

---

# **Overview of the Center for Sex Offender Management**

---

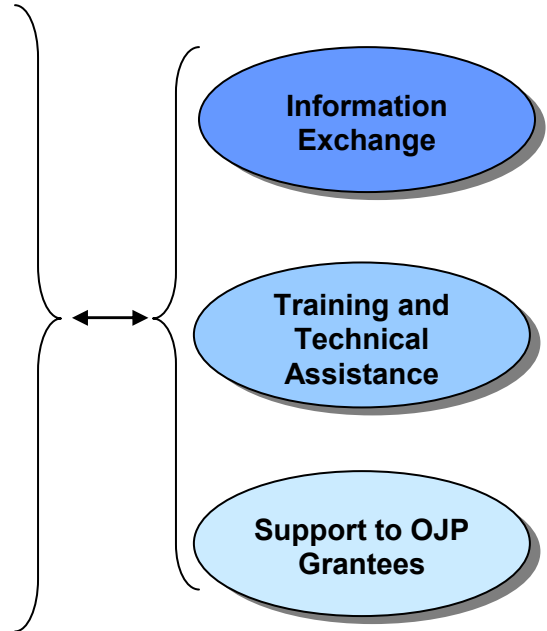
Updated: July 31, 2010

## OVERVIEW OF THE CENTER FOR SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT (CSOM)

### *Goal of the Center for Sex Offender Management*

CSOM's goal is to enhance public safety by preventing further victimization through improving the management of sex offenders who are in the community. This goal is carried out through three activity areas:

- Providing ready access to the most current knowledge and evidence-based approaches to those responsible for managing sex offenders by synthesizing and disseminating knowledge and practices to the field.
- Capturing the lessons from communities around the country who have demonstrated—through collaboration between criminal justice and health system agencies—that they can manage sex offenders and increase public safety, and disseminating those lessons so that others might learn from them.
- Providing the opportunity for other jurisdictions to draw upon these experiences, enhance their own practices, and create similar results in their communities, by offering a variety of training and technical assistance opportunities to agencies and jurisdictions.

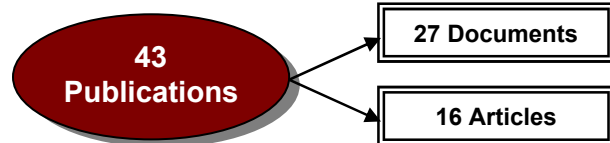


## INFORMATION EXCHANGE

The Information Exchange is CSOM's vehicle to provide useful, current, and readily accessible information to the field, including a wide array of resource materials and referrals to other organizations that can assist practitioners. Through this effort, CSOM collects and synthesizes information on sex offender management strategies from jurisdictions across the nation, and then shares that information with others.

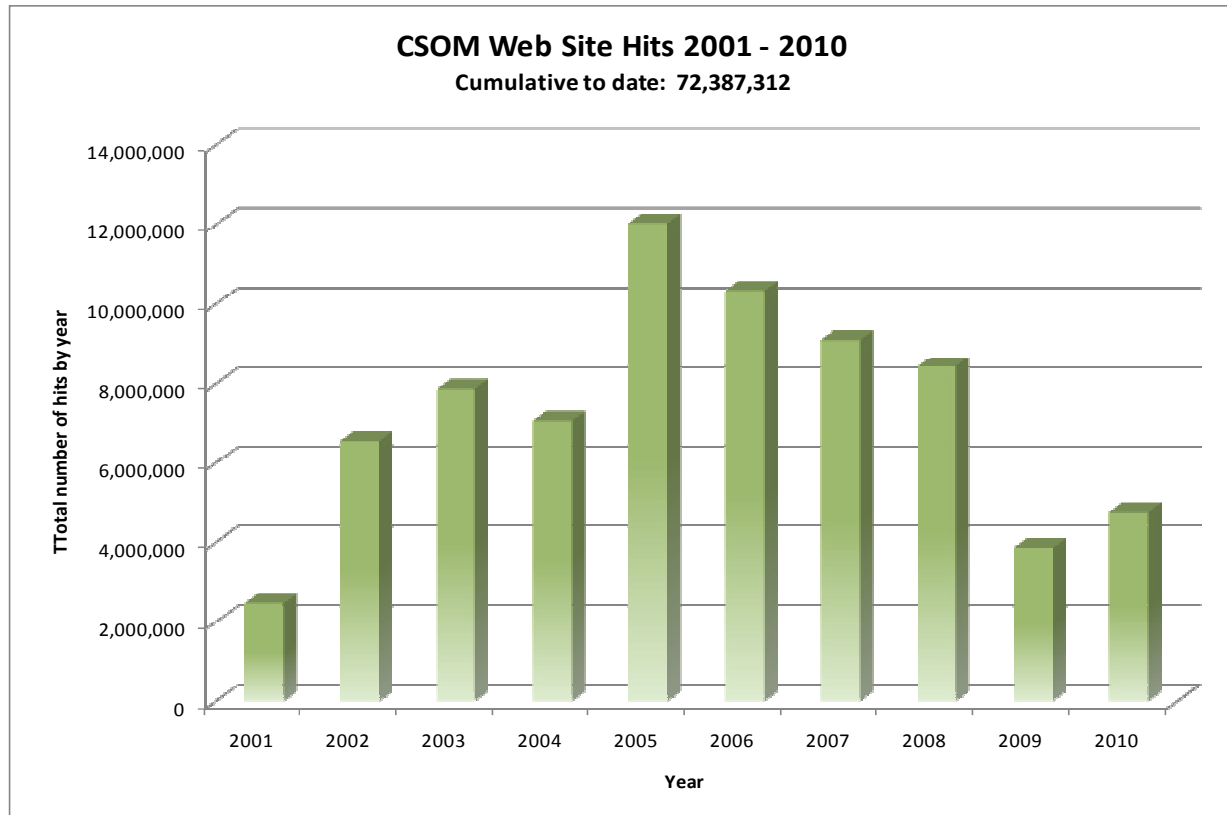
### Documents

CSOM publishes relevant and user-friendly documents, including policy and practice briefs and other publications, in order to inform the field about the management of sex offenders and to promote promising practices. CSOM has produced 27 documents and submitted an additional 16 articles for publication in various professional journals and newsletters.

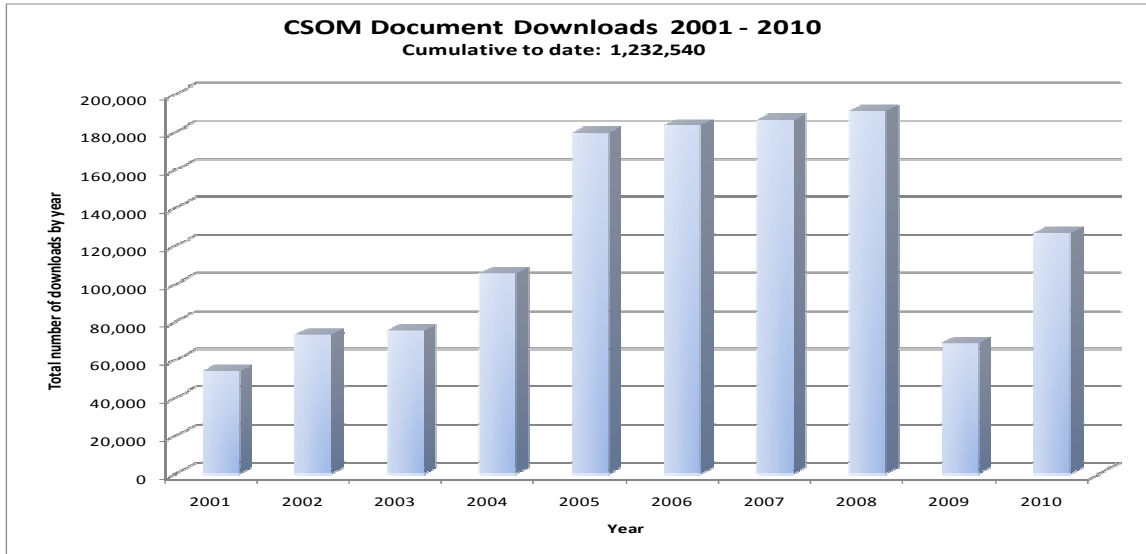


### Web Site

CSOM seeks to provide ready access to information through the Internet as a means of efficient and widespread information dissemination. The CSOM Web site serves as a forum through which practitioners can access educational materials, CSOM documents, a comprehensive bibliography on issues related to sex offender management, information about upcoming training opportunities from around the nation, and other practical resources.

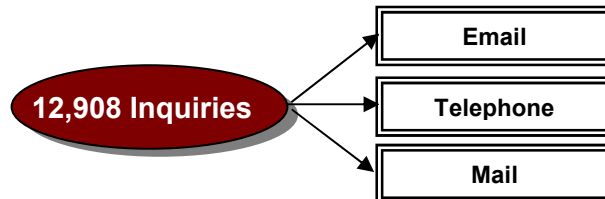


Over 72 million hits have been recorded and over 1.2 million copies of CSOM documents have been downloaded from the CSOM Web site since its inception (November 1998).



**Off-Site Technical Assistance**

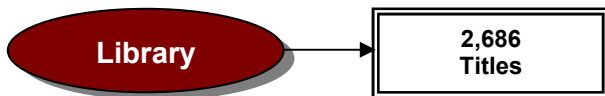
CSOM serves as a resource to those in the sex offender management field on a variety of issues. CSOM staff routinely respond to inquiries on issues ranging from sex offender treatment and risk assessment to community supervision and community notification. CSOM collects data on each inquiry received, including the requestor, the nature of the request, and how the request is met. CSOM has responded to 12,908 telephone, mail, and e-mail inquiries (averaging 75 per month) from practitioners and others.



**Comprehensive Library**

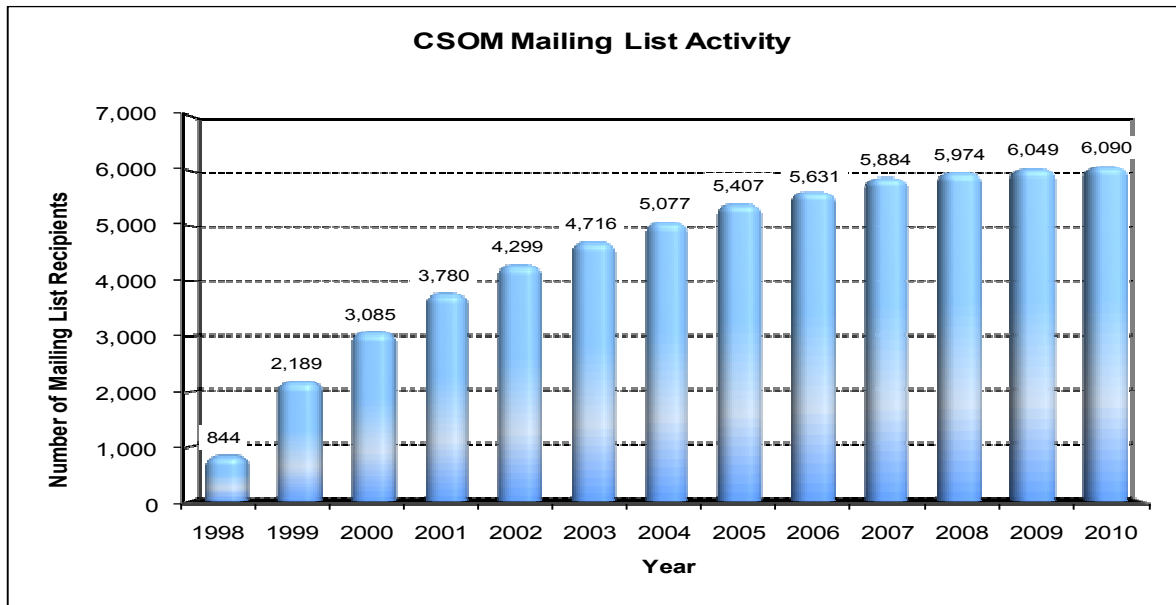
CSOM is committed to maintaining a library of accessible resource materials pertaining to the myriad of issues related to sex offender management. The CSOM library, which serves as an important resource to the staff in their

responses to technical assistance requests and their development of training materials, currently contains 2,686 titles.



**Mailing List**

CSOM provides periodic updates to the individuals on its mailing list regarding the activities of the project; emerging issues, practices, and research in the field; training opportunities; and other available resources. The current CSOM mailing list is comprised of over 6,900 individuals who represent probation and parole, the courts, law enforcement, corrections, victim advocacy, state legislatures, and other disciplines.



## COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT PROTOCOL (CAP)

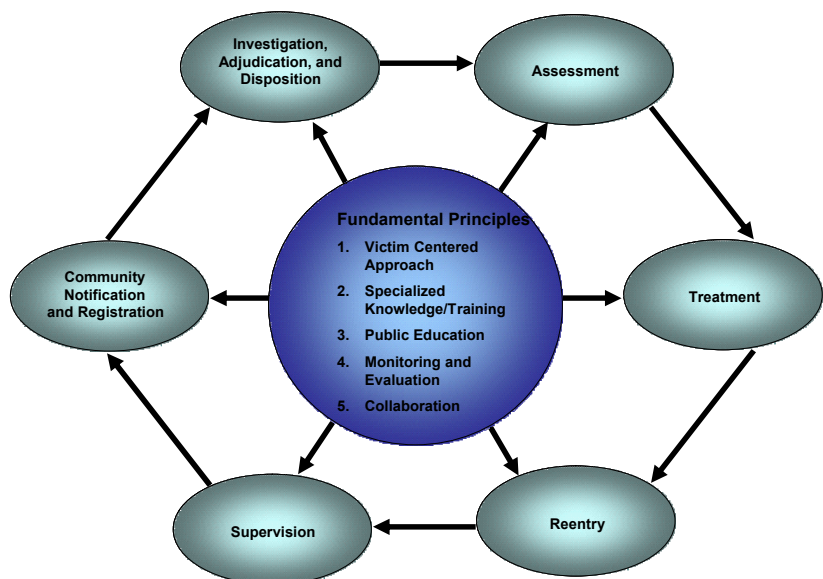
In order to assist state and local jurisdictions in developing, assessing and strengthening their approach to managing sex offenders, CSOM has developed a document that: synthesizes research and best practice regarding the most effective approaches to the management of sex offenders; assists jurisdictions in understanding their current policies and practices; aids jurisdictions in identifying the gaps in their current approach to sex offender management; and promotes informed policy decisions and case decisionmaking.

The document outlines the fundamental principles of the model approach to sex offender management, the *Comprehensive Approach to Sex Offender Management*. These principles inform action at all stages of the criminal justice system:

- Collaboration
- Victim-Centeredness
- Specialized Knowledge and Training
- Public Education
- Monitoring and Evaluation

The *Comprehensive Approach* addresses the six key substantive components of sex offender management.

- Investigation, Adjudication, and Disposition
- Assessment
- Treatment
- Reentry



- Supervision
- Community Notification and Registration

Authored by CSOM staff, the CAP has been reviewed by over 30 international experts representing the fields of sex offender treatment, supervision, law enforcement, research, victim advocacy, prosecution, defense, sentencing, and corrections. In addition, the CAP has been pilot tested with BJA's FY03, FY04, FY05, and FY06 *Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management* grantees.

## TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### Development of Training Curricula

CSOM is developing a set of training curricula on sex offender management that addresses supervision, treatment, assessment, and other issues. The curricula are the first comprehensive, written, stand alone set of materials on these topics; they are made available to jurisdictions nationwide on the CSOM Web site, and in CD-ROM and print formats. They include the following:

- *An Overview of Sex Offender Treatment for a Non-Clinical Audience*
- *Educating the Community about Sexual Assault and the Management of Sex Offenders in the Community*
- *Supervision of Sex Offenders in the Community*
- *The Central Role of Victims and Victim Advocates in Managing Sex Offenders*
- *The Effective Management of Juvenile Sex Offenders in the Community*
- *Secondary Trauma and the Management of Sex Offenders in the Community*
- *Understanding Sex Offenders: An Introductory Curriculum*

The screenshot shows the CSOM website interface. At the top, it reads 'CENTER FOR SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT' and 'Supervision of Sex Offenders in the Community A Training Curriculum'. Below this is a search bar and navigation links: 'Overview | Issues & Cautions | User's Guide | Recommended Readings | Download Center | Search | Site Map'. The main content area is titled 'Curriculum Overview' and contains the following text:

Despite longer sentences and a greater likelihood of incarceration, most sex offenders will spend some time under community supervision after a period of incarceration or as a direct sentence of probation. They present a wide variety of unique challenges to the probation and parole agencies that are primarily responsible for supervising them in the community on a daily basis.

**Curriculum Overview**  
This curriculum provides information and materials (lecture content, participant materials, slides, references, etc.) designed to equip knowledgeable trainers to plan and deliver three different versions (short, medium, and long) of a training on the supervision of sex offenders in the community. For a very quick preview of all the contents of this curriculum, click on the "site map." From this [site map](#), users can click directly on any part of the curriculum that is of particular interest to them. The curriculum:

- Articulates the wide variety of challenges involved in supervising sex offenders in the community, particularly the ways in which they differ from other populations under supervision;
- Provides an overview of current knowledge on the incidence and prevalence of sexual offending and its impact upon victims;
- Summarizes information on types of sex offenders and what is known about the etiology of sex offending behavior;
- Synthesizes the experiences and lessons from many agencies around the nation who have developed innovative approaches to sex offender supervision in response to the challenges presented by this population; and
- Provides guidance for probation/parole officers, supervisors and policy makers, as well as for treatment providers, polygraph examiners, and others who work with supervision agencies to ensure the safe and effective supervision of sex offenders in the community.

All curriculum materials are available for review on the screen and also accessible in easy-to-print format by clicking on the [Download Center](#).

**Issues and Cautions for Users**  
Perhaps the most important caution for anyone planning this training is to remember that this is an opportunity for adult learning. That means that you have participants with a rich set of experiences—whether or not they are specifically related to sex offender supervision or to other endeavors. Do not plan this training as a straight lecture. Avail yourselves of the exercises and discussion questions. Invariably participants in trainings such as this take away much more useful information when they have the opportunity to engage one another actively in discussions that relate the material being presented to their own experiences.

Other issues and cautions relate to qualifications of trainers, the use of a team training approach, the importance of adapting the curriculum to your needs, etc.

**User's Guide**  
The *User's Guide* previews the format of the "Presentation Content and Teaching Notes" components of the curriculum and explains the participant materials and slides provided. It also offers some hints for training techniques and methods.

**Recommended Readings**  
CSOM's National Resource Group—a twenty-five member group of leading policymakers, practitioners, and researchers in the field of sex offender management—has developed a list of recommended readings, reflecting the state of the art in research and practice in sex offender management.

**Evaluation Form**  
This curriculum includes an evaluation form that can be used to assess how well the training you provide, based on this curriculum, has achieved its goals. You should feel free to adapt the form to more accurately reflect the specific goals of your training event.

**Acknowledgments**  
On behalf of the **Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice**, the Center for Sex Offender Management would like to thank the individuals who guided and supported the development of this curriculum on Supervision of Sex Offenders in the Community. They provided assistance in a variety of ways: as members of CSOM's National Resource Group, as members of its Curriculum Development Committee, as reviewers, and as resource advisors whom we called upon at various times throughout the process of developing this curriculum. Without their knowledge, insight, and generosity, this curriculum could not have been completed.

This project is supported by Cooperative Agreement No. 97-WT-VX-K007, awarded by the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

[Supervision Curriculum Home](#) / [CSOM Training Home](#) / [AskCSOM@CSOM.org](#) / [Site Map](#) / [Contact Us](#) / [OJP Home](#) / [CSOM Home](#)

### **Live Training Events and Technical Assistance**

One of the primary goals of CSOM is to respond to the pressing need in the field for training and technical assistance. CSOM designs and delivers intensive training programs, in single and multidisciplinary settings, to provide basic knowledge to practitioners in the sex offender management field and to highlight the critical need for interagency collaboration in this work. Those who bear responsibility for the disposition, supervision, and treatment of sex offenders must have information on effective strategies to manage this population. The training component of the project delivers a constant stream of new information and learning about the challenges the field is facing and new efforts to address those challenges. This increases CSOM's knowledge and experience base, and fosters the development of promising approaches that can be shared with the field. Intensive training events focus on several key issues:

- The roles that the criminal justice, treatment, and victim advocacy communities play in the case management process;
- The importance of collaboration in the case management process and in the development of state and local policy that promotes effective management practices; and
- The practical application of emerging research and best practice to those working directly with sex offenders.

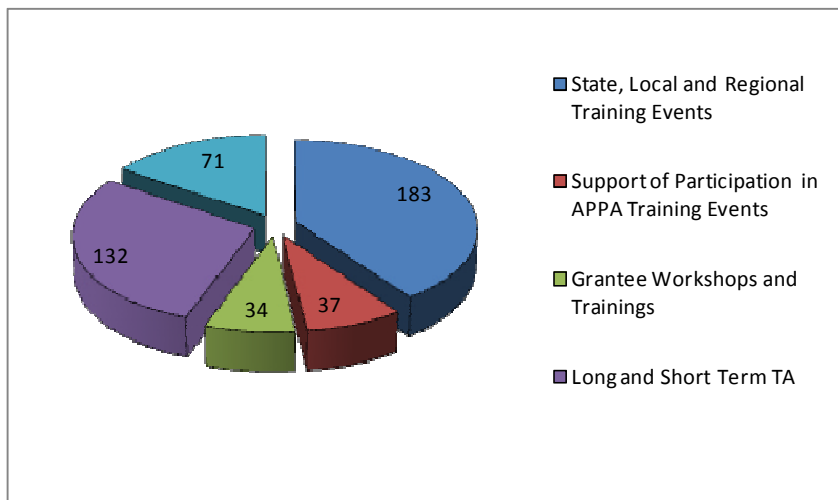
In addition to training, CSOM provides technical assistance in a variety of forms to support jurisdictions that have demonstrated their commitment to establishing effective sex offender management strategies and who want to explore further innovations in the implementation and delivery of those strategies.

These forms of technical assistance may include:

- The provision of documents;
- Referrals to other practitioners for discussion and advice;
- The inclusion of practitioners in CSOM's training programs; and
- On-site assistance from practitioners, trainers, researchers, and other individuals who address the unique needs of a particular jurisdiction or agency.

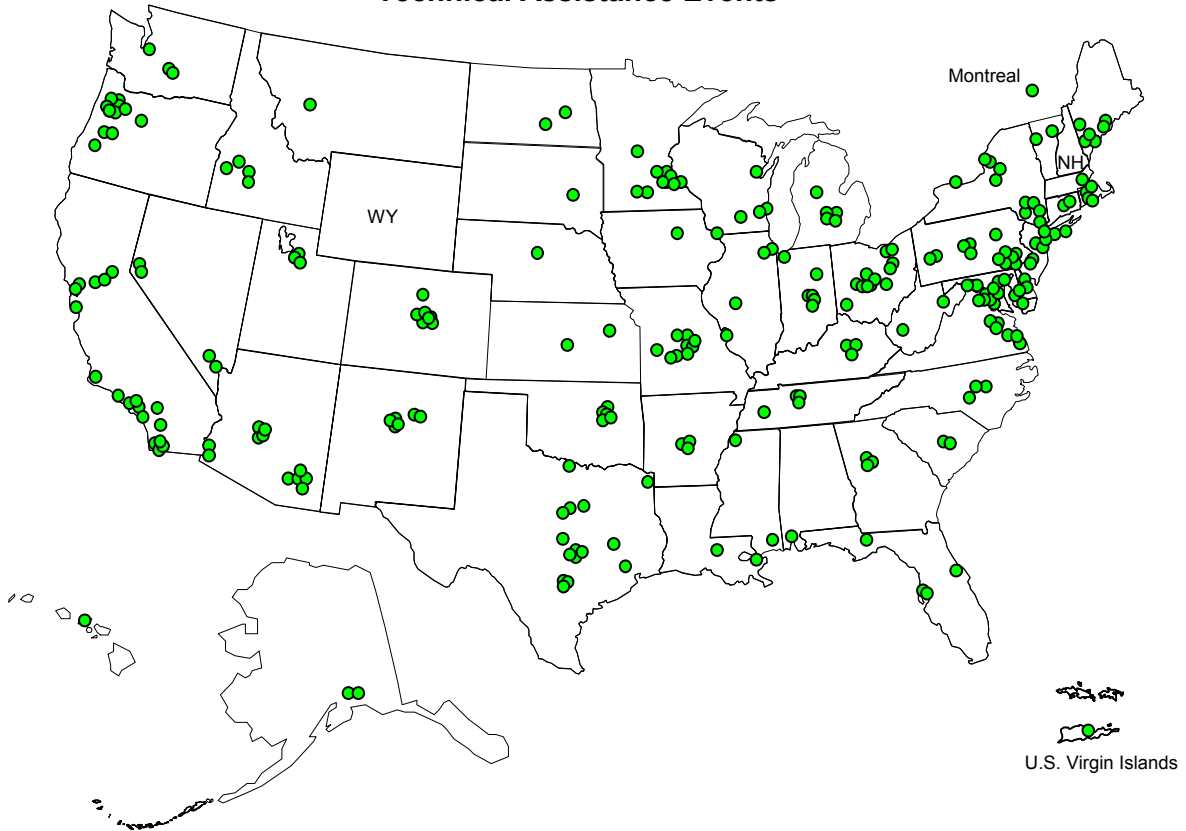
To date, CSOM has provided training and technical assistance to 457 state, local, and tribal jurisdictions, training over 67,000 participants:

- The project has provided 132 instances of short- and long-term technical assistance.
- The project has convened or provided support to 71 national conference-based training conferences, training 49,086 participants.
- The project has convened 183 statewide, local or



- regional training events, training 15,015 participants.
- The project has supported the participation of 131 participants from 37 jurisdictions in APPA's bi-annual training institutes.
  - The project has convened 34 national and local workshops and training events for jurisdictions participating in the *Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management Grant Program*, training 2,708 participants.

### Location of CSOM Training and Technical Assistance Events



**TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO JURISDICTIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE COMPREHENSIVE APPROACHES TO SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM**

The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), is sponsoring the *Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management Grant Program* (CASOM) to address the critical needs of jurisdictions across the country as they strategically plan and implement a comprehensive, collaborative approach to managing sex offenders under community supervision. CSOM provides training and technical assistance to jurisdictions participating in this grant program.

To date, a total of 118 grants have been awarded under the *Comprehensive Approaches to Sex Offender Management's* FY99, FY00, FY01, FY02, FY03, FY04, FY05, and FY06 initiatives.

*Planning Sites*

Alabama, State of (FY00)  
 Arizona, Pascua Yaqui Tribe (FY01)  
 Arizona, Tohono O'odham Nation (FY01)  
 Arkansas, State of (FY99)  
 California, Fresno County (FY01)  
 California, San Diego County (FY99)  
 California, San Luis Obispo (FY99)  
 Idaho, State of (FY99)  
 Illinois, State of (FY00)  
 Louisiana, State of (FY01)  
 Maryland, City of Baltimore (FY99)  
 Michigan, Kent County (FY01)  
 Montana, Fort Peck Tribe (FY00)  
 Nebraska, State of (FY01)  
 New Jersey, State of (FY99)  
 New Mexico, Santa Fe County (FY00)  
 New York, Capital District (FY00)  
 New York, City of New York (FY99)  
 New York, Oswego County (FY99)  
 New York, St. Lawrence County (FY00)  
 New York, St. Regis Mohawk Tribe (FY00)  
 New York, Ulster County (FY99)  
 North Carolina, State of (FY01)  
 Ohio, Clermont County (FY01)  
 Ohio, Cuyahoga County (FY99)  
 Ohio, Montgomery County (FY99)  
 Oklahoma, State of (FY00)  
 Oregon, Lane Council of Governments (FY01)  
 Rhode Island, State of (FY99)  
 South Dakota, Yankton-Sioux Tribe (FY99)  
 Texas, Kerr County (FY01)  
 West Virginia, State of (FY99)  
 Wisconsin, Oneida Tribe (FY99)  
 Wisconsin, State of (FY01)

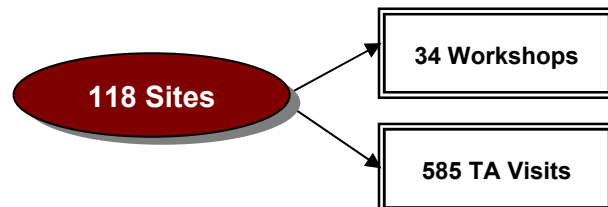
*Implementation/Enhancement Sites*

Alabama, City of Cullman (FY06)  
 Alaska, State of (FY02)  
 Alaska, State of (FY04)  
 Arizona, Maricopa County (FY04)  
 Arkansas, State of (FY01)  
 Arkansas, State of (FY04)  
 California, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (FY05)  
 California, Orange County Probation Dept. (FY06)  
 California, San Diego County (FY01)  
 California, San Francisco (FY04)  
 California, San Luis Obispo County (FY01)  
 Colorado, Division of Criminal Justice (FY03)  
 Colorado, Jefferson County (FY99)  
 Colorado, State of (FY04)  
 Connecticut, State of (FY01)  
 Connecticut, State of (FY99)  
 Delaware, Executive Office of the Governor (FY06)  
 Florida, Department of Juvenile Justice (FY05)  
 Georgia, De Kalb County (FY04)  
 Hawaii, Department of Public Safety (FY06)  
 Illinois, State of (FY02)  
 Indiana, Allen County (FY02)  
 Indiana, Department of Correction (FY06)  
 Iowa, 5th Judicial District (FY99)  
 Iowa, State of (FY02)  
 Kansas, Department of Corrections (FY06)  
 Kansas, Miami County (FY04)  
 Kansas, State of (FY02)  
 Kentucky, Department of Corrections (FY05)

Kentucky, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet (FY06)  
 Louisiana, Department of Public Safety and Corrections (FY05)  
 Louisiana, Lafourche Parish Sheriff Office (FY06)  
 Maryland, State of (FY01)  
 Massachusetts, State of (FY01)  
 Massachusetts, State of (FY04)  
 Michigan, Kalamazoo County (FY06)  
 Michigan, Wayne County (FY06)  
 Minnesota, Bemidji District (FY00)  
 Minnesota, DOC, Bemidji District (FY03)  
 Minnesota, Red Lake Board of Chippewa Indians (FY05)  
 Montana, Fort Belknap Tribal Government (FY00)  
 Nevada, Clark County (FY99)  
 Nevada, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (FY05)  
 New Hampshire, State of (FY03)  
 New Jersey, State of (FY02)  
 New York, County of Rensselaer (FY02)  
 New York, Delaware County Department of Social Service (FY05)  
 New York, Dutchess County (FY03)  
 New York, Oswego County (FY01)  
 New York, St. Lawrence County (FY03)  
 New York, State of (FY04)  
 New York, Unified Court System (FY05)  
 New York, Unified Court System-Suffolk County (FY06)  
 New York, Westchester County (FY99)  
 Ohio, Delaware County (FY02)  
 Ohio, Department of Youth Services (FY05)

Ohio, Franklin County (FY99)  
 Ohio, Logan County Juvenile Court (FY06)  
 Ohio, Summit County (FY04)  
 Oklahoma, State of (FY02)  
 Oregon, Deschutes County (FY03)  
 Oregon, Josephine County (FY99)  
 Oregon, Lane County (FY03)  
 Oregon, Multnomah County (FY99)  
 Oregon, The Oregon Youth Authority (FY03)  
 Pennsylvania, Commonwealth of (FY04)  
 Rhode Island, Department of Corrections (FY06)  
 Rhode Island, State of (FY03)  
 South Carolina, State of (FY99)  
 South Dakota, State of (FY02)  
 Tennessee, NE Community Services (FY04)  
 Texas, Bexar County Board (FY06)  
 Texas, Dallas County (FY03)  
 Texas, Harris County (FY99)  
 Texas, Lamar County (FY01)  
 Texas, State of (FY00)  
 Vermont, State of (FY01)  
 Vermont, State of (FY99)  
 Virginia, State of (FY00)  
 Washington, State of (FY99)  
 Wisconsin, Milwaukee County (FY99)  
 Wisconsin, Oneida Tribe (FY01)  
 Wisconsin, State of (FY02)  
 Wisconsin, State of (FY03)

CSOM works in close collaboration with BJA to design and deliver technical assistance workshops to these grant recipients. CSOM assists in the development of the workshop agendas, selection of workshop faculty, the facilitation of teamwork sessions during the workshops, and the logistical management of the workshops. Additionally, as BJA's sex offender management technical assistance provider, CSOM works directly with grant recipients to fulfill their substantive, strategic planning, and collaborative needs. To date, a total of 585 on-site technical assistance visits, 15 national and 19 local grantee training events (as listed under the Training Section of this document) have been conducted for BJA's grant recipients.



**Location of OJP's CASOM Grantee Sites (FY99 – FY06)**



## **RESOURCE SITES (1997 – 2002)**

At the outset of the project, CSOM identified 19 jurisdictional, multidisciplinary teams from around the country that displayed innovative sex offender management and supervision techniques. Each of these jurisdictions had developed their own approach to sex offender management, resulting in a variety of strategic efforts. The project assisted these sites in building their capacity to serve as resources for other jurisdictions interested in instituting successful, collaborative management programs.

CSOM inventoried, documented, and analyzed the accomplishments of the Resource Sites and has made this information available to others. Through the documentation of each site's experiences and peer-to-peer exchange opportunities, CSOM has enabled these sites to share their experiences with the field.

The selected Resource Sites include:

- Maricopa County, Arizona
- Navajo Nation, Arizona
- Orange County, California
- The Colorado Sex Offender Management Board
- Jefferson County, Colorado
- New Haven, Connecticut
- The National Institute for the Study, Prevention, and Treatment of Sexual Trauma, Maryland
- The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- Dodge-Fillmore-Olmsted Counties, Minnesota
- Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes at Fort Peck, Montana
- Westchester County, New York
- Jackson County, Oregon
- Yankton-Sioux Tribe, South Dakota
- Tarrant County, Texas
- Utah Juvenile Sex Offender Authority
- Chittenden County, Vermont
- Washington County, Vermont
- Spokane, Washington
- The Wisconsin Sex Offender Treatment Network

CSOM's direct work with these 19 Resource Sites formally concluded in 2002.