Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: Georgia

The Georgia State Advisory Group (SAG) serves as Georgia’s federally-mandated state advisory body. The group administers the state’s Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) funds and provides the Governor, state legislature, and other policymakers with recommendations for improving and supporting the state’s juvenile justice system. The SAG helps determine how funds granted by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) should be expended, and reports regularly to the Governor and state legislature on the status of the state’s compliance with the four core requirements of the JJDPA.¹

The federal allocation of grant funding to Georgia has decreased dramatically in recent years. Nationwide, during the 16 years that the JJDPA went unauthorized, federal juvenile justice funding decreased by nearly 42%.² In Georgia, meanwhile, between FY10 and FY19 alone, the state experienced a 60% reduction in its formula and block grant allocations. In FY10 the state received $1,377,300 through the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program. For the past five fiscal years, however, that sum has been zeroed out in the federal budget. Georgia also received $84,945 in Title V funding in FY2010. That funding source, however, has been earmarked for non-JJDPA purposes in recent years. The lone remaining source of formula and block grant funding, Title II, has also diminished. In FY10, Georgia received $1,897,000 in Title II funding. In FY19, that figure had decreased to $1,327,412.

¹ The four core requirements of the JJDPA are: 1) deinstitutionalization of status offenders, (2) separation of adults and juveniles in secure institutions, 3) jail removal, and 4) reduction of the disproportionate number of minority youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system (disproportionate minority contact, or DMC). Retrieved from http://www.act4jj.org/about_requirements.html.
³ All numbers are based upon figures reported by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Grant Awards and Past Solicitations. Retrieved from https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/funding.html#2.

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Federal Dollars in Action:

Georgia has attempted to use this federal funding to carry out the core requirements of the JJDPA by funding evidence-based initiatives. Such programs include:

- Continued collaboration with the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI).
- Statewide data collection from evidence-based risk assessment tool trainings through the Juvenile Data Exchange Committee.
- Statewide “Strategies for Youth – Policing the Teen Brain” trainings to police departments.
- Hiring a statewide CHINS Coordinator to work collaboratively with the SAG and Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC).
- Allocating funding to projects aiming to improve juvenile accountability and reduce recidivism.
- Provision of Principles of Effective Intervention (PEI) trainings throughout the state.

This fact sheet was prepared by:

COALITION FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE

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