



JUVENILE JUSTICE

CAMPAIGN OF THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY
PREVENTION COALITION

www.act4jj.org

Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: Florida

Federal Funding Overview:

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention State Advisory Group (SAG) serves as Florida's federally-mandated state advisory group. This group administers the state's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) 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 JJDP.¹

Formula & Block Grant
Funding FY10:
\$5.1 million

Formula & Block Grant
Funding FY18*:
\$2.2 million

**Decrease of 57% so far
this decade.**

*This number only includes Title II funds; JABG has been zeroed out & Title V funds have been earmarked

Diminishing Funds:

The federal allocation of grant funding to Florida has decreased dramatically in recent years. Nationwide, during the 16 years that the JJDP went unauthorized, **federal juvenile justice funding decreased by nearly 48%.**² In Florida, meanwhile, between FY10 and FY18 alone, the state experienced a **57% reduction in its formula and block grant allocations.** In FY10 the state received \$2.03 million through the Juvenile Accountability and Block Grant (JABG) program. However, since FY14 that sum has been zeroed out in the federal budget. Florida also received \$84,945 in Title V funding in FY10. That funding source, however, has been earmarked and restricted in recent years. The lone remaining source of federal funding, Title II, has also diminished. In FY10, Florida received \$2.98 million in Title II funding. In FY18, that figure had decreased to \$2,176,604.

¹ The four core requirements of the JJDP 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 (DMC). For more about the four core requirements, go to: http://www.act4jj.org/about_requirements.html.

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>

Federal Dollars in Action:

Even with the decrease in federal funding, Florida continues to use its federal dollars for programs throughout the state that are aimed at ensuring the JJDPA's core protections are carried out. This has become increasingly more difficult as funding has diminished though. Most recently, the state has prioritized the following programs:

- **Human Trafficking:** The Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) trained 1,046 staff and stakeholders on human trafficking and DJJ's Human Trafficking Initiatives. They ensured staff were aware that human trafficking impacts our population of youth, and also hosted a Human Trafficking Conference.
- **Circuit Advisory Board:** The Circuit Boards serve as advisors to the DJJ and work closely with Delinquency Prevention Specialists and DJJ staff to plan for services that meet the identified needs of juveniles and families within the local community. The state has continued conducting statewide training through workshops for Chairs and other members of the 20 Circuit Advisory Boards (CAB). Because the Chairs and their members are located statewide, the training allows them to meet and collaborate in person and to share best practice success stories that will assist them to continue their dialogue through conference calls and regional conversations. CAB Chair training also allows experienced CAB chairs to offer advice and counsel for new CAB chairs to assist with such areas as onboarding and submission of annual reports, in addition to the successful completion of community outreach and engagement events to assist Florida youth and families.
- **Artist in Education:** The Arts4all project allows for teaching artists to go into DJJ programs facilities to provide art instruction to a group of designated youth. The artists work with the youth on specific project using the chosen media form for that facility such as drama, movement (dance), music, and/or visual arts.
- **Therapeutic Yoga & Meditation:** Kula for Karma, a non-profit organization, transforms lives and is changing the face of healthcare by delivering therapeutic yoga, meditation, and stress management to at-risk youth with physical and mental health challenges for the youth housed at two juvenile detention centers in Orange County and Hillsborough County. This helps youth to reduce stress and develop inner confidence, while enhancing emotional self-regulation and impulse control and improve physical health.
- **Divert:** The Diversion Initiative for Vocational Employability Related to Technology (DIVERT) project is a collaboration between the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice and the Florida Department of Education Career and Technical Education, Department of Economic Opportunity, Pinellas Sheriff's Office, Pinellas School District, Pinellas CareerSource, and the Florida Afterschool Network. At risk youth 16 and 17-year-olds are provided the opportunity to participate in coding instruction through an online curriculum, Code Combat, and hands-on coding projects. The youth are also assigned a mentor and participate in Florida Ready to Work soft skills training.
- **Restoring Hope Training Summit:** This summit brought together DJJ and community stakeholders to share strategies that enhance reform efforts, strengthen families, and build connections, while empowering attendees with relevant advancements in juvenile

justice reform. The workshops provided educational information on the continuum of services and resources and highlighted effective prevention and intervention strategies to encourage capacity building amongst juvenile justice service providers.

This fact sheet was prepared by:



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