



North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Juvenile Justice

Roy Cooper, Governor
Erik A. Hooks, Secretary

Timothy D. Moose, Chief Deputy Secretary
William L. Lassiter, Deputy Secretary

MEMORANDUM

TO: County Commission Board Chairpersons
Juvenile Crime Prevention Council Chairpersons
North Carolina County Finance Officers
North Carolina County Managers

FROM: William L. Lassiter, Deputy Secretary Juvenile Justice

CC: Cindy Porterfield, Director, Juvenile Community Programs
Pam Stokes, Central & Eastern Area Lead JCPC Consultant
June Ward, Western & Piedmont Area Lead JCPC Consultant
JCPC Area Consultants and Area Program Assistants
Pam Hoggard, JCPC Statewide Program Assistant

RE: FY 2019-20 JCPC Allocations Expansion

Date: October 14, 2019

In 2017 North Carolina's General Assembly passed the Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Act by including the language in the appropriations bill. This legislation will allow for most 16 and 17 year olds charged with crimes to be served in juvenile justice system instead of being charged as adults. Since the passage of this legislation, the Department of Public Safety, Juvenile Justice Section and the Juvenile Jurisdiction Advisory Committee have been planning for this historic change to the juvenile justice system and made budget recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly earlier this year.

Both the Governor and the General Assembly made significant investments to implementing Raise the Age in their budgets and now that Governor has signed a Raise the Age budget, I am pleased to announce that Juvenile Crime Prevention Council county allocations will receive expansion dollars to address programming needs—a total of \$4.2M (recurring) for FY2019-20 and \$6.6M (recurring) for FY2020-21.

Please find the attached table that defines each county's JCPC allocation increase that includes the following changes:

- An allocation base increase by \$6,600 for all counties, the \$31,500 base will increase to \$38,100; and
- An additional county allocation increase based upon a county's youth population between ages 10 -17 years old.

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Since these dollars will be coming late in the fiscal year, the Department will *waive the county match requirement* for the county JCPC expansion dollars awarded to programs during year 1, FY2019-20. (DJJ Expansion funds awarded to programs will be identified within NCALLIES Program Agreement application as “DJJ Expansion” sources of revenue). Please be mindful, however, that if Year 1 JCPC expansion dollars are used by programs to support capital purchases, a cash match will still be required at the percentage level as assigned (10%, 20% or 30%). Your Area Consultant will work closely with your JCPC and providers to ensure that information is accurately entered into the system.

Lastly, the goal of the Raise the Age legislation is to prevent young people from entering the criminal justice system and also prevent juveniles from reoffending. For this reason, the Department will ensure equal *access* to Teen Court or similar restorative justice diversion models for *all* counties. These programs are designed for early intervention and may serve to provide the needed resources to support the development and implementation of local School Justice Partnerships as set forth in the 2017 Juvenile Justice Reinvestment Act. *This memorandum provides an administrative directive that all county Juvenile Crime Prevention Councils shall ensure access to Teen Court or similar restorative justice diversion models. Access to these program models shall be established within the two-year biennium budget period (by June 30, 2021). JCPCs shall indicate completion of this action within the JCPC county plan.*

Thank you for your continued support during this time of system reform in North Carolina’s juvenile justice system. This reform will create beneficial opportunities for North Carolina’s youth to become productive citizens of our state.