

Open Society Foundations Criminal Justice Fund

Proposal Title Page
Please complete and attach to the front of your proposal

Formal organization name as stated on IRS letter of tax determination:

The National Council on Crime and Delinquency

One-sentence description of the proposed initiative:

The purpose of this project is to... The National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) will provide research, technical support, and analysis of data to assist the San Francisco District Attorney’s Office in analyzing the provision of victim/witness services and claims processing; the analysis will focus on the organization’s position, performance, problems, and potential. This is a second component of NCCD’s application and we are not requesting additional funding.

Amount Requested: \$ No additional funds requested **Project Budget:** \$ _____ **Organization Budget:** \$ 20,149,288

Proposed Grant Period: From: 1/1/13 (Month/Day Year) To: 12/31/13 (Month/Day/Year)

Proposal/Project Contact (Principal Investigator):
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Date Letter of tax determination issued: 1948



Signature of Proposal Contact

11/26/12

Date

ORGANIZATION

Proposal to the Open Society Foundations' Criminal Justice Fund

I. Project Summary (1-3 paragraphs) The project summary should provide an at-a-glance overview of the funding request and the main project objectives, and activities. Please use the following as a guide:

The San Francisco District Attorney's Office (SFDA) Task Force for Enhancing Justice for Victims seeks to create a framework for addressing victims' needs through a comprehensive, coordinated community response. The first step in creating this framework is to identify the gaps in support and services facing crime victims in San Francisco, which the SFDA is doing by conducting a series of focus groups with crime victims and surveying a sample of victims to measure their satisfaction with the SFDA Victim Services response. The SFDA also has created a Victim Advisory Committee.

In coordination with Maria Bee of the SFDA's Victim Services Division, NCCD will conduct an analysis of the provision of victim/witness services provided by the SFDA. This analysis will focus on the organization's position, performance, problems, and potential. This analysis will not only support and inform the work of San Francisco, but other counties too, as the need for resources and services for those returning to the community are balanced with restoring victims and making communities whole.

II. Organization Description and History (3-5 paragraphs)

In this section, please provide a brief description and history of the organization seeking funding. Organizations or programs working with a fiscal sponsor must also include a brief organization and history description of the fiscal sponsor. Please include:

- The organization's history and mission;
- The organization's primary initiatives, projects, and/or issue areas;
- The strategies the organization employs to carry out its mission; and
- Major recent accomplishments, including dates.

NCCD was founded in 1907 to help reform the juvenile court movement as a means to keep children out of the criminal justice system. Today, NCCD's mission is to promote just and equitable social systems for individuals, families, and communities through research, public policy, and practice. Our breadth extends to child welfare, adult corrections, juvenile justice, adult protective services, LGBT and gender-specific issues, economic support programs, data monitoring, and education. We operate two centers: The Children's Research Center (CRC) was established to help state and child welfare agencies reduce child abuse and neglect by developing decision-support systems and conducting research to improve service delivery to clients; the Center for Girls and Young Women focuses on advocacy, research, assessment, training, and evaluation to help juvenile justice and child welfare systems meet the needs of girls and young women.

NCCD works with states, counties, legislators, law enforcement, and public and private organizations to demonstrate, test, and evaluate innovative alternatives to ineffective and costly adult criminal justice practices. We also collaborate with community, state, and federal partners as well as local and national foundations to develop and conduct program evaluation, risk assessments, planning studies, analyses of disparities, and topic-specific research. By employing research and development, advocacy, technical assistance, and training, NCCD pioneers examinations of issues such as disparate pre-trial lengths of stay, sentences, and terms of probation. These efforts have already yielded significant benefits by critically analyzing theories of violence, gathering data on these topics, offering recommendations for change, and working with communities to implement reforms. We collaborate with community, state, and federal partners as well as local and national foundations to develop and conduct program evaluation, risk assessments, planning studies, analyses of disparities, and topic-specific research.

NCCD has worked for juvenile and criminal justice system reform for a century, and that passion continues today. We are training institutions on restorative justice, which brings offenders and victims together to engage in reconciliation and repair. Numerous studies show increased victim satisfaction,

reductions in recidivism, and higher levels of plan completion. In addition, an NCCD study on future bed-space needs for youth detained in Baltimore's criminal justice system halted plans for construction of a new juvenile facility there. We also developed the National Resource Center for the Elimination of Prison Rape to assist adult and juvenile corrections, detention, and law enforcement professionals in eliminating sexual assault in confinement. In California, we are supporting sustainable, long-term criminal justice reform through our Realignment Partnerships Program. The program will provide research-based technical assistance to the state's counties so that low-risk offenders can be handled effectively and safely through diversion and other alternatives.

NCCD's broad range of research capabilities and expertise offers many ways to assist the San Francisco Sentencing Commission in reaching its goals. We have worked extensively in the adult corrections and juvenile justice systems and are currently working with jurisdictions to modify sentencing laws and correctional practices. Our research examines alternatives to incarceration and considers ways in which incarcerated individuals can be placed in less secure settings without decreasing public safety. NCCD also examines the availability of community-based correctional programs, develops blueprints for the most appropriate programs, and determines costs. In addition, NCCD:

- Has extensive experience and expertise conducting analyses of data that will be key to developing an overview of the population of interest (or population included in the Public Safety Realignment Act). Using extracts of data, we have conducted analyses of local data to characterize a specific population, e.g., by examining risk assessment scores for those who were arrested to determine the needed number of drug treatment services, anger management services, or other interventions. NCCD has conducted detention projection studies that use data from administrative databases to clarify how many bed spaces were needed under various scenarios when the agency was planning a new building. NCCD used data from an earlier period to estimate future workloads, provided recommendations to adopt "best practice" standards in order to improve public safety and the rehabilitation of juvenile and adult correctional clients, and routinely calculates recidivism rates during evaluation studies.
- Facilitated a collaboration of seven Bay Area counties interested in monitoring changes in their probation populations under AB109. NCCD will compile individual level data from each of these counties and complete a data profile that includes information about the flow of prisoners from the state prison system onto probation caseloads. NCCD will also look at sentencing inconsistencies by the courts.
- Is working with the Santa Clara County Re-Entry Network to develop a reentry plan that incorporates best practices in risk and needs assessment. NCCD also has a contract with the Santa Clara County Probation Department and Sheriff's Office to provide the Criminal Assessment and Intervention System™ (CAIS), a risk and needs assessment tool that will be used to shape probation recommendations and case management of prisoners and probationers.
- Has worked with Santa Cruz County to provide technical assistance around the implementation of risk and needs assessments and system change under the Public Safety Realignment Act. This work included providing guidance on the development of a probation violation response grid intended to de-accelerate probation responses to technical violations.

III. Project Overview/Background (1-2 pages)

In this section, please describe the overall project, making sure to address the following, at minimum:

- **The specific issue(s) and long-term goal(s) that the proposed project seeks to advance;**
- **The project's main objectives (defined, measurable, and achievable plans of action that, if achieved, move a project toward meeting its long-term goal), including relevant strategy/ies (e.g.,**

Policy analysis/research, public education, Policy advocacy, community organizing/mobilization, coalition-building, impact litigation) and target audience(s) and/or decision maker(s); and

- The constituency served and/or mobilized by the project.

[If this is a request for renewal project funding, please include a description of the activities undertaken during your previous OSF grant, and explain how the proposed project will build on the project's previous work and benefit from lessons learned.]

The SFDA Task Force for Enhancing Justice for Victims formed after SFDA staff attended the statewide conference, *Real Justice: Victims' Rights Delivered*. The conference brought together victims' rights experts to discuss best practices and identify gaps in services. Some discussion focused on the best ways to implement Marsy's Law, the constitutional amendment passed in 2008 that provides all crime victims with rights to justice and due process and gives them a greater right to be involved in the criminal justice process. One of the speakers at the conference, Susan Herman, explained the concept of Parallel Justice. This is a new framework for responding to crime and is based on the premise that in addition to holding offenders accountable for their crimes, society has separate obligations to repair the harm experienced by victims.

Currently, a communal response to bring an offender to justice exists, but no similar societal commitment pertains to justice for victims. With realignment bringing increased attention and funding to the criminal justice system, and the obligation to ensure victims' constitutional rights are enforced, the SFDA is working to create a framework that supports Parallel Justice in San Francisco. Identifying the gaps in support and services facing crime victims in San Francisco is an essential first step to creating this important framework.

The SFDA Victim Services Division is the identified primary provider of victim services in San Francisco. In 2011, the Victim Services Division served more than 5,000 victims and witnesses. Of those, over 67% were people of color. These victims were also disproportionately lower income. As a long-term goal, this department seeks to create a framework where victims' needs are addressed through a comprehensive, coordinated communal response. In coordination with Maria Bee of the SFDA Victim Services Division, NCCD will analyze the provision of victim/witness services provided by the SFDA. Data obtained through this process will inform the development of the City and County of San Francisco's (CCSF) victim-centered protocols and policies. It will also support CCSF's ability to marshal public and private resources for the provision of comprehensive and coordinated victims' assistance—including programs that ensure victims' continued safety—and provide the support, counseling, and empowerment necessary for returning to a productive community life. NCCD will assist the SFDA Victim Services Division with the following tasks:

- Identify strengths and gaps in services to crime victims served by SFDA and other San Francisco agencies;
- Identify strengths and gaps in SFDA victim services policies;
- Make recommendations to improve Victim Services Division practices and inform the overall victim services strategic planning process;
- Increase program accountability and client confidence;
- Identify a system for evaluation that builds a common understanding between program and policy makers; and
- Identify effective methods for reporting to stakeholders and the public.

IV. Activities for Which OSF Funds Are Sought (1-2 pages)

In this section, please outline the specific activities (as concretely and fully as possible) that advance the project objectives discussed in the previous section and that OSF funding will enable your organization to undertake. Include a concrete and full description of any tangible outcomes (e.g., reports, issue briefs, op-eds, convenings, etc.) that would result directly from these activities.

Objective: Identify strengths and gaps in services to crime victims served by SFDA and other San Francisco agencies. In support of this objective, NCCD will provide various forms of technical assistance, research, and data analysis. In addition, NCCD will perform and/or assist the SFDA Victim Services Division in the following ways:

- Activity 1: Analyze survey data. The SFDA Victim Services Division administered surveys to a sample of crime victims to gauge the effectiveness of services and the support needed. NCCD will gather and analyze the survey data.
- Activity 2: Develop focus group protocol.
- Activity 3: Facilitate focus groups with crime victims. The focus groups will include different ethnic, linguistic, gender, and age demographics and will include victims whose cases were charged and uncharged.
- Activity 4: Analyze focus group results.
- Activity 5: Provide recommendations based on analysis of survey and focus group data.

V. Project Work Plan/Timeline (1-2 pages)

Task Timeline Victim Services Gap Analysis	Due Date								
	Jan. 2013	Feb. 2013	March 2013	April 2013	May 2013	June 2013	July 2013	Aug. 2013	Sept. 2013
Meet with SFDA Victim Services Division staff	X								
Develop focus group protocol		X							
Conduct five focus groups		X	X	X					
Analyze focus group results							X		
Analyze survey data					X	X	X		
Provide recommendations and summary data based on survey and focus group data									X

VI. Attachments

Please provide the following proposal attachments:

- Attachment A: Project Budget
- Attachment B: Organizational Budget
- Attachment C: Financial Statement
- Attachment D: Staff Biographies
- Attachment E: 501c3 Letter
- Attachment F: Banking Information

Note: NCCD does not have an annual report

VII. Bank information

See Attachment F