



**THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**PUBLIC SAFETY GRANT  
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

**2015  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**311 DANIELSON PIKE, NORTH SCITUATE, RI 02857**

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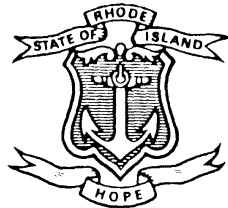
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# Rhode Island Department of Public Safety Grant Administration Office

## 2015 Annual Report

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This document meets the reporting requirements §42-26-12 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, the enabling legislation creating the Public Safety Grant Administration Office



**Major Michael P. Quinn**  
Executive Director, Campus Safety & Security  
Johnson & Wales University  
Chair, Public Safety Grant Administration  
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## The Public Safety Grant Administration Office

**T**he Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO), formerly the Rhode Island Justice Commission (RIJC), within the Central Management Office of the Department of Public Safety is responsible for planning, coordination, data collection/statistical analysis and grant administration and distribution for the adult and juvenile criminal justice systems.

The Public Safety Grant Administration Office derives its authority from Chapter 42-26-1 of the General Laws of Rhode Island (see Appendix) which also creates a supervisory body identified as the Criminal Justice Policy Board.

The Public Safety Grant Administration Office, established in 1969, develops comprehensive planning, coordination, and programming for the purpose of improving the state criminal justice system's overall response to crime issues. The PSGAO pursues a variety of activities authorized by state and executive designation. The support of these efforts is primarily facilitated through the administration of the following federal grants, which are applied for and subsequently awarded to the PSGAO on behalf of the State of Rhode Island:

- the Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne/JAG);
- the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Formula Grant Program and associated grants;
- the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victims' Assistance Formula Grant;
- the S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Formula Grant Program and associated discretionary grants;
- the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) Program;
- the National Criminal Histories Improvement Grant Program (NCHIP);
- the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Grant Program;
- the Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act Grant Formula Program.
- various other discretionary grants.

### ***Mission Statement***

***To facilitate interagency cooperation and collaboration throughout the Rhode Island criminal justice system by way of strategic planning, program coordination, data collection and statistical analysis; while providing fair, efficient and accountable grant administration so as to improve the system's overall response to crime and victimization and enhance public safety.***

## **Objectives**

- Coordinate and implement a statewide integrated computerized Criminal Justice Information System, called the Justice Link Public Safety Network;
- Continue comprehensive/specialized planning and grantsmanship efforts in support of the justice/criminal justice systems present and future;
- Ensure that projects receiving funding utilize their funds consistent with federal and state grant administration regulations;
- Initiate and support programs designed to impact crime and/or improve the criminal and juvenile justice system;
- Continue to produce studies/reports describing the status of particular crime problems;
- Perform detailed monitoring, evaluation and analysis.

## **Policy Board**

The Criminal Justice Policy Board meets a minimum of two to four times a year to review and approve planning and grant funding recommendations from various advisory committees and the Steering Committee (see below). In this fashion, the Policy Board and Steering Committee ensure the strategic planning and coordination of all the aforementioned grant programs administered by the Public Safety Grant Administration Office as well as to develop criminal justice system policies and priorities.

The composition of the Policy Board is such that coordination among all criminal justice system agencies is assured. The Policy Board is comprised of law enforcement personnel, legislators, prosecutors, the public defender, judges, citizens, directors of various state criminal justice-related departments, and representatives from community service organizations.

## **Steering Committee**

The Steering Committee, an eight member executive committee of the Policy Board, identifies the principle problems facing the state's criminal justice system and makes procedural recommendations to the Policy Board and to the various grant program advisory committees. Having decided which problems facing the state are top priorities, the Steering Committee makes recommendations to the grant advisory committees to ensure that relevant aspects of the identified problems are addressed. Further, the Steering Committee is empowered to specifically coordinate responses to any of the state's priority areas by requesting that grant advisory committees concentrate on specific delineated projects or activities to be advertised in requests for proposals.

## **Grant Program Advisory Committees**

Public Safety Grant Administration Office staff members directly administer the various grant programs with the assistance of specific advisory committees. Individuals with expertise in a grant program area comprise the membership of the various advisory committees as they represent state, local and private-non-profit entities. (Membership of each advisory committee is listed in the appropriate grant summary sections).

The following advisory groups develop policy initiatives, establish program priorities and make funding recommendations to the Steering Committee and Policy Board:

- the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee;
- the Victims of Crime Act Advisory Committee;
- the Violence Against Women Planning Committee (includes a Law Enforcement Training Task Force and a Curriculum Committee); and
- the Local Law Enforcement Planning Committee.

## **PSGAO Staff**

PSGAO staffers administer specifically assigned grant programs. Additionally, staff plans and implements many statewide training sessions and conferences, as well as disseminates discretionary grant information to prospective applicants. Each of the federal/state grant programs require many administrative activities that include (but are not necessarily limited to):

- liaise with and staff the appropriate advisory committee(s);
- develop and submit program plan and application;
- develop RFP (request for proposals) and subgrant application; review submitted applications;
- present advisory committee recommendations to the Policy Board;
- create subrecipient databases; craft subgrant awards and distribute;
- create and maintain subgrant files;
- liaise with fiscal administrator to process subgrant payments;
- monitor and evaluate programs/projects via both desk audits and on-site visits;
- prepare annual program progress reports;
- provide administrative support/technical assistance to subrecipients;
- perform grant closeout and audit procedures; and
- other various requirements unique to the various programs.

<b>Public Safety Grant Administration Office Staff</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>E-Mail Address</b>
Thomas Mongeau, Administrative Manager	401-764-5794	Thomas.Mongeau@ripsga.gov
David LeDoux	401-764-5795	David.LeDoux@ripsga.gov
Gail Pereira	401-764-5796	Gail.Pereira@ripsga.gov
Joseph Persia	401-764-5797	Joseph.Persia@ripsga.gov
Gina Tocco	401-764-5798	Gina.Tocco@ripsga.gov



# Criminal Justice Policy Board

**Michael Quinn, Chair**

*Director, Campus Safety and Security  
Johnson & Wales University*

**Col. Steven G. O'Donnell**

*Superintendent, RI State Police*

**Maria Montanaro**

*Director, Dept. of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals*

**Brother Brendan Gerrity**

*Citizen Representative,  
Chair JJAC*

**Daniel Beardsley**

*Director, RI League of Cities & Towns*

**Mary McElroy, Esq.**

*Public Defender*

**Hon. Jeanne LaFazia**

*Chief Judge,  
RI District Court*

**Chief Brian Sullivan**

*President, RI Police Chiefs Association (Lincoln PD)*

**Melba Depena-Affigne**

*Director, Dept. of Human Services*

**Hon. Paul Suttell**

*Chief Justice  
RI Supreme Court*

**Hon. Haiganush Bedrosian**

*Chief Judge,  
RI Family Court*

**Hon. Alice Gibney**

*Presiding Justice,  
RI Superior Court*

**Jonathan Houston**

*Exec. Director,  
Justice Assistance*

**Hon. Peter Kilmartin**

*Attorney General*

**Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott**

*Director, Dept. of Health*

**Jack Chartier**

*State Fire Marshal*

**TBD**

*Director, Dept. of Children, Youth & Families*

**A. T. Wall**

*Director, RI Dept. of Corrections*

**Barbara Cottam**

*Chair, RI Board of Education*

**Deborah DeBare**

*Exec. Director, RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence*

**Daniel Knight**

*Salve Regina University*

**Chief Vincent Vespia, Jr.**

*South Kingstown Police Dept.*

**Carl Weinberg**

*Citizen Representative*

**Robert O'Neil**

*Citizen Representative*

**Vacancy**

*Citizen Representative*

## **Criminal Justice Steering Committee**

**A. T. Wall, Chair**

*Director, RI Dept. of Corrections*

**Col. Steven G. O'Donnell**

*Superintendent, RISP*

**Maj. Michael Quinn**

*Director, Campus*

*Safety & Security*

*Johnson & Wales University*

**Chief Brian Sullivan**

*President, RI Police Chiefs*

*Association (Lincoln PD)*

**Hon. Peter Kilmartin**

*Attorney General*

**Hon. Alice Gibney**

*Presiding Justice, Superior Ct.*

**Mary McElroy, Esq.**

*Public Defender*

**TBD**

*Director, Dept. of Children,*

*Youth & Families*

**Maria Montanaro**

*Director, Dept. of Behavioral*

*Healthcare, Developmental*

*Disabilities & Hospitals*

**\*Designee**

*Governor's Policy Office*

**\*Thomas Mongeau**

*Administrative Manager,*

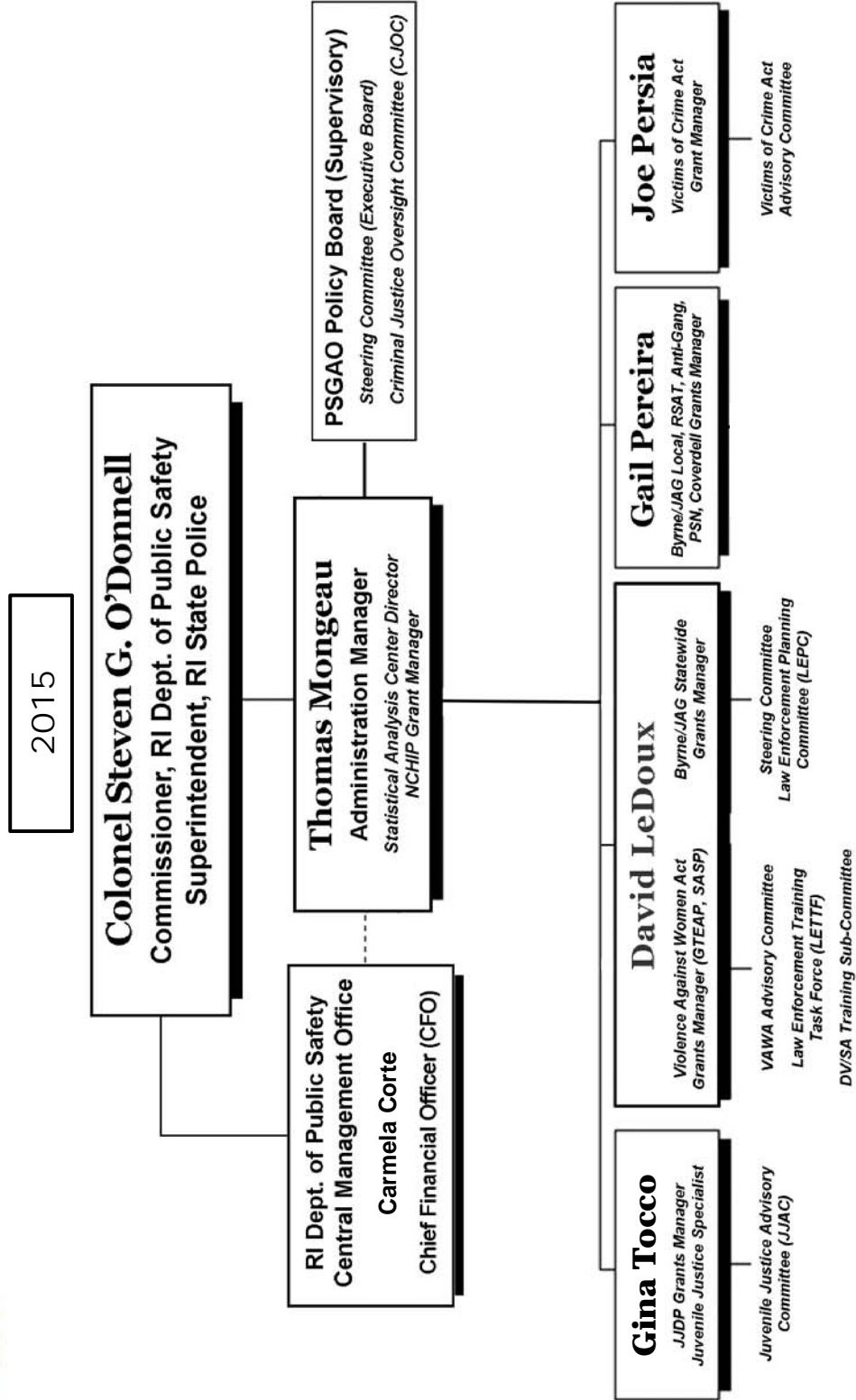
*Public Safety Grant*

*Administration Office*

*\*non-voting members*



# State of Rhode Island Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO)





# Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Formula Grant Program

**T**he Rhode Island Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO) continues to manage the Byrne/JAG Justice Assistance (JAG) grant. The 2015 Formula grant continues to operate on a trimmed strategic plan created in 2009.

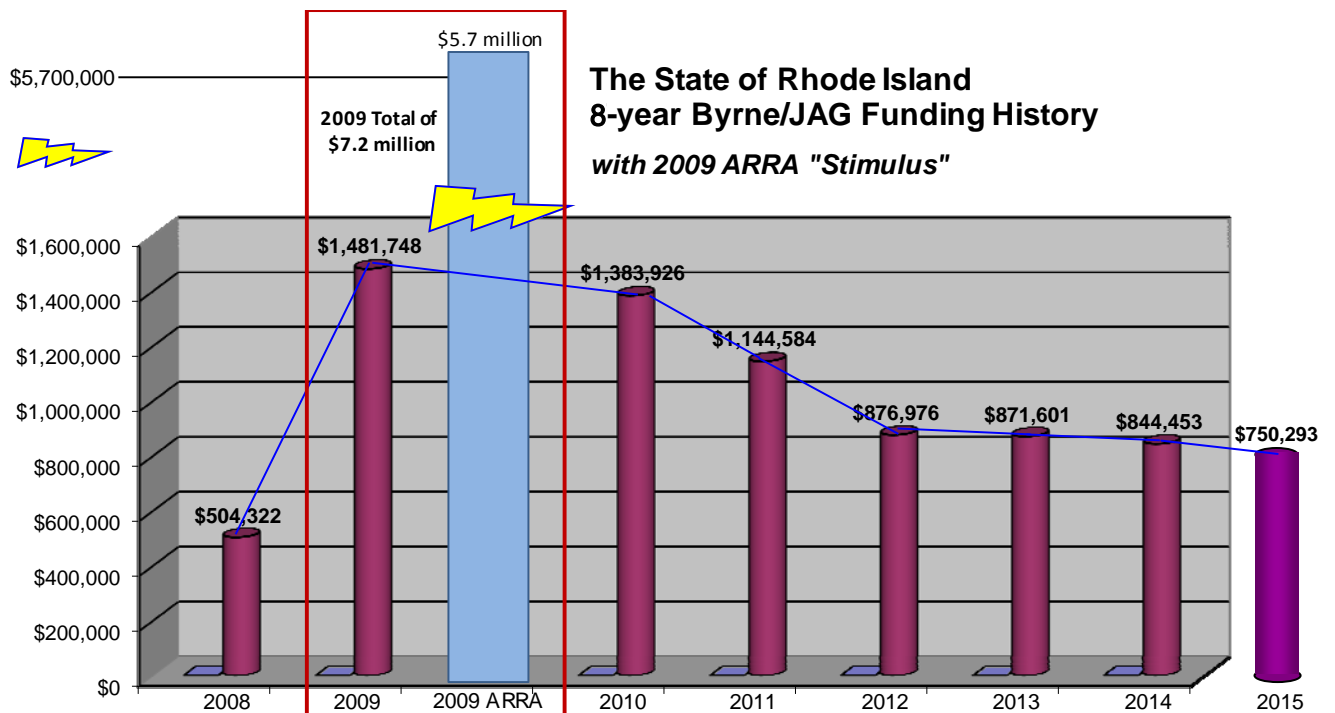
The JAG program’s annual allocation continues its downward descent from its windfall “Stimulus” American Recovery and Restoration Act (ARRA) award of \$5.7 million in 2009.

2015 JAG Summary	
<b>Total Award</b> .....	<b>\$750,293</b>
• P&A.....	\$75,029
• Statewide .....	\$288,708
• Local VPT .....	\$321,095
• “Under \$10K” .....	\$65,461
• PREA “Bonus” .....	\$708
<b>PREA Penalty Re-Allocation</b>	<b>\$23,066</b>

**Downward Trend** (see chart at bottom) - The 2011 JAG Formula allocation was \$1,144,584 while the 2012 award fell 23.3% to \$876,976. The 2013 JAG allocation declined slightly (<1% from 2012) to \$871,601. The 2014 allocation dropped by 3.1% (from 2013) to \$844,453 and the 2015 allocation of \$750,293 dropped 11.2% from the 2014 award.

**Penalties** - The 2015 Byrne/JAG award to the state of \$750,293 is the net amount after a 10% penalty (\$46,173) for not having passed the federally mandated Sex Offender Registration/ Notification (SORNA) legislation and a 5% penalty (\$23,086) for not being in compliance with the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). No action has been taken by the state to comply with the SORNA regulations and all penalty funds remain available but untouched.

**PREA Penalty Re-Allocation** - The PREA penalty is removed from the annual formula award and requires a separate application for the express intent for the state’s use to come into compliance with PREA regulations. The 2015 formula award includes a so-called PREA “Bonus” of \$708 which is derived from previous year’s penalty funds not used by other states that decided not to come into PREA compliance. Both this PREA “Bonus” and the PREA Penalty of \$23,086 has yet to be programmed as the RI Department of Corrections, the Department for Children Youth and Families and the RI State Police must still perform “PREA” audits of several “secure” facilities to determine PREA compliance needs.



## **BYRNE/JAG Funding**

The federal procedure for allocating JAG funds to states uses a formula that is based on population and reported crime statistics. Byrne/JAG funds are distributed 60/40 between state and local recipients. **THE 40% DESIGNATED FOR LOCAL RECIPIENTS IS AWARDED DIRECTLY BY BJA TO THE MUNICIPALITIES WHICH ARE ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS IN EXCESS OF \$10,000** (“Over \$10K”) which BJA determines based on a crime rate/population formula. In RI, that is usually about 10 of largest 39 municipalities.

BJA then provides the state with the balance of these leftover “Direct-to-Local” funds (around \$65K annually (referred to as “Under \$10K” funds) along with the other 60% of JAG funds to the state administering agency (SAA), the RI Public Safety Grant Administration Office for distribution to state and local units of government. The “under \$10K” funds are to be used to support those municipalities that did not receive Direct-to-Local awards.

## **Planning and Administration**

The RI Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO) used the allowable 10% of the 2015 award (\$75,029) for planning and administrative (P&A) purposes, supporting portions of three different PSGAO staff salaries and benefits. After the P&A set-aside, the balance of the 2015 funds are subject to the Bureau of Justice Assistance’s mandated local law enforcement so-called “variable” pass-through (VPT) requirement of 47.9% or \$321,095 (in addition to the \$65,461 “Under \$10K funds) with the balance of \$288,708 available to support statewide programs. The “VPT” is so-called since the percent required to “pass-through to local units of governments “varies” state by state. The disparity of funds between the VPT and Statewide amounts is due to VPT not being assessed the PREA penalty.

## **Statewide Plan**

The Steering Committee voted unanimously to approve nine continuing statewide (non-VPT) project requests as detailed on subsequent pages.

## **Local Pass-Through Plan**

The Law Enforcement Planning Committee voted unanimously to allocate its formula allocations (\$321,095) to municipal police departments according to its long-standing formula (based on population and crime rates); and its statewide recommendations (derived from the \$65,461 in “Under \$10K” funds) are indicated in subsequent pages.

These “Under \$10K” funds are under the purview of the Law Enforcement Planning Committee (LEPC) which makes recommendations to utilize these funds to support statewide projects that provide direct benefits to local law enforcement agencies which departments individually could not provide for themselves specifically including in-service training and accreditation activities plus providing improvements to the State Crime Laboratory.

## **Strategic Planning Sessions**

Staff scheduled and held several meetings in the development of the 2015 funding plan. The Steering Committee, an executive subcommittee of the RIPSAGO Policy Board, acts as the Byrne/JAG Statewide Planning Committee. It met on several occasions to modify and approve the strategic plan to govern the statewide portion of the 2015 Byrne/JAG formula grant program. The Steering Committee entertained continuation funding requests only from existing projects disallowing the consideration of any new projects due to the lack of funding to even support existing programming at current levels.

## **Program Income**

Since 2005, BJA provides the entire Byrne/JAG award to states in advance of expenditures which allows for the deposit of the entire award amount in an interest bearing account. The interest earned—program income—is subject to the same regulations as the original award while accounted for separately. These funds normally support additional in-service training and equipment at the RI Municipal Police Academy.

## **JAG Program Areas**

JAG funds, program and interest, can be used for state and local initiatives, technical assistance, training, personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, and criminal justice information systems that will improve or enhance the following areas:

- Law enforcement
- Prosecution and court
- Prevention and education
- Corrections and community corrections
- Drug treatment and enforcement
- Planning, evaluation, and technology improvement
- Crime victim and witness programs (other than compensation).

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## **STATEWIDE BYRNE FOCUS**

### **Statewide Planning Committee**

The RI PSGAO utilizes its Policy Board's Steering Committee to perform strategic planning for Byrne/JAG and other criminal justice-related grant programs.

### **Byrne/JAG Statewide Planning Committee Steering Committee**

- A. T. Wall, Chair, Director, RI Department of Corrections
- Colonel Steven G. O'Donnell, Superintendent, RISP; Commissioner, RI Department of Public Safety
- Major Michael Quinn, Director, Johnson & Wales Campus Safety & Security, Chair, Policy Board
- Chief Brian W. Sullivan, President, RI Police Chiefs Association (Chief, Cumberland PD)
- Honorable Peter Kilmartin, Attorney General, RI Department of Attorney General
- Honorable Alice Gibney, Presiding Justice, RI Superior Court
- Honorable Mary McElroy, Esq., Public Defender, Office of the Public Defender
- Keven McKenna, Acting Director, RI Department for Children Youth and Families (DCYF)
- Rebecca Boss, Acting Director, RI Department of Behavioral Healthcare and Developmental Disabilities (BHDDH)

### **Non-voting member**

- Thomas Mongeau, Designee, Governor's Policy Office  
Administrative Manager, Public Safety Grant Administration Office

## BYRNE/JAG STATEWIDE SUBGRANT PROJECTS

<b>Office of the Public Defender</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Minority Outreach/Community Partnership Project</b>	\$25,000
<p>The Minority Outreach/Community Partnership Project targets the lower income community in an effort to develop and maintain relationships with its client community and to improve the delivery of its services. Provide representation to indigents either already held or facing imminent incarceration for reasons not constituting direct criminal prosecutions - i.e., warrants for a variety of reasons, failure to make restitution, violation of probation, etc.</p>	
<b>RI Supreme Courts Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Monitoring Unit</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Arrest Database Project</b>	\$35,000
<p>JAG funds augment other federal and state funds to support the Court's DV/SA Monitoring Unit to enter data from police domestic violence/sexual assault arrests forms into the statewide database; and prepare and disseminate DV and SA reports to state, municipal and private agencies.</p>	
<b>RI Department of Corrections</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Re-Entry/Family Re-Unification Project</b>	\$50,000
<p>The Family Reunification Services for High Risk Offenders project focuses on Domestic Violence and Group Family Reunification Educational Programming for inmates planning to return home to their families upon release. Families are selected in close collaboration with DCYF to ensure that they are candidates for reunification. Counselors provide individual, family, group counseling, and case management services to high-risk offenders and members of their families. Services begin in the ACI and link to post release programs in community agency offices and in client homes. Services focus on the dynamics of the family unit and the significant role that family relationships play to help offenders rebuild their lives.</p>	
<b>RI Department of Attorney General</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Drug Court Prosecutor</b>	\$35,000
<p>The Adult Drug Court seeks to integrate substance abuse treatment services within the criminal justice system and divert drug-court defendants from the traditional criminal-court process to a forum where a therapeutic program is offered to assist the client to modify behavior, improve his/her overall quality of life, and reduce recidivism. The 2014 funds partially support a part-time prosecutor at the RI Attorney General's office. Other Drug Court partners have been able to secure state funding for their part-time personnel (Public Defender and Department of Corrections).</p>	
<b>RI Department of Corrections</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Recidivism Reduction (Re-Entry) Project</b>	\$50,000



<p>This program offers specialized planning for all high-risk offenders leaving prison as sentenced inmates or released directly from the Intake Centers for men and women. These offenders have been convicted of a domestic violence, violent or sex Offense and are chronic recidivists slated for mandatory release. Project services are provided to each offender without exception. A discharge planner works closely with Probation and Parole Officers to ensure that conditions set by the court and the Parole Board are incorporated in the discharge plan. They have developed community resources, make referrals for released offenders, and educate groups of offenders before release about to access community services.</p>	
<b>Neighborhood Response Team (NRT)</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>RI State Police (RISP)/City of Central Falls PD</b>	\$50,000
<p>NRT projects are collaborative efforts between the RISP and the Providence PD and with the Central Falls PD that partners state troopers with municipal officers in marked State Police cruisers to reduce violence in known “hot-spot” areas and in high crime neighborhoods of the two densely populated highly urban communities. The projects operate in peak summer months and from Thanksgiving through New Years in and around nightclub areas.</p>	
<b>Department of Children Youth and Families</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Culinary Arts Training Project</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>
<p>JAG funds a job training project for at-risk youth (ages 16-19) teaching culinary, social, and entrepreneurial skills. The project is largely self-sustaining by the sale of high-quality preserved foods using ingredients from local farmers in collaboration with Farm Fresh RI. Products are sold at farmer’s markets, local stores, area schools, hospitals and others. The project has a wide range of benefits including practical, hands-on job training for at-risk girls and boys (ages 16-19); increased sales for local farmers; and an affordable, healthy option for institutional kitchens, consumers and restaurants.</p>	
<b>R.I. Family Court</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Mental Health Clinic</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>
<p>The RI Mental Health Clinic conducts routine evaluations of juveniles before the court within several weeks of referral and emergency evaluations are seen the same day by an on-call clinician. This will ensure that juveniles are expeditiously referred to appropriate mental health treatment to decrease the probability of re-offending.</p>	
<b>2015 PREA “Bonus” Funds</b>	\$708
<b>2015 PREA Penalty Re-Distribution</b>	\$23,086
<b>Total Unallocated 2015 PREA Funds</b>	<b>\$23,794</b>
<p>The goal of the state’s whole PREA project is to establish and maintain a zero-tolerance culture for sexual assault within the Rhode Island correctional system. The limited funding available, in addition to STOP VAWA and JJPA PREA penalty funds, will be used to help bring the RI Department of Corrections, the RI Training School for Youth and the several RI State Police Barracks with overnight lock-up facilities into full compliance with federal PREA regulations. Actual use of the funds await the findings of several facility audits scheduled to take place in CY 2016.</p>	

<b>FY-2014 Amendment</b>	
<b>Law Enforcement Advocate Program – Derived from unallocated 2014 Statewide Funds</b>	<b>\$12,000</b>
<p>The Steering Committee and Policy Board approved the use of \$12,000 of \$14,559 unallocated 2014 JAG funds to support three Law Enforcement Advocate projects for the month of September 2015 while awaiting the award of 2015 Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies (GTEAP) funding that was to begin on October 1, 2015. The previous GTEAP award ended on August 31, 2015 jeopardizing the three LEA projects' continuity. The obligation of the \$12,000 leaves a balance of \$2,559 in 2014 JAG statewide funds. The three LEA projects served victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault in the jurisdictions of Pawtucket, Coventry, West Greenwich, East Greenwich, North Kingstown, South Kingstown and Narragansett.</p>	
<b>Unallocated 2014 Statewide Funds Balance</b>	<b>\$2,559</b>

<b>FY-2013 Amended Project</b>	
<b>R.I. Dept. of Behavioral Health Care and Developmental Disabilities</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Transfer to Recovery (Re-Entry) (Original Amount \$112,780)</b>	<b>\$108,000</b>
<p>The Transfer to Recovery Program combines pre and post release treatment with the medication VIVITROL and counseling for opioid addicted inmates, and provides transitional housing with necessary supports upon release from RIDOC. Participation in the program is voluntary and available to highly motivated inmates sentenced to RIDOC.</p>	
<b>Unallocated 2013 Statewide Funds - derived from reduction in the BHDDH project</b>	<b>\$4,780</b>

## 2015 BYRNE VARIABLE PASS-THROUGH (47.9%)

### Planning Committee

The Local Law Enforcement Planning Committee (LEPC) is comprised of ten chiefs of municipal police departments (appointed by the president of the RI Police Chiefs Association) representing RI's 39 municipalities. The LEPC meets annually to plan for the distribution of the Byrne/JAG variable pass-through (VPT) funds in addition to the "Under \$10K" money awarded directly to the state. The LEPC uses a formula based largely on population and serious crime rates to allocate the VPT funds to all municipal police departments.

### Impact of "BJA-Direct" Awards

In 2005, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) began "Direct" JAG awards to 10-12 larger municipalities that had qualified for awards (greater than \$10,000 according to a BJA formula). The "leftover" funds are provided to the state and called "Under \$10K" funds which the state must use to provide services to municipal police departments not receiving BJA-Direct" awards.


The LEPC adjusts the annual JAG VPT formula allocations to municipal police departments by factoring in the BJA Direct awards. The LEPC eliminates a state pass-through allocation to any department receiving a "BJA-Direct" award GREATER than their state (LEPC approved) formula allocation. For those that received a "BJA-Direct" award that was LESS than the state formula allocation, the state would make up the difference between the two. This system ensures the equitable distribution of the state VPT funds.

### Law Enforcement Planning Committee Membership

- Col. Stephen McCartney, Chair, Warwick PD
- Chief Vincent Vespia, South Kingstown PD
- Chief John Desmaris, Cumberland PD
- Chief Tom Blakey, Tiverton PD
- Chief Paul King, Pawtucket PD
- Chief Bryan Volpe, Coventry PD
- Chief Gary Silva, Newport PD
- Chief Thomas Carey, Woonsocket PD
- Chief Richard Silva, West Warwick PD
- Chief Joseph DelPrete, Gloucester PD

### RIPSGAO Staff:

- Thomas Mongeau, Administrative Manager
- David LeDoux, Byrne/JAG Grants Manager

2015 JAG VPT Awards		
Local Jurisdiction/ (Police Department)	Approved 2015 VPT Awards 	BJA Direct Awards
Barrington	\$ 6,310	
Bristol	\$ 11,300	
Burrillville	\$ 7,560	
* Central Falls	—	\$ 25,247
Charlestown	\$ 6,310	
Coventry	\$ 13,795	
* Cranston	\$ 13,515	\$ 24,352
Cumberland	\$ 13,795	
East Greenwich	\$ 7,560	
* East Providence	\$ 5,200	\$ 12,336
Foster	\$ 6,310	
Glocester	\$ 6,310	
Hopkinton	\$ 6,310	
Jamestown	\$ 6,310	
Johnston	\$ 17,535	
Lincoln	\$ 11,300	
Little Compton	\$ 6,310	
Middletown	\$ 11,300	
Narragansett	\$ 13,795	
New Shoreham	\$ 6,310	
* Newport	\$ 3,850	\$ 20,837
North Kingstown	\$ 13,795	
North Providence	\$ 13,795	
North Smithfield	\$ 6,310	
* Pawtucket	—	\$ 53,881
Portsmouth	\$ 7,560	
* Providence	—	\$ 217,250
Richmond	\$ 6,310	
Scituate	\$ 6,310	
Smithfield	\$ 11,300	
South Kingstown	\$ 13,795	
Tiverton	\$ 7,560	
Warren	\$ 6,310	
* Warwick	\$ 25,500	\$ 17,833
West Greenwich	\$ 6,310	
* West Warwick	\$ 1,460	\$ 12,336
Westerly	\$ 13,795	
* Woonsocket	—	\$ 40,523
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 321,095</b>	<b>\$ 424,595</b>
* Police departments receiving BJA Direct-to-Local Awards have their state VPT awards reduced or eliminated accordingly.		

**“UNDER \$10K” STATEWIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT PROJECTS – BENEFITTING LOCALS**

<b>RI Municipal Police Training Academy</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Law Enforcement In-service Training Program</b> ( <i>Under \$10K</i> )	\$25,000
The In-Service training project ensures that law enforcement officials are offered critical training in such areas as use of deadly force, emergency vehicle operation, first line supervision, evidence collection, and many other basic and advanced law enforcement techniques, practices and procedures.	
<b>RI State Council of Churches</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Hate Crimes Training Program</b> ( <i>Under \$10K</i> )	\$17,000
The Rhode Island Commission on Prejudice and Bias in conjunction with the RI Council of Churches and the RI Department of Attorney General sponsors hate crime training sessions for state, municipal, and college/university police agencies throughout Rhode Island. This includes in-service training as well as training for recruits at the Municipal Police Training Academy, the Providence Police Training Academy, and the State Police Training Academy.	
<b>URI State Crime Laboratory</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Computer Upgrades</b> ( <i>Under \$10K</i> )	\$16,589
Replace a network server and an AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Information System) workstation to network with the RI Attorney General’s AFIS.	
<b>R.I. Police Accreditation Commission (RIPAC)</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Statewide Law Enforcement Accreditation Initiative</b> ( <i>Under \$10K</i> )	\$9,661
Funds provide partial support for the RIPAC’s full-time Executive Director’s position. RIPAC is a private non-profit entity with most program costs covered by the membership dues of 43 participating law enforcement agencies. RIPAC provides training on managing the accreditation program, policy development to meet standard requirements and offers proofs of compliance while aiding with interpretation of standards.	
<b>West Warwick Police Department</b> ( <i>for the P2P project</i> ) ( <i>Under \$10K</i> )	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Law Enforcement Peer to Peer Crisis Intervention Training</b>	\$5,000
The regional peer support team responds to traumatic police-involved incidents within the state, such as police involved shootings, death or serious injury of an officer, mass casualty incidents and death of children. Funds provide yearly refresher and assessment training by training members to identify critical incident stress, crisis management, occupational warning signs, conducting diffusing and debriefings, and team set-up and management.	

## The Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP)

**T**he Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) became law in 1974 and was amended in 2002. The State of Rhode Island has been an active participant since 1975, receives appropriations annually and has received approximately \$29 million since 1975. Grant funds may be used for many purposes related to delinquency prevention and improvement of the juvenile justice system. Funding recommendations are developed by the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC) and then approved by the Criminal Justice Policy Board. The goals of the JJAC have remained unchanged. Principally, they are to carry out the mandates of the JJDP Act:

- Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO);
- Jail Removal (juveniles not to be detained or confined in any jail or lockup for adults);
- Sight and Sound Separation of juveniles (from adults);
- Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) - addresses efforts to reduce the proportion of juveniles detained or confined in secure detention/correctional facilities, jails, and lockups who are members of minority groups if such proportion exceeds the proportion such groups represent in the general population.

Rhode Island has maintained substantive compliance with the four JJDP mandates since 1995. The Juvenile Justice Specialist, along with the JJAC, has committed its energies to:

- Creating conditions in RI communities that promote positive development of youth;
- Reducing youth-related problems, such as substance abuse, school drop outs;
- Advocating the development and implementation of projects related to young people;
- Increasing collaboration among community sectors, such as human service, business, law enforcement and religious institutions, to address youth problems.

### *Program Highlights*

#### 2015

Total Award  
\$381,000

#### 2015 PREA

Total Award  
\$19,162

## **State Advisory Group – Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC)**

**W**hen Congress enacted the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) in 1974, it recognized that the success of the federal involvement in juvenile justice would rest on the shoulders of committed and experienced individuals at the state and local level. The State Advisory Groups or SAGs were made an integral part of the JJDPA to allow this experience, commitment and local perspective to play a significant role in delinquency prevention and juvenile justice reform. The Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC) is Rhode Island's State Advisory Group.

The citizen members of the JJAC are appointed by the Governor. Appointees come from the public and private sectors and represent a broad cross-section of experience and philosophy. As the Governor's appointees, the JJAC membership has the credibility and influence necessary to work effectively with local communities and organizations. The experience of the JJAC membership allows it to effectively assess the particular problems and needs of the local communities, to develop sensible priorities and to identify, support and monitor those who develop and operate the programs and activities funded by federal dollars. The experience and dedication of volunteer members of citizen advocacy groups is vital to the effective and efficient use of the federal grant dollars. With their ties to local communities, state and local organizations, JJAC members are able to generate a local investment in the fight against youth crime which often translates to a financial investment from state and local government. By leveraging federal funds with these other resources, the JJAC has been able to maximize the impact of the JJDPA formula grant money.

**Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee**  
*(through August 2015)*

**Brother Brendan Gerrity, Chair**  
*President, Ocean Tides*

**Hon. Haiganush Bedrosian**  
*Chief Judge, RI Family Court*

**Hon. Kathleen Voccola**  
*Assoc. Justice, RI Family Court*

**Hon. Angela Paulhus, Esq.**  
*Magistrate, RI Family Court*

**Alberta Catalozzi**  
*Office of the Public Defender*

**Lidia Oster**  
*Juvenile Intake Officer, RI Family Court*

**Fiedlim Gill**  
*General Magistrate, RI Family Court*

**Susan Urso**  
*Asst. Attorney General*  
*RI Dept. of the Attorney General*

**Dottie Gardiner DeFeo**  
*Juvenile Probation*  
*RI Dept. of Children, Youth & Families*

**Vincent MacAteer**  
*Child Protective Services*  
*RI Dept. of Children, Youth & Families*

**Gabrielle Abbate**  
*Executive Dir, MADD RI*

**Geneva Singletary-Johnson**  
*Citizen Member*

**Fred Trapassi**  
*Phoenix House*

**Joseph Le**  
*Citizen Member*

**Ann Clanton**  
*Citizen Member*

**Jackie Miech**  
*Youth Member*

**Justin Palazzo**  
*Youth Member*

**Adrian Ramos**  
*Youth Member*

**Gina Tocco**  
*Juvenile Justice Specialist*  
*Public Safety Grant Administration Office*

## Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention – Title II Formula Grant

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>2015</b>
Public Safety Grant Administration Office	Planning and Administration	\$38,100
Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee	JJAC – Administration/ Prevention Activities	\$15,000
Compliance Monitoring and Group 4 Securicor	Compliance Monitoring Activities	\$60,328
RI for Community & Justice	Disproportionate Minority Contact Project	\$58,000
RI Kids Count	Disproportionate Minority Contact/JDAI	\$58,000
Narragansett Indian Tribe	Tribal Youth Court	\$4,000
Rhode Island Family Court	Specialty Courts	\$147,572
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$381,000</b>

Planning and administration funds are used for the Juvenile Justice Specialist who also serves as the state’s Compliance Monitor and DMC Coordinator. The State Advisory Group allocation is for the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee. This committee develops and reviews the three-year plan, continuation funding applications and any subgrantee applications. Funding is used for travel to OJJDP, CJJ and other related conferences and workshops, as well as site visits to monitor subgrantees and juvenile detention facilities.

The Native American allocation goes to the Narragansett Indian Tribe for their community policing activities for tribal at-risk youth. Their Juvenile Justice Program includes tribal police officers who develop and administer activities for at-risk tribal youth that continues to focus around Tribal traditional values. Programs and activities address topics such as drug and alcohol prevention, conflict resolution, child safety and anger management.

Compliance Monitoring funds are used for the Juvenile Justice Specialist and the Administrative Manager, as well as travel to mandatory conferences and site visits to all juvenile detention facilities in the state. \$30,000 is used in contract with G4S Youth Services, LLC for compliance monitoring services including annual technical assistance visits, site visits to detention facilities, and assistance with annual reporting requirements to maintain compliance with the JJDP Act.

Court services funding is awarded to the RI Family Court for their Specialty Court programs. Specifically the funding is for treatment, support and other options for children and families involved with the Juvenile Drug Court and the Family Treatment Drug Court. These specialty courts serve children and parents throughout RI. Funding provides screenings and assessments, comprehensive care coordination/case management, and support staff for the Specialty Courts programs.



Funding for Disproportionate Minority Contact is awarded to RI Kids Count and to RI for Community and Justice working to keep minority juveniles out of the juvenile justice system. RI Kids Count coordinates Rhode Island's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI), a project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation that seeks to reduce unnecessary and inappropriate detention and improve juvenile justice systems overall. RI Kids Count has developed a JDAI Quarterly Reporting System for maintaining current data on youth at the RI Training School; is identifying and expanding community-based alternatives to the Training School that can provide supervision and therapeutic services for youth; and collaborates with RI for Community and Justice's DMC project to address issues in the juvenile justice system.

RI for Community and Justice's Juvenile Justice DMC Project is working to improve the juvenile justice system and promote best practice community diversionary alternatives for at-risk minority juveniles, with the goal of making incarceration a last resort. The project brings together a diverse coalition representing: courts, law enforcement, mental health and social services, educators, community and youth. Areas of focus include: piloting a new system of data reports on DMC using quarterly Court and DCYF data; promoting the use of and increasing the effectiveness of proven practices such as juvenile hearing boards; promoting the adoption of other best practices such as graduated sanctions and 24-hr juvenile reception centers; promoting cooperative disciplinary policies between schools and police; and promoting access to interpretation services and cultural competency at every level of the juvenile justice system.

## **OJJDP Title II Formula Grant – Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Reallocation**

**T**he Prison Rape Elimination Act provides in part, that if a Governor is not able to certify to the Department of Justice that their state or territory is in full compliance with the National PREA Standards, and elects not to submit an assurance to the Department that not less than 5% of certain Department grant funds (including Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act funding) will be used solely for the purpose of enabling the state or territory to achieve full compliance with the standards in future years, then the state or territory is subject to a reduction of five percent of grant funds it would otherwise receive.

States, such as Rhode Island, which submitted assurances, were issued a separate PREA Reallocation grant, to be used solely for the purpose of enabling the state or territory to achieve full compliance with the PREA standards in future years.

Rhode Island's 2015 OJJDP PREA Reallocation grant, in the amount of \$19,162, was awarded to the Department of Children, Youth and Families. DCYF intends to use the funds to ensure that identified covered Juvenile Facilities comply with the PREA Juvenile Facilities Standards. They use the defined PREA Juvenile Facilities Audit Process and the training of the PREA Coordinator and PREA Compliance Manager for the Rhode Island Training School to ensure initial compliance with PREA and ongoing oversight of PREA Compliance within identified covered facilities.

## **Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) Program**

**I**n 2014, Congress eliminated funding for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant. This funding program was originally enacted to assist states in reducing juvenile offending by supporting accountability-base programs that focus on offenders and state and local juvenile justice systems. In Rhode Island, this funding had previously gone to the Public Defender's Office for their Juvenile Response Unit and to the Attorney General's Office for a juvenile prosecutor in Gang Prevention and Community Prosecution.

# Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victims Assistance Formula Grant Program

**T**he Public Safety Grant Administration Office (formerly known as the RI Justice Commission) has administered the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victims Assistance Program since 1985, when the program was first enacted by Congress. The Act is funded through fines paid by those convicted of violating federal laws. The VOCA program has the most restrictive regulations of all PSGAO-administered grant programs as funds are strictly intended to support direct services to victims of violent crime. The Act requires priority be given to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse and other groups identified by the state as being "under-served" victims of violent crimes.

Program Highlights	
2015	Total Award \$3,000,000

The Public Safety Grant Administration Office made 46 VOCA awards in 2015 totaling \$2,924,029.

## VOCA Advisory Committee

Originally established in 1986, the VOCA Advisory Committee consists of representatives from both the public and private sectors. The Committee meets throughout the year and works with the Public Safety Grant Administration Office to identify the needs of victims of crime, set goals for distribution of federal dollars, establish procedures for applicants to submit grant requests, and make recommendations for the funding of grant programs. The Committee and PSGAO staff reviews progress of individual grantees toward stated goals.

### VOCA Advisory Committee

**Stephen King**  
*Policy Analyst, Retired*  
*Rhode Island Supreme Court*

*Assistant Professor*  
*Rhode Island College*  
*School of Social Work*

**Elizabeth Morancy**  
*Executive Director*  
*Alzheimer's Association, RI Chapter*

**Cathy Cranston**  
*Crime Victim*

**Roberta Richmond**  
*Assistant Director, Retired*  
*Department of Corrections*  
*Rehabilitative Services*

**Joseph Persia**  
*PSGAO VOCA Administrator*

**Wendy Becker**

## VOCA Victims Assistance Subgrants for FY 2015

<b>Subgrantee</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>2015</b>
Adoption Rhode Island Statewide	VOCA Family Support Project	Provides support services to abused children and their adoptive families	\$91,557
Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center	Law Enforcement Advocate Program	This project makes a law enforcement advocate available to the City of Central Falls	\$45,440
Child & Family Service of Newport Newport County	Elderly Abuse Program	Provides outreach, assessment, advocacy, case management, and treatment for victims of elderly abuse and their families	\$42,100
Community Care Alliance	Victim Trauma and Advocacy Services	Provides victims of crime comprehensive emergency therapeutic and case management services.	\$30,000
Comprehensive Community Action Program Providence County	Enhanced Case Management Program	Provides education, support and intervention services aimed at helping victim's family eliminate violence from their lives	\$53,294
Day One	Victims of Sexual Exploitation & Trafficking	Provides statewide advocacy services to anyone involved in sexual exploitation and human trafficking	\$98,851
Day One	Sexual Assault Victim Assistance	Provides crisis intervention, counseling services and legal advocacy for victims of sexual assault and their families.	\$106,407
Day One	RI Children's Advocacy Center	Provides a team approach involving prosecutors, police, medical personnel, family human service providers for investigation and treatment of child sexual abuse cases	\$93,622
Day One	Law Enforcement Advocate	This project makes a Law Enforcement Advocate available to the City of Providence	\$42,829
Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County	Path Towards Independence	This project focuses on life skills, health behavior and building sustainability for victims of domestic violence	\$15,009
East Bay Community Action Program	Victim's assistance Program	Provides victim services to the East Bay of Rhode Island	\$28,643

Elizabeth Buffum Chace House	Felony Case Advocacy Program	Expands existing Court Advocacy Program to provide services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking	\$43,075
Family Service of Rhode Island, Inc. Providence	Police Go Team	Provides clinician on call 24/7 to respond to Providence Police calls from scene of violent crime or domestic abuse	\$64,633
Family Service of Rhode Island, Inc. Providence	RI Victim Assistance Academy	Provides funds to continue operation of the RI Victim Assistance Academy at Roger Williams University	\$32,101
Family Service of Rhode Island, Inc. Providence	Family Violence Intervention Program	Provides next day, joint follow-up visits with police officers to homes of victims of family, domestic or interpersonal violence	\$38,779
Gateway Health Care, Inc.	Gateway to Recovery: Victims of Sex Trafficking	Provides community awareness, coordination of services, implementation of trauma-informed best practices, training of law enforcement	\$60,368
Gateway Health Care, Inc. Pawtucket, Central Falls, Cranston, Johnston	Trauma Treatment Project	Seeks to expand mental health counseling to children and adults who have been sexually abused or traumatized by crime and/or their families.	\$29,879
House of Hope Community Development Corporation	House of Hope CDC Homeless Victims of Crime	Provides outreach to engage and provide comprehensive social services to the homeless who are victims of crime	\$52,116
Institute for Study & Practice of Nonviolence Providence	Nonviolence Streetworkers Program	Provides crisis intervention, referrals, 24 hour on call, hospital visits/advocacy, court advocacy, etc.	\$71,864
Institute for Study & Practice of Nonviolence Providence	Victim Support Center	Provides victims who are suffering from the loss of a family member through homicide support services.	\$134,713
Interfaith Counseling Center, Inc. Statewide	Interfaith Counseling Victims Assistance	Focus on crime victimization, with special outreach to male and female victims of clergy sexual abuse and victims of domestic violence within faith communities	\$46,658
Justice Assistance Statewide	Project Victim Services	Provides victims who are suffering from the loss of a family member through homicide support services	\$54,188

The Kent Center, Inc. Kent County	VOCA Comprehensive Health Services	Provides clinical intervention and support program for adults who have been victims of traumatic violence and/or abuse	\$70,779
Mothers Against Drunk Driving Statewide	MADD RI Victim Advocate	Provides victim an advocate to help prepare victims of drunk drivers for hearings and possible trial. Also provides assistance with victim impact statement.	\$39,960
New England Advocacy Services	Closing the Gap on Victim Services	Provides victims of crime services with efforts focused on Providence County	\$3,476
Office of the Child Advocate Statewide	Victims Services	Provide services and a means of compensation to young crime victims who are in the custody of the state	\$100,000
Progreso Latino	AYUDAME/Help Me	Provides direct crime victim service response to Latino community who are newly arrived immigrants	\$50,000
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence Statewide	Sisters Overcoming Abusive Relationships (SOAR)	Provides empowerment to women of domestic abuse by uniting female victims with trust and power sharing	\$40,000
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence Statewide	Domestic Violence – Abuse Victim Advocacy	Provides services to victims of domestic violence through the seven member agencies and also through printing and distributing brochures	\$304,200
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence Statewide	Victim Counseling Program	Provides direct services for counseling victims of domestic violence, dating violence and children who witness domestic abuse	\$30,000
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence Statewide	Rhode Island Helpline	Provides a helpline for easy access to immediate, quality crisis intervention, support and referrals for all victims of crime in Rhode Island	\$115,000
RI Department of Corrections Statewide	Comprehensive Office of Victim Services	Establishes an Office of Victim Services to work with victims and provide victim notification and information	\$67,378
RI Department of the Attorney General Statewide	Statewide Victim Assistance/ Information Service	Maintains expansion of services to felony crime victims with focus on priority victim populations to reduce trauma and aid recovery	\$60,000

Rhode Island Dept. of Administration/Division of Information Technology (DoIT) Statewide	Victims Assistance Portal	Provides victims of crime current inter-agency notification of criminal proceedings through web based victims assistance portal	\$45,000
Rhode Island Family Court Providence, Bristol Counties	Family Domestic Violence Court	Court based case management including evaluation – Domestic Violence Services Director	\$49,830
Rhode Island Hospital	Aubin Center Child Life Advocate	Provides child life intervention and support, Adolescent Peer Support groups for victims of sexual assault and Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking.	\$43,479
Rhode Island Legal Services Inc. Statewide	Legal Assistance Project	Provides free legal representation for clients who are victims of domestic violence seeking restraining orders	\$200,000
Rhode Island Parole Board Statewide	Enhanced Victim Services Project	Provides advocacy and assistance to victims when offender is up for parole	\$55,997
RI State Police	RI State Police Victim's Assistance	Provides salary for consultant to provide services to victims of crime that are reported to RISP and to provide funding to further training to members of the agency on working with and assisting victims of crime	\$42,760
Sojourner House	Immigration Advocacy for Victims of Abuse	Provides service to survivors of domestic abuse or human trafficking who additionally have an immigration related component to their cases	\$35,000
Sophia Academy	Empowerment Program	Contracts with Day One, Screens for victims and provides victims services to their students	\$20,544
St. Elizabeth Community	St. Elizabeth Haven for Abused Elders	Designates shelter for elder abuse victims using existing nursing home beds at St. Elizabeth Home.	\$20,000
St. Mary's Home for Children	Supporting Teens at Risk (STAR) Project	Serves the human trafficking survivor population; keep children safe in homes and communities and reduce risk of re-victimization	\$50,000

St. Mary's Home for Children	Sexual Abuse Project	Comprehensive, family-based treatment for sexual abuse in families; treating the family as a system, fostering personal growth, independence and responsibility in all family members	\$72,500
Tri-Town Community Action Agency North, West and South County	Victims Assistance Program	Provides crisis intervention, emergency services, mental health counseling, support services, forensic medical examination, and staff development and training	\$85,000
Youth Pride Statewide	Victim Support Project	Provides victim outreach and services to gay, lesbian and transgender youth in RI	\$47,000

**RHODE ISLAND WAS THE FIRST STATE IN THE NATION** to pass a constitutional amendment through a constitutional convention guaranteeing victims the right to participate in the criminal justice process. The amendment is as follows:

*"A victim of crime shall, as a matter of right be treated by agents of the state with dignity, respect and sensitivity during all phases of the criminal justice process. Such person shall be entitled to receive, from the perpetrator of the crime, financial compensation for any injury or loss caused by the perpetrator of the crime, and shall receive such other compensation as the state may provide. Before sentencing, the victim shall have the right to address the court regarding the impact which the perpetrator's conduct has had upon the victim."*

*Article I, Section 23 of the Constitution of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations*



## The National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP)

**S**ince 1995, the National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) has helped States to improve the accuracy and national accessibility of criminal histories. NCHIP is an umbrella program designed to assist states in meeting evolving legislative and technical requirements regarding criminal histories and related records, such as protection order and sex offender registries. Interstate availability of such records is crucial with regard to criminal investigations, background checks for those applying for certain licenses, firearms purchases and those who work with children, the elderly and the disabled.

<b>Program Highlights</b>	
<b><u>2015</u></b>	Total Award
	\$167,085

The goal of the National Criminal History Improvement Program is to improve the Nation's safety and security by enhancing the quality, completeness, and accessibility of criminal history record information and by insuring the nationwide implementation of criminal justice and non-criminal justice background check systems. In past years these funds have been utilized to upgrade and modernize the criminal history infrastructure statewide, channeling necessary funding through local municipalities, the Office of the Attorney General and the Judiciary.

The NCHIP this year was a discretionary grant program administered through the Bureau of Justice Statistics. The Public Safety Grant Administration Office submitted an application and received notification of an award on September 12, 2014 in the amount of \$167,085. The FY 2015 program budget is as follows:

The Judiciary was awarded \$30,000 of NCHIP grant funds for overtime costs associated with the ongoing research and data entry of criminal dispositions, verifying criminal cases, and entering warrants and waivers. Tasks would apply solely to criminal case processing and would be conducted in both the District and Superior Courts statewide. The \$30,000 would be added to the existing overtime budget for the courts and would cover the 18-month grant period. The cost estimates are based upon past experience supporting this project.

The RI State Police were awarded \$120,379 and they contracted with their network contractor, to establish a backup RILETS core router to be located at the RI State Data Center. This backup core router would continue to deliver critical data if the primary core router were to fail. The RI State Police would also establish redundant internet connections and engineered Border Gateway

Protocol to advertise internet presence over two internet service providers to ensure traffic to flow if one provider should fail. This enhanced the Internet Proxy Server that was established with FY 2013 NCHIP funding. A redundant data connection to Cox Communications, who provides leased data circuits to municipalities for RILETS connections, will also provide a backup to the Cox connection at the RILETS Primary Core.

For additional information see: <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/nchip14sol.pdf>

## Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act (NFSIA) Formula Grant

**T**he National Institute of Justice (NIJ) through the Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act (NFSIA) provides funds to states in a formula grant program. Funds received through the NFSIA are to be used to improve the quality, timeliness, and credibility of forensic science services for criminal justice purposes. NIJ requires certification that the State has an established forensic science laboratory or laboratory system that is accredited by an appropriate certifying body or will use a portion of the grant to prepare and apply for such accreditation within 2 years after the grant is awarded.

### Program Highlights

2015

Total Award  
\$63,705

Rhode Island has used its Coverdell funding to support an accreditation readiness program. Rhode Island laboratories began the accreditation process with the Coverdell 2002 award. The exercise has required that the State Crime Laboratory at the University of Rhode Island and the State Forensic Science Laboratory at the Department of Health meet or exceed the required forensic laboratory standards that have been identified by international accreditation standards (ISO/IEC 17025).

Effective April 9, 2007, the State Crime Laboratory was assessed and found to comply with the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2005 and accrediting body supplemental forensic requirements for accreditation. That accreditation expired April 9, 2011. The Laboratory underwent an ISO audit inspection by FQS, Inc. in March of 2011 and was re-accredited for a second four year term: May 25, 2011 to May 25, 2015. In January of 2015 FQS merged with ANSI-ASQ and is now known as the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board or ANAB. The laboratory underwent an ISO audit inspection by ANAB in March of 2015 and was re-accredited for a third four year term: May 25, 2015 to May 25, 2019.

The Rhode Island Department of Health Laboratory's Forensic Sciences Unit is accredited to the ISO 17025 International Standard and to the FBI's Quality Assurance Standards (QAS). A Quality Assurance Officer is needed to maintain the quality documentation system and to conduct regular internal audits of the Laboratory. The 2015 Coverdell funds allowed the Department of Health Forensic Science Laboratory to partially fund the Quality Assurance Officer for the Forensic Sciences Unit. The balance of the cost for this position is funded by a combination of other federal grants and state funding. The individual hired will work 50% of a 35 hour work week for one year

toward the aims of this project. The State Forensic Laboratory currently maintains accreditation for the DNA/CODIS unit, as well as the Toxicology Unit and Drug Chemistry Units, effective through May 2, 2016. A reaccreditation audit is scheduled for March, 2016.

The State Crime Lab at URI used their 2015 Coverdell funds toward the cost of continuing education for laboratory personnel in conjunction with laboratory accreditation and personnel certification. RI State Crime Analysts will travel to attend national conferences concerned their areas of expertise including The New England Division of the International Association for Identification conference in Burlington, VT, American Academy of Forensic Science Conference in Las Vegas, NV, American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors in Bellevue, WA, American Society of Trace Evidence Examiners in Richmond, VA, Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners in New Orleans, LA, and the International Association of Identification in Cincinnati, OH.

The Office of the State Medical Examiner (OSME) used their 2013 Coverdell funds to purchase supplies to help strengthen the OSME infrastructure that are essential for the continued efficient and professional operation of OSME activities. These supplies include two hydraulic autopsy room tables, seven Nikon digital cameras for autopsy room and field work, and Sharepoint software to enable OSME staff to track subpoena requests for medical record and courtroom appearances.

The Rhode Island State Police Criminal Identification Unit (CIU) used their funds to send three CIU members to the New England International Association for Identification in Burlington, VT, one CIU member to the International Association for Identification Annual Conference in Cincinnati, OH, and two CIU members to the Advanced Footwear and Impression Examination Class in Concord, NH. Funds were also budgeted to purchase various supplies including a Leica Laser Measuring Device for use at crime scenes, Clear ID Forensic Image Software, two laptop computers and six camera straps. Funds were also used to pay consultant costs for testing fees administered for a new member of the CIU, and to pay the accrediting agency maintenance, fee, inspection, and final assessment fees.

## The STOP Violence Against Women Act ( STOP or VAWA)

**T**he STOP (Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution) Violence Against Women Act (VAWA or simply, STOP), enacted by the 103rd Congress, is enumerated in Title IV of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 and was re-authorized in 2005 and 2013. STOP VAWA is commitment to enhance the nation’s criminal justice system response to the violence perpetrated against women including domestic and dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

### 2015 Formula Award/Plan

The FY 2015 STOP award is \$943,442, down 1.3% from the 2014 award of \$955,936. STOP has several mandated program categories that dictate the distribution of the award funds: 30% is required for victim services, 25% for prosecution, 25% for law enforcement, 5% for courts and 15% is discretionary. The discretionary funds must support one of STOP VAWA’s seven program purpose areas and fit into one of the afore-mentioned program categories. Rhode Island has historically utilized this discretionary 15% to augment the victims’ services component.

The 2015 STOP VAWA plan represent year two (2) of a three-year implementation plan (2014 – 2016). The 2015 award of \$943,442 was penalized 4.75% due to the state’s yet-to-be-achieved compliance with mandates the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). The penalized amount, \$44,675, unlike with the Byrne/JAG program, is not subtracted from the STOP VAWA award, rather, remains within the formula grant but must be used to assist the state in achieving PREA compliance. The 5% PREA penalty is only applied after each Program Category allocation has been assessed its 10% allowable planning and administration amount. The Court 5% Program Area is exempt from the PREA penalty and as a result, the actual penalty amounts to 4.75% of the total award (less the 10% planning and administration allowance). The Office on Violence Against Women must approved the PREA plan.

### Planning and Administration

The STOP program allows for 10% of each program category to be used for Planning and Administration. Differing from Byrne/JAG where the 10% P&A comes off the top as a set-aside, STOP requires that each program category funding amount be assessed the 10% P&A allowance.

### PREA Penalty

The goal of the state’s PREA compliance program is to establish and maintain a zero-tolerance culture for sexual assault within the Rhode Island correctional and overnight lock-up system.

Since the Court 5% is exempt from the PREA penalty, the total PREA penalty amounts to 4.75% of the total award after P&A is subtracted from each program category. The PREA penalty can be charged off to any of the program categories, except the Courts, as long as the proposed PREA

• **2015 STOP VAWA**  
**Total Award: \$943,442**

• **2015 GTEAP (3-year)**  
**Total Award: \$900,000**

**NOTE:** *The federal government is changing the name of the GTEAP award to the “Integrated Criminal Justice Response to Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program and will use the acronym ICJR. However, we will continue to refer to the program as GTEAP through 2018.*

compliance activity is relevant to the program area.

Thus far, the state has been able to craft its STOP PREA compliance plan and distribute the PREA penalty on a pro-rated basis, between the Victim Services, Discretionary, Prosecution and Law Enforcement categories.

### **Summary of STOP PREA Plan**

- The RIPS GAO has already awarded \$33,428 of the FY 2014 PREA funds to the RI Department of Corrections to hire a vendor (Day One)—in conjunction with the 2014 Byrne/JAG PREA penalty funds—to review and revise existing training material to be fully compliant with PREA standards 115.33 and 115.333; and present sex-specific material for inmates at RIDOC to proactively combat the incidence of inmate sexual victimization while in custody. Day One will also tailor the sex-specific curricula for delivery to juveniles in custody at the RI Training School for Youth and their several residential facilities.
- The RIPS GAO will award the 2014 STOP VAWA Law Enforcement funds in the amount of \$11,949 to the RISP to perform PREA audits at several of its lock-ups and to use the remainder to perform any identified corrective actions dictated by the audits; the award will require a completed application;
- The RIPS GAO will award the 2015 STOP VAWA Law Enforcement funds in the amount of \$11,144 to the RISP to perform any additional identified corrective actions dictated by the audits. The award will require a completed application;
- The RIPS GAO will award the 2015 Byrne/JAG PREA penalty funds in the amount of \$23,086 (plus \$708 in PREAS “bonus” funds) to the RIDOC to perform any identified corrective actions dictated by audits of several facilities and will include physical modifications to the shower and rest room area; The award will require a completed application;
- The RIPS GAO will award the 2015 STOP VAWA PREA penalty funds from program areas Victim Services, Discretionary and Prosecution in the amount of \$33,431 to the RIDOC to continue educational efforts (PREA 13.133) begun by PREA vendor Day One and perform any other identified corrective actions dictated by audits of several facilities; Jeff Renzi and Jayne DelSesto will continue to work with Dan Guglielmo, Esq., Chief of the RIAG’s DV/SA Prosecution Unit regarding PREA training and coordination (PREA 115.65 and 115.72); The award will require a completed application.

### **History of STOP VAWA**

In early 1995, the Finance Committee of the Rhode Island House of Representatives established a multi-disciplinary committee to prepare for the implementation of VAWA. Subsequently, Governor Almond named the Rhode Island Public Safety Grant Administration Office to administer the STOP Violence Against Women Act program for the state. The original committee continued to meet serving as the Statewide Planning Committee. This committee developed a comprehensive statewide plan to reduce the incidence of crimes of violence against women and to improve services to victims.

As a result of the efforts of this committee, Rhode Island was the second state in the nation to receive funding under the Violence Against Women Act. In addition, the Rhode Island State Implementation Plan was the first in the nation to be approved by the Office of Justice Programs,

U.S. Department of Justice. In the 2005 VAWA re-authorization, Congress mandated that 10% of the 30% allocated for Victim Services be set aside to support “Culturally-Specific” programming which began with the 2007 VAWA award through to the present.

The multi-disciplinary VAWA Planning (Advisory) Committee has one standing subcommittee, DV/SA Training and Curriculum Development Committee. This group has successfully developed and updated both a 2 hour and 4-hour comprehensive training curricula and implements in-service, academy recruit and other specialized training programs addressing the needs of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. The law enforcement training program developed in Rhode Island was the first of its kind in the country, and focuses on the improvement of law enforcement officers’ response to domestic violence and sexual assault cases. In addition, the DV/SA Training Committee has developed and presented specialized statewide trainings, such as Stalking, Dispatcher, Sexual Assault Investigation, Lethality Risk Assessment (to reduce/eliminate Domestic Violence homicides) among others and presented to targeted audiences.

#### **1. Victim Services (30%) and Discretionary (15%) Program Categories**

STOP requires that 30% of the annual formula award be set aside to support the Program Category Victim’s Services. Of that, 10% must be set-aside to support “culturally-specific” projects. Further, Rhode Island uses the STOP 15% “Discretionary” Program Category to augment the Victim Services program category. The combined 45% is distributed to the state’s two victim service coalitions: the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Day One, the state’s Sexual Assault Coalition. The discretionary funds could be used for other Program Categories: Law Enforcement, Prosecution or Courts if the state so deems.

- a) **The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence (RICADV)** and its six member agencies assist and support Rhode Island’s shelters for battered women in statewide planning and development. The RICADV is one of two principle victim service agencies supported with STOP VAWA funds. The Coalition serves as a resource for its member agencies, providing trainings, technical assistance, statewide planning and needs assessment, and gathering and disseminating resources and information.

The Coalition’s member organizations and the catchment areas they cover are:

- Sojourner House (Northern Rhode Island and Providence)
- Women’s Center of Rhode Island (Providence and East Providence)
- Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center (Kent County)
- Women’s Resource Center (Newport and Bristol Counties)
- The Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center (Blackstone Valley – Northwestern RI)
- Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County

These agencies provide high-quality emergency and support services to over 10,000 victims of domestic violence and their children annually, including emergency shelter, twenty-four hotline coverage, support groups, children’s programs, court advocacy, public education, and counseling. Together, these agencies form a comprehensive network of services to meet the diverse needs of victims of domestic violence.

Further, the RICADV ensures VAWA funds are allocated with a focus on addressing the needs

of underserved populations. The Coalition has developed a process where each of its member agencies submits an application to compete for a portion of the STOP VAWA funding once every three years. The proposals are reviewed by the RICADV’s Funding Committee, which includes community Board members who are not affiliated with the direct service agencies. The allocation of the funding is based on the following criteria: identification of the priority population, implementation plan for services, evaluation plan, and budget justification. Together, these programs address each region's most pressing needs for victim services targeting underserved populations according to the federal definition of “underserved populations.”

**b) Day One**, the state’s *de facto* Sexual Assault Coalition and sole rape crisis center, provides advocacy and support services to victims of sexual abuse and their non-offending caregivers (NOCs) maintaining a comprehensive approach to addressing the unmet needs in the community. Day One coordinates statewide advocacy efforts, refines protocols, and directs a training program for advocates. In addition, qualified Day One staff provides individual and group counseling for victims, as well as crisis intervention, advocacy and psycho-educational groups for victims, particularly underserved populations. Day One serves 300-400 individuals annually through its advocacy and counseling.

Day One uses VAWA funding to coordinate and provide comprehensive support services for survivors of sexual assault throughout the state, as well as their NOCs, through its advocacy and clinical programs that include crisis intervention, ongoing assessment and treatment, justice systems advocacy, follow-up and referrals. Day One does this through the actions of both formal and informal statewide, multi-disciplinary teams to coordinate the response of first responders (medical and legal), prosecutors, and other victim service agencies to sexual assault (and domestic violence). Day One’s activities include training medical and police professionals concerning the treatment of the sexual assault patient/survivor, and the collection and preservation of medical evidence and training victim advocates.

**c) “Culturally Specific” Victim Service Program**

The 2013 STOP VAWA re-authorization resulted in a new, more limited definition of “Culturally-Specific (*see “Definitions” box at right*). As a result, the Healthy Families Initiative that provided training to Muslim leaders and outreach/services to Muslim women) would no longer be eligible for STOP VAWA culturally-specific support.

Since the 2015 STOP award was the first of the new three-year plan, the STOP VAWA Planning Committee ran a new RFP to select the new three-year culturally-specific programming. Only one agency was approved to receive the culturally-specific funds for 2015, 2015 and 2016: the Center for Southeast Asians (CSEA) that targets that specific community.

**Culturally-Specific Definitions**

*From the VAWA 2013 definitions section (42 U.S.C. § 13925(a)):*

**6) CULTURALLY SPECIFIC** - The term ‘culturally specific’ means primarily directed toward **racial and ethnic minority groups** (as defined in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–6(g)).

**7) CULTURALLY SPECIFIC SERVICES** - The term ‘culturally specific services’ means community-based services that include culturally relevant and linguistically specific services and resources to culturally specific communities.”

*The Public Health Service Act defines “racial and ethnic minority groups” as follows (42 U.S.C. § 300u-6(g)):*

...For purposes of this section:

- 1) The term “**racial and ethnic minority group**” means American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts); Asian Americans; Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders; Blacks; and Hispanics.
- 2) The term “**Hispanic**” means individuals whose origin is Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or any other Spanish-speaking country.



## **2. Law Enforcement (25%) Program Category**

The Law Enforcement component is comprised of two distinct programs: the Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault (DV/SA) Training Program and the Law Enforcement Advocate (LEA) Program.

### **a) Law Enforcement Advocate (LEA) Program**

STOP Law Enforcement funds have supported four (4) Law Enforcement Advocate projects that serve eleven (11) R.I. municipalities dating back to 1999. The LEA Program has proven to be such a well-received and successful program that the Victims of Crime Victim Assistance program supports another LEA; and the discretionary 2012 GTEAP Program originally funded six additional LEAs bringing the total number of LEAs to eleven (11) servicing 23 R.I. municipalities (which includes two LEAs providing services to the city of Providence). The LEA program has enhanced the work of the advocates and police, while addressing the pressing needs of DV/SA victims who often find navigating the legal system to be a daunting task.

The services provided by an LEA include crisis intervention, providing information and referrals to local domestic violence and sexual assault services, safety planning; advocacy and support services, hospital and court accompaniment, information regarding the court system and the status of the defendant, and referrals to other service providers in the victim's community as needed.

LEAs also assist with training programs for police officers, community members, and other agencies on sexual assault and domestic violence issues, and represent their employing agencies at community based meetings, roundtables, conferences, and DV/SA police in-service trainings. LEA works closely with other service providers in the community to develop a strong referral network to ensure that the numerous and diverse needs of victims are met.

### **b) Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DV/SA) Training Program**

The Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DV/SA) Training Committee is a standing sub-committee of the VAWA Planning Committee and responsible for administering the VAWA Law Enforcement DV/SA training program. Committee members are drawn from Rhode Island's law enforcement community (state and local), victim service agencies, the Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training Unit, and the Department of Attorney General's DV Prosecution Unit.

The Committee meets monthly to update the comprehensive four-hour training curriculum, schedules and presents in-service training sessions for municipal police departments which are taught in four-hour blocks by three certified trainers: a police officer and victim advocates from sexual assault and domestic violence agencies. Each police department has the flexibility to perform trainings based upon scheduling requirements, trainers' schedules, or officers overtime costs. Further, Committee trainers provide classroom and role-play sessions for the RI Municipal Training Academy, the Providence Police Training Academy and the RI State Police Training Academy.

In addition, the DV/SA Training Committee implements periodic dispatcher training sessions and sponsors other specialized statewide trainings including sessions for Supervisors, City/Town Solicitors, University Public Safety departments, Sexual Assault investigations and most recently, Lethality Risk Assessment trainings in the ongoing effort to reduce DV-related homicides.

In 2006, the DV/SA Training Committee revised the process for certification of DV/SA curriculum trainers and sponsors a two-day Instructor Development Training every other year.

Trainers must obtain re-certification every two years in order to continue to serve as a VAWA trainer. The re-certification process included completion of a written exam, attendance at DV/SA Training Committee meetings, participation in sub-committee work and group observation at a training session.

The Committee has developed a pocket manual for first responder officials that includes highlights of the four hour DV/SA training plus state and local victim resources. The pocket manual has been updated twice since 2000 with the most recent 2011 updated manual printed and distributed to every police officer in the state (drawing upon GTEAP funds).

### **3. Prosecution (25%) Program Category**

**Specialized DV/SA Prosecution Unit** - Through VAWA funding, the Department of Attorney General created a specialized Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Unit. The Unit's primary focus is to create consistency within the Department and the thirty-nine communities in Rhode Island on how domestic violence and sexual assault cases are prosecuted, while working to ensure victim safety. One of the major accomplishments of the Unit was the development of a prosecution manual, and prosecutorial protocols. This effort was made possible with the help of a multi-disciplinary task force.

### **4. Courts (5%) Program Category**

**The Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit** was established to collect DV/SA data from police departments, enter arrest information into a database and allow for the dissemination of regular reports on the rate and circumstances of domestic violence, sexual assault and child molestation. The Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Form is the primary source for the Unit's data collection efforts, and the information has allowed the Unit to develop a statistical database on domestic violence and sexual assault cases in Rhode Island.

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#### **2015 Violence Against Women Act Planning (Advisory) Committee**

**Lt. Michael Chalek**  
Liaison to the RI Police Chiefs  
Association: URI Police Department

**Deborah DeBare**  
Executive Director, RICADV

**Veronica Hobbs**  
Director, RI Supreme Court  
DV/SA Monitoring Unit

**Lt. Dennis Leahey,**  
Chair, DV/SA Training Committee,  
Burrillville Police Department

**Capt. Anne Assumpico,**  
Rhode Island State Police

**Daniel Carr Guglielmo, Esq.**  
Chief, DV/SA Unit  
RI Dept. of the Attorney General

**Shelley Cortese**  
Probation and Parole Administrator  
RI Department of Corrections

**Peg Langhammer**  
Executive Director, Day One

**Jeffrey Renzi**  
Assoc. Director for Community Corrections  
RI Department of Corrections

**Staff**  
**David LeDoux**, RIPSGAO  
STOP/GTEAP/SASP Grants Manager

## STOP VAWA DV/SA Training Committee - Certified Trainers

Title	Name	Agency
Ms.	Agnello, Allison	US Navy
Ms.	Allmendinger, Wendy	Day One
Det. Sgt.	Amaral, Scott	West Warwick Police Department
Officer	Andrew, Jason	Providence Police Department
Lt.	Blinn, Ray	East Providence Police Department
Det. Capt.	Ciullo, Doug	Cumberland Police Department
Ms.	DeCataldo, Sarah	Day One
Ms.	Demers, Kimberly	Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center
Det.	Donahue, Heather	RI State Police
Ms.	Fluke, Brandolyn	Women's Center of RI
Ms.	Greenfield, Gloria	Sojourner House
Officer	Gonzalez, Alex	Providence Police Department
Atty.	Griffith, Jennifer	RI Legal Services
Ms.	Hamor, Julianna	East Bay LEA
Ms.	Hobbs, Veronica	State of RI DVSA Unit
Officer	Jacavone, Robert	Coventry Police Department
Atty.	Keough, Maureen	RI Attorney General's Office
Ms.	Kinzel, Judy	EBC Center
Officer	Lamoreaux, Ellen	North Smithfield Police Department
Lt.	Leahey, Dennis	Burrillville Police Department
Officer	Lombardi, Steve	Warwick Police Department
Ms.	Longa, Jennifer	URI Office of Student Life
Officer	Malaghan, Terrence	Westerly Police Department
Ms.	Marceau, Kerri	EBC Center
Ms.	Mello, Linda	DV Resource Center of South County
Investigator	Mellor, James	Providence Police Department
Lt.	Olsen, Kenneth	URI Police Department
Mr.	Ormond, Dan	Cranston & Johnston LEA
Ms.	Orsinger, Rachel	RI Coalition Against DV
Ms.	Paglio, Kristina	RI School of Design Public Safety
Sgt.	Perez, Diana	North Providence Police Department
Ms.	Pine, Sharon	Probation
Cpl.	Potter, Celeste	RI State Police
Ms.	Ramsland, Korina	JWU Gender Equity Center
Det.	Schram, Chris	RI State Police
Ms.	Whelan, Megan	DV Resource Center of South County

## Summary of 2015 STOP VAWA Formula Grant Subgrants

Subgrantee	Project	Description	Amount
<b>Planning and Administration (10% off the top)</b>			
RI Public Safety Grant Administration Office <b>North Scituate</b>	STOP VAWA Planning and Administration	Plan and administer the STOP formula grant and directly administer the law enforcement DV/SA Training component of the grant.	\$94,344
<b>Victim Services (30%) plus Discretionary (15%)</b>			
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence <b>Warwick</b>	Violence Against Women Enhanced Advocacy	Advocacy programs to address the unmet Domestic Violence needs of underserved populations throughout the state.	\$260,941
Day One (State Sexual Assault Coalition) <b>Providence</b>	Violence Against Women Advocacy Project	Advocacy programs to address the unmet Sexual Assault needs throughout the state.	\$77,943
<b>Culturally Specific Victim Services Project (10% of Victim Services 30%)</b>			
Center for Southeast Asians (CSEA) <b>Providence</b>	CSEA is Me	Culturally specific direct and referral services for Southeast Asian victims and collaboration with other main stream victim service agencies.	\$24,206
<b>Prosecution (25%)</b>			
RI Department of the Attorney General <b>Providence</b>	Violence Against Women Prosecution Initiative	Supports the DV/SA Prosecution Unit within the Attorney General's to prosecute crimes of violence against women.	\$201,718
<b>Law Enforcement (25%)</b>			
<b>Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault (DV/SA) Training Program</b>			
Municipal police departments RI Municipal Police Training Academy	DV/SA In-Service Training and Classroom/role-play Academy recruit training	Blocks of two- or four-hour DV/SA Training—reimbursing police departments for 75% of overtime	\$10,266
<b>Victim Service Agencies</b> certified trainers (members of RICADV and Day One)	DV/SA In-Service and Academy Recruit Training Program	Provision of stipends to victim service agencies that provided certified DV/SA trainers for six (6) in-service and two (2) Academy recruit trainings & role-play sessions.	\$10,267

**Law Enforcement Advocate (LEA) Program** - Law Enforcement Advocates (LEAs) work at their partnering police departments responding to DV and SA cases; services include crisis intervention; safety planning; advocacy/support; hospital/court accompaniment; info regarding the court system/status of the defendant; preparing evidence packages for prosecutors, and referrals to service providers in the victim's community; ensure victims are informed, represented, and supported through the legal process; meet with victims either on scene (with police accompaniment), at the police department, or at the hospital following an incident or within a few days as a follow-up; provides a wide range of crisis intervention, advocacy and support services to victims, both in person and by telephone; assist victims navigate the criminal justice process.

<b>Subgrantee</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Law Enforcement Advocate (LEA) Program</b>			
Day One (State Sexual Assault Coalition) <b>Providence</b>	Two (2) Law Enforcement Advocate Projects	<b>Support two (2)</b> Law Enforcement Advocates providing services to victims through the Warwick, West Warwick, Woonsocket, Burrillville, Smithfield and North Smithfield police departments	\$42,750 and \$46,175
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center (EBCC) <b>Cranston</b>	Law Enforcement Advocate Project	<b>Support one (1)</b> Law Enforcement Advocate providing services to DV/SA victims through the Cranston and Johnston police department	\$46,175
Women's Resource Center of Bristol and Newport Counties <b>Newport</b>	Law Enforcement Advocate Project	<b>Support one (1)</b> Law Enforcement Advocate providing services to DV/SA victims through the Bristol, Warren, Barrington and Tiverton police departments	\$46,175
<b>Courts (5%)</b>			
RI Supreme Court Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault Monitoring and Training Unit <b>Pawtucket</b>	DV/SA Arrest Form Data Entry Project	Collect and enter DV/SA Police Reporting Forms into the DV/SA database; provide regular reports to police departments, victim service and other agencies requesting data on the rate and circumstances of DV, SA and child molestation incidents in RI.	\$42,454
<b>2015 PREA Penalty (distribution as indicated previously)</b>			<b>\$45,407</b>
<b>FY 2015 STOP Total</b>			<b>\$943,442</b>

## 2015 Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies (GTEAP)

**G**rants to Encourage Arrest Policies or GTEAP is a competitive grant program funded by the Office of Violence on Women (OVW). The program's goals are to implement mandatory arrest programs and/or policies, improve tracking of domestic violence cases, and provide better coordination within the criminal justice system for domestic violence cases, coordinate computer tracking systems to ensure communication within the criminal justice system, and strengthen legal advocacy services for victims.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>2015 GTEAP</b></li></ul> <p><b>Total Award: \$900,000</b></p> <p><b>Three-Year Program</b></p> <p><b>Net Amount: \$855,000</b> <i>after HIV penalty</i></p>
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The RIPS GAO had applied for and received GTEAP awards in 2008, 2010 and 2012. These three awards were for two-year periods allowing for up to a 12-month extension. Due to a minor technical issue, OVW refused to consider the state's 2014 application, the first year that the GTEAP program was expanded to a three-year program, while the maximum funding amounts only increased by \$50,000. This actually resulted in a net decrease in the potential award amount by 30% since the budget would have to stretched out over three years instead of two.

The RIPS GAO applied for the maximum amount of \$950,000 in FY 2015 GTEAP funds and was awarded \$900,000 on September 28, 2015 for a three-year period from October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2018. The state would be eligible to apply for a continuation GTEAP award in early 2018 9if the grant program still exists and the requirements remain largely the same.)

### **Close of the 2012 GTEAP Award**

The 2012 GTEAP program period ended on August 31, 2015, which was the end of a 12-month extension period. Due to the lack of a 2014 continuation award—that would have only support four LEAs anyway while the 2012 award had supported six—the STOP Advisory Committee decided not to fill three GTEAP LEA positions that became vacant in the summer of 2014 so the remaining three LEA projects could continue to function during the 12-month extension period.

Unfortunately, the project ended on August 30, 2015 and the new GTEAP 2015 award would not start until October 1, 2015, leaving the month of September with a gap in funding for the three LEA projects. Staff presented this funding discrepancies to the Steering Committee and Policy Board who agree to use \$12,000 in unallocated but eligible Byrne/JAG 2014 funding to support the three projects (\$4,000 each) through the month of September preserving the LEA projects and their vulnerable employees, not to mention that victims would continue to receive services during this transitional period.

### **GTEAP Focus in RI**

**Multidisciplinary Collaborative Approach** - The GTEAP program has filled critical gaps in the existing system by supporting a portion of two prosecutors in the Attorney General's Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault (DV/SA) Unit; solidifying the Law Enforcement Advocates Program, strengthening Rhode Island's computerized data collection system ensuring police compliance with the mandatory arrest law, and enhancing the established collaborative effort while providing various training opportunities in and out of state for project stakeholders.

This type of multidisciplinary collaborative approach has been proven in Rhode Island to be the most successful strategy to address the issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Comprehensive approaches such as this, involving law enforcement, prosecution, the judiciary, and the advocacy communities are effective in making Rhode Island safer for victims, and holding abusers/offenders accountable.

## The 2015 GTEAP Plan

The new plan is simply a continuation of previous activities, although only supporting four LEA projects rather than the six that were covered by the 2012 award. Fortunately, one of the LEA projects that was not included in the 2015 GTEAP plan has been funded via the Victims of Crime Act and became operational in late 2015. It is anticipated that several victim service agencies plan to file applications to recreate the other vacant LEA project, in addition to adding two new LEA projects that would if successful, would expand the LEA service area from regional to statewide. This potential expansion of the LEA program is made possible due to the dramatic increase in VOCA funds in FY 2015.

The GTEAP award is subject to a federally mandated 5% penalty if the state does not comply, or come into compliance with the following regulation, Special Condition #45 of the FY2015 grant award:

*Pursuant to 42 USC 3796hh(d), the grantee understands that 5% of this award is being withheld and that it may not obligate, expend or drawdown that 5% unless, by the period ending on the date on which the next session of the State legislature ends, the State or unit of local government:*

*(1) certifies that it has a law, policy, or regulation that requires -*

*(A) the State or unit of local government at the request of a victim to administer to a defendant, against whom an information or indictment is presented for a crime in which by force or threat of force the perpetrator compels the victim to engage in sexual activity, testing for the immunodeficiency virus (HIV) not later than 48 hours after the date on which the information or indictment is presented and the defendant is in custody or has been served with the information or indictment; (B) as soon as practicable notification to the victim, or parent and guardian of the victim, and defendant of the testing results; and (C) follow-up tests for HIV as may be medically appropriate, and that as soon as practicable after each such test the results be made available in accordance with subparagraph (B).*

It is reasonable certain that the state will not come into compliance with this mandate as the state's General Assembly has never introduced legislation that would achieve compliance. As a result, it is recognized that the \$900,000 award will be penalized the 5% or \$45,000 reducing the award's net amount to \$855,000. The strategic planning process for the GTEAP program took this 5% penalty in to consideration when adjusting the budget presented here in summary:

Revised Rhode Island 2015 WE-AX-0037 GTEAP Budget Based on the OVW Award of \$900,000 from \$949,726.				Approved Reductions to achieve 5% HIV penalty (\$45,000)				
Step 1 - Reduce original budget by \$49,726 to match award of \$900K				Step 2 - Reduce \$45K for HIV Penalty				
David LeDoux presented this Step One plan to OVW which approved the budget on January 4, 2016.				D	E	F	G	
Budget Line Item				DRAFT Cuts for 5% HIV penalty (\$45,000) by DJL	% cut from Col. C	Approved 2015 GTEAP Budget	One (1) Year AVG allocation (for 3 years) (Column F/3)	
A	B	C						
Original 2015 GTEAP Budget Submitted	Amount cut to achieve OVW award amount of \$900K	Revised GTEAP 2015 Budget sent to OVW by DJL - 11/2/15						
1	Planning and Administration RI Public Safety Grant Administration Office	\$ 94,970	\$ (4,726)	\$ 90,244	\$ 18,788	20.8%	\$ 71,456	\$ 23,819
2	Conference Travel/TA	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000	-	-	\$ 10,000	\$ 3,333
3	Supreme Court SV/SA Monitoring Unit	\$ 130,548	\$ -	\$ 130,548	\$ 13,000	10.0%	\$ 117,548	\$ 39,183
4	RIAG DV/SA Prosecution Unit	\$ 100,496	\$ -	\$ 100,496	\$ 2,500	2.5%	\$ 97,996	\$ 32,665
5	Law Enforcement Advocate Program							
	a. South County (senior level)	\$ 142,275	\$ -	\$ 142,275	\$ 2,275	1.6%	\$ 140,000	\$ 46,667
	b. Pawtucket (senior level)	\$ 142,275	\$ -	\$ 142,275	\$ 2,275	1.6%	\$ 140,000	\$ 46,667
	c. Providence (base level)	\$ 126,425	\$ -	\$ 126,425	\$ 1,425	1.1%	\$ 125,000	\$ 41,667
	d. Kent County West (senior level)	\$ 142,275	\$ -	\$ 142,275	\$ 2,275	1.6%	\$ 140,000	\$ 46,667
	e. LEA Statewide Coordination	\$ 9,420	\$ -	\$ 9,420	\$ 420	4.5%	\$ 9,000	\$ 3,000
6	Needs Assessment/Gaps Analysis	\$ 45,000	\$ (45,000)	-	-	-	-	-
7	Statewide ARREST-related Trainings (2) (1)	\$ 6,042	\$ -	\$ 6,042	\$ 2,042	33.8%	\$ 4,000	-
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 949,726</b>	<b>\$ (49,726)</b>	<b>\$ 900,000</b>	<b>\$ 45,000</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$855,000</b>	<b>\$ 285,000</b>

## Description of the 2015 GTEAP Project Plan

Agency	Project	Description	2015 Award
<p><b>Law Enforcement Advocate Program - Four (4) (three-year) LEA Projects</b> – Law Enforcement Advocates (LEAs) work at their partnering police departments responding to DV and SA cases; services include crisis intervention; safety planning; advocacy/support; hospital/court accompaniment; info regarding the court system/status of the defendant; preparing evidence packages for prosecutors, and referrals to service providers in the victim’s community; ensure victims are informed, represented, and supported through the legal process; meet with victims either on scene (with police accompaniment), at the police department, or at the hospital following an incident or within a few days as a follow-up; provides a wide range of crisis intervention, advocacy and support services to victims, both in person and by telephone; assist victims navigate the criminal justice process.</p>			
<p><b>Day One</b> (Sexual Assault Coalition) Providence</p>	<p>Two (2) Law Enforcement Advocate Programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Providence</b></li> <li>• <b>South County</b></li> </ul>	<p>Support two (2) LEAs providing DV/SA services to victims in the capitol city of Providence (new LEA); and the South County communities of Narragansett/North &amp; South Kingstown in conjunction with the various police departments (senior LEA).</p>	<p>Providence <b>\$125,000</b></p> <p>South County <b>\$140,000</b></p>
<p><b>Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center (EBCC)</b> Cranston</p>	<p>Law Enforcement Advocate Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Kent County</b></li> </ul>	<p>Support one (1) LEA providing DV/SA services to victims in the jurisdictions of Coventry, East and West Greenwich and North Providence in conjunction with the several police related departments (senior LEA).</p>	<p><b>\$140,000</b></p>
<p><b>Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center (BVAC)</b> Pawtucket</p>	<p>Law Enforcement Advocate Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pawtucket</b></li> </ul>	<p>Support one (1) Law Enforcement Advocate providing <b>services</b> to DV/SA victims through the Pawtucket police department.</p>	<p><b>\$140,000</b></p>
<p><b>Statewide LEA Coordination Project</b> - Provides LEA program with well-coordinated, consistent, and effective LEA services for DV/SA victims via the implementation of a standard operation manual and a statewide LEA database; LEA Co-ordination includes updating operations manual, provide training on database, implementing in-service and peer support sessions for LEAs and coordinating in-service DV/SA trainings for law enforcement agencies.</p>			
Agency	Project	Description	2015 Award
<p><b>Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center (BVAC)</b> Pawtucket</p>	<p>Statewide Coordination of LEA Program</p>	<p>Support one (1) part-time LEA Coordinator</p>	<p>\$3000</p>
<p><b>Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center (EBCC)</b> Cranston</p>	<p>Statewide Coordination of LEA Program</p>	<p>Support one (1) part-time LEA Coordinator</p>	<p>\$3000</p>



<b>Agency</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>2015 Award</b>
<b>RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence</b>  Warwick	Conference Training/Travel and Printing Victim brochures and documents	The Coalition administers the training/travel and document printing portion of the GTEAP budget plus implementation of any planned statewide training session(s).	\$14,000
<b>Supreme Court Domestic Violence Training &amp; Monitoring Unit</b>  Pawtucket	DV/SA Data Input & DV/SA Database Enhancement	Scan or manually enter police DV/SA arrest reports received from police departments; permits continued monitoring of police departments' compliance with the state's mandatory arrest law, assess changes in arrest rates by jurisdiction over time, and prepare and disseminate statistical reports.	\$117,948
<b>RI Attorney General's DV/SA Prosecution Unit</b>  Providence	DV/SA Case Prosecution	Staff attorneys concentrate on the prosecution of capital, felony and some misdemeanor DV and SA offenses. Activities include bail hearings, probation violation hearings, motions to reduce bail, motions to vacate no contact orders, restraining orders, trials, discovery and witness preparation.	\$97,996
<b>Rhode Island Public Safety Grant Administration Office</b>  North Scituate	Planning and Administration of GTEAP grant	Plan and administer the GTEAP grant to include coordinate necessary meetings among grant partners, coordinate law enforcement training sessions, process reimbursement requests from sub-grantees, monitor programs and submit required OVW semi-annual progress reports.	\$71,456
<b>2015 Net Award (after 5% HIV penalty)</b>			<b>\$855,000</b>

## 2015 Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)

**T**he Sexual Assault Services formula grant Program (SASP) was created by the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 and is the first federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault (SA). The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) provided federal SASP funds for the first SASP program in 2009 and the PSGAO passed the entire SASP amount on to Day One as the state's Sexual Assault Coalition per the recommendation of the OVW Director. The RIPS-GAO began to take the allowable 5% administrative costs beginning in FY 2014 and again in 2015 and will continue to do so in subsequent years.

- **2015 SASP**
- Total Award..... \$303,459**
- Day One (95%)..... \$288,807  
SASP Programming
- RIPS-GAO (5%)..... \$15,172  
Planning/Administration

**Confirm Sole Source Status** - The RIPS-GAO Policy Board deemed it prudent to validate subgranting the entire program amount of the SASP award to a sole beneficiary, Day One. As a result, the STOP VAWA Advisory Committee conducted a Letter of Interest (LOI) process that corroborated the sole source subaward decision. The Policy Board subsequently approved awarding the entire SASP award (less 5% administrative costs) to Day One. Federal FY-2015 is the second of three years that Day One is afforded that "sole source" status before a review of eligible service providers via a subsequent LOI or similar process is conducted again in CY-2017.

**SASP Programming** - Day One utilizes SASP funding to expand intervention and support services for Rhode Island victims of sexual assault in collaboration with its community partners to enhance and maintain current services, as well as develop and implement new programs to meet the needs of victims. Day One currently addresses the burgeoning issue of the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) with a statewide task force. In addition, Day One works with colleges and universities across the state to help address the issue of campus sexual assault.

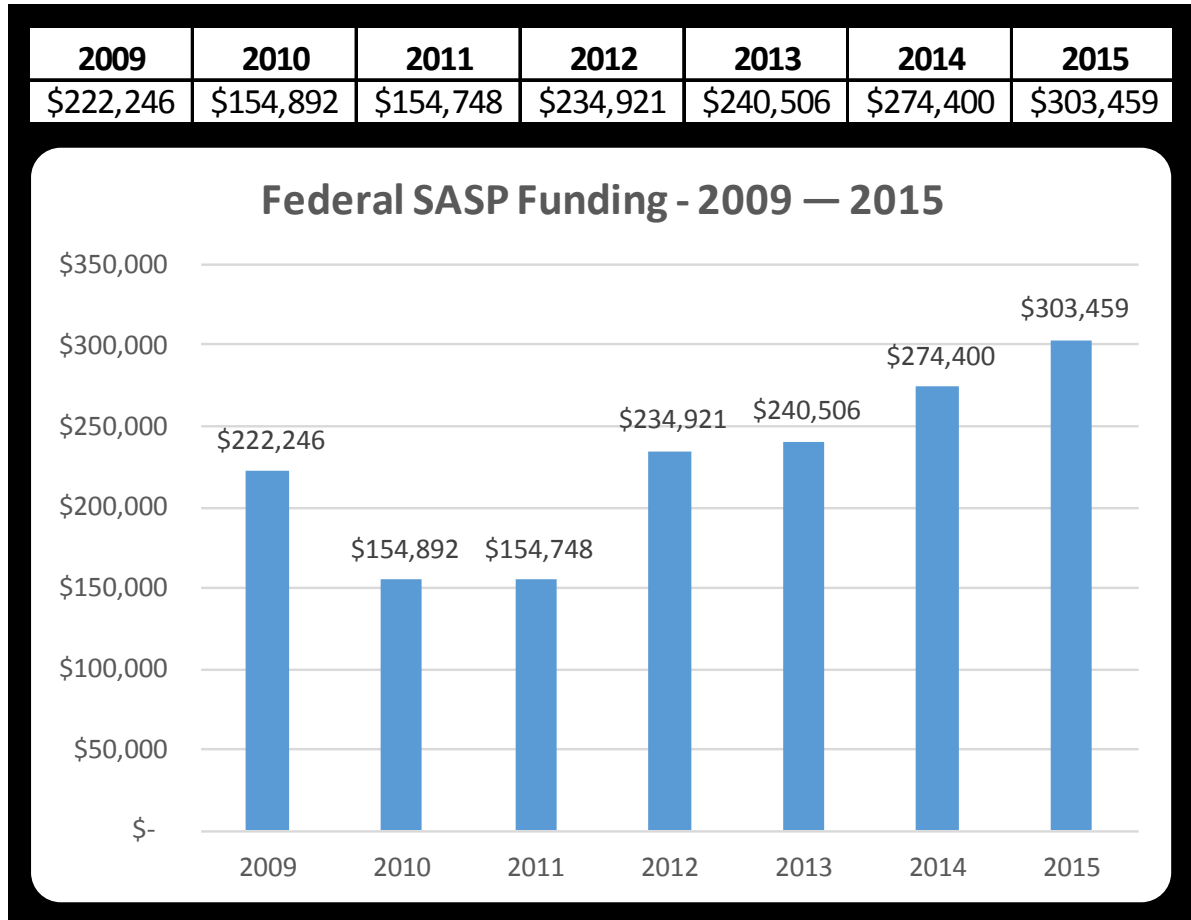
Day One's Clinical Director, who has expertise in trauma-informed care, continues to implement the expansion of the agency's clinical department. In response to the growing need for clinical services, the clinical department has added several new clinicians with expertise in trauma-informed care; integrated new treatment models for all types of developmental trauma and acute stress, including play therapy, trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, yoga therapy groups and groups for adults, adolescents and children.

Day One provides crisis intervention and support immediately following an assault through the 24-hour Helpline. The Helpline is staffed by trained volunteer advocates 24 hours per day, seven days per week. These highly trained individuals provide crisis intervention, confidential support, information and advocacy over the phone and provide accompaniment to hospitals and police stations. Currently, nearly 50 volunteers serve as advocates statewide. In addition to the Helpline, crisis intervention services are also provided to schools and organizations when a situation of abuse arises within their populations.

Through its clinical program, Day One provides professional counseling for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. Services are offered for adult survivors, adults who were sexually abused as children, non-offending parents of child victims, adolescents, children who are exhibiting sexually reactive behavior, as well as families and significant others of victims of sexual abuse.

Day One accepts all major health insurance plans for its counseling services. Many of the victims who seek help at Day One do not have health insurance. Clients who lack insurance coverage are placed on a sliding fee scale and pay according to what they can afford. No one is ever turned away for the inability to pay. Without the services provided by Day One, most clients without health insurance would not have access to any treatment.

*Unlike most other formula grant programs, SASP has enjoyed a steady increase over the past several years (as indicated by the chart below):*



## Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Formula Grant Program (RSAT)

**T**he Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners Formula Grant Program was created by Title III of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. It provides funding for the development of substance abuse treatment programs in state and local correctional facilities. The program encourages states to adopt comprehensive approaches to treatment for offenders, including relapse prevention and aftercare services. Prisoners in these facilities must be incarcerated for a period of time sufficient to permit substance abuse treatment.

### Program Highlights

#### 2015

Total Formula Award	\$45,990
2 Subgrants	

Studies and statistics indicate that the fastest and most cost-effective way to reduce the demand for illicit drugs is to treat chronic, hardcore drug users. They consume the most drugs, commit the most crimes, and burden the health care system to the greatest extent. Without treatment, chronic hardcore users continue to use drugs and engage in criminal activity, and when arrested, they too frequently continue their addiction upon release.

The Public Safety Grant Administration Office retained \$4,599 in administrative funds and made two subgrant awards in 2015.

### Rhode Island Department of Corrections

**The Rhode Island Department of Corrections** (RIDOC), Division of Rehabilitative Services, was awarded \$27,594 (\$173,739 State match) in 2015 RSAT funds for the continuing support of a residential substance abuse program for adult male inmates incarcerated at Medium Security. The program offers a three and six month treatment phase followed by a six month recovery phase that can accommodate up to 100 offenders at a time.

The goals of the program are to provide intensive substance use treatment and recovery case management services to include discharge planning for those offenders who will be prepared for re-integration into the community. Drug treatment services are provided through the RFP selected vendor, The Providence Center (TPC). All offenders referred to program are assessed for history of substance use and prior treatment/recovery experiences. Individual treatment plans are developed and implemented. Offenders are tested for drugs of abuse as an integral part of the treatment program according to established Department protocols. Transitional planning

begins immediately upon assignment to the unit, which includes a written plan to deal with offender transitional issues including plans for housing, finance, family reunification, and community substance abuse treatment/recovery services following discharge from prison. This discharge plan is developed with treatment staff as well as the Division of Probation and Parole.

## **Department of Children, Youth & Families**

**The Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF)** was awarded \$13,797 (\$114,137 State match) in 2014 RSAT funds for the continuing support of the residential substance abuse treatment unit at the Rhode Island Training School for Youth (RITSY).

DCYF will sustain the substance abuse treatment services available to the juvenile male residents of the RI Training School for Youth. The residential program provides intensive treatment for residents with at least a six month sentence, identified as having severe substance abuse treatment needs which can not be adequately addressed with the less intensive education and intervention programming. The residential program is six months in length and is based on a modified therapeutic community treatment model. A cognitive-behavioral approach with an emphasis on relapse prevention is utilized. The program's ultimate goal is a reduction in the use/abuse of illicit substances and the often associated criminal activity that may lead to re-arrest and a return to the correctional facility.

Program services include a comprehensive psychosocial assessment of each resident referred. Residents are provided substance abuse education, group, individual and family counseling. All services are designed to address the special developmental needs of adolescents. Program is coordination with Training School clinical and custodial staff in order to provide appropriate support services, both on and off grounds and pre- and post-release. Program participants are offered recreational activities that promote the enjoyment of leisure time without the use of alcohol and other drugs. Family education and involvement in the treatment process is encouraged whenever appropriate. Program coordinates with community based services for the purpose of insuring an appropriate level of treatment and/or support services following release from the Training School.

## Criminal Justice Oversight Committee

**T**he Governor's Commission to Avoid Future Prison Overcrowding and Terminate Federal Court Supervision Over the Adult Correctional Institutions was established through Executive Order 92-26 in December 1992.

The Commission arose out of efforts to resolve the case of *Palmisciano v. DiPrete*, the longstanding litigation involving conditions of confinement at the Rhode Island Department of Corrections Adult Correctional Institutions (the ACI).

As a result of this lawsuit, a class action on behalf of the inmates in the state's correctional facilities, the U.S. District Court for the District of Rhode Island had exercised control and authority over broad aspects of the prison system since August 1977. From the mid-1980s onward, the court's focus shifted to overcrowding. Gains, which had been made in core institutional operations, eroded as a soaring inmate census placed tremendous strains on the prison facilities. The court maintained its close involvement to assure that population increases would not compromise the previous advances in the institutions. The court's orders culminated in the mandatory acceleration of release dates for sentenced inmates in spring 1990.

Since that time, the Department of Corrections has completed a massive facilities construction program initiated as the inmate census began to climb. While these new facilities afforded the State temporary respite from overcrowding, the risk of future intervention by the Federal bench remained. The creation of the Commission reflected the State's strong interest in resolving the litigation and ultimately the administration of the ACI was returned to the exclusive control of state officials. The Commission's charge was to consider a broad range of criminal justice policies, programs and practices that may have an impact on the numbers of inmates at the ACI. The Commission was further directed to make recommendations regarding a permanent mechanism for maintaining the prison population within capacity on an ongoing basis.

The results of the Commission's endeavors were published in the February 1993 *Report of the Governor's Commission to Avoid Future Prison Overcrowding and Terminate Federal Court Supervision Over the Adult Correctional Institutions*. The Commission recommended the establishment of the Criminal Justice Oversight Committee to be housed within the Rhode Island Justice Commission, now known as the Public Safety Grant Administration Office. The Commission outlined the responsibilities of the Committee and detailed steps to be taken when an overcrowding situation at the prison is imminent.

Legislation was subsequently enacted to create the Criminal Justice Oversight Committee (Rhode Island General Law §42-26-13) within the Public Safety Grant Administration Office "for the purpose of maintaining the secure facilities at the adult correctional institutions within their respective population capacities as established by court order, consent decree or otherwise."

Although the Committee did not meet in 2013 or 2014, it had met three times in 2012 to further evaluate the existing Good Time Credit Policy, as required in House Resolution H6265, and make recommendations to the House of Representatives. Those meetings did result in those recommendations. The Committee did meet once in 2015 to discuss population status and the impact of several recent initiatives.

### **Criminal Justice Oversight Committee Members**

**Bernard Jackvony, Esq., Chair**  
*Pannone, Lopes & Devereaux, LLC*

**Col. Steven G. O'Donnell**  
**Superintendent**  
*RI State Police*

**A. T. Wall**  
*Director*  
*RI Department of Corrections*

**Hon. Jeanne Lafazia**  
*Chief Judge*  
*RI District Court*

**Hon. Peter Kilmartin**  
*Attorney General*

**Thomas Mongeau**  
*Administrative Manager*  
*Public Safety Grant*  
*Administration Office*

**Hon. Alice Gibney**  
*Presiding Justice*  
*RI Superior Court*

**Mary McElroy, Esq.**  
*Public Defender*

**Peg Langhammer**  
*Executive Director*  
*Day One*

**Designee from**  
*Governor's Policy Office*

**Laura Pisaturo**  
*Chair, RI Parole Board*

# Appendix

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*Rhode Island General Laws §42-26-1*



**Rhode Island General Laws**  
**CHAPTER 42-26-1**  
**RHODE ISLAND JUSTICE COMMISSION**  
As of 6/2014

Section.		Section.	
42-26-1	Short title.	42-26-12	Termination or modification.
42-26-1.1	Name change.	42-26-13	Committee created – Purpose and composition.
42-26-2	Legislative findings and purpose.	42-26-13.1	Staff, facilities and supplies.
42-26-3	Public safety grant administration office created – Composition.	42-26-13.2	Duties and responsibilities of committee.
42-26-4	Power and duties.	42-26-13.3	Prison inmate population capacity – Enforcement mechanisms.
42-26-5	Chairperson and vice chairperson.	42-26-14 – 42-26-17.	[Repealed.].
42-26-6	Criminal justice policy board – Appointment of members.	42-26-18	Gang violence prevention advisory committee.
42-26-7	Committees and by-laws.	42-26-19	After school alternative program – Legislative intent.
42-26-8	Policy board – Meetings – Quorum.	42-26-19.1	After School alternative program – Purpose – Duration.
42-26-8.1	Policy board – Regional committees.		
42-26-9	Administration – Public safety grant administration office.		
42-26-10	Staff.		
42-26-11	Cooperation of departments.		

§ **42-26-1 Short title.** – This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Rhode Island Justice Commission Act".

§ **42-26-1.1 Name change.** – Wherever in the general or public laws, there appears the words, "Rhode Island Justice Commission", it should now read, "public safety grant administration office".

§ **42-26-2 Legislative findings and purpose.** – The general assembly recognizes and declares that: crime and delinquency are essentially state and local problems; crime and delinquency are complex social phenomena requiring the attention and efforts of the criminal justice system, state, and local governments, and private citizens alike; the establishment of appropriate goals, objectives, and standards for the reduction of crime and delinquency and for the administration of justice must be a priority concern; the functions of the criminal justice system must be coordinated more efficiently and effectively; the full and effective use of resources affecting state and local criminal justice systems requires the complete cooperation of state and local government agencies; and training research, evaluation, technical assistance, and public education activities must be encouraged and focused on the improvement of the criminal justice system and the generation of new methods for the prevention and reduction of crime and delinquency.

§ **42-26-3 Public safety grant administration office created – Composition.** – (a) There is hereby created within the department of public safety a public safety grant administration office which shall be under the jurisdiction of the governor.

(b) The public safety grant administration office shall consist of: (1) a criminal justice policy board, and (2) such permanent and ad hoc committees and task forces as the board deems necessary.

§ **42-26-4 Powers and duties.** – The public safety grant administration office shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) Serve as the state planning agency for administration of federal criminal justice related grant programs including, but not limited to, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended;
- (2) Advise and assist the governor and the director of public safety in developing policies, plans, programs, and budgets for improving the coordination, administration and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in the state;

- (3) Prepare a state comprehensive criminal justice plan on behalf of the governor and the director of public safety. The plan, and any substantial modifications thereto, shall be submitted to the legislature for its advisory review of the goals, priorities and policies contained therein. The plan, to be periodically updated, shall be based on an analysis of the state's criminal justice needs and problems and shall be in conformance with state and other appropriate regulations;
- (4) Establish goals, priorities, and standards for the reduction of crime and the improvement of the administration of justice in the state;
- (5) Recommend legislation to the governor and legislature in the criminal justice field;
- (6) Encourage local comprehensive criminal justice planning efforts;
- (7) Monitor and evaluate programs and projects, funded in whole or in part by the state government, aimed at reducing crime and delinquency and improving the administration of justice;
- (8) Cooperate with and render technical assistance to state agencies and units of general local government, and public or private agencies relating to the criminal justice system;
- (9) Apply for, contract for, receive, and expend for its purposes any appropriations or grants from the state, its political subdivisions, the federal government, or any other source, public or private, in accordance with the appropriations process;
- (10) Have the authority to collect from the department of corrections and any state or local government departments and agencies, such public information, data, reports, statistics, or other material which is necessary to carry out the functions of the public safety grant administration office; and to collect from non-profit organizations which receive state or federal funds all information necessary to carry out the commission's functions;
- (11) Disseminate to state agencies, units of local government, public or private agencies, and others, information such as criminal justice program advancements, research results, training events, and availability of funds;
- (12) Review, no less often than annually, the administration, operation programs and activities of correctional services in the state including input from the general public and other interested persons; conduct such other reviews and studies in conjunction with the department of corrections as may be appropriate; and report findings and recommendations to the governor;
- (13) Perform other duties which may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

**§ 42-26-5 Chairperson and vice chairperson.** – The chairperson and vice chairperson of the commission shall be appointed by the governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the governor.

**§ 42-26-6 Criminal justice policy board – Appointment of members.** – The criminal justice policy board shall consist of:

- (1) The attorney general;
- (2) The superintendent of the state police and director of the department of public safety;
- (3) The public defender;
- (4) The director of the department of corrections;
- (5) The director of the department of human services;
- (6) The director of the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals;
- (7) The chairperson of the state board of regents;
- (8) The director of the department of children, youth, and families;
- (9) The chief justice of the family court;
- (10) The president of the Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association;
- (11) One police chief selected by the Rhode Island Police Chiefs Association;
- (12) The chief justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court;
- (13) The presiding justice of the superior court;
- (14) The chief judge of the district court;
- (15) The executive director of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns;
- (16) The director of health;

- (17) The director of the division of fire safety;
- (18) One university or college faculty member with a research background in criminal justice appointed by the governor;
- (19) Four (4) citizens appointed by the governor;
- (20) Three (3) representatives appointed by the governor from community service organizations.

**§ 42-26-7 Committees and by-laws.** – (a) The commission may establish and the chairperson may appoint such subcommittees, task forces, or advisory committees it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter. Appointments to subcommittees, task forces, and advisory committees are not restricted to the membership of the criminal justice policy board.

(b) The commission may delegate responsibilities and functions to subcommittees, task forces, and advisory committees as it deems appropriate.

(c) The commission shall promulgate rules of procedure governing its operations, provided they are in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act, chapter 35 of this title.

**§ 42-26-8 Policy board – Meetings – Quorum.** – (a) The criminal justice policy board shall meet at the call of the chairperson or upon petition of a majority of the members, but not less than four (4) times per year.

(b) A quorum at meetings of the policy board shall consist of a majority of the current membership, and all subsequent voting shall be representative of the full policy board.

(c) A policy board member has the right to send, in his or her place, a designated representative to a meeting and/or meetings. If the designation is made in writing, the representative shall have full voting privileges.

**§ 42-26-8.1 Policy board – Regional committees.** – The criminal justice policy board may establish regional committees to perform such functions as the policy board may direct.

**§ 42-26-9 Administration – Public safety grant administration office.** – The director of public safety shall appoint a qualified individual from the department of public safety who shall be responsible for the following:

(1) Supervise and be responsible for the administration of the policies established by the policy board;

(2) Establish, consolidate, or abolish any administrative subdivision within the public safety grant administration office and appoint and remove for cause the heads thereof, and delegate appropriate powers and duties to them;

(3) Establish and administer projects and programs for the operation of the public safety grant administration office;

(4) Appoint and remove employees of the public safety grant administration office and delegate appropriate powers and duties to them;

(5) Make rules and regulations for the management and the administration of policies of the public safety grant administration office and the conduct of employees under his or her jurisdiction;

(6) Collect, develop, and maintain statistical information, records, and reports as the public safety grant administration office may determine relevant to its functions;

(7) Transmit bi-monthly to the policy board a report of the operations of the public safety grant administration office for the preceding two calendar months;

(8) Execute and carry out the provisions of all contracts, leases, and agreements authorized by the public safety grant administration office with agencies of federal, state, or local government, corporations or persons;

(9) Perform such additional duties as may be assigned to him or her by the governor, the policy board, or by law; and

(10) Exercise all powers and perform all duties necessary and proper in carrying out his or her responsibilities.

**§ 42-26-10 Staff.** – Employees of the commission, other than the executive director, shall be subject to the provisions of the State Merit System Act as set forth in chapters 3 and 4 of title 36 as amended and any further provisions of that act that are enacted by the general assembly.

**§ 42-26-11 Cooperation of departments.** – All other departments and agencies of the state government are hereby authorized and directed to cooperate with the commission and to furnish such information as the commission shall require.

**§ 42-26-12 Termination or modification.** – The Rhode Island justice commission shall annually submit a performance report to the governor and the general assembly. This report and other relevant material shall be the basis for determining whether to continue the commission, modify the commission, or abolish the commission.

**§ 42-26-13 Committee created – Purpose and composition.** – (a) There is hereby created within the Rhode Island justice commission pursuant to the provisions of § 42-26-7 of this chapter the criminal justice oversight committee for the purpose of maintaining the secure facilities at the adult correctional institutions within their respective population capacities as established by court order, consent decree or otherwise.

(b) The criminal justice oversight committee (hereinafter referred to as the "committee") shall consist of the following members who shall assemble no less than four (4) times annually or more often at the call of the chairperson or upon petition of a majority of its members:

- (1) The presiding justice of the superior court;
- (2) The chief judge of the district court;
- (3) The attorney general;
- (4) The public defender;
- (5) The superintendent of state police;
- (6) The director of the department of corrections;
- (7) The chairperson of the parole board;
- (8) The executive director of the Rhode Island justice commission;
- (9) A member of the governor's staff selected by the governor;
- (10) Four (4) members of the general assembly, one of whom shall be appointed by the speaker and one of whom shall be appointed by the president of the senate, one of whom shall be appointed by the house minority leader and one of whom shall be appointed by the senate minority leader.
- (11) A qualified elector of this state who shall be appointed by the governor and designated as chairperson of the committee.
- (12) A member of the Victims' Rights Group, appointed by the speaker of the house.

Each member of the committee may appoint a permanent designee to attend committee meetings in his/her absence. A quorum at meetings of the committee shall consist of a majority of its current membership.

**§ 42-26-13.1 Staff, facilities and supplies.** – The executive director of the Rhode Island justice commission shall provide the committee with such staff, facilities, equipment and supplies necessary for its operation and maintenance.

**§ 42-26-13.2 Duties and responsibilities of committee.** – The committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) Establish goals or projections annually, based on an analysis of past activity, for each component of the criminal justice system; set capacities for each secure facility; and incorporate inmate population limits set by court order, consent decree or otherwise, as may be amended from time to time.

- (2) Monitor closely the compliance of each component of the criminal justice system with its established annual goals or projections.
- (3) Coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of systemic improvements and intermediate sanctions as may be recommended and adopted by the committee from time to time.
- (4) Coordinate and oversee such remedial measures as may be needed to address and reduce overcrowding at the adult correctional institutions, including, but not limited to, construction of additional prison beds.

**§ 42-26-13.3 Prison inmate population capacity – Enforcement mechanisms.** – (a) Whenever the overall population of the adult correctional institutions exceeds ninety-five percent (95%) of the annual capacity set by the committee for thirty (30) consecutive days or whenever the prison inmate population of any secure facility within the adult correctional institutions exceeds one hundred percent (100%) of its capacity established by court order, consent decree or otherwise, for five (5) consecutive days, the director of corrections shall notify the chairperson of the committee in writing and said chairperson shall schedule an emergency meeting of the committee within five (5) business days of notification to develop measures to address the overcrowding.

(b) The committee shall without delay encourage, coordinate and oversee efforts to initiate one or more of the following measures, as the committee deems appropriate, to address the overcrowding:

- (1) Accelerate the implementation of systemic improvements, including, but not limited to, existing measures for the processing of bail for pretrial detainees, disposing of pending cases of sentenced inmates, providing accelerated bail hearings and expediting hearings for probation and parole violators.
- (2) Implement immediately other systemic improvements on a temporary or permanent basis which may have a positive impact on expediting the processing of pretrial and/or sentenced inmates as may be necessary and to reduce incarceration days.

(c) In the event such systemic initiatives fail to reduce overcrowding of the inmate population at any secure facility or facilities to mandated levels within sixty (60) days of notification to the committee by the director of corrections of the overcrowding, the committee shall determine whether the source of the overcrowding is in the pretrial or sentenced inmate population. If the committee determines that the overcrowding results from the pretrial inmate population, the committee shall, without delay, encourage, coordinate and oversee efforts to initiate one or more of the following plans of action as may be necessary:

- (1) Review cases of all pretrial detainees for possible release or bailment;
- (2) Utilize alternative measures wherever possible to release pretrial detainees to community supervision;
- (3) Establish a temporary bail fund to release nonviolent pretrial detainees, with or without community supervision.

(d) If the committee determines that the overcrowding problem results from the sentenced inmate population, the committee shall, without delay, encourage, coordinate and oversee efforts to initiate one or more of the following plans of action as may be necessary:

- (1) Expand the availability of intermediate punishments;
- (2) Accelerate parole hearings for those currently eligible and expedite release of those granted parole;
- (3) Temporarily suspend existing guidelines for parole eligibility and consider all prisoners statutorily eligible for release or parole;
- (4) Utilize statutorily authorized grants of meritorious good time to accelerate the release of nonviolent sentenced offenders who are within thirty (30) days of expiration of sentence.

(e) If the measures described in subsection (d) above fail to reduce the inmate population of any secure facility of the adult correctional institutions to mandated levels within an additional sixty (60) days (or within one hundred twenty (120) days after written notification to the committee by the director of corrections of the overcrowding crisis), the committee shall be authorized to direct the parole board to consider the good time earned by nonviolent offenders pursuant to the provisions of § 42-56-24 and § 42-56-26 for the purpose of expediting the parole eligibility of the minimum number of nonviolent sentenced offenders needed to meet mandated population levels. A "nonviolent offender" is defined as one who is

not currently serving a sentence of incarceration resulting from a conviction for a crime of violence defined by § 42-56-20.2.

(f) If the measures described in subsection (e) above fail to reduce the inmate population of any secure facility to mandated levels within an additional sixty (60) days (or within one hundred eighty (180) days after written notification to the committee by the director of corrections of the overcrowding crisis), the chairperson of the committee shall notify the governor and recommend the grant of sufficient emergency good time to nonviolent offenders to expedite eligibility for parole of the minimum number of sentenced offenders to meet the mandated population caps. The governor shall direct the director of corrections to grant such emergency good time in ten (10) day increments to all nonviolent sentenced offenders. Such ten (10) day increments of emergency good time shall be granted to make the minimum number of offenders eligible for and actually released on parole to meet mandated population caps. Upon notification of the governor of the grant of emergency good time, the parole board shall consider emergency good time in determining eligibility for parole. A "nonviolent offender" is defined here, as above in subsection (e), as one who is not currently serving a sentence of incarceration resulting from a conviction for a crime of violence as defined by § 42-56-20.2.

**§ 42-26-14 – 42-26-17. [Repealed]. –**

**§ 42-26-18 Gang violence prevention advisory committee.** – (a) There is established in the Rhode Island justice commission the gang violence prevention advisory committee. The committee exists as a permanent sub-committee of the Rhode Island justice commission, juvenile justice advisory committee. The committee shall be composed of members of the Rhode Island justice commission, juvenile justice advisory committee, which currently exists within the Rhode Island justice commission and is charged by the governor and the office of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention, to address issues relating to delinquency and youth violence within the state. Membership qualifications are described in subparagraphs (i) – (iii) of § 223(A)(3) of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 [42 U.S.C. § 5633(a)(A)(i) – (iii)] as amended. The function and structure of this committee along with its historic activities in gang intervention/prevention will enable it to carry out the intent of this section. (b) The gang violence prevention advisory committee shall coordinate, review, purpose and oversee gang prevention, intervention, and suppression programs on a state level. The committee shall also coordinate with Rhode Island justice commission in efforts to obtain federal funds, grants, or other appropriations necessary and useful to carry out the purpose of this section.

**§ 42-26-19 After school alternative program – Legislative intent.** – The legislature hereby finds and declares the following:

- (1) There is a greater threat to public safety resulting from gang and drug-related activity in and near Rhode Island's inner cities.
- (2) Young people, especially at-risk youth, are more vulnerable to gang and drug-related activity during the potentially unsupervised hours between the end of school and the time their parents or guardians return home from work.
- (3) Without local prevention and treatment efforts, hard drugs will continue to threaten and destroy families and communities in and near the inner cities. Drug-related violence may then escalate dramatically in every community, and thereby burden the criminal justice system to the point that it cannot function effectively.
- (4) It is the intent of the legislature that a pilot program, the "After School Alternative Program" (ASAP), be established and implemented within a specified Rhode Island community. This community program would utilize the public schools, businesses, and community facilities to provide supportive programs and activities to young people during the time between the end of school and the return home of their parents or guardians (from approximately 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.).

**§ 42-26-19.1 After school alternative program – Purpose – Duration.** – (a) There is hereby created within the Rhode Island justice commission, a pilot program known as the "after school alternative program" (ASAP). The establishment of the pilot program pursuant to this section shall be contingent upon the availability and receipt of federal and/or private funding for this purpose. The goal of the pilot program shall be to reduce gang activity and drug-related crime in and near the targeted schools, businesses, and community sites. This shall be accomplished by coordinating the efforts of community-based organizations, public schools, law enforcement officials, parents, and business leaders in participating communities to prevent the illicit activities of current and potential gang members and drug users by making alternative activities available. These activities may be provided at school or community sites, and may include:

(1) Recreational, arts, crafts, computer or academic tutorial programs.

(2) Job counseling and training, with the participation of community business representatives.

(3) Presentations by law enforcement officials, and informal get-togethers.

(4) Group and individual (as needed) drug and/or gang counseling.

(5) Community awareness presentations.

(b) A Rhode Island community may elect to participate in the pilot project established pursuant to subsection (a) by establishing an ASAP program. The community may be any designated area that contains up to two (2) public high schools and feeder schools, as well as active business enterprises and a viable local community-based organization.

(c) The community shall submit its program to the gang violence prevention advisory committee for review. The committee upon receipt of all programs from applying communities shall select one project to receive funding. The project selected shall receive funding for one calendar year from the date of selection. All rules and regulations for application, review and award shall be promulgated by the committee.

(d) This section shall remain operative only until June 30, 2000 and is repealed on that date unless a later enacted statute extends that date.

