State Support for Law Enforcement Operations

State Formula Spending for the Byrne JAG Program

The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program

The cornerstone of federal support for state and local justice systems, the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant program (Byrne JAG) is a federal-state-local partnership enabling communities to target re-sources to their most pressing local needs. The Byrne JAG program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, provides grant funding to thousands of justice and public safety agencies and projects each year. Sixty percent of the overall Byrne JAG funding goes through the state criminal justice planning agencies known as State Administer-ing Agencies (SAAs) while the remaining 40 percent goes to local direct award recipients. Designed to be flexible, Byrne JAG funds are used for a wide variety of public safety programming from prevention through reentry. To learn more about Byrne JAG, visit ncjp.org/byrne_jag.

Byrne JAG Support for Law Enforcement Operations

The 26 states highlighted in dark blue on the map below are among the states that reported using Byrne JAG funding for law enforcement operations in 2013-2014. These initiatives include analyst and inves-tigator positions, DNA and warrant backlog reduction efforts, training initiatives, violent crime reduction efforts, specialized law enforcement units, and the implementation of evidence-based and data-driven programs. Please note, this information is self-reported and there may be additional states using Byrne JAG funds for this purpose.

State Byrne JAG Spending: Law Enforcement Operations

Examples of Law Enforcement Operations Projects

- In Delaware, Byrne JAG funds support two forensic science investigators at the Forensic Firearm Service Unit of the Delaware State Police Department. This unit serves the law enforcement com-munity at both the state and local levels. Funds support a ballistic examiner, a computer science forensic investigator and necessary equipment purchases. The SAA has also provided funds to municipalities for forensic investigator overtime, which helps reduce evidence analysis backlogs.

- In Florida 58 percent of the state's Byrne JAG funding in FY13-14, totaling $4,838,709, were used to support law enforcement operations.
- In Idaho, Byrne JAG funds supports one analyst position and the addition of law enforcement data sets to the Idaho Criminal Intelligence Center, which acts as the statewide fusion center. The Center assists with law enforcement efforts including gang investigation, the identification of crime hot spots, crime trends, the coordination of missing persons, kidnapping investigations, and justice information sharing.
- In Indiana, Byrne JAG funds support DNA backlog reduction efforts within the Indiana State Police. In addition, funds were used to assist in the further implementation of the INGang Network. INGangNetwork hosts a statewide criminal gang intelligence database, CrimeNtel and provides its members with direct access to the GARI (Gang Graffiti Automatic Recognition and Interpretation) mobile application and database.
- In Louisiana, Byrne JAG funding supports a statewide training initiative conducted by the Louisiana District Attorneys Association on racketeer influenced and corrupt organizations (RICO) and the prosecution of organized criminal networks. The RICO training provides prosecutors and law enforcement officer's knowledge of current technology and laws to aid in detection, apprehension and court room skills for successful case results.
- In Maine, Byrne JAG funds support the state-funded Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA) targeting drug abuse and related crime in Maine. The goal of the project is to fund an additional person from seven local law enforcement agencies for the salary and employer paid costs of the law enforcement officers.
- In Maryland, Byrne JAG funds support the reduction of outstanding arrest warrant backlogs for local law enforcement agencies as well as overtime for localized drug and gang enforcement agencies. Byrne JAG funds also support local law enforcement agencies throughout the state in implementing data-driven policing practices. In collaboration with Washington College, the Maryland CompStat on Demand Program provides agencies with crime mapping and analysis, as well as recommendations regarding crime reduction strategies and accountability.
- In Michigan, Byrne JAG funds support the state's Secure Cities Partnership (SCP), which works to reduce crime and increase the quality of life in four Michigan cities that are most heavily impacted by violent crime: Detroit, Flint, Pontiac and Saginaw. As part of this effort, the Michigan State Police (MSP) initiated directed patrols in all four SCP areas using real-time crime data and crime analytics. Using the evidence- based DDACTS program, the MSP is working with local law enforcement to enhance their ability to use data, mapping and analytics to inform their enforcement strategies. Directed patrols, based on real-time crime data and intelligence, have had an immense impact on each SCP site, with each city reporting drops in crime in targeted areas. Byrne JAG funds were made available to stand up prosecution led major case squads which target additional prosecution and enforcements resources on the most violent offenders within SCP sites.
- In Mississippi, Byrne JAG funds support the continued implementation of hot spot policing in the state's mid-sized high crime cities. Funds go to the City of Corinth, the City of Oxford, the City of D'Iberville and the City of Starkville. This effort is part of a State Administering Agency driven multi-year funding strategy aimed at helping local law enforcement implement evidence-based practices and improve their capacity to use data to address public safety challenges.
- In Nevada, 51 percent or approximately $ 1.1 million of the state's Byrne JAG funds, are used to support law enforcement operations. Specialized enforcement and interdiction efforts across the state are addressed with regional task forces, a regional gang unit and regional All Threats All Crimes

Unit (ATAC). With funds supporting overtime hours, these teams take on cases and address emerging issues such as spikes in violence, gangs, sexual assault and human trafficking. Funds support law enforcement efforts with training on investigative techniques, gangs, drugs and violent crimes.

- In New York, Byrne JAG funds support a Director of Research, Development, and Training for the New York State Association of Chiefs of Police (NYSACOP). The training director produces a variety of print, audio, and video training and informational products on topics or issues impacting the law enforcement community. Many of these training products are available as Podcasts providing officers with mobile access to trainings on a variety of topics. The training director also assists in the development of training programs and best-practices for specific topics as requested.

- In North Carolina, Byrne JAG funds support gang prevention program at the Wilmington Police Department (WPD). The program works with local organizations like the area Boys and Girls Clubs and with the WPD's Police Athletic League where officers and volunteers serve as mentors for at-risk youth. Byrne JAG funds also support the Enhanced Data Integration Solution, through the North Carolina Department of Public Safety (DPS), State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) and North Carolina Data Exchange, which is making legacy incident and arrest data previously stored at local levels available to the entire North Carolina law enforcement community. The data will be made available for investigative, analytical, and other law enforcement related purposes.

- In Rhode Island, Byrne JAG funds support the Neighborhood Response Team (NRT) Initiative to reduce violent crime rates by increasing law enforcement visibility in high crime neighborhoods. The initiative partners state troopers together with police officers in cruisers to conduct targeted patrols and is a collaboration between the Rhode Island State Police, the Providence Police Department and the Central Falls Police Department to deter crime in Providence County.

- 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.

- In Tennessee, Byrne JAG funds support the Targeted Community Crime Reduction Projects (TCCRPs) which focus targeted resources to develop evidence-based crime reduction strategies in cities with high rates of violent and drug-related crime. Funds were used to plan and coordinate local responses to domestic violence and child abuse and to hire crime analysts to support the implementation of evidence-based hotspot policing efforts within TCCRP sites.

2013-2014 Byrne JAG Spending Study

Financial estimates and program examples were gathered as part of the 2013-2014 Byrne JAG Spending Study conducted by the NCJA Center for Justice Planning. Financial data was submitted by and qualitative interviews were conducted with all 50 states and the District of Columbia.