Highlights of 2009 – 2011 JJDP priorities:

- SUPPORT POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS FOR YOUTH (parenting, mentoring, positive youth development workforce training and practice, etc)
- PROMOTE JURISDICTION REFORM effort for 16 and 17 youth – support resolution of youth offenses outside of the adult court and justice system
- SUPPORT PRIMARY PREVENTION efforts, early interventions in substance abuse and mental health treatment to children and families, help to address the impact of poverty on children
- IMPROVE OBJECTIVE, OUTCOME-BASED GRANT-MAKING AND REPORTING to the Council
- MEMBERSHIP - fulfill the federal and state requirements and assure a full roster to accomplish responsibilities
- MAINTAIN COMPLIANCE AND FUNDING

For more Information:

Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs http://www.ahs.state.vt.us/CFCPP

Children's Trust Foundation http://www.vtchildrenstrust.org

Office of Justice, Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org/about/ojjdpact2002.html

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To:
The Honorable James Douglas, Governor, and
Vermont General Assembly

Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs
Annual Report
January 2010

The mission of the Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs is to advocate for and promote healthy children, families, and communities, and to eradicate child abuse, delinquency, and other forms of violence.

CFCPP VT STATE ADVISORY GROUP TO DELINQUENCY PREVENTION

The Children and Family Council for Prevention Programs (CFCPP) is the governor-appointed advisory board to juvenile justice, delinquency, and primary prevention as required by V.S.A. 33: 33, and Vermont's participation in the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) *42 U.S.C. 5633* **[Sec. 223.]** - Pub. L. No. 107-273, 116 Stat. 1758.

The Council consists of 21 members appointed by the governor with consent of the Senate. Members with specific areas of expertise represent communities, state agencies, non-profit organizations, and youth, all concerned with prevention and early, effective interventions to youth in need. The CFCPP is committed to prevention and the premise that prevention is more cost-effective and supports better social outcomes than incarceration.

2009 RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACTIVITIES:

The Council has three primary responsibilities,
1) Advise 2) Monitor compliance with the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act 3) Make grants

I. Monitor Vermont's compliance with the core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA). Core protections:

1. Status offenders (alcohol, run away, 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 JJDPA serves two purposes: a) Protects youth, b) Ensures state eligibility for federal delinquency prevention funds.

2009 Status of VT Compliance with JJDP core juvenile justice protections

VT had few violations of the 'core protections' of the JJDPA in 2009 and continues to be in full compliance by OJJDP.
Generally, in VT the highest risks to compliance with core protections of JJDPA are:

- secure holding of youth who have not committed crimes that would be punishable for adults - running away, alcohol possession, and emotional-behavioral crises
- secure hold of youth beyond the time limits allowed - none occurred in 2009

Disproportionate Minority contact objectives:
Data improvement: VT needs to continue to improve racial data collection for Family Court records so as to accurately monitor the rate of minority youth in contact with the justice system.
DMC prevention: Evidence from other states clearly shows that DMC is reduced when states and communities keep as many youth as possible out of secure detention via community based alternatives to detention. Keeping youth out of the justice system entirely with effective community alternatives is expected to reduce and prevent DMC in VT. Both of these efforts are beginning to take hold in VT.

II. Advise and inform: CFCPP is required by the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 to advise government in delinquency prevention. Annual plans and reports developed by the CFCPP:

- *Three-year comprehensive Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Plan* defines data-based priority prevention needs and allocation of JJDP funds. The Council completed and submitted a federal 3-year plan in March, resulting in priorities that guide advisory and funding functions. (*details on back page*)
- *Annual report to the Governor* outlining compliance with core juvenile protections and grant outcomes.
- *Annual recommendations* to the OJJDP and Congress regarding the priority delinquency prevention needs
- *Vermont Primary Prevention Plan* (V.S.A. 33:33) consolidates prevention efforts across state government - Last completed in July 2008 with strong engagement by government partners, the plan will be updated in July 2010

III. Fund and monitor grants: Fund and monitor a continuum of grants from multiple sources – federal, state, private - Children's Trust Foundation and state tax check-off. In 2009 an est. **$1,625,000 in grants were awarded** to 80 state and community programs or services

2009 Grants

PRIMARY PREVENTION $912,000

- **Mentoring** $122, 250 in Winooski, Isle La Motte, Burlington, Morrisville, Rockingham
- **Child abuse prevention** $358,960 statewide
- **Children's Trust Fund** grants $430,550: some examples of more than 65 grants funded to programs statewide:
  - youth education, literacy, recreation, equipment, arts, homework and afterschool activities, youth violence prevention;
  - parenting skills and support, substance abuse and health education, preschool improvements, child abuse prevention education and media, Children's Trust Fund media campaign, mentoring, including mentoring young parents

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT & EARLY INTERVENTION $734,280

- **System Improvement** $397,900 including community based alternatives to secure detention, and fund development and sustainability plan for runaway youth services in Burlington, Windham and Lamoille Counties, and statewide
- **Youth projects** $162,750; Morrisville, Newport, St. Albans, Rutland, Hartford, St. Johnsbury, E. Dummerston, Montpelier
- **Court data system** $60,000 statewide
- **Workforce training to improve quality and consistency in youth services:** Substance Abuse $12,700, Chittenden County; Youth screening, assessment and case management$66,330, statewide; Youth Detention Center behavior management $13,400, statewide
- **Compliance and Disproportionate Minority Contact Monitoring** $21,200, statewide

2009 CFCPP Activities

- Partner to fund and develop annual Youth Workers Conference
- Advised on the impact and importance of the JJDPA reauthorization to VT youth and programs that serve those youth.
- Presented the second annual **Working with Youth Award** for significant contribution to Vermont youth to *Chad Butt, DREAM Mentoring Program.* His nomination cited an infectious "anything is possible" philosophy, and his ability to "just always put a smile on my face".
  As a mentor and DREAM staffer, he has lead changes in attitude toward youth by parents, communities and, most importantly, youth themselves. Chad Butt was honored for "making a huge difference in the low-income communities and on the college campuses of Vermont", and being instrumental in the expansion of DREAM Mentoring from St. Michaels and UVM, on to Champlain, Middlebury, Green Mountain, and Bennington Colleges, and Norwich University where college students mentor youth in community public housing.
- Presented the annual **William E. Mikell Spirit of Youth Award** to *Eric Fournier of Newport.*
  Honored for his resiliency and success in overcoming personal obstacles, Eric experienced difficult circumstances as a child, developed behaviors that created problems for him and others, but learned to accept responsibility and manage his behavior. Eric became a foster parent and has offered a voice of experience to a local advisory team planning improved service to youth.
- Received a special one-time **congressional appropriation** through the office of Representative Peter Welch in honor of Senator Jeffords' long time work in support of early education and prevention efforts.