



## Cornerstone for Justice: How Idaho 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 Idaho:

In 2016, the Idaho State Police Planning, Grants and Research division invested in numerous successful initiatives. Some examples include:

- An analyst position and the addition of law enforcement data sets to the Idaho Criminal Intelligence Center ([IC]<sup>2</sup>), a statewide multi-agency fusion center. The [IC]<sup>2</sup> hosts 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.
- The Idaho POST (Police Officer Standards and Training) Academy offers training to law enforcement and other criminal justice personnel from local, state, tribal, and federal agencies. The webinars and classroom trainings focus on policing with technology and human trafficking covering the following topics: Legal/Liability Issues Related to Body-Worn Cameras and Unmanned Aerial Surveillance (Drone), Cellular Records Analysis and Mapping, Human Trafficking and the Hidden Internet, Law Enforcement Response to Human Trafficking, and Android and iOS Forensics for Human Trafficking.

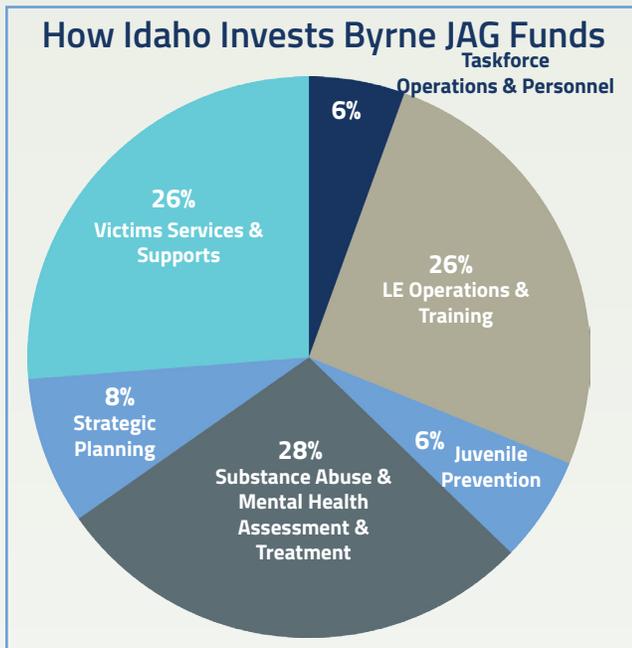
Byrne JAG keeps citizens safe, prevents crime and victimization, and provides services to individuals in the justice system so when they return to their communities they are better equipped with the tools and skills they need to build productive lives.

- Family Services Alliance of SE Idaho (FSA) offers high quality comprehensive victim advocacy services and enhances community outreach to Caribou County victims by funding two part-time mental health counselors and three part-time victim advocates, increasing the number of survivors who access services. By providing key personnel, FSA can continue their ability to meet the needs of children, youth, and adult victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking in Caribou County as well as by expanding into rural areas of Bannock County.

### Idaho's Investment By Purpose Area



Total Investment = \$904,339



### Additional Examples:

- The Terry Reilly Health Services Mentally Ill Offender Community Transition Program provides comprehensive, wrap around medical and behavioral health services to moderate and/or high-risk offenders from state correction facilities who are re-entering the Boise/Ada County area. The program provides pre- and post-release services. Pre-release services are delivered within three months of release and include assessments and treatment planning. Post-release services include a mental health case manager, psychiatrist, psychiatric nurse practitioner, mental health/chemical dependency counselor, a medical provider, and probation and parole officers.

The case manager provides: a) services to identify and eliminate barriers to increase patient consistency and compliance with medical, dental, and behavioral health care; b) maintain collaborative linkages with other programs that serve the same population, (e.g., health care providers, local social services agencies, shelter providers, housing services); c) arrange transportation, as needed, to support clients access to medical, dental, and behavioral health services; d) assist patients in the completion of paperwork associated with their health care, including but not limited to Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, Patient Assistance Program, and external specialty programs.

Psychiatrist staff see each client at least quarterly to update treatment plans. Psychiatric nurse practitioners provide medication management for clients who are taking behavioral health medications.

- The Breaking Chains Academy of Development, Inc., addresses gang prevention efforts in Canyon County by providing youth who are at-risk of gang involvement with alternatives to a gang lifestyle. Services include tutoring to obtain a high school diploma or GED, job training skills through internships, and recreational activities. The project also includes a drug use prevention strategy which focuses on deterring first time users and provides drug and/or alcohol treatment for participants.

### 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 Administrating 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.

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.

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.