

## **CAMPAIGN OF THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY**

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## Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency **Prevention Funding: Vermont**

The Vermont Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs (CFCPP)) serves as Vermont'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 CFCPP 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 Vermont 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 Vermont, meanwhile, between FY10 and FY19 alone, the state experienced a 59% reduction in its formula and block grant allocations. In FY10 the state received \$289,100 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. Vermont 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, Vermont received \$600,000 in Title II funding. In FY19, that figure had decreased to \$400,185.

Formula & Block Grant Funding FY10: \$974,045

Formula & Block Grant Funding FY19\*: \$400,185

Decrease of 59% so far this decade.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 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 <a href="https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/funding.html#2">https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/funding.html#2</a>.

## **Federal Dollars in Action:**

Despite the decrease in its federal funding, Vermont continues to use its federal dollars for programs aimed at ensuring that the JJDPA's core protections are carried out, with prioritization of DMC reduction and primary prevention for youth service coordination. This has become increasingly difficult as funding has diminished. Most recently, the state has funded programs such as:

- The Association of Africans Living in Vermont (AALV), a Chittenden County based association, focuses on prevention, treatment, intervention, and re-entry services for youth.
- GIS maps of Youth and Young Adult Resources used by the CFCPP to assess service density and gaps across geographic regions.
- Youth Thrive is a research-based framework for evaluating policies, programs, trainings, services, and systems that impact youth. Currently, the prospect of connecting Youth Thrive approaches with Building Self-Healing Communities is being explored.

This fact sheet was prepared by:

