

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Award Title: Answering Gideon's Call: National Assistance to Improve the Effectiveness of the Right to Counsel Services

Award Description:

This program is funded under the Edward Byrne Memorial Competitive Grant Program (Byrne Competitive Program), which helps communities improve the functioning and capacity of state and local criminal justice systems. The Answering Gideon's Call: National Assistance to Improve the Effectiveness of Right to Counsel Services Initiative is in response to the U.S. Supreme Court landmark decision Gideon v. Wainwright of 1963, which guaranteed the right to counsel in criminal cases in every state. In the criminal justice system, indigent defense providers are often underfunded and understaffed, severely affecting the delivery of effective, efficient, and quality legal representation for indigent criminal defendants.

The Answering Gideon's Call: National Assistance to Improve the Effectiveness of Right to Counsel Services Initiative is designed to improve the quality of representation of indigent defendants and ensure professional and ongoing technical assistance to the indigent defense delivery services guided by the Ten Principles of a Public Defense Delivery System, promulgated by the American Bar Association (ABA) in 2002.

The American University will use the cooperative agreement funds to refine its self-assessment tool (GIDEONline) and distribute it to 1,000 state and local indigent defense service providers to evaluate the degree to which they are achieving the Ten Principles. The goal of this initiative is to provide resources to enhance state and local jurisdictions' ability to provide quality representation to indigent defendants and promote implementation of innovative strategies that incorporate the ABA's Ten Principles.

CA/NCF

Awardee Name: American University	Award Number: 2013-DB-BX-K003
Solicitation Title: BJA FY 13 Answering Gideon's Call: National Assistance To Improve the Effectiveness of Right to Counsel Services	Fiscal Year: 2013
Supplement Number: 00	Amount: \$450,000.00
Earmark: No	Recovery Act: No
State/Territory: DC	County: District of Columbia
Congressional District: 98	Award Status: Closed