



Juvenile Justice Coalition

Ohio Juvenile Justice Budget Analysis: FY16-17

Background: On February 2, 2015, Governor Kasich released a proposed budget for Ohio’s governmental agencies for fiscal years 2016-2017 (FY16-17), including the Department of Youth Services (DYS). DYS is the main state agency that handles juvenile justice issues, including running juvenile correctional facilities and distributing grants to subsidize local juvenile court programming for youth. This fact sheet will be updated during the budget process

Overview: Overall, the Governor’s proposed budget calls for a \$32.2 million reduction (7%) in General Revenue Fund (GRF) spending for DYS for the FY16-17 biennium. The budget specifically states that these reductions are “possible due to a reduction in operational costs associated with a decline in the number of youths” in DYS facilities.

	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY14/15 -FY16/17
GRF	\$223.8	\$224.8	\$228.6	\$233.3	\$217	\$212.7	-\$32.2 (-7%)
Biennium	\$448.6		\$461.9		\$429.7		
Federal	\$11.7	\$10.2	\$9.5	\$7.6	\$8.2	\$7.8	-\$1.2 (-7%)
Biennium	\$21.9		\$17.1		\$15.9		
Dedicated Purposes	\$6.6	\$4.7	\$6.1	\$6.3	\$6.1	\$6.1	-\$0.2 (-1.6%)
Biennium	\$11.3		\$12.4		\$12.2		
Total	\$242.1	\$239.7	\$244.2	\$247.2	\$231.4	\$226.7	-\$33.3 (-6.7%)
Biennium	\$481.8		\$491.4		\$458.1		

A closer look at the budget shows that:

- Parole funding increases from \$10.6 million to nearly \$11 million in both FY16 and FY 17 to accommodate DYS paying rent on parole facilities instead of the Department of Administrative Services;
- Court subsidies funding remained the same, with a small increase for RECLAIM (a total of nearly \$100,000 over the biennium) and Youth Services grants remaining even at \$16.7 million;
- Debt services funding (used for capital construction for DYS facilities, community corrections facilities, and detention centers) dropped from \$27.8 million in FY15 to \$25.4 million in FY16 and \$21 million in FY17;
- Programming funding for DYS operations dropped from \$26.5 million in FY15 to \$23.2 million in both FY16 and FY17; and
- Institutional operations funding for operating DYS correctional facilities dropped from \$100 million in FY15 to \$88.5 million in FY16 and FY17.

DYS’s has several programs that fund local courts to implement research- and evidence-based programs for youth, including Targeted RECLAIM, the Behavioral Health and Juvenile Justice initiative (BHJJ), and the new Competitive RECLAIM - a competitive grant program. These programs increased in funding from \$8.1 million in FY12 to \$11.3 million in FY15 and will remain at FY15 levels in FY16-17.