



Cornerstone for Justice: How Kansas 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 Kansas:

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

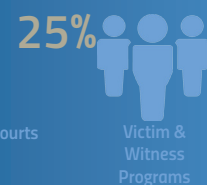
- Four County Mental Health (FCMHC) uses Byrne JAG funds to provide comprehensive mental health services to the citizens of Chautauqua, Cowley, Elk, Montgomery, and Wilson counties. The program targets approximately 200 members of the correctional population or at-risk individuals and uses evidenced-based practices provided at FCMHC to reduce recidivism or prevent first time offenses. The program accepts offenders with a primary substance abuse diagnosis, offenders with co-occurring disorders, domestic violence offenders and individuals identified to be at-risk for any of these categories.
- The Jackson County Sheriff Department used Byrne JAG funds to update in-car computer terminals to assist officers and dispatchers allowing them quicker access to information during service calls, traffic stops, and allowing the department to better schedule officer resources.

Byrne JAG funding 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.

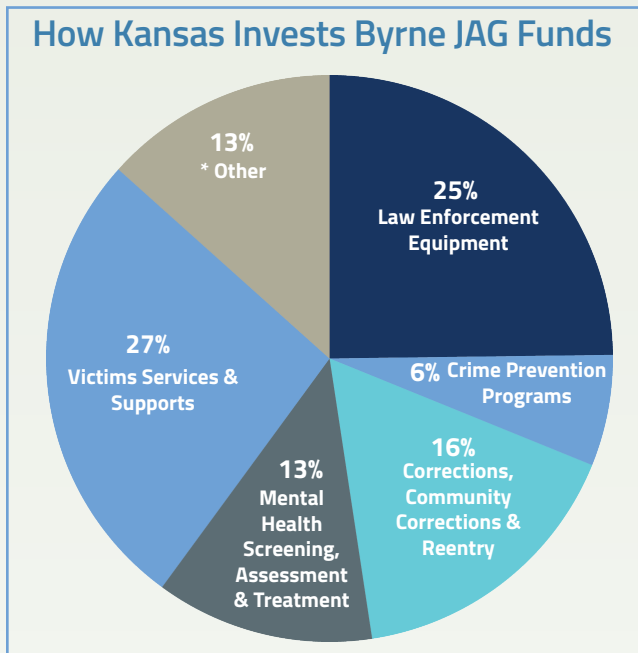
- Byrne JAG funds support the Western Kansas Child Advocacy Center (WKCAC). Through three standalone centers and three RV units, the center covers over 30 sparsely populated counties. WKCAC provides prevention, education, and medical assessments, and acts as liaison between service agencies, forensics interviewing and extended forensic evaluation.

Kansas's Investment By Purpose Area

Total Investment = \$2,228,467



How Kansas Invests Byrne JAG Funds



* Other includes: Forensic Services and Offender Registry Supervision

Additional Examples:

- Byrne JAG funds support One Heart, an organization that works with youth inside correctional facilities and provides them with the tools, skills, and relationships necessary to ensure they receive a true second chance.
- Harper County 911 utilized Byrne JAG funds to update communications system in accordance with state mandated NG911 initiative. Additionally, these upgrades position Harper County for future upgrades as the State of Kansas continues to mandate departments keep pace with technology.
- Byrne JAG funds support one surveillance officer and contracting for substance abuse treatment facilitators for probationers and parolees through the Northwest Kansas Community Corrections, which covers three judicial jurisdictions. A proven track record of low recidivism is a direct result of this valuable program in northwest Kansas.
- Byrne JAG funds support staff for the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) Office of Victim Services, which provides confidential support and information to victims, survivors, and witnesses to crimes in which the offender was sentenced to the KDOC.

- Byrne JAG funds are used to support a Child Advocacy Center Program Director who directs services and conducts forensic interviews with victims of child abuse. This position is vital to the success of the subgrantee as it bridges the complex path of engaging the community as well as provides invaluable services to those victims of sexual assault.

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.

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 funding touches nearly every city and town in America through projects funded and investments made in the state and local justice systems.

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