



JUVENILE JUSTICE

CAMPAIGN OF THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COALITION

www.act4jj.org

Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: Pennsylvania

Federal Funding Overview:

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee (JJJPC) is the Pennsylvania entity authorized to administer federal funds under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJJPA). It is also the Commonwealth's official planning, coordinating, and policy-setting body for juvenile justice. Over the past several years, the JJJPC has prioritized performance- and outcome-based programming focused on diversion, system enhancement, and the reduction of racial and ethnic disparities.¹ Their work is managed by subcommittees that engage in an ongoing process of assessing, monitoring, and addressing these focus areas in the Commonwealth's juvenile justice system.

Diminishing Funds:

Unfortunately, significant cuts in the federal investment in juvenile justice nationwide have put this important work in serious jeopardy. Nationwide, during the 16 years that the JJJPA went unauthorized, **federal juvenile justice funding decreased by nearly 48%.**² Since FY10, **federal investments in juvenile justice reform in the Commonwealth have decreased by more than 61%**³, hampering Pennsylvania's efforts to improve the lives and address the needs of youth who come into contact with law enforcement and the courts, and youth at risk of contact. In FY10 the commonwealth received \$1,473,100 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. Pennsylvania also received \$84,945 in Title V funding in FY2010, but Congress has earmarked Title V funding in the last several years, decreasing the likelihood that states receive funding under the program. The lone remaining source of federal funding, Title II, has also diminished. In FY10, Pennsylvania received \$2,056,000 in Title II funding. In FY18, that figure had decreased to \$1,443,501.

Formula & Block Grant
Funding FY10:
\$3.6 million

Formula & Block Grant
Funding FY18:
\$1.4 million

Decrease of 61% so
far this decade.

¹ A core requirement of the JJJPA is to address and reduce Racial and Ethnic Disparities. This was previously referred to as Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC).

² Act4JJ. (2018). Juvenile Justice Federal Funding Chart. Retrieved from, <http://www.act4jj.org/sites/default/files/resource-files/Historic%20Funding%20Chart%20-%20FY19.pdf>

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>. Accessed May 29, 2019.

Federal Dollars in Action:

Funding through the JJDPa has been critical in supporting Pennsylvania's juvenile justice system reform efforts and advancing evidence-based programs and practices at the local level. For nearly four decades, Pennsylvania's efforts under the JJDPa have focused on ensuring the safe and fair processing and treatment of its children and adolescents. The Commonwealth also has a proud history of full compliance with the Act's Core Protections. Projects funded by the JJDPa have, to date, trained 425 officers in 67 counties (or roughly 31% of our 1,350 juvenile probation officers) in evidence-based, effective, and cutting edge approaches to working with delinquent youth in ways that are equitable, fair, and targeted to their risks and needs as identified by a standardized and validated assessment instrument. Further federal cuts under the JJDPa will seriously undermine the state's ability to increase the percentage of their workforce trained on these evidence-based approaches.

This fact sheet was prepared by:

