



Utah Board of Juvenile Justice

ANNUAL REPORT

CUONG NGUYEN, JUVENILE JUSTICE SPECIALIST • (801) 538-1739 • www.juvenile.utah.gov

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 and substance abuse prevention as well as assistance with gang intervention and suppression efforts.

In collaboration with the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG), UBJJ provided funding to 14 different projects in 2014. Six projects provided direct services to children while the other projects focused on system improvements (e.g., JJDPA compliance monitoring, project evaluation and training support). Below is a summary report of the progress made within each priority area.

Outcome Evaluation Model

UBJJ works collaboratively with the University of Utah Criminal Justice Center (UCJC) to implement a 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 and can take many years. The use of an existing curriculum can also be a considerable task.

Challenges such as adapting it to the local setting, ensuring that the intervention is effectively delivered, and maintaining a quality trained staff are some of the difficulties encountered. Since UBJJ only funds new programs for three or four years, it is difficult to take a program from startup to maturity. In order to increase the number of effective programs, the evaluation process focuses on fidelity of implementation of evidence-based practices and provides guidance to improve its effectiveness. This is important not only because the youth and their families deserve such, but UBJJ needs to know that the public funded programs are well spent.

The UCJC has developed and maintained two tools to assist local communities: (1) The Risk and Protective Information Tool (RAPIT), and (2) the Utah Yellow Pages for Youth. RAPIT provides information on a wide array of indicators of the wellbeing of Utah's youth. The tool covers alcohol and drug use, antisocial behavior, and risk and protective factors related to these behaviors. Information is available at the state and the county level. The newly developed Utah Yellow Pages for Youth provides information about youth service programs in the state of Utah that serves 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. Both tools can be accessed via UBJJ's website: www.juvenile.utah.gov.

Utah Board of Juvenile Justice

PAT BERCKMAN
SL County Division of Youth Services

CHRISTOPHER CROWDER
Community Representative

PATRICK GARCIA
Salt Lake City School District

GINI HIGHFIELD
Second District Juvenile Court

SCOTT JACKSON, DMC CHAIR
Community Representative

ANTHONY JOHNSON
Community Representative

SPENCER T. LARSEN*, CHAIR
Odyssey House

NINDY LE *
Community Representative

JAMES MICHIE
Judge, Third District Juvenile Court

VAN NGUYEN*
Community Representative

BRENT PLATT
Director, DCFS

TROY RAWLINGS
Davis County Attorney

CHRIS ROACH
Juvenile Justice Services

SHIRLEE SILVERSMITH
Director of Indian Affairs

RACHAEL SKIDMORE,* CHAIR
Do the Wright Thing (DtWT)

PAMELA L. VICKREY
Community Representative

PAMELA L. VICKREY
Attorney at Law

STAFF

JO LYNN KRUSE
Administrative Assistant, CCJJ

*Youth Members

Staff Change: On November 21, 2014, UBJJ said goodbye to Mr. Reg Garff, who served as Utah's Juvenile Justice Specialist for 13 years. Reg will continue to serve Utah's children at his new position as the Director of Office for Rural Programs at the Utah Division of Juvenile Justice Services. Mr. Garff's work and legacy are presented in this report. Among Reg's significant achievements was the recipient of the 2014 National Juvenile Justice Specialist of the Year award, presented by the Coalition for Juvenile Justice. Cuong Nguyen, who has worked as the Disproportionate Minority Contact Coordinator for seven years, is the new Juvenile Justice Specialist.

Funding Priority Areas

1. Substance Abuse

UBJJ funded one project that addresses substance abuse by youth. South Salt Lake City provided out-of-school-time prevention services to 199 youth. 169 youth completed the program, which translates to an 85% completion rate. Enrolled students received four service programs: Positive Action, Too Good for Violence, Peer Assistance and Leadership Tutoring Program, and Strengthening Families Program. These youths have not been arrested or involved in substance use since completing the program.

2. Delinquency Prevention

Two programs were funded in West Valley City and Salt Lake City. The West Valley City program is an after-school program that serves elementary-age youth while the other program serves middle school-age refugee youth in Salt Lake City. Combined, the two projects served 65 youth in 2014.

3. Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

UBJJ supported the funding of a Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) Coordinator to ensure Utah's compliance with the DMC Core Protection of the JJDP. This position is critical in order to accomplish the items noted below.

DMC Accomplishments:

- Secured the Community and Strategic Planning (CASP) Grant by initiating the DMC Best Practice initiative. The DMC Best Practice initiative identifies evidence-based, best practices that can help reduce the disproportionate referrals and arrests of minority youth from schools. The initiative comes through recommendations from the 2012 DMC Arrest and Referral Assessment Report. The Initiative is a collaborative effort from various entities including: school districts, law enforcement, juvenile court and community organizations. UBJJ also hired a consultant from CASP funding to develop a School Resource Officer and School Official Training

curriculum. This curriculum creates protocols and standardizes practices to handle delinquent youth and determines whether to resolve the case at the school or to refer the case to the juvenile court. The training discusses standardization along with best practices while developing alternative options for juvenile courts and school districts across jurisdictions. Pilot training begins January 2015.

- 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 across 11 professions and community organizations.

- Supported the use of the developed Community Relations Curriculum for the Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) to raise awareness of cultural diversity and teach cadets to work effectively with diverse communities. In addition, Utah secured Training and Technical Assistance from Connecticut's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee with funding from the Federal Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention. The "Effective Police Interaction with Youth" course provided one day training to 22 individuals and a two-day certification process to 14 sworn officers from seven law enforcement agencies. After completing the course, officers are certified to train members in their own departments.

State Gang Reduction Grant

The State Gang Reduction Grant was eliminated in 2013 and, as a result, no programs were funded in 2014. However, through Title II funding, UBJJ provided scholarships to 52 individuals representing various stakeholders across the state to learn about juvenile justice and gang prevention at various conferences.

Justice Assistance Grants (JAG Grants)

JAG Grants supported programming areas that UBJJ identified as critical

but lacking in resources. Funding was used in support of new programming and to expand existing programs that have been proven effective. It is anticipated that funding will continue through FY2016.

FY2014 Grants	
Title II First Year Projects \$0	
Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded.	
Title II Second Year Projects \$0	
Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded.	
Title II Third Year Projects \$91,250	
Salt Lake Co.	\$20,000 – K-6 Delinquency Prevention City of South Salt Lake
Salt Lake Co.	\$37,500 – Project StepUP Community Education Partnership of West Valley City
Salt Lake Co.	\$33,750 – Refugee Family & Academic Support Refugee & Immigrant Center, Asian Association of Utah
Title II Fourth Year Projects \$0	
Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded.	
Title II On-Going Projects \$238,399	
Statewide	\$100,065 – JJDP Act Compliance Monitoring, Juvenile Justice Services
Statewide	\$14,814 – Juvenile Jail Removal, Juvenile Justice Services
Statewide	\$47,186 – Outcome Evaluation Survey, U of U Criminal Justice Center
Statewide	\$76,334 – Juvenile Disproportionate Minority Contact Reduction Coordinator, CCJJ
Title II Short-Term Projects \$8,070	
Weber Co.	\$4,070 – Northern Utah Gang Conference Ogden City Police Department
Statewide	\$4,000 – Troubled Youth Conference Shelter Kids Inc.
Title V Delinquency Prevention \$0	
Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded.	
State Gang Reduction Grants \$0	
Due to elimination of the grant, no grants were awarded.	
Community Strategic Planning (CASP) Grant	
Statewide	\$32,025 – Disproportionate Minority Contact Best Practices Intervention Initiative – Institute for Innovative Justice
Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) \$403,982	
Uinta County	\$146,846 – Native American Youth Services Needs for the Uintah Basin – Juvenile Justice Services
Salt Lake Co.	\$41,700 – K-6 Delinquency Prevention Project Expansion – South Salt Lake City
Weber Co.	\$78,349 – Early Project Empowerment – Weber Human Services
Salt Lake Co.	\$46,847 – Community Education Partners of WVC – Project StepUp Expansion – West Valley City
Salt Lake Co.	\$90,240 – NeighborWorks Salt Lake YouthWorks Project – Salt Lake City