



# Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission

The Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission is authorized under Executive Order 97-6 to receive and allocate federal funds under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 (and as reauthorized in 2002). In compliance with the JJDP Act, the Commission serves as Arizona's State Advisory Group and is comprised of Governor-appointed citizens representing a variety of individuals represents various aspects of the juvenile justice community.

Members have training, experience and special knowledge concerning the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency and the administration of juvenile justice. The Commission includes representation from juvenile justice agencies, public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, locally elected officials as well as volunteers and youth

## Mission for the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission

The Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission provides leadership to the state and local communities to develop and maintain a coordinated, best practice approach to juvenile justice prevention, intervention, and public safety.

## Vision for Arizona's Children and Youth

Arizona will be recognized and respected nationally as a model state that promotes safe communities through support of life skills and accountability for youth and families.

## Roles and Responsibilities of the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002

- Work toward achieving the goal the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of improving juvenile justice systems by increasing the availability and types of prevention and intervention programs and juvenile justice system improvements.
- Create conditions in Arizona's communities that promote juvenile justice and the positive development of youth and to reduce youth-related problems.
- Advocate for full implementation of the JJDP Act and its core protections for the funding of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention programs which include:
  1. *Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders*
  2. *Separation of Juveniles from Adult Offenders*
  3. *Removal of Juveniles from Adult Jails and Lockups*
  4. *Reduction of Disproportionate Minority Contact*
- If OJJDP determines the State to be in compliance with all requirements, Arizona is awarded the Title II Formula Grant (approximately \$1.2 million annually). The AJJC makes final determination of grant funding.
- Advocate for youth involvement in both the planning and implementation of projects and encourage parental involvement in delinquency prevention & intervention programs.
- Increase collaboration among sectors in the community to address youth problems and reduce delinquency.
- Obtain input from juveniles currently under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system.
- Advise the Governor and the Arizona State Legislature on matters related to the improvement of the juvenile justice system, and its services to youth and families.

**For more information about the Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission, please call Nicole Yancey at 602-542-3404.**



- Establishing priorities for the statewide implementation of the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program. The AJJC also serves as the State Advisory Board for the JABG Grant Program; this program supports innovative, effective programs that reduce juvenile offending and juvenile justice system improvements.
- Develops policies to improve the quality of juvenile justice and conditions for children in care.
- Develop a State Three Year Plan to prevent or reduce delinquency; components of Arizona's Three Year Plan include:
  - Overview of Arizona's Juvenile Justice System and related systems
  - Analysis of Juvenile Crime Problems and State's Priority Juvenile Justice Needs
  - Plan for Maintaining Compliance with the Four Core Requirements
  - Plan for Coordination of Child Abuse and Neglect and Delinquency Problems
  - Anticipated programs for funding based upon priority juvenile justice needs

## **Arizona Juvenile Justice Commission – Membership**

- A. Locally elected official representing general-purpose local government
- B. Representative of law enforcement and juvenile justice agencies, including:
  - a. Juvenile and family court judges.
  - c. Prosecutors.
  - d. Counsel for children and youth.
  - e. Probation workers
- C. Representatives of public agencies concerned with delinquency prevention or treatment:
  - 1. Welfare.
  - 2. Social services.
  - 3. Mental health.
  - 4. Education.
  - 5. Special education.
  - 6. Recreation.
  - 7. Youth services
- D. Representatives of private nonprofit organizations, including persons concerned with:
  - 1. Family preservation and strengthening.
  - 2. Parent groups and parent self-help groups.
  - 3. Youth development.
  - 4. Delinquency prevention and treatment.
  - 5. Neglected or dependent children.
  - 6. Quality of juvenile justice.
  - 7. Education.
  - 8. Social services for children.
- E. Volunteers who work with juvenile justice.
- F. Youth workers involved with programs that are alternatives to confinement, including organized recreation activities.
- G. Persons with special experience and competence in addressing problems related to school violence and vandalism and alternatives to suspension and expulsion.
- H. Persons with special experience and competence in addressing problems related to learning disabilities, emotional difficulties, child abuse and neglect, and youth violence.