

Support for State and Local Planning, Evaluation and Research Partnerships

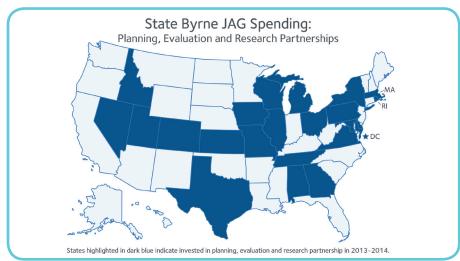
State Formula Spending for the Byrne JAG Program

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 resources forto 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 Administering 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 Planning, Evaluation and Research Partnerships

In 2013–2014, 23 SAAs provided over \$12.5 million to support planning, evaluation and research partnerships. Funds were spent on a wide variety of projects related to strategic planning, policy analysis, program evaluation, process evaluation, and research and implementation assistance. As the single largest source of federal funding for state and local research and evaluation, spending ranges from \$5 million-\$10 million per year.



Planning, Evaluation and Research Projects

In Alabama, Byrne JAG funds support training and prevention services through Auburn University at Montgomery's Crime Prevention Clearinghouse. The Clearinghouse delivers crime prevention services and training to assist law enforcement, state agencies, community groups, schools, and others remove or reduce the opportunity for crime in the community. A variety of trainings are offered ranging from homicide investigation, narcotics investigation, court room trainings, and child sex trafficking prevention.

ABOUT BYRNE JAG

The Byrne JAG program was funded at \$376 million in FY 14. For many years funding levels hovered around \$500 million. Since FY10 funding for the program has been cut by one-third in the name of deficit reduction.

BYRNE JAG AND PLANNING, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

Currently 23 states, spent \$12.5 million to support planning, evaluation and research partnerships. Funds were spent on projects related to strategic planning, policy analysis, program evaluation, process evaluation, and research and implementation assistance. As the single largest source of federal funding for state and local research and evaluation, spending ranges from \$5 million - \$10 million per year.





NCJA Center for Justice Planning

ABOUT NCJP

The NCJA Center for Justice Planning is a project of the National Criminal Justice Association. To learn more about NCJP and our work please visit www.ncjp.org.

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- In Colorado, Byrne JAG funds support research on delinquency and juvenile justice involvement
 at the University of Colorado Denver. The research builds on a multi-year study of the Fostering
 Healthy Futures prevention program and enables examination of the impact of this evidence-based
 prevention program on delinquent outcomes for maltreated children in foster care.
- In Colorado, Byrne JAG also supports implementation assistance for the statewide rollout of an evidence-based community sanction and incentive model targeting medium-to-high-risk offenders.
 Funding went to support research and implementation assistance through the Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Community Corrections. Upon full statewide implementation, more than 7,000 offenders will be served annually.
- In Delaware, Byrne JAG funding supports evaluation and research at the state's Statistical Analysis
 Center (SAC). Funding was used to increase the SAC's capacity to provide objective research analysis to improve program development and influence policy and practice decisions.
- In the District of Columbia, Byrne JAG funds support the Justice Research and Statistics Association's (JRSA) Building Capacity for Performance Measurement and Evaluation project. This project will improve the ability of the Justice Grants Administration's grantees to collect high-quality performance measurement data and conduct process evaluations. In addition to training local justice and social service organizations on evidence-based policies and practices, JRSA works with local agencies to improve logic modeling, data collection and performance measurement.
- In Iowa, Byrne JAG funds supported an evaluation of a mental health jail diversion program operated by the First Judicial District Department of Correctional Services. The program targets wraparound services for medium-high risk mentally ill offenders cycling through the jails. The study by the University of Northern Iowa showed that the program lowered recidivism and saved county taxpayers an estimated \$237,509 per year.
- In Idaho, Byrne JAG funds support education and awareness efforts through the University of Idaho
 College of Law and Idaho Law Foundation. Funding supported education, outreach and curriculum
 development for the Turning 18 in Idaho: A Survival Guide for Teenagers initiative. This initiative
 teaches essential life skills to prepare youth for adulthood, such as drunk driving and domestic
 violence education, identity theft prevention and how to seek legal aid services. The curriculum is
 used in high schools and juvenile detention facilities.
- In Illinois, Byrne JAG funds supported the implementation and evaluation of the Virtual High School
 Pilot Project in six of the state's eight youth centers. A collaboration between the Governor's Office, the Department of Juvenile Justice, Chicago Public Schools, the University of Chicago Crime
 Lab and the University of Chicago Urban Education Lab, the project engages students through a
 curriculum that begins during confinement and extends through reentry. The project involves approximately 1,000 randomly assigned adolescents housed at the Chicago, Joliet, Warrenville, St.
 Charles, Harrisburg, and Kewanee facilities.
- In Illinois, Byrne JAG also funds an evaluation of Chicago's Juvenile Intervention and Support Center (JISC). Conducted by the University of Chicago Crime Lab, this evaluation examines the impact of the JISC on outcomes of involved youth. The JISC is a pilot pre-court assessment, diversion, and treatment program for youthful offenders arrested in the South Side of Chicago. The program was designed to standardize decisions made about youth who are arrested; to provide non-judicial and





non-custodial treatment alternatives; and to centralize the efforts of several youth-focused organizations for decision making about youthful offenders.

- In Illinois, Byrne JAG funds also support research to develop evidence-based police-community relations strategies. Conducted by the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), research focuses on the quality of police-civilian contacts at the jurisdictional level and in assisting law enforcement with addressing communication gaps. The dual goals of the project are to assist law enforcement agencies in building their capacity and efficacy to make evidence-based decisions and to improve service delivery to Illinois communities. The project is a partnership between the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, the Center for Research in Law and Justice at UIC, and the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police
- In Maryland, Byrne JAG funds were used to provide logistical and analytical support for data-driven policing through the CompStat on Demand Program (CompStat). With analytical and mapping support through Washington College, CompStat provides crime mapping and analysis services to law enforcement and justice administering agencies around the state. The program also tracks and monitors trends, provides teams of experts to complete assessments and makes recommendations regarding crime reduction strategies and accountability.
- In Massachusetts, Byrne JAG funds the Department of Public Health, Division of Violence and Injury Prevention, to provide culturally competent high risk responses to domestic violence homicide and re-assaults in marginalized communities including: immigrant, Latino, Black, and LGBT. High risk teams contract to provide legal and medical advocacy, safe home accommodations, housing, referrals to social services, and coordination with public safety agencies. Programs were chosen based on their experience in providing culturally accessible services, ability to provide training to law enforcement and service providers, geographic accessibility to vulnerable communities, and staffing that reflects the diversity and values of those served. Additionally, an evaluator is working with the Department of Public Health in implementing this initiative by identifying best practices in addressing high risk domestic violence cases, conducting a baseline assessment of high risk teams in the Commonwealth, developing performance measures, and conducting a process evaluation of the funded projects. The Department of Public Health in coordination with the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security provides technical assistance to the contracted high risk teams.
- In Missouri, Byrne JAG funds support evaluation efforts in the state's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC). Funds support evaluation efforts of current Byrne JAG initiatives including taskforce effectiveness and the impact of interdiction on overdoses and hospital admissions.
- In Michigan, Byrne JAG funds supported an evaluation of the State Police Youth Leadership Academy. The Academy provides at-risk teens 15–16 years old, from Detroit, Pontiac, Saginaw and Flint, with the opportunity to develop life skills, leadership skills and build positive relationships with law enforcement officers. The evaluation, conducted by Central Michigan University, will examine curriculum, attitudinal shifts among participants and long term outcomes for program participants.
- In New York, Byrne JAG funds support implementation technical assistance and an ongoing evaluation of the state-funded Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative through the Rochester Institute of Technology. The GIVE initiative is currently underway in Albany, Broome, Chautauqua, Dutchess, Erie, Monroe, Nassau, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Orange, Rensselaer, Rockland,





Schenectady, Suffolk, Ulster and Westchester counties. Crime-fighting strategies developed under GIVE vary by jurisdiction and include, but are not limited to: enhanced patrols in identified "hot spots" or locations that are prone to gun violence; focused deterrence against violent gangs and groups considered responsible for the most gun violence in communities; increased supervision of individuals on parole and probation; and the deployment of street outreach workers to interrupt cycles of violence or prevent retaliation.

- In New York, Byrne JAG funds also support a statewide coordinator position to assist with the implementation of Operation SNUG, a statewide replication of the Chicago Ceasefire/Cure Violence Initiative. A project of the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, SNUG (GUNS spelled backward) employs former gang members as violence interrupters and has been deployed in 11 cities hardest hit by street violence. While the statewide implementation is being funded with state and local dollars, the coordination position assists local jurisdictions with implementing the program with fidelity to the evidence-based model. In addition to working with the replication sites, the statewide coordinator works with a separate state funded SNUG evaluation team.
- In Nevada, Byrne JAG funds were used to support planning efforts for the creation of drug endangered children (DEC) programs at the local level. Funding went to the Attorney General's Office to support a statewide coordinator position that travels around the state to assist local jurisdictions with implementing DEC initiatives. Nevada's DEC approach focuses on the formation of community-based partnerships that encourage agency personnel from across multiple disciplines to coordinate their mutual interests, resources and responsibilities.
- In Ohio, Byrne JAG funds supported the creation of the Ohio Consortium of Crime Science (OCCS) in the Office of Criminal Justice Services (OCJS). OCCS is an association of researchers from colleges, universities, and state agencies who work together to provide evidence-based solutions to real-world problems faced by local criminal justice agencies. Byrne JAG funding was used to pilot this initiative. After demonstrating initial success, OCJS received a Bureau of Justice Assistance grant to continue this work.
- In Pennsylvania, Byrne JAG funds supported an evaluation of the effectiveness of Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) policing programs in multiple Pennsylvania counties. Conducted by the University of Pittsburgh, the evaluation will yield information on whether the CIT policing programs make a difference in officer behavior and/or outcomes for mental health clients.
- In Pennsylvania, Byrne JAG funding was also used to provide technical assistance, through Drexel
 University, to local jurisdictions to help map their criminal justice systems. Funds support assistance
 with using the Sequential Intercept Model to help understand how specific populations enter and
 exit local justice systems.
- In Pennsylvania, Byrne JAG funds also supported research and statistical analysis work for the
 state's Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) through at the Prevention Research Center and the
 Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center (EPISCenter) at Pennsylvania State
 University. The goal of this project is to review prior research and data on Pennsylvania's juvenile
 population to identify the prevalence of preventable precursors of adult crime, especially related
 to youth drug use, academic failure, truancy and dropout, family dysfunction; delinquency and
 involvement in the juvenile justice system.





- In Rhode Island, Byrne JAG funds support a National Integrated Ballistic Information Network
 (NIBIN) database technician position in the Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory (RISCL) at the
 University of Rhode Island. The laboratory examines and evaluates physical evidence submitted by
 state and local law enforcement agencies. The purpose of this position is to test fire and log casings
 into the NIBIN system and to support DNA backlog reduction efforts.
- In Tennessee, Byrne JAG funds were used for four planning grants and four research partnerships in support of the state's Targeted Community Crime Reduction Program (TCCRP). Both a locally-driven crime reduction initiative and a state grant making and management strategy, the TCCRP works with mid-sized localities with high crime rates to improve public safety through a balanced crime control strategy. Localities are required to plan and implement a three-pronged data-driven strategy to deal with local drivers of crime. Strategies are required to be multi-agency and funds must be split equally between prevention, enforcement and offender intervention.
- In Texas, Byrne JAG funds training and technical assistance for law enforcement agencies working in border towns through the Law Enforcement Extension Program at Texas A & M University. Training focused on evidence processing protocols for dead and decomposing bodies. This training is especially important for local law enforcement working across the southern border.
- In Utah, Byrne JAG funds support research and evaluation projects at the University of Utah.
 Researchers are evaluating the effectiveness and implementation fidelity of select therapeutic services offered through the Department of Corrections. In addition, Byrne JAG funds support an ongoing evaluation of the Utah Employment Placement Project, which is a past recipient of Byrne JAG funding.
- In Virginia, Byrne JAG funds support evaluation efforts by the Virginia Beach Court Service Unit
 (CSU) and the University of Cincinnati. Research has focused on a system-wide evaluation of the
 juvenile court's existing programs and referral service. The evaluation will look at evidence-based
 practice implementation and service and referral agency outcomes.
- In Virginia, Byrne JAG funds also supported the replication of the Drug Market Initiative (DMI) in Roanoke. This replication was supported by a research and implementation team from Michigan State University. In its fourth year of funding, the Roanoke Police Department reports violent crime is down 71 percent in the DMI area.
- In Wisconsin, Byrne JAG funds supported the expansion of the state's Statistical Analysis Center.
 These funds are used to enhance the state's ability to evaluate currently funded programs, analyze state level crime data, submit data to Uniform Crime Reporting database and support planning efforts in the state's Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

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.



This document was created with the support of Grant No. 2014–DP-BX-K004 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.