



Cornerstone for Justice: How South Dakota 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 South Dakota:

In 2018, the South Dakota Department of Public Safety invested in numerous successful initiatives. Some examples include:

- A prosecution team within the Attorney General's Office to work on drug and violent crime cases. The prosecution team also works with other state and local law enforcement agencies on related cases.
- A statewide Drug and Violent Crime Taskforce run out of the State Division of Criminal Investigation. The taskforce leverages statewide resources to focus on heroin and methamphetamine as well as homicide and violent crime cases that smaller and more rural jurisdictions are not equipped to investigate.
- Efforts within the Department of Corrections such as the PreRelease Program and the Restrictive Housing Program that improve public safety working to reduce repeat offenders and increasing the use of prison space for violent, chronic, and career criminals.

With 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.

South Dakota's Investment By Purpose Area

Total Investment = \$466,520

60%



Law Enforcement

10%



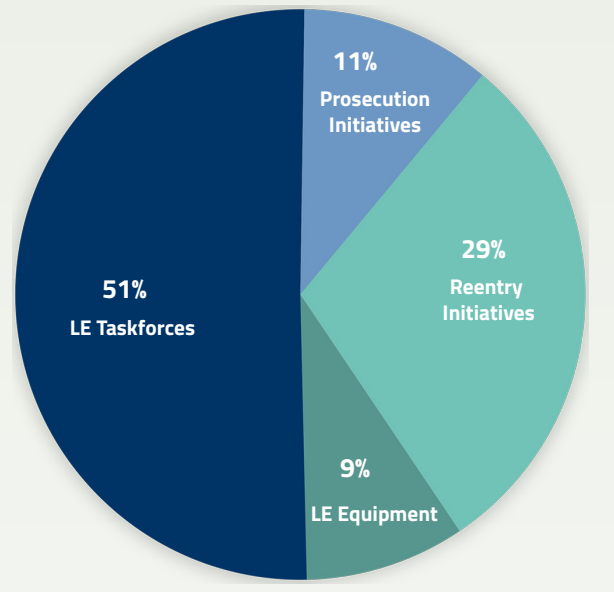
Prosecution & Court Programs,
including Indigent Defense

30%



Corrections, Community
Corrections & Reentry

South Dakota's Byrne JAG Investments by Project Type



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.

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.

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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