

Nebraska Byrne SCIP Advisory Board

About NCJA

- Nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., representing state, local and tribal governments and practitioners across the criminal justice community.
- Purpose: to strengthen criminal justice communities and improve lives by empowering stakeholders through training, collaboration and advocacy.
 - Convener and Facilitator
 - Advocate and Liaison
 - Thought Leader
 - Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Provider

About NCJA



Membership



NCJA Data Center



The OVC Center for VOCA Administrators



NCJA Center for Grants Management



NCJA Center for Justice Planning

NCJA Center for Justice Planning

Through the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the NCJA Center for Justice Planning (CJP) is the longstanding TTA provider for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) and one of three TTA providers for the Byrne SCIP Program.

NCJA provides guidance, primarily to State Administering Agencies (SAAs) and local Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (CJCCs), on strategic planning, stakeholder engagement, and effective use of data and promising practices through direct assistance, webinars, workshops, toolkits, resources, and peer-to-peer learning opportunities.

What is Byrne SCIP?



- The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) was signed into law in June of 2022 with the goal of reducing firearm-related violence.
- As authorized by the BSCA, Byrne SCIP provides formula funds to implement state crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs or initiatives, including, but not limited to: extreme risk protection order (ERPO) programs that work to keep guns out of the hands of those who pose a threat to themselves or others, mental health courts, drug courts, and veterans treatment courts.

High-level Byrne SCIP Program Management Requirements Include:

The development of a Byrne SCIP Crisis Intervention Advisory Board to inform and guide the state's Byrne SCIP plan.

Additional components include BJA and Byrne SCIP Advisory Board approval of program plan/budgets and authorization of subawards.

More in-depth data collection and evaluation to support DOJ evaluation on effectiveness.





Byrne SCIP Advisory Board

Applicants must form a diverse Byrne SCIP advisory board to inform and guide the state's related gun violence reduction programs/initiatives.

The board must include, but is not limited to, representatives from **law enforcement, the community, courts, prosecution, behavioral health providers, victim services and legal counsel.**

The program and budget plans must be expressly approved by BJA post-award via a Grant Award Modification (GAM) before funds can be obligated.

Byrne SCIP advisory board approval will also be required for any subsequent changes to the project's scope or budget.

Community



Community representation and engagement should be at the heart of this work. This may mean engaging community-based organizations and nonprofits but also engaging faith and community leaders, citizens, and individuals with lived experience.

Additional Stakeholders to Consider Engaging

- State court administrators
- Legal aid, public defense
- Statewide treatment court coordinators: these coordinators are responsible for oversight of all treatment courts within the state, which can include drug courts, veterans treatment courts, mental health courts, family courts and juvenile courts
- 988 partners
- National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI)
- Court infrastructure experts familiar with domestic violence protection orders and related charges
- State public health and mental health agencies
- Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils (CJCCs) engaged in crisis intervention response initiatives
- Statistical Analysis Centers (SACs) and other research partners who can assist in developing a gun violence landscape analysis and program evaluations
- Partners associated with the governors'/mayors' challenge to prevent suicide among service members, veterans, and their families



Disclaimer

This presentation does not include an exhaustive list of programming trends.

Grantees are encouraged to reach out to BJA directly to ensure planned investments are allowable as policies can change.

BJA is updating this information as states implement the program to share new strategies and to clarify questions from the field.

What can be helpful when identifying priorities for funding?



STAKEHOLDER
INPUT



DATA



HISTORICAL
CONTEXT



UNDERSTANDING
YOUR SCOPE

Overview: Potential Uses of Funding

- Support for states implementing ERPO programs; training for those implementing ERPO programs; communication, education and public awareness campaigns/initiatives.
- Support for problem-solving court programs such as treatment, mental health, and veterans treatment courts to expand programming to specifically accept clients with firearm violations.
- Support for court-based programs that identify and provide support to people in crisis, including those at risk of harm to themselves or others with a firearm, assessing their circumstances and needs, and connecting them with programs and services that can provide them with needed help and support.
- Support for deflection and diversion to behavioral health treatment and support services for those at risk to themselves or others.
- Funding for law enforcement agencies to safely secure, store, track and return firearms.

ERPO Support

Byrne SCIP funding can be used to expand or support ERPOs in states with existing ERPO laws. Funding can be used to support ERPOs in a variety of ways:

Training for those implementing ERPO programs

- Training for judiciary and court staff on ERPO proceedings.
- Training for family members on ERPO.
- Training for first responders on ERPO.

Communication, Education, and Public Awareness

- Outreach to community members, stakeholders, municipal leaders, law enforcement agencies, and those engaging with at-risk individuals to raise public awareness about the value and public safety benefits of ERPO laws and programs, and to promote the importance of effective implementation, enforcement, as well as program development and enhancement.
- Development and distribution of ERPO fact sheets, brochures, webinars, television or radio engagement (e.g., advertisements, spotlights), and social media outreach (e.g., YouTube, Facebook, LinkedIn) to execute the communication, education, and public awareness strategy.
- Publication of best practices regarding ERPO programs.

Specialized court-based programs:

- Threat assessment training for prosecutors, judges, law enforcement, and public defenders.
- Technology, analysis, or information-sharing solutions for ensuring law enforcement, probation, prosecutors, the courts, and public defenders are informed when a prohibited person attempts to purchase a firearm.
- Development and implementation of validated gun violence risk-assessment tools, service case management, and navigation programs to assess the risks and needs of clients and connect them to critical services to mitigate their risk of gun violence and enhance their access to effective interventions.
- Expanding the capacity of existing drug, mental health, and veterans treatment courts to assist clients who are most likely to commit or become victims of gun crimes.

Support for deflection and diversion to behavioral health treatment and support services for those at risk to themselves or others.

- Assertive community treatment.
- Behavioral threat assessment programs and related training.
- Triage services, mobile crisis units (both co-responder and civilian only) and peer support specialists.
- Technological supports such as smartphone applications to help families and patients navigate mental health and related systems and telehealth initiatives, including technology solutions for telehealth visits outside the hospital.
- Behavioral health responses and civil legal responses to behavioral health responses such as regional crisis call centers, crisis mobile team response, and crisis receiving and stabilization facilities for individuals in crisis.
- Specialized training for individuals who serve or are family members of individuals who are in crisis.
- Related law enforcement-based programs, training, and technology.





Funding for Law Enforcement Agencies to Safely Secure, Store, Track and Return Relinquished Guns

Gun locks and storage for individuals and businesses.

Software/technologies to track relinquished guns.

Development and/or delivery of specialized training and overtime for officers to attend training.



Additional High-level Ideas

- Research planning and evaluation
- Domestic violence protection order support and enhancement
- Community Violence Intervention (CVI) programs with a focus on reducing gun violence
- Support for 988 implementation and other suicide prevention efforts

Subawards as of 4.15.24

Summary

An analysis of these subawards revealed that plans focus on the following areas:

- Addressing behavioral health in schools
- Community-based programming
- Interventions in the courts
- Firearm safety in the community
- Policing
- Jails
- Public defender/prosecuting attorney's office



Addressing behavioral health at the school level

- Expanding an existing crisis mobile diversion program that supports multiple middle and high schools
- Adding additional clinical social workers and mental wellness workers across schools and early childhood centers
- Providing advanced training in de-escalation, digital threat assessment, and trauma response to school resource officers
- Implementing immediate firearm detection programming in schools

Firearm Safety in the Community

- Statewide campaigns promoting safe firearm storage practices
- Offering free safe storage devices for firearms
- Evaluation of safe storage campaign effectiveness
- Implementing project Welcome And Resource Notification (WARN), a program designed to deter people from committing firearm related crimes through education about the consequences of gun crimes.
- Supporting the development of a resiliency center. Resiliency centers offer crisis intervention supports in the aftermath of mass violence events, including mass shootings and other large-scale emergencies

Community-based programming

- Expanding after school programming to include older youth by including robust STEM and workforce development programming
- Establishing stronger mental health and wellness/social learning programs for at-risk youth
- Creating a Rapid Care Coordination and Treatment team that connects high risk individuals with mental health and/or substance use issues to services quickly; eliminating the long wait times and other barriers that currently exist
- Creation of a behavioral health liaison position to act across agencies and community behavioral health providers to facilitate collaboration, communication, and more timely responses between criminal justice and behavioral health systems, improve access to treatment, and reduce incarceration time.
- Expanding existing suicide prevention efforts to include a public health approach
- Conduct a Juvenile Sequential Intercept Model project.
- Expanding the capacity of existing mobile crisis teams by funding additional staff and equipment (e.g. a van) to allow for 24/7 support in more areas

Courts

Expanding existing treatment court capacity:

- To include individuals with violent offenses
 - By providing emergency/transitional housing support when necessary
 - Significantly increasing staff to include more clinicians, case managers, dedicated treatment court coordinators, etc.
- Implementing evidence-based screening tools designed to assess risk of committing firearm/violent crime
 - Training for treatment court staff regarding specialty court best practices
 - Data collection and evaluation related to court activities
 - Purchasing a communication system that will allow for enhanced communication and data sharing capabilities among court staff

Policing

- Virtual reality training simulator for police officers to train in a controlled environment for an array of difficult scenarios including de-escalation, unstable subjects, cooperative/uncooperative subjects, shoot/don't shoot situations
- Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training: expanding existing programs or implementing new programs
 - Establishing officers as part of the CIT that focus on interpersonal gun violence
 - Providing training to better support police officers, first responders, and dispatch personnel as they respond to crises
- Co-responder related programming—expanding existing initiatives
 - Co-responders offer training to officers about how to respond to crises involving firearms.
 - Embedding co-responders within police departments to facilitate improved access to and timeliness of mental health resources
- Establishing a multidisciplinary High-Risk Team (HRT) to engage all domestic violence calls and investigations.

Jails

- Expanding existing jail navigator programming
 - Adding staff such as case managers and peer specialists
 - Providing CIT training for jail staff

Public Defender/Prosecuting Attorney's Office

- Implementation of holistic public defense representation, including risk-needs assessment, connecting clients to services that mitigate their risk of violence, and increasing access to effective interventions
- Increased domestic violence training for the victim advocate and for local law enforcement



National Criminal
Justice Association

Questions?

Contact Us!

Jgrisler@ncja.org

Abadger@ncja.org