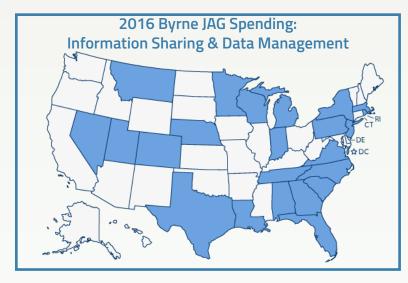# How States Invest Byrne JAG in Information Sharing and Data Management

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.

2016 Byrne JAG Spending:
Information Sharing & Data Management

Support for Information Sharing & Data Management

Byrne JAG funding supported information sharing initiatives in at least 24 states, which are highlighted in dark blue on the map. This was an investment of over $6.6 million in total Byrne JAG funding in 2016. These initiatives included crime and drug analyst positions, case and evidence management systems, resources to help with the transition to NIBRS, support for fusion and crime analysis centers, and the purchase and development of equipment to facilitate reporting.

Examples of Information Sharing and Data Management Projects

- In Colorado, Byrne JAG funds support the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) technician backlog reduction effort. NIBIN allows spent cartridge cases to be searched through a database to associate shooting incidents to each other or a specific firearm to a shooting incident.

- In Minnesota, funds support a Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Analyst with the Drug Monitoring Initiative who assists in securing access to key data sets and disseminating reports to address the crisis caused by opioids and other drugs.

- In Nevada, Byrne JAG helps to fund a cloud based digital evidence management system in compliance with the state's security protocols.

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 Indiana, funds support access to the state's court case management system by helping Delaware County to equip its adult probation department with the necessary technology allowing state and county data sharing.

- In Massachusetts, Byrne JAG funds support the state's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC), and the creation of a statewide youth gang records management system.

- Byrne JAG funds in New York support Crime Analysis Centers (CACs) in Albany, Erie, Monroe, and Onondaga counties. The SAA provides staff, equipment, software, training, and program management to develop effective intelligence-led crime reduction strategies and improve local crime analysis capabilities.

- In Louisiana, Byrne JAG funds support training and resources to law enforcement agencies to assist with transitioning crime data to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

- In Michigan, funds pay for three crime analysts who ensure information sharing across taskforces, coordination across the state, and improve how and where enforcement resources are allocated. These efforts are focused on ensuring that investigations target violent offenders.

- In Montana, Byrne JAG funds support the Whitefish Police Department enhancement of crime data reporting through the purchase of Live Scan fingerprint technology.

- In Pennsylvania, funds supported the development of the Lehigh Valley Regional Intelligence and Investigation Center Gang Intelligence System (GIS). GSI provides investigative case support, strategic analysis and situational awareness to Lehigh County law enforcement, PA State Police and the Allentown FBI Office. Funds are also used to develop, the Illicit Drug Identification and Tracking System which captures information on identifiable markings such as heroin stamps, synthetic drug compounds, investigative information and drug-related death data.

- In Rhode Island, Byrne JAG funds support the establishment of a Laboratory Information Management System: a secure website used by police departments to submit evidence to the University of Rhode Island Crime Laboratory.

- Byrne JAG funds in Georgia support Georgia's Information Sharing and Analysis Center, 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 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.

National Criminal Justice Association

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