

# ACTION ALERT



## STOP THE EXPANSION OF THE BRIDGEPORT JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

Volume I

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**Bridgeport Does Not  
Need an 88-Bed  
Juvenile Jail.**

**The Numbers Speak for  
Themselves:**

***State's Proposed Increase in  
Detention Beds in Bridgeport:***

**↑ 252%**

***Juvenile Crime in Fairfield  
County Since 1994:***

**↓ 49%**

### ***Is an 88-bed Juvenile Jail the Best Plan for Bridgeport's Young People?***

The state of Connecticut is set to build a new Bridgeport juvenile court and detention center -- at a cost of over \$50 million. While there is no doubt that Bridgeport needs new facilities to replace its outdated juvenile courthouse and detention center, the current plan would add unnecessary beds at the expense of other much-needed services.

Now, Bridgeport's detention center has a capacity for 25 youth. In the past year, it has housed as few as 8 youth. Juvenile crime, which has declined in each of the last 7 years, is now at its lowest level since 1988. This trend does not support the building of a facility which will increase capacity by 252%.

### ***A Better Investment for our Youth:***

The Connecticut Juvenile Justice Alliance supports the construction of a smaller facility with fewer secure detention beds and expanded community-based services, which are significantly less expensive than detention.

***CALL OR WRITE THE GOVERNOR AND  
TELL HER WE DON'T NEED 88  
DETENTION BEDS IN BRIDGEPORT!!!***

***Honorable M. Jodi Rell  
Office of the Governor  
State Capitol  
210 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106***

***(800) 406-1527***