



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

**PUBLIC SAFETY GRANT  
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

**2017  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

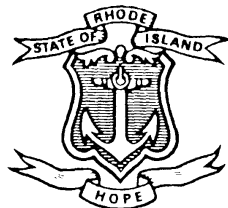
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PSGARI.GOV**

# Rhode Island Department of Public Safety Grant Administration Office

## 2017 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



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Rhode Island Public Defender  
Acting Chair, Criminal Justice Policy Board

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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), is placed within the Central Management Office of the Department of Public Safety. PSGAO is responsible for planning, coordination, data collection/statistical analysis, 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.

### **Public Safety Grant Administration Office 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>
Michael Hogan, Administrative Manager	401-764-5794	michael.hogan@ripsga.gov
Gail Pereira	401-764-5796	gail.pereira@ripsga.gov
Gina Tocco	401-764-5798	gina.tocco@ripsga.gov
Denise Fernandes	401-764-5797	denise.fernandes@ripsga.gov



## **Criminal Justice Policy Board 2017**

**Vacant**  
Chairperson

**Honorable Peter F. Kilmartin**  
Rhode Island Attorney General

**Mary S. McElroy, Esq.**  
Rhode Island Public Defender

**Colonel Ann C. Assumpico**  
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police

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

**Courtney Hawkins**  
Director, Department of Human Services

**Rebecca Boss**  
Director, Department of Behavioral Health,  
Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals

**Barbara Cottam**  
Chair, Board of Education

**Trista Piccola**  
Director, Department of Children, Youth & Families

**Honorable Michael B. Forte**  
Chief Judge, Rhode Island Family Court

**Chief Dean Hoxsie**  
President, Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association

**Vacant**  
Police Chief selected by RI Police Chiefs' Association

**Honorable Paul A. Suttell**  
Chief Justice, Rhode Island Supreme Court

**Honorable Alice B. Gibney**  
Presiding Justice, Rhode Island Superior Court

**Honorable Jeanne E. Lafazia**  
Chief Judge, Rhode Island District Court

**Brian Daniels**  
Director, Rhode Island League of Cities & Towns

**Dr. Nicole Alexander-Scott**  
Director, Department of Health

**James Gumbley**  
Rhode Island State Fire Marshal (Acting)

**Daniel J. Knight, Sr.**  
Associate Professor, Salve Regina University

**Carl Weinberg**  
Private Citizen Member

**Vacant**  
Private Citizen Member

**Vacant**  
Private Citizen Member

**Vacant**  
Private Citizen Member

**Jonathan Houston**  
Executive Director, Justice Assistance

**Deborah DeBare**  
Executive Director, Rhode Island Coalition Against  
Domestic Violence

**P.J. Fox**  
Director, Institute for the Study and Practice of Non-  
Violence

## **Criminal Justice Steering Committee 2017**

**Honorable Peter F. Kilmartin**  
Rhode Island Attorney General

**Mary S. McElroy, Esq.**  
Rhode Island Public Defender

**Colonel Ann C. Assumpico**  
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police

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

**Chief Dean Hoxsie**  
President, Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association

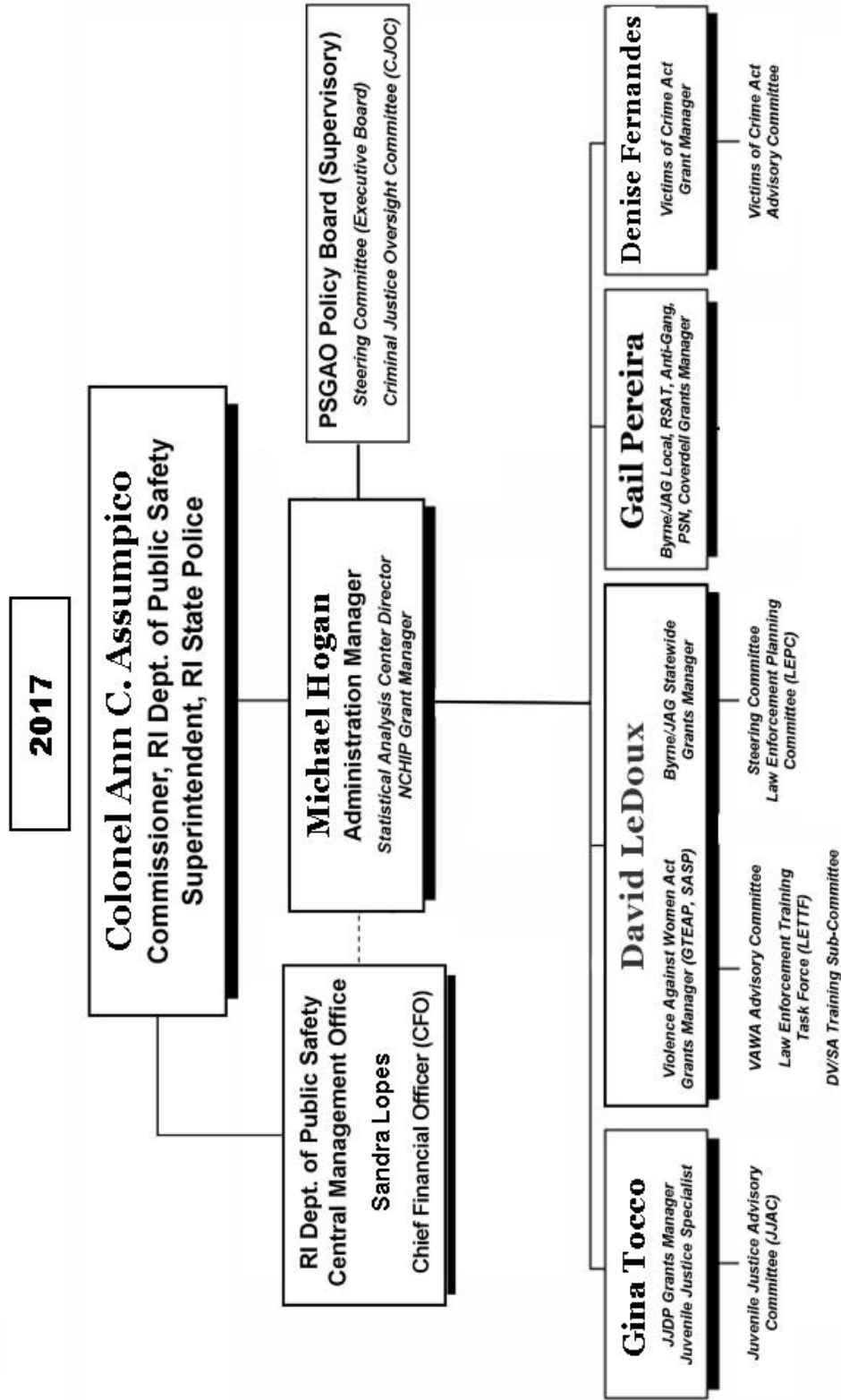
**Honorable Alice B. Gibney**  
Presiding Justice, Rhode Island Superior Court

**Trista Piccola**  
Director, Department of Children, Youth & Families

**Rebecca Boss**  
Director, Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals



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



# Edward 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 2017 Formula grant continues to operate on a trimmed strategic plan that was created in 2009. New for the FY 2017 Byrne/JAG grant, additional assurances requiring signature from the state’s Chief Executive Officer (Governor) and Chief Legal Officer (Attorney General) regarding compliance with three special conditions before grant funds are released.

2017 JAG Summary	
<b>Total Award.....</b>	<b>\$767,113</b>
• Administration.....	\$76,711
• Statewide .....	\$299,092
• Pass through .....	\$326,724
• Under \$10K.....	\$64,586

1. Authorizing legislation for the Byrne/JAG grant program requires that all grant applicants certify compliance both with the provisions of that authorizing legislation and all other applicable federal laws. The Office of Justice Programs has determined that 8 U.S.C. § 1373 (Section 1373) is an applicable federal law under the Byrne/JAG authorizing legislation. Therefore, all Byrne/JAG grant applicants must certify compliance with all applicable federal laws, including Section 1373, as part of the Byrne/JAG grant application process.
2. The applicant entity and/or its governing body has implemented or, before drawing down grant funds if awarded, will implement rules, regulations, policies, and/or practices that ensure that U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“DHS”) personnel have access to any of the governing body’s correctional or detention facilities in order to meet with an alien (or an individual believed to be an alien) and inquire as to his or her right to be or to remain in the United States.
3. The applicant entity and/or its governing body has implemented or, before drawing down grant funds if awarded, will implement rules, regulations, policies, and/or practices that ensure that any of the governing body’s correctional and detention facilities provide advance notice as early as practicable (at least 48 hours, where possible) to DHS regarding the scheduled release date and time of an alien in the jurisdiction’s custody when DHS requests such notice in order to take custody of the alien. This certification does not require holding an alien beyond his or her scheduled time of release.

Enforcement of these compliance provisions are the subject of a number of lawsuits throughout the country. While these cases are making their way through the courts, the entire 2017 Byrne/JAG funding cycle has been frozen. PSGAO has been working with the Office of the Governor, the Department of the Attorney General, the Department of Corrections, and

the state's congressional delegation regarding the implications for Rhode Island. **PSGAO is prepared to make these awards when DOJ releases the funding.**

**Penalties** - The initial 2017 Byrne/JAG award to the state was \$766,003. From that amount, there is a 10% penalty for not having passed the federally-mandated Sex Offender Registration/Notification (SORNA) legislation (**\$47,468**); and a 5% penalty (**\$23,734**) for not being in compliance with the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).

**SORNA Penalty Re-allocation** – The SORNA 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 SORNA regulations

**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 PREA Penalty funds have yet to be programmed as the Department of Corrections, the Department for Children Youth and Families and the State Police must still perform audits of several secure facilities throughout the state 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 the 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 PSGAO 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 2017 award (\$76,711) for administrative purposes, supporting portions of three different PSGAO staff salaries and benefits. After the administrative set-aside, the remainder of the 2017 funds are subject to the BJA mandated local law enforcement "variable pass-through" (VPT) requirement.

#### **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 (\$326,724) to municipal police departments according to its long-standing formula (based on population and crime rates); and its statewide recommendations (derived from the \$64,586 in "Under \$10K" funds) are indicated in subsequent pages.

*2017 - Public Safety Grant Administration Office - Annual Report - 2017*

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 2017 funding plan. The Steering Committee, an executive subcommittee of the PSGAO 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 2017 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 Training 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)

**Summary of 2017 JAG Funding**

<b>Planning &amp; Administration</b>			
RI Public Safety Grants Administration Office	The state administering agency (SAA) receives the allowable 10% of the award funds available to perform all grant-related planning and administrative functions.		<b>\$76,711</b>
<b>Statewide Projects</b>			
RI Public Defender’s Office	Defender Advocacy Project	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.	\$25,000

RI Supreme Court	Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault/Child Molestation Monitoring Unit (DVU)	JAG funds augment other federal and state funds to partially support the DVU to enter data from police arrest report forms and prepare and disseminate various DV, SA and CM reports to state, municipal and private non-profit victim service agencies.	\$35,000
RI Attorney General	Adult Drug Court Project	Continue to provide a prosecutor to cases of new and existing clients accepted into the Drug Court program in conjunction with other partner agencies.	\$35,000
RI Department of Corrections	Recidivism Reduction	Proactively addresses treatment needs of offenders that are at risk to re-offend by using a multi-disciplinary approach by RIDOC's behavioral health staff, the contracted provider and Probation & Parole officers in a methodical, effective treatment intervention.	\$48,046
RI Department of Corrections	Family Reunification	Incarcerated parents are provided an evidence based program intended to increase the participants' ability to engage their children and prepare for the likely challenges upon release from prison.	\$48,046
RI Family Court	Mental Health Clinic	Conduct routine evaluations of juveniles within several weeks of referral and emergency evaluations are seen the same-day by an on-call clinician.	\$30,000
Dept. of Children Youth and Families	Culinary Arts Project	Continue job training for at-risk youth teaching participants culinary, social and entrepreneurial skills and to also provide one-time funding for training and kitchen supplies/equipment.	\$28,000
RI State Police	Neighborhood Response Team (NRT)	The RI State Police perform joint patrols with local police officers in high crime areas of targeted urban municipalities to reduce the rate of serious criminal activity regarding gangs, gun and drug offenses.	\$50,000
		<b>Total Statewide Projects</b>	<b>\$299,092</b>
<b>“Under 10K” Statewide Projects</b>			
URI Crime Lab	Crime Scene Re-Construction	Partially outfit new office space to allow for re-construction of crime scenes for forensic investigations.	\$17,793
RI Commission on Prejudice and Bias – Hate Crimes	In-Service Training for Law Enforcement	Provide in-service and recruit training on the most up-dated information and laws, tools, and resources to further the understanding and ability to identify hate crime incidents and enhance the protection of victims.	\$5,000
RI Municipal Police Academy	In-Service Training for Law Enforcement	Provide a variety of in-service/continuing education training sessions for state, municipal and college/university law enforcement /public safety officials; provide supplies and printed training materials	\$32,793
RI Municipal Police Accreditation Association		Provide partial support for the Accreditation Project's full-time Executive Director's position	\$9,000
		<b>Total “Under 10K” Projects</b>	<b>\$64,586</b>

**NOTE - The "Under \$10K" funds are derived from the Byrne/JAG balance remaining after BJA makes its "Direct to Local" awards out of the 40% "Local" allocation to the state. In FY-17, the total "Local" allocation for the state of RI is \$510,668 with \$438,906 awarded to ten (10) municipal police departments qualifying for a \$10K or greater award. (See far right column). The balance of these "Local" funds, \$71,762 (before the 10% P&A is applied), is added to the state's Formula allocation as the so-called, "Under \$10K" amount, which is required to benefit municipalities that did not receive a BJA "Direct-to-Local" award.**

**Variable (Local) Pass-Through \$326,724**  
(VPT 47.4% -pass through amount varies from state to state) **The Law Enforcement Planning Committee** met on September 7, 2017 to make its Formula (VPT) Local Pass-Through and the statewide "Under \$10K" funding recommendations.

**PREA Reallocation Funds \$23,734**  
The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) penalty of \$23,734 is removed from the Byrne/JAG Formula award and re-awarded (re-allocated) separately for the state to use to come into and maintain compliance with PREA regulations.

The 2017 PREA penalty funds remain un-programmed to date awaiting results of a second round of PREA audits at the RI Department of Corrections and the RI Training School for Youth to determine the best utilization of these funds.

Whether the RI State Police is subject to PREA regulations at its several regional barracks is under review. If it is determined that the RISP barracks require PREA audits, FY-2017 or later JAG PREA funds could be used

FY-2017 JAG Local Pass-Through (VPT) Allocations			BJA Direct To Local Awards
Local Jurisdiction/ (Police Department)	LEPC Approved 2017 VPT Allocations	% of total available	
Barrington	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Bristol	\$ 11,705	3.41%	
Burrillville	\$ 7,830	2.28%	
Central Falls	—	0.00%	\$ 28,677
Charlestown	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Coventry	\$ 14,290	4.16%	
Cranston	\$ 13,940	4.06%	\$ 25,299
Cumberland	\$ 14,290	4.16%	
East Greenwich	\$ 7,830	2.28%	
East Providence	\$ 6,660	1.94%	\$ 11,512
Foster	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Glocester	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Hopkinton	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Jamestown	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Johnston	\$ 18,170	5.29%	
Lincoln	\$ 11,705	3.41%	
Little Compton	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Middletown	\$ 11,705	3.41%	
Narragansett	\$ 14,290	4.16%	
New Shoreham	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Newport	\$ 4,900	1.43%	\$ 20,680
North Kingstown	\$ 14,290	4.16%	
North Providence	\$ 4,230	1.23%	\$ 10,064
North Smithfield	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Pawtucket	—	0.00%	\$ 53,907
Portsmouth	\$ 7,830	2.28%	
Providence	—	0.00%	\$ 212,112
Richmond	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Scituate	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Smithfield	\$ 11,705	3.41%	
South Kingstown	\$ 14,290	4.16%	
Tiverton	\$ 7,830	2.28%	
Warren	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
Warwick	\$ 28,145	8.20%	\$ 16,751
West Greenwich	\$ 6,537	1.90%	
West Warwick	\$ 1,815	0.53%	\$ 12,477
Westerly	\$ 14,293	4.16%	
Woonsocket	—	0.00%	\$ 47,427
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 326,724</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$ 438,906</b>
† The "Under \$10K" amount, coupled with the BJA Direct-to-Local awards, represent the 40% Local amount of the total federal Byrne/JAG annual allocation to the state.			plus the
			<b>Under \$10K \$ 71,762</b>
<b>Initial State Allocation</b>	<b>\$ 766,003</b>	<b>Total Local Allocation</b>	<b>\$ 510,668</b>
	<b>60%</b>		<b>40%</b>



**2017 Law Enforcement Planning Committee Membership**

- Col. Stephen McCartney, Chair, Warwick PD
- Chief Thomas Carey, Woonsocket PD
- Chief John Desmaris, Cumberland PD
- Chief John MacDonald, Coventry PD
- Chief Richard Ramsey, West Greenwich PD
- Chief Gary Silva, Newport PD
- Chief Richard Silva, Westerly PD
- Col. Michael Winquist, Cranston PD
- Chief Joseph DelPrete, Glocester PD
- Vacancy

**PSGAO Staff:**

- Michael Hogan, Administrative Manager
- David LeDoux, Byrne/JAG Grants Manager

## Byrne/JAG Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) Penalty Re-Allocation Grant

**T**he Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) is Title I of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. SORNA provides a comprehensive set of minimum standards for sex offender registration and notification in the United States. SORNA aims to close potential gaps and loopholes that existed under prior law and generally strengthens the nationwide network of sex offender registration and notification programs.

### Program Highlights

<u>2017</u>	Total Award \$47,468
-------------	-------------------------

In October 2012 the United States Department of Justice's Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking (SMART) made a final determination that Rhode Island did not substantially implement SORNA by the July 27, 2012 deadline. Consequently, RI received a mandated 10% reduction in Byrne/JAG funding in grant years 2012 through 2016, and now again in 2017. This penalty is assessed against the portion of the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance (Byrne/JAG) grant funding that is allocated to statewide projects.

RI was also granted the opportunity to apply to reallocate this funding back to the state to support continued efforts to implement the SORNA requirements. The application for reallocation was approved for the amount of \$47,468. This amount will supplement the amount that was redirected in the prior fiscal years.

Through this project the Rhode Island State Police will focus on the Sex Offender Registry database. The agency took on the responsibility of managing and maintaining the registry via a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in 2008 with the Office of the Rhode Island Attorney General. After taking over the registry the Rhode Island State Police signed a contract with Computer Projects of Illinois (CPI) to develop and launch a new registry database, and assigned a civilian member to manage it.

Over the past few years the agency has worked to improve the system, without any additional personnel or resources to do so. Using other grant funding, the agency has hired a contract employee to manage the database. Using the funding from this award, detectives from the Rhode Island state Police put in overtime hours they wouldn't normally work to conduct in-person compliance checks on sex offenders throughout the jurisdiction, clean the data in the registry, and vet hard copy files on sex offenders to ensure all of the information in them is accurate and up to date in the registry.

## The Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act)

**T**he Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP Act) became law in 1974 and was amended in 2002. The State of Rhode Island has been an active participant since 1975 and receives appropriations annually if in compliance with the core requirements of the Act. 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 Act 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*

#### 2017

Total Award  
\$381,397

#### 2017 PREA

Total Award  
\$19,081

## **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**  
*2017*

Mr. F. Paul Mooney Jr.,  
*Chair*

Hon. Michael Forte, Chief Judge,  
*RI Family Court*

Ms. Alberta Catalozzi,  
*Office of the Public Defender*

Ms. Geneva Singletary-Johnson,  
*Volunteer who works with Juvenile Justice*

Mr. Kevin McKenna,  
*Dept. of Children, Youth & Families*

Dr. Mary Archibald,  
*Providence School Department*

Ms. Jennifer Griffith, Esq.,  
*Child Advocate*

Judge Lauren D'Ambra,  
*RI Family Court*

Ms. Shilpa Naik, Esq.,  
*RI Family Court*

Judge Feidlim Gill  
*RI Family Court*

Judge Rossie Harris,  
*RI Family Court*

Ms. Susan Mansolillo,  
*Local Elected Official*

Ms. Maureen Donnelly,  
*Gateway Healthcare, Inc.*

Mr. James Queenan, Esq.,  
*Representing Experience with Child Neglect*

Dr. Judith Gnys,  
*Psychologist*

Ms. Judy Davis, Esq.,  
*Representing Experience with Youth Violence*

Mr. John Moreira, Esq.,  
*Office of the Attorney General*

Ms. Lori Coppa Fernandes,  
*Dept. of Children, Youth & Families*

Mr. Jamie M. Calise,  
*Representing Law Enforcement*

Mr. Cesar Perez,  
*Tides Family Services*

Ms. Kaila Madera,  
*RI Family Court, Youth Representative*

Ms. Tessa Fast,  
*Youth Representative*

Ms. Amanda Mastronardi  
*Youth Representative*

Mr. Corey Nim,  
*Youth Representative*

Mr. Raheem Nim,  
*Youth Representative*

Mr. Neal Sweet  
*Youth Representative*

Ms. Jackie Miech,  
*Youth Representative*

Gina Tocco  
*Public Safety Grant Administration Office*

## Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention – Title II Formula Grant

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>State Match Required</b>
Public Safety Grant Administration Office	Planning and Administration	\$38,100	\$38,100
Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee	JJAC – Administration/ Prevention Activities	\$15,000	
Compliance Monitoring and Group 4 Securicor	Compliance Monitoring Activities	\$60,725	
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>\$381,397</b>	<b>\$38,100</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 Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention, Coalition for Juvenile Justice and other related conferences and workshops, as well as site visits to monitor subgrantees and all 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 TrueCore Behavioral Solutions, 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, as well as the Mental Health Clinic. 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; 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 2017 OJJDP PREA Reallocation grant, in the amount of \$19,081, was awarded to the Department of Children, Youth and Families. DCYF must 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 for the Rhode Island Training School to ensure initial compliance with PREA and ongoing oversight of PREA Compliance within identified covered facilities.

The RI Department of Children, Youth and Families made steady progress toward achieving identified goals and objectives in 2017. Audits were conducted at the two required juvenile facilities. All Corrective Action Plan items identified by the Auditor in the respective on-site audits for the Training School and Ocean Tides were addressed and documentation was provided to the Auditor by the respective deadlines. These steps included specialized staff training for medical and behavioral health staff, policy modifications, five year background checks for staff and contractors, installation of cameras and door alarms at the Training School, and video monitoring equipment at Ocean Tides. The Auditor's final reports for each facility certified that each facility was found in compliance. Audits will continue to take place on the required 3-year cycle.

### **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	
2017	Total Award \$6,379,467

The Public Safety Grant Administration Office made 69 VOCA awards in 2017 totaling \$13,450,158 using grant funds from the FY2015, FY2016 and FY2017 awards.

## 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

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

*Rhode Island College*  
*School of Social Work*

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

**Michael Hogan**  
*PSGAO Administrative Manager*

**Denise Fernandes**  
*PSGAO VOCA Administrator*

**Wendy Becker**  
*Assistant Professor*

## VOCA Victims Assistance Subgrants for 2017

<b>Subgrantee</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>2017</b>
Adoption Rhode Island Statewide	VOCA Family Support Project	Provides support services to abused children and their adoptive families	\$305,620 Two-year award
Amos House	Street Outreach to Victimized Homeless Women	This project provides street outreach to homeless women with substance abuse and victimization risk	\$123,000 Two-year award
Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center	Law Enforcement Advocate Program	This project makes a law enforcement advocate available to the City of Central Falls	\$88,000 Two-year award
Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center	Transitional Housing Program	Provides support for additional housing units, case management and services for victims of domestic violence	\$142,471 Two-year award
Center for Southeast Asians	Victim Assistance Program	Provides individual and family support that is linguistically and culturally accessible to Southeast Asians who are victims	\$100,190 One-year award
Child & Family Services of Newport County	Elderly Abuse Program	Provides outreach, assessment, advocacy, case management, and treatment for victims of elderly abuse and their families	\$85,463 Two-year award
Community Care Alliance	Victim Trauma and Advocacy Services	Provides victims of crime comprehensive emergency therapeutic and case management services.	\$121,882 Two-year award
Comprehensive Community Action Program Providence County	Victim of Crime Program	Provides education, support and intervention services aimed at helping victim's family eliminate violence from their lives	\$122,511 Two-year award
Day One	Victims of Sexual Exploitation & Trafficking	Provides statewide advocacy services to anyone involved in sexual exploitation and human trafficking	\$378,261 Two-year award
Day One	Sexual Assault Victim Assistance	Provides crisis intervention, counseling services and legal advocacy for victims of sexual assault and their families.	\$436,710 Two-year award
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	\$366,903 Two-year award
Day One	Law Enforcement Advocates – Northern RI	This project makes a Law Enforcement Advocate available to Northern RI	\$88,000 Two-year award

Day One	Law Enforcement Advocates – Warwick/West Warwick	This project makes a Law Enforcement Advocate available to Warwick/West Warwick	\$92,000 Two-year award
Day One	This project makes a Law Enforcement Advocate available to the City of Providence	This project makes a Law Enforcement Advocate available to the City of Providence	\$92,000 Two-year award
Day One	Law Enforcement Advocate for Newport	This project makes a Law Enforcement Advocate available to the City of Newport	\$92,000 Two-year award
Crossroads RI	DV Advocacy for Homeless	This project targets homeless domestic violence victims.	\$121,718 Two-year award
Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County	Law Enforcement Advocate for Metro South County West	This project makes a Law Enforcement Advocate available to the South County West area	\$92,000 Two-year award
Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County	Felony Court Advocacy Program	Provides for a Felony Court Advocate in the Court Advocacy program	\$83,687 Two-year award
Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island	Immigrant Victim’s Right Project	Provides assistance to immigrant victims of crime in accessing services	\$214,647 Two-year award
East Bay Community Action Program	Victim’s Assistance Program	Provides victim services to the East Bay of Rhode Island	\$131,150 Two-year award
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	Law Enforcement Advocate	Provides a Law Enforcement Advocate for Cranston/Johnston	\$100,000 Two-year award
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	Law Enforcement Advocate	Provides a Law Enforcement advocate for North Providence	\$46,000 Two-year award
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	\$93,106 Two-year award
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	\$175,102 Two-year award
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	\$92,546 Two-year award
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	\$126,539 One-year award

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.	\$82,779 Two-year award
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	\$429,944 Two-year award
Institute for Study & Practice of Nonviolence Providence	Nonviolence Streetworkers Program	Provides crisis intervention, referrals, 24-hour on call, hospital visits/advocacy, court advocacy, etc.	\$296,445 Two-year award
Institute for Study & Practice of Nonviolence Statewide	Victim Support Center	Provides victims who are suffering from the loss of a family member through homicide support services.	\$510,111 Two-year award
Justice Assistance Statewide	Project Victim Services	Provides victims who are suffering from the loss of a family member through homicide support services	\$258,155 One-year award
Interfaith Counseling	Victim Assistance	Provides resolution from distress and trauma from Crime victimization	\$64,583 One-year award
Justice Assistance Statewide	Project Victim Services (Tech)	Provides technology management and systems upgrade for case management and federal reporting requirements	\$18,000 One-year award
Lucy's Hearth	Victim Services	Provides care services to victims of crime on Aquidneck Island	\$43,804 One-year award
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	\$143,148 Two-year award
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.	\$100,000 One-year award
New England Advocacy Services	Closing the Gap on Victim Services	Provides victims of crime services with efforts focused on Providence County	\$5,000 One-year award
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	\$370,568 Two-year award
Progreso Latino	AYUDAME/Help Me	Provides direct crime victim service response to Latino community who are newly arrived immigrants	\$132,200 One-year award

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	\$172,824 Two-year award
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	\$1,356,213 Two-year award
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	\$133,510 Two-year award
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	\$469,358 Two-year award
RI Department of Children, Youth & Family	Victims’ Assistance	This project adds a Human Trafficking Coordinator to respond to victims	\$276,483 One-year award
RI Coalition for the Homeless	Home to Home	This project provides for victim services for the homeless, street and runaway youth	\$124,958 One-year award
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	\$165,848 Two-year award
RI Department of Corrections/DOIT Statewide	Rhode Island Victims Assistance Portal	Provides help to victims of crimes in tracking their case information throughout the RI Justice System	\$45,000 One-year award
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	\$145,379 Two-year award
Rhode Island Family Court	Family Domestic Violence Court	Court based case management including evaluation – Domestic Violence Services Director	\$198,496 One-year award
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.	\$109,620 Two-year award
Rhode Island Legal Services Inc. Statewide	Safe Family Project	Provides free legal representation for clients who are victims of domestic violence seeking restraining orders	\$600,000 One-year award

Rhode Island Legal Services Inc. Statewide	Elderly Protection Project	Supports the core activities of the Elder Protection Project providing specialized legal assistance to victimized elders	\$690,000 Two-year award
Rhode Island Parole Board Statewide	Enhanced Victim Services Project	Provides advocacy and assistance to victims when offender is up for parole	\$237,892 Two-year award
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	\$94,004 Two-year award
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	\$183,912 Two-year award
Sojourner House	The THEIA Project	Provides supportive emergency and transitional housing for adult female and male victims of human trafficking	\$320,933 Two-year award
Sojourner House	School-Based Advocacy	Provides one on one advocacy and support to students who have experienced dating violence and/or sexual assault	\$78,119 One-year award
Sophia Academy	Safety Net: Healing Our Girls	Contracts with Day One, Screens for victims and provides victims services to their students	\$133,010 Two-year award
St. Elizabeth Community	St. Elizabeth Haven for Abused Elders	Designates shelter for elder abuse victims using existing nursing home beds at St. Elizabeth Home.	\$25,000 One-year award
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	\$270,853 One-year award
St. Mary's Home for Children	St. Mary's Child & Family Trauma Team	Provides a home-based team approach to treatment of sexual abuse victims and their families; treating the family as a system, fostering personal growth, independence and responsibility in all family members	\$251,611 Two-year award
Thundermist Health Center	Transgender Behavioral and Social Health Program	Program supports transgender individuals, especially those who experiences discrimination and oppression, with medical and behavioral health services	\$246,840 Two-year award

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	\$177,655 One-year award
Women's Resource Center	Domestic Violence Advocacy for Homeless Clients	This program addresses the gap in domestic violence services for clients transitional housing	\$67,108 One-year award
Women's Resource Center	Filling the Gap in DV in Newport and Bristol	Provides services to victims of domestic violence by adding advocates	\$88,000 Two-year award
Women's Resource Center	Crisis Response Advocate	Provides immediate de-escalation support and triages through the 24/7 hotline	\$85,653 Two-year award
Sojourner House	Law Enforcement Advocate	Law Enforcement Advocate for Reservoir	\$92,000 Two-year award
Youth Pride Statewide	Victim Support Project	Provides victim outreach and services to gay, lesbian and transgender youth in RI	\$233,636 Two-year award
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Hate Crimes Training for LE		\$10,000 One-year award

**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*

## **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.

<b>2017 STOP VAWA</b>
<b>Total Award: \$976,314</b>

### **2017 Formula Award/Plan**

The 2017 STOP award is \$976,314. 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 aforementioned program categories. Rhode Island has historically utilized this discretionary 15% to augment the victims’ services component.

The 2017 STOP VAWA plan represents the first of a three-year implementation plan (2017 – 2020). For 2017, the 5% PREA penalty has been eliminated from the STOP program.

### **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.

### **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 2-hour and 4-hour comprehensive training curricula and implemented 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.

### **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.

**Culturally-Specific Definitions**

*From the VAWA 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.

The 2017 STOP award is the first of the new three-year plan and the STOP VAWA Planning Committee ran a new RFP to select the new three-year culturally-specific programming grant recipient. Only one agency was approved to receive the culturally-specific funds for 2017: Progreso Latino, which targets the Latin-American community.

### **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) RI municipalities dating back to 1999. The LEA Program has proven to be such a well-received and successful program that, as of the fall of 2017, the Victims of Crime Act Victim Assistance Grant (VOCA) is now fully funding the LEA program. Every single police department in the state has an LEA partner assigned to them.

Moving the LEA program to a new funding source has created an opportunity to enhance the ongoing training program and to seek out new programs that create links to DV/SA programs for persons who are considered to be from an underserved population.

The VAWA Advisory Committee is still working to reprogram the available funds in alignment with eligible STOP program Law Enforcement activities.

#### **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 which 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).

### **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.

### **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.

**2017 Violence Against Women Act Planning (Advisory) Committee**

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

Chief, DV/SA Unit  
RI Dept. of the Attorney General

**Deborah DeBare**  
Executive Director, RICADV

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

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

**Peg Langhammer**  
Executive Director, Day One

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

**Jeffrey Renzi**  
Associate Director  
RI Department of Corrections

**Det. Heather Palumbo,**  
Rhode Island State Police  
**Daniel Carr Guglielmo, Esq.**

**David LeDoux, PSGAO,**  
STOP/GTEAP/SASP Grants Manager

**Summary of 2017 STOP VAWA Program Sub-grants**

Subgrantee	Project Description	Amount
<b>Planning and Administration (10%)</b>		
RI Public Safety Grant Administration Office	The state administering agency (SAA) takes the allowable 10% of the award to perform all grant-related planning and administrative functions.	\$97,631
<b>Victim Services (30%) plus Discretionary (15%)</b>		
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	The statewide agency provides core services for underserved populations (victims of domestic violence) in all communities of Rhode Island in conjunction with six member agencies including counseling, referrals, hospital/police accompaniment.	\$271,862
Day One (State Sexual Assault Coalition)	The statewide agency provides core services for underserved populations (victims of sexual assault) in all communities of Rhode Island including counseling, referrals, and court, hospital and/or police accompaniment.	\$81,206

<b>Culturally Specific Victim Services Project (10% of Victim Services 30%)</b>		
Progreso Latino	The Office of Violence Against Women requires that states use 10% of their Victims Services 30% for culturally specific programming. This year, the STOP Advisory Committee decided to divert another 4.4% of Victim Services funds increasing the CS amount from ~\$26K to ~\$42K annually. The PSGAO has disseminated a CS RFP and awarded the grant to Progreso Latino.	\$42,339
<b>Prosecution (25%)</b>		
RI Department of the Attorney General	The AG's DV/SA Unit collaborates with other VAWA agencies on training and standards in the areas of law enforcement and advocacy education, stalking, teen dating violence, updating on law and policy, improved collection of corroborative evidence, building a strong case without the victim's cooperation, protective orders, and focusing on children who witness violence; and strives to ensure that RI laws protect victims and hold offenders accountable through the power of the criminal justice system.	\$219,671
<b>Law Enforcement (25%)</b>		
DV/SA Recruit and In-Service Police Training – DV Homicide Prevention	Having moved the four (4) STOP LEA projects to VOCA, the additional Law Enforcement funds will allow the DV/SA Training and Curriculum Committee, a working sub-committee of the STOP Advisory Committee, to significantly increase their training agenda. The Committee trains and certifies qualified instructors to present at in-service trainings for municipal police departments, and classroom and intensive role-play sessions for the RI Municipal Police Academy and now both the Providence and RISP Academy recruit classes. The Training Committee also plans and implements other specialized regional sessions to include dispatcher and prosecutor sessions among others. Grant funds covers employing agency costs of providing certified trainers and reimbursement for municipal police departments for officer overtime incurred while training.  Law Enforcement funds will also support domestic violence homicide prevention efforts..	\$219,671
<b>Courts (5%)</b>		
RI Supreme Court Domestic Violence/ Sexual Assault Training & Monitoring Unit	Collect and enter DV/SA Police Reporting Forms into the DV/SA database through a combination of daily logging in of forms received, visual screening for police completion and accuracy, optical scanning, text entry and quality control.	\$43,934
<b>FY 2017 STOP Total</b>		<b>\$976,314</b>

## 2017 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 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 PSGAO began to take the allowable 5% administrative costs beginning in FY 2014.

<b>• 2017 SASP</b>	
<b>Total Award.....</b>	<b>\$353,849</b>
• TBD (95%) .....	\$336,232
SASP Programming	
• PSGAO (5%) .....	\$17,696
Planning/Administration	

**Confirm Sole Source Status** – In 2014, the PSGAO Policy Board deemed it prudent to validate subgranting the entire program amount of the SASP award to a sole beneficiary. As a result, the STOP VAWA Advisory Committee conducted a Letter of Interest (LOI) process that corroborated the decision to make a sole source award to Day One, the state’s de facto sexual assault coalition. PSGAO ran the same LOI process in CY-2017. As a result of responses to the 2017 LOI, PSGAO then ran a full Request For Proposals (RFP). At this time, the responses to that RFP are under review by a sub-committee of the VAWA Advisory Committee. A determination will be made to continue with the current award to a single agency, or to split the award up into other sub-grants if any new proposals qualify.

**Current SASP Programming** – At this time, Day One utilizes the 2016 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.



# 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>2017</u></b>	Total Award
	\$121,198

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 19, 2017 in the amount of \$121,198. The FY 2017 program budget is as follows:

The **RI Judiciary** was awarded \$35,600 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 \$35,600 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 \$74,580 to replace an outdated message switch server. This server handles thousands of transactions daily, providing criminal justice users with critical data required to fulfill public safety responsibilities. This project will replace the current server with a new one, and add a second server to provide redundancy and ensure the availability of the network and data at all times.

The remaining \$11,018 of grant funds have been set aside for costs incurred by PSGAO during administration of the program.

## 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

**2017**

Total Award  
\$108,332

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). In addition to internal audits by their Quality Assurance Officer, external audits are needed to maintain accreditation, which runs on a four-year cycle. Currently, their accreditation expires on June 6, 2020.

Rhode Island's four (4) Coverdell funded laboratories agreed to split the 2017 program funding equally, with each laboratory receiving a subaward of \$24,374.75.

The **University of Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory** was awarded 2017 Coverdell funds to purchase a portion of laboratory benches casework. The balance of the cost of the purchase will come from other sources of funding available to the Laboratory, including but not limited to its FY2018 state allocation. The University recently agreed to provide the State Crime with additional space in Fogarty Hall which is in need of significant renovations. This will include the demolition of benches and casework that have been in place since the building was opened in 1963. It will also include improvements in flooring, ceiling, lighting, electrical and plumbing to upgrade the space for use by Laboratory personnel as offices and analytical space. While the University will provide funding for the utilities and structural work, the Laboratory will be responsible for the purchase and installation of new laboratory benches and casework. An estimated 100 linear feet of benches and casework is required for the renovation project. The cost, including installation, will be \$500 per linear foot and will cost approximately \$50,000.

The **Department of Health Forensic Science Unit (FSU)** was awarded funds to pay the cost of travel expenses to send their Toxicologist to the Borkenstein Institute Drug course. Their Quality Assurance Officer will attend the Association of Forensic Quality Managers training, and the New England Association of Quality Managers annual meeting. Funds will pay for the Breath Analysis Supervisor and Inspector to the CMI Annual Training Conference, and the Breath Analysis Senior Laboratory Technician to training at the vendor's facility in Owensboro, KY. One Forensic Scientist will attend the Forensic Science Training Seminar in Dulles, VA, considered the gold standard for Drug Chemists and testimony in court. Two analysts will attend the annual meeting of the New England Chemist group, NFDAThe FSU will pay consultant costs for the FQS Office of the ANSI ANAB National Accreditation Board to perform an on-site limited scope assessment (including fees). It is essential that they maintain accreditation to be eligible for certain federal funding streams. Funds will pay required conference registration and testing fees.

The **Department of Health Office of the State Medical Examiner** was awarded 2017 Coverdell funds to pay the cost of travel expenses. Medicolegal Death Investigator training & testing is planned for the newest member of the OSME Scene Investigator team. A two part final exam/certification tests one's knowledge and skills learned & developed during training. One OSME forensic pathologist will attend the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) Annual Conference. The pathologist will attend numerous information sessions, presentations and workshops relative to best practices and trends in forensic pathology/science. Essential continuing education credits will also be obtained through conference attendance & participation.

The **Rhode Island State Police Forensic Services Unit (FSU)** was awarded funds to pay travel costs for unit members to attend vital trainings and conferences and undergo necessary certification tests that support accreditation goals. Two members will attend the annual International Association of Identification, two members will attend the Science of Fingerprints (Ridgeology) Course, and one member will attend the Shooting Reconstruction course. One member will attend the American Academy of Forensic Science Conference. The FSU purchased crime scene lighting to aid in the detection of floor-level evidence such as footprints, trace evidence and other surface debris. The Unit also purchased a digital camera and lens which allows for high-resolution photos at the FSU laboratory of fingerprint and footwear evidence. The FSU also used funds to pay the accrediting agency a required one-time annual scope maintenance fee for the year-long monitoring for compliance with the ISO standards required for accreditation. Funds paid testing fees for an FSU member to take a latent print exam, a footwear exam, and a tire exam. Additionally, one member will take the Crime Scene Certification Test.

## 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

<b>2017</b> Total Formula Award
\$63,805
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 2017 Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Grant Program award of \$63,805 reflects an increase in funding from Rhode Island's 2016 award of \$52,716. This year's funding is proposed to be used as follows:

### Rhode Island Department of Corrections

**The Rhode Island Department of Corrections (RIDOC)**, Division of Rehabilitative Services, was awarded \$38,283 (\$165,869 State match) in 2017 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.

Drug treatment services are provided through the RFP selected vendor, The Providence Center (TPC). These funds are budgeted to pay a portion of the Lead Clinician's salary to manage the program at Medium Security. All offenders referred to the 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 \$19,142 (\$116,756 State match) in 2017 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 and provided by Lifespan. These funds are budgeted to pay a portion of the salary for a Substance Abuse Supervisor/Counselor. The jail-based program provides intensive treatment for residents identified as having severe substance abuse treatment needs, which cannot be adequately addressed with the less intensive education, and intervention programming. The program is based on a modified therapeutic community treatment model that utilizes a cognitive-behavioral approach with an emphasis on relapse prevention. 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.

## 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 creation of recommendations. The Committee did meet once in 2015 to discuss population status and the impact of several recent initiatives. The Committee has not met since then.

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

**Vacant**  
*Chairperson*

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

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

**Col. Ann C. Assumpico**  
*Superintendent*  
*RI State Police*

**Michael J. Hogan**  
*Administrative Manager*  
*Public Safety Grant*  
*Administration Office*

**Designee**  
*From Governor's Policy Office*

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

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

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

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

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



# 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.



