

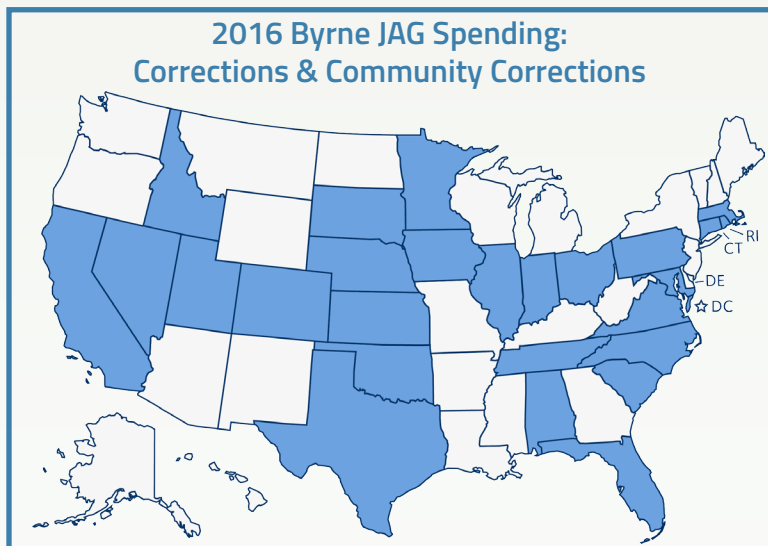
How States Invest Byrne JAG in Corrections and Community Corrections Programs

The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program

The cornerstone of federal support for state and local justice systems, the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant program (Byrne JAG) is a federal-state-local partnership enabling communities to target resources to their most pressing local needs. Byrne JAG is used broadly for law enforcement, prosecution, indigent defense, courts, prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning evaluation and technology, mental health services, and crime victim and witness programs. This breadth and flexibility means states and local communities can use Byrne JAG to balance resources and address problems across the entire criminal justice system, and to react quickly to urgent challenges and changing circumstances. The Byrne JAG program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), U.S. Department of Justice, provides grant funding to thousands of justice and public safety agencies and initiatives each year. To learn more about Byrne JAG visit: <http://www.ncja.org/ncja/policy/about-byrne-jag>.

2016 Byrne JAG Spending Study

Financial estimates and program examples were gathered as part of the 2016 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. This information was self-reported and additional states may also use Byrne JAG funds for a specific project type.



Support for Corrections and Community Corrections

Byrne JAG funding supported corrections and community corrections programs in at least 26 states, highlighted in dark blue on the map. This was an investment of over \$10 million (not including California) in total Byrne JAG funding in 2016. These initiatives included: residential substance abuse and mental health treatment programs; medicated assisted treatment programs; reentry support services; housing vouchers and transportation services; and training for community corrections staff.

Examples of Corrections and Community Corrections Programs

- In Connecticut, Byrne JAG funds support the Young Adult Offender Unit, a new housing unit within a state prison to service young adult offenders between the ages of 18 and 25. The mission of the Unit is to incorporate progressive correctional practices and re-entry strategies that help young adult offenders acquire and maintain the necessary skills to become successful and law-abiding members of society. Funds were used to support the development of a customized training curriculum targeted to corrections officers who are supervising and staffing the new unit. The curriculum is based on a new model for supervising young offenders with a greater focus on skills development and mental health issues and builds a team approach to the corrections process.

- In Virginia, Byrne JAG funds support the continuation of Virginia's Juvenile Court Service Unit's Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) program. EPICS utilizes an evidence-based model which trains probation and parole officers on the use of structured social and cognitive behavioral therapy during interactions with offenders in an effort to promote behavioral change.
- In Massachusetts a combination of Byrne JAG and RSAT dollars support residential drug treatment in 10 local jails and one Department of Corrections facility and support workforce development and reentry planning within the Barnstable House of Corrections' Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program. Funding supports the Prison Industries Program (PIP) providing vocational and educational work opportunities for offenders. As part of this effort, PIP staff work with businesses to assist with job placement, retention and ongoing support.
- In Iowa, Byrne JAG funds were used to set up telemedicine services for the state's rural prisons to assist offenders who are battling mental illness by providing access to psychiatrists and other licensed medical professionals and mental health staff.
- In Maryland, Byrne JAG funds support the Wicomico County Department of Correction's Medication Assisted Treatment program which helps high risk individuals by assisting with the transition from substance abuse treatment during incarceration to community based treatment, recovery housing, community support and other resources.
- In Nebraska, Byrne JAG funds support the Department of Corrections in its second year of providing housing vouchers to parolees leaving the institution so that they can obtain appropriate and stable housing.
- In Ohio, Byrne JAG funds support training for community corrections staff agencies through the Ohio Community Corrections Association and the Ohio Justice Alliance for Community Corrections. Funding supports outreach, scholarships and training for state and local community corrections agencies and related fields like courts, substance abuse assistance providers, case managers, and behavioral health social workers.
- In South Dakota, funds support efforts within the Department of Corrections such as the PreRelease Program and the Restrictive Housing Program that improve public safety, work to reduce repeat offenders and allow the use of prison space for violent, chronic, and career criminals.
- In Tennessee, Byrne JAG funds support the TN Department of Corrections project to provide temporary transportation services to assist with access to critical reentry services for probationers and parolees with revoked licenses for up to 30 days. Services are intended to reduce recidivism by assisting individuals travel to meetings, work or treatment services that are required as a condition of their release.

How Byrne JAG Funding is Awarded:

Sixty percent of the overall Byrne JAG grant is awarded to the state criminal justice planning agency (known as the State Administering Agency or SAA), which, in turn, awards the funding, to local governments and non-profit service providers; the remaining 40 percent goes directly from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance to local communities based on population and crime data.

Funding is authorized at \$1.1 billion annually. At its peak in FY02, Congress appropriated \$830 million. In subsequent years, funding held steady at about \$500 million. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in FY09 provided a one-time boost of \$2 billion. Since FY10, funding has dropped by about one-third. In FY17 the program was funded at \$335 million.

States and local communities use Byrne JAG funds to address needs and fill gaps across the entire justice system – in prevention, enforcement, courts, prosecution, indigent defense, corrections, crisis intervention and behavioral health services, victim assistance, and other community-based supports and services.

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