

STATE OF MAINE  
**JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP**  
*2010 ANNUAL REPORT*



**JJAG**



*“The mission of the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group is to advise and make recommendations to state policy makers and to promote effective system level responses that further the goals of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.”*



To: The Honorable Paul R. LePage, Governor and the Maine State Legislature

**Juvenile Justice Advisory Group Annual Report for 2010**

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**2010 Responsibilities and Activities of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group:**

The JJAG’s primary responsibilities include: 1) compliance with the core requirements of the Act, 2) development of a state three-year juvenile justice plan and, 3) making grants and monitoring outcomes.

Federal legislation titled the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJCPA), 42 U.S.C. 5633 [Sec. 223], was enacted in 1974 and this marks the thirty-sixth full year of Maine’s participation and establishment of the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG). The JJAG was authorized by Maine Statute in 1984, 34-A MRSA Section 1209.

*Members are appointed by the Governor for a four-year term and serve in a voluntary capacity, providing input and direction to the state on issues concerning juvenile justice and represent communities, state agencies, non-profit organizations, and youth.*

<p><b>Paul K. Vestal, Jr., Chair</b> Operations Director, Children’s Services, Catholic Charities of ME - Bangor</p>	<p><b>Denise Giles</b> DOC Victim Services Augusta</p>	<p><b>Daniel Nichols</b> Parent Augusta</p>
<p><b>Edwin Chester, Vice Chair</b> Attorney, Chester &amp; Vestal Portland</p>	<p><b>Jacinda Goodwin</b> Office of Substance Abuse Augusta</p>	<p><b>Douglas Patrick</b> Child &amp; Family Services, DHHS Augusta</p>
<p><b>Cathy Ashland</b> Parent Waterville</p>	<p><b>Jamie Johnson</b> Youth Member &amp; Maine Housing Farmingdale</p>	<p><b>Shelley Reed</b> Department of Education Augusta</p>
<p><b>Mark Boger</b> Interstate Compact, Juvenile Services DOC Augusta</p>	<p><b>Hon. Charles LaVerdiere</b> Chief Judge Augusta</p>	<p><b>M. Adam Royer</b> Youth Member Falmouth</p>
<p><b>Richard Brown</b> CEO, Charlotte White Center Dover Foxcroft</p>	<p><b>Randall Liberty</b> Kennebec Sheriff Benton</p>	<p><b>Jonathan Shapiro</b> Maine State Police York County</p>
<p><b>Abigail Comee-McCourt</b> Youth Member Bath</p>	<p><b>Margaret Longworth</b> Director of Clinical Services, OHI Hermon</p>	<p><b>Patricia Shorey</b> Youth Member &amp; Law School Graduate Portland</p>
<p><b>Nickole DeMerritt</b> Youth Member Saco</p>	<p><b>Joan McDonald</b> CEO, Girl Scouts of Maine Portland</p>	<p><b>Barry Stoodley</b> Associate Commissioner, Juvenile Services DOC Augusta</p>
<p><b>Dalene Dutton</b> Five Town Communities That Care Rockport</p>	<p><b>Hannah McMullen</b> Youth Member &amp; Law School North Anson</p>	<p><b>Christine Thibeault</b> Assistant District Attorney, Cumberland County Portland</p>
<p><b>James Foss</b> Jail Administrator, Aroostook County Houlton</p>	<p><b>Dr. James Morse, Sr.</b> Superintendent, Portland Schools Portland</p>	<p><b>Patrick Walsh</b> Broadreach Family &amp; Community Services Belfast</p>

## 2010 JJAG ACTIVITIES

- Member of the national Coalition for Juvenile Justice
- Member of the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice
- State Advisory Group training
- Dr. Ross Greene’s Collaborative Problem Solving training for educators
- Karen Williams Adolescent Brain Development trainings for educators & juvenile justice workers
- Partnered with the Department of Corrections to offer Trauma Affect Regulation: Guide to Education and Training

### I. Monitor

Maine’s compliance with the core requirements of the JJDP Core Protections requires that:

1. Status offenders (alcohol, runaway, truant) may not be securely detained
2. Juveniles may not be detained in adult jails except to process and release
3. Youth may not be subject to sight or sound contact with adult inmates while in detention
4. The rate of minority youth contact with the justice system must be monitored to assure an equitable contact level.

### 2010 Status of Maine Compliance with JJDP Core Protections

Maine had few violations of the core protections of the Act in 2010 and continues to be in full compliance by the OJJDP. Generally the highest risk to compliance with the core protections is the secure holding of a youth beyond time limits allowed. **There were 14 violations in 2010.**

### II. Advise and Inform:

The JJDP Act of 1974 requires the JJAG to advise government in juvenile justice and delinquency prevention. To that end the following plans and reports were developed:

*Annual Report to the Governor*

*Annual Recommendations to the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice* – Outlines Maine’s priorities for juvenile justice at the federal level.

*Maine State Three Year Plan for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention*

*Annual Report on Monitoring for Compliance to the Act*

### III. Fund and Monitor Grants

The Federal Act consists of three funding categories: 1) Title II, Formula Grant Funds, 2) Title V - Delinquency Prevention Funds, and 3) Juvenile Accountability Block Grants.

- *Title II, Formula Grants* - The act provides each state with formula grants that are allocated on the basis of each state’s population under the age of 18. These grant funds support a variety of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs and services as long as the state remains in compliance with the core requirements of the Act.
- *Title V - Delinquency Prevention Funds* - As part of the 1992 reauthorization of the Act, Congress established a new funding category, Title V, Incentive Grants, for local juvenile delinquency prevention programs. Funds under Title V are awarded to communities that develop comprehensive delinquency prevention plans at the local (municipal and county) level. Title V funds are allocated to states based on the population under the age of 18.
- *Juvenile Accountability Block Grant* - The act provides each state with a Block Grant that provides financial assistance to eligible governmental agencies who develop projects designed to prevent juvenile delinquency.

In 2010, JJAG funding served **2,435** youth in the state of Maine.

American Indian/Alaskan Native	Asian	Black/African American	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	White <i>(includes Arab and Middle Eastern Countries)</i>	Hispanic	Other/Unknown
78	26	40	4	2,241	29	17

## *2010 Funded Programs*

### **Broadreach Family and Community Services - \$95,350** *(Title II, Formula Grant)*

Funds Youthlinks, which runs Lions-Quest, a program that develops and runs after-school activities for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students in Rockland and Thomaston.

### **Five Town Communities that Care - \$75,000** *(Title II, Formula Grant)*

Funds a STAR model after-school program for youth in the 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grades from Appleton, Hope, Camden, Rockport, and Lincolnville.

### **Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians - \$12,500** *(Title II, Formula Grant/Native American Pass-Through)*

Funds a youth program devoted to enhancing awareness of Native culture, increasing ties to the community, and focusing on health (physical and mental), and nutrition.

### **Riverview Foundation - \$150,000** *(Title II, Formula Grant)*

Funds the Leadership and Resiliency Project and the Youth Horizons Program (separately funded) through the Riverview Foundation to youth in Portland, Biddeford, South Portland, Scarborough, Brunswick, and MSAD #75 (Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Harpswell, Topsham).

### **The R.E.A.L. School & Teen Aspirations Program - \$105,000** *(Title II, Formula Grant)*

Funds the R.E.A.L. School, of the Windham Raymond School Department, in a suspension and/or expulsion alternative program and the Restorative Learning Program, for youth in the southern Maine area. The Teen Aspirations Program is a year-round, complementary program to further students' personal self-worth.

### **Center for Collaborative Problem Solving - \$77,400** *(Title V-Delinquency Prevention Funding)*

Funds Dr. Ross Greene in implementing his CPS model, which provides strategies to reduce negative behavior in youth ages 5-18, in Maine schools statewide.

### **Trekkers, Inc. - \$22,150** *(Title II, Formula Grant)*

Funds an already implemented, but needing to expand, community-based mentoring program serving youth in Cushing, Thomaston, and St. George.

### **Lisbon Police Department - \$4,375** *(Title II, Formula Grant)*

Funds the LE<sup>2</sup>AD (Lisbon Education & Delinquency Prevention) Program that operates in conjunction with Lisbon High School and surrounding businesses to help struggling students gain a high school diploma or GED, and/or find employment.

### **University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service - \$95,000** *(Title II, Formula Grant)*

Funds Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) research by the Muskie School that provides the JJAG with data to better develop strategies for DMC reduction. The Muskie School also provides support for sub-grantees by creating logic models and evaluation tools.

### **Juvenile Accountability Block Grant - \$354,800**

Funds programs such as Diversion to Assets and Alternative to Detention, trainings like Trauma Affect Regulation: Guide to Education and Training, and tools like Performance Based Standards, that all work towards updating, creating, evaluating and improving programs to prevent delinquency in Maine youth.

## Results

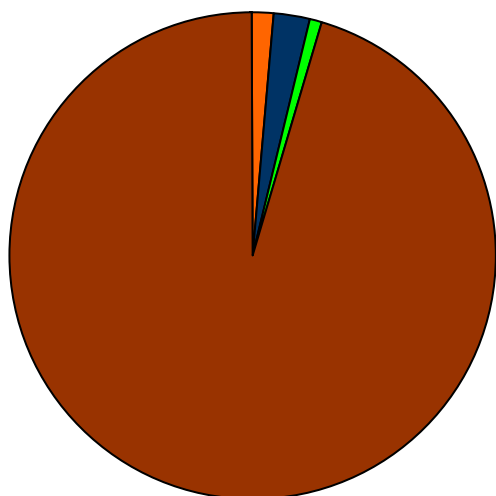
Programs funded by the JJAG have reported, on average, **78%** of their staff received additional training while using JJAG assistance. They also report the following about the youth they served:

- **80%** of youth are exhibiting a desired change in regard to school attendance
- **70%** of youth are exhibiting a desired change in regard to substance abuse
- **67%** of youth are exhibiting a desired change in regard to family relationships
- **75%** of youth are exhibiting a desired change in regard to anti-social behavior

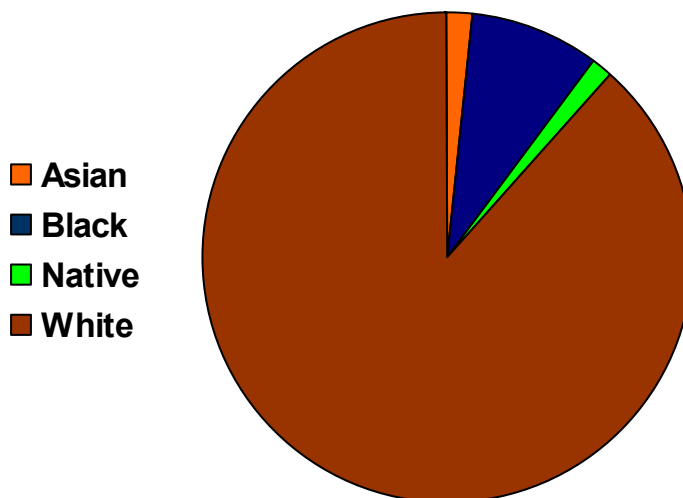
## Future Work of the JJAG

The Juvenile Justice Advisory Group is dedicated to helping Maine youth in all stages of the juvenile justice system. That said, a current goal of the JJAG is to greatly reduce the rate of *disproportionate minority contact* (DMC) – when minority youth are becoming involved with the juvenile justice system at a greater rate than what is representative. The following 2010 detention data for juveniles is clear evidence of the continued importance of JJAG’s work regarding DMC.

**Total Youth Population by Race**



**Total Detained Youth Population by Race**



This data shows a trend where minority youth are over-represented in the juvenile justice system. The JJAG will continue its DMC work, in association with the University of Southern Maine’s Muskie School of Public Service, to make sure that in the future, all youth are fairly represented in Maine. JJAG will also continue its funding of delinquency prevention and alternative to suspension/expulsion programs to lower the number of youth being referred and detained.





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