The Utah Board of Juvenile Justice (UBJJ) serves as Utah’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 UBJJ 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 Utah 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 Utah, meanwhile, between FY10 and FY19 alone, the state experienced a 62% reduction in its formula and block grant allocations.³ In FY10 the state received $613,200 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. Utah 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, Utah received $632,000 in Title II funding. In FY19, that figure had decreased to $505,751.

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.
Federal Dollars in Action:

Utah uses its funds to emphasize programs focusing on Juvenile Justice System Improvement, Delinquency Prevention, DMC, and Native Tribe Programs. Such programs include:

- Girls' Self-Efficacy Training (GST), established by the Utah Juvenile Court, is a gender-responsive intervention program designed to respond to the unique risk factors faced by juvenile female offenders. Parts of the program include emotional self-efficacy training, “Skill Sets for Success,” and “Thinking for Yourself”.

- The Jail Removal program facilitates payment by law enforcement agencies to off-duty officers for the transportation of youth to appropriate juvenile facilities in rural areas.

- Utah supports Tribal Nations Initiatives, such as providing a scholarship for youth to attend the Governor’s Native American Summit.

This fact sheet was prepared by:

COALITION FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE

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