



Cornerstone for Justice:

How Kentucky Uses Byrne JAG Funding to Protect Public Safety, Prevent Crime and Reduce Recidivism

The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant program (Byrne JAG) is the nation's cornerstone justice assistance grant program, supporting the federal government's crucial role in improving state and local justice systems by spurring innovation and by testing and replicating evidence-based practices in crime control and prevention. States, localities and tribal nations are able to deploy Byrne JAG funding against their most pressing public safety challenges, to design complete programs or fill gaps, to leverage other resources and to work across city, county and state lines.

Byrne JAG funds may be invested across the criminal justice system for prevention, diversion, enforcement, courts, prosecution and defense, corrections, victim assistance, mental health and substance use disorder treatment, and other community-based support. Byrne JAG improves the administration of justice, reduces incarceration, enhances fairness, improves outcomes for the justice-involved and saves taxpayer money.

Byrne JAG in Kentucky:

In 2018, the Kentucky Justice & Public Safety Cabinet invested in numerous successful initiatives. Some examples include:

- Funding for 11 Multi-jurisdictional Drug Task Forces. These funds were used to support a wide range of interdiction needs and assist task forces in implementing best practice models. In an effort to improve the effectiveness of enforcement, Byrne JAG funds were used to fund dedicated prosecutors to assist two of the drug task forces with strengthening the evidentiary chain and improving enforcement outcomes. Byrne JAG funds were also awarded to the Bowling Green – Warren County Drug Task Force to support the Kentucky Narcotic Officer's Conference which highlighted The Naked Truth About Marijuana, Drug Related Death Investigations and Detecting Deception.
- Support for the Greater Hardin County's Narcotics Task Force (GHCNTF). GHCNTF is a multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional police narcotics operation, formed in 1995, that investigates, arrests and prosecutes individuals or organizations trafficking illegal controlled substances or diverted pharmaceutical drugs in Hardin, Hart, Nelson,

Grayson and Larue Counties. The project brings together the resources of 10 city, county, state and federal agencies with the common goal of targeting mid to upper level drug dealers.

With Byrne JAG funds, state and local governments have made remarkable strides in advancing data-driven practices in criminal justice.

Grants are awarded based on a strategic plan developed in conjunction with the state's system stakeholders.

Kentucky's Investment By Purpose Area

96%



Law Enforcement

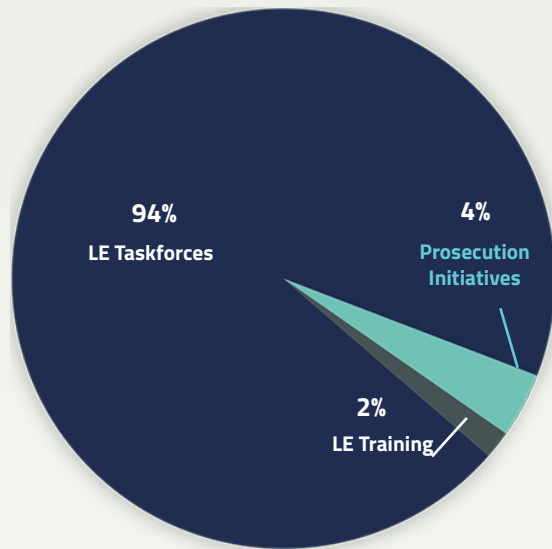
Total Investment = \$1,806,536

4%



Prosecution & Courts
(including indigent defense)

Kentucky's Byrne JAG Investments by Project Type



2018 Byrne JAG Spending Study:

Financial estimates and program examples were gathered as part of the 2018 Byrne JAG Spending Study conducted by the National Criminal Justice Association. Financial data was submitted by and qualitative interviews were conducted with all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Byrne JAG supports the federal government's crucial role in spurring innovation and testing and replicating evidence-based practices nationwide.

How Byrne JAG Funding is Awarded:

Byrne JAG funds are awarded by a formula based on each state's population and crime rate. Sixty percent of a state's allocation is awarded to the state criminal justice planning agency (known as the State Administering Agency, or SAA) which, in turn, makes the funding available to local governments and non-profit service providers. The remaining 40 percent of the state's allocation is awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) directly to a number of local communities based on crime data.

Funding is authorized by Congress at \$1.1 billion, though annual funding has never reached that level. At its peak in FY02, Congress appropriated \$830 million. Until FY10 funding held steady at about \$500 million annually but has since dropped by about one-third. In FY18, the program was funded at \$340 million.

States and local communities use Byrne JAG funds to address needs and fill gaps across the entire justice system.

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