



Juvenile Crime Prevention

Report to the Governor
& Oregon Legislature
2010

SUBMITTED BY: the Juvenile Crime
Prevention Advisory Committee,
and the Oregon Commission
on Children & Families



OCCF

State of Oregon

The Juvenile Crime Prevention (JCP) initiative was created in 1999 through an Executive Order in response to an increasing criminal activity by youthful offenders. The goals of the Juvenile Crime Prevention Initiative were – and continue to be – to prevent juvenile crime, reduce recidivism, and decrease the need for costly closed custody beds. Created at the same time was the Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Committee (JCPAC) as the governing body for technical assistance and oversight of the JCP funding.

The authorizing statute, ORS 417.855, identifies the target population for JCP funds as youth who: (a) Have more than one of the following risk factors: Antisocial behavior; Poor family functioning or poor family support; School failure; Substance abuse; or Negative peer association; and (b) Are clearly demonstrating at-risk behaviors that have come to the attention of government or community agencies, schools or law enforcement and will lead to imminent or increased involvement in the juvenile justice system.

The general fund allocation for the 2009-2011 biennium for Juvenile Crime Prevention plans both county and tribal, was \$6,012,046. This is a 70% reduction from the original 1999-2001 allocation. In 2007, the JCPAC was moved to the Oregon Commission on Children and Families for infrastructure and support.

Outcomes from the 2009-2011 biennium include development and implementation of updated JCP Planning Guidelines. The guidelines assisted all 36 counties and nine federally recognized Tribes in identifying the highest risk youth in their communities and developing evidence-based and Tribal best practices to address the needs. The JCP planning process was a comprehensive community effort involving many community youth serving agencies.

The need for the following policy discussions was evident in multiple county and tribal plans:

- Student success in school
- Youth substance abuse

- Lack of mental health services for youth
- Runaway and homeless youth
- Family supports

Each community engaged in a process to affirm that the responses to the gaps and needs should be evidence-based strategies. The following are examples of common strategies with evidence-based programming references in parentheses. The interim 2010 progress assessment concluded that 90% of the JCP funds were supporting evidence-based and Tribal best practices for high-risk youth.

- School-based and after school programming (Extended Services in School, School Counselors)
- Family Supports (Functional Family Therapy)
- Mentoring programs (Big Brothers Big Sisters)
- Wraparound services (SAMSHA System of Care Wraparound)
- Culturally responsive services (Talking Circles, Youth Canoe Family, Tribal Youth Conferences)
- Gender specific programming (Girls' Circle and Boys' Council)
- Life skills (Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Skills Streaming)

Measuring Outcomes

The Juvenile Crime Prevention funding requires that all youth be assessed using the Oregon Juvenile Crime Risk Assessment. This risk assessment tool has been validated and subsequently revalidated using Oregon youth as the sample group. Since the introduction of the risk assessment tool in 1999, there had not been an ongoing training plan for new workers and community partners administering the tool. During the 2009-2011 biennium, one of the highlighted outcomes is a strategic training plan for all users on administering the tool and entering data into the databases. The training model includes training of the trainers. This training is now available throughout the state, allowing all jurisdictions access to the information.

A total of 13 training sessions were held, reaching 275 participants statewide. Training included:

- Introductory training using the JCP assessment tool
- Interpreting the tool's outcomes to develop strategies and planning for individual youth
- Developing local capacity to ensure data entry for use for the JCP evaluation
- Completing JCP reassessments to measure outcomes of youth individually and programmatically

The JCP evaluation for the 2009-2011 biennium is underway. Some of the key findings from the 2007-2009 JCP Evaluation are:

- Among the youth served with JCP funds, 49% did not have any criminal referral prior to accessing services or programs through JCP.
- 88% of youth involved in JCP services and programs did not have a new criminal referral with the 12-month follow-up from the start of services.

- 79% of youth with one prior criminal referral did not recidivate with any additional criminal referral within the 12-month follow-up from start of services.

Other areas of responsibility for the Juvenile Crime Prevention Advisory Committee include communicating with the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee with issues relating to the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Act (JJDPA Executive Order 99-02), and creating the statewide funding plan and allocation for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program. The JABG provides the state of Oregon funding to assist the juvenile justice system in holding youthful offenders accountable through 17 purpose areas. FY 2010 Oregon's JABG allocation was \$621,300.

The JCP plans developed by each of the eligible counties and Tribes integrate the funding proposal for the JABG funds as part of the planning process. JABG funds have also been managed regionally by rural communities to maximize the flexibility of sharing administrative functions for the funding source. The coordination of funding sources has led to the implementation of evidence-based strategies in the counties that use JABG for programming for youthful offenders; for example mental health and substance abuse programs, graduated sanctions, and diversion programs.

**For more information on this report,
please contact:**

Mickey Lansing

*Executive Director,
Oregon Commission on Children and Families
mickey.lansing@state.or.us
503-378-5128*

Anya Sekino

*Juvenile Crime Prevention Manager
and Juvenile Justice Specialist,
Oregon Commission on Children and Families
anya.sekino@state.or.us
503-378-5115*

