



Federal and state juvenile justice funds administered by the Grants Management Unit have five funding priority areas –

**Delinquency Prevention** – Brings a system of services and sanctions for juveniles designed to prevent or reduce referrals to the juvenile justice system. These services are aimed at increasing the number of youth served; increasing the number of programs/services available in under-served communities; improving program quality; and increasing youth accountability. Delinquency prevention services meet the needs of youth through collaboration of the many local systems before which a youth may appear, including schools, courts, law enforcement agencies, child protection agencies, mental health agencies, welfare services, health care agencies and private nonprofit agencies offering youth services.

**Alternatives to Detention** – Designed to Increase the availability and types of diversion and alternative to detention programs through a continuum of services and graduated sanctions; improve the fair and effective response to all youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice system (addressing disproportionate minority contact); and improve the juvenile justice system through continuums implementing the philosophy and approaches of the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) and using best practice/model programs.

**Graduated & Appropriate Sanctions** – Provides youth who enter the juvenile justice system receive a developmentally-appropriate, evidenced-based risk assessment instrument to aid in the application of appropriate services and/or sanctions. This priority area ensures juvenile justice interventions are guided by each individual youth's risk and needs; services and supports align with best practices so that youth are served in safe, developmentally-appropriate programs; and programs and practices are reviewed and adjusted to ensure they do no harm and do not cause disparities.

**Diversion/Restorative Justice** – Programs to divert youth from entering the juvenile justice system such as victim-offender mediation and restorative circles. Diversion/Restorative Justice services help ensure youth do not enter or penetrate the state's juvenile justice system unnecessarily. It is important local communities, along with the justice system, divert low-level and low-risk youth from formal involvement, thereby promoting positive youth outcomes and public safety. It is critical that Diversion/Restorative Justice strategies are provided in an equitable manner to reduce racial and ethnic disparities.

**Gender-Specific Services** – Provision of a sustainable and comprehensive system of support for addressing gender-specific needs and enhancing the strengths of young men and women in the state's juvenile justice system with good transitional follow-up services. In recent years, male juveniles have received referrals at an average rate of twice that of female juveniles without male-specific programs to meet the needs of male clients throughout the state. Emphasis is on providing responsive, culturally sensitive services addressing the needs and behaviors of male juveniles.