



The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program

Leading Change in State and Local Justice Systems

The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant program (Byrne JAG) is the nation's cornerstone crime-fighting program, supporting the federal government's crucial role in spurring innovation, as well as testing and replicating evidence-based practices in crime control and prevention nationwide. States and local communities use Byrne JAG funds to address needs and fill gaps across the entire justice system. In this way, Byrne JAG-funded investments touch nearly every city, town and county in America.

Byrne JAG's hallmark is its flexibility. States, localities and tribal nations are able to deploy Byrne JAG funding against their most pressing public safety challenges. It allows communities to design complete programs or fill gaps, to leverage other resources, and work across city, county and state lines. Byrne JAG funds can be used 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 to improve the administration of justice, reduce incarceration, enhance fairness, improve outcomes for the justice-involved, and save taxpayer money. Only when the criminal justice system is in balance can it function fairly, efficiently and cost effectively.

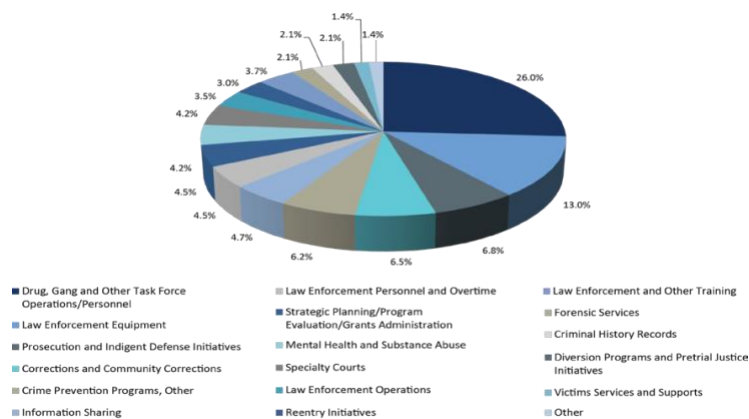
The Role of the State Administering Agency

The State Administering Agency (SAA) is the agency designated by the governor to oversee the Byrne JAG program. The SAAs conduct cross-system strategic planning, design and implement programs, award sub-grants to local governments, evaluate program effectiveness, and ensure the full accountability of all federal funds. With a structure and process that varies by state, the strategic planning process analyzes crime trends, provides a forum for eliciting the policy priorities of the various sectors of the justice system, and establishes a plan for the use of the grant funds. SAAs are supported in this strategic planning by peer-to-peer technical assistance.

Byrne JAG funds are appropriated by Congress and distributed by formula by the Department of Justice (DOJ) Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). Sixty percent of each state's award is allocated to the SAA, who in turn sub-grants a designated percentageⁱ to local governments and non-profit service providers. The remaining 40 percent goes directly by formula from BJA to local governments. The state and local allocations are calculated by the Bureau of Justice Statistics and are based on population and crime rate.

Byrne JAG is Improving the Justice System

With Byrne JAG funds, state and local governments have made remarkable strides in advancing data-driven practice in criminal justice. The National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA) collects data from the SAAs and gathers examples of Byrne JAG-funded programs and practices. A sampling is highlighted on the pages that follow. Nearly every SAA invests in at least three program areas, and over half invest in five or more program areas. Many more program examples can be found at <http://www.ncja.org/byrne-jag-investments-and-impact/jag-spending-and-impact>.



The Byrne JAG statute authorizes funding at \$1.095 billion per year, though appropriated levels have never reached that threshold. For many years, funding hovered around \$510 million. In recent years, funding dropped to about \$350 million. Throughout the program's history, a large and broad coalition representing all segments of the criminal justice system has consistently supported robust and steady funding for the Byrne JAG program.

Supporting Law Enforcement's Role in Improving the Administration of Justice

In the United States, law enforcement is primarily the responsibility of state and local governments. Yet because law enforcement is the threshold of the criminal justice system, the federal government has an interest in supporting and helping to replicate successful approaches to preventing and suppressing crime. The nature of this assistance has changed over time. When Byrne JAG was passed into law in the 1968 Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act, its primary purpose was to support states in fighting drug trafficking. In the years since, the emphasis has broadened considerably. Now, there is an equal emphasis on testing innovation and replicating successful approaches to reducing recidivism, diverting individuals to treatment, and improving the functioning of all segments of the justice system.

Byrne JAG funds support cross-agency responses to regional crime, including multi-jurisdictional drug, gang and human trafficking task forces, testing new operational approaches, enhancing the sharing of information, adopting prevention and diversion strategies, and purchasing needed equipment and diagnostic tools. Importantly, law enforcement agencies are able to use Byrne JAG to respond quickly to new and emerging public safety challenges in their communities, including in recent years the opioid epidemic and rise of methamphetamine abuse. Collectively, states spend just over half (52 percent in 2016) of their Byrne JAG formula dollars to support this wide array of law enforcement programs. A few examples are highlighted below.

- *The **Alabama** Drug Enforcement Task Force (ADETF) is a partnership between the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) and local law enforcement agencies to break down the barriers between interstate jurisdictions to combat narcotics related crimes and drug trafficking organizations.*
- *In **Arkansas**, Byrne JAG combined with dedicated state funds support a statewide network of 19 multi-jurisdictional drug task forces with operations in 67 of the 75 Arkansas counties focused primarily on methamphetamine, marijuana, other illegal drugs (heroin) and the diversion of prescription drugs. Each of the 19 taskforces are required to have a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with at least two law enforcement units and the Prosecuting Attorney. The participating parties help govern and direct the work of the taskforce and to provide investigative oversight when appropriate.*
- *In **Idaho**, Byrne JAG funds support an analyst position and the addition of law enforcement data sets to the Idaho Criminal Intelligence Center, a statewide multi-agency fusion center that hosts analysts from a wide range of criminal justice agencies and assists with gang investigation, identification of crime hot spots, crime*

trends, coordination of missing persons and kidnapping investigations, and justice information sharing.

- *In **New Hampshire**, the Attorney General's Task Force works in coordination with the efforts of other drug enforcement entities, such as the State Police Narcotics Investigation Unit, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Group. Currently, the task force is focused on the northern and western rural areas of the state with emphasis on combating heroin, prescription drugs and cocaine. Byrne JAG funds also support community policing programs such as the Mounted Patrol Unit, which serves two of New Hampshire's largest cities.*
- ***New York's GIVE** (Gun Involved Violence Elimination) initiative is expanding the use of crime analysis, evidence-based practices and community partnerships to assist in the reduction of firearm-related homicides and shootings. Crime-fighting strategies developed under GIVE vary by jurisdiction and include, but are not limited to: enhanced patrols in hot spots prone to gun violence; focused deterrence against violent gangs and groups considered responsible for the most gun violence; increased supervision of individuals on parole and probation; and, the deployment of street outreach workers to interrupt cycles of violence and prevent retaliation.*
- ***New York's SNUG** program is an evidence-based, street outreach program based on the Cure Violence Model in Chicago that utilizes a public health approach to gun violence, treating it like a disease by identifying its causes and interrupting its transmission. Byrne JAG supports 11 local SNUG programs across the state by employing a statewide SNUG program coordinator and statewide training director.*
- *In **South Carolina**, Byrne JAG funds support targeted enforcement operations focusing on criminal domestic violence, financial crime investigation and prosecution, child and elder abuse, drug and violent crime, gangs and drug parcel interdiction. Also, equipment allows regional drug analysis labs to rapidly analyze evidence and return accurate results to requesting state agencies and substantially reduce drug analysis backlog.*
- *In **Texas**, the proximity of the Texas/Mexico international border has left many rural counties dealing with a large influx of human, drug, and sex trafficking crimes committed by large transnational criminal organizations. Byrne JAG funds support regional, multi-disciplinary approaches to combatting these transnational crime activities.*
- *In **Vermont**, Byrne JAG funding is blended with state funds to support a statewide multi-jurisdictional taskforce administered by the Vermont State Police. Composed of individuals from state and local law enforcement agencies, the task force prioritizes heroin, opioids, prescription drugs and crack cocaine interdiction.*
- *In **West Virginia**, Byrne JAG helps to support 13 multi-jurisdictional task forces, spanning five counties, that have been a pioneering initiative in the battle against violent crime and drug abuse. The task forces are made up of county, state, and federal officers, allowing for more effective coordination of combined resources.*

Reducing Recidivism Through Court Innovation

States have been using Byrne JAG to test innovation in the court system for decades. The first drug court, established in Dade County, Florida in 1989, was funded initially with a Byrne JAG grant. Since then, states have used Byrne JAG funds to replicate the model across the United States and expand the model to other specialty courts. These include domestic violence, mental health, reentry, veterans, DUI, community, gun courts, and others. Specialty, or problem-solving, courts meet needs not often addressed in the traditional court setting and are proven to increase the likelihood of rehabilitation of the defendant, unclog the criminal docket, reduce prison overcrowding, and, ultimately, improve public safety, and save taxpayer money.

States also use Byrne JAG funds to divert people to treatment before arrest or sentencing, and to reduce the number of people detained in jail while awaiting trial. As many as six out of every 10 people in U.S. jails, or nearly a half million individuals on any given day, are in jail awaiting disposition of their case.ⁱⁱ Programs that can keep as

many people in the community as possible not only save taxpayer money but prevent the collateral consequences that even a short jail stay can trigger. Many SAAs also support public defense and prosecution agencies, particularly programs designed to help defendants and victims during court proceedings or to connect them with social services in the community. A few examples are highlighted below.

- *The Yolo County, **California** Neighborhood Court is an adult criminal diversion program. Based on the principles of restorative justice, the court involves the victim, the offender and community members. Byrne JAG funds are allowing the programs to expand to West County, Woodland and a new target population of homeless offenders.*
- *In **Delaware**, Byrne JAG funds support a public defender to work specifically with juveniles who are eligible for release from mandatory sex offender registration.*
- *In **Illinois**, Byrne JAG supports the Forensic Science DNA and Digital Evidence Litigation Program, which 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.*
- *In Baltimore, **Maryland**, the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion program supports collaboration between law enforcement agencies and the behavioral health system. The program connects participants who have substance use disorders and mental health conditions with intensive treatment.*
- *In **Michigan**, Byrne JAG supports 15 drug courts that target non-violent probation violators and non-violent straddle or presumptive cell felony offenders who, based on Michigan Sentencing Guidelines, are otherwise bound for prison. They are evidence-based and have been found to substantially reduce drug use and recidivism.*
- *In **New York**, Byrne JAG funds support a wide array of public defense services in New York City and in Erie, Onondaga, Monroe, Nassau, and Suffolk counties, including: expanded indigent defense services, legal and case management services to reduce pretrial incarceration, representation and advocacy for treatment alternatives for non-violent offenders, parole revocation defense services, sex crimes representation in a specialized Sex Offender court, and services and legal support for specialized domestic violence, veterans, and mental health courts.*
- *In **North Carolina**, Byrne JAG funds support Veteran's Treatment Courts in Forsyth and Cumberland County which offer individualized and comprehensive treatment to veterans charged with misdemeanors or nonviolent felonies. Court personnel collaborate with the VA medical center, local providers, peer mentors, educational providers and other community agencies to provide treatment.*
- *Byrne JAG funds in **Oregon** support 21 of the state's network of 71 specialty courts, including one Family Court, two Veterans Courts, five mental health courts and 13 Adult and Juvenile drug courts.*
- ***Pennsylvania** provides defense attorneys with intensive training on Trial Advocacy Skills, Litigation Skills for New Public Defenders and a Capital Case Program for Assistant Public Defenders from across the state.*
- *The **Rhode Island** Defender Advocacy Project provides representation to individuals facing incarceration for reasons that do not constitute direct criminal prosecution, (i.e. warrants, failure to provide restitution, etc.).*
- *In **South Carolina**, Byrne JAG supports statewide courtroom technology enhancement in 10 magistrate and municipal courts across the state, including computers, document cameras, software, scanners, and digital recording equipment.*

Improving Outcomes by Supporting Community Corrections and Reentry

A primary purpose of the Byrne JAG program is to break the cycle of crime and reduce recidivism. The statistics are familiar. America's prison population is the highest in the world, with 2.25 million people are incarceratedⁱⁱⁱ and an additional 4.5 million people on probation or parole^{iv} on any given day. Over two-thirds return to prison within three years^v. SAAs are responding to this reality by investing Byrne JAG in community-based programs that provide the services people need to break the cycle of crime and victimization. Nearly every state uses a significant portion of its Byrne JAG award to test new approaches, replicate what works, and strengthen the community-based institutions that provide the services.

As seen in the wide variety highlighted below, these programs and services range from pre-release planning, to comprehensive case management, coordinated wraparound services, such as day reporting centers, substance abuse treatment, mental health and diagnosis services, job training and education. These programs often work in partnership with other BJA-funded reentry programs, including the Second Chance Act and Comprehensive Opioid Abuse programs, as well as county and municipal initiatives.

- *Alabama's partnership between the City of Montgomery and A Cut Above the Rest Training Facility (CARTF) expands the state's capacity to train ex-offenders and other hard-to-place workers for employment in construction industry jobs.*
- *In Connecticut, Byrne JAG funds support the WORTH Unit (Women Overcoming Recidivism Through Hard Work), a specialized housing unit within a state prison that serves an emerging adult female population, which is roughly between 18 and 25 years old. The WORTH Unit incorporates progressive correctional practices, a curriculum largely developed by the program's founding members, and re-entry planning tailored to help emerging adult women acquire and maintain the necessary skills to become successful and law-abiding members of society. The funds helped develop a training curriculum and services to support a trauma-informed and recovery-oriented treatment model for emerging adult women.*
- *Baltimore, Maryland's District Court's Re-Entry Services program helps reduce existing gaps in services and fosters collaboration and cooperation among partner agencies and stakeholders throughout Maryland. The program connects residents with job opportunities and educational training programs.*
- *In Massachusetts, Byrne JAG and RSAT dollars support workforce development and reentry planning in 10 jails and one state prison. The Prison Industries Program provides vocational and educational work opportunities for inmates to increase their employment opportunities upon release and give them the opportunity to partially support themselves and their families while incarcerated. Staff work with businesses in Barnstable County to assist with job placement, retention and ongoing support for the inmate and the business.*
- *In Minnesota, Byrne JAG funds support four jail-based reentry programs that provide pre-release and reentry integrated mental health and substance abuse assessment, referral, case management, and/or services. One of these jail-based programs, the Sherburne County Sheriff's Office, implements a Release Advance Planning (RAP) program using case planners to provide pre-release and reentry services. Preliminary results showed a 74 percent reduction in jail bed days for those that had been out of the program one year.*
- *The Nebraska Department of Corrections provides housing vouchers to parolees leaving the institution so they can obtain appropriate and stable housing to assist them in transitioning from prison back to the community.*
- *Byrne JAG funds support the Rhode Island Family Reunification program through the Department of Corrections. This evidence-based program works to increase the ability of incarcerated parents to engage with their children and provides them with the skills necessary to deal with challenges upon release.*

- *In **Utah**, Byrne JAG, in combination with state resources, funds evidence-based supervision/transition programs and practices in the county jails to reduce recidivism and the number of offenders per capita. Applicants must use the statewide screening instruments for everyone charged with a class B misdemeanor offense or above.*

Improving Justice System Responses for Substance Use and Mental Health Disorders

America is facing a crisis in its prisons and jails. Approximately 2 million times each year, people who have serious mental illnesses are admitted to jails across the nation. Almost three-quarters of these adults also have drug and alcohol use problems. Further, once incarcerated, individuals with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and upon release are at a higher risk of returning to incarceration than those without these illnesses.^{vi} Also, the explosive rise in opioid use disorders has fueled a rise in female incarceration.

States and local government have found promising ways to integrate treatment into the criminal justice system, including diverting people to treatment before arrest or sentencing, screening for treatment needs on entry, requiring treatment as a condition of probation, and funding drug and mental health courts. Fortunately, SAAs are able to use Byrne JAG, including in partnership with the state alcohol and substance abuse agencies funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), to help facilitate and strengthen collaboration between the justice and behavioral health systems.

Byrne JAG-funded programs are also helping to align and bolster resources so people can continue their treatment immediately upon release. The challenges are many and complex, and true cross-system solutions are in their infancy, but the federal grants are making this innovation possible.

- *In **Colorado**, Byrne JAG funds support the It Takes a Library (ITAL) project, a partnership between Denver Human Services, Denver Public Library (DPL), and Colorado Mental Wellness Network. Through this collaboration, peer navigators support DPL's social workers in outreach, assessments and human services referrals for customers traditionally at risk of entering or re-entering the criminal/juvenile justice system either as victims or perpetrators, based on factors such as income level, homelessness and mental health. This program increases access to mental health/human services and supports the reduction of crime, delinquency and recidivism using evidence-based best practices of peer support and library social work models.*
- *Byrne JAG funds support **Connecticut's** Medicated Assisted Treatment (MAT) program, which uses FDA-approved medications administered by community-based Opioid Treatment Providers in combination with evidence-based behavioral therapies to provide a whole-patient approach to treating substance use disorders within state-operated correctional facilities. The MAT program is currently operating in two jail facilities and targets pre-trial detainees and inmates battling substance use disorders.*
- *The **Florida** Department of Corrections uses a statewide substance abuse screening program that prioritizes inmates on a statewide list for substance abuse programs. The agency utilizes Byrne JAG funds, in conjunction with the state's Residential Substance Abuse Treatment funds, to support the direction of substance abuse treatment activities at designated institutions that focus on the addiction and recovery process, criminal thinking, interpersonal relationships, relapse prevention, values, problem solving, defense mechanisms and changing maladaptive thinking patterns.*
- *Pinellas County, **Florida** supports programs that provide assessment, evaluation, treatment and cases management services for offenders and ex-offenders, particularly those with mental health and/or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. These programs provide support services to individuals immediately following release from jail or prison.*
- *In **Illinois**, three local police departments operate Byrne JAG-funded drug deflection programs where individuals suffering from substance use disorder either voluntarily contact police department or are put into direct contact via outreach efforts. The individuals are offered substance use disorder treatment without*

fear of arrest. Law enforcement officials provide referrals and transportation to treatment facilities.

- *In **Kansas**, Four County Mental Health (FCMHC) provides comprehensive mental health services to approximately 200 members of the correctional population or at-risk individuals in Chautauqua, Cowley, Elk, Montgomery, and Wilson Counties. The program accepts offenders with a primary substance abuse diagnosis, offenders with co-occurring disorders, domestic violence offenders and individuals identified to be at-risk for any of these categories.*
- *Northwest **Kansas** Community Corrections addresses reducing prison time costs by providing a methamphetamine specific treatment program in the 23rd Judicial District, implementing a cognitive and evidence based substance abuse program in the 15th, 17th, and 23rd Judicial Districts, implementing evidence based supervision treatment and strategies for the New Ellis County Drug Court, and providing evidence based supervision and substance abuse treatment for high risk parole offenders.*
- ***Massachusetts** provides funding for treatment beds through the Buyer Diversion Treatment Alternative program, currently operating in four counties. The funds support partnerships between each county's District Attorney and local police departments.*
- *In **Nebraska**, Byrne JAG funds support the Sarpy County Mental Health Program offering intensive case management to clients with mental health problems modelled after problem solving courts. The program attempts to help individuals improve their living skills, manage mental health needs and reduce additional contacts with the criminal justice system.*
- *Byrne JAG funds in **Ohio** support prevention, education and enforcement of prescription drug abuse. The funding allows Ohio counties to collaborate with health care professionals to increase awareness and preparedness when dealing with front line encounters involving pharmaceutical drug seekers, abusers and traffickers. Enforcement efforts are dedicated to identifying and prosecuting offenders.*
- *In **Oklahoma**, Byrne JAG funds support a residential substance abuse treatment program at Oklahoma State Reformatory at Granite, Oklahoma. Treatment focuses on relapse prevention and reintegration using cognitive behavioral therapy and is operated within prison level correctional centers as well as community work centers.*
- ***Pennsylvania's** Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee provides guidance and structure to ensure that Pennsylvania's criminal justice/mental health activities are coordinated statewide and ensures that counties receive the guidance and support necessary to implement effective responses. In partnership with Pennsylvania's Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, the committee supports evidence-based strategies for interventions with individuals with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders. This collaboration benefits mental health clients, but also promotes public safety by identifying appropriate interventions.*
- *The **Rhode Island** Department of Corrections' (DOC) Recidivism Reduction Project proactively addresses the treatment needs of individuals battling mental illness who are at risk of re-offending. Using a multidisciplinary approach, behavioral health staff from the DOC work in coordination with probation and parole officers to deliver effective treatment intervention.*
- *In **Rhode Island**, Byrne JAG funds support the Family Court Mental Health Clinic. The clinic provides juveniles with routine evaluations following referral and emergency same-day evaluations by an on-call clinician.*
- *In **Virginia**, Byrne JAG funds support the continuation of the Juvenile Court Service Unit's Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) program. EPICS utilizes an evidence-based model to train 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.*

Supporting the Needs of Victims

The primary source of federal funding for victim services is the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) program, funded by the Crime Victims Fund, which is financed primarily through the remittance of federal criminal fines and penalties and is administered by the Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime. Many states and local governments supplement VOCA with Byrne JAG-funded initiatives, such as anti-human trafficking task forces, programs that prevent the exploitation of seniors, support services to victims of domestic violence and families of homicide victims, fraud hotlines, cybercrime initiatives, witness protection programs, DNA and cold case analysis, crime information centers, and children's advocacy centers. Byrne JAG also funds youth and family services, care for victims with mental illnesses, counseling, and advocacy. Further, Byrne JAG-funded multi-jurisdictional task forces work collaboratively with victim and social service organizations to identify victims and convict their perpetrators. NCJA's survey of the state criminal justice planning agencies found that in 2016, most states and territories spent at least a portion of their grant funds on a breadth of crime victim support services and initiatives.

- *In **Delaware**, Byrne JAG funds support the Victims Voices Heard Programs, which operates according to a restorative justice model, providing victims of violent crime with the opportunity to communicate face-to-face with their perpetrator and allowing perpetrators the opportunity to take responsibility for their actions thereby giving survivors an active role in the justice process.*
- *In **Kansas**, Byrne JAG funds support the Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center (WKCAC). Through six standalone centers and six RV units, the center covers 32 sparsely populated counties. WKCAC provides prevention, education and medical assessments and acts as liaison between service agencies which conduct, forensics interviewing and extended forensic evaluation.*
- ***Massachusetts** supports a network of victim advocates in 20 courts throughout the state. Byrne JAG funds, blended with those from the Massachusetts Office of Victims Assistance, support court advocate training that helps victims obtain restraining orders, protective orders and child support orders.*
- *The **Missouri** Office of Prosecution Services' Witness Protection Program provides security to witnesses, potential witnesses and their immediate families in criminal proceedings and provide services that can include housing costs, hotel nights, meals and/or transportation or mileage.*
- *Byrne JAG funds in **Ohio** are blended with Violence Against Women Act funds to support a variety of domestic violence prevention initiatives across the state including a cyber-stalking investigator position, domestic violence advocates, case management, crisis hotlines, shelter services and child advocacy centers.*
- *In **South Carolina**, Byrne JAG funds support five domestic violence investigator positions within Aiken, Charleston, Lancaster, and York Counties.*

Preventing Crime and Juvenile Delinquency

Crime prevention and education is one of the nine Purpose Areas authorized in the Byrne JAG statute. This category is more difficult to describe separately as nearly every Byrne JAG-funded program has the goal of preventing crime. Nonetheless, many initiatives focus specifically on crime prevention, education and juvenile delinquency prevention. For instance, SAAs in several states use Byrne JAG to supplement the juvenile delinquency prevention grants administered by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention by supporting anti-delinquency programs, law enforcement personnel in schools, cyber-bullying prevention, gang prevention and suppression, substance abuse prevention, and anti-human trafficking prevention.

- *San Diego County, **California** provides a continuum of detention alternatives to juvenile offenders who do not require secure detention. Services will include assessment, referral, case advocacy, home detention, reporting*

centers, non-secure shelter, intensive case management and wraparound family support services.

- *Yuba County, **California's** Early Intervention and Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Project allows the school district and probation department to identify at-risk elementary age children and provide targeted education and family-based services with the goal of preventing truancy, future delinquency, gang involvement, substance abuse and violent behaviors.*
- *In **Delaware**, Byrne JAG funds support an anti-bullying program in Sussex County that focuses on early intervention and improved awareness of issues associated with bullying.*
- *Byrne JAG supports the **Hawaii's** Honolulu Police Department's mentoring program for at-risk elementary, intermediate and high school students in the Pearl City and Waipahu districts.*
- *Canyon County, **Idaho** provides youth who are at-risk of gang involvement with alternatives to a gang lifestyle. Services include tutoring for a high school diploma or GED, job training skills through internships, and recreational activities. The project also includes a drug use prevention strategy that focuses on deterring first time users.*
- *In **Iowa**, Byrne JAG funds support local drug and crime prevention initiatives run by community coalitions that bring together citizen volunteers, professionals who provide school-based education to teachers, parents, students and mentors who work with at-risk youth to promote public safety and healthy lifestyle choices.*
- *The **Louisiana** State Police provides support to the New Orleans Police Department for a highly visible campaign in the Greater New Orleans Metropolitan area to prevent and reduce crime and provide a safer environment for residents and visitors.*
- ***Ohio** helps support juvenile court dockets for diversion and community integration programming. Through organizations like Lighthouse Youth Services, Byrne JAG funds support wrap around services to prevent youth from further involvement with the criminal justice system.*
- ***Tennessee** funds Targeted Community Crime Reduction Projects (TCCRPs) in Johnson City, Jackson, and Knoxville using a three-pronged strategy of pre-enforcement, enforcement, and offender intervention.*

Strategic Planning, Data Analysis, Evaluation and Technology

State Administering Agencies are required by statute to complete a strategic plan to guide investment of the funds. To do this, SAAs engage stakeholders from across the justice system, including law enforcement, courts, prosecutors, public defenders, corrections officials, treatment providers, and others. The planning process is used to articulate priorities, identify gaps in programs and resources, and determine how Byrne JAG funds will be leveraged and coordinated with other federal, state, local, and private resources to address the gaps and improve the overall functioning of the criminal justice system. BJA supports the training and technical assistance essential to effective strategic planning.

Planning and program evaluation rely on accurate data and data management systems and development of the skills to use them. Criminal justice is a system that spans state, county and municipal law enforcement agencies, courts, corrections, and social service providers, each with their own data and case management systems and protocols for sharing of information and records. An important goal of the SAAs' strategic planning process is to create a process and build the trust needed to break down silos and build the skills needed to access, use and analyze available data to develop programs and evaluate their success. The training and technical assistance authorized in the Byrne JAG statute is instrumental in advancing the goals and building these skills.

Also, the SAAs are responsible for all oversight of their subgrantees, including desk audits, on-site monitoring, adherence with federal fiscal controls, and all other federal funds administration requirements. They also support the acquisition of technology, criminal records and information sharing systems.

- *In **Alabama**, Byrne JAG supports a partnership with the Jacksonville State University Center for Applied Forensics (CFAF) to train local law enforcement and public safety entities in the processing of medicolegal death scenes, placing special emphasis on rural areas.*
- *The **Arizona** Criminal Justice Commission sets aside 5 percent of its Byrne JAG funding for criminal justice records improvement projects. These projects support criminal history records improvement and information sharing under an approved strategic plan. In FY 2016, funding was provided to support an assessment of using biometric fingerprint technology to capture fingerprints in courtrooms, and to begin implementation of mobile fingerprint technology for all criminal courtrooms in the state.*
- *In the **District of Columbia**, Byrne JAG funds support the Building Capacity for Performance Measurement and Evaluation (BCPME) Project that provides process evaluation services to District of Columbia Reentry Coalition (DCRC) grantees, and includes a web-based, case management system for reentry grantees to be able to serve specific target populations.*
- ***Louisiana** provides training and resources to law enforcement agencies to assist with transitioning crime data to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). This is a collaborative effort between the Louisiana Sheriff's Association and the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement.*
- ***New York** provides staff, equipment, software, training, and program management to its network of 10 Crime Analysis Centers (CACs) to develop effective intelligence-led crime reduction strategies and improve local crime analysis capabilities. The CACs are comprised of law enforcement personnel and crime analysts from federal, state and local law enforcement agencies to be able to identify patterns, deploy resources, and reduce crime in 31 of the more populous counties across the state.*
- *Using Byrne JAG funds, **Pennsylvania's** Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) developed, and continues to support, countywide Criminal Justice Advisory Boards (CJABs) in all 67 of its counties. The boards are made up of key policy makers from a range of disciplines across criminal justice and behavioral health. Their goals include strengthening coordination and cooperation across agencies, increasing effectiveness and efficiency across the justice system through the smart targeting of resources, and measuring and reporting on the impact of strategic change. Primary areas of concern are the management of county correction populations and the implementation of community corrections programs to help alleviate jail overcrowding. Program performance is measured and reported to the state planning agency to justify future federal funding.*
- *In **Texas**, Byrne JAG supports a comprehensive, forensic science training certification program that provides science-based, application- intensive training for local law enforcement agencies to effectively identify, document, collect, and process evidence found at crime scenes.*

This document is supported by Grant No. 2016-DP-BX-K002 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the SMART Office, and the Office for Victims of Crime. Points of view or opinions are those of the authors.

ⁱ <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/jag-variable-pass-through-vpt-information>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.pretrial.org/get-involved/learn-more/why-we-need-pretial-reform/>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/press/p17ji17pr.pdf>

^{iv} <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/issue-briefs/2018/09/probation-and-parole-systems-marked-by-high-stakes-missed-opportunities>

^v <https://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=6266>

^{vi} <https://stepuptogether.org/the-problem>