



OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

APR 27 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
(MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(MANPOWER AND RESERVE AFFAIRS)
DIRECTOR, WOUNDED WARRIOR CARE AND TRANSITION
POLICY
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY

SUBJECT: Department of Justice Youth Mentoring Initiative to Support Military Youth and Their Families

In Fiscal Year 2011, the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) awarded \$20 million to nine youth-serving organizations to support mentoring programs and services for youth with a parent in the military (attached). This first-of-its-kind initiative aims to build community resilience by providing a structured and trusted relationship that bring young people together with caring individuals who offer guidance, support and encouragement. This affirms the White House's "Joining Forces Initiative," which calls on all sectors of the community to join forces to support and honor service members and their families. Quality mentoring programs strengthen the Department's support for military youth and provide opportunities to fill gaps in programs and services across the country and around the world.

The youth serving organizations awarded the OJJDP grants were:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of America
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- National 4-H Council
- KidsPeace
- Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation
- National Alliance of Faith & Justice
- Public/Private Venture
- YMCA of San Francisco
- Sea Research Foundation

These organizations will support children and youth of active duty, reservists, and National Guard; children of the wounded, ill or injured; and children of military veterans. Using evidence-based mentoring programs, the organizations will provide support by raising self-esteem, encouraging healthier behaviors, improving school attendance and promoting informed career choices. Activities will include peer-to-peer/adult-to-youth mentoring, webinars, specialty

camps, e-mentoring support, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) projects.

My office will be the point of contact for this effort and Ms. Karen Morgan will be the project officer. Please provide my office with your point of contact by May 11, 2012. Ms. Morgan may be reached at (571) 372-0859 or Karen.Morgan@osd.mil.



Charles E. Milam
Principal Director
(Military Community and Family Policy)

Attachment:
As stated



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2011
[HTTP://WWW.OJP.GOV/](http://www.ojp.gov/)

Office of Justice Programs
Contact: Starr Stepp
(202) 598-9457

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AWARDS \$20 MILLION TO SUPPORT MENTORING CHILDREN OF MILITARY FAMILIES

WASHINGTON—The Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) awarded a total of \$20 million to nine organizations to support mentoring programs and services for youth with a parent in the military. The Department of Defense provided this funding to OJJDP as part of a joint effort to support military families.

"Children in military families experience unique challenges that other children may never face, such as dealing with their deployed parents' extended absence and anxiety over their safe return," said Jeff Slowikowski, OJJDP Acting Administrator. "These nine programs will provide children of military families a listening ear and caring support during a difficult time in their lives."

The nine organizations include:

Boys & Girls Clubs of America (Awarded: \$12,310,000) serves 458,994 youth in 386 youth centers in military communities worldwide, providing mentoring programs and services to children of military families.

Big Brothers Big Sisters (Awarded: \$3,310,000) operates the national Military Mentoring Program in more than 50 agencies, pairing youth who have parents in the military with adults in the military, ROTC, or in military school.

National 4-H Council (Awarded: \$1,310,000) recruits youth from military families to participate in mentoring programs and will start new program sites near military bases.

KidsPeace (Awarded: \$570,000) will establish the *Help for Military Families* e-mentoring program that will address the emotional needs of youth whose parents are deployed. The program will provide a platform for youth and their parents to openly communicate with e-mentors and with each other to mitigate the child's emotional struggles as a result of a parent's deployment.

Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation (Awarded: \$550,000), through a partnership with Child and Youth Programs of the Department of Defense, uses the foundation's Healthy Choices, Healthy Children Curriculum. The program emphasizes living a healthy lifestyle and is intended to be implemented in schools and through local sports organizations.

National Alliance of Faith & Justice (Awarded: \$550,000) will implement its "*PEN OR*

PENCIL" (POP) program in selected military communities. POP is a group and peer mentoring program to reduce juvenile delinquency.

Public/Private Ventures (Awarded: \$550,000), through its Amachi Multi-State Project, will enhance and expand mentoring services to underserved populations, specifically targeting children from military families.

YMCA of San Francisco (Awarded: \$550,000) supports Military Clinical Case Managers serving approximately 30 military families per year. The program recruits youth to participate in mentoring services, develops resources for families with one or more deployed caregivers, and provides comprehensive case management services.

Sea Research Foundation (Awarded: \$300,000), through its Immersion Mentoring program, provides a stabilizing influence for military youth and their families. Mentors will help mentees through STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) mentoring programs.

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OJP, headed by Assistant Attorney General Laurie O. Robinson, provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice, and assist victims. OJP has six components: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking. More information about OJP can be found at www.ojp.gov.