

DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

November 2014

1. Center for Children's Law and Policy's *Racial and Ethnic Disparities Reduction Project.*

The Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services in partnership with the City of Las Vegas submitted an application for the Center for Children's Law and Policy's Racial and Ethnic Disparities Reduction Project. This project is funded through a private-public partnership between the Office of Justice Programs' Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation (MacArthur Foundation), the Center for Children's Law and Policy (CCLP). Two jurisdictions will be selected to engage in a strategic and data-driven effort to reduce racial and ethnic disparities and Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) at the local level.

If selected, the project will provide technical assistance to engage in sustainable and effective DMC reduction strategies. The project will make use of the structured, data-driven approach that produced measurable racial and ethnic disparities reductions in Models for Change and DMC Action Network sites. Participation in the project will bring significant benefits including:

- Intensive site-based training and technical assistance and support from CCLP;
- Funding of up to \$25,000 to support local efforts;
- Contact and potential collaboration with the diverse network of jurisdictions that have participated in Models for Change and the DMC Action Network;
- Access to the latest developments in reduction of racial and ethnic disparities via a monthly electronic newsletter, website, and technical assistance; and
- Recognition of leadership in this area by the MacArthur Foundation and OJJDP.

2. Municipal Leadership for Juvenile Justice Reform Request For Proposals

The City of Las Vegas in partnership with the Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services submitted an application to participate in a 14-month technical assistance initiative to help mayors and other city leaders launch and enhance locally-led juvenile justice reforms. The Project implementation will take place between December 5, 2015 and February 29, 2016. The project will directly engage mayors and key city and juvenile justice partners to implement model policy and practice shifts that are based on data and evidence of success. Three key goals of juvenile justice reform will be advanced through the project: 1) to build a robust continuum of community-based alternatives to arrest and prosecution; 2) to reduce racial and ethnic disparities; and 3) to improve opportunities for youth returning to communities from

confinement and supervision. This project is supported by Supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Models for Change Initiative.

3. My Brother's Keeper

In February 2014, President Obama launched the "My Brother's Keeper" initiative to address persistent opportunity gaps faced by boys and young men of color and ensure that all young people can reach their full potential. My Brother's Keeper seeks to bring together leaders, organizations, and people in communities around the country to work to improve the life outcomes of young people in America.

On Monday, November 10th, the city of Las Vegas, in partnership with Nevada Partners, hosted the My Brother's Keeper Challenge Summit with local officials and community leaders to discuss ways to better serve community youth.

At the Las Vegas summit, leaders discussed existing local policies, programs and practices in search of ways to introduce or expand on existing efforts to better serve the needs of the community youth as it relates to education and the justice system.

The goal of the summit was to find ways to ensure:

- All of our children read at grade level by third grade
- All of our young people graduate from high school
- We eliminate the "school to prison pipeline" by addressing the disproportionate number of minority children that enter the juvenile justice system

The My Brother's Keeper is a collective effort that involves the city of Las Vegas, Clark County School District, Nevada Partners, Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice Services and a host of community stakeholders to ensure these goals are met. This includes working with officials along with parents, to reduce school suspensions and expulsions, through increasing access to community-based services.