Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: Oregon

The Oregon Youth Development Council (YDC) serves as Oregon’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 YDC 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 Oregon 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 Oregon, meanwhile, between FY10 and FY19 alone, the state experienced a 59% reduction in its formula and block grant allocations.\(^3\) In FY10 the state received $621,300 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. Oregon 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, Oregon received $646,000 in Title II funding. In FY19, that figure had decreased to $491,733.

\(^1\) 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:

Despite the decrease in its federal funding, Oregon continues to use its federal dollars for programs that aimed at ensuring that the JJDPA’s core protections are carried out. This has become increasingly difficult as funding has diminished. Without adequate funding, Oregon will not be able to meet the core protections and its other juvenile justice priorities, which include:

- School Programs: Ensuring a successful transition from a juvenile-justice educational setting back to schools by providing incentives for collaboration between the juvenile-justice educational system and schools.

- Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities: Helping local juvenile departments, schools, and courts reduce racial and ethnic disparities by assisting them with identifying areas of DMC and implement/evaluate strategies to reduce minority youth contact and incarceration.

- Compliance Monitoring: Continuing YDC collaboration with various departments and agencies to ensure continued compliance with the core protections of the JJDPA. Oregon will fund a permanent staff position to provide training and technical assistance to law enforcement and juvenile departments; advise the YDC on monitoring systems; and collect, verify (on site), and report data on state compliance.

This fact sheet was prepared by:

COALITION FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE

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