

**PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Meeting Date: May 13, 2014

Department: Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Commission

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Title: Presentation by the Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) and the 15th Judicial Circuit regarding permanent funding for Civil Drug Court, Adult Drug Court and Juvenile Drug Court.

Summary: The Drug Abuse Trust Fund, administered by the CJC, has been the primary source of funding for the treatment component of the three (3) drug courts since 1991. Historically, the Drug Abuse Trust Fund provided sufficient revenue to support all drug court treatment funding, but in the last several years, the amount of revenue collected from various funding sources has declined from over \$2,000,000 in 2008 to \$1,084,776 in 2014. Specifically, the State Attorney's office has stopped contributing half of the prosecution fees it receives funding instead, other initiatives. In addition, the due to an overall reduction in crime, revenue generated from "conviction" related fees and fines have greatly reduced income to the Drug Abuse Trust. The overall reduction in revenue has caused the CJC to look to other funding sources in order to maintain an adequate level of service, but as those revenue sources have also decreased, it is necessary to look for a permanent funding source for drug treatment courts to ensure this critical service is not at risk. Drug treatment courts offer an alternative to incarceration and provide the participants the opportunity to overcome drug addiction. This, in turn, reduces recidivism, enhances the safety of our communities and saves taxpayer dollars. The CJC, the 15th Judicial Circuit, and the Public Safety Department have created a presentation highlighting the importance of the drug court programs to the community, describing the historical financial contributions to the Drug Abuse Trust Fund and the importance of establishing permanent funding. **Countywide (PGE)**.

Background and Policy Issues: Drug courts have operated in the County since Judge Edward Rogers established Civil Drug Court in 1993. This began as a weekend court located in Riviera Beach, where it operates to this day.

Adult Drug Court began in 2000, and was funded initially by an implementation grant from the United States Bureau of Justice Assistance. After the implementation grant, the CJC began its assistance with treatment funding. The Adult Drug Court has received national recognition as a Model Drug Court.

Juvenile Drug Court began in 2008. It serves youths from 14 to 17 years of age. The court was expanded in 2012 to include children with mental health problems in addition to substance abuse issues.


The drug courts provide treatment and support to the citizens and families in our county who are affected by addictions. Participants are provided with intensive treatment and other services they need in order to become and remain clean and sober. The participants are held accountable by the drug court judge for meeting their obligations to the court. Random drug testing is required of all drug court participants.

Permanent funding for the drug courts will ensure that Palm Beach County citizens continue to receive the treatment that they need. This will keep our communities safer and the County's jail population down. The total estimated operational support for Civil Drug Court, Adult Drug Court and Juvenile Drug Court is \$604,500 per year

Attachments:

- 1. Staff Presentation

Recommended by:  5/6/14
Department Director Date

Approved By:  5/12/14
County Administration Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	<u>2015</u>	20__	20__	20__	20__
Capital Expenditures	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Operating Costs	<u>97,378</u>	_____	_____	_____	_____
External Revenues	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Program Income (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
In-Kind Match (County)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
NET FISCAL IMPACT	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
No. ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

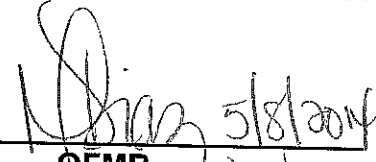
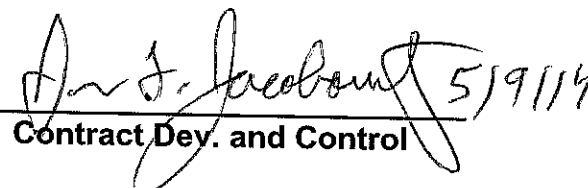
Is Item Included In ^{Proposed} Current Budget? Yes _____ No X
 Budget Account No.: Fund 0001 Department 660 Unit 5242
 Object 3401 Reporting Category _____

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

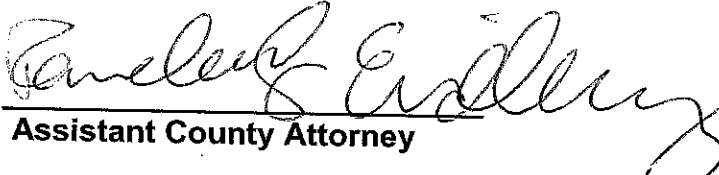
C. Departmental Fiscal Review: 

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

 5/8/2014  5/9/14
 OFMB Contract Dev. and Control

B. Legal Sufficiency:


 Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

 Department Director

**FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
PALM BEACH COUNTY DRUG COURTS
MAY 13, 2014**



Presented by:

Honorable Jeffrey Colbath, Chief Judge

Michael Rodriguez, Executive Director, Criminal Justice Commission

Why Drug Courts?

- Drug Courts are therapeutic, specialty Courts for substance-abusing individuals, which provide intensive supervision, immediate access to treatment and dedicated Judges and teams
- Every **35** hours a person in Palm Beach County overdoses from substance abuse
- Drug Courts significantly reduce crime as much as 45% more than other sentencing options
- Children of Drug Court participants spend significantly less time in out-of-home placements such as foster care

Civil Drug Court

■ History

- Implemented in 1993, partnership among the City of Riviera Beach, the 15th Judicial Circuit and the Clerk of Court

■ Program Description

- Serves adolescents and adults (countywide) in need of court ordered services (Marchman Act), who are unable to recognize their need for treatment and/or obtain services needed to begin recovery

Civil Drug Court - Benefits

- Provides immediate access to treatment and case management
- Preventive program helps individuals avoid future interaction with the criminal justice system
- Outcomes include: reduced recidivism rates, successful completion of treatment, and self sufficiency

Adult Drug Court

- History
 - Implemented in 2000
- Program Description
 - Intensive regiment of outpatient substance abuse treatment, case management, drug testing, supervision, and monitoring
 - Serves adult non-violent felony offenders who are Palm Beach County residents

Adult Drug Court - Benefits

- Since 2000, 1,448 graduates became addiction free and avoided the consequences associated with a criminal record
- Success rate is 86%. Less than 15% of participants are re-arrested
- Average daily cost to taxpayers:
 - Incarceration \$125.00
 - Drug Court \$ 6.30

Delinquency Drug Court

- History
 - Implemented in May 2008
- Program Description
 - A three-phase, six-month program
 - Utilizes a team approach and provides: individual, group and family counseling, random drug testing, court supervision, incentives and sanctions
 - Serves youth ages 14-17 in Palm Beach County with varying levels of court-involvement

Delinquency Drug Court - Benefits

- Strengthens youth and family functioning in the County, which in turn increases public safety
- 76% improvement in Grade Point Average for participants from start to end of Delinquency Drug Court
- Significant increase in **sobriety** of participants
 - 83% of drug tests are **negative**

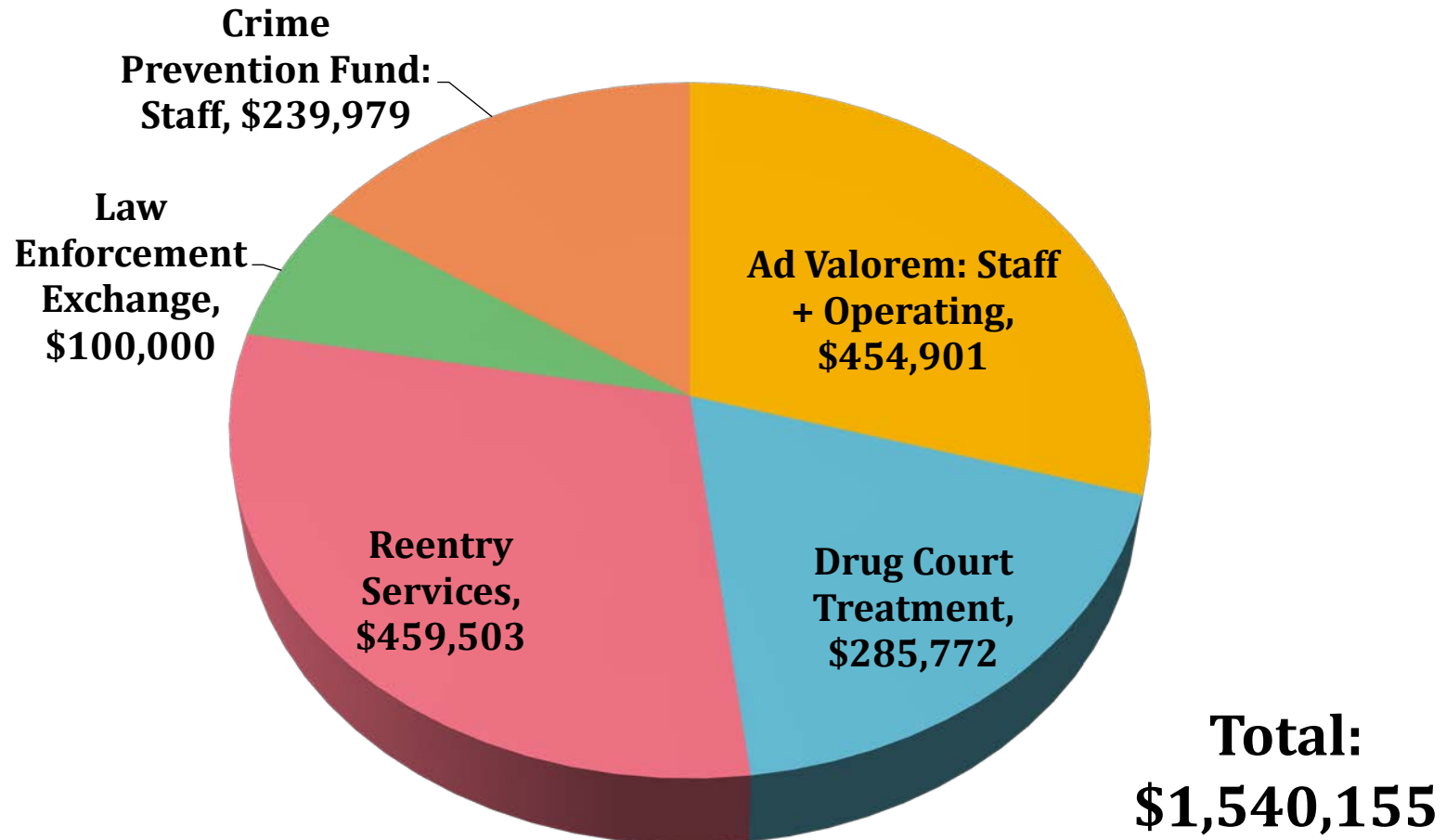
Family Drug Court

- History
 - Implemented April 2010
- Program Description
 - A 12 month voluntary program designed to assist parents with substance abuse/dependence issues and monitor their progress towards recovery with the goal of reunification

Family Drug Court - Benefits

- 95% of Family Drug Court graduates remained with or were reunified with their children
- 98% of Family Drug Court participants had no new child protection cases
- At one year, 100% of the Family Drug Court graduates were NOT charged with a crime subsequent to their completion date

Criminal Justice Commission Budget



Funding Sources Comparison

- **Drug Abuse Trust Fund**

- Fiscal Year 2005 \$ 794,310
- Fiscal Year 2014 \$ 129,749

- **Crime Prevention Trust Fund**

- Fiscal Year 2005 \$ 663,404
- Fiscal Year 2014 \$ 433,689

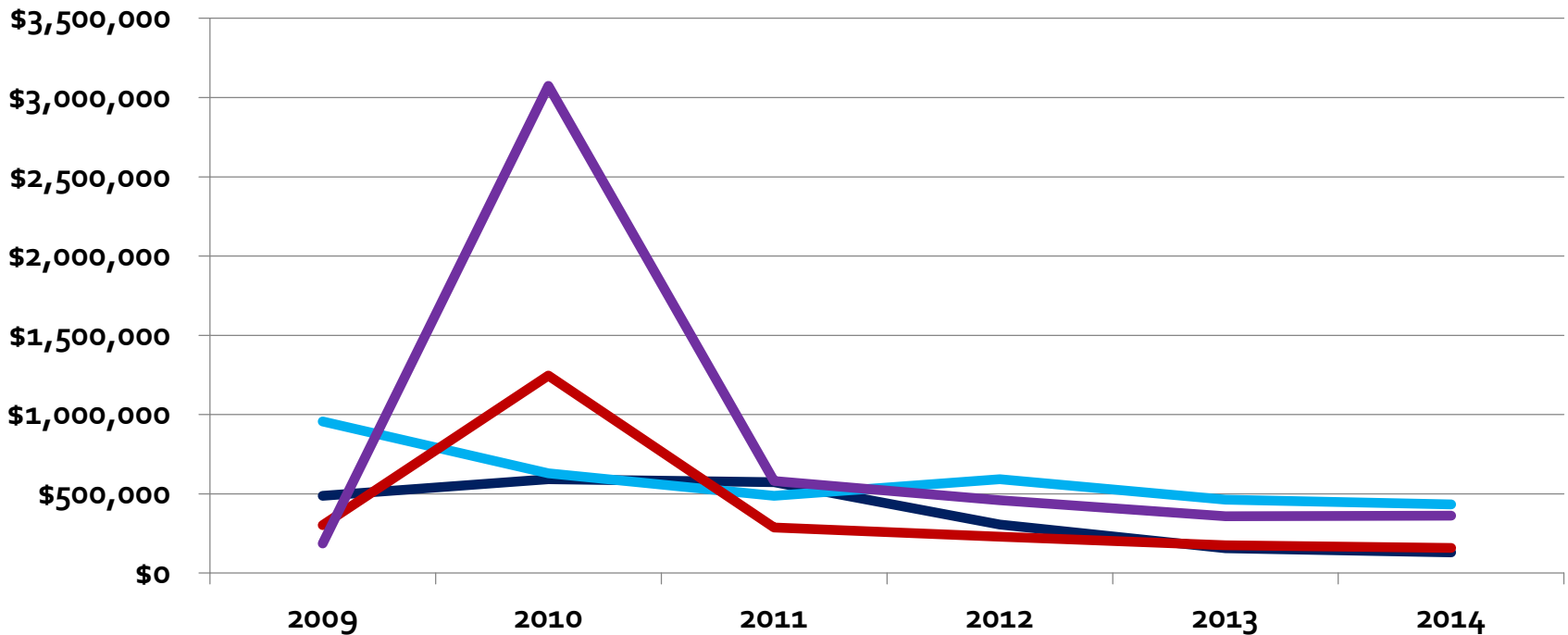
- **Justice Assistance Grant Local Solicitation**

- Fiscal Year 2005 \$ 330,435
- Fiscal Year 2014 \$ 158,794

- **Justice Assistance Grant State Solicitation**

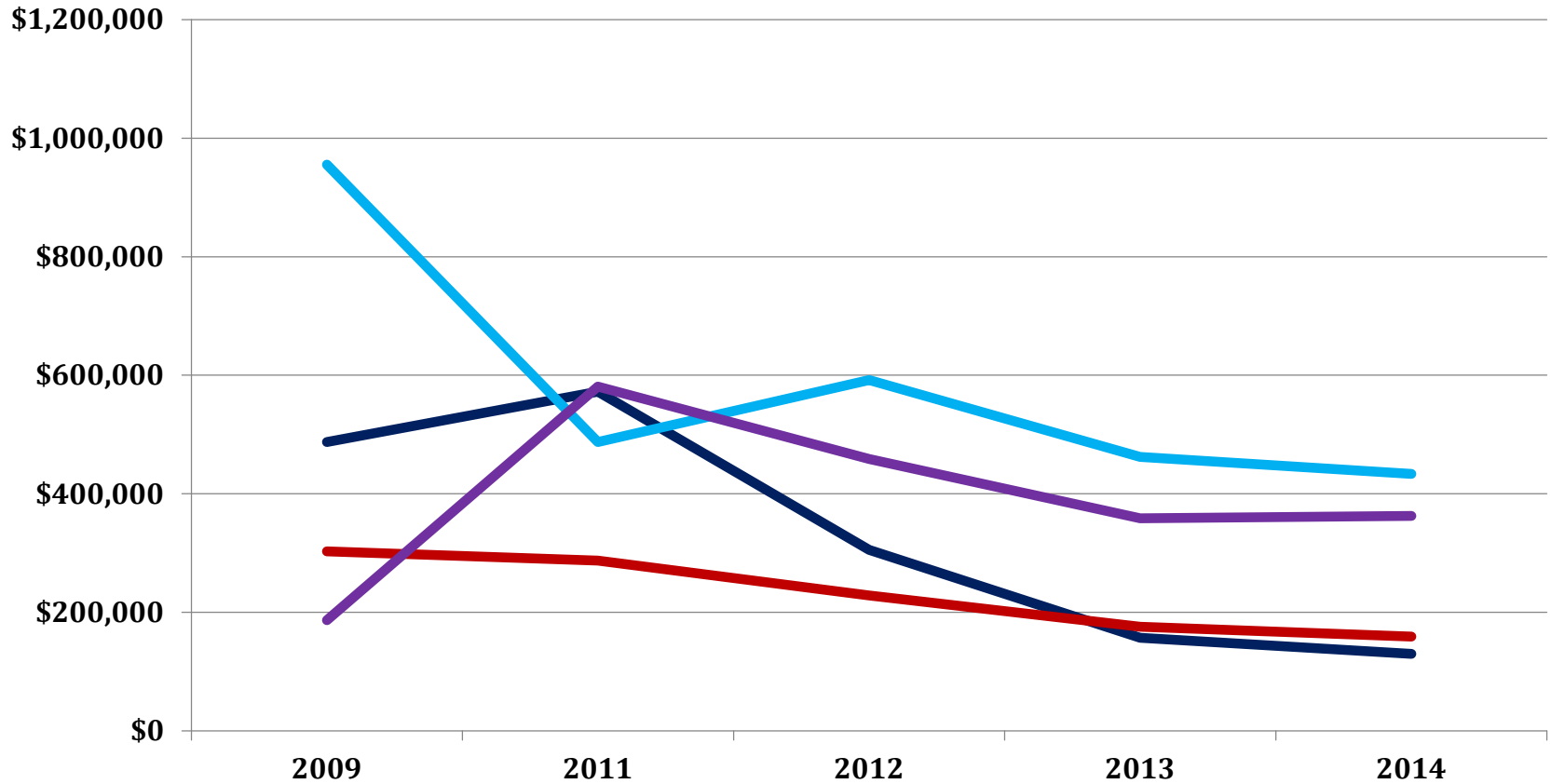
- Fiscal Year 2008 \$ 449,592
- Fiscal Year 2014 \$ 362,544

Funding Sources Comparison



— Drug Abuse Trust Fund — Crime Prevention Fund
— Justice Assistance Grant - Local Solicitation — Justice Assistance Grant - State Solicitation

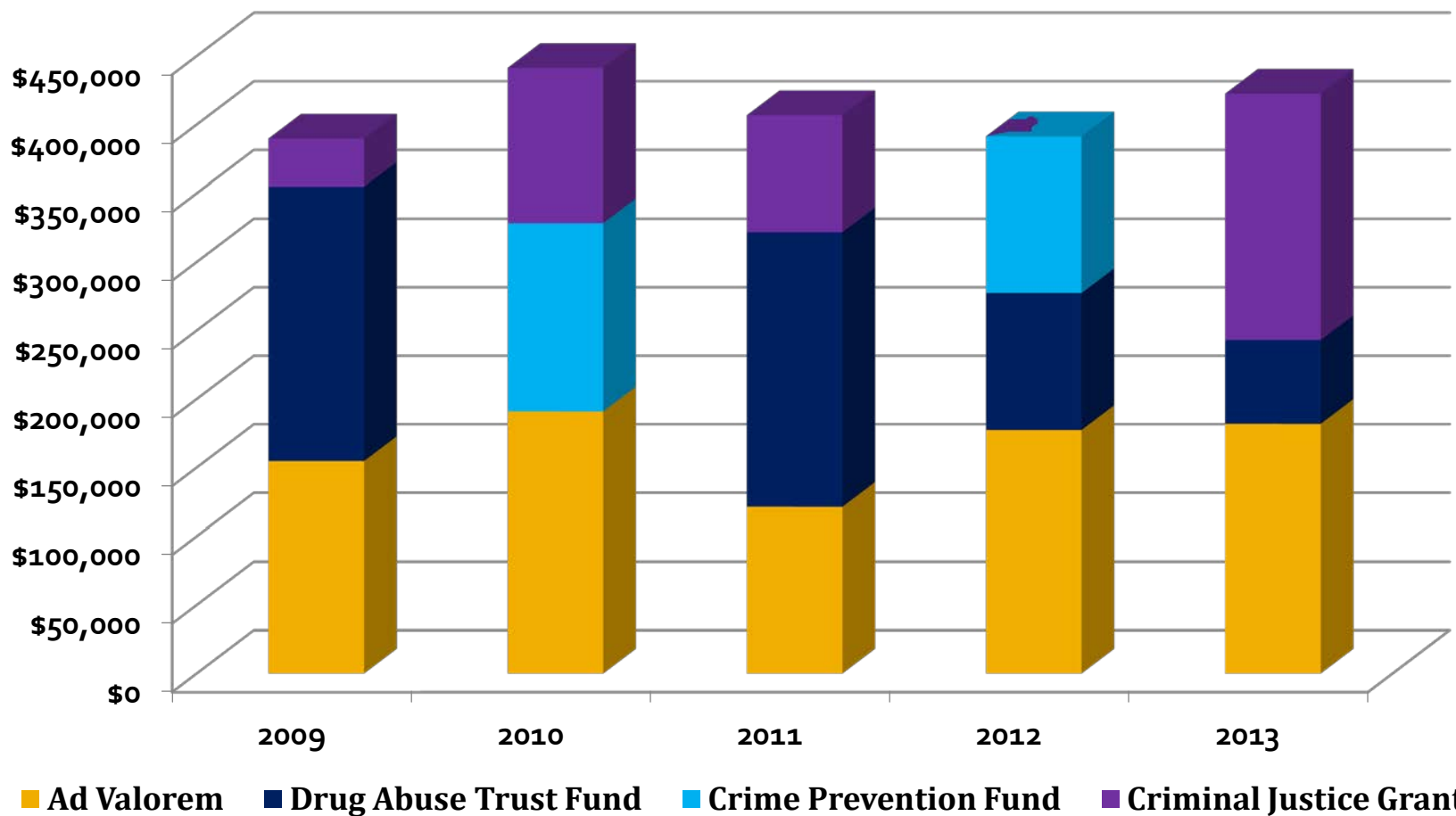
Funding Sources Comparison



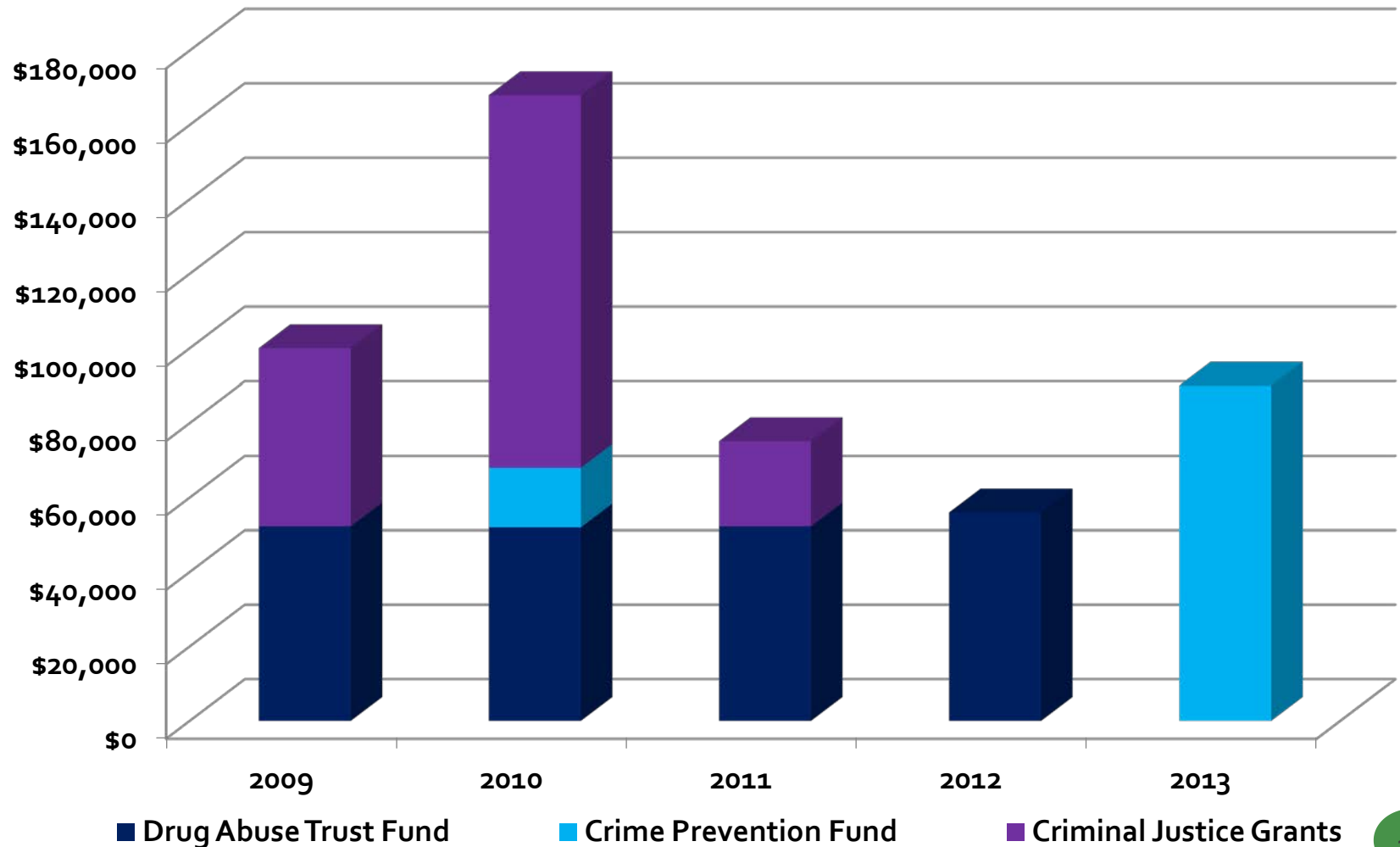
— Drug Abuse Trust Fund
— Justice Assistance Grant - Local

— Crime Prevention Fund
— Justice Assistance Grant - State

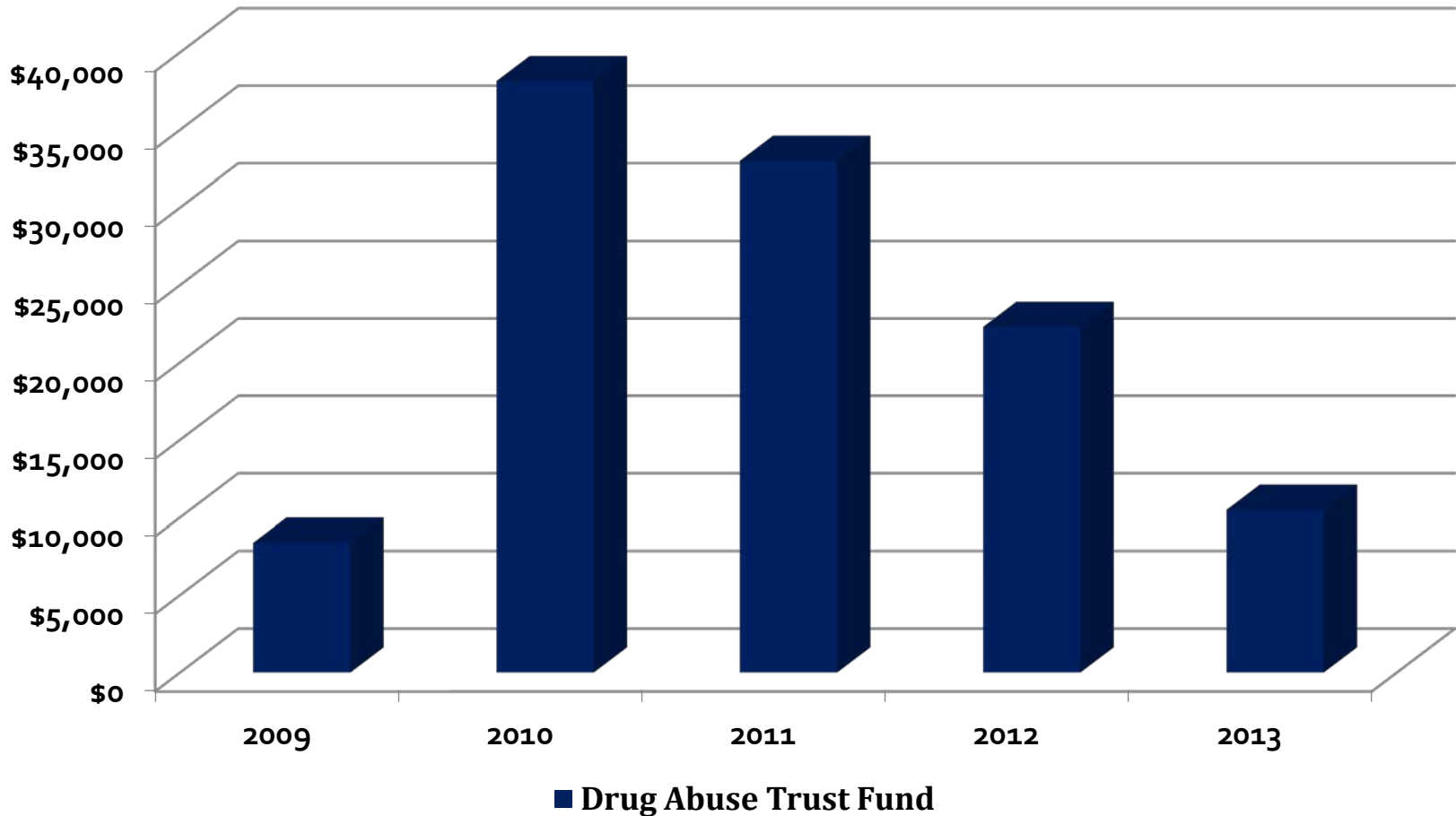
Adult Drug Court Funding Sources



Civil Drug Court Funding Sources



Juvenile Drug Court Funding Source



Criminal Justice Commission / 15th Judicial Circuit Recommendation

- Allocate \$97,378 to continue Family Drug Court for Fiscal Year 2015