

Locally Committed Youth Block Grant

The Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration manages the Consolidated Juvenile Services (CJS) program. CJS was initiated in 1981 to assist counties in developing programs based on local priorities. Counties applying for CJS funds must include efforts to address disproportionality in their plans. CJS provides funding to counties for a wide range of programs. These programs include: Diversion, diagnosis, probation supervision, individual counseling, drug/alcohol assessment and treatment, alternative education, vocational training, sex offender treatment, psychiatric and psychological services, recreation, detention, work release, intensive supervision, and other specialized services. County juvenile courts participating in CJS are mandated to utilize a client risk assessment tool to determine the most appropriate program assignment for probation youth. All of the state's 39 counties have CJS At-Risk programs (within 33 juvenile court jurisdictions).

Over the years, the CJS Program has been expanded to include CJAA (Community Juvenile Accountability Act), CDDA (Chemical Dependency Disposition Alternative), and SSODA (Special Sex Offender Disposition Alternative). These programs are folded together into a consolidated contract to give the courts flexibility to more effectively coordinate services at the local level.

Block Grant Application Process

Counties applying for Block Grant funds for the -2011 fiscal year were required to describe how they will be using the funding to include the anticipated amounts they will spend in each program area. Additionally, they were required to provide projected numbers of youth to be served in each program area. As was true under the previous funding structure, they were required to describe efforts to address minority disproportionality in their plans. Any county applying for CJS funding that also operated a detention facility were required to have standards of operation in place. These included intake and admissions, medical and health care, communication, correspondence, visiting and telephone use, security and control,

sanitation and hygiene, juvenile rights, rules and discipline, property, juvenile records, safety and emergency procedures, programming, release and transfer, training and staff development, and food service.

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG)

JRA also administers the federal Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program that provides funding for state, county, city and tribal juvenile justice projects. Examples of projects funded include: intensive county probation services, day reporting programs, drug court programs, additional juvenile prosecutors, and enhancement to county CJAA interventions.

Evidence Based Programs (EBP) Expansion

In addition to the locally Committed Youth Block Grant, the JRA provides approximately three million additional dollars per State Fiscal Year for EBPs. The Legislature authorized this expanded funding for EBPs in 2008. These funds are monitored through a separated contracting process to ensure the outcome is a true expansion State-wide in the delivery of EBPs. This funding source roughly doubled the appropriated funding level for these programs that have demonstrated reductions in recidivism and an associated cost/benefit to the State. The delivery of these additional EBPs supported by this funding source is expected to reduce the need for future adult prison construction in Washington State.

Disposition Options

Disposition options implemented in July 2003 include the Mental Health Disposition Option (similar to CDDA and SSODA except for juveniles with mental health related issues) and Option B, a suspended commitment option for youth not eligible for CDDA, SSODA, or MHDA. These alternatives may be used to provide community-based services to individual youth who would otherwise be committed to state care.
