



JUVENILE JUSTICE

CAMPAIGN OF THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY
PREVENTION COALITION

www.act4jj.org

Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: Florida

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

The federal allocation of grant funding to Florida has decreased dramatically in recent years. Nationwide, during the 16 years that the JJDPDA went unauthorized, **federal juvenile justice funding decreased by nearly 42%.**² In Florida, meanwhile, between FY10 and FY19 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 Block Grant (JABG) program. For the past five fiscal years, however, that sum has been zeroed out in the federal budget. Florida also received \$84,945 in Title V funding in FY2010. That funding source, however, has been earmarked for non-JJDPDA purposes in recent years. The lone remaining source of formula and block grant funding, Title II, has also diminished. In FY10, Florida received \$2.98 million in Title II funding. In FY19, that figure had decreased to \$2.2 million.

**Formula & Block Grant
Funding FY10:
\$5.1 million**

**Formula & Block Grant
Funding FY17*:
\$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

¹ The four core requirements of the JJDPDA 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.

² Act4JJ. (2020). Juvenile Justice Federal Funding Chart. Retrieved from

<https://www.act4jj.org/sites/default/files/ckfinder/files/Historic%20Funding%20Chart%20-%20FY20.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>.

Federal Dollars in Action:

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

- The Arts4all project allows for artists to go into Department of Juvenile Justice program facilities to provide art instruction to youth. The artists work with the youth on specific projects using the chosen media form(s) for that facility, such as drama, movement (dance), music, and/or visual arts.
- Kula for Karma, a non-profit organization, teaches therapeutic yoga, meditation, and stress management to at-risk youth with physical and mental health challenges housed at two juvenile detention centers in Orange and Hillsborough Counties. This helps youth by reducing stress, promoting inner-confidence development, enhancing emotional self-regulation and impulse control, and improving physical health.
- The Diversion Initiative for Vocational Employability Related to Technology (DIVERT) project is a collaboration between the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, Career & Technical Education programs under the Florida Department of Education, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Pinellas Sheriff's Office, Pinellas School District, Pinellas CareerSource, and the Florida Afterschool Network. At-risk 16- and 17-year-olds are provided the opportunity to participate in coding instruction through an online curriculum (Code Combact) and through hands-on coding projects. The youth are also assigned mentors and participate in Florida Ready to Work soft skills training.

This fact sheet was prepared by:



In collaboration with:

