



**THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

**PUBLIC SAFETY GRANT  
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

**2020  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

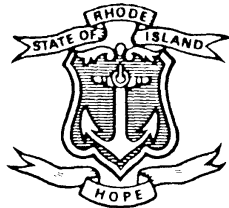
**311 DANIELSON PIKE, NORTH SCITUATE, RI 02857  
PHONE: 401-764-5991 FAX: 401-764-5834  
PSGARI.GOV**

# Rhode Island Department of Public Safety Grant Administration Office

## Annual Report 2020

---

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



**Lt. Col. Kevin Barry**  
Rhode Island State Police  
Acting Chair, Criminal Justice Policy Board

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

**RI Department of Public Safety Grant Administration Office**  
Tel (401) 764-5991 ✦ 311 Danielson Pike, No. Scituate, RI 02857 ✦ Fax (401) 764-5834  
[psga.ri.gov](http://psga.ri.gov)



**RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
**Public Safety Grant Administration Office**

311 Danielson Pike, North Scituate, RI 02857  
Telephone: (401)764-5991 — Fax: (401) 764-5834

**Colonel James M. Manni**  
**Commissioner, Department of Public Safety**  
**Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police**

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

I am pleased to provide you with the Public Safety Grant Administration Office's (PSGAO) annual report for calendar year 2020. Like everyone else, the Office spent the year adjusting to the realities of pandemic response and its impact on operations. Even with the impact of the virus, the most significant challenge faced by PSGAO was the reduction of funds in the formula Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance grant program.

The Chairmanship of the Policy Board remains vacant. I continued to work with the Office of the Governor to fill that position and other vacancies in the membership of the Criminal Justice Policy Board. In 2019 and again in 2020, Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Barry from the Rhode Island State Police sat as the acting chairperson. Over the last few years, Lt. Col. Barry has participated in several subcommittee meetings.

The development of the Statistical Analysis Center continued this year. It remains a significant goal of the PSGAO to develop a web-based public facing platform to share already publicly available data about the criminal justice system in Rhode Island. To this end, PSGAO continued to participate in the activities of the Governor's Criminal Justice Reinvestment Working Group. The Group's data subcommittee has worked to identify and report on critical performance measures that were outlined in a package of legislation that was passed in 2017. PSGAO has been working with the Department of Information Technology on a new website to display these metrics and a secured server to contain datasets provided by criminal justice agency stakeholders for the possibility of more extensive research than the systems are capable of today.

In August of 2018, the Office of the Attorney General joined a six-state lawsuit arguing against new award conditions that were added to the 2017 Byrne/Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program. On November 30, 2018, a federal court decision was issued ordering the Department of Justice to release the 2017 Byrne/JAG grant award to the six states involved in the lawsuit. There is still pending activity in this case as the objectionable special award conditions were also included in the 2018, 2019, and 2020 Byrne/JAG as well as the 2019 and 2020 Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention grant awards. It is expected that the Department of Justice will release new guidance in early 2021 to end enforcement of these special conditions.

Unfortunately, 2019 and 2020 saw precipitous decreases in VOCA funding, from \$11.1 million to \$7.6 million to \$5.7 million. The 2020 allocation is a 49% decrease from the 2018 allocation. The VOCA advisory board held eight meetings of at least two hours in length to review. The Policy Board requested a second reading and further discussion of the funding slate before approval. In the end, PSGAO was able to keep most programs afloat – albeit with significant funding cuts – and still meet the statutory obligations of the VOCA program.

The PSGAO made continued progress towards enhancing public safety by: improving services for victims of crime; improving interagency cooperation among law enforcement, the courts, and prosecutors; and seeking to improve the availability and quality of criminal justice data and statistics. The PSGAO will carry forward this momentum into 2021 and hopes to further improve victim services, reduce domestic violence homicides, and strengthen or enhance mental health wellness programs for first responders and law enforcement officers.

Very Respectfully,

  
Michael J. Hogan

# Table of Contents

<b>The Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO)</b> .....	<b>1</b>
Objectives .....	1
Policy Board, Steering Committee .....	2
Grant Program Advisory Committees .....	2
Public Safety Grant Administration Office Staff.....	4
Grant Programs .....	5
Policy Board Membership .....	6
Steering Committee Membership .....	7
PSGAO Organizational Chart.....	8
<b>Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victims Assistance Formula Grant Program .....</b>	<b>9</b>
VOCA Advisory Committee Membership .....	10
<b>State Victim Liaison Project (SVLP) .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Formula Grant Program .....</b>	<b>20</b>
Violence Against Women Act Planning Committee .....	24
VAWA Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP).....	26
<b>Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Formula Grant Program .....</b>	<b>27</b>
Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee.....	29
JJDP PREA .....	31
<b>Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF).....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>National Criminal Histories Improvement (NCHIP) Program.....</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>State Justice Statistics Program for Statistical Analysis Centers (SJS).....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant (PSN) .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT) Formula Grant Program.....</b>	<b>38</b>

**Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act (NFSIA) Formula Grant .....39**

**Byrne/JAG Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act  
SORNA Penalty Reallocation Grant.....41**

**Appendix**  
Rhode Island General Laws §42-26-1

# The Public Safety Grant Administration Office

**T**he Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO), was established in 1969 as the Rhode Island Justice Commission. The primary responsibility of the Office is to facilitate the development of comprehensive planning, coordination, and programming to improve the state criminal justice system.

The Public Safety Grant Administration Office derives its authority from R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-26-1 (see Appendix) which also creates a supervisory body identified as the Criminal Justice Policy Board.

The Office pursues a variety of activities authorized by state and executive designation. The support of these efforts is primarily facilitated through the administration federal grants, which are applied for and subsequently awarded to the PSGAO on behalf of the State of Rhode Island:

PSGAO 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.

## Objectives

- Comprehensive/specialized planning and grantsmanship efforts in support of the justice/criminal justice systems present and future;
- Ensure that subgrantees 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;
- Produce studies/reports describing the status of particular crime problems;
- Continuing support of criminal history record improvement and criminal justice information systems;
- Perform detailed monitoring, evaluation and analysis of grant funded programs.

## ***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.***

## **Criminal Justice Policy Board**

The Criminal Justice Policy Board is the oversight board for the programmatic activity of the PSGAO. The composition of the Board is set by R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-26-6 comprised of law enforcement personnel, the Attorney General, the Public Defender, judges, directors of various state agencies, representatives from community service provider organizations and private citizens named by the Governor. The Board should meet four times per year to review and approve planning and grant funding recommendations from various grant program advisory committees and the Criminal Justice Steering Committee.

## **Criminal Justice Steering Committee**

The Criminal Justice Steering Committee is an executive committee comprised of Policy Board members. The Committee identifies the priority problems facing the state's criminal justice system and makes recommendations to the Policy Board. The Committee is used as the principal advisory committee for the statewide allocation of Byrne/JAG grant program as well.

## **Local Law Enforcement Planning Committee**

The Local Law Enforcement Planning Committee is the state's planning committee for the "Variable Pass-Through" to local police departments and the "Under 10K" portions of the Byrne/JAG program. The committee is comprised of ten chiefs of local police departments who are appointed by the president of the Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association.

## **Criminal Justice Oversight Committee**

The 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 *Palmigiano* cases, the longstanding litigation involving conditions of confinement at the Rhode Island Department of Corrections Adult Correctional Institutions.

Because 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.

Legislation was subsequently enacted to create the Criminal Justice Oversight Committee (R.I. Gen. Laws § 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."

The composition of the Committee is set by statute and was last chaired by Bernard Jackvony, Esq. As the populations of the various correctional facilities are monitored by the Department of Corrections, meetings of this committee are called by the Chair periodically to review the population trends or to address potential overcrowding issues.

### **Violence Against Women Act Advisory Committee**

The Violence Against Women Act Advisory Committee was formed in 1995 by the House Finance Committee. The purpose of this group is to ensure the development and implementation of a comprehensive, statewide plan to reduce the incidence of crimes of violence against women and to improve services to victims. The members include delegates from the Office of Attorney General's Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Unit, the Judiciary's Domestic Violence Training and Monitoring Unit, Department of Health, State Police, Police Chiefs' Association, Department of Corrections, the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence (and its member agencies), and Day One (in its role as the state's de facto sexual assault coalition). This group still meets on a regular basis and has grown to include participation from the Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals.

### **VOCA Victim Assistance Grant Advisory Committee**

Established in 1986, the VOCA Advisory Committee consists of five volunteers. The Committee meets throughout the year and works with the VOCA program manager to identify the needs of victims of crime, set goals for distribution of federal dollars, and establishes procedures for applicants to submit grant requests. The Committee and PSGAO staff review all VOCA subgrant award applications and make a recommendation to the Policy Board of which programs to fund. The VOCA Advisory Committee also participated in monitoring the progress of VOCA subgrantees toward stated goals.

### **Juvenile Justice State Advisory Group**

The citizen members of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee (JJAC) are appointed by the Governor per the federal statute that establishes the program. 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. With their ties to local communities, state and local organizations, JJAC members can 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 JJDP formula grant money.



## 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 plans and applications;
- coordinate data collection for programmatic and financial reporting;
- develop request for proposals and subgrant solicitations;
- review submitted applications;
- present advisory committee recommendations to the Policy Board;
- create subrecipient databases;
- craft subgrant awards and distribute;
- create and maintain subgrant files;
- validate subrecipient requests for reimbursement;
- 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; and
- perform grant closeout and audit procedures.

Name	Phone Number	E-Mail Address
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
Bradley Orleck	401-764-5795	bradley.orleck@ripsga.gov
Gina Simeone	401-764-5103	gina.simeone@ripsga.gov

## **Grant Programs Currently Administered by PSGAO**

- Victims of Crime Act Victim Assistance Grant Program (VOCA)
- Training and Technical Assistance for VOCA Grantees (VOCA TTA)
- State Victim Liaison Project Grant (SVLP)
- Violence Against Women Act: Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors Grant (STOP)
- Violence Against Women Act: Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP)
- National Criminal History Improvement Grant Program (NCHIP)
- Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Act Grant Program (FSIA/Coverdell)
- Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Grant Program (RSAT)
- Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program (PSN)
- Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (COAP/PDMP)
- Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program (COAP/CARA)
- State Justice Statistics Program for Statistical Analysis Centers (SJS)
- Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (Byrne/JAG)
- Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act, JAG Penalty Re-allocation (JAG SORNA)
- Prison Rape Elimination Act, JAG Penalty Re-allocation (JAG PREA)
- Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Title II Formula Grant Program (JJDP)
- JJDP PREA Penalty Re-allocation (JJDP PREA)

# **Criminal Justice Policy Board 2020**

**Vacant**  
Chairperson

**Honorable Peter Neronha**  
Rhode Island Attorney General

**Lara Montelcalvo**  
Rhode Island Public Defender

**Colonel James M. Manni**  
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police

**Patricia Coyne-Fague**  
Director, Department of Corrections

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

**A. Kathryn Power**  
Director, Department of Behavioral Health,  
Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals

**Barbara Cottam**  
Chair, Board of Education

**Kevin Aucoin**  
Acting Director, Department of Children, Youth &  
Families

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

**Chief Brian Sullivan**  
President, Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association

**Chief Richard Ramsay**  
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

**Timothy McLaughlin**  
Rhode Island State Fire Marshal

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

**Carl Weinberg**  
Private Citizen Member

**Robert O'Neil**  
Private Citizen Member

**P. J. Fox**  
Private Citizen Member

**Vacant**  
Private Citizen Member

**Jonathan Houston**  
Executive Director, Justice Assistance

**Vacant**  
Service Provider

**Vacant**  
Service Provider

# **Criminal Justice Steering Committee 2020**

**Honorable Peter Neronha**  
Rhode Island Attorney General

**Lara Montecalvo**  
Rhode Island Public Defender

**Colonel James M. Manni**  
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police

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

**Patricia Coyne-Fague**  
Director, Department of Corrections

**Kevin Aucoin**  
Acting Director, Department of Children, Youth & Families

**A. Kathryn Power**  
Director, Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals

**Chief Brian Sullivan**  
President, Rhode Island Police Chiefs' Association



# State of Rhode Island

## Public Safety Grant Administration Office

**Colonel James M. Manni**

Commissioner, RI Department of Public Safety  
Superintendent, RI State Police

**Michael Hogan**

Administrative Manager  
VAWA Grant Manager

**Gregory Stack**

RI Department of Public Safety  
Chief Financial Officer

**Gina Tocco**

Juvenile Justice Specialist  
JJDP

**Gina Simeone**

Supervisor of Management Services  
Statistical Analysis Center

**Denise Fernandes**

Victims of Crime Act

**Bradley Orleck**

Victims of Crime Act

**Gail Pereira**

Byrne/JAG, Coverdell,  
COAP, RSAT

Boards and  
Committees

Criminal Justice Policy  
Board

Criminal Justice  
Oversight Committee

VAWA Advisory  
Committee

PSN Task Force

Juvenile Justice State  
Advisory Group

VOCA Advisory  
Committee

# Victims of Crime Act Victims Assistance Formula Grant Program

**T**he Public Safety Grant Administration Office 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.

<b>2020 VOCA</b>
<b>Total Award \$5,739,014</b>

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.

The Public Safety Grant Administration Office made seventy-six VOCA subgrant awards for the 2020 program totaling \$6,054,307 using grant funds from the FY2018 and FY2020 awards. The seventy-six awards were all made to previously existing projects. The PSGAO received more than \$12 million in requests with only \$6 million of available funds. All applicants received approximately 45 to 50% less than what was requested due to the drop in federal funds.

In 2020, VOCA staff had a stressful year having to adapt our policies due to COVID-19 pandemic. We had to conduct site visits by sending out questionnaires with follow up questions instead of visiting our subgrantees. Many of our sub-recipients were working from home which made getting back-up documents difficult but not impossible.

## VOCA Advisory Committee

Originally established in 1986, the VOCA Advisory Committee consists of volunteer 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 review progress of individual grantees toward stated goals. This year the committee and PSGAO staff were not able to agree on the recommendations. The PSGAO staff used their knowledge of extensions to open awards, voluntary de-obligations from sub-recipients, information gained from site visits, timeliness of progress and financial reporting and risk assessments done as required by federal grant administration rules, to aid in the final decision making.

## VOCA Advisory Committee

**Elizabeth Morancy**  
*Former State Legislator*

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

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

**Frank Pannozzi**  
*Chief, Parental Rights Division, Retired  
Rhode Island Public Defender*

**Denise Fernandes**  
*PSGAO VOCA Administrator*

**Bradley Orleck**  
*Grant Project Specialist*

### VOCA Victims Assistance Subgrants for 2020

Subgrantee	Project	Description	2020
Adoption Rhode Island	Child and Family Support Program	This project serves child victims and/or adult survivors of childhood victimization & their families by providing trauma-informed treatment & support services.	\$80,201
Amos House	Street Outreach to Victimized Women	This project provides street outreach to homeless women with substance abuse and victimization risk.	\$33,874
Amos House	VOCA For Men Project	Trauma services for victimized men whose history of victimization and trauma have resulted in addiction. Will be matched with a mentor.	\$30,294
Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center	Law Enforcement Advocate Program	A collaborative effort between domestic violence providers & local police department to end the cycle of violence. To sustain & advance the work of the Pawtucket, Central Falls, Lincoln, and Cumberland LEAs.	\$55,583
Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center	Transitional Housing Program	Provides housing for up to 2 years for survivors of domestic violence and their families after they leave a domestic violence emergency shelter.	\$49,107
Center for Southeast Asians	Seeing & Serving Southeast Asians in RI	This project Asian women victims of domestic/sexual violence with immediate and long-term assistance.	\$63,360

Child & Family Services of Newport County	Elder Victims of Crime Project	Provides crisis intervention, outreach, and services to elder victims of crime in the communities of Newport County, Bristol, Warren, and Barrington.	\$26,544
Child & Family Services of Newport County	Family Resilience Project	Provides outreach and family therapy to victims of child abuse, neglect, domestic violence, substance abuse, the opioid crisis, and children whose parents are involved with Adult Corrections.	\$52,603
Community Care Alliance	Victim Trauma Treatment	Provides trauma informed co-occurring mental health and substance abuse services to children, adolescents and adults who are victims of crime.	\$51,222
Comprehensive Community Action, Inc.	Victim of Crime Program	Receive referrals for primary and secondary victims of crime. All identified victims receive triage/assessment, counseling, education & advocacy, case management & linkages to victim assistance and community/state resources.	\$58,439
Crossroads Rhode Island	Rapid Rehousing for Domestic Violence Survivors	Provides aid to domestic violence survivors to obtain & retain safe and affordable housing, reducing the burden of economic hardship, housing instability, and uncertain futures as they work toward safety for their household.	\$67,500
Day One	Law Enforcement Advocate	A collaborative effort between domestic violence providers and local police departments to end the cycle of violence. To sustain and advance the work of the Providence, Newport, South and Kent Counties, and Northern RI LEAs.	\$150,000
Day One	Rhode Island Children's Advocacy Center	Funds will be used to advance and expand the work of the CAC by supporting provision of the highest quality treatment services and coordination of care.	\$120,144
Day One	Services for Victims of Human Trafficking	To assist victims to leave their exploiters, ensure victims physical and psychological safety through screening, reduce trauma by providing therapy, medical & mental healthcare, etc.	\$106,077
Day One	Sexual Assault Victim Services Program	There has been a significant increase in the number of victims & they need to add more hours and days to provide crisis intervention, counseling services and legal advocacy for victims of sexual assault and their families free of charge.	\$145,944



Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County	Felony Court Advocate/LEA Advocate Program	This project combines 2 programs and serves as a liaison to the Westerly, Richmond, Hopkinton & Charlestown police departments and as well as provide legal advocacy to all eligible victims of domestic violence in Washington County.	\$31,694
Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County	Traditional Housing for Victims and their Children	Provides transitional housing that enables survivors of domestic violence & their children to live in a safe, stable home while they are empowered to work toward long term self-sufficiency and a future free from violence.	\$43,522
Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island	Immigrant Victims' Rights Project	This project assists immigrant victims to escape violence, access services, stabilize their lives, and obtain employment authorization, legal residence, and citizenship.	\$82,979
East Bay Community Action Program	VOCA Victims Advocacy Program	Provides comprehensive, trauma informed assessment, case management, advocacy, support & access to multiple resources including legal, basic needs, health/behavioral health, housing, substance recovery to victims of domestic violence and seniors.	\$81,288
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	Sexual Assault Victims Counseling Program	The FTE counselor works with adult and teen victims of sexual assault giving them information about reporting options, help manage emotional needs & traumatic triggers during criminal justice proceedings.	\$30,713
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	Crisis/Case Management	Provides comprehensive trauma informed services to community-based clients in need of assistance in prioritizing & managing the challenges of separating them from abusers & maintaining healthy, productive lives.	\$24,951
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	LEA for North Providence	The LEA services include crisis intervention, information & referral to EBCC's domestic violence & sexual assault services, safety planning & hospital & court accompaniment.	\$25,351
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	Law Enforcement Advocate for Cranston/Johnston	The LEA services include crisis intervention, information & referral to EBCC's domestic violence & sexual assault services, safety planning & hospital & court accompaniment.	\$25,351

Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	LEA for Coventry, E. Greenwich, W. Greenwich	The LEA services include crisis intervention, information & referral to EBCC's domestic violence & sexual assault services, safety planning & hospital & court accompaniment.	\$24,458
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	Felony Case Advocacy Program	Provides trauma services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault & stalking. Assists in both District & Superior Court events.	\$25,360
Family Service of Rhode Island	Providence Police Go Team	Provides immediate 24/7/365 crisis intervention & stabilization to victims, makes referrals to community supports and/or intake to FSRI's comprehensive programs & assist crime victims with required documentation for victim compensation.	\$80,645
Family Service of Rhode Island	Victim Assistance Program	This project combines a partnership between East Providence & RI state Police to provide on-scene crisis stabilization, safety planning, counseling, link to social/behavioral health, grief & bereavement & funeral arrangement assistance.	\$55,381
Family Service of Rhode Island	Central Falls/Pawtucket Police Go Team	The Central Falls team has served more than double the number of victims and has transitioned to a Central Falls Clinical Police Liaison.	\$84,775
Foster Forward	Therapeutic Services for Former Youth & Staff Training	To work with young victims of crime who are exiting foster care. Will provide individual counseling services, crisis intervention, & in-house training.	\$45,985
Gateway Healthcare, Inc.	Trauma Treatment Project	Specialized evidence-based treatment for children & youth from significant trauma. For crisis intervention, outpatient therapy, in-home treatment for victims of physical or sexual abuse.	\$56,409
House of Hope Community Development Corporation	Victims of Crime Outreach and Housing Program	Provides outreach and comprehensive social services to the homeless who are victims of crime.	\$116,085
House of Hope Community Development Corporation	HYPE (Honoring Youth Power & (Experience)	Formerly Home to Hope is the only street outreach program in RI responding to the needs of youth & young adults (ages 13-24) experiencing homelessness & housing instability.	\$83,883

Higher Ground International	Sweetie Care African Elders Enrichment Program	Provides long-term, linguistically, and culturally responsive services to African immigrants & refugee elders in RI. Provides integrated social, educational, health, & recreation-focused approach for victims of trauma, sexual violence & abuse.	\$50,000
Interfaith Counseling Center	Victims Assistance	Provides crisis intervention, pastoral care, clinical counseling, support, and referrals.	\$42,830
Justice Assistance	Project Victim Services	To guide and support the victim through notification of court-related hearings, referrals to specialized services, safety planning and determining, collecting, and distributing restitution.	\$85,320
Lucy's Hearth	Lucy's Hearth Victim Services	To provide a full-time bilingual trauma/clinician.	\$37,521
McAuley Ministries	Transitional Living Program & Basic Needs	To provide transitional living services to single, homeless mothers and their children who are victims of crime.	\$26,990
Mothers Against Drunk Driving	Victim Advocacy Program	Provides direct victim services that promote a healthier victimization experience and support.	\$56,144
Nonviolence Institute	Nonviolence Streetworkers	Streetworkers respond 24/7 to victims and families to give holistic care, feel safe, and to connected them with the resources needed to heal and rebuild their lives.	\$128,632
Nonviolence Institute	Victim Services	This team strengthens and expands the support services for RI residents who have experienced the loss of a loved one as a result of a violent crime.	\$206,326
Progreso Latino	Ayudame	To provide direct services and education to Latino victims of domestic violence especially to newly arrived immigrants with limited English proficiency.	\$91,800
Providence Housing Authority	Victim Support Program	To provide direct services to victims of crime residing in Providence's public housing developments.	\$79,901
Refugee Development Center, Inc.	Breaking Barriers	To help the refugee victims of crime to break cultural barriers such as stigma, inability to navigate the American society, language challenges, lack of knowledge of relevant places to access services and misconstrued notions of a victim's rights & protections.	\$93,570

Rhode Island Hospital	Aubin Child Protection Center	The Aubin Center is the only facility offering comprehensive medical care to victims of child maltreatment. The team recognizes the effects of trauma on a victim's life & responds as quickly as possible to provide interventions that will foster healing & minimize subsequent consequences of victimization & disclosure.	\$55,906
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Victims of Crime Helpline	The helpline provides 24-hour toll free confidential support, information, and referrals to victims of crime throughout RI.	\$139,371
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence Victim Advocacy	Funds domestic violence advocates who provide essential direct services for victims of abuse in community & residential settings.	\$399,659
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence Victim Counseling	Addresses a critical gap with specialized counseling to victims of abuse & children who witness domestic abuse.	\$48,198
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Sisters Overcoming Domestic Violence	SOAR's mission is to promote, advocate and work for the elimination of domestic violence & give voices to the abused women.	\$37,800
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Hate Crimes Training	Provide a victim-centered approach designed to provide law enforcement officers with the tools & education to identify when a crime s/b classified as a hate crime.	\$15,400
RI Dept. of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals	Protective Services Infrastructure	Provides protective services for individuals living with developmental disabilities, mental health, and substance use disorders.	\$24,805
RI Dept. of Children, Youth and Families	Victim Assistance Program	Provides support for a full-time Family Advocate who works directly with child Protective Investigators to provide immediate support & guidance to clients.	\$102,467
RI Dept. of Corrections	Comprehensive Office of Victim Services	Services that provide notifications, registration, victim education and victim advocacy with a victim advocate	\$50,500
RI Dept. of Corrections-RI Parole Board	Enhanced Victim Services Program	Provides comprehensive victim/survivor support services aimed at reducing secondary trauma exposure & empowering victim/survivors to understand their rights, and to participate in the criminal justice process.	\$33,275

RI Judiciary	RI Family Court, Domestic Violence Court	To fund the advocates that give assistance to families affected by domestic violence & to ensure the best interest of children who have been impacted by domestic violence.	\$170,488
RI Office of the Attorney General	Statewide Victim Assistance/Notification Program	The Liaison/Advocate provides services in person, by telephone, in writing, via email and through the distribution of literature for all crime victims in the jurisdiction.	\$79,606
Saint Elizabeth Community	Haven Elder Justice Program	This program provides emergency and community-based support for elders in RI who are victims of physical, emotional, sexual, or financial abuse.	\$64,686
Sojourner House	Transitional Housing for Victims of Abuse	This program is a bridge to permanent housing & self-sufficiency for victims who are homeless or who are fleeing their homes due to abuse.	\$68,869
Sojourner House	THEIA Project	Supports victims of human trafficking & provides them with shelter, housing, and wrap around services for their unique needs.	\$88,403
Sojourner House	Law Enforcement Advocate – Reservoir LEA	This program provides advocacy & support to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking in the towns of Burrillville, Scituate, Foster & Glocester.	\$26,933
Sojourner House	Community Based Advocacy	To conduct outreach to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. To reach victims of abuse who might not otherwise seek out help and facilitate their access to supportive services.	\$35,992
Sojourner House	Immigration Advocacy	This program provides free immigration legal assistance to undocumented victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking in RI.	\$50,652
Sojourner House	LGBTQ Sexual Assault Advocacy	Provides support services for LGBTQ+ victims of sexual assault, to educate the community and service providers on how to support them.	\$38,786
Sojourner House	RISE Services for Victims in Woonsocket	This project serves male-identified victims in Woonsocket to increase their access to shelter, housing assistance and supportive services for LGBTQ+ victims of abuse.	\$68,597

Sojourner House	School Based Advocacy for Victims of Abuse	Provides in-person support, crisis intervention, and advocacy to elementary, middle, high school and college students in RI who are victims of domestic and/or sexual violence.	\$44,582
Sophia Academy	Safety Net Phase III Year 2	94% of their enrollment are victims of crime. They give familial support, social/emotional learning, and trauma-sensitive practices for all students.	\$37,255
St. Mary's Home for Children	The Shepard Program	This is a combination of 2 previous VOCA funded programs, CFTT and STAAR serving victims of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation. The STAAR program has trauma-focused Equine Assisted Psychotherapy.	\$278,759
Thrive Behavioral Health	Comprehensive Behavioral Health Services for Victims of Crime	To connect victims, including underserved populations, who are uninsured or underinsured through traditional funding sources with behavioral health services that address the impact of crime on a victims' psychological and physical health.	\$41,803
Thundermist Health Center	Transgender Behavioral and Social Health Program	Provides services in Woonsocket, West Warwick, and South County with high quality, affordable and culturally competent health care. VOCA will provide services for people of trans experience who are victims of crime.	\$133,930
Tri-County Community Action Agency	Elder, D/deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing /victim Advocacy Program	Provides crisis intervention, emergency services, assistance securing translation services including ASL, assistance in filing police reports, obtaining protective orders, securing legal representation, filing for victim compensation and/or restitution, assistance in obtaining mental health counseling, etc.	\$206,159
Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc.	Elder Protection Project	Provides specialized high-quality legal assistance to protect 350 elder residents of RI.	\$190,026
Rhode Island Legal Services, Inc.	Safe Family Project	RILS represents, counsels, and advises victims of domestic violence with legal representation to victims of domestic abuse.	\$384,800

United Way of Rhode Island, Inc.	RI Cybercrime Victim Support Initiative	A partnership between United Way and the Cybercrime Support Network to improve services to victims of cybercrime by connecting them to the correct local, state, and federal law enforcement agency and provide outreach and awareness about cybercrime.	\$31,857
Women's Resource Center	Crisis Response Advocate	To give immediate, trauma-informed support for victims reaching out via the hotline or drop-in center. The advocate manages the hotline and is available for clients at the drop-in center.	\$30,308
Women's Resource Center	LEA for Victims of Domestic Violence	The advocate partners with the police departments of Barrington, Warren, Bristol, Tiverton & Little Compton to support victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.	\$29,118
Women's Resource Center	Transitional Housing for Victims of Domestic Violence	Assists victims of domestic violence to attain safe, stable, affordable housing by providing the space to heal, address financial barriers and build social support.	\$62,301
Youth Pride, Inc.	Advocacy and Support for LGBTQ+ Youth	Provides direct services to LGBTQ+ youth crime victims under the age of 23 providing comprehensive social service, educational and advocacy services.	\$74,260

**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*

## State Victim Liaison Project (SVLP)

**R**hode Island was awarded the competitive State Victim Liaison Project Grant. The Rhode Island Public Safety Grant Administration will seek to place a State Victim Liaison focused on, older victims of crime, within the Rhode Island Attorney General's Elder Abuse Unit. The Elder Abuse Unit was created several years ago in recognition of the fact that the proportion of Rhode Island's population that is sixty years of age and older is dramatically increasing and will continue to do so in the coming years. Coupled with the fact that this age group is the State's fastest growing demographic is that crimes against senior citizens often go unreported. The Rhode Island Attorney General's Office will greatly benefit from the presence of a dedicated Victim Liaison in order to better coordinate with other non-profits to provide better services to victims of crime.

<b>2020 SVLP</b>
<b>Total Award \$493,203</b>

The Victim Liaison will focus on three primary issues; first, to coordinate The Elder Abuse Multidisciplinary Team (MDT). The MDT was established by the Office of Attorney General, Elder Abuse Unit after researching the national trends of establishing MDT's similar to those that exist in child abuse cases. They looked to gather a group of organizations including, the Office of Healthy Aging (formally the Division of Elderly Affairs), Alliance for Better Long-Term Care, law enforcement agencies, medical professionals, victim service providers, banking officials and community agencies. All members have signed a memorandum of understanding regarding the MDT. However, the MDT lacks resources and would greatly benefit by a dedicated individual to further the MDT's work.

Second, the Victim Liaison will act as a bridge between the state and non-profits to improve and increase access for crime victims to resources within the target areas. Currently, Rhode Island has one Victim's of Crime Act program dedicated to older victims of crime, though most work with older victims. The Victim Liaison will help connect these programs and ensure older victims receive appropriate aid. This may include things like increased training to general service non-profits and outreach to elders to increase knowledge of assistance programs.

Third, the Victim Liaison will place an emphasis on cybercrime and fraud. The Elder Abuse Unit has experienced a notable increase of older victims of cybercrime and fraud, and the Victim Liaison will work to better increase the resources and response to these individuals.

PSGAO: \$43,203 to manage and administer the award for 3 years  
RIAG: \$450,000 to implement the State Victim Liaison program.



## **Violence Against Women Act Formula Grant Program: Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors**

**T**he Services, Training, Officers, Prosecution (STOP) Violence Against Women Act, 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. The STOP grant program is committed to enhancing the nation’s criminal justice system response to the violence perpetrated against women including domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

**2020 STOP VAWA**

**Total Award: \$979,986**

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, then Governor Lincoln Almond named the Rhode Island Public Safety Grant Administration Office to administer the Violence Against Women Act programs for the state. The original committee continues to meet, serving as the VAWA Planning and Advisory Committee. This committee has developed a comprehensive statewide plan to reduce the incidence of crimes of violence against women and to improve services to victims.

Because 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.

### **Approved Implementation Plan**

The 2020 STOP award is \$979,986. STOP has statutory programmatic 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 the Office on Violence Against Women statutory program purpose areas and align with one of the program categories. Rhode Island has historically utilized this discretionary 15% to augment the victims’ services component. The 2020 STOP plan represents the fourth year of the current implementation plan (2017 – 2020).

### **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 agencies: the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Day One. The discretionary funds could be used for other Program Categories: Law Enforcement, Prosecution or Courts if the state so deems.

**The Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence (RICADV)** and its four 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 are:

- Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center
- Women's Resource Center
- Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center
- 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."

**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, 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.

### “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*). The most recent Culturally Specific award was issued to Progreso Latino of Central Falls after a competitive RFP process.

### Law Enforcement (25%) Program Category

The law enforcement allocation is primarily used to support a statewide Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DV/SA) Training Program. In 2019, a Training Coordinator position was created by a competitive subgrant to RICADV. This objective of this position is to enhance the training program as well as provide new training and technical assistance opportunities to VAWA program partners.

The DV/SA Training Curriculum 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 meetings are often attended by representatives from the Department of Health and the Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals.

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 Police Training Academy, the Providence Police Training Academy and the RI State Police Training Academy.

#### 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.

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.

The DV/SA Training Committee created a 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.

### **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.

## 2020 Violence Against Women Act Planning and Advisory Committee

**Chief Tina Goncalves**  
Liaison to the RI Police Chiefs  
Association: Pawtucket Police Dept.

**Timothy Healey, Esq.**  
Chief, DV/SA Unit  
RI Dept. of the Attorney General

**Tonya Harris**  
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

**Shelly Cortese**  
RI Department of Corrections

**Det. Heather Palumbo**  
Rhode Island State Police

**Michael Hogan, Administrative Manager**  
Public Safety Grant Administration

Other regular participants include: Captain Michael Chalek (URI Public Safety), Jennifer Olivelli (Administrative Office of the Courts), Emily Daniels (Probation and Parole), Maureen Philbin (Day One), Jolayemi Ahamiojie (Department of Health), Eileen Marino (Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals)

### Summary of 2020 STOP VAWA Program

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.	\$97,999
<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 its five member agencies - including counseling, referrals, hospital/police accompaniment.	\$273,520
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.	\$81,701

<b>Culturally Specific Victim Services Project (10% of Victim Services 30%)</b>		
TBD	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.	\$41,673
<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.	\$220,497
<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.	\$220,497
<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.	\$44,099
<b>FY 2020 STOP Total</b>		<b>\$979,986</b>

## **Violence Against Women Act Formula Grant Program: Sexual Assault Services Program**

**T**he Sexual Assault Services formula grant Program (SASP) was created by the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005. It was the first federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault. The Office on Violence Against Women 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.

**2020 SASP**

**Total Award: \$ 383,970**

Starting in 2014, PSGAO made the funding available through a competitive Request for Proposal process. The process was conducted again in late 2016 and the FY 2017, FY 2018 and FY 2019 funding has been awarded to Day One.

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

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.

# Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Act

## Title II Formula Grant Program

**T**he Rhode Island Department of Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO) continues to manage the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Title II Formula grant. The FY 2020 Title II Formula grant continues to operate under an approved Three-Year Plan and was awarded to RI in October 2020. As with the FY 2019 award, this FY 2020 award included additional special conditions related to 8 U.S.C. 1373 regarding noninterference and communications with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security of information regarding the citizenship and/or immigration status of individuals. As a government entity recipient of the award, the RI Department of Public Safety Grant Administration Office would be required to certify compliance with 8 U.S.C. 1373.

<p><b>2020 JJDP</b></p> <p><b>Total Award \$427,671</b></p> <p><b>No JJDP PREA Penalty</b></p>
--

These conditions would also “pass through” and be required of subrecipients of the award. If the subrecipient is a government entity or public institutions of higher education, they would also have to certify compliance with 8 U.S.C. 1373. The PSGAO would also be required to “monitor” for subrecipient compliance with the requirements of this condition.

The RI Attorney General’s Office determined in late October 2020 to, once again, enter a stipulation against the U.S. Department of Justice requiring them not to disburse, expend or revert to the Treasury the FY 2020 Title II funds allocated to RI. This stipulation was filed by the State of New York for New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Washington, Massachusetts and Virginia. These measures should protect the funding, pending the outcome of the lawsuit, but will mean a delay.

The RI Department of Public Safety Grant Administration Office 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 awards to subrecipients as outlined below when DOJ releases the funding.

**The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP)** became law in 1974 and was amended in 2002. The State of Rhode Island has been an active participant since 1975 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 JJDPAs 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;
- Increasing use of community-based Juvenile Hearing Boards as an alternative to entry in the juvenile justice system and to direct youth to services;
- 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.

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

When Congress enacted the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPAs) 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 JJDPAs 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 JJDPAs formula grant money.

**Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee**  
*2020*

**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*

**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*

**Beth Lemme-Bixby**  
*Tides Family Services*

**P.J. Fox**  
*Nonviolence Institute*

**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*

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

**Ms. Amanda Mastronardi**  
*Youth Representative*

**Mr. Corey Nim,**  
*Youth Representative*

**Mr. Raheem Nim,**  
*Youth Representative*

**Mr. Neal Sweet**  
*Youth Representative*

**Gina Tocco**  
*Public Safety Grant Administration Office*

## Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention – Title II Formula Grant

*Estimated Budget (Revised budget will be submitted at the time of acceptance)*

Agency	Project Description	2020	State Match Required
Public Safety Grant Administration Office	Planning and Administration	\$38,100	\$38,100
Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee	JJAC – Administration/ Prevention Activities	\$15,000	
Compliance Monitoring	Compliance Monitoring Activities	\$60,725	
RI Family Court	Specialty Courts	\$147,572	
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	
TBD – Reallocate among existing projects or request a Grant Adjustment Notice from OJJDP – Will require approval of a revised budget		\$46,274	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$427,671</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. This is a pass-through of funding for Native American programs under the JJDP Act.

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. Approximately \$30,000 has been used in the past to contract 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.

RI was not subject to the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) penalty for 2020 as the Governor was able to certify that the state is in full compliance.

## Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF)

**A**s the State Administering Agency for the JAG program, the Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO) is the eligible applicant for the \$3,226,449 available to the State of Rhode Island. Nine communities in Rhode Island received a direct award from the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

<b>2020 CESF</b>
<b>Total Award \$3,226,449</b>

The CESF Program is authorized by Division B of H.R. 748, Pub. L. No. 116136 (Emergency Appropriations for Coronavirus Health Response and Agency Operations); 28 U.S.C. 530C. There are no special award conditions or compliance requirements attached to this funding. While this funding has been distributed to JAG eligible entities, it does **not** have the same requirements to distribute the funding into program areas or to provide pass through.

PSGAO can draw the funding down into an interest-bearing account. Like the JAG program, interest generated by this award would be considered program revenue and can be used for grant-eligible activity.

From the solicitation:

*“Funds awarded under the CESF Program must be utilized to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus. Allowable projects and purchases include, but are not limited to, overtime, equipment (including law enforcement and medical personal protective equipment), hiring, supplies (such as gloves, masks, sanitizer), training, travel expenses (particularly related to the distribution of resources to the most impacted areas), and addressing the medical needs of inmates in state, local, and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers.”*

The most important thing to keep in mind with this funding is the requirement to keep this separate and distinct from activity that could be claimed under other federal funding programs. Many COVID-19 response costs can be covered under the Major Disaster Declaration (Stafford Act) Public Assistance grant through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The allowable activity under this award and the costs that can be reimbursed by FEMA are very similar.

At the Policy Board meeting in October 2020, the Board voted to have the Steering Committee work with PSGAO and the Governor’s Office to develop a spending plan for approval by the Department of Justice.

## 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.

**2020 NCHIP**

**Total Award \$719,626**

The goal of NCHIP 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 used to upgrade and enhance the criminal history infrastructure statewide,

The NCHIP grant is a discretionary program administered through the Bureau of Justice Statistics. A budget of \$53,726 has been allocated for costs incurred by **PSGAO** for staffing and administration of the program. The FY2020 program budget is as follows:

The **State Police, Technical Services Unit** awarded amount is \$377,900. The award will be used for the replacement of end routers, core routers, firewall and Message Switch enhancements for XML conversion as part of the rebuild of the Rhode Island Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (RILETS).

The **Office of the State Court Administrator** awarded amount is \$50,000. The award will cover the overtime costs associated with the ongoing research and data entry of criminal dispositions, verifying criminal cases, and entering warrants and waivers.

The **Department of the Attorney General, Bureau of Criminal Identification** awarded amount is \$238,000. The award will be used for software and programming updates to the CMS and CCH systems.

## State Justice Statistics Program for Statistical Analysis Centers

**S**ince 1972, the Bureau of Justice Statistics and its predecessor agency, the National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service, have provided funding to state and territorial governments for the establishment and operation of state Statistical Analysis Centers (SACs). These Centers collect, analyze, and report statistics on crime and justice to federal, state, and local levels of government, and share state-level information nationally.

<b>2020 SJS</b>
<b>Total Award \$77,900</b>

Rhode Island last received a State Justice Statistics (SJS) grant award in 2013 to support the following activities: continuation of agency webpage development and maintenance, evaluation and monitoring of the Juvenile Detention compliance monitoring contract, research on Juvenile Detention Summaries, continuation of Deaths in Custody monitoring, and continuation of involvement on the advisory committee for the Rhode Island Violent Deaths Reporting System.

The SJS 2020 project seeks to continue with the establishment of a data exchange that will give the SAC seamless access to information regarding the performance of the state's criminal justice system. These data sources include information from the state's National Incident-Based Reporting System, criminal history records from the Department of the Attorney General's office, the Office of the State Court Administrator, and the Department of Corrections. Not only will this data help the SAC monitor the implementation of criminal justice policies, it will also provide stock data from which the SAC or other researchers may perform targeted analyses of the state's criminal history records.

Relevant data will need to come from several different agencies and the SAC is poised to serve as headquarters for this statewide data collection effort. In fact, existing legislation already requires departments and agencies of state government to cooperate with the PSGAO and to furnish such information that the PSGAO may require.

## Project Safe Neighborhoods

**P**roject Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is designed to create and foster safer neighborhoods through a sustained reduction in violent crime, including, but not limited to, addressing criminal gangs and the felonious possession and use of firearms. The program's effectiveness depends upon the ongoing coordination, cooperation, and partnerships of local, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies—and the communities they serve—engaged in a unified approach led by the U.S. Attorney (USA) in all 94 districts. Acting decisively in a coordinated manner at all levels—federal, state, local, and tribal—will help reverse a rise in violent crime and keep American citizens safe. PSN provides the critical funding, resources, and training for law enforcement, prosecutors, and their PSN teams to combat violent crime and make their communities safer through a comprehensive approach to public safety that marries targeted law enforcement efforts with community engagement, prevention, and reentry efforts.

<b>2018 PSN</b>
<b>Total Award \$124,657</b>

With PSN, each USA is responsible for establishing a collaborative PSN team of federal, state, local, and tribal (where applicable) law enforcement and other community members to implement a strategic plan for investigating, prosecuting, and preventing violent crime. Through the PSN team (referred to as the “PSN task force”), each district will implement the five design features of PSN—leadership, partnership, targeted and prioritized enforcement, prevention, and accountability—to address violent crime in their respective districts.

PSN is the lead grant initiative in a suite of programs focused on reducing violent crime. The programs in the PSN Suite are PSN, Strategies for Policing Innovation, Innovative Prosecution Solutions, Crime Gun Intelligence Centers, National Public Safety Partnerships, Technology Innovation for Public Safety, Innovations in Community-based Crime Reduction, and Community-based Violence Prevention Demonstration. These separate initiatives coordinate proactively with the PSN task force in the respective district of the USAO to enhance collaboration and strengthen the commitment to reduce violent crime.

The Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO) and the Rhode Island PSN Task Force submitted a project proposal to implement a violence reduction strategy. This strategy will develop and apply the critical incident screening and response models within the City of Providence that have been successful elsewhere in reducing incidents of violence. Central to the practice of critical incident reviews is the creation of a multi-disciplinary crime response strategy that includes data sharing, data collection and monitoring, and intentional action.



The target jurisdictions of Providence, Central Falls, Pawtucket, Woonsocket, and Cranston (Urban Corridor) share similar challenges associated with violent crime. PSGAO and the USA Office will work to coordinate with both the local law enforcement agencies and the Rhode Island State Police to form the Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT).

The CIRT will develop and establish a formal information collection process to generate a more complete understanding of the criminal activity within the Urban Corridor. This criminal network identification system will allow for more informed policing, the development of stronger investigations, more focused and efficient provision of social services, and codification of street-level observation and assessments made by law enforcement officials across jurisdictions that do not readily have the capacity to quickly share information.

To compliment these efforts, an allocation of funding is being made available to competitive procurement for an organization to field a community violence intervention specialist who is familiar with street dynamics of youth crews and gangs. This person should be able to help gather information to first understand conflict dynamics and the environment in which conflict exists, control rumors, reduce retaliation, prevent conflict from erupting, communicate nonviolent messages to active crew members, and when possible connect them to positive skill based and mentoring outlets.

### **Rhode Island PSN Task Force**

#### **State and Local Law Enforcement**

*RI State Police; RI Fusion Center;  
Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls,  
Woonsocket, and Cranston Police Departments*

#### **Faith Community**

*Jewish Alliance of RI;  
RI Council of Muslim Americans;  
African Community Leadership Forum*

#### **Prosecution**

*U.S. Attorney's Office;  
RI Attorney General's Office*

#### **Non-Profits/Community Service Agencies**

*Justice Assistance; Downtown Improvement  
District; Rhode Island Foundation*

#### **Department of Corrections**

*Investigator*

#### **Social Services**

*RI Mental Health Advocate*

#### **US Probation**

*Deputy Chief Federal Probation*

#### **Research**

*Roger Williams University*

#### **Outreach Workers**

*Nonviolence Institute*

#### **Fiscal Agent**

*RI Public Safety Grant Administration Office*

#### **Schools**

*Director, Providence Drug Free Schools;  
Johnson and Wales University*

#### **Other Federal Law Enforcement**

*Homeland Security Investigations;  
FBI Safe Streets; ATF; DEA;  
U.S. Marshals Service*

## RI 2018 Project Safe Neighborhoods Subgrant Proposals

City/Town	Amount	Purpose
Public Safety Grant Administration Office/Statistical Analysis Center	\$12,465	Administrative costs and data collection
Violence Intervention	\$55,000	Deploy a violence intervention specialist to support PSN target cities
Central Falls PD	\$9,000	Funding for local law enforcement in PSN target cities will provide critical resources to allow for participation in investigations and intervention activities. Costs can include backfill or overtime costs for sworn officers or supply purchases made in support of PSN investigations.
Cranston PD	\$9,000	
Pawtucket PD	\$9,000	
Providence PD	\$9,000	
Woonsocket PD	\$9,000	
RISP & Fusion Center	\$12,192	Support for PSN from State Police and Fusion Center
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$124,657</b>	

## Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Formula Grant Program

**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 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 sufficient to permit substance abuse treatment.

<b>2020 RSAT</b>
<b>Total Award \$137,198</b>

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.

After deducting the PSGAO 10% administrative funds the remaining \$123,479 in 2020 RSAT funding is proposed to be used as follows:

### Rhode Island Department of Corrections

**The Rhode Island Department of Corrections**, Division of Rehabilitative Services, RSAT allocation of \$123,479 was utilized for the continuing support of a residential substance abuse program for adult male inmates incarcerated at Medium Security. The program offers a three- and six-month treatment phase followed by a six-month recovery phase that can accommodate up to 100 offenders at a time. The goals of the program are to provide intensive substance use disorder treatment and recovery case management services to include discharge planning for those offenders who will be prepared for re-integration into the community. Treatment and Recovery services are provided through the RFP selected vendor, The Providence Center. All offenders referred to the program are assessed for history of substance abuse 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. Treatment staff, as well as the Division of Probation and Parole, develop this discharge plan. Medication Assisted Treatment is available to all participants.

## Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program

**T**he National Institute of Justice (NIJ) through the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Act (FSIA) provides funds to states in a formula grant program.

Funds received through the FSIA 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.

<b>2020 Coverdell</b>
<b>Total Award \$264,698</b>

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 laboratory underwent an ISO audit inspection by ANAB in April of 2019 under the updated ISO/IEC 17025:2017 requirements. The review of the audit by ANAB took longer than expected, so ANAB extended the Laboratory's current accreditation, due to expire in May of 2019, until August of 2019. In July of 2019, the Laboratory was notified that ANAB had renewed their accreditation for a fourth four-year term under the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 requirements. Their current certificate of accreditation is effective through August 31, 2023.

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 January 31, 2025.

The Rhode Island Public Safety Grant Administration Office, as the state administering agency (SAA), will retain \$26,469 which is the allowable 10% of the award to perform all grant-related planning and administrative functions.

Rhode Island's four (4) Coverdell funded laboratories agreed to split the 2020 program funding equally, with each laboratory receiving a subaward of \$59,557.25 to be utilized as follows:

**University of RI State Crime Laboratory**

The Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory (RISCL) will purchase a fingerprint development system which uses a new a technique which reportedly improves the recovery of identifiable fingerprints on discharged cartridge cases and other metal surfaces: The LFT RECOVER chemical vapor fuming process. The Laboratory will provide addition funds to cover the balance of the cost for this system.

**RI Department of Health Laboratory, Forensic Science Unit**

The Department of Health Forensic Sciences Unit will utilize their portion of their 2020 Paul Coverdell funds to purchase Biological Safety Cabinets (BSC's) to replace aging BSC's in the Forensic Toxicology laboratory. The Laboratory will purchase Ductless Fume Hood filters which are necessary for the safe operation of current hoods housed in the Drug Chemistry laboratory. Funds will pay consultant fees to maintain accreditation status through an audit by the accrediting body, ANAB/ANSI. Funds will also pay travel and registration costs to send staff to various trainings and conferences.

**RI Department of Health, Office of the State Medical Examiner (OSME)**

The Office of State Medical Examiners (OSME) will use their funds to address RI State Records Retention Policy mandates by purchasing modular storage systems to increase storage capacity of histology cassettes and case files. The system's engineering design allows for storage in half the space of conventional storage shelves/cabinets and can be expanded if more storage space is needed. Funds will also pay for autopsy room supplies and annual laboratory accreditation fees.

**RI State Police, Forensic Services Unit**

The Rhode Island State Police Forensic Services Unit (FSU) will use their 2020 Coverdell funds to apply for reaccreditation to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO)/IEC 17020 through the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board. Funds will pay for various trainings and conference costs, as well as undergo necessary certification tests that directly support the goal of achieving accreditation. These funds will also be used to purchase digital cameras, laptops, camcorder, and a state of the art 360-degree spherical image capture kit. The camera captures high resolution spherical images in under five seconds therefore greatly reducing the time on scene and giving the FSU a capability to mount the camera on a mast tripod to take overhead photos of scenes which is a capability the unit does not currently possess.

## Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) Byrne/JAG Penalty 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.

**2020 SORNA/JAG**

**Total Award \$43,837**

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 the Sex Offender Registration (SORNA) by the July 27, 2012 deadline. Consequently, RI received a mandated ten percent reduction in Byrne/JAG funding in grant years 2012 through 2019. This penalty is assessed against the portion of grant funding that is allocated for statewide projects. The SORNA grant award conditions do not include the immigration information sharing requirements that have been applied to the JAG program.

Rhode Island was allowed to apply to reallocate this funding back to the state to support continued efforts to implement the SORNA requirements. The DOJ approved the application for reallocation in the amount of **\$43,837**.

Stakeholders in sex offender registration, notification, and management include, but are not limited to: the Department of Attorney General, the Department of Public Safety/Division of State Police, the Department of Corrections, the Parole Board, the Rhode Island Police Chiefs’ Association, and U.S. Marshall’s Office. These parties have been working together to ensure that Rhode Island’s current and future sex offender registration and notification system is cost effective, efficient, protects public safety, and moves the state towards compliance.

To move Rhode Island as close as possible to compliance, the Rhode Island State Police have received competitive grant awards from the SMART Adam Walsh Act Implementation Grant program. Using that funding, this group has worked through the state’s procurement process, identified and contracted with a vendor for a new registry.

This new registry and notification website would provide search capabilities by name, city, zip code and geographic radius; and a function that enables the public to request an e-mail notice that will notify them when a sex offender commences residence, employment, or school attendance within the state, a specified zip code, or a certain geographic radius. This will greatly improve public safety for Rhode Islanders and would provide much needed efficiency to the registration and notification effort.

The FY2020 SORNA award funding will be used by the Rhode Island State Police to spend time and effort to conduct data entry and data validation sessions to review records being entered into the new registry database.

# Appendix

---

*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.

