

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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4058 CHILDREN WERE SERVED WITH JJAG FUNDING IN 2009



To: The Honorable John E. Baldacci, Governor and The Maine State Legislature

Juvenile Justice Advisory Group Annual Report For 2009

“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.”

2009 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 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP), 42 U.S.C. 5633 [Sec. 223], was enacted in 1974 and this marks the twenty-fifth full year of Maine’s participation and the 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.

Members

Paul K. Vestal, Jr., Chair Operations Director of Children’s Services, Catholic Charities of ME Bangor	Denise Giles DOC Victim Services Augusta	Daniel Nichols Parent Augusta
Edwin Chester, Vice Chair Attorney, Chester & Vestal Portland	Jacinda Goodwin Office of Substance Abuse Augusta	Doug Patrick Child & Family Services, DHHS Augusta

<p>Cathy Ashland Parent Waterville</p> <p>Mark Boger Interstate Compact, Juvenile Services DOC Augusta</p> <p>Richard Brown CEO, Charlotte White Center Dover Foxcroft</p> <p>Abigail Comee-McCourt Youth Member Bath</p> <p>Nickole DeMerritt Youth Member Saco</p> <p>Dalene Dutton Five Town Communities That Care Rockport</p> <p>James Foss Jail Administrator, Aroostook County Houlton</p>	<p>Jamie Johnson Youth Member & Maine Housing Farmingdale</p> <p>Hon. Charles LaVerdiere Chief Judge Augusta</p> <p>Margaret Longworth Director of Clinical Services, OHI Hermon</p> <p>Joan McDonald CEO Girl Scouts of Maine Portland</p> <p>Hannah McMullen Youth Member N, Anson</p> <p>Carla Mitchell-Knapp Penobscot Nation Boys & Girls Club Indian Island</p> <p>Dr. James Morse, Sr. Superintendent, Portland Schools Portland</p>	<p>Shelley Reed Department of Education Augusta</p> <p>Adam Royer Youth Member Portland</p> <p>Jonathan Shapiro Maine State Police York County</p> <p>Patricia Shorey Youth Member & Law School Portland</p> <p>Barry Stoodley Associate Commissioner, Juvenile Services DOC Augusta</p> <p>Christine Thibeault Assistant District Attorney, Cumberland County</p> <p>Patrick Walsh Broadreach Family and Community Services Belfast</p>
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2009 JJAG ACTIVITIES

- Supported the Juvenile Justice Task Force and Summit
- Advised the Criminal Justice & Public Safety and the Education & Cultural Affairs Committees of the Maine Legislature on legislation pertaining to juveniles.
- Provided training and technical assistance on Adolescent Brain Development, Juvenile Defender, Juvenile Competency to Stand Trial, Collaborative Problem Solving, Disproportionate Minority Contact and Positive Youth Development.
- Member of the Coalition for Juvenile Justice
- Member of the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice

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 equitable contact level

Compliance with the JJDP Core Protections serves two purposes: a) protects youth, b) ensures state eligibility for federal delinquency prevention funds.

2009 Status of Maine Compliance with JJDP Core Protections

Maine had few violations of the core protections of the Act in 2009 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 youth beyond the time limits allowed. **There were 33 violations in 2009.**

Maine must improve the collection of ethnicity data so as to accurately monitor the rate of minority youth in contact with the justice system for our work on disproportionate minority contact. The 2009 DMC Report is available at www.mainejjag.org.

For more monitoring information: 287-4506

II. Advise and Inform:

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

Maine's Three Year Comprehensive Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Plan – This plan provides information on data driven priorities

Annual Report to the Governor – This report offers information on children served, funding awarded, compliance and legislation.

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

Disproportionate Minority Contact in Maine 2009 Report – The latest data including trend data on disparate contact with Maine's juvenile justice system.

Legislation:

An Act to Increase Maine's High School Graduation Rates, Title 20-A MRSA

Section 5031, directs the State to achieve a graduation rate of 90% by the end of the of the 2015-2016 school year for each publicly supported secondary school 2015-2016 school year for each publicly supported secondary school.

The *Resolve to Implement the Recommendations of the Juvenile Justice Task Force*, directs Maine's DHHS, DOE, DOC, and DOL to develop a jointly agreed upon statewide coordinated services district system that will increase graduation rates, reduce the number of youth in the juvenile justice system, reduce child abuse and neglect and increase employment opportunities for youth. As well these departments must coordinate services, ensure flexible funding, timely response, and provision of services. The DOC and the DHHS shall develop a plan that will detail a statewide system for in-home and out-of-home placements for youth in the juvenile justice system, including funding options for emergency shelter placements, foster home placements and residential placements.

III. Fund and Monitor Grants: The JJAG funds and monitors grants.

FUNDING SOURCE	PROGRAM	LOCATION
<i>Juvenile Accountability Block Grant \$371,800</i>	Diversion to Assets	Biddeford, Waterville, Lewiston, Bucksport, Augusta
	Alternative to Detention	Portland area
	Performance Based Standards	Long Creek and Mountain View Youth Development Centers
<i>Title II Formula \$600,000</i>	Alternative to School Suspension & Expulsion	Windham/Raymond

	Community-based Delinquency Prevention	Thomaston, St. George, Rockland, Rockport, Westbrook, Windham, Portland, S. Portland, Lisbon, Topsham, Brunswick, Houlton, Appleton, Hope, Camden, Lincolnville and Sagadahoc, Cumberland and York Counties
	Sub-grantee Evaluation Services	
	Juvenile Justice Task Force	Statewide effort
	Disproportionate Minority Contact Data Collection	Statewide
	Monitoring for Compliance to the JJDP and ME Statutes	Statewide
<i>Title V Community Prevention</i> \$33,486	Collaborative Problem Solving	Sanford

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group

www.mainejjag.org

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention www.ojjdp.gov

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