



## Cornerstone for Justice: How Oregon 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 Oregon:

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

- Byrne JAG funding supports the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training's establishment of the Center for Policing Excellence within the Public Safety Academy. This training center develops and delivers training and technical assistance to local law enforcement on evidence-based policing and community supervision practices. The Center for Policing Excellence was created as part of the state's 2013 Justice Reinvestment legislation and will help state law enforcement officers enhance the use of evidence based deterrence, enforcement and interdiction strategies.
- Fourteen of the state's network of 68 specialty courts. Byrne JAG funds support one Family Court, one Veterans Courts and 12 Adult and Juvenile drug courts.

As the largest single Byrne JAG investment for the state, the Criminal Justice Commission continually monitors outputs and evaluations of the state's specialty courts.

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.

### Oregon's Investment By Purpose Area

Total Investment = \$904,182

31%



Law Enforcement

63%



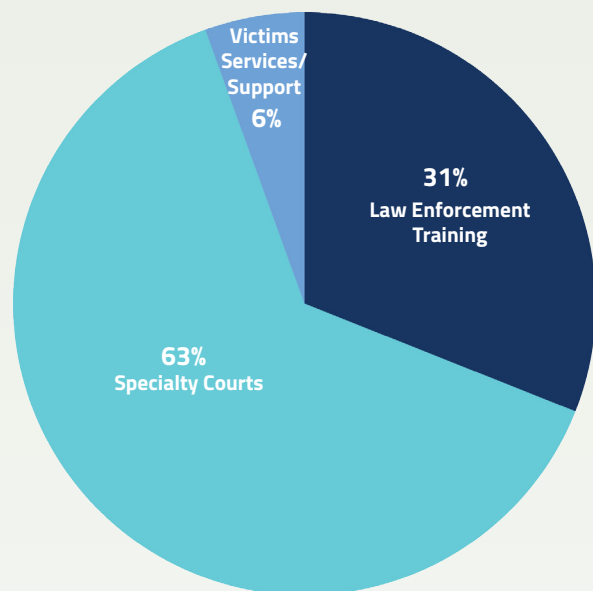
Drug Treatment & Enforcement

6%



Crime Victim & Witness  
Programs

## How Oregon Invests Byrne JAG Funds



- The Oregon Criminal Justice Commission's efforts to improve and update the Oregon Specialty Court Case Management System. This management information system will assist with improving court performance and accountability, data collection, grant monitoring and future drug court evaluation.

## 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.