Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)

Addendum to Nebraska's 2012-2015 Strategic Plan
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The Nebraska Crime Commission and UNO's Consortium for Crime and Justice Research hosted a JAG stakeholder meeting on July 11, 2013, to identify and update priorities for the 2012-2015 JAG Strategic Plan. The goals of the meeting were threefold. First, we wanted to ensure that all interested stakeholders had a voice in identifying funding priorities for the strategic plan. Second, we wanted to ensure that all identified priorities were mutually exclusive. Our third goal was to develop funding priorities that were roughly comparable in scope. In the course of the meeting, it also became clear that all seven federal purpose areas for JAG funding should be equally represented by funding priorities. To this end, fourteen funding priorities were identified across the seven federal purpose areas.

The meeting ended with a discussion of the distribution of stakeholder votes across the seven federal purpose areas. The stakeholder group discussed two options for ranking the funding priorities: 1) a simple ranking by the responses of survey respondents, 2) a weighted ranking in which votes from each federal purpose area had an overall weight that was equal. For example, if the federal purpose area with the most stakeholder respondents had six voters and another federal purpose area had only three stakeholder respondents, the latter votes would be given a weight of "2" so that each purpose area had an equal weight of 6 votes. The final decision of the group was that the results would be presented both ways, weighted and un-weighted.

Subsequent to the July 11 meeting, these fourteen funding priorities were included in an online survey that was distributed to the 24 JAG stakeholders. In all, 22 stakeholders responded to the survey. The question asked for each funding priority was the following: "Please provide your level of agreement that the following activities should be a TOP PRIORITY for the future use of Nebraska's JAG funds." Respondents were asked to rate all fourteen funding priorities, two for each of the seven federal purpose areas. The coding of the responses was as follows: Strongly Disagree = 0, Disagree = 1, Neither Agree/Disagree = 2, Agree = 3, Strongly Agree = 4. The mean ranking is presented in Table 1 for the un-weighted results and Table 2 for the weighted results. Table 1 includes the results from 22 respondents. Table 2 includes the results from 42 theoretical responses calculated from the 22 actual responses. The federal purpose area with the most stakeholders had 6 stakeholders, so responses from each purpose area were weighted to equal six, resulting in 42 responses (7 federal purpose areas X 6 respondents).

Un-weighted results. Table 1 includes the un-weighted ranking of all fourteen funding priorities. The highest ranked funding priority is from the Planning, Evaluation and Technology federal purpose area: "Enhancement of statewide data collection and sharing (e.g. NCJIS)". The rank score is 3.182, which represents a high level of agreement, as a score of "3" represents that the mean level of support was "agree". This is the only funding priority receiving a score higher than three.

Three other funding priorities received comparatively high scores. "Efforts to enhance information sharing across law enforcement and service provision agencies (e.g. findings from EBPs)", also from the Planning, Evaluation and Technology federal purpose area, received a mean score of 2.955. The next two funding priorities have a tied ranking score of 2.909. The first was "Reduction of criminal activities in communities through prevention and education

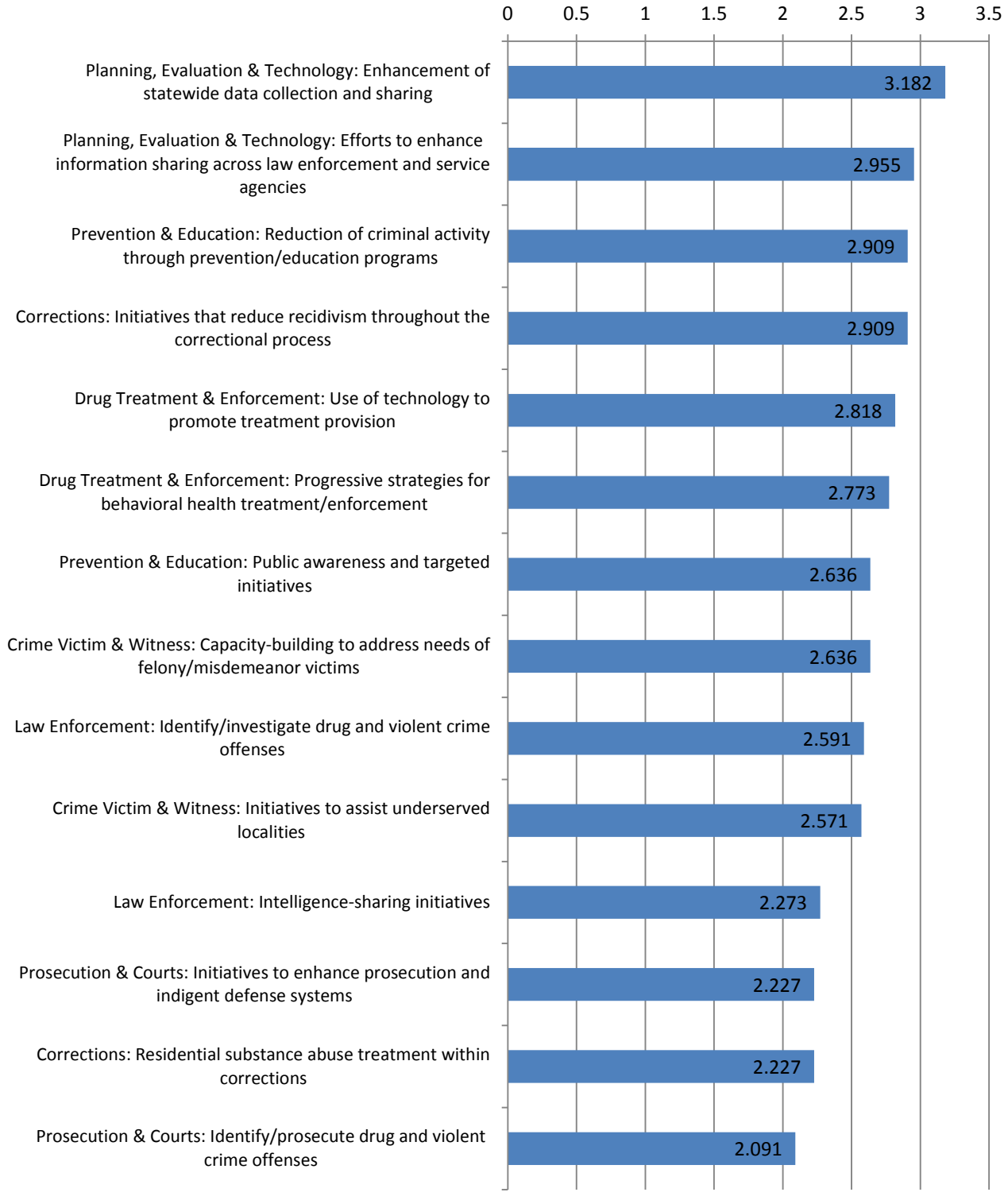
programs (e.g. coordinated afterschool programs, mentoring programs, gang prevention initiatives, employability programs)", which fell under the Prevention and Education federal purpose area. The second, from the Corrections/Community Corrections federal purpose area, is "Initiatives that reduce recidivism throughout the correctional process (e.g. re-entry initiatives, pre-trial release initiatives)". These findings are presented graphically in Figure 1.

Table 1. Ranking of Funding Priorities, Un-weighted Results

Funding Priority	Ranking
Planning, Evaluation and Technology: Enhancement of statewide data collection and sharing (e.g. NCJIS).	3.182
Planning, Evaluation and Technology: Efforts to enhance information sharing across law enforcement and service provision agencies (e.g. findings from EBPs).	2.955
Prevention and Education: Reduction of criminal activity in communities through prevention and education programs (e.g. coordinated afterschool programs, mentoring programs, gang prevention initiatives, employability programs).	2.909
Corrections/Community Corrections: Initiatives that reduce recidivism throughout the correctional process (e.g. re-entry initiatives, pre-trial release initiatives).	2.909
Drug Treatment and Enforcement: Use of technology to promote treatment provision (e.g. Remote Recovery).	2.818
Drug Treatment and Enforcement: Progressive strategies for behavioral health treatment and enforcement (e.g. community-based treatment, peer support, DUI courts, drug courts, mental health courts).	2.773
Prevention and Education: Public awareness and targeted initiatives (e.g. bullying programs, human trafficking initiatives).	2.636
Crime Victim and Witness: Capacity-building to address needs of both felony and misdemeanor victims.	2.636
Law Enforcement: Identify and successfully investigate drug and violent crime offenses (e.g. task forces, rural assistance and law enforcement trainings, intelligence-led policing).	2.591
Crime Victim and Witness: Initiatives to assist under-served localities with victim and witness services (e.g. witness services).	2.571
Law Enforcement: Intelligence-sharing initiatives (e.g. fusion centers, criminal history information).	2.273
Prosecution and Courts: Initiatives to enhance capacity and effectiveness of the prosecution and indigent defense systems of the counties.	2.227
Corrections/Community Corrections: Residential substance abuse treatment within corrections.	2.227
Prosecution and Courts: Identify and successfully prosecute drug and violent crime offenses (e.g. training of local law enforcement officers and prosecutors, assisting in rural prosecutions).	2.091

Scale: Strongly Disagree (0) – Strongly Agree (4).

Figure 1. Ranking of Funding Priorities, Un-weighted Results



Scale: Strongly Disagree (0) – Strongly Agree (4). Figure depicts the un-weighted average rating of the committee priority areas.

Weighted results. The weighted results are statistically adjusted so that respondents representing the federal purpose areas are given equal consideration *as a purpose area.* In other words, if there were six respondents from purpose area "A" and three respondents from purpose area "B", results from the latter respondents would, in essence, be counted twice or given double the weight of respondents from purpose area "A".

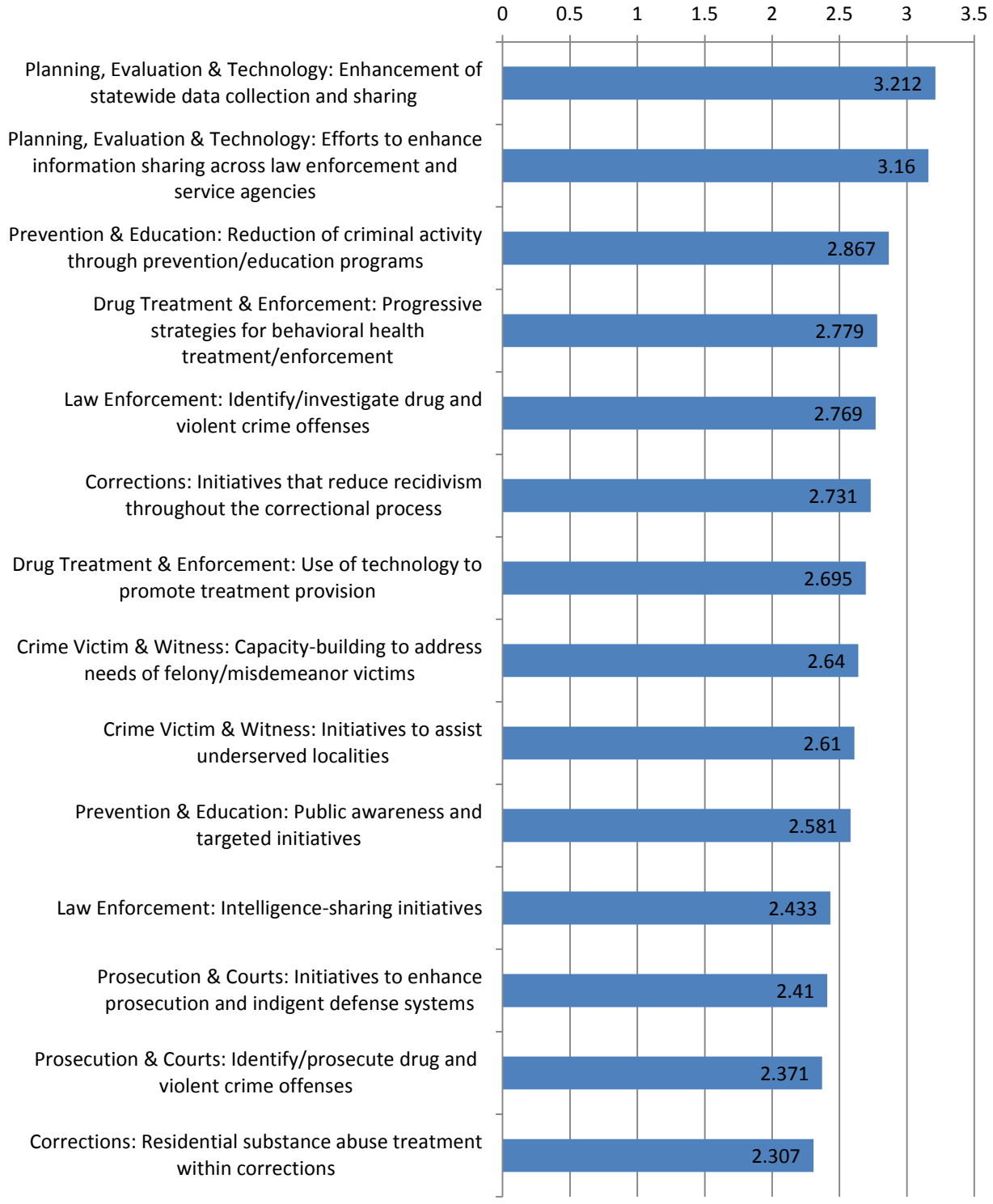
Table 2 indicates that the weighted results do not differ substantially from the un-weighted results. In fact, three of the top four funding priorities from Table 1 are also top funding priorities in Table 2. One exception is "Corrections/Community Corrections: Initiatives that reduce recidivism throughout the correctional process (e.g. re-entry initiatives, pre-trial release initiatives)". Whereas in the un-weighted results this funding priority is tied for third in the rankings, in the weighted results, this funding priority is ranked sixth. In the weighted results, both of the Planning, Evaluation & Technology funding priorities are highly ranked, with scores higher than three. These results are presented graphically in Figure 2.

Table 2. Ranking of Funding Priorities, Weighted Results

Funding Priority: Weighted Results	Ranking
Planning, Evaluation and Technology: Enhancement of statewide data collection and sharing (e.g. NCJIS).	3.212
Planning, Evaluation and Technology: Efforts to enhance information sharing across law enforcement and service provision agencies (e.g. findings from EBPs).	3.160
Prevention and Education: Reduction of criminal activity in communities through prevention and education programs (e.g. coordinated afterschool programs, mentoring programs, gang prevention initiatives, employability programs).	2.867
Drug Treatment and Enforcement: Progressive strategies for behavioral health treatment and enforcement (e.g. community-based treatment, peer support, DUI courts, drug courts, mental health courts).	2.779
Law Enforcement: Identify and successfully investigate drug and violent crime offenses (e.g. task forces, rural assistance and law enforcement trainings, intelligence-led policing).	2.769
Corrections/Community Corrections: Initiatives that reduce recidivism throughout the correctional process (e.g. re-entry initiatives, pre-trial release initiatives).	2.731
Drug Treatment and Enforcement: Use of technology to promote treatment provision (e.g. Remote Recovery).	2.695
Crime Victim and Witness: Capacity-building to address needs of both felony and misdemeanor victims.	2.640
Crime Victim and Witness: Initiatives to assist under-served localities with victim and witness services (e.g. witness services).	2.610
Prevention and Education: Public awareness and targeted initiatives (e.g. bullying programs, human trafficking initiatives).	2.581
Law Enforcement: Intelligence-sharing initiatives (e.g. fusion centers, criminal history information).	2.433
Prosecution and Courts: Initiatives to enhance capacity and effectiveness of the prosecution and indigent defense systems of the counties.	2.410
Prosecution and Courts: Identify and successfully prosecute drug and violent crime offenses (e.g. training of local law enforcement officers and prosecutors, assisting in rural prosecutions).	2.371
Corrections/Community Corrections: Residential substance abuse treatment within corrections.	2.307

Scale: Strongly Disagree (0) – Strongly Agree (4).

Figure 2. Ranking of Funding Priorities, Weighted Results



Scale: Strongly Disagree (0) – Strongly Agree (4). Figure depicts the weighted average rating of the committee priority areas.