

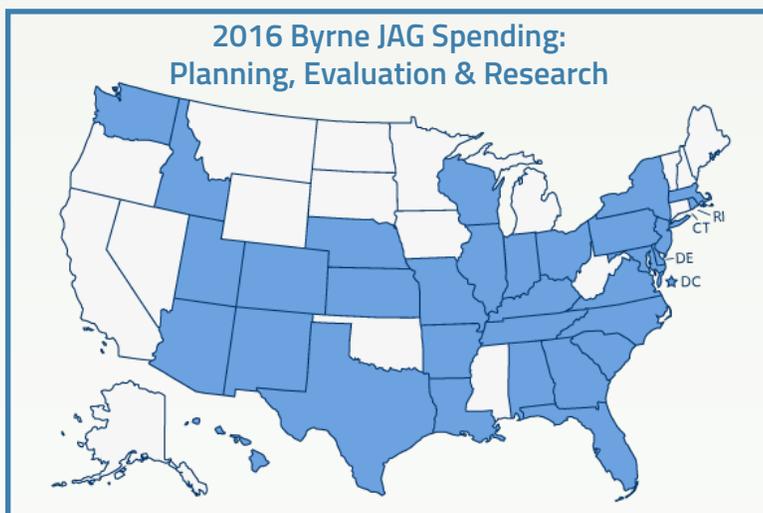
## How States Invest Byrne JAG in Planning, Evaluation and Research

### 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>.

### About the 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.



### Byrne JAG Support for Planning, Research & Evaluation

Byrne JAG funding supported planning, research and evaluation projects in at least 33 states, which are highlighted in dark blue on the map. This was an investment of over \$19 million in total Byrne JAG funding in 2016. These initiatives included: support for state analysis centers; program evaluations; fusion center support; criminal justice record improvements; and local and statewide planning efforts.

### Examples of Planning, Research and Evaluation Projects

- Byrne JAG funds in New York support technical assistance and an ongoing evaluation of the state-funded Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative. The GIVE initiative builds upon the information sharing and partnerships developed under a predecessor program, Operation IMPACT, expanding the use of crime analysis, evidence-based practices and community partnerships to assist in the reduction of firearm-related homicides and shootings.
- In Ohio, Byrne JAG funds support an Anti-Human Trafficking Prevalence Study. This research project supports and informs state agencies and victim service providers in responding to the challenges that human trafficking poses throughout Ohio.

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.

- In District of Columbia, Byrne JAG funds support the Building Capacity for Performance Measurement and Evaluation (BCPME) Project. The Justice Research and Statistics Association (JRSA) was funded to build the BCPME project with multiple-years of Byrne JAG funding. The BCPME project provides process evaluation services to District of Columbia Reentry Coalition (DCRC) grantees, and builds out a web-based, case management system (Efforts to Outcomes-ETO) for reentry grantees to be able to serve specific target populations.
- In Idaho, Byrne JAG supports an analyst position and the addition of law enforcement data sets to the Idaho Criminal Intelligence Center ([IC]<sup>2</sup>), which is a statewide multi-agency fusion center. The [IC]<sup>2</sup> hosts several analysts from a wide range of criminal justice agencies and assists with law enforcement efforts including gang investigation, the identification of crime hot spots, crime trends, the coordination of missing persons and kidnapping investigations, and justice information sharing.
- In Delaware, Byrne JAG funds support work by the state's Statistical Analysis Center to provide policy makers and criminal justice agencies with objective research analysis to improve program development and policy making.
- The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission set aside 5 percent of its Byrne JAG funding for criminal justice records improvement projects. These projects support criminal history records improvement and information sharing under an approved strategic plan. In FY 2016, funding was provided to support an assessment of using biometric fingerprint technology to capture fingerprints in courtrooms, and to begin implementation of mobile fingerprint technology for all criminal courtrooms in the state.
- In Wisconsin, Byrne JAG funds support statewide planning and criminal justice system improvement efforts through the Wisconsin Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for council projects and committees.
- In Massachusetts, Byrne JAG funds support the state's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), and the creation of a statewide youth gang records management system. SAC efforts focus on ensuring accurate data collection and appropriate back-end features.
- Byrne JAG funding supports the Georgia Information Sharing and Analysis Center (GISAC), one of 77 U.S. Department of Homeland Security-recognized fusion centers. The fusion center is the primary repository for criminal intelligence information, and staff is responsible for turning the flow of raw information into an actionable intelligence picture.

## 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.

This document was created with the support of Grant No. 2016-DP-BX-K002 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.