



NEW HAMPSHIRE

Department of Justice

Office of the Attorney General

Grants Management Unit

GRANTS OVERVIEW

Contents

GRANT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM BRIEF	1
INTRODUCTION	4
MISSION STATEMENT.....	5
BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM (JAG)	6
VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT - CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FORMULA GRANT (VOCA)	8
VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT- CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION GRANT PROGRAM (VOCA COMPENSATION)	10
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT FORMULA GRANT (VAWA)	12
SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM (SASP)	13
CHILDREN’S JUSTICE ACT GRANT (CJA)	14
RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND TREATMENT (RSAT)	17
PAUL COVERDELL - NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT ACT GRANT (COVERDELL-NFSI)	18
JOHN R. JUSTICE GRANT (JRJ)	20
PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS (PSN)	21
VIOLENCE PREVENTION THROUGH MEDIA LITERACY EDUCATION (MPY)	22
CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS (STATE CAC)	23
INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN (ICAC) TASK FORCE	24
DISCRETIONARY (COMPETITIVE) GRANTS	25
CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING (CESF)	26
STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER.....	27
NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (NCHIP).....	28
PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACTION (PREA) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT	29
SECOND CHANCE ACT: ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF INCARCERATED PARENTS AND THEIR MINOR CHILDREN	30
PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM (PDMP).....	31
ADULT DRUG COURT DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM.....	32
SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EVIDENCE (SAFE) – INVENTORY, TRACKING AND REPORTING PROGRAM.....	33

ENHANCED COLLABORATIVE MODEL (ECM) TASK FORCE TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING: SUPPORTING LAW ENFORCEMENT’S ROLE..... 34

COMPREHENSIVE OPIOID ABUSE SITE-BASED PROGRAM 35

OVC ENHANCING COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO THE OPIOID CRISIS: SERVING OUR YOUNGEST CRIME VICTIMS..... 36

OVC DISCRETIONARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM..... 37

SUPPORTING INNOVATION: FIELD-INITIATED PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE OFFICER AND PUBLIC SAFETY..... 38

INTRODUCTION

The New Hampshire Department of Justice has the distinction of receiving the Governor's selection as the State Administering Agency (SAA) for several federal grant initiatives. These grant initiatives have been pivotal in the creation of many innovative criminal justice and victim service projects around the state, which have enhanced the service delivery of the state's criminal justice system.

Generally, the grant funding that is received and administered by the Department of Justice to the State of New Hampshire from the federal government arrives in one of two forms: 1) formula grants – funding is allocated to each state based on a statistical equation, such as population data or violent crime statistics; or 2) discretionary grants – funding is successfully secured in a competitive application process for a specific program area.

Grant funding is subgranted to state and local agencies through specific subgrant application processes at varying times of the year, depending on the purpose, guidelines and conditions of the federal grant program. A relatively small portion of the funding is retained by the Department of Justice for administration expenses. The Grants Management Unit oversees all grant awards received and subgranted through the office. The Grants Management Unit also works with agencies to try to solve funding issues that can be helped with grant funding.

While this document does not contain information on all possible federal grant resources, we believe that it will be a helpful start in your grant funding research. Please feel free to contact the staff in the Grants Management Unit if you have any questions concerning the material contained in this document.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Grants Management Unit of the Department of Justice exists to make a difference in the lives of the citizens of New Hampshire by ensuring the proper use of federal funds for criminal justice purposes. The Grants Management Unit does this through:

- Professional administration of grant resources;
- Adherence to all applicable federal and state requirements;
- Coordination of federal criminal justice resources available to the state; and
- Efficient service and assistance.

BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM (JAG)

FY 2018 Funds: \$1,021,404

FY 2019 Funds: \$1,019,502

FY 2020 Funds: \$948,186

The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program is authorized by Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, 42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq., as amended. The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance is designated to administer this grant to the states.

The Byrne JAG program is the combination of two previous federal grant programs, the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Formula Grant Program and the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program. These programs were combined in the federal fiscal year 2005 budget to create the Byrne JAG program. Each State's annual grant award under the Byrne JAG Program is determined by a modified population-based formula to the total amount of the appropriation. To receive grant funds, each State must develop a strategic, multiyear violence prevention and drug control strategy to demonstrate that funds will be used in accordance with the purposes of the law.

The Edward Byrne Memorial Law Enforcement Block Grant Program was the larger of the two. It was named after a young New York City Police Officer murdered while protecting a witness in a drug investigation. New Hampshire uses the majority of its Byrne JAG funding to support the statewide Attorney General's Drug Task Force, the very purpose for which these funds were named. The Attorney General's Drug Task Force is comprised of state, county and local law enforcement officers working together to improve public safety by reducing the availability of illegal narcotics. In the course of targeting illegal narcotics, a host of other crimes arising from the pursuit, acquisition, distribution, and use of illegal narcotics are also reduced.

There are six broadly described purpose areas that define the nature and scope of programs, which might be funded under the Byrne JAG Program. Historically, New Hampshire's statewide strategy has concentrated primarily on the following areas: 1) Multi-jurisdictional task force programs; 2) Juvenile/Community Crime Prevention Programs; 3) Criminal Justice Records Improvement; 4) Cyber Crime; and 5) Program Evaluations.

The principal benefit of the Byrne JAG program is that these funds, like the majority of the funds managed by this office, benefit the entire state and not just one region. The statewide Drug Task Force is a program that targets illegal narcotics activities from the Canadian border to Massachusetts and from Maine to Vermont. While other regions conduct similar activities, the Drug Task Force is the only organization that combines state, county and local officers, all in the same organization, working throughout the entire state. The Drug Task Force is a multi-jurisdictional task force that has the capability to work anywhere in the state and is available to all jurisdictions in New Hampshire. It is a statewide counter narcotics agency that provides both interdiction and investigation services, along with providing counter narcotics training to state, county, and local law enforcement officers, who are then returned to their local agencies to disseminate that knowledge amongst their co-workers. Additionally, Byrne JAG funds are used to fund three prosecutor positions within the NH DOJ, who prosecute large scale drug related cases.

The Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) is a penalty assessed on the Byrne JAG grant for the State of New Hampshire not being in compliance with the Adam Walsh Act. The Adam Walsh Act established this penalty for states that failed to be in compliance with the SORNA (34 U.S.C. § 20927(a)). This SORNA penalty, first applied in FY2012, is applied every year until the state is in compliance. States are allowed to apply for the penalty funding back, with the requirement that the reallocated funds be used to assist the state with coming into compliance with the Adam Walsh Act.

New Hampshire applies for the penalty funds back each year and this funding is directed to the New Hampshire State Police (NHSP), who has been responsible for New Hampshire's Sex Offender Registry (SOR) since its inception in 1993 as required by statute. The purpose of the NHSP SOR is to make all sexual offenders compliant with state and federal registration laws. The NHSP SOR unit uses this funding to make improvements to their program in an effort to bring the state closer to gaining compliance under the Adam Walsh Act.

VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT - CRIME VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FORMULA GRANT (VOCA)

FY 2018 Funds: \$13,954,297

FY 2019 Funds: \$9,627,656

FY 2020 Funds: \$7,224,379

The Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA), 34 U.S.C. 20110(e), et seq., as amended, designated the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) as the bureau within the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice to administer this formula grant program to the States

The funding mechanism for this program is the federal Crime Victims Fund, which is derived from fines, penalty assessments, and bail forfeitures collected from federal criminal offenders, not taxpayers. The main objective of this grant program is to support programs providing direct services to crime victims and, to a limited degree, to provide training for those persons providing the services. With the exception of 5% of the award, these funds must be spent in support of direct services to crime victims.

The VOCA grant program identifies sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse core services programs to be given funding priority. This priority status requires that each of these areas receives a minimum of ten percent of the total State victims' assistance award. The New Hampshire Department of Justice is further required to award ten percent of the total State grant award to provide services to previously underserved populations of victims of crime. (e.g., survivors of homicide victims, DUI/DWI victims and survivors of those victims, assault victims, elder abuse victims, and victim services for traditionally marginalized individuals etc.).

Commonly, in New Hampshire, these grant funds have been awarded to agencies providing direct services to victims of domestic and sexual abuse, child abuse and neglect, and other programs designed to assist victims of crime. The Department of Justice has partnered with the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence as a pass-through agency to fund its thirteen victims services agencies, supporting victim services through crisis centers and domestic violence shelters throughout the State. The Department of Justice subgrants funding to other victim services programs including Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), county and city victim advocates, rural mental health agencies, and child advocacy centers (CAC's). VOCA funds also support the Department of Corrections' Victim Services Program, which provides notification to victims of incarcerated offenders whenever the offender's status changes, and Victim's Inc., an agency serving victims of DUI/DWI and other crimes. VOCA has supported legal services to Victim of Crime since 2016 through NH Legal Assistance, the Pro-Bono Program, Legal Advice and Referral Center and Catholic Charities of New Hampshire. More recently, VOCA funds have also supported statewide efforts to coordinate Adverse Childhood Response Teams (ACERT). ACERT is a program that first began in Manchester to respond to

incidents where a child may have experienced trauma as the result of a crime committed. The team provides referrals and follow up with the family.

VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT- CRIME VICTIMS COMPENSATION GRANT PROGRAM (VOCA Compensation)

FY 2018 Funds: \$276,000

FY 2019 Funds: \$252,000

FY 2020 Funds: \$314,000

The Victims' Compensation Program in New Hampshire consists of the Victim Compensation Coordinator, two support staff, and the New Hampshire Victims' Assistance Commission. The program's purpose is to help crime victims and their families with expenses directly relating to crime injuries as authorized under NH RSA 21-M:8-h. The Coordinator reviews all claims and makes recommendations to the Commission. The Commission, a five-member board, meets monthly to review applications for compensation and renders a final decision on all claims. The Crime Victims Compensation Grant Program is a grant that is utilized by the Victims' Compensation Program to help pay claims to victims of crime.

The Commission, nominated by the Attorney General and confirmed by the Governor and Executive Council, consists of at least one physician or licensed nurse with experience in treating victims of crime, one victim of a crime, one attorney who is experienced in criminal law and one licensee of the board of mental health practice, with experience in treating victims of crime.

The Compensation Program assists: 1) any person who sustains physical and/or mental injuries in a felony (misdemeanors were included as of 07/01/97) which occurred in NH on or after 11/02/89; 2) any person who sustains personal injury as a result of persons driving under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances in NH on or after 11/02/89; 3) immediate family members of a homicide victim who was killed on or after 11/02/89 in NH; 4) any person who is a victim of sexual abuse, which occurred in NH and is under the age of 18 at the time the claim is filed, regardless of when the crime occurred; 5) any person who is a victim of human trafficking and has been tattooed with an identifying mark of human trafficking by a person who was forced him or her into trafficking; 6) New Hampshire residents injured by any of the above crimes in a state without a compensation program; 7) any person who was a child victim of physical and sexual abuse, or any person who was a child when a parent or sibling was a victim of homicide, shall be eligible for compensation, regardless of the date of the crime. Furthermore, the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 provides that crimes involving terrorism shall also be included as a compensable crime.

Compensation includes medical, dental, and mental health counseling expenses; lost wages; loss of support for the dependents of homicide victims; funeral and burial costs for homicide victims; relocation expenses for victims of domestic violence; crime scene clean-up for homicide cases only; reimbursement for clothing and bedding taken as evidence in a sexual assault; transportation to obtain medical assistance; transportation to meet with Child Advocacy

Center, crime-related interviews, pre-trial, trial, sentencing, post-conviction or appellate proceedings, hearings for security protective orders and parole; and, security and safety expenses, such as installation and one-year of monitoring for a security system and new door locks and windows.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT FORMULA GRANT (VAWA)

FY 2018 Funds: \$1,089,256

FY 2019 Funds: \$1,092,388

FY 2020 Funds: \$1,087,720

The authorization for the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Formula Grant Program comes from the enactment of Title IV of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Pub. L. No. 103-322; the Violence Against Women Act of 2000, enacted as Division B of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000, Pub. L. No. 106-386; and the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Regulations, 34 U.S.C. § 12291(b)(13). The Violence Against Women Grants Office, Office of Justice Programs administers the program out of the U.S. Department of Justice.

The objective of this grant is to assist states, Indian tribal governments, and units of local government to focus on developing and strengthening effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to combat violent crimes against women and to develop and strengthen victim services in cases involving crimes against women. In 2013, Congress added two new purpose areas that specifically included men, which means that sub-grantees under those purpose areas may have projects that also involve male victims. States must certify that a minimum of 30 percent of the total grant award is allocated to victim services, with 10 percent of that dedicated to culturally specific services; 25 percent to law enforcement; 25 percent to prosecution and 5 percent to the Courts. The remaining 5 percent is discretionary. There is also a newer requirement that 20 percent of the award must be expended on sexual assault services. Programs under VAWA may support both direct services and limited prevention activities.

Generally, the State of New Hampshire has awarded VAWA grant funds in three areas. First, programs have been funded that have led to the creation of specialized domestic violence and sexual assault units, combining the roles of law enforcement, prosecution and victim services. In this regard, grant awards have been given to fund prosecutorial positions, victim-witness advocate positions, investigator positions, and probation/parole officer positions. Second, grant funds have been awarded to agencies that provide direct services to victims and emergency legal representation, such as the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Sexual Assault Support Services and the New Hampshire Bar Association. Third, grant funds have been expended on programs that provide training and coordination on a statewide basis such as the Administrative Office of the Courts, where funding is made available to train judges and court personnel and to help distribute revised domestic violence protocols for the courts.

SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES FORMULA GRANT PROGRAM (SASP)

FY 2018 Funds: \$358,034

FY 2019 Funds: \$383,741

FY 2020 Funds: \$388,840

The Office on Violence Against Women and the US Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005, 42 U.S.C. § 14043g, created the Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP), which is the first federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault. The overall purpose of SASP is to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment (e.g., accompanying victims to court, medical facilities, police departments, etc.), support services, and related assistance for adults, youth and child victims of sexual assault, family and household members of victims, and those collaterally affected by the trauma of sexual assault.

New Hampshire has received this grant annually since 2009. As this funding stream is designed to support non-profit, non-governmental sexual assault crises centers, SASP funds are awarded to the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (NHCADSV). The NHCADSV is a dual-purpose agency that provides services to both victims of domestic violence and sexual assault victims. Funds granted to NHCADSV is, in turn, passed through to thirteen of their member agency Crisis Centers that expands and enhances their direct services to victims of sexual assault. The member agencies under NHCADSV provide direct services to victims of sexual violence and their non-offending family members. Services provided include, but are not limited to, 24-hour crisis lines, emergency shelter, transportation, peer support groups, child care, and criminal justice and social services systems advocacy. Since first receiving these funds in 2009 NHCADSV has continually expanded services for victims of sexual assault statewide.

CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT GRANT (CJA)

FY 2018 Funds: \$99,697

FY 2019 Funds: \$99,365

FY 2020 Funds: \$99,465

The Victims of Crime Act of 1984, as amended by the Children's Justice Act (CJA) and the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, provides that a certain portion of funds deposited in the Crime Victims Fund in any fiscal year will be made available to the Department of Health and Human Services for CJA grants to the States.

Grants are to be used to develop, establish and operate programs designed to improve:

1. Handling of child abuse and neglect cases, particularly cases of child sexual abuse and exploitation, in a manner, which limits additional trauma to the child victim;
2. Handling of suspected cases of child abuse or neglect related fatalities; and
3. Investigation and prosecution of cases of child abuse and neglect particularly those cases of child sexual abuse and exploitation.

The CJA grant requires each state to maintain a multidisciplinary Task Force whose purpose is to implement recommendations in the following three categories:

1. Investigative, administrative and judicial handling of cases of child abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, exploitation and abuse related fatalities;
2. Experimental, model and demonstration programs for testing innovative approaches and techniques, which may improve the prompt and successful resolution of civil and criminal court proceedings or enhance the effectiveness of judicial and administrative action in child abuse cases; and

3. Reform of state laws, ordinances, regulations, protocols and procedures to provide comprehensive protection for children from abuse.

CJA grant funding is aimed at improving the systems that respond to child abuse and neglect, and cannot be used to support prevention or direct service activities.

To meet the criteria of the grant, New Hampshire had to establish a Task Force comprised of individuals that have experience within the following required disciplines/areas: child protection, law enforcement, defense, prosecution, civil and criminal court, medical and mental health, CASA, parent/parent group, homeless youth, adult survivor and children with disabilities. In 1989 the Attorney General's Task Force on Child Abuse and Neglect was created to be that Task Force and today is comprised of 23 professionals from throughout the state that volunteer their time to participate on the Task Force.

The first three years of the Task Force were spent evaluating the system's response to child abuse and neglect and to developing guidelines to assist professionals. Tireless efforts on the part of many produced a 600 page, precedent-setting set of protocols entitled: **Child Abuse and Neglect: Protocols for the Identification, Reporting, Investigation, Prosecution and Treatment**. In April of 1993, the first two-day statewide training conference was presented to a multidisciplinary audience to introduce the Protocol.

In 2008 the Task Force rewrote the Protocol to incorporate the Child Advocacy Center model of handling child abuse and neglect cases. That Protocol, entitled "**Child Abuse and Neglect Protocol, Third Edition, 2008,**" was the effort of two years of work by the Task Force to develop a comprehensive, multidisciplinary protocol. A revision to this protocol was completed in early 2021 and the Task Force anticipates executing a substantial training and dissemination plan for professionals throughout the state on this latest version.

In addition to the Protocol, the Task Force continues to host an annual conference that offers advanced training for a variety of disciplines including law enforcement, attorneys, victim advocates, child protection workers and the judiciary. The Task Force is committed to providing high quality, low cost training to New Hampshire professionals, by utilizing both national speakers as well as local presenters on a variety of topics related to the investigation and handling of child abuse, neglect and exploitation cases.

The Task Force also sponsors multi and discipline-specific daylong training programs for professionals statewide. These training programs are designed to increase collaboration, knowledge and skills of the professionals handling these types of cases.

Other projects funded by the Task Force include providing subgrants to agencies handling child abuse and neglect cases. This has included supporting the creation and expansion of Child

Advocacy Centers throughout the state; assisting with recruitment and training efforts for CASA/GALs and funding projects to increase access to specialized medical care for abused and neglected children. The Task Force has also created and published brochures and publications for children and teens as they go through the criminal justice system.

A portion of the grant goes to support part of an Administrator within the Office of Victim/Witness Assistance at the Attorney General's Office. This position coordinates all the grant activities, as well as implementing the projects and initiatives identified by the Task Force, including organizing trainings and conferences and the development of protocols and publications. This position creates a centralized place for stakeholders from various agencies around the state to come and discuss important issues related to children's wellbeing in New Hampshire. This position is essential to continue collaborative efforts in the state and to ensure that the projects identified in the grant are achieved.

RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND TREATMENT (RSAT)

FY 2018 Funds: \$149,468

FY 2019 Funds: \$149,405

FY 2020 Funds: \$155,313

The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Public Law 103-322, amended Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act (42 U.S.C. 3711, et seq.) by adding 42 U.S.C. Section 3796 ff – Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners.

The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment Formula Grant Program assists states and units of local government in developing and implementing residential substance abuse treatment programs within state and local correctional and detention facilities in which prisoners are incarcerated for a period of time sufficient to permit substance abuse treatment. The program is administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U. S. Department of Justice. The grant award is made to the state office that is designated to administer the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Formula Grant Program, which is the Department of Justice.

The jail-based programs foster a partnership between correctional staff and the treatment community to create programs in secure settings that help offenders overcome their substance problems and prepare for reentry into society. The RSAT program was originally designed to support treatment and services for those offenders who were incarcerated for a period of no less than 6 months. That program was designed to be administered over a six-month period and was intended for those inmates with between 6 and 12 months left on their sentence, so that they could receive services and be released shortly thereafter, enabling those services to effectively assist in their reentry. For the most part, the jail-based programs are based on a shorter three- to six-month period. The intent is to be able to provide these crucial services to a larger target audience by including those offenders in our jail systems who usually cannot meet the 6 to 12 month requirement of the original program, but could meet the reduced 3 to 6 month requirement and still reap great benefit.

PAUL COVERDELL - NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT ACT GRANT (Coverdell-NFSI)

FY 2018 Funds: \$271,960

FY 2019 Funds: \$272,275

FY 2020 Funds: \$264,698

The Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Act was created by Public Law 106-561 on December 21, 2000. It was designed to improve the quality, timeliness, and credibility of forensic science services for criminal justice purposes, and for other purposes. It received initial funding when President Bush signed the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2002 on November 28, 2001, covering the Department of Justice's programs for Fiscal Year (FY) 2002.

The Coverdell program allows for the funding of:

- Laboratory and Computer Equipment
- Supplies
- Personnel
- Facilities
- Accreditation and Certification
- Education and Training

Funding is available to established forensic science laboratories or laboratory systems that employ one or more full-time scientists or medical examiner offices. In order to qualify, either of those agencies must employ generally accepted practices and procedures and be either accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors-Laboratory Accreditation Board, the National Association of Medical Examiners, or some other appropriate board, or they must submit paperwork to become accredited within two years of being funded under this program.

In preparing for the initial round of grant funding, a comprehensive meeting of forensic services providers, law enforcement personnel, victim advocates, prosecutors, and others was convened to determine the best use of these funds. It was determined that the New Hampshire State Police Forensic Crime Laboratory (Forensic Laboratory) and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) would each receive funding. The Forensic Laboratory was awarded funding to provide for the cost of the accreditation process application. The OCME was awarded funding for a part time staff position to work on both the accreditation process and to eliminate case backlogs.

Subsequent funding has been dedicated to both the OCME and the Forensic Laboratory to continue those efforts. The Coverdell funds support the salary and benefits for a full time administrative assistant and a part time employee who works in several capacities, including cataloging and storing evidence for the OCME.

Overtime for lab staff for drug analysis is funded at the Forensic Laboratory. Additional funding to the Forensic Laboratory was used to purchase equipment as replacements of older or outdated equipment to keep the data consistent, efficient and accurate. Funds utilized for supplies included the purchase of new technology and safety enhancements to assist with the Forensic Laboratory efficiency.

A recently added requirement of the Coverdell Program required that a certain percentage of grant funds, determined by the granting agency each year, needs to be allocated for opioid-related activities. The 57% minimum of the total Coverdell award in FY 2019 and the minimum of 64% of the funding for FY2020 have both been designated to opioid related uses to address the challenges posed by the opioid abuse crisis as required by this grant funding.

Funds dedicated to both agencies have been used to achieve full accreditation and to support and enhance the delivery of forensic science services in New Hampshire, which has a direct benefit to the greater law enforcement community and to the citizens of the State of New Hampshire.

JOHN R. JUSTICE GRANT (JRJ)

FY 2018 Funds: \$32,876

FY 2019 Funds: \$32,771

FY 2020 Funds: \$32,859

Congress enacted the John R. Justice Prosecutors and Defenders Incentive Act (hereinafter referred to as the “Act”), codified at 42 U.S.C. §3797cc-21, and named for the late John Reid Justice of South Carolina, to encourage qualified attorneys to choose careers as prosecutors and public defenders and to continue in that service. The John R. Justice (JRJ) Grant Program provides loan repayment assistance for local, state, and federal public defenders and local and state prosecutors who commit to continued employment as public defenders and prosecutors for at least three years. To administer this program, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) will award funds to each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia to serve eligible recipients working within each jurisdiction.

One pressing challenge facing our criminal justice system today is the retention of qualified prosecutors and public defenders, who serve every day to ensure that our communities are protected, the rule of law is upheld, and the rights of the citizenry are safeguarded. Both prosecutor and public defender offices consistently find it difficult to attract and retain talented attorneys. Driven by educational debt, attorneys interested in public service often forego opportunities to work in these offices in order to seek more lucrative private sector positions. Attorney shortages in these offices can result in overworked attorneys handling unmanageable caseloads, potentially affecting public safety, the administration of justice, and ultimately the public’s confidence in our justice system.

Student loan debt is consistently cited as the overwhelming reason why attorneys decline or leave positions as prosecutors and public defenders. The vast majority of law students borrow to finance their legal education and the rising costs have imposed staggering debt. Furthermore, public defender and prosecutor salaries have failed to keep pace with the escalating cost of education. As a result, talented lawyers are often unwilling to accept or remain in attorney positions as prosecutors or public defenders, creating real challenges for those offices in their quest to hire and retain capable attorneys.

Funding awarded under this program is split evenly between prosecutors and public defenders. Awards are made to qualified attorneys in each category.

PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS (PSN)

FY 2018 Funds: \$137,616

FY 2019 Funds: \$91,625

FY 2020 Funds: \$91,116

The New Hampshire Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Task Force is chaired by the U.S Attorney in New Hampshire and is comprised of members of all aspects of local, state, and federal law enforcement. The Task Force is charged with developing and implementing a grant strategy each year that helps to combat violent crime in New Hampshire. The New Hampshire Department of Justice acts as the fiscal agent only on the PSN grant, as all aspects of the designed grant project are at the discretion of the PSN Task Force.

The District of New Hampshire Project Safe Neighborhoods FY2020 grant funded initiative proposes the acquisition of Forensic Logic CopLink data sharing platform to be implemented by target area law enforcement agencies. The New Hampshire PSN Team has identified the need to enhance communication between police agencies and prosecutors in an effort to focus on offenders. Currently, there is no common records management system where PSN partners can effectively share information. CopLink is a software that connects law enforcement data across jurisdictions in one platform, which can be accessed by all partners. The software also has the ability to provide strategic and tactical level analysis that will assist in understanding the violent crime issues within the state. Using the enhanced ability to leverage data from target areas, the PSN Team will develop an intelligence-led, offender-based strategy.

This project will be implemented for, at minimum, a three year period starting in early 2021. Grant funding will allow for licensing of CopLink for a period of three years, deployed to six target area police departments. The target areas selected for this project are Manchester, Concord, Nashua and the tri-city area of Rochester, Somersworth and Farmington. Once connected within CopLink, partners will coordinate with the US Attorney's Office, local County Attorney's Offices, probation/parole, and federal law enforcement to identify prolific, violent crime offenders. Tailored, evidence-based strategies will be developed for each offender so as to most effectively prioritize, target, and respond to the individuals driving violent crime in target areas. Project coordinator(s) will use the analytic capability of CopLink to identify and track prolific offenders. Coordinators will then facilitate communication between PSN partners to ensure action plans are implemented. CopLink will also be used to track key metrics to properly measure the impacts of the offender-based strategy at the community level. Utilizing an offender-based strategy with real-time information will allow the New Hampshire PSN Team to effectively reduce violent crime in the District.

In years past, PSN funds have funded initiatives for hot spot patrolling in cities and towns in New Hampshire with higher violent crime rates and for social network analysis programs with the Manchester Police Department.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION THROUGH MEDIA LITERACY EDUCATION (MPY) (State Funded)

FY 2018 State Funds: \$50,000

FY 2019 State Funds: \$50,000

FY 2020 State Funds: \$50,000

The New Hampshire Department of Justice has been working with Media Power Youth, a 501(c)3 based in Manchester, NH to implement a violence prevention program for schools.

Extensive research evidence indicates that exposure to media violence, for children, can contribute to aggressive behavior, desensitization to violence, nightmares, and fear of being harmed. Research has demonstrated that media education can help to reduce violent/aggressive behavior in children and help them develop pro-social behaviors including respect, empathy, compassion and engagement with peers, family and community.

Media Power Youth provides media literacy for violence prevention in 25% of NH school districts over the first 24 months of this project. Additionally, the program provides programming in at least 42 school districts over the length of the grant, with the goal of reaching 21 school districts in 2013/2014. Media Power Youth targets district representation in all areas of the state, with a commitment to representation from the southeastern, southwestern, central and northern regions of New Hampshire. Finally, Media Power Youth will identify model communities committed to providing a continuum of media literacy for violence prevention from elementary through high school, as well as parent/community programs.

Through this program, Media Power Youth will offer teacher/professional training in media literacy and the implementation of the evidence-based *Media Literacy for Safe and Healthy Choices* Upper Elementary Curriculum. In select middle and high schools, Media Power Youth will implement the program *Media Power and YOUth: Media Literacy for Violence Prevention*. One of the goals of this project is to provide teachers and professionals with the skills they need to continue the program after the expiration of the two-year project period.

CHILD ADVOCACY CENTERS (State CAC) (STATE FUNDED)

FY 2018 State Funding: \$100,000

FY 2019 State Funding: \$100,000

FY 2020 State Funding: \$100,000

The New Hampshire Department of Justice began a funding project approximately ten years ago that helped lead to the creation of the current network of Child Advocacy Centers and has continues to fund those centers today. The State of New Hampshire fiscal year 2014 budget represents the first time that state funding has been allocated to directly support that Child Advocacy Center network.

Child Advocacy Centers are designed to be a safe place for child victims of crime to describe what has happened to them in as comfortable and nurturing an environment as possible. In the Child Advocacy Center model, a single forensically trained interviewer will speak with the child victim while investigators, prosecutors and other justice professionals will observe via closed circuit television. Those viewing the interview are able to provide questions to the forensic interviewer. This helps limit the number of times the child is interviewed during the course of the investigation, while still providing the valuable information investigators need to identify and prosecute potential perpetrators.

The original goal of the New Hampshire Department of Justice was to create a Child Advocacy Center in each of New Hampshire's ten counties; a goal which, ultimately, was met. Over time, several of the existing Child Advocacy Centers merged, which led to the creation of the Granite State Children's Alliance. The Granite State Children's Alliance then grew into an association of all seven existing Child Advocacy Centers in New Hampshire. Those seven centers continue to provide services to all ten counties.

While the New Hampshire Department of Justice continues to provide grant funding to support the operation of the Child Advocacy Centers, this state funding will be used to augment those resources and to allow the Child Advocacy Centers to identify and increase the use of best practices in the delivery of services.

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN (ICAC) TASK FORCE (STATE FUNDED)

2018- \$500,000

2019- \$500,000

2020- \$500,000

The mission of the New Hampshire Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force is to: (1) properly investigate and prosecute those who sexually exploit children through the use of the Internet and/or computers; (2) provide training and equipment to those involved in investigating and prosecuting ICAC; and (3) provide community education regarding the prevention of ICAC.

Funding is utilized by the ICAC Task Force for programmatic assistance to law enforcement affiliates across the state who designate their personnel in these efforts.

The task force is staffed with specially trained and competent team members. Forensic examiners, astute to emerging technologies and techniques, process computers and other media systems. Investigators and interviewers are conversant in criminal methodologies, trends, and habits utilized by commercial enterprises that seek to exploit children.

It is also important to provide a community education component and relay the importance of public diligence as a crime prevention tool. Curriculum materials will be distributed through community outreach programs, live presentations, or through learning institutions. By educating community members, we anticipate lower victimization rates while increasing the number of bona fide police reports. Ultimately, educating the public allows the police to respond faster and with greater effectiveness to these crimes.

Funding is also utilized to maintain forensic technical capacity and to provide specialized training to personnel.

Discretionary (Competitive) Grants

CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING (CESF)

FY 2020 Funds: \$3,454,070

The Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Program provides funding to assist eligible states, local units of government, and tribes in preventing, preparing for, and responding to the coronavirus. The CESF Program is authorized by Division B of H.R. 748, Pub. L. No. 116136 (Emergency Appropriations for Coronavirus Health Response and Agency Operations); 28 U.S.C. 530C.

The New Hampshire Department of Justice is utilizing Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) with an open-ended Request For Proposals (RFP) that law enforcement, the prison system, jails, and other first responders are able to apply for on a rolling basis. The New Hampshire Department of Justice retains a small amount of funding for administrative costs associated with managing the grant, while passing through the majority of funding to local communities. This process will allow communities to be able to access funding throughout the pandemic as needs arise in their community, that relate to the response, prevention, and preparation of Covid-19.

To date, the NH DOJ has provided subgrants to more than 30 communities and state agencies, including police, fire, and EMS services. Funding has ranged from overtime for first responders, to ventilators for EMS providers, personal protective equipment (PPE) for jails and the prison, and equipment that is used to test for Covid-19 infections along with assisting in the vaccination process.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS CENTER

FFY2020- \$64,506

The State of New Hampshire had assessed the accuracy of the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Beyond 2020 Repository program and crime reporting data, to include the formatting of the program. An internal audit determined the NIBRS database to be accurate. However, the Division of State Police NIBRS System reports were found to “lack clarity,” “intuitiveness”, and are difficult to comprehend by thus failing to give perspective and interpretation of data findings. Funds are being used to enhance current electronic infrastructure by improving the capability of the Beyond 2020 Repository program to address these concerns at the New Hampshire Department of Safety.

With the support of the same vendor that helped create the current New Hampshire NIBRS reporting system, an upgrade has been made available to give the ability for users of all professions to be able to create themed reports with extracted statistical data from the current NIBRS system.

Upon conclusion of the upgrade, users will be able to create specially predesigned, highly visual, summary reports with multiple interactive tables. These themed reports will contain statistical data information for the user in the form of a variety of graphs broken up into separate tables for users to better understand the findings.

NATIONAL CRIMINAL HISTORY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (NCHIP)

FY 2020 - \$560,253

In 2018, the state received a non-compliant finding in a National Crime Information Center (NCIC) audit for failing to validate NCIC entries submitted by multiple agencies within the proper timeframe. The current process is manual which can be over 1,000 pages of entries. Failure to validate will result in the information being lost and therefore impacting public safety. The state is seeking validation software to aid submission agencies to validate their own records in a timely manner and therefore meeting federal obligations.

The State of New Hampshire has 43 state owned Livescan fingerprinting machines deployed across the state and is looking to expand that inventory with a strategic deployment of 10 additional Livescan stations in order to move the state closer to 100% collection of fingerprint supported arrests. The state of New Hampshire has benefitted from Livescan technology since 1997, with the then state-of-the-art Livescan capability put in use throughout the state in our correctional facilities and our larger municipal law enforcement agencies. In 2019, all state owned Livescan sites were replaced with new technology.

The state has identified a need to add themed reports to an existing public facing website displaying current and past NIBRS statistic. It is well known NIBRS statistics drives law enforcement and legislative strategies and is used to improve public safety. With a themed reporting module, this information will be easily understood and utilized in various ways to improve public safety. Funding from this grant is subawarded to the New Hampshire Department of Safety to complete these projects.

PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACTION (PREA) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

FY 2020- \$228,184

The Department of Justice partnered with the Department of Justice to submit an application for funding under the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Improvement Project. With this funding the NHDOC will work in collaboration with the NH Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault to update current PREA trainings to include comprehensive awareness and sensitivity curriculum. This new training program will be directed to staff, residents and their families of those under the control of the NHDOC. This will include multiple professionally created informational videos that will be available on the NHDOC website and in NHDOC's annual refresher trainings that will be required for all staff to complete. Residents will view the video developed for them upon entry into our facilities. Refresher training may be developed for residents during this process.

Additionally, specialized training will be provided to select staff that will be devoted to the improvement of the resident intake process to enhance the ability to identify those at risk of sexual assault. Upon completion of this goal, the NHDOC will aim to exceed standards as set forth in 28 C.F.R. 115§41. This training will strengthen our current capabilities to detect, respond and aid those affected from acts associated with PREA while they are under the supervision of the NHDOC.

Another focus of this program will be on enhancing NHDOC's ability to track resident activity through the utilization of new video monitoring equipment purchased by grant funds and NHDOC's matched funds. With heightened abilities to monitor activity, NHDOC will have increased capabilities of reviewing and using reliable footage that may be utilized as evidence in the prosecution of perpetrators of offenses related to PREA incidences.

SECOND CHANCE ACT: ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF INCARCERATED PARENTS AND THEIR MINOR CHILDREN

FY2020- \$628,472

Using Second Chance Act funding, NH Department of Justice will subcontract with Waypoint to implement The Family Ties Inside and Out (FTIO) project. This partnership, consisting of Waypoint, the NH Department of Corrections Family Connections Center (FCC), Family Ties, and nine Family Resource Centers throughout the state, will strengthen and expand a coordinated system of programs and services that meet the needs of incarcerated parents, their children, and parents/caregivers of the child during the period of incarceration. FTIO will develop and provide staff training to implement best practices at all locations, develop a safety policy for child visitation; add Re-entry staff at FCC to increase the number of parent-child contacts and increase pre-release (re-entry) planning and engagement with families, provide therapeutic services to the most vulnerable children to introduce evidence-based screening, family therapy, and skills to reduce child trauma symptoms through Family Ties; and provide a referral mechanism to connect care-giving families to Family Resource Centers to provide support and resources to develop the skills they need to assure healthy child development and increased resiliency of children.

Services are delivered at three NH State prisons where parent/child visitation takes place (Berlin and Concord Men's Prisons and the Concord Women's Prison), as well as at nine (9) Family Resource Centers across the state, including in Antrim, Peterborough, Gorham, Claremont, Portsmouth, Laconia, Manchester, Nashua, and Concord. Referrals for clients needing therapeutic services will be coordinated across the State by Family Ties.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM (PDMP)

FY 2017 Funds: \$400,000

FY 2019 Funds: \$750,000

The primary purpose of the Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) is to enhance the capacity of regulatory and public health officials to collect and analyze controlled substance prescription data and other scheduled chemical products through a centralized database administered by an authorized state agency.

New Hampshire's primary purpose for creating the PDMP system is to help health care providers' better meet the needs of their patients. Health care providers will be able to use this system to see if a patient has been prescribed similar medications by other physicians. Knowing what prescriptions a patient may have will help the physician determine the medical need for additional medications or may help in determining a possible dependency issue with the patient. Funding helps to pay for staffing the PDMP program and for software enhancements to the PDMP program.

In June, 2012, then-Governor John Lynch signed the Controlled Substances Act into law, making New Hampshire the 49th state to implement a prescription drug monitoring program. At that time, the statutorily formed PDMP Advisory Council was convened and has been meeting monthly ever since. On October 16, 2014 the PDMP went live through the vendor Health Information Designs, allowing physicians statewide to access the prescribing histories of their patients.

ADULT DRUG COURT DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM

FY2019- \$493,000

The Department of Justice partnered with the New Hampshire Administrative Office of the Courts to apply for funding to assist the statewide drug court program. In this program the drug court program partnered with County Jails, State Police, and the State Prison systems to develop a comprehensive data network to allow for a valid recidivism study and to study historically disadvantaged groups within our criminal justice system and drug courts. This funding will contribute to the development of those partnerships, and systems. In addition, these enhancements will help the State Coordinator identify polices and targeted technical support for programs that are not operating at capacity.

Each of the ten state-funded adult drug courts use a post-plea model and must follow best practice standards as set out in the NADCP's Best Practice Standards Vol I and II. A total of 1,297 individuals have been enrolled in one of the ten drug courts in NH and 432 participants have graduated or successfully completed drug court. The NH adult drug courts strive to meet the needs of the high-risk/high-need population with evidence-based therapies and interventions. The target population for the drug courts are individuals who have been diagnosed as chemically dependent on one or more substances, and who have committed a felony, misdemeanor, probation violation, parole violation crime or a combination of crimes.

Funding is making it possible for the Statewide Coordinator to fulfill expectations of RSA 490-G:4 items: (b) Establish and periodically update best practices for operating adult drug courts and alternative drug offender programs; (d) Measure recidivism rates and other outcome measures; (e) Evaluate compliance with relevant standards; and (g) Assist counties in obtaining ongoing training. These grant funds will be used to implement the Drug Court Assessment, Training and Technical Assistance (DCATT) program. DCATT will be implemented through collaboration with the following sub-grantees: JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI), the NH Alcohol & Drug Abuse Counselors Association (NHADACA), and the Friends of NH Drug Courts (FNHDC).

SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EVIDENCE (SAFE) – INVENTORY, TRACKING AND REPORTING PROGRAM

FFY2019 - \$333,558

The New Hampshire Department of Justice (NH DOJ) has identified systemic issues in the tracking of sexual assault kits throughout the state. As the chief law enforcement office in New Hampshire, the NH DOJ has the responsibility to ensure that the rights of victims of sexual assault in New Hampshire are being met, including knowing the status of a sexual assault kit.

With this project the NH DOJ hired a program specialist who is developing and initiating a sexual assault tracking program, including a website with access for victims to log in and see where their kit is in the process. The program specialist will be a key participant in locating unsubmitted sexual assault kits across the state and ensuring they reach the Forensic Lab for proper analysis. Further, this person will work in conjunction with victims, the local police departments, and prosecuting offices to ensure that cases are properly investigated and prosecution happens when appropriate.

ENHANCED COLLABORATIVE MODEL (ECM) TASK FORCE TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING: SUPPORTING LAW ENFORCEMENT'S ROLE

FFY2019– \$780,038

The New Hampshire (NH) Human Trafficking Collaborative Task Force (Task Force) has been in existence since 2012, originally as a commission of the Attorney General's office and then moving into the community but continuing as a multi-disciplinary group. Throughout this time the partners on the Task Force have identified human trafficking in all of NH's 10 counties and have worked with those who have experienced labor and sex trafficking (and some who have experienced both).

This funding provides dedicated staff, enable the Task Force to provide additional training, and coordinate data collection and evaluation.

The Merrimack County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) dedicates a full time Detective, and the NH State Police (NHSP) dedicates a State Trooper for 25 hours per week to focus solely on proactive labor and sex trafficking investigations. These Officers operate and support Human Trafficking investigations statewide. They will further serve to augment and support law enforcement officers from smaller jurisdictions that lack the resources and the staffing to engage in long term, complex trafficking investigations. These two individuals will also strive to address challenges around collaboration, victim identification and consistency in response to the crime of human trafficking within NH.

Funding through this grant will also enable more attention and effort to be given to the needs of victims and ensuring that they have the opportunity to receive the services and support they need to move forward, be safe and address their trauma, and other needs. This will require ongoing collaboration by law enforcement with many of the Task Force partners who are already involved as well as the ongoing support of the Attorney General's office towards the completion of the Statewide Protocol on Human Trafficking.

COMPREHENSIVE OPIOID ABUSE SITE-BASED PROGRAM

FFY 2018- \$897,079

Due to the geographical limitations of New Hampshire, obtaining treatment and/or recovery services can be extremely difficult for those in the most rural areas of our state. Transportation is often cited as the biggest hindrance to obtaining services for people suffering from Substance Abuse Disorders. By removing the transportation issue from the equation the chances for success increase dramatically.

Under this program, Granite United Way received a subgrant from the New Hampshire Department of Justice to hire a project coordinator, purchase internet-enabled tablets for use by justice involved individuals, develop a phone/table application to allow for real time case monitoring, and contract with RCO's in three proposed rural locations throughout the state. The tablets will allow real-time, face-to-face connections with recovery support specialists to facilitate increased access to treatment and recovery services. In addition to the health benefits of enhanced access to services, participants may also benefit from improved probation/parole rule adherence and for crises intervention to help prevent problems that could potentially violate the rules of probation or parole.

Additionally, the program is working on the development of a secured social media app that will increase the likelihood of recovery success for these individuals, and hopefully, reduce jail recidivism and reduce overdose deaths. By implementing this project with Granite United Way, that is experienced in providing recovery services to all corners of the state, and with guidance and support from both the State Administering Agency (New Hampshire Department of Justice) and the Single State Authority for Substance Abuse (New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services) the state of New Hampshire is in a prime situation to be a model of success for this program.

OVC ENHANCING COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO THE OPIOID CRISIS: SERVING OUR YOUNGEST CRIME VICTIMS

FFY 2018- \$749,886

The New Hampshire Department of Justice (NH DOJ) is addressing an urgent gap in crime victim services related to the opioid epidemic and to expand upon existing and establish new programs to provide services to children and youth who are victimized as a result of the opioid crisis in the city of Manchester, New Hampshire.

Using a proven multi-agency community approach, the NH DOJ will mitigate the impact of substance use on children experiencing familial exposure to the opioid crisis.. With a \$750,000 grant over three years, the NH DOJ partnered with Amoskeag Health Center in Manchester and YWCA New Hampshire (YWCA NH). Amoskeag Health hired a Project Coordinator and provides a Behavioral Health Consultant and Adolescent Health Case Manager to provide mental health services in the clinical and schools settings to support children impacted by the opioid crisis.

Amoskeag Health subcontracted with an expert trainer to train school personnel in trauma-informed services to better support students exposed to trauma, including familial substance misuse and opioid addiction.

Amoskeag Health also subcontracted with the Judge Baker Children's Center at Harvard University to train Pediatric Behavioral Health Staff in the Modular Approach to Therapy for Children (MATCH), a scientifically proven counseling program for children, teenagers, and families. In addition to intensive MATCH training, staff will receive consultation with MATCH experts and additional behavioral health paraprofessionals from Amoskeag Health and other community partners will receive enhanced education and support the MATCH Treatment Program and learn how to refer to and collaborate with MATCH clinicians to support client treatment goals. Finally, the YWCA developed support groups for children impacted by the opioid crisis.

OVC DISCRETIONARY TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

FFY2018 - \$152,202

New Hampshire is one of four states that do not currently have a victim assistance academy. With Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) assistance administrative funding, the NHDOJ conducted a statewide needs assessment that includes the training needs of victim service providers and other collaborative partners.

NHDOJ will expand upon a current statewide steering committee to create a facilitated workgroup who will provide feedback into the development of a victim assistance academy. NH will seek to invite a facilitator with experience and expertise with statewide victim assistance academies to assist with its' process. This SVAA workgroup will work jointly with OVWA and NHDOJ to review other state curriculums, models and present geographic diversity to craft a SVAA format that best fits the needs of NH. The SVAA workgroup will create a Request for Proposal (RFP) to obtain a partner capable of assisting in developing a curriculum that takes into consideration the results of the needs assessment.

This grant will support a portion of the salary and benefits of the Program Specialist in the OVWA to coordinate with the chosen partner and SVAA Workgroup regarding the training initiatives and curriculum that is responsive to the information obtained from the needs assessment. The Program Specialist may also receive, track, and respond to requests for specific training and technical assistance request. We are requesting additional funding for the Office of Victim Witness Assistance staff travel for trainings.

The funding also supports individual scholarships to cover participants' travel expenses, which often strains the financial resources of the individual or employer. Individual allied professionals are awarded scholarships to regional or national training as well.

SUPPORTING INNOVATION: FIELD-INITIATED PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE OFFICER AND PUBLIC SAFETY

FY2018- \$249,752

The New Hampshire Department of Justice, as the designated fiscal agent for this program, and in coordination with the Project Safe Neighborhoods Task Force submitted the Supporting Innovation: Field-initiated Programs to Improve Officer and Public Safety FY 2018 Competitive Grant.

New Hampshire is at the epicenter of the opioid epidemic and the increase in fatal opioid overdoses is strongly correlated with the increase in the state's gun crime. Thus, the initiative of this grant will also address drug related gun crime. Between 2011 and 2016, New Hampshire saw an approximately 34% increase in crimes in which firearms were used. The state's largest city, Manchester, saw a 57% increase in gun crimes during the same timeframe and between 2017 and 2018 year-to-date there has been a 30% increase in shooting incidents.

This program was awarded a total of \$249,752 in funding to support the purchase of a BRASSTRAX Acquisition Station, associated fees, training, and research to augment a Crime Gun Intelligence Model for the State of New Hampshire. The BRASSTRAX station allows law enforcement to submit recovered ammunition cartridge casings from crime scenes and cartridge casings from test fires of recovered crime guns into the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN). The scanned submissions are then correlated in the Alcohol Tobacco Firearms (ATF) database and can be matched against other recovered crime scene casings and test fires. Currently, there is no BRASSTRAX station in Northern New England, which requires law enforcement to mail all shell casing evidence to the ATF for entry. No other agency submits casings into NIBIN as a result of this lack of access to the technology, and thus procurement of the BRASSTRAX machine is vital to creating an innovative crime gun intelligence process. The BRASSTRAX machine is located within the Manchester Police Department for all law enforcement agencies in New Hampshire to use.