

**State of New Jersey  
Governor's  
Juvenile Justice &  
Delinquency Prevention  
Committee**

**2006  
Annual Report**



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELIQUENCY  
PREVENTION COMMITTEE

JON S. CORZINE  
GOVERNOR

STUART RABNER  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

HOWARD L. BEYER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

GEORGE YEFCHAK  
ACTING CHAIRMAN  
JJDP COMMITTEE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMITTEE  
REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR, LEGISLATURE AND CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

The New Jersey Governor's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Committee's mission is to prevent or reduce delinquency by improving systems, mobilizing resources and engaging in advocacy to improve the lives of youth and families in the state. The JJDP Committee is the gubernatorially appointed designated State Advisory Group (SAG) under the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 2002. As such, the Committee is required to advise the Governor, Legislature, and Congress without lobbying on juvenile justice issues. The Committee funds state and local level innovative, evidenced-based programs and systems reform efforts and oversees compliance with the Act's core protections for youthful offenders.

*Mission Statement*

## DEDICATION

Until May 2006, the Honorable B. Thomas Leahy had served as a member of the Governor's Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee from its formation in April 1976, and as Chairman since March 1992. Judge Leahy also served in 2001 as National Chairman of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice, the umbrella organization of state advisory groups and as President of the National Association of Juvenile and Family Court Judges in 1983.



The members of the JJDP Committee wish to express their sincere appreciation for more than thirty years of service to New Jersey's youth and families, and have dedicated this report to his legacy of commitment to the needs of at-risk and court-involved youth.

*Dedication*

## JJDP COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP OCTOBER 1, 2005 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

B. Thomas Leahy, Chairman, October 1, 2005 - May 31, 2006

George Yefchak, Acting Chairman, June 1, 2006 - Present

Robert Baselice

Joyce Johnson

Lt. Joseph Britton

Jean Krauss

W. David Burns

Margaret McLeod

Jude Del Preore

Roy Perham, Ph.D.

Thomas Fiskén

Mary Previte

Nancy Kline-Gold

Alex Thornley\*

Cindy Hamer

Cathy Wasserman

Carlos Hendricks

\*Designated youth member

*Voting Membership of the JJDP Committee*

## COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The JJDP Committee is responsible for developing policies and programs to help ensure public safety, holding youthful offenders accountable for their actions and funding programs, primarily at the local level, which provide appropriate delinquency prevention and treatment services to meet the needs of at-risk and delinquent youth.

Specifically, the JJDP Committee:

- Participates in the development and review of the State's Three Year Plan for Juvenile Justice
- Seeks input from juveniles and incorporating their needs and views into the planning process
- Awards federal grant funds provided to the state under the JJDP Act
- Monitors activities and accomplishments of funded projects
- Oversees the state's compliance with the core protections provided under the Act for youthful offenders
- Submits an annual report to the Governor and Legislature

*Committee Responsibilities and Accomplishments*

The Committee's accomplishments include:

- Awarding \$1,905,095.00 in federal formula grant funds and \$287,250.00 in Title V Delinquency Prevention Grant funds
- Releasing a report on the Status of Disproportionate Minority Contact within the Juvenile Justice System
- Sponsoring educational forums on the emerging science of adolescent brain development and the effects of trauma on adolescent females
- Establishing family centered re-entry programs in Newark and New Brunswick
- Expanding the Phoenix Gang Prevention curriculum into five (5) additional communities in New Jersey
- Supporting New Jersey's participation in the Annie E. Casey's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) through continuation grants for Detention Specialists in New Jersey's pilot sites

## CONNIE STRAND MEMORIAL AWARD FOR PROGRAM EXCELLENCE

The third annual Connie Strand Award for Program Excellence was given to the following three outstanding programs which have been supported by the Committee:

The *Trenton Nurse Family Partnership Program* serves to improve the health and life course of at-risk, first-time mothers and their children up to age two. The program's goals include reductions in family dysfunction, child abuse and neglect and juvenile delinquency. The program demonstrated improved pre-natal care, child/infant health and nutrition as well as increased use of lead poisoning screening and immunization. The program staffed by five nurses served 160 clients over three years. The success of this program has stirred other state department's to consider funding home visitation programs as a cornerstone of prevention of child maltreatment and youth violence. The program continues to serve the City of Trenton.



*Connie Strand Memorial Award for Program Excellence*

Reducing Disproportionate Minority Confinement through *Multi-Systemic Therapy* (MST) was implemented by the Bergen County Division of Family Guidance from 2003-2005. The program targets post-adjudicated minority youth and their families, with a primary focus on second-time offenders residing in Hackensack and Englewood. Like the Nurse Family Partnership Program, MST has been designated as a Blueprint program by the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Research has demonstrated this model's success in increasing family cohesion, parent effectiveness and reducing negative peer associations and subsequent out-of-home placements. This program served 36 juvenile offenders who were placed in detention and who otherwise would have been disposed to a residential or correctional program. The success of this initiative has spurred interest in supporting MST as a statewide model to prevent costly and harmful placements in detention. The program continues to serve youth and families in Bergen County.

*Storytelling Arts, Inc.* was founded in 1996 to make professional storytelling programs available to low-income and special needs school children in New Jersey in order to strengthen literacy skills and increase motivation for learning. In 2005, Storytelling Arts, Inc. took its program inside the Mercer County Youth Detention Center to provide intensive, week long storytelling residencies that focused on writing one's story, multi-cultural folktales and myths, musical expression, the visual arts and public speaking. A total of 31 youth participated in one or more residencies and were able to exhibit their work(s) throughout the Center. Storytelling Arts, Inc. continues to work in other venues providing gender competent workshops for girls and in-school programs for other at-risk youth.

**JJDP GRANT MAKING  
OCTOBER 1, 2005 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2006**

AGENCY	PROJECT NAME	AWARD
<u>Bergen County</u>		
Team Management 2000	GEMS Program	\$32,264
<u>Camden County</u>		
Center for Family Services	Perkins Center for the Arts Workshops	\$16,165
Minor Adjustment, Inc.	Fatherhood Program	\$15,000
UMDNJ - NJ CARES	Stabilization and Trauma Treatment for Adolescents at Risk (STTAR)	\$30,000
<u>Cumberland County</u>		
Boys & Girls Club of Vineland	Project SUCCESS	\$60,000

*JJDP Grant Funding by County*

Essex County

Arts Horizons	Creative Alternatives for Youth	\$20,000
Bethany Cares, Inc.	Bethany Uth Turn	\$20,000
Family Services Bureau of Newark	Family Youth Intervention Program	\$150,000
Family Services Bureau of Newark	Beyond Survival	\$30,000
Irvington MAC	Irvington Youth Violence Initiative	\$100,000
Unified Vailsburg S.O.	Vailsburg Youth Leadership Corps	\$20,000
West Orange PD	Junior Police Academy	\$9,551

Mercer County

Family Transition and Support Services	Safe Horizons	\$33,420
Prevention Education, Inc.	Juvenile Offender Outreach Program	\$19,000
City of Trenton	Strengthening Families	\$24,000

Middlesex County

Affinity Counseling Group	New Brunswick Re-entry Initiative	\$150,000
Edison Twp.	Middle School BRIDGES	\$95,750
Jamesburg Board of Ed.	Project HOPE	\$60,000

Monmouth County

BB/BS of Monmouth Co.	Bigs in Schools	\$11,909
Collier Services	Job Experience Training (JET) Program	\$18,867
Monmouth County YSC	Monmouth Evening Reporting Center	\$75,000

Morris County

BB/BS of Morris, Bergen and Passaic Counties	Marie V. Duffy School-Based Mentoring	\$19,447
Collinsville CC Center	Teen/Tot Learning Project	\$16,664
St. Clare's Center for the Protection of Children	Girls Rule	\$133,400
Storytelling Arts, Inc.	Telling Our Stories	\$15,000

Ocean County

St. Barnabas Behavioral Health System	Project GROW	\$136,000
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Salem County

Pennsville School District	Exploring Careers in Foods Systems	\$20,000
Salem County	Families and Schools Together (FAST)	\$95,750

Somerset County

Middle Earth	Advantage and Advantage Plus	\$20,000
Somerset Co. Vo-Tech	Summer Twilight Program	\$20,000

Sussex County

Center for Prevention & Counseling	Project STRONG	\$60,000
St. Clare's Center for the Protection of Children	Girls Rule	\$133,400
Sussex County	Youth Empowerment and Safety (YES)	\$95,750

Union County

Jefferson Park Ministries	Haitian Youth Advancement Project	\$60,000
Union County Youth Services Bureau	Youth Enrichment for Summer	\$18,876

Warren County

Family Guidance Center of Warren County	Bumper to Bumper Program	\$20,000
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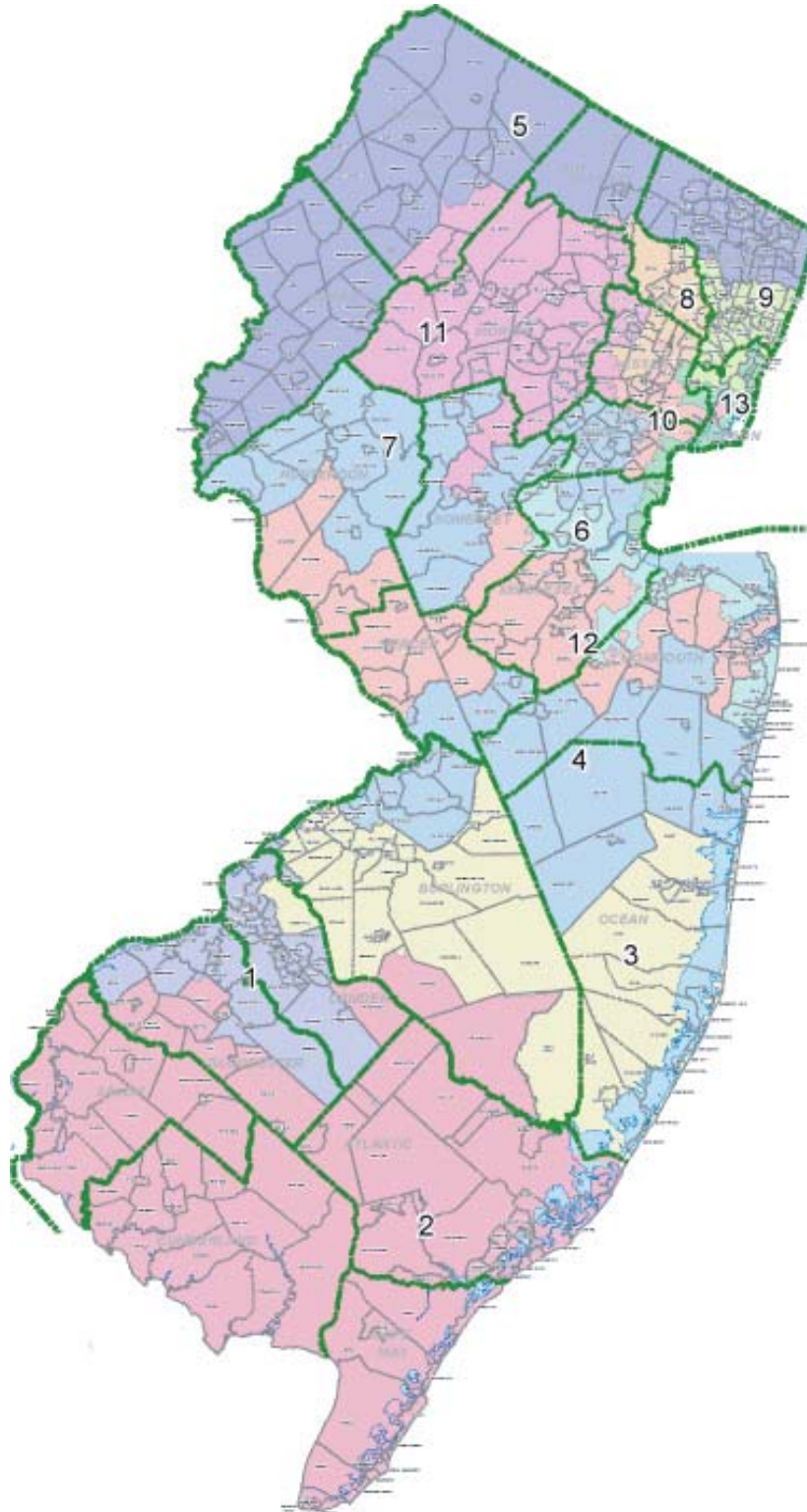
State Level

Drexel University	Parenting Tips - Dr. Myrna Shure	\$15,385
Juvenile Justice Comm.	Gender Services Coordinator	\$89,000
Juvenile Justice Comm.	JDAI Detention Specialists	\$125,128
Juvenile Justice Comm.	Celebration of Womanhood Conference	\$32,062
Juvenile Justice Comm.	Project Phoenix Training	\$9,326
Juvenile Justice Comm.	Compliance Monitoring Unit	\$150,610
Juvenile Justice Comm.	JJC Youth Summit	\$6,530
NJ Juvenile Detention Association	Juvenile Detention Training Academy	\$4,955
Rutgers School of Criminal Justice	Re-entry Evaluation	\$74,736

## *JJDP Grant Funding by Congressional District*

<b>District</b>	<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Program</b>
1	Minor Adjustment	Sicklerville	<i>Fatherhood Program</i>
1	NJ Child Abuse Research Education Service (NJ Cares at UMDNJ)	Stratford	<i>Stabilization and Trauma Treatment for Adolescents at Risk (STTAR)</i>
1	Center for Family Services	Blackwood	<i>YES Residential and Shelter Treatment Facility</i>
2	Boys & Girls Club of Vineland	Vineland	<i>Project Success</i>
2	Pennsville School District	Pennsville	<i>Exploring Careers in the Food System</i>
2	Salem County	Salem	<i>Families and Schools Together (FAST)</i>
3,4,6,12	St. Barnabas Behavioral Health System	Monmouth & Ocean	<i>Project GROW</i>
4,6,12	Monmouth County Youth Services Comm.	Monmouth	<i>Monmouth Evening Reporting Center (MERC)</i>
4,12	City of Trenton	Trenton	Trenton Strengthening Families
5	Family Guidance Center of Warren County	Warren	<i>Bumper to Bumper</i>
5	Center For Prevention & Counseling	Newton	<i>Project STRONG</i>
5,11	Sussex County	Sussex	<i>Youth Empowerment and Safety (YES)</i>
5,11	Saint Clare's Behavioral Health Center	Morris & Sussex	<i>Girls Rule</i>
6,7	Edison Township	Edison	<i>Middle School Bridges</i>
7	Affinity Counseling Group	North Brunswick	<i>New Brunswick Re-Entry Initiative</i>
7,11	Somerset Co. Vo-Tech High School	Bridgewater	<i>Summer Twilight Program</i>
7,11	Middle Earth	Bridgewater	<i>Middle Earth Advantage/Advantage Plus</i>
8	West Orange Police Department	West Orange	<i>Junior Police Academy</i>
9	Team Management 2000	Englewood	<i>Girls Empowered, Motivated and Self-Sufficient (GEMS)</i>
9	Arts Horizons	Englewood	<i>Creative Alternatives</i>
10	Unified Vailsburg	Vailsburg	<i>Vailsburg Youth Leadership Program</i>
10	Irvington Municipal Alliance Committee	Irvington	<i>Irvington Youth Violence Prevention Initiative</i>
10,13	Union County Youth Services Bureau	Union	<i>Linden Youth Enrichment for Summer</i>
10,13	Bethany Cares, Inc	Newark	<i>Bethany Uth Turn</i>
10,13	Family Services Bureau of Newark	Newark	1. <i>Family Youth Intervention Program</i> 2. <i>Beyond Survival</i>
10,13	Jefferson Park Ministries	Elizabeth	<i>Haitian Youth Advancement Project</i>
11	Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Morris, Bergen, and Passaic Counties	Wharton	<i>Elementary School-Based Mentoring</i>
11	Story Telling Arts	Morristown	<i>Telling Our Stories</i>
11	Collinsville Child Care Center	Morristown	<i>Collinsville Teen/Tot Learning Project</i>
12	Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Monmouth Co.	Eatontown	<i>Bigs in Schools</i>
12	Collier Services Health Center	Wickatunk	<i>Job Experience Training (JET)</i>
12	Jamesburg Board of Education	Jamesburg	<i>Project HOPE</i>
12	Family Transition & Support Services	Lawrence	<i>Safe Horizons</i>
12	PEI Kids	Lawrence	<i>Juvenile Offender Outreach Program</i>

# JJDP Grant Funding by Congressional District

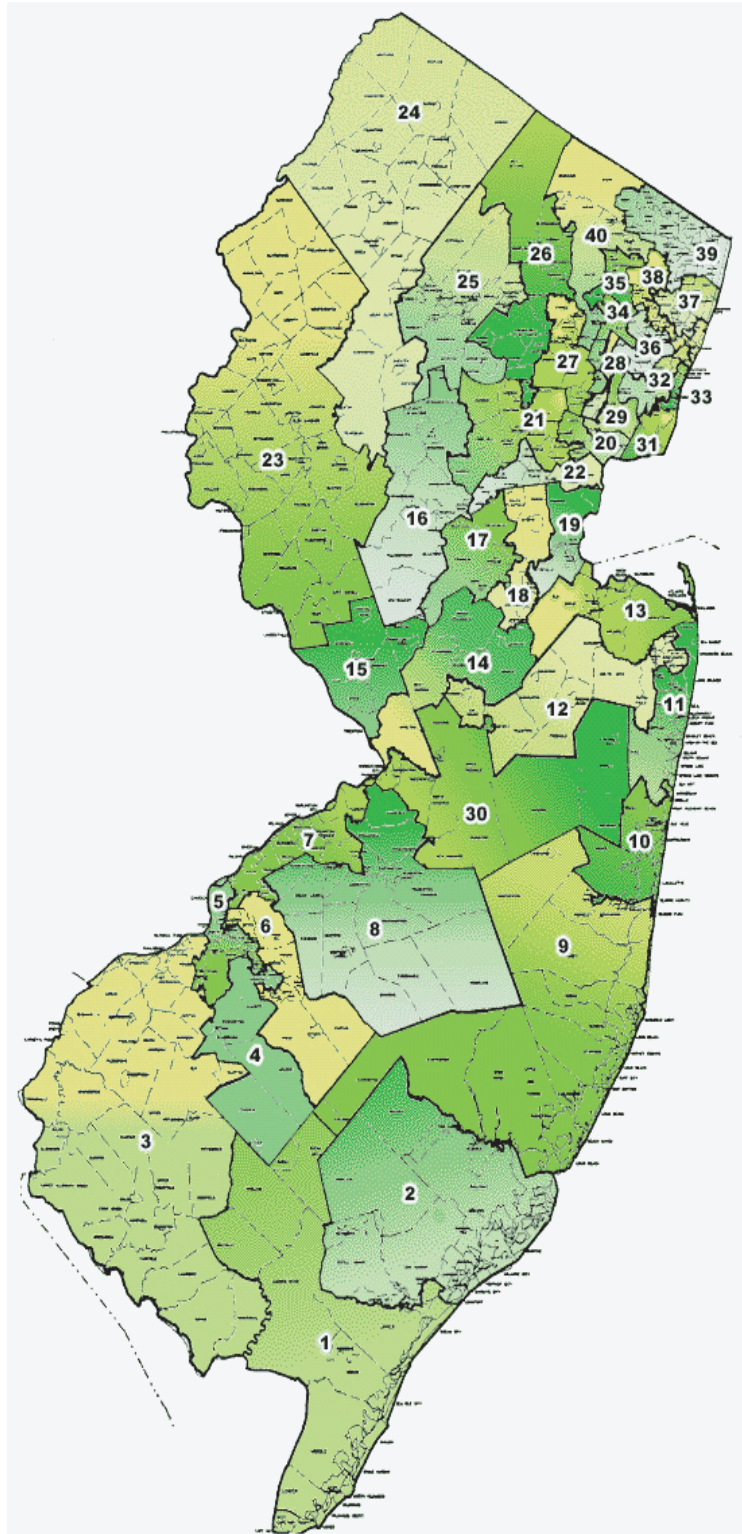


JJDP Grant Funding by Congressional District

## *JJDP Grant Funding by Legislative District*

<b>District</b>	<b>Grant Recipient</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Program</b>
1	Boys & Girls Club of Vineland	Vineland	<i>Project Success</i>
3	Pennsville School District	Pennsville	<i>Exploring Careers in the Food System</i>
3	Salem County	Salem	<i>Families and Schools Together</i>
4,5,6,7	Center for Family Services	Blackwood	<i>YES Residential &amp; Shelter Treatment Facility</i>
4,5,6,7	Minor Adjustment	Sicklerville	<i>Fatherhood Program</i>
5	NJ Child Abuse Research Education Service (NJ Cares at UMDNJ)	Stratford	<i>Stabilization and Trauma Treatment for Adolescents at Risk (STTAR)</i>
9,10,11,12,13	Saint Barnabas Behavioral Health System	Monmouth & Ocean	<i>Project GROW</i>
11	Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Monmouth Co.	Eatontown	<i>Bigs in Schools</i>
11,12,13	Monmouth County Youth Services Comm.	Monmouth County	<i>Monmouth Evening Reporting Center (MERC)</i>
12	Collier Services Health Center	Wickatunk	<i>Job Experience Training (JET)</i>
14	Jamesburg Board of Education	Jamesburg	<i>Project HOPE</i>
15	Family Transition & Support Services	Lawrence	<i>Safe Horizons</i>
15	PEI Kids	Lawrence	<i>Juvenile Offender Outreach Program</i>
15	City of Trenton	Trenton	<i>Trenton Strengthening Families</i>
16	Somerset County Vo-Tech High School	Bridgewater	<i>Summer Twilight Program</i>
16	Middle Earth	Bridgewater	<i>Middle Earth Advantage / Advantage Plus</i>
17	Affinity Counseling Group	North Brunswick	<i>New Brunswick Re-Entry Initiative</i>
18	Edison Township	Edison	<i>Middle School Bridges</i>
20	Jefferson Park Ministries	Elizabeth	<i>Haitian Youth Advancement Project</i>
21,24,25,26	Saint Clare's Behavioral Health Center	Morris & Sussex	<i>Girls Rule</i>
22	Union County Youth Services Bureau	Linden	<i>Youth Enrichment for Summer</i>
23	Family Guidance Center of Warren County	Warren	<i>Bumper to Bumper</i>
24	Sussex County	Sussex	<i>Youth Empowerment and Safety (YES)</i>
24	Center for Prevention & Counseling	Newtown	<i>Project STRONG</i>
25	Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Morris, Bergen & Passaic Counties	Wharton	<i>Elementary School-Based Mentoring</i>
25	Story Telling Arts	Morristown	<i>Telling Our Stories</i>
25	Collinsville Child Care Center	Morristown	<i>Collinsville Teen / Tot Learning Project</i>
27	West Orange Police Department	West Orange	<i>Junior Police Academy</i>
27	Irvington Municipal Alliance Committee	Irvington	<i>Irvington Youth Violence Prevention Initiative</i>
28,29	Bethany Cares, Inc.	Newark	<i>Bethany Uth Turn</i>
28,29	Unified Vailsburg	Vailsburg	<i>Vailsburg Youth Leadership Program</i>
28,29	Family Service Bureau of Newark	Newark	1. <i>Family Youth Intervention Program</i> 2. <i>Beyond Survival</i>
37	Team Management 2000	Englewood	<i>Girls Empowered, Motivated &amp; Self-Sufficient (GEMS)</i>
37	Arts Horizons	Englewood	<i>Creative Alternatives</i>

# JJDP Grant Funding by Legislative District



JJDP Grant Funding by Legislative District

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GOVERNOR, THE NEW JERSEY LEGISLATURE & NEW JERSEY'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

1. We applaud the inclusion of approximately \$4.4 million dollars in the budget of the Department of Children and Families for the expansion of home visiting programs. Intensive, research-proven home visiting programs have been found to be among the most effective interventions for reducing not only child abuse and neglect but youth violence. We have developed a home visiting model in a joint working group with the New Jersey Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect. We urge the continued expansion of home visiting according to this model as the most beneficial and cost effective investment in New Jersey's children that can be made by the Governor and Legislature.
2. Programs to reduce youth violence vary widely in their effectiveness. Some are so effective they pay for themselves within a few years in reduced government expenditures. Others have no effect, wasting the money spent on them, or even backfire, increasing youth violence and the costs associated with it. As part of budget reform, we urge that the Governor and Legislature establish an independent office to advise them on the cost-effectiveness of the programs they are considering funding. Nationally, the best example of such a state agency is the Washington State Institute for Public Policy ([www.wsipp.wa.gov](http://www.wsipp.wa.gov)). A comparable office in New Jersey could pay for itself many times over each year in the more effective use of state funds.
3. In recent years, the President and Congress have shifted funding from fighting adult crimes and juvenile delinquency to combating terrorism. Between 2000 and 2006, federal funding to New Jersey for delinquency prevention and treatment has declined dramatically. Specifically, funding to enhance prosecution and victim services declined by 80%, from \$5,621,000 to \$1,149,400. New Jersey's allocation for community based delinquency prevention declined by 95%, from \$1,041,000 to \$56,250. New Jersey's allocation for juvenile justice programs and services, while not dropping as precipitously, still declined from \$1,880,000 to \$1,620,000. In addition, members of Congress increasingly have earmarked the remaining federal juvenile justice funds, thereby reducing accountability on the part of the recipient and oversight on the part of the State. We urge the Governor, Legislature and members of our Congressional Delegation to advocate for the President and Congress to restore federal juvenile justice aid to New Jersey to its 2000 level and to prohibit earmarking of those funds. We also urge them to advocate for the 2007 reauthorization of the 2002 federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, the mechanism through which New Jersey receives federal juvenile justice funds.

4. We have been proud to assist the New Jersey Juvenile Justice Commission with its Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) to reduce the inappropriate housing of youth in county juvenile detention centers. In the five counties in which it has been implemented, the average daily detention population has dropped over 43%, with no subsequent increase in juvenile arrests. We urge the Governor and Legislature to enact Assembly Bill #2681 to institutionalize JDAI throughout New Jersey.
  
5. A Station house adjustment, in which a juvenile officer meets with a youth, parents and any victim about a minor offense instead of sending the youth directly to court, has existed in many NJ communities for decades. But recently, it has been widely assumed that it is used less by police departments in urban areas where minority youth are concentrated, contributing to the overrepresentation of minority youth in Family Court. In December 2005, former Attorney General Harvey ordered all police departments to conduct station house adjustments and to file quarterly reports about them. We urge the Attorney General's office to monitor the use of station house adjustments by all police departments in New Jersey to ensure compliance with this order. We also urge that the results be shared with other agencies, such as the Juvenile Justice Commission, the JJDP Committee and the County Youth Services Commissions, to assist their efforts to reduce the overrepresentation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system.