



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

**PUBLIC SAFETY GRANT
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

**2019
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 2019

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



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
Director, Department of Public Safety
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police

Michael 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 2019. There are a few highlights to share from a busy year at the PSGAO. These include progress towards goals set in 2017 especially the full implementation of a subgrant monitoring program, and the re-engagement of the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC).

In January of 2019, PSGAO added a contractor position in support of the Victims of Crime Act Victim Assistance formula grant program (VOCA). This position was filled by Bradley Orleck, J.D. His responsibilities include updating and maintaining the PSGAO Policies and Procedures manual. Significant changes were made to the way PSGAO process reimbursements and conducts grant monitoring activity. During the summer of 2019, all VOCA subgrant recipients received a site visit from PSGAO staff.

The Statistical Analysis Center received a significant boost with the hiring of Gina Simeone, J.D. in the vacant Supervisor of Management Services position. Previously, Adm this position had been the program manager for Violence Against Women grants and the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program. As a building block to launch the SAC from, the PSGAO engaged with the Governor's Justice Reinvestment Working Group, specifically with the Data Subcommittee. This group has worked to produce and publish a set of dashboards as performance measurement of legislation passed in 2017. These are now available on the PSGAO website.

I have continued working with the Office of the Governor to fill vacancies in the membership roster of the Criminal Justice Policy Board. Public Defender Mary McElroy, Esq. sat as chairperson for the 2017 and 2018 Policy Board meetings. In 2019, Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Barry from the Rhode Island State Police sat as the acting chairperson.

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 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 special award conditions were also included in the 2018 and 2019 Byrne/JAG and the 2019 Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention grant award conditions. This litigation has caused delays in implementation of approved spending plans.

The PSGAO made continued progress during 2019 toward our goals of enhancing public safety by improving services for victims of crime; improving interagency cooperation among law enforcement, the courts, and prosecutors; and strengthening the support provided by victim advocates and direct service providers. The PSGAO will carry forward this momentum into 2020 and hopes to further improve victim services, reduce domestic violence homicides, and address mental health wellness programs for first responders and law enforcement officers.

Very Respectfully,


Michael J. Hogan

Table of Contents

The Public Safety Grant Administration Office (PSGAO)	1
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
Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victims Assistance Formula Grant Program	9
VOCA Advisory Committee Membership	9
S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Formula Grant Program	17
Violence Against Women Act Planning Committee	21
VAWA Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP).....	23
Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Formula Grant Program	24
Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee.....	26
JJDP PREA	28
National Criminal Histories Improvement (NCHIP) Program	30
State Justice Statistics Program for Statistical Analysis Centers	31
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT) Formula Grant Program	32
Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act (NFSIA) Formula Grant	34
Byrne/JAG Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act SORNA Penalty Reallocation Grant	36
Appendix	
Rhode Island General Laws §42-26-1	

The Public Safety Grant Administration Office

The 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)
- 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)
- 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 2019

Vacant
Chairperson

Honorable Peter Neronha
Rhode Island Attorney General

Matthew Toro, Esq.
Acting Rhode Island Public Defender

Colonel James M. Manni
Superintendent, Rhode Island State Police

Patricia Coyne-Fague
Acting Director, Department of Corrections

Courtney Hawkins
Director, Department of Human Services

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

Barbara Cottam
Chair, Board of Education

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

Colonel John MacDonald
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

Vacant
Private Citizen Member

Vacant
Private Citizen Member

Jonathan Houston
Executive Director, Justice Assistance

Vacant
Service Provider

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

Criminal Justice Steering Committee 2019

Honorable Peter Neronha
Rhode Island Attorney General

Matthew Toro, Esq.
Acting 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

Rebecca Boss
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

The 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.

2019 VOCA
Total Award \$7,614,712

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 sixty-six VOCA subgrant awards for the 2019 program totaling \$8,619,268 using grant funds from the FY2018 and FY2019 awards. Of the sixty-six awards, sixty-five were made to previously existing projects. The one new award is for support groups for female veterans, active and paramilitary, 1st responders with trauma from witnessing and/or experiencing crime, violence, and sexual assault.

In 2019, VOCA staff had a successful year and conducted site visits to all open subgrantees. Starting in March, staff typically visited two to three agencies until August. Staff had the opportunity to meet with key personnel

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 reviews progress of individual grantees toward stated goals.

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 Pannozi
Chief, Parental Rights Division, Retired
Rhode Island Public Defender

Myra Latimer-Nicholas
Cash Management Specialist

Denise Fernandes
PSGAO VOCA Administrator

VOCA Victims Assistance Subgrants for 2019

Subgrantee	Project	Description	2019
Adoption Rhode Island	Child and Family Support Program	This project provides support services to abused children and their adoptive families	\$158,732
Amos House	Street Outreach to Victimized Women	This project provides street outreach to homeless women with substance abuse and victimization risk	\$62,730
Amos House	VOCA For Men Project	Trauma services for victimized men whose history of victimization and trauma have resulted in addiction	\$56,100
Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center	Law Enforcement Advocate Program	This project makes a law enforcement advocate available to the City of Pawtucket.	\$111,166
Blackstone Valley Advocacy Center	Transitional Housing Program	Provides support for additional housing units, case management and services for victims of domestic violence	\$72,420
Child & Family Services of Newport County	Elder Victims of Crime Project	Provides outreach, assessment, advocacy, case management, and treatment for victims of elder abuse and their families	\$49,155
Child & Family Services of Newport County	Resilience Project 2019-2020	Provides community outreach, support and family therapy to victims of child abuse, neglect, domestic violence, substance use, the opioid crisis and children whose parents are involved with Adult Corrections	\$97,413
Community Care Alliance	Victim Trauma Treatment	Provides victims of crime comprehensive emergency therapeutic, and case management services	\$62,159
Comprehensive Community Action, Inc.	Victim of Crime Program	Provides education, support and intervention services aimed at helping victim's family eliminate violence from their lives	\$124,961

Crossroads Rhode Island	Rapid Rehousing for Domestic Violence Survivors	Provides survivors the ability to quickly obtain and retain safe and affordable housing	\$125,000
Day One	Law Enforcement Advocate	To sustain and advance the work of the Providence & Newport LEAs	\$232,437
Day One	Rhode Island Children's Advocacy Center	Provides a team approach involving prosecutors, police, medical personnel, and family human service providers for investigation and treatment of child sexual abuse cases	\$185,451
Day One	Services for Victims of Human Trafficking	Provides statewide advocacy services to those involved in sexual exploitation, human trafficking	\$196,440
Day One	Sexual Assault Victim Services Program	Provides crisis intervention, counseling services and legal advocacy for victims of sexual assault and their families	\$226,437
Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County	Felony Court Advocate Program	Provides for a Felony court Advocate in the Court Advocacy program	\$45,000
Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County	South County West LEA	This project makes a Law Enforcement Advocate available to the South County West area	\$53,174
Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County	Traditional Housing for Victims and their Children	DVRCSC alone with Welcome House will provide a 4-bedroom duplex for victims of Domestic Violence	\$66,170
Dorcas International Institute of Rhode Island	Immigrant Victims' Rights Project	This project assists immigrant victims of crime in accessing services	\$141,019
East Bay Community Action Program	VOCA Victims Advocacy Program	Provides victim services to the East Bay of Rhode Island	\$160,162
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	Crisis/Case Management	To hire an FTE case manager to work with community-based clients to separate them from their abusers to live healthy, productive lives for them & their children	\$46,205

Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	Sexual Assault Victims Counseling Program	To hire an FTE counselor with experience in sexual assault treatment & trauma to work with adult and teen victims of sexual assault	\$56,876
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	Law Enforcement Advocate	Provides a Law Enforcement Advocate for Cranston, Johnston	\$50,701
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	LEA for North Providence	Provides a Law Enforcement Advocate for North Providence	\$50,701
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center	Felony Case Advocacy Program	Expands the existing Court Advocacy Program to provide services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking	\$46,964
Family Service of Rhode Island	Providence Police Go Team	To fund a team of bilingual police liaisons, on call responders and clinician to provide 24/7/365 crisis intervention	\$146,627
Family Service of Rhode Island	Victim Assistance Program	This project combines two programs providing 24/7 on-scene crisis stabilization, counseling, link to social/behavioral health, grief & bereavement & funeral arrangement assistance	\$162,999
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, peer support groups, workshops and trauma training	\$85,158
Gateway Healthcare, Inc.	Trauma Informed Care for Victims of Sex Trafficking	Trauma informed care for the mental, physical, legal, and financial well-being of victims to access emergency needs like shelter, food, clothing and transportation	\$219,816
Gateway Healthcare, Inc.	Trauma Treatment Project	This project expanded their mental health counseling to include children and adults who have been sexually abused or traumatized by crime and/or their families	\$48,502
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	\$219,271

Nonviolence Institute	Healing Through Housing	To place at-risk clients into temporary safe housing, removing them from the threat of immediate harm.	\$121,788
Nonviolence Institute	Victim Services	This project provides homicide support services and assistance to family members of homicide victims	\$252,159
Nonviolence Institute	Nonviolence Streetworkers	Provides crisis intervention, referrals, 24-hour on call, hospital visits/advocacy, court advocacy, etc.	\$151,186
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	\$158,000
McAuley Ministries	Transitional Living Program and Basic Needs	To provide transitional living services to single, homeless mothers and their children who are victims of crime	\$50,000
Providence Housing Authority	Victims' Services and Support for Providence Public Housing	VOCA Safety Coordinator to provide direct services to victims of crime residing in their developments. Will provide temporary housing, childcare and transportation costs for appointments	\$141,337
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence Victim Advocacy Program	Provides services to victims of domestic violence through the seven-member agencies and through printing and distributing brochures	\$774,548
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Domestic Violence Victim Counseling Program	Provides specialized counseling services to victims of abuse & to children who witness domestic abuse, regardless of their ability to use health insurance	\$89,255
RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Sisters Overcoming Abusive Relationships	Sisters Overcoming Abusive Relationships (SOAR) is a task force group made up of survivors of domestic violence to promote, advocate and work for the elimination of domestic violence	\$70,000

RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Victims of Crime Helpline	Provides a 24-hour toll free confidential Helpline for victims of crime throughout RI. Offers in person accompaniment for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, hate crimes or trafficking at emergency rooms or local police departments	\$258,094
RI Dept. of Behavioral health, Developmental Disabilities, and Hospitals	Protective Services Infrastructure	Provides protective services for individuals living with developmental disabilities, mental health and substance use disorders. Provides one contract worker to intake services to address the severe backlog of cases.	\$39,422
RI Department of Corrections	Comprehensive Office of Victim Services	Establishes an Office of Victim Services to work with victims and provide victim notification and information	\$94,976
RI Dept. of Corrections – Rhode Island Parole Board	Enhanced Victim Services Program	Provides advocacy and assistance to victims when offender is up for parole	\$61,621
Rhode Island Hospital	Aubin Center Child Life Advocate	Provides child life intervention and support, adolescent peer support groups for victims of sexual assault and domestic minor sex trafficking	\$55,906
RI Legal Services	Elder protection Services	Supports the core activities of the Elder Protection Project providing specialized legal assistance to victimized elders	\$351,900
Rhode Island Legal Services Inc.	LGBT Protection Project	Will provide long-term protection of LGBT victims of domestic violence	\$127,500
Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General	Statewide Victim Assistance/Notification Program	This will renew the position of the District Court Liaison/Advocate/County Assistant	\$72,013
Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General	RI Victims Outreach Integrated Community Environment Integrations & Feature Enhancements	Project to launch phase 2: to enhance and integrate the VOICE system between the VOICE portal, Justice Assistance, and the General Treasurer	\$324,000
RI Office of the Child Advocate	Project Victim Services	To provide services and a means of compensation to young crime victims who are in the custody of the state	\$178,169

Refugee Development Center, Inc.	Breaking Barriers	To help the refugee victims of crime to break cultural barriers such as stigma, assist with finding services and to inform them of their rights	\$154,760
Sojourner House	Community Based Advocacy Program	The goal of this project is to increase access for victims of abuse by providing an in-person support at local healthcare & social service organizations	\$68,652
Sojourner House	LGBTQ Sexual Assault Advocacy Program	These funds will expand & enhance supportive services for LGBTQ victims & will educate community members & service providers on how to support LGBTQ victims of sexual assault	\$71,825
Sojourner House	Immigration Advocacy	Provides service to survivors of domestic abuse or human trafficking who additionally have an immigration related component to their cases	\$93,800
Sojourner House	Transitional Housing for Victims of Abuse	These funds provide units of transitional housing to five victims and their children. The rent will be subsidized based on the victim's income	\$116,752
Sojourner House	THEIA Project	Provides supportive emergency and transitional housing for adult female and male victims of human trafficking	\$163,710
Sojourner House	Law Enforcement Advocate – Reservoir LEA	LEA for the towns of Burrillville, Scituate, Foster and Glocester	\$53,865
Sophia Academy	Safety Net Phase III	This project builds on the first two phases that foster an environment conducive to healing from trauma	\$68,000
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	\$109,311
Saint Mary's Home for Children	Child & Family Trauma Treatment Program	Provides a home-based team approach to treatment of sexual abuse victims and their families, treating the family as a system, fostering personal growth, independence and responsibility in all family members	\$133,605

Saint Mary's Home for Children	Supporting Teens & Adults at Risk (STAAR)	This project serves male and female victims up to the age of 25 of commercial sexual exploitation of children and human trafficking and their families	\$249,882
Thrive Behavioral Health, Inc.	Comprehensive Behavioral Health Services for Victims of Crime	Provides clinical intervention and support for adults who have been victims of traumatic violence and/or abuse	\$77,413
Thundermist Health Center	Transgender Behavioral & Social Health Program	Provides support for transgender individuals, especially those who experience discrimination and oppression, with medical and behavioral health services	\$229,500
Women's Resource Center	Law Enforcement Advocate-East Bay	LEA for Barrington, Bristol, Tiverton and Little Compton	\$58,221
Women's Resource Center	Crisis Response Advocate	Provides immediate de-escalation support and triages in the 24/7 hotline	\$56,125
Youth Pride, Inc.	Advocacy & Support Project for LGBTQ Youth	Provides victim outreach and services to gay, lesbian and transgender youth in Rhode Island	\$119,000
YWCA Rhode Island	HIKE-Healing Individuals with Kindness & Empathy	HIKE support groups for female veterans, active & paramilitary, 1 st responders with trauma from witnessing and/or experiencing crime, violence, and sexual assault	\$63,027

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

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

The 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.

<p>2019 STOP VAWA</p> <p>Total Award: \$983,801</p>

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 2019 STOP award is \$983,801. 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 2019 STOP plan represents the third 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 six member agencies assist and support Rhode Island's shelters for battered women in statewide planning and development. The RICADV is one of two principle victim service agencies supported with STOP VAWA funds. The Coalition serves as a resource for its member agencies, providing trainings, technical assistance, statewide planning and needs assessment, and gathering and disseminating resources and information. The Coalition's member organizations are:

- Sojourner House
- 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.

2019 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

Jeffrey Renzi
Associate Director
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 2019 STOP VAWA Program

Subgrantee	Project Description	Amount
Planning and Administration (10%)		
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.	\$98,380
Victim Services (30%) plus Discretionary (15%)		
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.	\$274,585
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.	\$82,018

Culturally Specific Victim Services Project (10% of Victim Services 30%)		
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.	\$44,271
Prosecution (25%)		
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.	\$221,355
Law Enforcement (25%)		
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.	\$221,355
Courts (5%)		
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.	\$41,837
FY 2019 STOP Total		\$983,801

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

The 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.

2019 SASP

Total Award: \$ 378,940

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

The 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 2019 Title II Formula grant continues to operate under an approved Three-Year Plan and was awarded to RI in October 2019. This FY 2019 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.

2019 JJDP
Total Award \$381,000
JJDP PREA \$19,327

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 2019 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 2019 Title II funds allocated to RI. This stipulation was filed by the State of New York for New York, 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
2019

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

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

Agency	Project Description	2019	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	\$60,328	
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	
Totals		\$381,000	\$38,100

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

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

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

Rhode Island's 2019 OJJDP PREA Reallocation grant, in the amount of \$19,237, was awarded to the Department of Children, Youth and Families. DCYF must use the funds to ensure that identified covered Juvenile Facilities comply with the PREA Juvenile Facilities Standards. They use the defined PREA Juvenile Facilities Audit Process and the training of the PREA Coordinator for the Rhode Island Training School to ensure initial compliance with PREA and ongoing oversight of PREA Compliance within identified covered facilities.

The RI Department of Children, Youth and Families made steady progress toward achieving identified goals and objectives in 2019. Audits were conducted at the two required juvenile facilities. All Corrective Action Plan items identified by the Auditor in the respective on-site audits for the Training School and Ocean Tides were addressed and documentation was provided to the Auditor by the respective deadlines. These steps included specialized staff training for medical and behavioral health staff, policy modifications, five-year background checks for staff and contractors, installation of cameras and door alarms at the Training School, and video monitoring equipment at Ocean Tides. The Auditor's final reports for each facility certified that each facility was found in compliance. 2019 funds will be partially used for audits which continue to take place on the required 3-year cycle.

The National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP)

Since 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.

2019 NCHIP

Total Award \$617,817

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 utilized 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 \$40,951 has been allocated for costs incurred by **PSGAO** for staffing and administration of the program. The FY2019 program budget is as follows:

The **State Police, Technical Services Unit** has been awarded \$405,000 for the purchase and deployment four computer servers and storage devices in support of the Rhode Island Law Enforcement Telecommunications System.

The **Office of the State Court Administrator** was awarded \$50,000 for 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** has been awarded \$110,227. The funds will be used to and deploy five Live Scan fingerprinting devices to state courthouses. DOC will identify and fingerprint individuals that are already incarcerated in the state prison to update NICS.

The **Department of Corrections, Sex Offender Community Notification Unit** will undertake an effort through overtime sessions to address a backlog of cases requiring validation. A budget of \$26,444 is available for this project that can be used for overtime costs associated with validation of over 1,150 cases.

State Justice Statistics Program for Statistical Analysis Centers

Since 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.

2019 SJS
Total Award \$58,826

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 2019 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.

A vacant staff position was created by a gap in available planning and administration funding from the Justice Assistance Grant Program. The job description for this position has been changed and a data researcher/analyst will be hired. This person will be responsible for establishing the data exchange and a web-based platform to host the data collected from state and local agencies. This web-based platform will be publicly accessible, and the data sets contained therein will be available for download.

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.

Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners Formula Grant Program

The 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.

2019 RSAT
Total Award \$134,205

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 \$120,785 in 2019 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 \$80,523 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.

Department of Children, Youth & Families

The Department of Children, Youth & Families (DCYF) was awarded \$40,262 in 2019 RSAT funds for the continuing support of the residential substance abuse treatment unit at the Rhode Island Training School for Youth (RITSY). DCYF will sustain the substance abuse treatment services available to the juvenile male residents of the RI Training School for Youth and provided by Lifespan. These funds are budgeted to pay a portion of the salary for a Substance Abuse Supervisor/Counselor. The jail-based program provides intensive treatment for residents identified as having severe substance abuse treatment needs, which cannot be adequately addressed with the less intensive education, and intervention programming. The program is based on a modified therapeutic community treatment model that utilizes a cognitive-behavioral approach with an emphasis on relapse prevention. The program's goal is a reduction in the use/abuse of illicit substances and the often-associated criminal activity that may lead to re-arrest and a return to the correctional facility. Program services include a comprehensive psychosocial assessment of each resident referred. Residents are provided substance abuse education, group, individual and family counseling. All services are designed to address the special developmental needs of adolescents. Program is coordination with Training School clinical and custodial staff to provide appropriate support services, both on and off grounds and pre- and post-release. Program offers participants recreational activities that promote the enjoyment of leisure time without the use of alcohol and other drugs. Family education and involvement in the treatment process is encouraged whenever appropriate. The program coordinates with community-based services to ensure an appropriate level of treatment and/or support services following release from the Training School.

Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant Program

The 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.

2019 Coverdell
Total Award \$272,275

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

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

The Rhode Island Department of Health Laboratory's Forensic Sciences Unit is accredited to the ISO 17025 International Standard and to the FBI's Quality Assurance Standards (QAS). In addition to internal audits by their Quality Assurance Officer, external audits are needed to maintain accreditation, which runs on a four-year cycle. Currently, their accreditation expires on June 6, 2020.

The Rhode Island Public Safety Grant Administration Office, as the state administering agency (SAA), will retain \$27,227 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 2019 program funding equally, with each laboratory receiving a subaward of \$61,262 to be utilized as follows:

University of RI State Crime Laboratory

The Rhode Island State Crime Laboratory (RISCL) will purchase a Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) combined with an elemental x-ray detection (EDAX) system for the detection of PGSR on a suspected shooter's hands or other objects. This evidence must be sent to a secondary Laboratory for testing since we do not have a SEM. The SEM will allow this evidence and other types of evidence to be analyzed in-house to avoid the continual reliance on the use of a secondary laboratory and to eliminate the extra requirements of maintaining "Chain of Custody" between laboratories.

RI Department of Health Laboratory, Forensic Science Unit

The Department of Health Forensic Sciences Unit will utilize their portion of their 2019 Paul Coverdell funds to purchase a Proflex Thermal Cycler to replace an aging unit. Funds will also be used to purchase supplies for the drug chemistry laboratory, 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 these funds to pay travel and registration and testing fees for two scene investigators to attend the Medicolegal Death Scene Investigators training. The OSME will also purchase a Nikon Ci Microscope with color camera, software and computer system. This unit will allow high resolution color photos to be taken through the microscope and allow them to be imported directly into the OSME case management database. Funds will also pay for autopsy room supplies and ABMI post certification maintenance fee for six (6) scene investigators.

RI State Police, Forensic Services Unit

The Rhode Island State Police Forensic Services Unit (FSU) will use their 2019 Coverdell funds to apply for reaccreditation to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO)/IEC 17020 through the ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board. In addition, members of the Forensic Services Unit will attend vital trainings and conferences, as well as undergo necessary certification tests that directly support the goal of achieving accreditation. These funds will also be used to replace an outdated iMac Pro computer, digital cameras, laptops, digital microscope, and pay the monthly cost to lease a 3D laser scanner for one year.

Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act JAG Penalty Re-Allocation Grant

The 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.

2019 SORNA/JAG

Total Award: \$47,691

In October 2012 the United States Department of Justice's Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking (SMART) made a final determination that Rhode Island did not substantially implement SORNA by the July 27, 2012 deadline. This penalty is assessed against the portion of the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance (Byrne/JAG) grant funding that is allocated to statewide projects. Consequently, RI received a mandated 5% reduction in Byrne/JAG funding in grant years 2012 through 2018, and now again in 2019.

RI was also granted the opportunity to apply to reallocate this funding back to the state to support continued efforts to implement the SORNA requirements. The application for reallocation was approved in the amount of \$47,691.

Through this project the Rhode Island State Police will focus on the Sex Offender Registry database. The agency took on the responsibility of managing and maintaining the registry via a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in 2008 with the Office of the Rhode Island Attorney General. Using other grant funding sources, the agency has hired a contract employee to manage the database.

Legislation was passed by the General Assembly and signed by the Governor in 2018 that brings Rhode Island closer to compliance with SORNA requirements. Over the past few years the agency has worked to improve the database system, without any additional personnel or resources to do so.

This award will complement FY2018 and FY 2019 grant awards to the Rhode Island State Police from the Adam Walsh Implementation Act grant program. That grant covers the cost of the contract employee that manages the database and the cost to develop and deploy a new Sex Offender Registry database. This SORNA/JAG penalty re-allocation grant will be applied to a portion of the costs of that new 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.

