Link between human and animal violence.



In addition to her expertise in human-animal relationships, Dr. Poe also has experience working in the fields of domestic violence and child abuse.

HABIT had seven information meetings in Nashville and Murfreesboro by the end of June 2018. In addition to the HABIT hosted information meetings, HABIT has also been present at other events such as the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence's Annual Conference and has become a member of the Nashville Coalition Against Domestic Violence to let local programs know about what HABIT can provide.

The progress made as of the end of the fiscal year is promising. As of the end of June, HABIT had three local dog experts committed to volunteering their time and space to performing HABIT dog behavior evaluations; eight volunteer and dog teams ready for their behavioral evaluations; and the Davidson County Juvenile Court and the soon-to-be-open Nashville Family Safety Center had committed to become HABIT facilities.



## Family Justice Centers

Family Justice Centers are a community-wide collaboration of public and private agencies in a centralized location that serves intimate partner violence victims and their families. The core concept is to provide one place where families can go to receive services to promote their safety and well-being.

As a part of Governor Haslam's First Public Safety Plan, OCJP was tasked with increasing the number of Family Justice Centers in Tennessee from the two that were operational. **At the end of the 2018 fiscal year, Tennessee had nine Family Justice Centers providing services. These nine centers and their collaborating community-based partners served a total of nearly 16,000 victims throughout the year.** The centers include 172 community partners collaborating to increase victim safety and offender accountability.

Throughout FY18, Family Justice Centers championed and led several statewide initiatives, including the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP), community training around orders of protection, Sexual Assault Review Teams and Fatality Review Teams. Across the state, FJCs continue to cultivate innovative strategies to address violence, maintain strong partnerships and encourage best practices for serving victims and holding offenders accountable.

In summer 2018, the total number of Tennessee Family Justice Centers increased to nine, with Sullivan County and Scott County celebrating their official grand openings. As with the seven FJCs that preceded them, these two newest Centers reflect the distinctive character and unique needs of their local communities. Victims seeking services will find increased access to resources and greater coordination among local partner agencies, all with the safety and convenience of a centralized family-friendly location

A Coordinator with the **Metro Nashville FJC** worked closely with Metro Nashville Schools to assist children who have experienced trauma using the **Handle with Care** programming. The Coordinator spoke with middle school girls from Girls, Inc. regarding healthy dating relationships and she helped a 16 year old student obtain a safety plan and "stay away" order against her violent 15 year old boyfriend.

Additionally, she helped train School Resource Officers (SRO's) on topics such as teen dating violence.



**Metro Nashville Family Justice  
Aerial View**



**Scott County Family Justice Center  
Ribbon Cutting**



**Sullivan County Family Justice Center  
Ribbon Cutting**

**Middle Tennessee Forensic Infrastructure**



In an effort to support Tennessee’s forensic infrastructure the Office of Criminal Justice Programs worked with the City of Murfreesboro to procure a Brasstax Acquisition System (BAS). **When a shell casing is found at the scene of a violent crime it is brought to Murfreesboro’s crime lab where the BAS scans the object in order to create a three-dimensional image which is transmitted to the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBN) in Atlanta where it is compared against thousands of images in order to determine the type of firearm which fired the shell.**

This information is then relayed to investigators and is key not only in determining the type of firearm that may have been utilized in the commission of a violent felony but also for linking individual firearms to the individual shell casing. Previously, in Middle Tennessee, local jurisdictions outside of Nashville could only run these tests through the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The addition of another BAS in the region will speed up the testing process by allowing the staff in Murfreesboro to conduct these tests for agencies in and around Rutherford County which will reduce the waitlist for other agencies who still utilize TBI. Prior to this project, OCJP worked with the City of Jackson for a Brasstax Acquisition System.

**JAG Pre-Release Programming**

In FY 2018, OCJP opened a pilot project solicitation, using JAG monies, to address the criminogenic needs of offenders to decrease recidivism once released into the community. Projects were to be focused on assessing inmates based on needs associated with education, intervention of addiction, skills building, integration risks, mental illness, and community support services. Funds were awarded to four agencies: Dyer County, Grundy County, Madison County (Pathways Health), and South Central Human Resource Agency (SCHRA) for a total funding amount of over \$700,000.00 over 3 years:

<b>Dyer County</b> <b>50 Female Inmates</b>	<b>Grundy County</b> <b>53 Male &amp; Female</b> <b>Inmates</b>	<b>Madison County</b> <b>120 Male &amp; Female</b> <b>Inmates</b>	<b>SCHRA</b> <b>95 Male &amp; Female</b> <b>Inmates</b>
✓ GED/College Reconnect	✓ GED/Job Readiness	✓ Substance Abuse	✓ Makin’ It Work
✓ CPT/Employment Classes	✓ Anger Management	✓ Mental Health	✓ Transportation
✓ Rehab placement	✓ LCSMI	✓ Crisis Intervention	✓ Success Planning
✓ Feminine Hygiene	✓ CAP Assessment	✓ Links to community service agencies	✓ GED/MRT
			✓ Job Readiness

Combined, these jail programs reported assessing over 500 inmates for needs associated with release; and provided services to over 300 inmates in FY 2018, as follows:

<b>Dyer County</b>	<b>Grundy County</b>	<b>South Central Human Resource Agency</b>
❖ 30 Women completing the Educational Course	❖ 9 Inmates graduating with a GED (high school equivalency)	❖ 95 Inmates assessed for referral and programs
❖ 18 Men were placed in rehab facilities post release		❖ 9 Inmates attended Financial Peace classes

## Drug Task Forces (DTFs)

Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) 8-7-110 created Judicial District Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces (DTFs), a multi-jurisdictional law enforcement entity, in order to improve collaboration, produce written inter-agency agreements, encourage the pooling of resources including personnel and equipment, and to build a better system for addressing drug issues using a team concept. The Agents of drug task force focus their efforts to identify, disrupt and dismantle drug trafficking organizations (DTO) and distributors across Tennessee through jointly controlled operations to remove targeted mid and upper-level narcotics trafficking through investigation, arrest, prosecution, and conviction.

Agents from the **13th DTF** initiated an investigation of an individual who was trafficking methamphetamine (ice) from Atlanta into the Cookeville-Putnam County area. The agents gathered intelligence on the individual in cooperation with law enforcement agencies in the Atlanta Metro area. A total of 5 individuals were arrested at an apartment complex in Cookeville. Three individuals resided in Atlanta, the other two resided in Crossville. The agents confiscated the remaining ice as well as a 2007 Mercedes automobile, one handgun, one shot gun, and \$10K in cash. This investigation spanned a three-month period and was a joint effort involving the DEA, FBI, TBI, and local law enforcement including the Cumberland, Overton, and Putnam County Sheriff's Office, as well as Cookeville and Crossville Police Departments.

OCJP provides JAG funding for the **17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Drug Task Force (DTF)**, an area southeast of Nashville encompassing the counties of Bedford, Lincoln, Marshall and Moore. In FY18, the task force seized over 250 grams of heroin. However, the 17<sup>th</sup> DTF is seeing a new drug of choice, crystal methamphetamine (ice), which has resulted in an 80% increase in arrest for possession with intent to distribute ice. The 17<sup>th</sup> DTF estimates the seizure of ten pounds of ice in the last three years, including the following:

The 17th DTF intercepted three pounds of crystal methamphetamine (ice), from a middle man. They were able to get the middleman to cooperate as a confidential informant (CI)

for their agency. The middle dealer made arrangements to return the three kilograms of crystal methamphetamine (ice) to a cartel courier that had fronted it to him in Chicago, IL on an earlier date. When the courier showed up in Shelbyville, TN to retake possession of the crystal methamphetamine (ice) he met with the with CI and an undercover agent. The three pounds of ice was returned to the cartel courier and he was shortly taken into custody. He was immediately charged federally for being involved in a conspiracy to possess and distribute crystal methamphetamine (ice). He and the CI were both federally indicted, both pled guilty and both received sentences in excess of ten years each. One of the subjects provided detailed information of how the cartel was smuggling crystal methamphetamine (ice) and marijuana into the United States, which has led other federal agencies to get involved resulting in other cases still ongoing in other parts of the United States.

*Information courtesy of the 17th Judicial District Attorney General's Office*



## CHAPTER 6 MONITORING

### Monitoring

Monitoring is the review process used to determine a subrecipient's compliance with the requirements of a state and/or federal program, applicable laws and regulations, and stated results and outcomes. Monitoring also includes the review of internal controls to determine if the financial management and the accounting system are adequate to account for program funds in accordance with state and/or federal requirements. Monitoring should result in the identification of areas of non-compliance with the expectation that corrective action will be taken to ensure compliance.

The OCJP Program Management unit is responsible for performing program monitoring activities in accordance with 2 CFR 200 - Uniform Guidance (Electronic) issued by the Federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Tennessee Department of General Services, Policy 2013-007, to ensure that Federal and State awards are used for authorized purposes in compliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts or grant agreements and performance goals are achieved. The Fiscal Unit is responsible for performing monitoring financial procedures and activities. In addition to state and/or federal program specific monitoring requirements, the Quality Assurance/Compliance Unit oversees all monitoring activities.

### Monitoring Overview

The purpose of OCJP Monitoring is to determine contracted agencies' compliance by:

- ✓ Adhering to 2 CFR 200 - Uniform Guidance, Department of Justice Financial Guide, and all related supplemental guidance and special conditions.
- ✓ Adhering to Policy 2013-007 requirements,
- ✓ Adhering to contract requirements,
- ✓ Adhering to the Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice Grants Manual requirements, and
- ✓ Working with program staff in fulfilling the requirements of the review.

And to support the OCJP mission by:

- ✓ Providing some level of technical assistance,
- ✓ Achieving improved sub-recipient grant implementation, and
- ✓ Sharing in OCJP outcomes as an integral part of its success.

The Assistant Director; Quality Assurance provides oversight of the monitoring function. There were twelve full-time Program Managers conducting program reviews and two full-time and one part-time fiscal monitors conducting fiscal reviews on assigned contracts in fiscal year 2018. The Program Managers and Fiscal Monitors reviewed 143 contracts for 102 subrecipient agencies. This represented 52% of the total number of contracts and 46% of the total dollar amount of available grant funds.

### Summary of Findings

In FY 2018, OCJP monitored 103 criminal justice and victim service agencies with 143 contracts to ensure compliance with state and federal grant requirements. There were 216 findings of non-compliance and 19 observations for improvement. This is compared to 119 agencies with 164 contracts with 166 findings and 21 observations in 2017. **See Chart below:**

## Monitoring Summary

		FY 2017	FY 2018
Number of Agencies Monitored	of	119	103
Number of Contracts Monitored	of	164	143
Number of Findings	of	166	216
Number of Observations	of	21	19

In FY2018 the findings and observations in 2018 reflect improvement in compliance with board and project director oversight, as well as, personnel and client file administration. This could be contributed to following up on previous findings and observations to provide technical assistance. Increases in findings were related to subrecipient financial management and reporting. Feedback received from agencies indicates overall satisfaction with the monitoring process, the professionalism of the program and fiscal monitors, and the manner in which they conduct monitoring.

Subrecipient agencies are required to submit a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for findings and observations within 30 calendar days after the report is issued. The CAP must outline strategies to correct the specific finding(s) and observation(s) as well as, avoid findings of similar nature in the future.

Program managers are responsible for ensuring receipt of an acceptable CAP and approving it timely. In addition, program staff use information gathered during the monitoring visits and the findings summary to identify areas for training and technical assistance during the year. This information may also be taken into consideration in the application process. It is critical for agencies to align with the OCJP strategic plan and prove capable of providing quality programs to their clients and beneficiaries to receive funding. The monitoring process, including receipt and approval of acceptable CAPs, helps improve the system of criminal justice and victim service agencies for the State of Tennessee. A concerted effort by program and fiscal staff to hold agencies accountable for programs/projects that benefit their communities will help OCJP realize its goal of working for a safer Tennessee.

## **CHAPTER 7 FISCAL UNIT**

During the past fiscal year the Financial Manager retired with 30 plus years of service and a new fiscal director was hired in February 2018. With this change came a reorganization of the fiscal unit. The Senior Auditor was promoted to Audit Supervisor and a new auditor 3 was hired.

With the increase in VOCA funding a new position was created and filled that provides assistance to both the fiscal and audit units. This position assists with subrecipient monitoring and administering the spending of the federal dollars.

In addition to the increase in staff, there was an increased need for risk assessment review. As a result, OCJP has implemented a pre award risk assessment for all new subrecipients. From this assessment OCJP is better able to determine additional technical assistance that is needed for new subrecipients.



## **SUMMARY**

The mission of the Office of Criminal Justice Programs is to function as a strategic planning agency that secures, distributes and manages federal and state funds for Tennessee while collaborating with other public and non-profit agencies to leverage these funds with other state and local resources to implement innovative projects to reduce crime, provide services for victims of crime and promote the overall enhancement of the criminal justice system in Tennessee.

In furtherance of this mission, OCJP implements a rigorous strategic planning process that includes continued collaboration with Federal, State, and Local stakeholders to provide the very best decision making process to identify needs, gaps in services, potential funding streams, and best practices in program development, implementation and evaluation.

As stewards of these funds, OCJP staff maintains the highest standards of grants management through extensive technical assistance grant monitoring, output and outcome reporting and program evaluation. OCJP staff continues to work with the Federal agencies to draw down criminal justice and victim services formula funds as well as securing competitive grant funds. These Federal funds along with several State appropriated and fee based funding sources allow OCJP to direct funding to the areas with the greatest need as determined from the strategic planning process. By directing its limited resources into areas that promise the best return for the public's investment, OCJP continues to positively impact the lives of citizens. The planning and management of these State and Federal funds improves the quality of life for all Tennesseans by helping achieve OCJP's vision of a safer Tennessee.