



Cornerstone for Justice:

How Kansas 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 Kansas:

In 2018, the Kansas Criminal Justice Coordinating Council invested in numerous successful initiatives. Some examples include:

- Byrne JAG funds supported the Kansas Department of Corrections Office of Victim Services staff in addressing barriers that may negatively impact the safety and participation of crime victims within the criminal justice system, as well as provided batterer intervention programming to the most high-risk domestic violence offenders in prison and ensured victims of these offenders are offered supportive services.
- The City of Lyons Police Department utilized Byrne JAG funds to install and transition to the Enterpol Records Management System. This allowed the Department to process reports in a more accurate and timely manner, as well as provide a backup system of the information.
- The 5th Judicial District Community Corrections used Byrne JAG funds to provide urinalyses for Home Court and Drug Court participants. The grant funds also provided transportation and interpretation services for participants. Home Court Program serves both youth and their

parents and requires frequent drug testing for both parties. In order for youth to successfully complete their probation and treatment needs, the agency must be aware of what the home environment is like and whether the parents face substance abuse problems. After individuals are identified with substance abuse issues, referrals are made for substance abuse treatment for both the youth and parents.

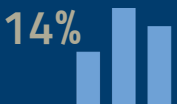
With Byrne JAG funds, state and local governments have made remarkable strides in advancing data-driven practices in criminal justice.

Kansas’s Investment By Purpose Area

Total Investment = \$3,165,788



35%
Law Enforcement



14%
Planning, Evaluation & Technology



17%
Prevention & Education



7%
Corrections, Community Corrections & Reentry



4%
Drug Treatment & Enforcement



3%
Prosecution & Courts



14%
Victim & Witness



6%
Mental & Behavioral Health

- The Marysville Police Department used Byrne JAG funds to update handheld radios, allowing officers to effectively and securely communicate with the Marshall County Office of Emergency Management, the Marshall County Sheriff's Office, and the fire departments within the county.
- Byrne JAG funds were utilized by Stepstone, Inc., a non-profit domestic violence agency, hosting training courses on the Introduction to the Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview (FETI) and the Practical Application of the FETI course. The trainings were offered to Kansas law enforcement officers.
- The non-profit agency, Avenue of Life, used Byrne JAG funds to provide individuals and families of current and former incarcerated offenders with preventative, educational, and drug-treatment wrap-around services to reduce recidivism rates.
- The Miami County Sheriff's Office purchased a new body-worn camera system and equipped all officers with body cameras. The new video equipment supports the prosecution process by providing videotaped evidence.

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.

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.

This funding touches hundreds of cities and towns across America through projects funded and investments made in state and local justice systems.

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