Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: West Virginia

The State Advisory Group (SAG) serves as West Virginia’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 West Virginia 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 West Virginia, meanwhile, between FY10 and FY18 alone, the state experienced a 63\% reduction in its formula and block grant allocations. In FY10 the state received $404,800 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. West Virginia 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, West Virginia received $600,000 in Title II funding. In FY18, that figure had decreased to $399,693.

In addition to using its federal allocation to monitor for and ensure compliance of the core mandates in the JJDPA, West Virginia provides grants to public and private non-profit agencies throughout the State for

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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.


preventing juvenile delinquency, reducing disproportionate minority contact, rehabilitating youth in the justice system, and improving the juvenile justice system.

The following programs are funded by Title II in West Virginia: juvenile mental health, prevention resource officers, child advocacy centers, Disproportionate Minority Contact programs, school-based therapy, gender-specific programs; interventions needed to end juvenile recidivism; mentoring, counseling, and training; juvenile justice systems improvements; diversion; and delinquency prevention.

This fact sheet was prepared by: