Child Protection: Law Enforcement

The safety and well-being of children are central to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention’s (OJJDP’s) mission. OJJDP enhances the efforts of federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies who investigate cases of missing, abducted, and exploited children; ensure that victims receive trauma-informed care; and bring offenders to justice.

Programs

**National Center for Missing & Exploited Children**
The center is an information clearinghouse and resource on missing and exploited children. It operates a 24-hour missing children’s hotline, a CyberTipline that processes reports of online child sexual exploitation, and a Child Victim Identification Program to help authorities determine the identities of children whose images appear in pornography. The center’s Team Adam provides rapid onsite assistance to law enforcement agencies and families in critical cases. During fiscal year 2019, the center helped to resolve cases involving 27,577 children who were reported missing.

- **Funding for fiscal years 2017–2019:** $90.2 million

**AMBER Alert Program**
AMBER Alert systems in each state issue alerts to the public—on highway signs, radio, television, wireless devices, and the Internet—when law enforcement determines that a child has been abducted and is in imminent danger. OJJDP offers training to enhance the state systems and expand AMBER Alert in Indian country. The Office also hosts an annual AMBER Alert symposium. By the end of 2019, a total of 977 children had been successfully recovered through the AMBER Alert program.

- **Funding for fiscal years 2017–2019:** $10.2 million

**Internet Crimes Against Children Program**
This program comprises a national network of 61 task forces representing more than 4,500 law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies, and has trained nearly 732,000 people to date on how to investigate and prosecute technology-facilitated crimes against children. Since the program’s inception through 2019, the task forces have reviewed more than 973,000 reports of online child exploitation, resulting in the arrest of more than 100,500 suspects.

- **Funding for fiscal years 2017–2019:** $94.4 million

For More Information