



United States
Department of Justice

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)



Briefing to U.S. DOJ's Global Advisory Committee October 24, 2012

Highlights of recent accomplishments:

- Over the past year OJJDP has elevated Information Sharing related issues and activities to heretofore unprecedented degrees of attention and senior-level oversight and taken a number of steps to both reinvigorate and strengthen its relationships with the federal government's NIEM (National Information Exchange Model) and Global Information Sharing initiatives — although OJJDP has partnered and provided resources in furtherance of these Initiatives since their inceptions;
- In recent months at OJJDP, we've been working closely with the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Assistance and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to integrate data from our model into a new Children, Youth and Family Services domain to be housed in NIEM;
- We've worked with the Georgia Tech Research Institute to upload the new domain into NIEM;
- OJJDP and our National Juvenile Information Sharing Initiative are members on the governing body of this new Children, Youth and Family Services domain along with the Administration of Children and Families and members of the juvenile justice and child welfare communities;
- Through our National Juvenile Information Sharing Initiative, we've responded to training and technical assistance requests from more than 25 states, and our assistance has covered a whole range of issues—
 - Implementing the Governance Guidelines for Juvenile Information Sharing
 - The development of key stakeholders and governance structure
 - Privacy issues
 - Consent and confidentiality processes
 - Training on information sharing and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
 - Initiating and documenting information exchanges
 - Assisting sites with identifying appropriate technology solutions and conducting technology and data inventories
 - How to create Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)
 - Drawing up data-sharing agreements and consent forms

- Recent updating of OJJDP’s ***Governance Guidelines for Juvenile Information Sharing*** – adopted in 19 states – along with youth specific information-sharing standards and processes that help ensure the most effective sharing of critical data across multiple agencies when developing cross system information sharing collaborations that are involved with children, youth and families;
- Completion of the working draft of our update to OJJDP’s 1997 guidebook, *Sharing Information: A Guide to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and Participation in Juvenile Justice Programs*:
 - OJJDP is engaged in gathering ongoing input from the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice (FACJJ) — supported by OJJDP and composed of appointed representatives of the nation’s State Advisory Groups (SAGs) — regarding juvenile justice system-related FERPA revision issues; as well as our from our counterparts at ED and various additional practitioner groups,
- Developing new and needed information exchanges and documentation for distribution to the juvenile and child welfare community;
- Working with two statewide initiatives (Colorado, Hawaii) on juvenile information sharing between multiple agencies that work with children and youth involved with multiple systems; and,
- Responding to technical assistance requests from 10 states related to governance structure, privacy, consent, **HIPAA, FERPA**, information exchanges, sustainability planning and pilot site development.
- Most recently, our information sharing work products and standards were included, together with faculty support, at Georgetown University’s first Information Sharing Certificate Program attended by a cross-section of more than forty (40) leaders from juvenile justice, probation-related, child welfare, education, law enforcement, and other organizations.

Items of Interest, Grant Announcements, etc.

- The Coordinating Council’s NEW Information Sharing Committee, Co-chaired by senior-level OJJDP and Department of Education Privacy Office staff, has begun staffing its membership and identifying information sharing issues from the juvenile justice field for submission to the Council for discussion, review and action.
 - Mr. Paul Embley, Chief Information Officer, National Center for State Courts, and Chairman, Global XML Structure Task Force (nominated by the Global Executive Steering Committee) was among the first members selected to serve on the new Committee.
- Our May 11th, 2012 meeting of the Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (CCJJDP) featured an update from its new Information Sharing Committee on initial steps being taken to address the needed revision of Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) guidelines for juvenile justice activities, programs and facilities commensurate with ED’s updated FERPA regulations.

Recent Publications (Web-based):

- A National Field Kit with reusable templates, sample governance structures, strategic plans, use cases and legal analysis tools was released by OJJDP’s national juvenile information sharing initiative earlier this summer;
- Online tools and webinars have been developed to assist juvenile justice and at-risk youth with understanding and using the National Information Exchange Model, privacy and consent webinars when working with FERPA and HIPAA, available on [juvenileis.org](http://www.juvenileis.org):

- At Training: <http://www.juvenileis.org/training.html>

"Re-Disclosing Children, Youth and Family Information – How, When and the Why"

"An Introduction to Information Sharing, XML and Other Standards – What It All Is and Why You Should Do it"

"CYFS Guided Tour – An Overview of the Children, Youth and Family Services Domain"

- Over the last 3 months, we’ve developed online tools and Webinars to help youth-serving agencies and communities understand the National Information Exchange Model. They’re available on the National Juvenile Information Sharing Initiative, available on [juvenileis.org](http://www.juvenileis.org):

- At Tools: <http://www.juvenileis.org/tools.html>

"Online NJISI Juvenile Legal Records Search tool"

"JJXplorer exploration and discovery tool for the Juvenile Justice XML Data Model (JJXDM)"

"NIEM online Extension Wizard tool"

Upcoming Events:

- Current plans are to complete revision of *Sharing Information: A Guide to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and Participation in Juvenile Justice Programs* over the next several months with release scheduled later this quarter.

Other:

- OJJDP has recently been granted authorization to dramatically reorganize its structure and staffing to better meet the demands of our mission and mandates;
- As a part of this reorganization, we’re looking into new and creative ways to better use our staff and resources to address juvenile information sharing challenges; promote best practices among practitioners and organizations; and foster interagency coordination of policies and procedures.