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National Institute of Justice

Research in Action

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PAVNET Online User's Guide

What is PAVNET Online?

Partnerships Against Violence NETWORK (PAVNET) Online is a new approach to give users information about techniques for combating violence in American society. It represents the cooperation of multiple Federal agencies to quickly bring information on anti-violence programs to State and local officials. It is designed to relay the latest information in the most rapid way possible—via electronic media.

PAVNET was created in response to a report by the Interdepartmental Working Group on Violence to the President and the Domestic Policy Council in January 1994. That report recommended that the Federal Government "develop online computerized information about Federal resources, and produce new resource guides and how-to manuals about promising activities to reduce violence."

The PAVNET coalition is made up of the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Education, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Justice, and Labor. The PAVNET agencies have joined together to improve access to ideas and resources throughout the country. PAVNET components are:

- Online search and retrieval system (PAVNET Online).
- *PAVNET Online User's Guide.*
- *Resource Guide—Volume 1: Promising Programs.*
- *Resource Guide—Volume 2: Information Sources, Funding, and Technical Assistance.*
- Networking capability. The system will sustain and promote dialog among member agencies and clearinghouse staff.

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) of the U.S. Department of Justice and the Extension Service (ES) and the National Agricultural Library (NAL), U.S. Department of Agriculture, joined forces to create the current prototype of PAVNET Online. The other Federal departments in PAVNET also contributed resources to its development.

The purpose of this Guide is to introduce PAVNET Online to users. If the Federal agencies agree to continue developing the system, this Guide will be revised in the future. The remainder of this section gives an overview of information available through PAVNET Online. The next section provides more details and examples of information available from PAVNET Online in its current form. The Guide also