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Marcia Cohen, Ph.D., Project Director
Title V Training and Technical Assistance Program.
Developmental Services Group, Inc.
7315 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 800E
Bethesda, Maryland 20814

August 7, 2004

Dear Marcia:

I am writing to express my concerns about discontinuing the Title V funding history on slide CTOT 2.3 and the directive to "make no statements about Federal funding for Title V."

I believe we should continue to present Title V funding history and be permitted to speak honestly and candidly about our knowledge of the 2/3 reduction of funding under the current OJJDP administrator, J. Robert Flores.

I disagree that the considerable and ongoing changes in Title V funding are confusing. One needs only to review the President's FY2005 budget request to see that Title V Incentive Grant funding available to the states has fallen from \$95 million to \$37 million. Factoring out the earmarked funds, only about \$7.4 million will remain for our training participants' projects for FY2005. This is less than half of the \$16.5 million appropriated for FY2004. This administration has not made Title V funding a priority: it's that simple.

By removing references to the declining Title V funding history we do a disservice to our training participants. They deserve to have all the information we can provide so they can make informed choices about the sustainability of their projects. Clearly, we provide a comprehensive overview of the holistic nature of successful Title V projects and emphasize the high level of commitment required from communities. Our training participants deserve to be informed of this administration's lack of commitment to delinquency prevention.

In addition, as Title V trainers for DSG, we are looked upon as knowledgeable juvenile justice experts. Our credibility hinges on honest and candid responses to questions posed by the participants. To defer all questions about Federal funding, and to convey that all is well for delinquency prevention, would be to hide the truth.

I am not optimistic about future funding for Title V and will have great difficulty pretending to be so. But, I am confident we can come up with a better way to discuss the funding 'slide' without ignoring it. At the very least I think we should provide web links and resources for participants to find current information on funding.

Sincerely,

Lee C. Copenhagen

Lee Copenhagen, Title V Trainer

Attachments

Web Links and Resources for Federal Funding Information Title V Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs

The Title V Local Delinquency Prevention Program was cut by more than half, to \$46.5 million in FY 2003, and was only partly restored to \$80 million in FY 2004. In addition, \$61 million of the FY 2004 funds for Title V are earmarked for special purposes and therefore are not available for their intended purposes. Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from <http://www.cwla.org/advocacy/2004legagenda09.htm>. Child Welfare League of America, Shay Bilchik, CEO (OJJDP Administrator 1995-2000).

Funding level: In Fiscal Year 2004, Title V received \$80 million. Due to a large number of earmarks, only \$25 million will be available for comprehensive delinquency prevention programs. The Administration has proposed cutting the program by 53%, to \$37 million, which includes a \$13 million earmark. Fight Crime: Invest in Kids recommends that Congress approve an appropriation level of at least \$95 million (beyond any earmarks) for Title V for FY 2005. Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from <http://www.fightcrime.org/titleV.php>. Fight Crime: Invest in Kids.

Despite its success in over 1,200 communities nationwide, proposed Title V funding for FY 2005 is cut by over 40% to \$44.4 million, and we are deeply concerned that all but \$7.4 million is earmarked for other programs. Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from www.childadvocate.nj.gov/downloads/Corzine_Lautenberg_JJLetter.pdf. State of New Jersey, Office of Child Advocate, Kevin Ryan, Esq.

OJJDP funding has declined from \$539 million in fiscal 2002 to \$349.8 million this year. The agency's juvenile mentoring program has gone from \$24 million to \$5 million. President Bush's fiscal 2005 budget proposal would eliminate the \$60 million juvenile accountability incentive block grants program. Altogether, that budget would fund OJJDP at \$189.4 million, a two-thirds cut in spending since the president took office. Under a reorganization of OJJDP parent agency, the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Flores has been stripped of any appreciable role in program evaluation or research. In lieu of addressing the major problems of the youth service field, Flores and his deputy, former Bakersfield, Calif., prosecutor Bill Woodruff, have turned their attention to ensuring that dissent on Bush administration juvenile justice matters, large and small, is rooted out with a zeal once reserved for hunting weapons of mass destruction. Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from <http://www.youthtoday.org/youthtoday/a%20%20%20a%20a%20march04/nose.html> Youth Today, March 2004. "Nose Knows: Of Truculence, Truancy & Taxis", by Bill Treanor.

This meeting, Mr. Flores said, was not an effort to run the committee from Washington or to co-opt the process. The committee members would be asked, he said, on how approximately \$16 million in Title V funds should be spent. Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/jjac/011204.html>. OJJDP Juvenile Justice Advisory Council meeting minutes from January 12, 2004. JJAC meeting minutes from July 9-10, 2004 not available at this time.

Very recently, the OJJDP Administrator, J. Robert Flores, and OJJDP Deputy Administrator, William Woodruff, let me know that they wish to change the Structure of CJJ and OJJDP's relationship with both SAGs and CJJ. In short, the proposed OJJDP changes could hurt CJJ, the States, the SAGs and the children, youth and families that we all serve.

Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from

http://www.governor.state.az.us/cyf/children/AJJC_Programs/documents/Alert%20to%20Chairs%20%20Specialists%206-20-2003.pdf. Coalition for Juvenile Justice, Urgent Alert from John Dewese, CJJ 2003 National Chair.

The Administration's proposed FY 2005 budget proposes cutting juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs by more than 40% in FY04, from \$308 million to \$180 million. These proposed cuts would result in an overall cut of more than two thirds in juvenile delinquency prevention funding from Fiscal Year 2002. Under the Administration's budget:

•*Title V: The Title V Local Delinquency Prevention Grant program is cut by more than half at a proposed \$44.4 million, with \$37million earmarked for special purposes, leaving only \$7.4 million for grants. This is down from \$79.5 million in FY04 (\$61 million in earmarks), \$46.1 million in FY03 (\$44 million in earmarks) and \$95 million in FY02.*

Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from

http://www.capwiz.com/nm4youth/mail/oneclick_compose/?alertid=5504306. National Network for Youth.

(Grants) FY 03 \$46,871,012; FY 04 estimate \$36,815,059; and FY 05 estimate

\$62,319,000. Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from

http://12.46.245.173/pls/portal30/CATALOG.PROGRAM_TEXT_RPT.SHOW?p_arg_names=prog_nbr&p_arg_values=16.548. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance

Title V Incentive Grants FY2004 Level \$76,977,000 FY 2005 Level \$44,431,000

Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from

<http://www.usdoj.gov/jmd/2005summary/html/p167-169.htm>.

Title V Delinquency Prevention Program, Incentive Grant

FY 2004 Appropriation: \$18,809,000

Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from

<http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/funding/2004appropriations.html>

Department of Justice FY 2005 Budget Request for \$22.1 billion and priorities.

Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from

http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2004/February/04_ag_062.htm

President's FY 2005 Budget Request. Retrieved on line, August 7, 2004, from

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/budget/>