

JJ&RA - JUVENILE REHABILITATION
Funding for Youth Services in Local Systems



2015-17 BIENNIAL BUDGET

ML Request	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0
GF-State	\$486,000	\$486,000	\$972,000
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0

DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Juvenile Justice and Rehabilitation Administration (JJRA) requests \$972,000 GF-State to offset the loss of federal Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) funds. These federal funds were eliminated from the federal budget beginning in Fiscal Year 2014. By funding this request, JJRA is expected to help maintain program integrity and offset a loss of services provided in local communities. The funding is expected to help reduce crime by providing client services to youth involved in the local juvenile justice systems.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Federal funding for the JABG program was eliminated beginning in Fiscal Year 2014. The President’s Budget proposes restoration of this funding in Fiscal Year 2015. However, no JBAG funding is currently included in the federal budget.

The JABG funding supports four FTEs (a program administrator and three Information Technology (IT) positions). Additionally, this funding supports services to youth in 25 communities throughout Washington State. The federal funding supports programs in both small and large counties such as King County, Snohomish County, Yakima County, Cowlitz County, and Pierce County, as well as the Colville tribe, and 19 other counties throughout the state of Washington. Over 2,000 youth were served in Fiscal Years 2013-2014 and over 845 youth were served with evidence based practices. The loss of funding will eliminate programs addressing truancy, substance use, and antisocial behavior, as well as other programs that promote a positive focus for youth and families.

In addition, the loss of four positions will negatively impact the ability of the state to provide essential support services to local program grantees. The JABG grant funded a program administrator that was responsible for the administration and accountability for the grants. The position also manages all financial aspects of the JABG funding. The IT positions were used for IT automation updates to Juvenile Rehabilitation’s Automated Client Tracking (ACT) case management system, development of additional modules to support integrated treatment models for youth, and provide electronic information sharing with other departments.



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PROPOSED SOLUTION

This decision package requests \$1,032,000 GF-State funding to offset the loss of federal JBAG funds. This solution will provide funding to continue the existing program and maintain program integrity. Funding will offset the shortfall for support services provided to local communities that provide a variety of local programs, including graduated sanctions, pretrial services, training for law enforcement, hiring and funding for prosecutors, gun and drug courts, juvenile records systems/information sharing, risk assessments, school safety, restorative justice, court probation programming, evidence based practices, reentry programs, and court probation programming. The funding will ensure the continuation of the four FTEs who maintain the JABG program and support the ACT program. This funding will also provide local units of government the means to continue to provide client services for youth and families.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The budget request supports DSHS Goal 5: Public trust – Use of strong management practices that ensure quality and efficiency and DSHS Goal 2: Safety – Each individual and each community will be safe. The decision package is essential to implementing the JR Strategic Objective 5.1: Maintain a productive, effective organization and maximize service deliver capacity within available resources. The funding is imperative for maintaining credible and accurate information to share as well as continue to fund evidence and research based services provided by units of local government.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

The units of local government receiving current grant awards will support this proposal as the loss of funding will negatively impact the services they can provide to youth.



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