



JUVENILE JUSTICE

**CAMPAIGN OF THE NATIONAL JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY
PREVENTION COALITION**

www.act4jj.org

Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: South Carolina

Overview

The Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (GJJAC) serves as South Carolina's federally-mandated state advisory group (SAG). The group makes recommendations for how the state's JJDP funds should be administered, and provides the governor, General Assembly and other policy makers with recommendations for improving and supporting the state's juvenile justice system. The GJJAC reports annually to the governor on its work, including the expenditure of funds granted by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP), and on the status of the state's compliance with the four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP).¹

Unfortunately, significant cuts in the federal investment in juvenile justice nationwide have limited the work that the GJJAC is able to perform. Between FY10 and FY18 alone, South Carolina experienced a decline in allocations of nearly 60%.² A large part of the reduction in funding was due to the elimination of the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program. This funding source provided \$710,600 to South Carolina in FY10, but has been zeroed out since FY14. Similarly, earmarks and restrictions have been placed on Title V funding, which provided South Carolina with \$84,945 in FY 2010.

**Formula & Block Grant
Funding FY10:
\$1.43 million**

**Formula & Block Grant
Funding FY18*:
\$596,954**

**Decrease of 60% so far this
decade.**

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

The Title II Formula Grants Program

Despite the shrinking pool of funding, South Carolina remains committed to using its federal juvenile justice allocation to address the core intent of the JJDP. In FY18, the state was able to use Title II funds to help finance programs in order to address the Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO) and

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). Retrieved from, http://www.act4jj.org/about_requirements.html.

² 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.

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) requirement in the JJDP; to create alternatives to corrections; and to help address the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).³

The DSO requirement, which is part of the original JJDP, prohibits the incarceration of youth for status offense behaviors. An exception is granted which permits courts to incarcerate a youth who has engaged in a status offense behavior that violates a previous order from the court. This exception is known as the Valid Court Order exception. South Carolina's use of this exception has decreased dramatically in recent years.

Title II funds provided through the JJDP have also helped support institutions such as:

- * **South Carolina Commission on Indigent Defense:** created a program to help address Disproportionate Minority Contact in Richland County.

The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program (JABG)

Juvenile Accountability Block Grants went towards addressing the DSO requirement:

- * University of South Carolina's Children's Law Center. The Law Center undertook a statewide initiative to help assess South Carolina's incarceration of youth who have engaged in status offense behaviors. The Law Center recently developed a series of proposals based upon their findings that aims to help the state address deinstitutionalization of status offenders.

This fact sheet was prepared by:



³ Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council 2018 Annual Report. (2018). <https://scdps.sc.gov/sites/default/files/Documents/ohsjp/jjgp/2019/GJJAC%202018%20Annual%20Report%20to%20Governor.pdf>. Accessed May 29, 2019