

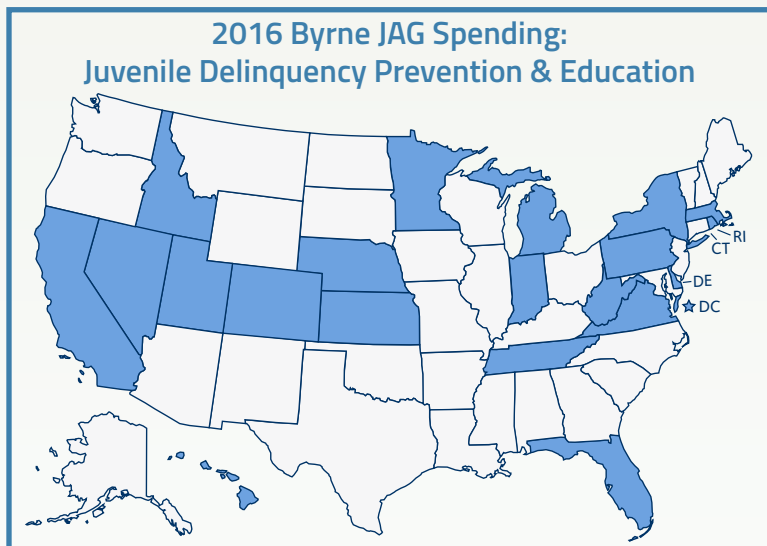
## How States Invest Byrne JAG in Juvenile Delinquency Prevention & Education Initiatives

### 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 to their most pressing local needs. Byrne JAG is used broadly for law enforcement, prosecution, indigent defense, courts, prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, planning evaluation and technology, mental health services, and crime victim and witness programs. This breadth and flexibility means states and local communities can use Byrne JAG to balance resources and address problems across the entire criminal justice system, and to react quickly to urgent challenges and changing circumstances. The Byrne JAG program, administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), U.S. Department of Justice, provides grant funding to thousands of justice and public safety agencies and initiatives each year. To learn more about Byrne JAG visit: <http://www.ncja.org/ncja/policy/about-byrne-jag>.

### 2016 Byrne JAG Spending Study

Financial estimates and program examples were gathered as part of the 2016 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. This information was self-reported and additional states may also use Byrne JAG funds for a specific project type.



### Support for Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Efforts

Byrne JAG funding supported juvenile delinquency prevention and education in at least 21 states, which are highlighted in dark blue on the map. This was an investment of over \$4.4 million (not including California) in total Byrne JAG funding in 2016. These initiatives included: anti-bullying programs; early intervention supports for at-risk students; juvenile-focused community policing efforts; life skills and job development trainings; counseling and mentoring programs; gang resistance programs; and juvenile court programs.

### Examples of Juvenile Delinquency Prevention & Education Programs

- In Colorado, Byrne JAG supports the Office of the Independent Monitor Youth Outreach Parent Track Project. Project Parent Track has three primary goals: (1) to improve youth's confidence and ability to have positive interactions with law enforcement by giving parents tools to support their children, including training on proper police practice, common laws related to youth and constitutional rights; (2) to increase parental trust of law enforcement; and (3) to increase Denver police officers' understanding of community concerns through facilitated dialogue with parents. The Youth Outreach Project serves over 1,000 youth, community members, and officers per year.
- 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 grants are a catalyst for collaboration within communities and across states. This cross-jurisdictional model is being replicated across the country to tackle cross-boundary crimes, like drug and human trafficking and cyber crime, while saving money and increasing efficiency.

- Byrne JAG funds Contra Costa County, California support the implementation of the Youth Justice Initiative, a project devoted to advancing optimal outcomes for at-risk youth and youth involved in the juvenile justice system. The School Success Team works to advance school-wide prevention and intervention initiatives for some of the County's highest-risk students, beginning with a pilot middle-school in the Antioch School District. The Reentry Success Team provides comprehensive post-dispositional advocacy and reentry services to improve outcomes and reduce recidivism for juvenile probationers in the county.
- Byrne JAG funds support the Michigan State Police holds a five-day mentoring and leadership program for at-risk youth at the State Police Training Academy. Forty students, ages 15-16, from Benton Harbor and Inkster attended the Michigan Youth Leadership Academy (MiYLA™) at no cost.
- Byrne JAG in Nebraska support the Omaha Police Department, with the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, to modify the Police Athletics for Community Engagement program (PACE) with additional focus on youth currently on probation. Funds support home checks, conducted jointly by the OPD and probation officers, including communication with both the youth and their parents, contraband checks, education about the court order, penalties, and incentives, and an invitation to join the PACE project. The PACE project involves officers acting as sports coaches to engage the youth in sports (soccer, baseball, football, CrossFit and basketball) while developing meaningful relationships.
- In Utah, Byrne JAG funds support the Utah Board of Juvenile Justice's Risk and Protective Factor Indicator Tool (RAPIT). Through this website, users can view charts of indicators that will be useful for planning and evaluating

substance abuse and delinquency prevention activities, as well as view specific risk and protective factors. Outcomes can be viewed by grade and gender or by race.

- In West Virginia, Byrne JAG funds support the Prevention Resource Officer (PRO) Program in West Virginia schools. The PRO Program is a cooperative effort between schools and law enforcement to: improve student's attitudes and knowledge of criminal justice and law enforcement, to prevent kids from committing crimes, to mentor youth with law enforcement officers to provide a safer school environment and to combine safety and child advocacy assuring a better school experience for all West Virginia youth. PRO has three main goals: Prevention; Mentoring; and Safety.

## How Byrne JAG Funding is Awarded:

Sixty percent of the overall Byrne JAG grant is awarded to the state criminal justice planning agency (known as the State Administering Agency or SAA), which, in turn, awards the funding, to local governments and non-profit service providers; the remaining 40 percent goes directly from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance to local communities based on population and crime data.

Funding is authorized at \$1.1 billion annually. At its peak in FY02, Congress appropriated \$830 million. In subsequent years, funding held steady at about \$500 million. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in FY09 provided a one-time boost of \$2 billion. Since FY10, funding has dropped by about one-third. In FY17 the program was funded at \$335 million.

States and local communities use Byrne JAG funds to address needs and fill gaps across the entire justice system – in prevention, enforcement, courts, prosecution, indigent defense, corrections, crisis intervention and behavioral health services, victim assistance, and other community-based supports and services.

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