

Congressional Earmarks Fund Georgia Programs for Kids; Future Earmarks in Jeopardy

The Justice Department has published the list of [OJJDP congressional earmarks](#) for the 2010 fiscal year. Twenty-one programs in Georgia got funding for a total of \$3.2 million. Here are some of the largest awards along with congressional sponsors:

- \$500,000 City of Valdosta Sponsors: Rep. Jack Kingston (R-Savannah), Sen. Saxby Chambliss (R-GA)
- \$300,000 Georgia Bureau of Investigation Sponsor: Sen. Johnny Isakson (R-GA)
- \$250,000 University of West Georgia Sponsors: Rep. Phil Gingrey (R-Marietta), Sen. Saxby Chambliss (R-GA)
- \$250,000 Rockdale County Sponsors: Rep. Hank Johnson (D-Lithonia), Rep. David Scott (D-Jonesboro), Sen. Saxby Chambliss (R-GA)
- \$250,000 Project Rebound, Inc. Sponsor: Rep. Sanford Bishop (D-Albany)
- \$200,000 City of Moultrie Police Department Sponsors: Rep. Jim Marshall (D-Macon), Sen. Saxby Chambliss (R-GA)
- \$150,000 Truancy Intervention Project Georgia, Inc. Sponsor: Sen. Johnny Isakson (R-GA)

Earmarks may be on the endangered list next year, according to [Youth Today](#), which tracks federal earmarks for youth projects.

Sen. Jim DeMint (R-SC) and Tea Party supporters want a ban on earmarks. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH) are also on board. President Obama wants to limit earmarks, and some congressional Democrats facing reelection in 2012 are under pressure to stop

the practice.

Earmarks aren't the only source of federal funding for juvenile justice projects. Another \$2,480,463 in competitive grants also went to agencies based in Georgia. Here's that list from OJJDP:

- \$349,969 Family drug court programs in Chatham County Juvenile Court
- \$300,000 GBI law enforcement strategies to protect children from commercial sexual exploitation
- \$409,390 Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force at the GBI
- \$296,104 Juvenile Drug Courts and Mentoring Initiative in Columbus
- \$625,000 Young Adult Guidance Center, Inc. for the Second Chance Act Juvenile Mentoring Initiative
- \$500,000 The Center for Working Families, Inc. for Strategic Enhancement to Mentoring Programs

In addition, \$42 million was allocated to the Boys and Girls Clubs for mentoring programs across the nation through their headquarters in Atlanta