



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), as amended 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

In collaboration with Justice Assistance Grant (JAG), UBJJ provided funding to eleven different projects in 2016. Five projects provided direct services to children while six other projects focused on system improvements (e.g. JJDPA compliance monitoring, project evaluation and training support). Progress made within each priority area is highlighted in this report.

Utah's "Do the Write Thing" Challenge

UBJJ annually host the "Do the Write Thing" Challenge. This project is in collaboration with the National Campaign to Stop Violence sponsored by the Kuwait Foundation. The DtWT Challenge encourages 7th and 8th grade students to submit writings, voice their view/experience about how violence affects their lives and how it can be prevented. Its objective is to empower young people in Utah and around the country to make a personal, written commitment to combat youth violence in their communities. In 2016, more than 2,000 students participated in classroom discussions and nearly 700 chose to submit writings for review. Twelve writings were selected and scholarships and other gifts was awarded to the authors. In addition, the top boy and girl

Utah National Finalists traveled with their parents and teachers to Washington DC to participate in the National Recognition Ceremony where they met with members of Utah's Congressional Delegations. The students' writings was made into a book and placed in the Library of Congress. The Utah DtWT Challenge is managed by the UBJJ Youth Committee.

Youth Justice Awareness Month

In 2015, Governor Herbert declared October as Juvenile Justice Awareness Month to highlight and celebrate milestone achievements in the juvenile justice system. UBJJ hosted the second annual event in October of 2016 celebrating the United States Supreme Court decision In re Gault, which guaranteed a child's right to counsel in juvenile Court. UBJJ celebrated the 50th anniversary of this landmark decision by honoring juvenile defenders. UBJJ recognized five Juvenile Defenders across the state as Youth Advocate of the Year. These recipients demonstrated zealous advocacy and dedication by giving youth a clear and powerful voice in the court room and were awarded to: Benjamin D. Gordon, P.C. 5th Judicial District; Jeffrey K. Ross, Stowell & Crayk, 8th Judicial District; Erik G. Jacobson, Utah Co. Juvenile Public Defender, 4th Judicial District; Tasha M. Williams and William R. Russell, Utah Juvenile Defender Attorneys, 4th Judicial District. The award ceremony took place at the Utah Supreme Court with Amanda J. Powell from the National Juvenile Defender Center and Utah Supreme Court Justice John Pearce as keynote speakers.

Utah Board of Juvenile Justice

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**Youth Member*

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 existing curriculum can also be a considerable task.

The evaluation process focuses on fidelity implementation of evidence-based practices and provides guidance to improve its effectiveness. It also ensures that intervention is effectively delivered and maintaining a quality trained staff as well as provide technical assistance in some of the difficulties encountered. The evaluation process ensures quality programming and builds confidence that public funded programs are well spent.

The UCJC has developed and maintained the Risk and Protective Information Tool (RAPIT). The RAPIT provides information on a wide array of indicators of the wellbeing of Utah's youth. The tool tracks 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 tools can be accessed via UBJJ's website: www.juvenile.utah.gov.

1. Delinquency Prevention

In 2016, UBJJ funded two programs, one in West Valley City and one in Cedar City. The West Valley City program is an after-school program that serves elementary-age youth. The program served 22 youth in their fourth and final year of funding cycle. The Native Youth Program in Cedar City served 94 youth in group and individual after-school and summer programming to youth ages 5-17. The program's goal is to develop "academic, social and cultural skills, receive recognition of their efforts and success while at the same time associating and bonding with positive adult mentors that set clear standards." The program served five Bands of the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah located in Iron, Washington, Millard and Sevier County.

Justice Assistance Grants (JAG Grants)

JAG Grants continued support in programming areas that UBJJ identified as critical but lacking in resources. Funding was used to support programming and to expand existing programs that have been proven effective. It is anticipated that funding will continue through FY2017. The funding also supported the Utah Youth Court Association to develop a database system that collect demographic and case management information for youth referred to Peer Court.

2. Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC)

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

- Successful in providing the School-based Law Enforcement Training Curriculum to school administrators and law enforcement officers working within school districts. This training reached 10 stakeholders and 281 participants throughout the State. The 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 provides standardization along with best practices while developing alternative options for juvenile courts and school districts across jurisdictions.
- Collaborates with the Utah State Board of Education to develop the school-based law enforcement training as required under HB460, which passed during the 2016 General Legislative Session.
- Continued to identify trends and areas of disparity at nine contact points in Utah's juvenile justice system.
- Completed Alternatives to Juvenile Court research as part of a continuation in order to address DMC. The DMC Subcommittee is currently assessing the recommendations to determine a course of action.
- 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. The training was provided to 792 firefighter and law enforcement cadets during 2016.

FY2016 Grants	
Title II First Year Projects \$0 Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded.	
Title II Second Year Projects \$40,552 Iron County \$40,552 – <i>Native Youth Program, Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah</i>	
Title II Third Year Projects \$0 Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded.	
Title II Fourth Year Projects \$0 Due to cuts in the federal grant program, no grants were awarded.	
Title II On-Going Projects \$216,278	
Statewide	\$89,532 – <i>JJDP Act Compliance Monitoring, Juvenile Justice Services</i>
Statewide	\$17,727 – <i>Juvenile Jail Removal, Juvenile Justice Services</i>
Statewide	\$23,461 – <i>Outcome Evaluation Survey, U of U Criminal Justice Center</i>
Statewide	\$85,558 – <i>Juvenile Disproportionate Minority Contact Reduction Coordinator, CCJJ</i>
Title II Short-Term Projects \$9,000	
Weber Co.	\$4,500 – <i>Northern Utah Gang Conference</i>
Statewide	\$4,500 – <i>Troubled Youth Conference</i> Shelter Kids Inc.
Community Strategic Planning (CASP) Grant	
Statewide	\$9,600 – <i>Research: Alternative to Juvenile Court Referrals – Institute for Innovative Justice</i>
Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) \$351,198	
Uinta County	\$146,846 – <i>Native American Youth Services Needs for the Uintah Basin – Juvenile Justice Services</i>
Salt Lake Co.	\$48,352 – <i>Project StepUp Expansion – Community Education Partnership of West Valley City</i>
Salt Lake Co.	\$126,000 – <i>YouthWorks Prevention Program – NeighborWorks Salt Lake</i>
Salt Lake Co.	\$30,000 – <i>Youth Court Database Development – Utah Youth Court Association</i>
UBJJ Staff: ANTONETTE GRAY, DMC Coordinator, CCJJ	
JO LYNN KRUSE Administrative Assistant, CCJJ	
Staff addition: UBJJ hired DARIEN HICKEY as JJDP Compliance Monitor. This position was previously housed at the Division of Juvenile Justice Services. Darien received her B.S. from Westminster College and her Masters from Louisiana State University. Darien worked on Louisiana's JRI and presented at the American Society of Criminology National Conference.	