

CAMPAIGN OF THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COALITION

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Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: Tennessee

The State Advisory Group (SAG) serves as Tennessee'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 policy makers with recommendations for improving and supporting the state's juvenile justice system. The JJAG 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.

The federal allocation of grant funding to Tennessee has decreased dramatically in recent years. Nationwide, during the 16 years that the JJDPA went unauthorized, federal juvenile justice funding decreased by nearly 48%.² In Tennessee, meanwhile, between

Formula & Block Grant Funding FY10: \$1,191,945

Formula & Block Grant Funding FY18*: \$837,224

Decrease of 30% so far this decade.

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

FY10 and FY18 alone, the state experienced a 30% reduction in its formula and block grant allocations. In FY10 the state received \$896,000 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. Tennessee 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, Tennessee received \$1,101,000 in Title II funding. In FY18, that figure had decreased to \$837,224.

In addition to using its federal allocation to monitor for and ensure compliance of the core mandates in the JJDPA, Tennessee provides grants to a variety of entities throughout the state in order to address delinquency prevention, substance and alcohol abuse, and more.

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 (DMC). Retrieved from, 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

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.

Using Title II Funding, Tennessee currently provides grants for 15 programs in the state. Examples of two programs that use this funding are as follows:

- The Addressing Childhood Trauma project serves youth ages five to 18 years old from six inner-city Boys & Girls Clubs sites in Knoxville, Tennessee. Youth served are at-risk for or have experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences and are referred to the program. They participate in one or more of the four tiers of service: Positive Behavior and Intervention Supports, Small Group Counseling, Solutions-Focused Brief Treatment (individual counseling), and Referral and Connection to Community Supports.
- The Youth Overcoming Drug Abuse (YODA) program is designed to bridge treatment gaps for adolescents with substance use and co-occurring disorders. These services are offered in Wilson County, Tennessee. YODA services include the following: clinical assessments, case management, mental health screening, individual and group therapies, after-care groups, and counseling and consultation for youth on probation through juvenile court.

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