In this time of government realignment to create efficiencies, the Board of State and Community Corrections’ (BSCC) role is more important than ever. Focused on supporting counties in serving at-risk and system involved youth, the BSCC blends State and Federal funding streams to provide both direct services and systems improvement/reform. Specifically, State funds support county efforts to rehabilitate and supervise youthful offenders and to implement continuums of care in their juvenile justice systems. In turn, Federal funds ensure the effective and efficient use of State funds by focusing on systems development and implementation geared toward best practices and creative innovations for service delivery. In short, State funds support what counties do, while Federal funds support how they do it.

In supporting local corrections systems, a symbiotic relationship exists as much in the fiscal arena as it does in the program arena. Counties have the monumental task of serving hundreds of thousands of youth. BSCC affords counties assistance in this regard by providing State funds that support their programs. However, to secure State funds, counties must often provide a match of local funds. Similarly, BSCC awards counties Federal funds that support their ability to provide services to youth. Again, counties must provide a match of local funds to be awarded Federal funds. In addition, the State also must provide a match – in this case of State funds – before it ever receives Federal funds. So, for any Federal funds awarded, there will be both a State match and a local match. While leveraging of this nature is always prudent, it is paramount at this time of severe fiscal constraint.

Administrative dollars from federal awards support several mandatory line items necessary for application and receipt of Federal funding, and to ensure compliance with Federal mandates- including Compliance Monitoring of three (3) of the four (4) Core Protections in the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act and funding to support California’s State Advisory Committee work (approximately 10% of total Federal award dollars).

Administrative positions that provide complete oversight of federally funded local programs as well as administration of the competitive process for each Federal grant comprises only 5% of the total Federal funds received; therefore, approximately 85% of the total Federal Awards is allocated as local assistance dollars. Local agencies receiving Federal grant funds, in turn, match these same awards with local funds to support their juvenile justice system needs.