



Cornerstone for Justice: How Indiana 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 Indiana:

In 2018, the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute invested in numerous successful initiatives. Some examples include:

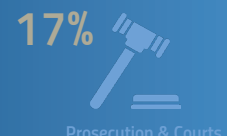
- A network of 13 multijurisdictional taskforces throughout the state. These taskforces target gang activity, underage drinking, and illicit narcotics trafficking, including methamphetamine and heroin.
- Byrne JAG funds supported the purchase of equipment to aid law enforcement to mitigate the high risk of vehicle pursuit and failure to yield situations using car mounted GPS trackers and tracker launching devices.
- Byrne JAG funds facilitated the implementation of public defender case management programs in Lake Lawrence, Marion, St. Joseph and Vigo counties in addition to three regional case management programs serving 29 rural counties in Indiana. Case managers assist defendants in accessing substance abuse and mental health treatment in preparation for diversion, sentencing and reentry.
- Dedicated vertical drug prosecutors throughout the state.
- Byrne JAG funds supported the implementation of body worn camera technology to improve law enforcement accountability, evidence collection and officer safety.
- Law enforcement training for state and local officers with the Indiana Drug Enforcement Association and the Department of Public Safety.

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

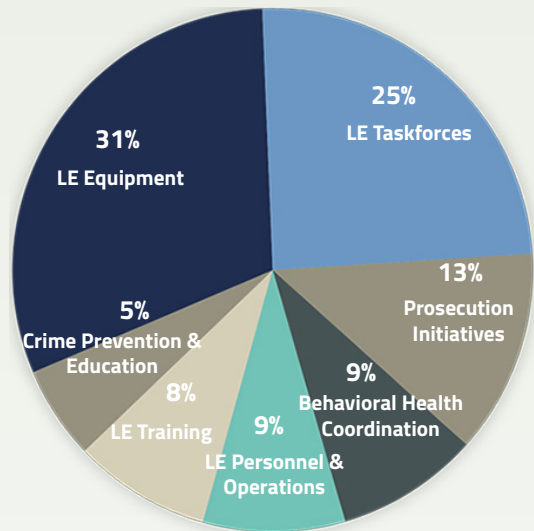
Grants are awarded based on a strategic plan developed in conjunction with the state’s system stakeholders.

Indiana’s Investment By Purpose Area

Total Investment = \$3,204,963



Indiana's Byrne JAG Investments by Project Type



- The Marion County Prosecutor's Office Multijurisdictional Offender Strategy Team (MOST) aims to prosecute and prevent property crimes and target repeat offenders through active monitoring, targeted enforcements and community awareness efforts.
- Technology and equipment to collect information on heroin dealers whose drugs resulted in an overdose in Northwest Indiana.
- Access to the state's court case management system by facilitating Delaware County's ability to equip its adult probation department with the necessary technology. This will allow state and county level court data sharing.
- DNA backlog reduction efforts within the Indiana State Police Laboratory Division and the Marion County Forensic Services Agency.
- Reentry efforts in Lawrence County in the form of a pre-release treatment program in conjunction with ongoing post release treatment services. This project is a partnership between the Lawrence County Superior Court and Lawrence County Adult Probation.

- Local, state and federal collaborative investigations and prosecutions of child sexual exploitation of crime in La-Porte County.
- The Indiana State Police in obtaining technology to develop three-dimensional images of high risk public buildings, such as schools, in order to aid first responders in the event of an active shooter event.

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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