

# JUVENILE SERVICES COMMISSION GRANT PROGRAM

Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

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*November 2025*

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Service.

COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT  
AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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## Introduction

The Juvenile Services Commission Grant Program provides funds to be used exclusively to assist the recipient in the implementation and operation of programs or the provision of services identified in the recipient's community plan, including: Programs for local planning and service coordination; Screening, assessment, and evaluation; Diversion; Alternatives to detention; Family support services; Treatment services; Reentry services; Truancy prevention and intervention programs (Kindergarten – Twelfth Grade); Other services documented by data that will positively impact juveniles and families in the juvenile justice system. Programs and services shall be designed to serve and target youth who are eleven through eighteen years of age. Beginning July 1, 2023, programs focused on reducing excessive absenteeism may serve and target students in grades kindergarten – twelfth grade (ages five through eighteen). Aid recipients shall prioritize programs and services that will divert juveniles from the juvenile justice system, reduce the population of juveniles in juvenile detention and secure confinement, and assist in transitioning juveniles from out-of-home placements.

## Funds Awarded

Each fiscal year the legislature appropriates \$564,300 to be awarded on a competitive basis. Applicants are limited to non-profit community-based agency or organization, political subdivision, school district, federally recognized or state-recognized Indian tribe, or any combination of the entities listed. If two or more entities partner on a single application, there must be one entity designated as the Lead Agency to receive and disburse grant funds. Applicants may give consideration to contracting with private non-profit agencies to administer programs and services with Juvenile Service funds. The Lead Agency is responsible for all funds and must adhere to all requirements and conditions as outlined by the Nebraska Crime Commission.

For project period July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 (FY2025), a total of \$ 629,727 of Juvenile Services Commission Grant Program (JS) funding was awarded to 14 grantees (Appendix B). This includes \$65,427 through Supplemental JS awards, released during the second year of the biennium to spend deobligated funds from the first year. The list of FY2025 JS awards can be found in Appendix A. The amount of awarded funds unexpended at the end of FY2025 can be found in Appendix B.

## Types of Juvenile Services Funded

There are three main over-arching categories<sup>1</sup> to which a funded program or service is classified:

- I. Direct Intervention: Entities in this category are often programs; they generally meet with a youth multiple times over a specific period of time. Generally, the program relies on an educational or relationship-based component to invoke behavioral change within the client.
- II. Direct Service: Entities in this category are often agencies; they generally meet with a youth a few times to conduct a singular service. This could be to conduct an assessment or to help coordinate services.
- III. System Improvement: Entities in this category generally do not work with youth directly, but support programs, agencies, and initiatives that do the direct work.

Programs are further categorized into program types and sub-program types in Table 1 below. Please note that while system improvement programs were indicated to be a low priority by the Grant Review Committee, indicating a preference for the funding to be spent on direct services to youth and families.

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<sup>1</sup> Direct Events is the fourth category; however, direct events are no longer funded.

**Table 1: Program Types and Sub-Program Types**

Direct Intervention Programs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alternatives to Detention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electronic Monitoring</li> <li>Reporting Center</li> <li>Tracking Service</li> <li>Home Confinement</li> <li>Community Monitoring</li> <li>ATD Respite</li> <li>Shelter Care</li> </ul> </li> <li>Diversion</li> <li>Mental Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Treatment</li> </ul> </li> <li>Prevention/Promotion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>40 Developmental Assets</li> <li>Bullying Prevention</li> <li>Employment Skills</li> <li>Gang Prevention</li> <li>Life Skills</li> <li>Prosocial Activity/Attitudes</li> <li>Substance Abuse Prevention</li> <li>Incentives</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Based <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After School Program</li> <li>Alternative Schools</li> <li>School Interventionist</li> <li>Truancy Programs</li> </ul> </li> <li>Mediation/Restorative Justice</li> <li>Mentoring</li> <li>Community Monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Juvenile Justice Based Mentoring</li> <li>School-based Mentoring</li> <li>Youth-initiated Mentoring</li> </ul> </li> <li>Drug Court</li> <li>Reentry</li> <li>Family Support</li> <li>Parenting Class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family Support Program</li> <li>Advocacy</li> <li>Social Worker</li> <li>Social Worker</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Direct Service Programs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crisis Response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crisis Respite</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment</li> <li>Referral Service</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
System Improvement	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training/Quality Improvement</li> <li>Planning and Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fiscal Administration</li> <li>Grant Administration</li> </ul> </li> <li>Community Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Planning</li> <li>Collective Impact Coordinator</li> <li>Backbone Support Organization</li> </ul> </li> <li>Juvenile Justice System Improvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JDAI Coordinator</li> <li>Racial and Ethnic Disparity (R/ED) Coordinator</li> </ul> </li> <li>Data</li> <li>Evaluator</li> </ul>	

For FY2025, six counties, one tribe, and seven community-based agencies received funds for 18 unique programs. Additionally, the number of programs funded does not reflect all services provided with grant funds as multiple services can be incorporated into one program type. For example, if a diversion program requests funding for mental health services, the entire request is reflected as one diversion program even though the funds are assisting the youth with other services as part of diversion. Additionally, program

types may change mid-year due to programs determining the definition of their program or data collected for the program type does not directly correspond to the services they are providing.

Chart 1 illustrates the breakdown of funded programs and the amount of funds for each over-arching program type in FY 2025.

Chart 1: FY 2025 Over-Archiving Program Types

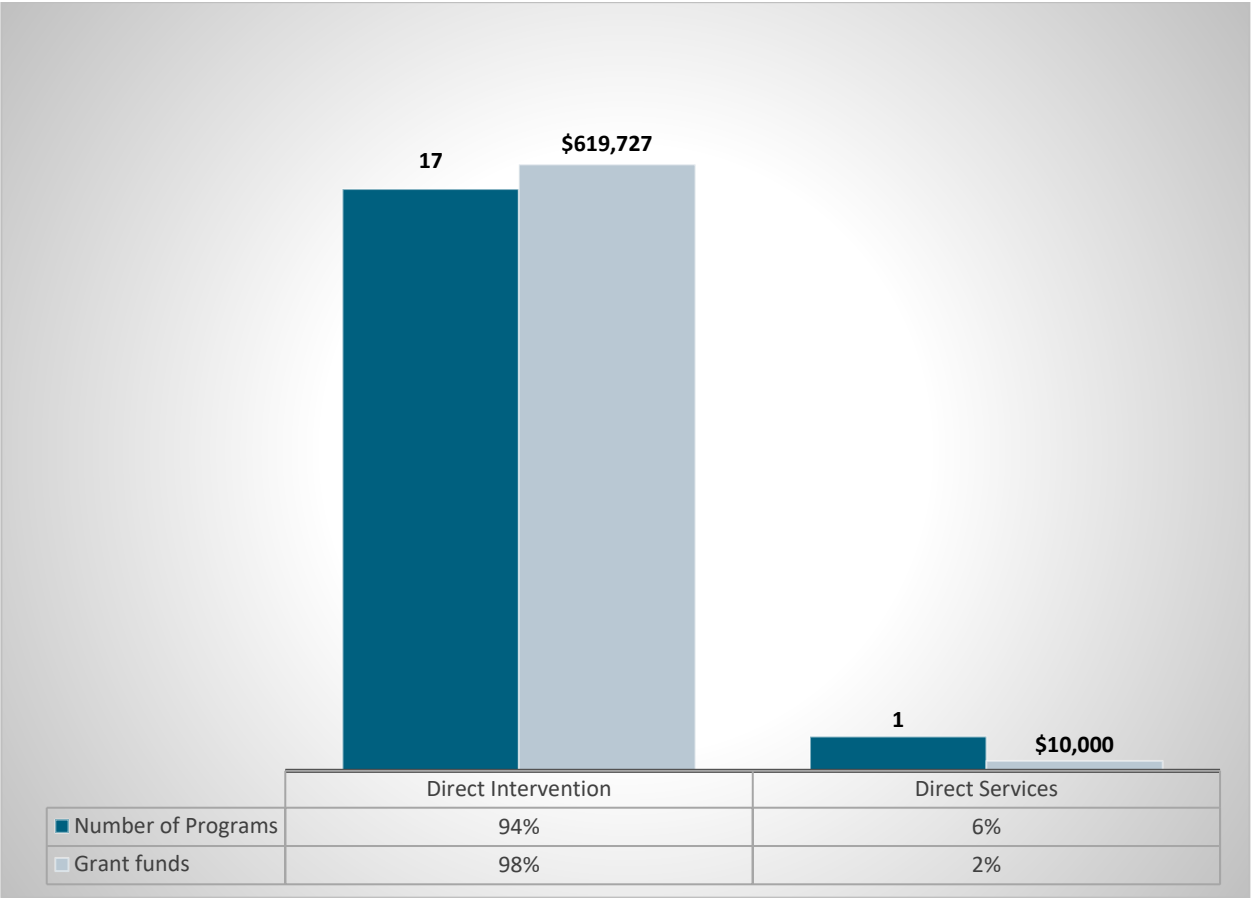
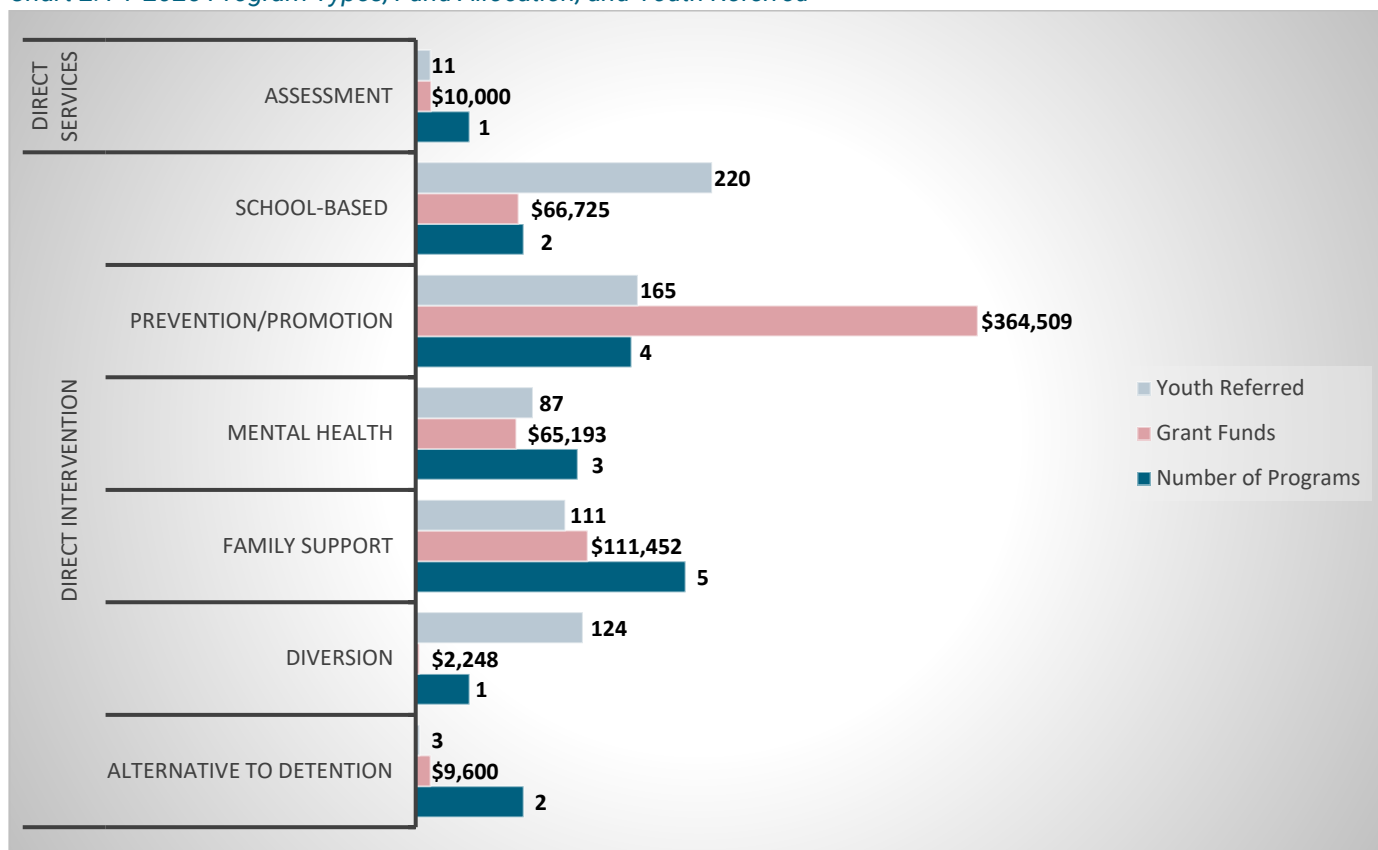


Chart 2 further breaks down the program types funded, the grant funds allocated to each program type, and the number of youths referred to each program type in FY 2025.

Chart 2: FY 2025 Program Types, Fund Allocation, and Youth Referred



### Funding Over Time

Chart 3 shows the number of JS applications received over the past four years, and Chart 5 illustrates the number of requests compared to the amount available to award. In the second year of the biennium there are two rounds of JS applications released to reallocate the deobligated funds from the previous year. As a result, there are more funds available, and more applications received in those years.

Chart 3: Number of JS Applications Received by Year

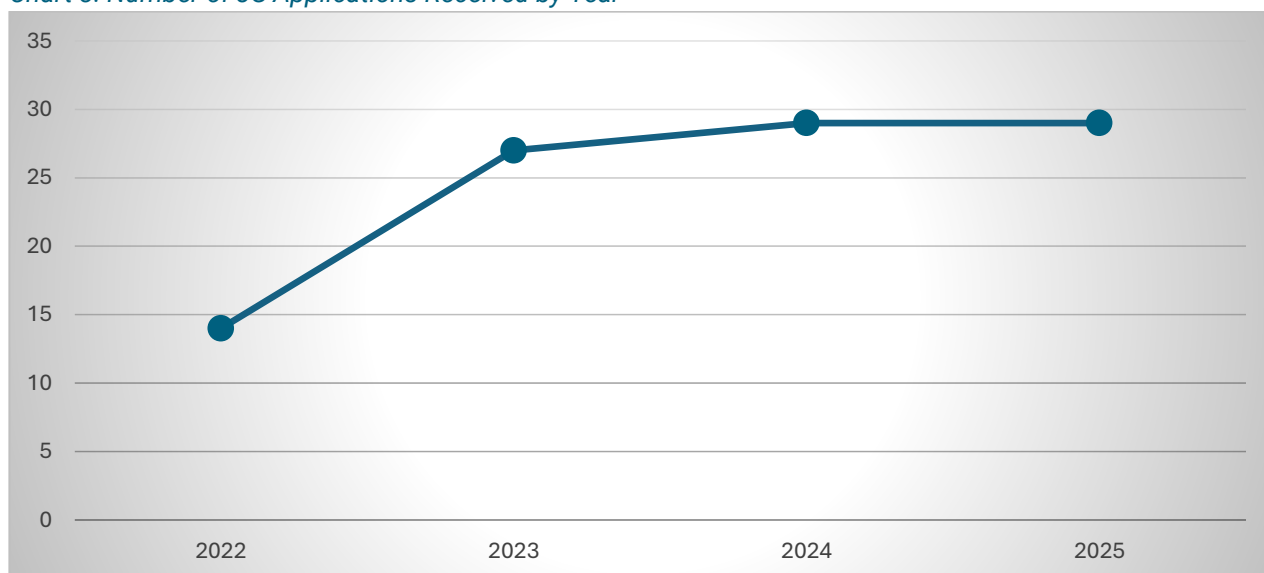
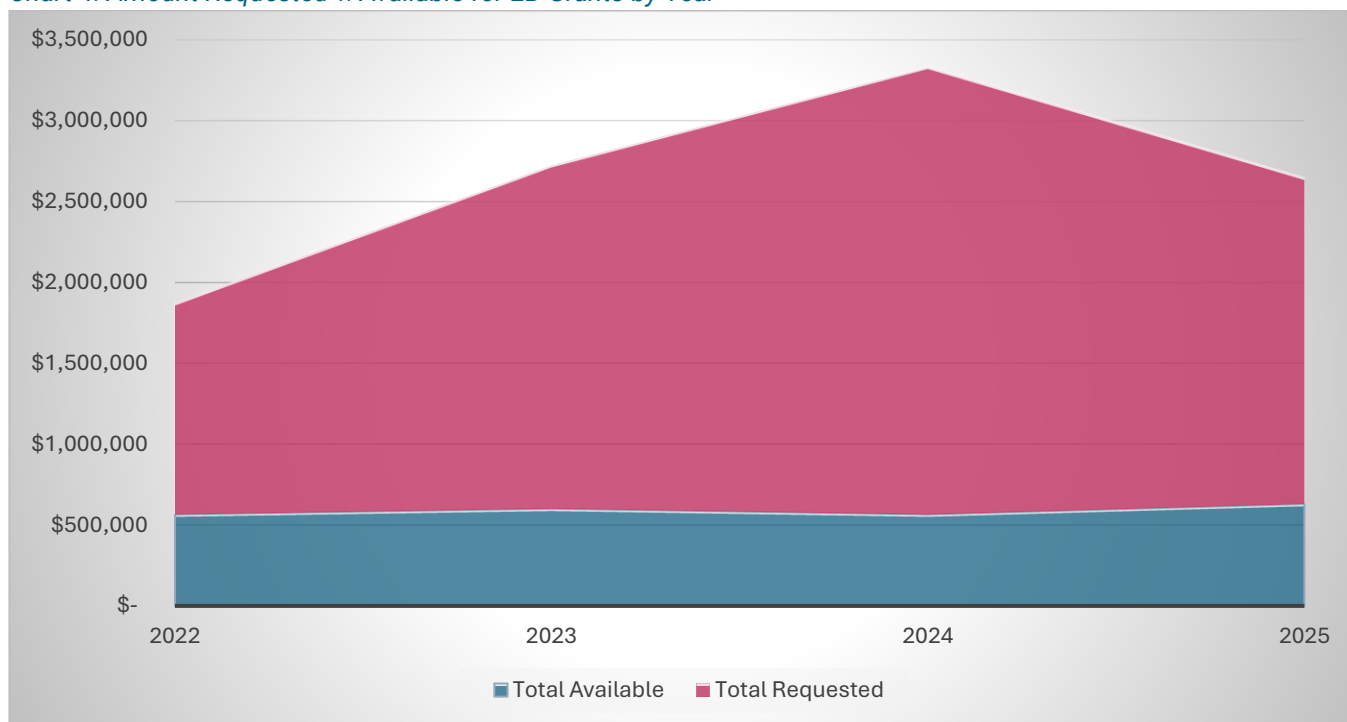


Chart 4: Amount Requested v. Available for EB Grants by Year



As Charts 3 and 4 demonstrate, while the number of applications received has stayed fairly consistent since 2023, as has the amount available, the amounts requested far exceed the amount available every year. Of the 28 applications received for both JS and Supplemental JS in 2025, 13 (46%) were written to enhance programs and positions requested in the CBA application for the same year, including adding funding for additional staff or contract hours for services. These requests are often to accommodate cost of living raises, increases in hourly contract rates for services, and rising costs of curriculums, supplies, and mileage reimbursement, but also to provide services to more youth and/or youth with increasingly more complex needs. Grantees are stretching their budgets as far as they can to continue to provide services to the youth and families in their communities but the amount of funding available are not increasing to accommodate raising costs and inflation.

#### Funding Breakdown FY25

Within the 14 counties/tribes/agencies funded through the JS grant in FY25, 68% of the spending went to support staff within that county/tribe/agency. An additional 18% was subawarded to an agency that also used the funding to support staff at that agency. Contracts for services made up 13% of the funding awarded, and 1% went toward operating expenses. Between the direct salary and subawarded salary, 25 staff received funding. There were six counties that received funding, and three utilized the entire amount on contracts for services, and one subawarded all of their award. Charts 5 and 6 below illustrate these figures.

Chart 5: Funding Amounts by Category

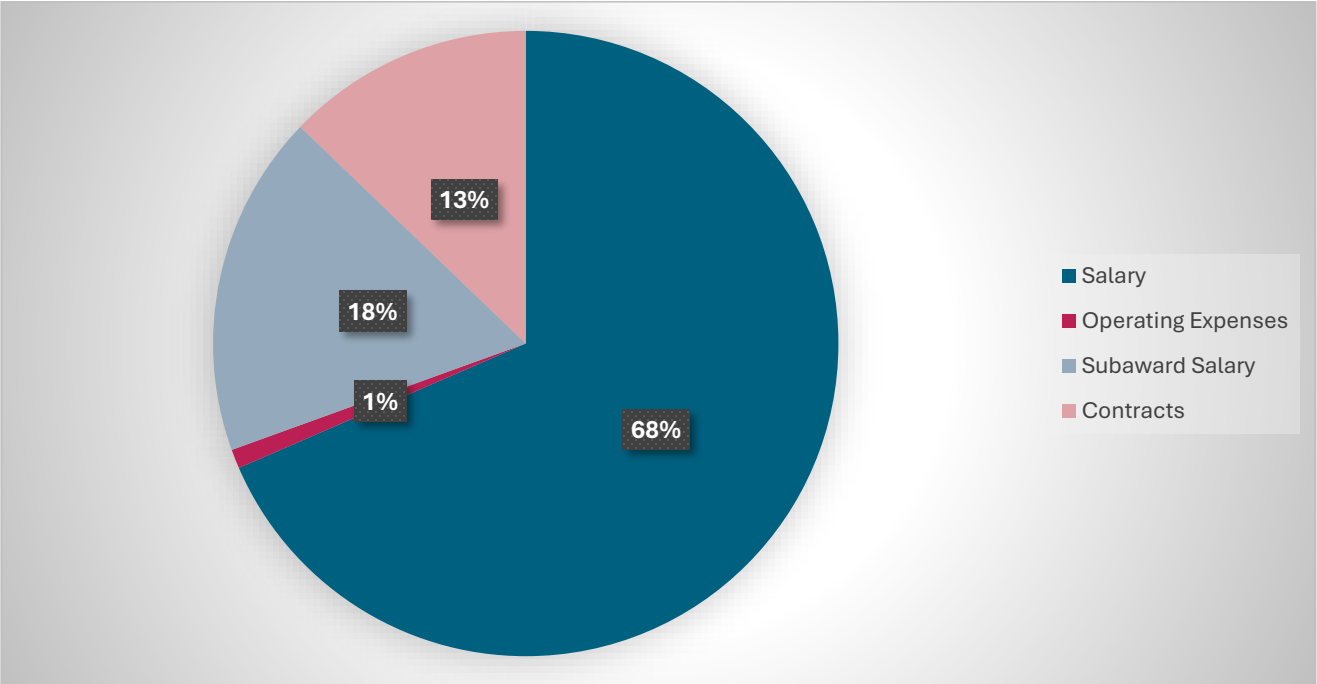
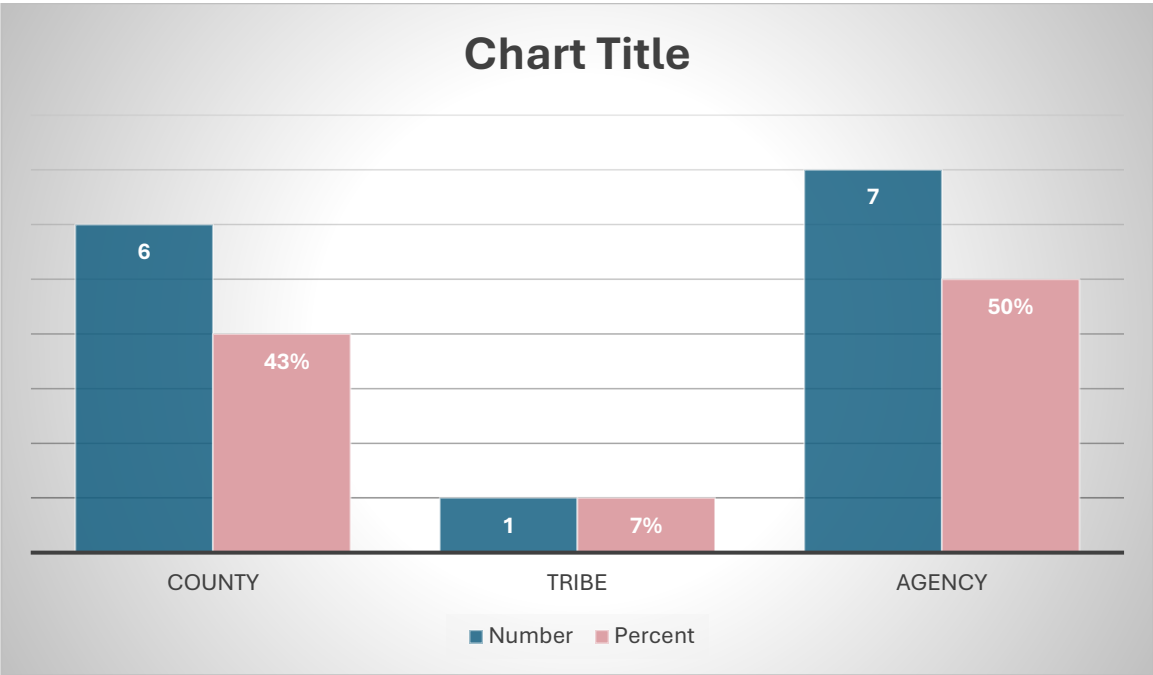


Chart 6: Funding Distribution by Grantee Type



### Grantee Annual Reporting

Pursuant to NRS §43-2404.02(4)(a), any recipient of aid under the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program shall electronically file an annual report as required by rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the commission. Any program funded through the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program that served juveniles shall report data on the individual youth served. Any program that is not directly serving youth shall include program-level data. In either case, data collected shall include, but not



be limited to, the following: The type of juvenile service, how the service met the goals of the comprehensive juvenile services plan, demographic information on the juveniles served, program outcomes, the total number of juveniles served, and the number of juveniles who completed the program or intervention.

Annual Grant Activity Reports are due 45 days after the close of the grant. Review of grantee annual reports are available upon request to the Crime Commission.

The Annual Grant Activity Reports ask the grantees, among other questions, if the Crime Commission can offer any assistance with the problems/barriers they have seen, any changes that may need to be made moving forward, and for any additional information including success stories. The Annual Grant Activity Report can be found in Appendix C.

In FY25, 64.3% of the grantees (nine) did not report needing any assistance moving forward. Of the five grantees (35.7%) who did request assistance, the most common requests were for additional funding for their program and trouble with the data entry component in the JCMS.

## Program Success Stories

Below are a few of the submitted success stories in the Annual Grant Activity Reports that highlight the work the funded programs are completing.

YouTurn: *One notable example involves a young male participant who had been actively working on behavior change and conflict resolution. When a physical altercation broke out, he consciously chose not to engage—an intentional decision he attributes to the guidance and support received through his work with YouTurn. This moment of restraint reflects meaningful progress in his personal development and the effectiveness of our intervention strategies.*

Omaha Tribe of Nebraska: *Following each completed session we have youth take a post satisfactory survey to look for ideas and minor changes to accommodate them. There was not one youth who rated the program low or that they disliked it. They all rated the program high meaning they had enjoyed it. This is very uplifting to receive this type of feedback. Youth enjoy the program so much they are asking to join again. Which is not a problem however because there has been so much interest in our program we have developed a list of youth who want to join. We have been going down the list to assist all the youth who have interest in it and are willing to learn through horses to develop and reach greater potential within themselves and others.*

African Immigrant Family Services Sarpy County: *A 15-year-old youth previously isolated due to language barriers now volunteers at AIFS events, has improved school performance, and is participating in our Youth Drumming program. This transformation highlights the impact of consistent support and cultural affirmation.*

Latino Center of the Midlands: *The following story about K was written by Facilitator Felipe Rincon: In August 2024, I had the privilege of meeting K during a tabling event at their High School. At the time, K was uncertain about joining the program. Their early sessions were marked by quietness and reservation, as they cautiously explored the idea of being part of something unfamiliar. K's transformation over the months has been truly remarkable. From a reserved, hesitant student who was unsure about voicing their opinions and engaging in conversations, K has blossomed into a confident and enthusiastic participant. Today, they actively seek life advice, openly pursue their goals, and welcomes opportunities for growth. Transportation barriers initially prevented K from attending events, but thanks to late school bus options provided by OPS, they continued participating in the sessions. K's journey exemplifies the power of perseverance, support, and self-discovery. It's been an honor to witness their transformation and be part of their growth.*

## Program Evaluation

Pursuant to NRS §43-2404.02(2), ten percent of funds are set aside for the development of a common data set and evaluation of the effectiveness of the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program. The common data set is maintained by the Crime Commission and provided to the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Juvenile Justice Institute to evaluate the effectiveness and outcomes of the programs receiving funds through the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program.

### *Demographic Information on the Total Number of Juveniles Served, Program Success Rates, and Total Number of Juveniles Sent to Secure Juvenile Detention or Residential Treatment or Secure Confinement (NRS §43-2404.02(5))*

The Juvenile Justice Institute is required to evaluate the effectiveness of plans and programs receiving funding through the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program pursuant to NRS §43-2404.02(4)(c). Evaluations include demographic information on the youth served, program success rates, and an evaluation of whether youth were sent to staff secure or secure juvenile detention after participating in a program funded by the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program.

Demographics for youth referred to programs during fiscal year 2025 can be found in Table 2 below.

*Table 2: Youth Referred to JS funded programs by Demographic FY 2025*

Demographic		Referred	Percent Referred
Race	White	345	47.85%
	Black, African American	161	22.33%
	Other Race	76	10.54%
	Unspecified	9	1.25%
	Multiple Races	20	2.77%
	American Indian or Alaska Native	61	8.46%
	Asian	45	6.24%
	Native Hawaiian, Other Pacific Islander	4	Less than 1%
Ethnicity	Not Hispanic/Latino	477	66.16%
	Hispanic/Latino	188	26.07%
	Unspecified	52	7.21%
Age	10 and Under	70	9.71%
	11	87	12.07%
	12	104	14.42%
	13	92	12.76%
	14	86	11.93%
	15	96	13.31%
	16	83	11.51%
	17	84	11.65%
	18	16	2.22%
	19+	3	0.14%
Sex Assigned at Birth	Female	329	45.63%
	Male	382	52.98%
	Prefer Not to Say	10	1.39%
Total Cases		721	

Evaluation of program effectiveness and future system involvement is conducted at least one year following Community-based Aid program enrollment. Please refer to the Juvenile Justice Institute's Evidence-based Nebraska [website](#) for past Community-based Juvenile Services Aid evaluations.

## Examination of Racial and Ethnic Disparity

Nebraska Revised Statute § 43-2404.01(5(c)) requires the evaluation of the effectiveness of juvenile services that receive funds from the Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Program to include an examination of disproportionate minority contact in order to identify juvenile delinquency prevention efforts and system improvement efforts designed to reduce, without establishing or requiring numerical standards or quotas, the disproportionate number of juvenile members of minority groups who come into contact with the juvenile justice system. An examination of disproportionate minority contact will be included in evaluations of program effectiveness conducted by the Juvenile Justice Institute. The racial and ethnic disparities of youth referred to CBA funded programs in FY 2025 can be found below in Table 4 and Table 5.

*Table 4: Youth referred to JS funded programs by Race FY 2025*

	Percent of Youth Referred	Percent of Population <sup>2</sup>	Representation
White	47.85%	81.85%	Under
Black, African American	22.33%	7.09%	Over
Other Race	10.54%	-	-
Unspecified	1.25%	-	-
Multiple Races	2.77%	5.12%	Under
American Indian or Alaska Native	8.46%	2.66%	Over
Asian	6.24%	3.07%	Over
Native Hawaiian, Other Pacific Islander	Less than 1%	Less than 1%	-
Grand Total	100%		

*Table 5: Youth referred to JS funded programs by Ethnicity FY 2025*

	Percent of Youth Referred	Percent of Population	Representation
Not Hispanic/Latino	66.16%	81%	Under
Hispanic/Latino	26.07%	19%	Over
Unspecified	7.21%	-	-
Grand Total	100%		

<sup>2</sup> US Census Data 2023 estimates for youth age 10-18 extracted from <https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/time-series/demo/popest/2020s-state-detail.html>. "Other" and "Unspecified" are not options in the US Census data for race and ethnicity.

## Appendix A: FY2025 Awards by County/Tribe/Agency

County/Tribe	JS Award	Supplemental JS Award	Total
Platte County	\$2,248	-	\$2,248
Completely KIDS	\$26,168	-	\$26,168
Lancaster County	\$99,940		\$99,940
Columbus Area United Way	\$47,555	-	\$47,555
Latino Center of the Midlands	\$61,883	-	\$61,883
York County	\$16,725	-	\$16,725
African Immigrant Family Services	\$35,200	-	\$35,200
YouTurn	\$56,977	-	\$56,977
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska	\$80,282	\$65,427	\$145,709
Urban League of Nebraska	\$50,000	-	\$50,000
Washington County	\$3,600	-	\$3,600
Saunders County	\$46,722	-	\$46,722
Dakota County	\$12,000	-	\$12,000
Omaha Center for Refugees and Immigrant Services (OCRISI)	\$25,000	-	\$25,000
Total	\$564,300	\$65,427	\$ 629,727

## Appendix B: FY2025 Deobligations by County/Tribe/Agency

County/Tribe	Total Deobligation
Platte County	\$ .50
Completely KIDS	-
Lancaster County	-
Columbus Area United Way	\$711.38
Latino Center of the Midlands	\$684.86
York County	-
African Immigrant Family Services	-
YouTurn	\$148.81
Omaha Tribe of Nebraska	-
Urban League of Nebraska	\$1,397.43
Washington County	\$1,696.10
Saunders County	-
Dakota County	\$3,666.34
OCRISI	\$25,000
Total	\$31,907.99

## Appendix C: FY2025 Annual Grant Activity Report

### Annual Grant Activity Report

July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

[Grant Type (Community-based Juvenile Services Aid,  
Enhancement, or Juvenile Services)]

[Grantee]

[Grant Number(s)]

Submitted By:

[Lead Contact Name]

[County Commissioner Name]

[If multi-county, list all counties]

[Date Submitted]

*This annual report is submitted pursuant to NRS 43-2404.02 and 78 NAC 1 (12.03) activity reporting requirement. This annual report is submitted in lieu of submitting four quarterly narratives in JCMS.*

Submit Annual Grant Activity Report to [Erin.Wasserburger@nebraska.gov](mailto:Erin.Wasserburger@nebraska.gov) by August 14, 2025.

**Instructions:** Fill out the program type table below and an activity narrative for each program funded. There is a separate narrative for system improvement programs. If multiple agencies were funded for the same program type, each agency should do their own activity narrative describing their specific outcomes.

Ensure the program type table includes all programs requested in the approved grant application, as well as any programs added through a project change request. If a program was removed part way through the grant year through a subgrant adjustment it still needs to be included.

If grantees had more than one grant (CB, EB, JS) in FY25, please submit ONE annual report with a separate program type table for each grant. If the same program is funded in both CB, EB, and/or JS, only one activity narrative is needed for that program.

Final Program Type Table: <input type="checkbox"/> CB <input type="checkbox"/> EB <input type="checkbox"/> JS				
Program Title	Amount Requested at Time of Award	Amount Expended	Number of Referrals Entered in JCMS for FY25	Number of Youth Discharged in JCMS for FY25
Total:				

ACTIVITY NARRATIVE
*Fill out one activity narrative for each program or service funded in FY24-25*
<b>Program Title:</b>
<b>Agency Name:</b>
1. Provide a short summary of the program or service provided, including explanation of program operation:
2. Provide a short explanation of how the program met the goals of the Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan:
3. Provide a short explanation of how this program assists youth at the individual level, including how the program builds on strengths, abilities, and assets of the youth:
4. Provide a short explanation of how this program impacts the community. This can include the impact on arrests, recidivism, or other community issues the program address:
5. Provide a short explanation of the goals accomplished during the reporting period as they relate to the goals you entered on your grant application:
6. Describe any unanticipated challenges when providing these services and how they were addressed?

7. Can the Crime Commission offer assistance to address any problems/barriers you identified in question 6? If so, please describe:
8. Describe any anticipated changes to the program you plan to make going forward and why they need to be made:
9. Any other relevant achievements or information you would like to provide, including success stories:
10. Please review the data provided separately by the Crime Commission and fill out the tables below. Do not leave fields blank or remove them; if you do not have data for a specific category, put a 0 in that spot. Please investigate the number of open cases and determine if there are old cases needing discharged from JCMS or youth still actively being served.

Gender	2024-2025	2023-2024	2022-2023
Male			
Female			
Non-binary			
Prefer not to say			
Unspecified			
Sex Assigned at Birth			
Female		-	-
Male		-	-
Prefer not to say		-	-

Age	2024-2025	2023-2024	2022-2023
Under 10			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19+			

Race/Ethnicity	2024-2025	2023-2024	2022-2023
American Indian, Alaska Native			
Asian			
Black, African American			
Hispanic			
Native Hawaiian, Other Pacific Islander			
Other Race			
Unspecified			
White			
Multiple Races			
Hispanic/Latino			



Not Hispanic/Latino			
Unspecified			

	2024-2025	2023-2024	2022-2023
Total Number of Cases			
Total Number of Open Cases			

a. Provide an explanation for open cases and the plan to close them (if necessary):

b. Any other relevant information you would like to provide regarding the FY25 data:

11. Does this program charge fees for youth to participate? ☐Yes ☐No If yes, please complete the following questions:

a. What is the amount charged?

b. Do you offer waivers or sliding fees? ☐Yes ☐No If yes, how is eligibility determined:

c. How many youth paid the full amount in FY25?

d. How many youth paid a reduced fee in FY25?

e. How many youth paid no fee/had all fees waived in FY25?

f. Total fees (dollar amount) collected in FY25:

g. Explain how income generated by these fees are spent:

SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT ACTIVITY NARRATIVE	
*Fill out one activity narrative for each system improvement program or service funded in FY24-25*	
<b>Program Title:</b> <b>Agency Name:</b>	
1. Provide a short summary of the program or service provided, including program operation:	
2. Provide a short explanation of how the program or service met the goals of the Comprehensive Juvenile Services Plan:	
3. <u>Training/Quality Improvement programs only</u> : Please describe any trainings funded this fiscal year. Include the number of trainings attended and/or provided, how many people attended, and what topics the trainings covered:	

4. Evaluation programs only: Please describe any program evaluations funded this fiscal year. Include which programs were evaluated, who funded them, the evaluation type and design, and what specific activities took place:

5. Community Engagement programs only: Please describe activities that took place this fiscal year. Include the number of hours spent on grant management (i.e., MOUs, adjustments, reporting), activities and meetings related to community coordination, and hours spent working with programs one-on-one:

6. Administration programs only: Please detail activities covered during this fiscal year. Include the total hours you spent on these activities as well as how funds were used. For example, provide hours spent on bookkeeping or paying bills. List other areas outside of fiscal administration where money was spent, i.e., purchasing software:

7. Data programs only: Please describe any data-related activities that took place this fiscal year. Include trainings provided, presentations to stakeholders, how the data is intended to change practices in the community, what the goal for the data is, and what system point the data pertains to:

8. Describe any unanticipated challenges when providing these services and how they were addressed?

9. Can the Crime Commission offer assistance to address any problems/barriers you identified in question 8? If so, please describe:

10. Describe any anticipated changes to the program or service you plan to make going forward and why they need to be made:

11. Any other relevant achievements or information:

12. Please log into the JCMS and click on the system improvement button to generate search results for program or service. Review the search results generated by the system, then fill out the table below by putting an "X" in either the yes or no column indicating whether you completed a system improvement report for each quarter.

Quarter	Yes	No
Q1 July 1, 2024 - September 30, 2024		
Q2 October 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024		
Q3 January 2, 2025 – March 31, 2025		
Q4 April 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025		

a. Provide an explanation for any quarters marked "no" (if necessary):

b. Any other relevant information you would like to provide regarding the FY25 data: