OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS
Program Name: Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation (BCJI) Program

FY 2017 Request

Total Funding: $24.0M
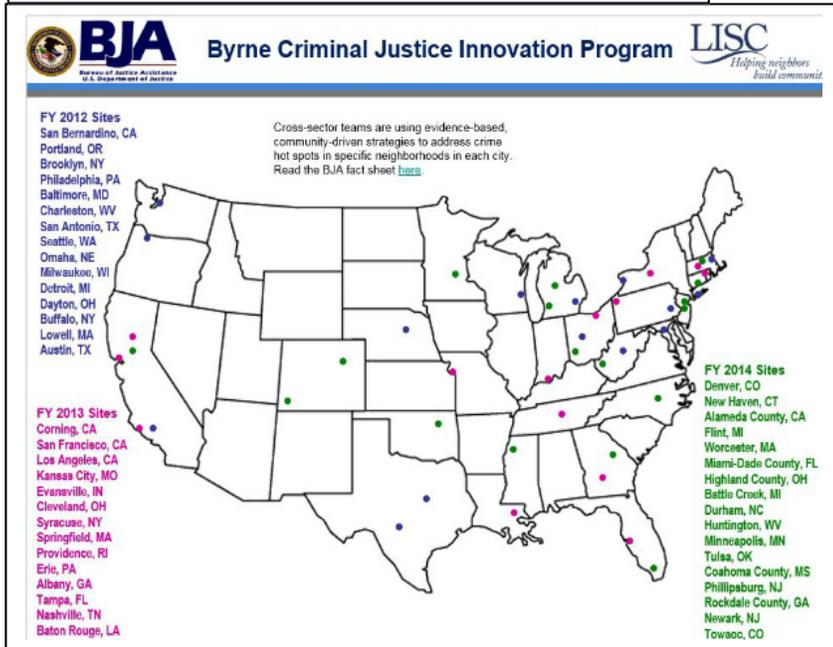Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: +$9.0M

*Request would move the program from a carve-out under the Community Trust Initiative back to a line item appropriation.

Program Description
Purpose: To help local and tribal communities address priority crime problems by creating place-based, community-oriented strategies.

The BCJI program has four core objectives:

1. To better integrate crime control efforts with revitalization strategies;

2. To improve the use of data and research to problem solve and guide program strategy;

3. To increase community and resident engagement in shaping crime prevention and revitalization efforts; and

4. To promote sustainable collaboration with cross-sector partners to tackle problems from multiple angles.

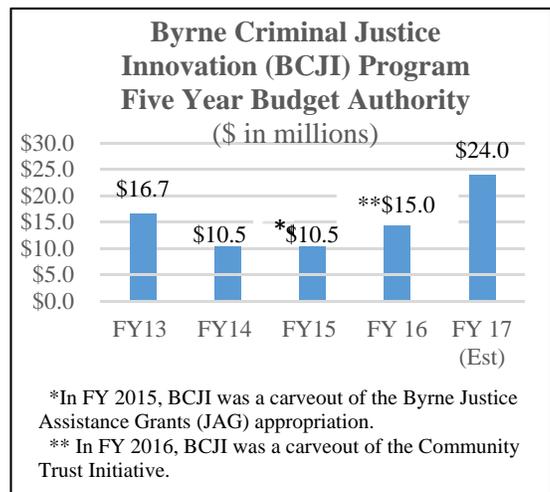**Authorizing Legislation:** Created through Department of Justice appropriations acts

Administering Agency: Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

DOJ Strategic Objective 2.1: Combat the threat, incidence, and prevalence of violent crime by leveraging strategic partnerships to investigate, arrest, and prosecute violent offenders and illegal firearms traffickers.

Who can Apply for Funding: Cross-sector partnerships that may include state, local, and tribal governments, non-profit organizations, and criminal and juvenile justice agencies.

*In FY 2015, BCJI was a carveout of the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) appropriation.
** In FY 2016, BCJI was a carveout of the Community Trust Initiative.

How Funds are Distributed:

Category	Award Type	Award Amount	Award Period
Planning	Grants	Up to $175,000	18 months
Implementation	Grants	Up to $1,000,000	36 months

Program Goals: The program promotes interagency collaboration and coordination with new and existing partners at the federal, state, local, and tribal levels. It also promotes data-driven, cross-sector strategies to reduce crime and violence and stabilize the neighborhoods. This program is part of the Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI) and the Promise Zones program.

Accomplishments:
Since 2012, this program has provided funding to 46 of the most distressed neighborhoods across the country, including urban, rural, and tribal communities. Several specific accomplishments include:
- Detroit: 20% reduction in violent crimes in the target area in 2014.
- Milwaukee: 24% reduction in violent crimes around hot spots and 12% reduction in the BCJI target area overall from 2013 to 2014, while violent crime increased by 2.5% citywide.
- Buffalo: 19% reduction in violent crime in the target area from 2013 to 2014.

More highlights of these sites' work and results may be reviewed here:
https://www.bja.gov/Publications/BCJI_Spring-2015-Update.pdf

FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program: N/A

FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program: Without dedicated funding to sustain the BCJI Program, OJP will not be able to assist any new grantees and would have significant difficulty redirecting enough funds from other programs to sustain the work of current BCJI grantees. Loss of funding for this program would also eliminate critical opportunities to build trust and strong partnerships to holistically address the needs of some of this country's most distressed communities, leveraging the power of partnerships across federal agencies. None of OJP's existing grant programs share the BCJI Program's emphasis on developing place-based, problem-solving strategies to address violent crime at the local level.

Application and Award History

($ in millions)	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
Amount Appropriated	$16.7	$10.5	[$10.5]*	[$15.0]**	$24.0 Requested
Total Funding Awarded^	$12.4	$7.1	$6.9	TBD	TBD
Number of Applications	163	138	96	TBD	TBD
Number of Awards	14	17	19	TBD	TBD

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** In FY 2016, BCJI was a carve-out of the Community Trust Initiative.
 ^ Total Funding Awarded does not include funds used for management and administration, peer review, or other authorized purposes.

For additional information, please visit: Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program.