

# cost

ANNUAL EXPENDITURE FOR ONE CHILD IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM



James in  
juvenile  
detention

Juvenile Detention<sup>1</sup>  
**\$49,300**

Ohio Juvenile Correctional Facility<sup>2</sup>  
**\$123,400**

Adult Prison<sup>3</sup>  
**\$25,900**

**COST TO SOCIETY**  
High risk youth's life of crime<sup>4</sup>

**\$3.8 million**

# benefit

ANNUAL INVESTMENT FOR ONE CHILD ON THE ROAD TO SUCCESS



James attending  
a community  
program

After-School Program<sup>5</sup>  
**\$3,800**

Ohio State University Education<sup>6</sup>  
**\$19,600**

Job Corps Training Program<sup>7</sup>  
**\$39,700**

**BENEFIT TO SOCIETY**  
College graduate's lifetime tax contribution<sup>8</sup>

**\$1 million**

*see footnotes on back*

## Footnotes

1. Average annual cost of \$49,256.75 drawn from a survey of eight Ohio juvenile detention centers by Voices for Ohio's Children and the Children's Law Center, June 2011. Daily costs per youth vary from \$80 (Sargus Juvenile Detention Center) to \$313.62 (Franklin County).

2. "Annual Report Fiscal Year 2010," Ohio Department of Youth Services. The average per diem cost to house, care and treat a juvenile offender in a DYS facility in FY 2010 was \$338.00, or \$123,370 per year.

3. "Pieces of the Puzzle: 2009 Annual Report," Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction, p.19. Average daily cost of placement in a Department of Corrections facility for FY 2010 was \$88.59, or \$32,335.35 per year.

4. Mark A. Cohen and Alex R. Piquero, "New Evidence on the Monetary Value of Saving a High Risk Youth" (December 2007):47, [http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=1077214](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1077214). Monetary value of saving a high-risk 14-year-old youth from a lifetime of crime in 2007 dollars ranges from \$2.7 million to \$4.8 million.

5. Christianne Lind, et al., "The Costs of Out-of-School-Time Programs: A Review of the Available Evidence," The Finance Project and Public/Private Ventures (May 2006):1, <http://76.12.61.196/publications/litreview.pdf>. Annual costs ranged from \$449 to \$7,160 per child.

6. Ohio State University undergraduate in-state tuition, books, fees, room and board in 2011-2012 are \$19,584, [www.osu.edu](http://www.osu.edu).

7. U.S. Department of Labor, Administrative Data, <http://jobcorps.dol.gov/>. Annualized operating cost per Job Corps slot for FY2006 was \$37,850; figure has been adjusted for inflation.

8. Philip A. Trostel, "The Fiscal Impacts of College Attainment," New England Public Policy Center at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston Working Paper (2007):20, 22, <http://www.bos.frb.org/economic/neppc/wp/2007/neppcwp0702.htm>. Estimated lifetime local, state and federal taxes paid by a person with a bachelor's degree is \$954,296.

In order to protect the privacy of system-involved youth, the National Juvenile Justice Network has used photos of models in this document. The Network thanks the models and their families for their participation in this project.

Photos: Tim Walker

**Produced by The Tow Foundation, National Juvenile Justice Network Voices for Ohio's Children and the Juvenile Justice Coalition of Ohio**

**[www.towfoundation.org](http://www.towfoundation.org); [www.vfc-oh.org](http://www.vfc-oh.org); [www.juvenilecoalition.org](http://www.juvenilecoalition.org)**

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Are you  
satisfied  
paying for  
failure  
or are you  
ready to  
invest in  
success?