



Utah Board of Juvenile Justice

ANNUAL REPORT

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PROGRAM AREAS PROGRESS REPORT

The Utah Board of Juvenile Justice (UBJJ) serves as the federally designated State Advisory Group under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA), 2002. UBJJ prepares a comprehensive juvenile justice system improvement plan for Utah's compliance with the four core requirements of the JJDPA, thus making Utah eligible for federal grants. With this money the Board is able to help many youth by providing services such as drug treatment and aiding in gang intervention and suppression efforts.

After careful review of statewide data, UBJJ provided grant funding for 19 different projects last. Nine projects provided direct services to children. The others focused on system improvements (e.g. JJDPA compliance monitoring, project evaluation and training support). A summary report of the progress made within the priority areas identified by UBJJ follows.

Outcome Evaluation Model

In 2009, UBJJ implemented a new evaluation process called the UBJJ Program Evaluation and Improvement Project. This evaluation process is designed to rapidly move UBJJ funded programs from startup to a level where a program's effectiveness can be empirically tested. Implementing and maintaining an effective, evidenced based program is a difficult process that can take many years. For example, even when an existing curriculum is used, adapting

this intervention to the local setting, ensuring the intervention is delivered in an effective manner, and maintaining trained, quality staff, is a considerable task for the best administrator. UBJJ funds only new programs and only for three or four years. Most of these programs are small and some are rural. These characteristics make the task of taking a program from startup to maturity formidable. In order to increase the number of programs that successfully navigate the process, the evaluation structure focuses on providing extensive guidance on how to implement factors which characterize effective, evidenced based programs. The overall objective of the evaluation is to increase the number of effective programs. This is important not only because the youth and their families deserve such, but also because these programs receive public funding and therefore UBJJ needs to know the money is well spent.

The evaluation is conducted by the University of Utah Criminal Justice Center (UCJC). Besides the guidance noted above, two tools have been developed and maintained. The Risk and Protective Information Tool (RAPIT) provides information on a wide array of indicators of the wellbeing of Utah youth. The Program Directory Tool complements RAPIT by providing information on what programs already exist in a geographic location. This information is posted on UBJJ's web site. This evaluation model allows outcome assessments across a range of primary prevention and intervention programs.

Utah Board of Juvenile Justice

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Priority Areas

1. Substance Abuse

UBJJ funded three projects to address substance abuse by youth. Two prevention programs received funding, one in Green River and another in South Salt Lake City. The third project is outpatient substance abuse treatment provided by Salt Lake County Youth Services. These projects served 285 youth, with a completion rate of 55%. Fifty-four percent of participating youth showed a reduction in propensity for substance abuse. Families of children completing program requirements report 90% satisfaction. One of the prevention projects was discontinued mid-cycle due to poor performance.

2. Delinquency Prevention

The Title V Grant targets delinquency prevention. There was only enough funding to support one project, Tooele County Youth Services, which serves status offending, out of control and runaway youth. It provides short-term therapeutic interventions for youth and their families without having to go to Salt Lake County Youth Services. This project served 314 youth with a 91% completion rate. They also completed 1,646 service hours during the reporting period. The re-offense rate for youth, while in the program was 9.5%.

3. Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

UBJJ supported three programs aimed at improving outcomes of minority offenders. One program provided parenting classes and an after school program to teach life skills to Hispanic youth in Summit County with one or two offenses. A second project made efforts to provide early intervention services to Native American youth in the Uintah Basin. These projects served 373 minority youth with a completion and satisfaction rate of 86%. The programs provided 4085 service hours. Only 1.8% of youth in these programs had a new offense while participating.

The third program involves funding a Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Coordinator to ensure Utah's compliance with the DMC Core Requirement of the JJDP. A.

DMC Accomplishments:

- Completed the Community Relations Curriculum for Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) to raise awareness of cultural diversity and teach officers how to effectively work

with diverse communities. The Curriculum was presented to 287 individuals. Of those, 133 were new cadets, 40 corrections officers, and 114 Salt Lake County Division of Youth Service employees. Class evaluations show that more than 80% agree or strongly agree the curriculum is realistic, useful and thought-provoking.

- The Diversion Assessment was completed in the spring of 2011 to determine contributing factors to the underutilization of diversion programs for minority youth in Utah, Weber and Salt Lake Counties. Collaborative efforts are underway to work with the Juvenile Court on an intervention plan.

- Secured a \$50,000 Community and Strategic Planning grant from the OJJDP. The grant will be used to conduct an assessment of the high arrest and referral rates to juvenile court for minority youth. An intervention plan, including the development of local DMC Subcommittees, will be developed based on those results.

- Continued to identify trends and areas of disparity at contact points in Utah's juvenile justice system. This data was presented to law enforcement, local governments, juvenile court judges and staff members representing 140 individuals in 10 professional and community organizations.

4. Juvenile Sex Offender Treatment

A single project funded under this program area served 47 youth last year in the Salt Lake area serving NOJOS (Network on Juveniles Offending Sexually) Level 1 - 4 offenders. No new sex offenses were reported by participants and only two have been charged with a formal probation violation. Participants completed 660 service hours. Seventy-nine percent reported improved self-esteem and 69% enriched coping skills. The program also reports an 83% successful completion rate.

State Gang Reduction Grants

Two new direct service projects were funded serving 112 high-risk, gang-involved youth in Ogden and Provo. Both projects implement evidence based practices: Provo uses Strengthening Families while Ogden uses Aggression Replacement Therapy. So far, youth involved in both programs show a 69% reduction in antisocial attitudes and a 70% reduction in gang

activity. Youth also show significant reductions in association with antisocial peers, attitudes favorable to drug use and parents' attitudes favorable to antisocial behavior. Because the programs are new, recidivism data will not be available until next year.

FY2011 Grants	
Title II First Year Projects \$75,000	
Salt Lake Co.	\$75,000 – <i>Hi-risk Substance Abuse</i> Salt Lake County Youth Services
Title II Second Year Projects \$0	
Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded these years.	
Title II Third & Fourth Year Projects \$207,545	
Salt Lake Co.	\$25,000 – <i>South Salt Lake Substance Abuse Prevention</i> City of South Salt Lake
Salt Lake Co.	\$57,000 – <i>Choices Sex Offender Treatment Program</i> Center for Family Development
Summit Co.	\$43,742 – <i>Connections</i> Colors of Success
Emery Co.	\$34,720 – <i>Too Good for Drugs/Too Good for Violence</i> Green River Community Center
Uintah Co.	\$47,083 – <i>Uintah Basin Youth Services</i> Utah Division of Juvenile Justice Services
Title II On-Going Projects \$241,429	
Statewide	\$91,100 – <i>JJDP Act Compliance Monitoring</i> , Juvenile Justice Services
Statewide	\$23,000 – <i>Juvenile Jail Removal</i> , Juvenile Justice Services
Statewide	\$51,929 – <i>Outcome Evaluation Survey</i> , U of U Criminal Justice Center
Statewide	\$75,400 – <i>Juvenile Disproportionate Minority Contact Reduction Coordinator</i> , CCJJ
Title V Delinquency Prevention \$48,121	
Tooele Co.	\$48,121 – <i>Tooele Youth Services</i> , Tooele County Commission
State Gang Reduction Grants \$283,220	
Utah Co.	\$96,600 – <i>Early Intervention for Gang Involved Youth</i> Provo Gang Project
Weber Co.	\$156,700 – <i>Community Involvement, Re-entry, Opportunities, Social, Suppression (CROSS)</i> Ogden Weber Community Action Partnership & Ogden Police Department
Statewide	\$29,920 – <i>Evaluation of Comprehensive Gang Model Projects</i> U of U Criminal Justice Center
Title II Short-Term Projects \$31,280	
Weber Co.	\$8,250 – <i>Northern Utah Gang Conference</i> Ogden City Police Department
Statewide	\$4,000 – <i>National Female Offender Conference Scholarships</i> Utah Corrections Association
Statewide	\$4,000 – <i>Troubled Youth Conference</i> Shelter Kids Inc.
Statewide	\$5,950 – <i>Utah Juvenile Justice Reform Documentary</i> U of U Criminal Justice Center
Statewide	\$9,080 – <i>Disproportionate Minority Contact Diversion Study</i> U of U Criminal Justice Center