5. Program Budget: The applicant must provide a three year budget to be prepared by year. Any co-applicant associated costs must be detailed separately and accounted for in as much detail as the principal applicant. The applicant must provide a detailed justification for all costs by object class category as specified in the SF 424. Costs must be reasonable and the basis for these costs must be well documented in a separate budget narrative.

6. Products: A concise description of the products to be produced should be included. The applicant must describe existing and future program activities and products that have and will be developed or utilized to continue to service the program; and should describe how and who will be served by these products.

Selection Criteria

In general, all applications will be reviewed in terms of their demonstrated past, present, and potential ability to continue the development and provide the requisite services of a national resource center and clearinghouse for servicing missing and exploited children issues, as they are defined under title IV, The Missing Children's Assistance Act. The experience and knowledge involved for delivery of these services in a capable, efficient, and professional manner is a vital criterion for selection.

All applicants will be evaluated and rated based on the extent to which they meet the following criteria:

1. Organizational and programmatic capability must be demonstrated. The project management structure must be adequate for the successful conduct of the project. The applicant must have demonstrated clearinghouse and resource center program management and information technology capabilities and experience and capabilities in the areas described and defined throughout this solicitation; experience working with the various missing children issue groups and agencies at the national, state, municipal, community, individual levels, and international levels; providing technical assistance, training and information products related to missing and exploited children; providing missing child case assistance, analysis and coordination; promoting the development of professional approaches to missing children issues; providing assistance in organizational development processes for improved multi-agency delivery of services relating to missing children issues; and the relevant experience of applicant's staff in the missing children issues and their capabilities to address the

perceived program needs. Fiscal integrity and organizational stability must be demonstrated over time. (35 points)

2. The applicant must demonstrate an understanding of an approach to implementing the program objective of organizing, providing and maintaining the high level service delivery demands of a national resource center and clearinghouse for missing children. (30 points)

3. The qualifications of staff members identified to manage and implement the program, including consultants, must be adequate for the successful implementation of the objectives. (25 points)

4. The applicant must provide a sound and fully-justified budget that is cost effective to the service provided. The proposed costs must be complete, appropriate, and reasonable to the activities of the project. All costs should be fully justified in a budget narrative or with other supporting documentation. (10 points)

Award Period

The project period for the cooperative agreement supporting the missing and exploited children national resource center and clearinghouse is three (3) years. One cooperative agreement will be awarded with an initial budget period of 12 months.

Award Amount

Up to \$3,050,000 has been allocated for the initial budget period. Commensurate financial support for the remaining two project budget periods will be determined by the performance of the grantee, program development needs as determined by OJJDP, and the availability of funds.

Submission of Application

Applicants must submit the original, signed application (Standard Form 424) and two unbound copies to OJJDP. Application forms and supplementary information will be provided upon request for the Application Kit. Potential applicants should review the OJJDP Peer Review Guideline and the OJJDP Competition and Peer Review Procedures. These documents will be provided in the Application Kit.

Grant Program: Title IV Training and Technical Assistance

Purpose

The purpose of this solicitation is to establish a mechanism for the maintenance, management, and standardization of activities; program design, development, and implementation; and fiscal support

necessary to sustain those services required for the development of a coordinated and comprehensive Training and Technical Assistance Program under Title IV, the Missing Children's Assistance Act.

The award will be made for a project period of three years. One cooperative agreement will be awarded with an initial budget period of 12 months. Up to \$750,000 will be allocated for the initial 12 month award. Subsequent funding support will be determined by the performance of the grantee and program development needs as determined by OJJDP.

Background

Since the beginning of the Missing and Exploited Children's Program, OJJDP has funded an aggressive program of research and program development. The first major program was the establishment of a National Resource Center and Clearinghouse on Missing Children that was established under the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in April 1984. Since that time, OJJDP has funded numerous other programs and projects for the design, development, and implementation of model projects and approaches. Currently, OJJDP funds over fifty (50) programs and projects in this area, many of which have an emphasis on designing and developing training and technical assistance materials for practitioners on the local, state, and federal level.

Additionally, major studies funded by OJJDP have been completed that define and document the complex issues of missing children cases. The National Incidence Studies for Missing, Abducted, Runaway and Thrownaway Children in America (NISMART) was the first national study done that provides reliable data about the numbers and types of missing child cases and to clarify the types of cases and situations that make up the "missing children" population. Since the last Request for Proposals (RFP), other research projects have been completed that provide critical information about the dynamics of missing child cases, the psychological impact of abduction on children and families, and what happens after a missing child comes home.

It has become clear that there is not a single "missing child" problem. Children are abducted by strangers and acquaintances as well as by parents or other family members. The research has shown that family abduction is a far greater problem than previously realized, and the effects on children can be disastrous and long-lasting.