

**PROJECT ABSTRACT**  
**Application #2017-H1995-KS-DJ**

**Applicant:** Executive Office of the State of Kansas  
Kansas Governor’s Grants Program

**Project Title:** Kansas FY 2017 Federal Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Program

**Problem and Target Area/Population:** Kansas, like many states, is faced with significant financial restraints, which ultimately impacts state and local efforts to address crime. Providing safety to law enforcement officers in particular, as well as access to modern technology, is critical to maintaining an effective response.

Compounded by the aforementioned financial constraints is the growing prison population. Within Kansas, 97% of offenders will be released back into the community. However, recidivism rates indicate that over 35% will return to prison within 36 months of their release.

The target area for JAG funds is statewide. The current Kansas population is approximately 2.9 million people. In addition, the current state prison population is 9,866, with an estimated 35% diagnosed with mental illness and 40% diagnosed with substance dependence issues.

**Project Goals:** The Kansas Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (KCJCC) is the governing body for criminal justice issues in the state. The Governor has designated the Kansas Governor’s Grants Program (KGGP) as the JAG State Administering Agency and as staff for the KCJCC. The goals of the KCJCC are to 1) reduce recidivism, 2) improve law enforcement technology and officer safety, 3) improve victim services, and 4) improve information technology / the Kansas Criminal Justice Information System.

**Project Strategies:** The current Kansas Strategic Plan for 2015-2018 identified five statewide priorities for JAG funding. Priority will continue to be given to JAG projects that support:

1. Evidence-based practices that address mental illness throughout the Kansas criminal justice system;
2. Evidence-based programming to provide treatment for substance misusers;
3. Technology improvements for local law enforcement agencies to support officer safety and the implementation of other identified JAG priorities;
4. Initiatives to improve the assistance of victims of crime; and
5. Enhancements to the functionality of the Kansas Criminal Justice Information System (KCJIS).

**Project Identifiers:** It is anticipated that a majority of the proposed project activities would fall into one or more of the following JAG Identifiers:

- Mental Health
- Inmate Programming
- Post-Release Treatment
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Equipment–Video/Audio Recording
- Officer Safety
- Victimization
- Violence – Domestic Violence
- Criminal Records
- Justice Information Sharing

**PROGRAM NARRATIVE**  
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The Kansas Governor is the chief executive officer of the state and designated the Kansas Governor's Grants Program (KGGP) staff to serve as the State Administering Agency (SAA) for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The Kansas Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (KCJCC) was established by the Kansas Legislature and is responsible for oversight of criminal justice issues in the state. The KCJCC includes the Governor or designee, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or designee, the Attorney General or designee, the Secretary of Corrections, the Superintendent of the Highway Patrol, and the Director of the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. The KCJCC is charged with prioritizing the purpose areas for JAG funding and determining grant awards. The KCJCC has developed strategies and approaches to prevent and control violent and drug-related crimes. The JAG Program will assist the state in implementing and enhancing its efforts to address the priorities identified by the KCJCC for the State Fiscal Years 2015-2018.

**Statement of the Problem**

Fiscal resources are essential to both state and local efforts to address crime. Although Kansas communities maximize every state and local dollar to help combat violent and drug-related crimes, JAG funding is critical to assist government and community-based programs address these issues. Without federal funding assistance, the challenges facing the criminal justice community would escalate. Providing the necessary personnel and resources to respond to crime, as well providing access to modern technology, is critical to maintaining an effective response.

In 2014, the KCJCC developed the state's FY 2015-2018 strategic plan for the use of JAG funds. The FY 2015-2018 Statewide Strategic Plan will continue to be followed for the administration of the Federal FY 2017 JAG funds. The funding priorities established in the State Strategy are to support:

1. Evidence-based practices that address mental illness throughout the Kansas criminal justice system;
2. Evidence-based programming to provide treatment for substance misusers;
3. Technology improvements for local law enforcement agencies to support officer safety and the implementation of other identified JAG priorities;
4. Initiatives to improve the assistance of victims of crime; and
5. Projects that enhance the functionality of the Kansas Criminal Justice Information System (KCJIS).

The state's FY 2017 grant application for federal JAG funds was made available to the KCJCC for review not less than 30 days prior to submission of the application to the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The KCJCC met to discuss and approve the federal grant application, the solicitation for subgrantees, and the subgrantee grant review process on [insert meeting date].

The annual subgrant award process begins each summer. The project period for subgrant awards will be for twelve months, from October 1 to September 30. For the state's 2018 application

cycle, it is anticipated that solicitations will be made available sometime in early August with an application deadline in mid-September. The KCJCC utilizes outside reviewers with expertise in the JAG purpose areas, to provide the initial review of JAG applications. The KCJCC will then meet in late September to discuss applications, discuss reviewer recommendations, and make final award decisions. Announcements will be made following the acceptance of the federal 2017 award. Any grant funds not obligated will be made available the following year for subgrant awards.

The programs that will be funded over the four-year federal grant period must meet the application criteria as established by the KCJCC and the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs; must address one or more of the Kansas Statewide Strategic Plan Priorities; and must demonstrate the implementation of evidence-based programming or promising measurable outcomes. It is anticipated that JAG funding will be approved for subgrant projects that address one or more of the KCJCC priorities and improve or enhance any of the following seven program areas:

- Law Enforcement Programs;
- Prosecution and Courts Programs, including Indigent Defense;
- Prevention and Education Programs;
- Corrections and Community Corrections Programs;
- Drug Treatment and Enforcement Programs;
- Planning, Evaluation, and Technology Improvement Programs; and
- Crime Victim and Witness Programs (other than compensation).

### **Project Design and Implementation**

The KCJCC met in April 2014 for a strategic planning workshop. The KGGP worked with the National Criminal Justice Association to develop and administer a statewide criminal justice stakeholder survey and to facilitate the day-long workshop. NCJA assisted with updating and enhancing Kansas' framework for a comprehensive and strategic justice plan. Through the stakeholder survey, the KCJCC received input from state criminal justice entities and local community partners to identify needs and recommend priorities. In addition, the KCJCC analyzed state and local data and identified evidence-based and promising programs. A copy of the state's strategic plan, applicable to the state's 2015 through 2018 subgrant awards, is included as an attachment to the Kansas FY 2017 JAG application.

The KCJCC is committed to coordinating the allocation of JAG funding with other anti-crime funds to make a significant impact toward the achievement of Kansas' goals. The KCJCC is responsible for overseeing the criminal justice federal funding made available to Kansas through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. In addition to the JAG Program, this includes the National Criminal History Information Program, Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act, Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Program, and the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program.

In addition to staffing the KCJCC, implementing the JAG Strategy, and conducting the day-to-day management of the various federal grants, staff also oversees other federal grant programs, including but not limited to, the U.S. Department of Justice's Victims of Crime Act Victim Assistance Program, STOP Violence Against Women grant, and Sexual Assault Services

Program. Additionally, the program administers the Federal Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program grant award from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women. This grant project has specific emphasis on uniform, statewide domestic violence and sexual assault training, as well as development of model policies and protocols for all criminal justice professionals' response to domestic violence and sexual assault. Therefore, the staff for the KCJCC can provide a coordination of services and eliminate duplication of efforts. The management and oversight of these various programs ensures coordination of funding strategies to maximize the results of state and local efforts.

### **Capabilities and Competencies**

The KGGP mission is to remove obstacles in Kansas communities, neighborhoods, schools, businesses, and homes to ensure the safety and security of all Kansans. By administering federal and state grants to units of state and local government; Native American Tribes; and nonprofit, community and faith-based organizations throughout the state, the KGGP aims to enhance the criminal justice system, improve public safety, and support crime victim services and drug and violence prevention programs.

In implementing the JAG Program, Kansas recognizes that state agencies, local governments, tribal governments, and nonprofit, community, and faith-based organizations must collaborate and cooperate to have a positive impact on drug and violent crime. Members of the KCJCC work closely with other federal agencies and initiatives to combat violent crime and drug-interdiction efforts. They are routinely in contact with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, National Corrections Association, Federal Drug Enforcement Agency and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

### **Kansas Criminal Justice Information System Committee**

The Kansas Criminal Justice Information System (KCJIS) Committee was created in statute in 2003. It had formerly been an ad hoc committee composed of both criminal and non-criminal justice agencies working together to design and develop an integrated criminal justice information system (CJIS) as outlined by the KCJCC in 1995. The committee's primary duties are to establish, maintain, and enhance the CJIS System in Kansas. KCJIS went "live" in 1998 and has grown from a "project" to a "fully functioning system" used constantly by authorized criminal justice users in all segments of the industry.

Information and planning developed by the KCJIS committee is presented to the KCJCC for recommendation and action, as appropriate. The basic, core system was completed in 2003; however, with the rapid change in technology there are numerous functions that have been implemented in the years since. In addition, there are approximately 14 projects in various stages of development and implementation to enhance and/or replace outdated systems and technology, with an additional 11 projects identified as recognized needs.

The KCJIS Committee, in collaboration with other state and local agencies, continues to determine which new capabilities, enhancements, and/or system replacements need to be implemented and in which priority. KCJIS is the daily lifeblood of the more than 10,100 users of the system. It is the tool used 24/7 to provide for public safety in Kansas.

### Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

A collaborative effort continues among various federal and state agencies regarding illegal drugs. Coordination between Kansas and surrounding states can be seen in the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) efforts. Midwest HIDTA includes Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota. The Office of National Drug Control Policy formed HIDTA in 1996 to combat the phenomenal increase in the importation, distribution and clandestine manufacturing of drugs with primary emphasis on methamphetamines. The Midwest HIDTA coordinates drug investigations, intelligence, and prosecution efforts.

### **Plan for Collecting Data Required for Performance Measures**

Subgrantees will be required to submit performance measurement data directly in the Bureau of Justice Assistance PMT (Performance Measurement Tool) website no later than 15 days following the end of each calendar quarter. Webinar training is provided to subgrantees regarding the instructions for and submission of the PMT data and for complying with state grant assurances. As the Bureau of Justice Assistance completes the updates and revisions to the current PMT requirements, the KGGP will provide subgrantees with information, guidance, and technical assistance to ensure full compliance.

In addition, applicants must identify the specific process and outcome-based data that they will collect and report to the KCJCC to demonstrate the success of their project. Examples of measures that the KCJCC has identified through the strategic planning process include:

- Fidelity to evidence-based practice
- Number of clients served
- Percentage of the target population served
- Client satisfaction

It is the hope of the KCJCC that best practices will emerge and provide opportunities to replicate successful projects in multiple areas of the state.