



Utah Board of Juvenile Justice ANNUAL REPORT

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

UBJJ provided grant funding for 14 different projects last year. Six projects provided direct services to children while 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

UBJJ works cooperatively with the University of Utah Criminal Justice Center (UCJC) to implement the Program Evaluation and Improvement Project. This evaluation process is designed to rapidly move grant 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. Even when an existing curriculum is used, adapting it to the local setting, ensuring the intervention is delivered in an effective manner, and maintaining trained, quality staff,

is a considerable task. UBJJ only funds new programs for three or four years. 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 guidance on implementing factors which characterize effective, evidenced-based programs. The overall objective 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 UCJC has developed and maintained two tools to assist local communities. The Risk and Protective Information Tool (RAPIT) provides information on a wide array of indicators of the wellbeing of Utah youth. The tool covers alcohol and drug use, antisocial behavior, and risk and protective factors related to these behaviors. Information is available at both state and county level. The newly developed Utah Yellow Pages for Youth provides information about youth service programs in the state of Utah serving at-risk youth and families. It is intended for youth counselors, youth service providers, parent educators, probation officers, juvenile justice practitioners, program planners and others looking for services/programs that will serve at-risk youth and families. They are both posted on UBJJ's web site: www.juvenile.utah.gov.

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Priority Areas

1. Substance Abuse

UBJJ funded two projects addressing substance abuse by youth. South Salt Lake City provided out-of-school-time prevention services to 257 youth. None have been arrested or been involved in substance use. Salt Lake County Youth Services provided outpatient substance abuse treatment to 65 youth with a 70% completion rate. Sixty-nine percent of Salt Lake County participating youth showed a reduction in substance abuse. None of the participating youth were arrested or rearrested.

2. Delinquency Prevention

Three programs were funded in West Valley City, South Salt Lake City, and Salt Lake City. Two are after-school programs serving elementary-age youth, the other serves middle school-age refugee youth in SLC. These projects served 353 youth with a 65% successful completion rate. Sixty-six percent of participants showed reduced antisocial behavior and 75% were satisfied with the programs.

3. Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

UBJJ supported two programs aimed at improving outcomes of minority offenders. The first program served 57 refugee youth in the Salt Lake area with a completion rate of 83%, and 26% reported improved school attendance. Twelve percent of youth in this program reported a new offense while participating. The second involves funding a Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Coordinator to ensure Utah's compliance with the DMC Core Requirement of the JJDP. This position is critical to making the improvements noted below.

DMC Accomplishments:

- Successfully managed the Community and Strategic Planning (CASP) Grant by completing the Juvenile Arrest and Referral Assessment, developing draft cultural competency training curriculum for Juvenile Court Probation and Juvenile Justice Services staff members, and

initiating the DMC Best Practice Initiative to identify evidence-based, best practices to reduce the disproportionate referral and arrest of minority youth from schools.

- The DMC Best Practice Initiative is a collaborative effort with partners from various entities, including school districts, law enforcement, juvenile court, and community organizations to address DMC at the school level.
- Continued to identify trends and areas of disparity at nine contact points in Utah's juvenile justice system. This data was presented to law enforcement, local governments, prosecutors, defense attorneys, juvenile court judges, and staff members representing 288 individuals in 17 professional and community organizations. Utah County was recognized by OJJDP for significantly increasing the use of diversion for minority youth.
- Supported the use of the recently developed Community Relations Curriculum at the Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) to raise awareness of cultural diversity and teaches cadets to work effectively with diverse communities. The Curriculum was used to train over 600 individuals in 2013.

State Gang Reduction Grants

Two direct service projects were funded serving 73 high-risk, gang-involved youth in Ogden and Provo. Both projects implement evidence based practices: Strengthening Families in Provo and Aggression Replacement Therapy with Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in Ogden, which was recently incorporated into the Ogden School District gang reduction strategy. Youth involved in both programs show a reduction in antisocial attitudes and gang activity. Youth also show significant reductions in association with antisocial peers and parents' attitudes favorable to antisocial behavior.

Scholarships were provided to 110 people to learn about juvenile justice and gang activity in Utah.

FY2013 Grants

Title II First Year Projects \$0

Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded.

Title II Second Year Projects \$106,527

- Salt Lake Co. \$25,482 – *K-6 Delinquency Prevention*
City of South Salt Lake
- Salt Lake Co. \$45,000 – *Project StepUP*
Community Education Partnership of West Valley City
- Salt Lake Co. \$36,045 – *Refugee Family & Academic Support*
Refugee & Immigrant Center, Asian Association of Utah

Title II Third Year Projects \$37,500

- Salt Lake Co. \$37,500 – *High-risk Substance Abuse*, Salt Lake County Youth Services

Title II Fourth Year Projects \$0

Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded.

Title II On-Going Projects \$240,850

- Statewide \$86,739 – *JJDP Act Compliance Monitoring*, Juvenile Justice Services
- Statewide \$24,097 – *Juvenile Jail Removal*, Juvenile Justice Services
- Statewide \$54,614 – *Outcome Evaluation Survey*, U of U Criminal Justice Center
- Statewide \$75,400 – *Juvenile Disproportionate Minority Contact Reduction Coordinator*, CCJJ

Title V Delinquency Prevention \$0

Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded

State Gang Reduction Grants \$200,388

- Utah Co. \$65,016 – *Early Intervention for Gang Involved Youth*
Provo Gang Project
- Weber Co. \$94,952 – *Community Involvement, Re-entry, Opportunities, Social, Suppression (CROSS)*
Ogden Weber Community Action Partnership & Ogden Police Department
- Statewide \$29,920 – *Evaluation of Comprehensive Gang Model Projects*
U of U Criminal Justice Center
- Statewide \$10,500 – 2013 *Northern Utah Gang Conference*
Ogden/Weber Metro Gang Unit

Title II Short-Term Projects \$8,025

- Weber Co. \$4,025 – *Northern Utah Gang Conference*
Ogden City Police Department
- Statewide \$4,000 – *Troubled Youth Conference*
Shelter Kids Inc.

Community & Strategic Planning (CASP) Grant

- Statewide \$8,127 – *JJS/Juvenile Court Cultural Competency Curriculum Development*
U of U Center for Public Policy and Administration