

# Lt. Governor and CJC Announce 2014 Byrne Grant Recipients

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from 46% in 2007*

**WILMINGTON, Del.** – Today, Lieutenant Governor Matt Denn, Chair of the Criminal Justice Council, and Chris Kervick, Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Council, announced the 2014 Byrne Grant recipients at a press conference at the Rick VanStory Resource Center in Wilmington.

This year's Byrne Grants were awarded to seven non-profits agencies – representing all three counties – that specialized in the CJC's priority areas of Re-entry and Recidivism Reduction for Adults and Juveniles, Juvenile Prevention and Intervention, and Reducing Homicide and Violent Crime. The total of all awards is \$501,079.76 and 82% of funding is dedicated to re-entry services, up from 46% in 2007. The increase in re-entry funding reflects a decision by the CJC to concentrate its limited federal grant resources in this important area.



Lt. Governor Denn said, “These groups have proven track records of providing quality services that continue to make a difference in our communities. I am impressed with their plans to expand these much-needed programs in our state.”

“The Byrne Justice Assistance Grant is the cornerstone federal assistance program for the Criminal Justice Council,” said Executive Director Chris Kervick. “It allows the flexibility required to support local programs as they provide much needed services to the people who need them most. The Criminal Justice Council congratulates this year's grant recipients and we look forward to working with the agencies to make each

program successful.”

Rick VanStory Resource Center CEO Allen Conover said today, “We would like to thank the Delaware Criminal Justice Council for the opportunity to enhance our ability to provide essential services to individuals involved with the criminal justice system that are mentally ill and/or that suffer from substance abuse. We look forward to utilizing our collective experiences to assist others.”

Here is a list of recipients, the award amount, and short description of what the funding will be used for:

**Boys & Girls Clubs at Oak Orchard/Riverdale:** Stop It Before It Starts Prevention Program \$50,930.00

Facilitating 2 curriculums: “Positive Action” on bullying, substance abuse, and suicide for 8 to 13 year-olds; and “Courage to Speak” on drug abuse prevention for parents. Grant will fund program facilitators, counselor, and educational equipment.

**Courageous Hearts Equine Assisted Psychotherapy and Learning Center Equine Assisted Learning:** Power Tools for Living Program \$39,690.00

Providing therapeutic equine activities for at-risk youth. The program teaches youths to interact with and care for horses, and offers mental health counseling. Grant will cover salary for the director, bookkeeper, equine specialists, & therapist, as well as facility rental.

**Dover Interfaith Mission for Housing, Inc.:** Re-entry Opportunity and Recidivism Prevention \$97,900.00

Provide shelter, job placement, case management, and counseling to former inmates.

**The Hospitality School, Inc.:** Culinary Arts & Restaurant Training Reducing Recidivism \$69,933.00

Provide culinary training for hard-to-employ individuals, specially focusing on ex-offenders. This free, 14-week program

also teaches soft skills & financial literacy, and includes an internship.

**Rick VanStory Resource Centers:** Case Management for Mental Health Offenders \$115,711.76

Provide case management, mental health counseling, and substance abuse treatment to homeless former inmates. Program will operate in all counties.

**Victims' Voices Heard:** Victim Impact: Listen and Learn / Stand Down: Courage to Change \$60,000.00

Implement two programs that involve group sessions at correctional institutions; one focuses on victim impact awareness and the other on setting and working toward re-entry goals.

**The Way Home, Inc.:** Expanding Way Home Case Management Services \$66,915.00

Add to the agency's case management staff to serve inmates who are re-entering the community. Case manager will assist with employment, education, and basic needs.

**Background:** The Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program (42 U.S.C. 3751(a)) is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to state and local jurisdictions. JAG funds support all components of the criminal justice system from multijurisdictional drug and gang task forces to crime prevention and domestic violence programs, courts, corrections, treatment, and justice information sharing initiatives. JAG funded projects may address crime through the provision of services directly to individuals and/or communities and by improving the effectiveness and efficiency of criminal justice systems, processes, and procedures.

Event pictures can be found [here](#).