



Cornerstone for Justice: How Illinois 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 Illinois:

In 2018, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority invested in numerous successful initiatives. Examples include:

- Support for three local police departments in the development of drug deflection programs. Individuals suffering from substance use disorder either voluntarily contact police department or are put into direct contact via outreach efforts. Individuals are then offered substance use disorder treatment without fear of arrest. Law enforcement officials provide participants with referrals and transportation to treatment facilities.
- Dedicated law enforcement officers and support staff for Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Forces through the Comprehensive Response to Drugs program. The program pools resources from multiple jurisdictions to effectively combat drug distribution and provides service to 74 counties throughout the state.
- Byrne JAG funds support community supervision of sexual offenders through Coles and Cumberland County Court Services. The program provides effective probation and enhanced clinical intervention.
- Byrne JAG funds support the Rural Defense Services Program, which provides public defenders in counties of less than 200,000 residents resources to hire investigators, medical consultants, psychiatrists, and other experts to assist in the defense of indigent clients.
- Byrne JAG funds support 17 counties in addressing the complexities of prosecuting drug trafficking crimes.

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

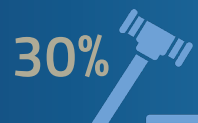
Illinois' Investment By Purpose Area



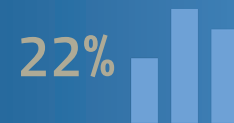
Drug Treatment & Enforcement



Corrections, Community Corrections & Reentry



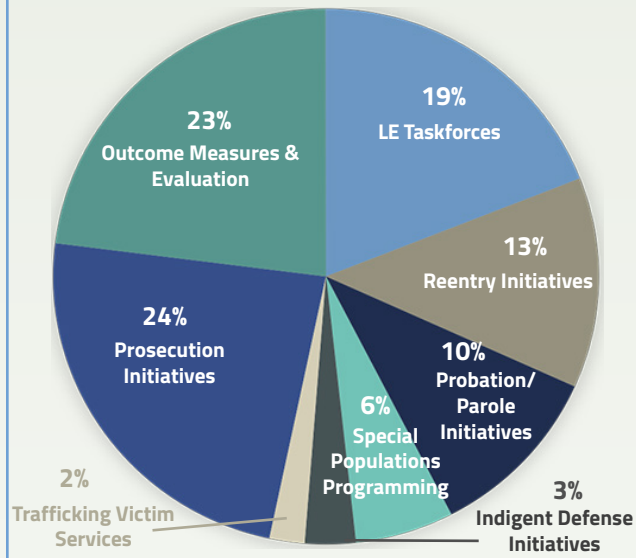
Prosecution & Courts



Planning, Evaluation & Technology

Total Investment = \$10,181,387

Illinois' Byrne JAG Investments by Project Type



- Support for the Females in Transition program through the Illinois Department of Corrections aims to reduce recidivism by fully engaging offenders in their communities and providing them with stability through weekly forums on relevant issues.
- Byrne JAG funds support the Forensic Science DNA and Digital Evidence Litigation Program. The program allows the Cook County Public Defender's office to continue making improvements in the investigation, analyzation and litigation of cases involving DNA and digital evidence.
- Byrne JAG funds support the Cook County Department of Corrections in partnership with Be Well Partners in Health Partnership. This coordinated effort works to connect detainees with serious mental illness with the proper resources in their communities.
- Byrne JAG funds support planning, training, and implementation of Focused Deterrence, an evidence based model that aims to reduce group-related violent crime by strengthening governmental collaboration and increasing trust between law enforcement and the communities they

serve through the Partnerships and Strategies to Reduce Violent Crime program.

- Byrne JAG funds support the Women's Residential Treatment for the Haymarket Center. This program provides intensive services for women identified as victims of human trafficking and/or prostitution.

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.

Byrne JAG supports the federal government's crucial role in spurring innovation and testing and replicating evidence-based practices nationwide. States and local communities use Byrne JAG funds to address needs and fill gaps across the entire justice system.

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