



## Cornerstone for Justice: How Delaware Uses Byrne JAG Funding to Protect Public Safety and Prevent Crime

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. Many innovative criminal justice practices demonstrated using Byrne JAG funds have been replicated nationwide, such as drug courts, opioid prevention and addiction response, methamphetamine lab reduction, anti-gang strategies, reentry programs and information sharing protocols.

### Byrne JAG in Delaware:

In 2016, the Delaware Criminal Justice Council invested in numerous successful initiatives. Some examples include:

- The Victims Voices Heard Programs, which operates according to a restorative justice model. This program provides victims of violent crime with the opportunity to communicate face-to-face with their perpetrator and allows perpetrators the opportunity to take responsibility, giving survivors an active role in the justice process.
- Law enforcement training conducted by the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association (FBI-LEEDA). LEEDA is offered twice a year and provides officers with executive development and mid-line supervisory skills training. This program is offered to all law enforcement departments within the state of Delaware.
- 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.

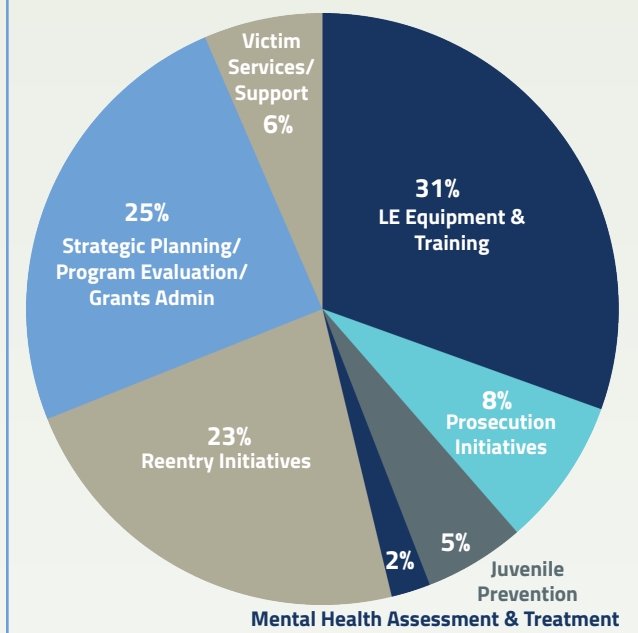
Byrne JAG keeps citizens safe, prevents crime and victimization, and provides services to individuals in the justice system so when they return to their communities they are better equipped with the tools and skills they need to build productive lives and not return to the criminal justice system.

### Delaware's Investment By Purpose Area

Total Investment = \$926,057



## How Delaware Invests Byrne JAG Funds



## Additional Examples:

- Byrne JAG funds support law enforcement programs, equipment and technical support that jurisdictions would not otherwise have been able to obtain given limitations with local municipal budgets.
- Byrne JAG funds support a public defender to work specifically with juveniles who are eligible for release from mandatory sex offender registration.
- Byrne JAG funds support an anti-bullying program in Sussex County that focuses on early intervention and improved awareness of issues associated with bullying.
- Efforts from neighboring law enforcement agencies to assist Wilmington Police Department in their efforts to combat rising violent crime problems.

## 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.

## 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.

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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