



Cornerstone for Justice: How Nevada 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 Nevada:

In 2016, the Nevada Department of Public Safety invested in numerous successful initiatives. Some examples include:

- Reentry services for individuals returning to Washoe County following incarceration. Funds support transitional housing, drug treatment and supportive employment services through two local non-profits.
- Byrne JAG funds support 13 multijurisdictional task forces. Task forces focus on gang, drug and violent crime.
- Byrne JAG funds support specialized enforcement and interdiction efforts by the Reno Police Department's Special Enforcement Team and the Washoe County Sheriff's Office All Threats All Crimes Unit. Funds support overtime hours providing the opportunity for these teams to take on cases and address emerging issues such as spikes in violence, gangs, sexual assault and 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 and not return to the criminal justice system.

Nevada's Investment By Purpose Area

Total Investment = \$1,922,083



Law Enforcement



Drug Treatment & Enforcement



Prevention & Education



Crime Victim & Witness Programs

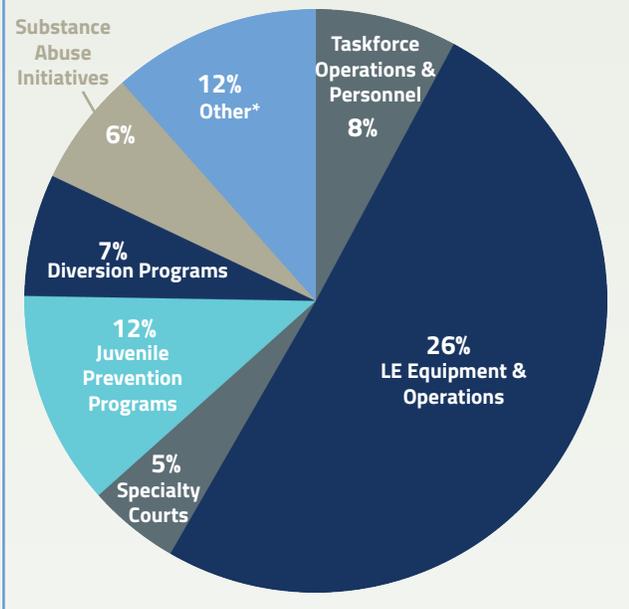


Prosecution & Courts



Corrections, Community Corrections & Reentry

How Nevada Invests Byrne JAG Funds



* Other includes: Corrections & Community Corrections; Law Enforcement Personnel & Overtime; Law Enforcement Training, Pretrial Justice initiatives; and Prosecution initiatives

Additional Examples:

- Byrne JAG funds support the implementation and use of body worn cameras by sworn staff within Nevada's Highway Patrol.
- Byrne JAG helps to fund a cloud based digital evidence management system in compliance with the State of Nevada's security protocols.

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.

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

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.