

# Profile of Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Funding: New York

The New York State Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG) serves as New York's federally-mandated state advisory group (SAG). The group administers the state's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) 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 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP).<sup>1</sup>

The federal allocation of grant funding to New York has decreased dramatically in recent years. Nationwide, since 2002 when the JJDP was last reauthorized, federal juvenile justice funding has decreased by nearly 50%. In New York, meanwhile, between FY2010 and FY2014 alone, the state experienced a 66% reduction in its formula and block grant allocations.<sup>2</sup> In FY2010 the state received \$2.21 million through the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program. For the past two fiscal years, however, that sum has been zeroed out in the federal budget. New York also received \$84,945 in Title V funding in FY2010. That funding source, however, has been earmarked for non JJDP purposes in recent years. The lone remaining source of formula and block grant funding, Title II, has also diminished. In FY2010, New York received \$3.28 million in Title II funding. In FY2014, that figure had decreased to \$1.9 million.

These funding cuts have prompted the JJAG to take a new approach to administering limited federal dollars. In recent years, instead of making grants to small, discreet local projects, the group now tries to finance projects that will drive local innovation. Their primary focus has been on the front end of system involvement, with funds going to programs that will provide alternatives to detention for low to moderate risk youth who are unable to return home, result in a reduction of school-based arrests, and build community capacity for mentorships. The group has also focused its federal funding on implementing a risk-based system that is used both at the time of arrest and during probation intake.

**Formula & Block Grant  
Funding FY10:  
\$5.57 million**

**Formula & Block Grant  
Funding FY14:  
\$1.9 million**

**Decrease of 66% so far  
this decade.**

<sup>1</sup> 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). For more about the four core requirements, go to: [http://www.act4jj.org/about\\_requirements.html](http://www.act4jj.org/about_requirements.html).

<sup>2</sup> All numbers are based upon data provided by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. This information is available at: <http://grants.ojp.usdoj.gov>.

The JJAG has also set a number of priorities for juvenile justice reforms in New York, including:

- promoting early diversion when appropriate;
- ensuring successful reentry in to the community;
- supporting data-driven policy development; and
- reducing disproportionate minority contact (DMC).