

# Federal Programs Supporting the CVI Ecosystem



**CVIPI**  
Community Based Violence Intervention  
and Prevention Initiative

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

**NIJ** National Institute  
of Justice  
STRENGTHEN SCIENCE. ADVANCE JUSTICE.

Office for Victims of Crime  
**OVC**



**BJA**  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice

# Federal Programs Supporting the CVI Ecosystem

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Overview of Reentry  
Employment Opportunities  
(REO)  
Reentry Resources

**Presenter: Andrea Bizzell**  
**Department of Labor**

# Biden-Harris Administration Priorities

The Administration is interested in

- ▶ **partnerships** between adult ed., community colleges, businesses, unions, state, local, and tribal governments, workforce boards, universities, and high schools
- ▶ to identify **in-demand skills** needed at the community level
- ▶ to develop and modernize the kinds of local training programs that lead to **high-demand industry-recognized credentials**

The Good Jobs Initiative calls for

- ▶ an economy that lifts up workers and families and makes businesses more competitive globally
- ▶ Learn more about the eight principles and partnership between the Departments of Commerce and Labor at:

<https://www.dol.gov/general/good-jobs>

# Department of Labor

## Equity Action Plan for Workforce Training

The mission of the public workforce system is to develop the welfare of job seekers by improving their working conditions and advancing opportunities for profitable employment. To accomplish this goal and foster equity, the Department must center historically marginalized and underserved workers and job seekers.

- ▶ As part of a White House-led effort to incorporate Community Violence Intervention (CVI) strategies, ETA will inform, support, and fund workforce system practitioners to participate in CVI; in addition to issuing guidance to grantees and leading cross-agency guidance for community-wide impact, ETA will award Reentry Employment Opportunities (REO) youth grants that focus on CVI strategies and best practices for serving populations that have higher incidents of poverty and homelessness.
- ▶ [DOL Equity Action Plan](#)

# Reentry Employment Opportunities (REO) Program Goals

- ✓ Improve workforce outcomes for justice-involved youth, young adults and adults.
- ✓ Assist communities in planning and implementing comprehensive reentry programs.
- ✓ Inform the public workforce system on how to best serve this population.
- ✓ Develop strategies and partnerships that facilitate successful workforce outcomes for participants.

# REO Growth Opportunities Grants

- ✓ Growth Opportunities grants prepare justice-involved youth and young adults for the world of work through education and training, 200 hrs. paid work experiences.
- ✓ The focus is on young adults impacted by community violence and the model of the initiative includes mentorship, conflict resolution components, and leadership development.
- ✓ Partnerships with violence prevention organizations and local employers are central to this effort.

# Eligible Participants

- ✓ At least 15 yrs. old and not older than 24 yrs. old
- ✓ Reside in or plan to return to the targeted geographic area identified by the grantee
- ✓ Have been expelled or had a juvenile or adult justice system contact
- ✓ Have risk-factors associated with delinquent or criminal activity

# REO Growth Opportunities Grants cont.

- ✓ GO grants aim to help young people identify and develop career interests, attain relevant skills and experience, and set them on a path to earn living wages and obtain high quality jobs and careers.
- ✓ June 2022 - 2024, over \$80 million in funds were awarded to 31 grantees.
- ✓ ETA released a new funding opportunity announcement (FOA) in the amount of \$85 million in funds across two program years. Closed on April 2, 2024.

# Employment Incentives

- ▶ **Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)** - authorized until December 31, 2025 - a Federal tax credit is available to employers for hiring individuals from certain targeted groups who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment. <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/wotc>
- ▶ **Federal Bonding Program (FBP)** - Provides \$5,000 to \$25,000 worth of fidelity bond coverage for the first six months of employment for justice-involved individuals with barriers to employment at no cost to the individual or employer. During 2019 and 2020, approximately \$3 million in grant funds were awarded to serve justice involved individuals. The program has facilitated more than 55,000 job placements since it began. <https://bonds4jobs.com/>

# Resource Page

- ✓ WorkforceGPS offers information, tools and ideas to practitioners serving individuals who are impacted by the justice system. The website is available at [REO.WorkforceGPS.org](https://REO.WorkforceGPS.org)
- ✓ Training and Employment Notice (TEN) 18-21 provides information on ways to expand violence intervention. [Information to Support CVI Strategies](#)
- ✓ CareerOneStop is a career, training, and job search website sponsored by ETA.
  - ✓ Reentry.CareerOneStop.org is an online, secure version of all CareerOneStop website content and tools with the external links disabled. The purpose of the Reentry CareerOneStop site is to provide correctional institutions and other secure facilities with access to CareerOneStop's full range of career, training, and job search resources without relying on the Internet. The websites are available at [Reentry.careeronestop.org](https://Reentry.careeronestop.org) (for pre-release use) or [Careeronestop.org/for-formerly-incarcerated/](https://Careeronestop.org/for-formerly-incarcerated/) (for post-release use).
- ✓ My Next Move website provides easy to read career exploration for jobseekers and the people that provide career advice. <https://www.mynextmove.org/>.

**For more information:**  
<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/reentry>

# Questions & Answers



