



Criminal Justice Planning Agency

2021 CITIZEN CENTRIC REPORT

WHO ARE WE?

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency (CJPA) was established in 1980 under the Office of the Governor through Executive Order No. 16 which created the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the Improvement of the Criminal Justice System. On November 20, 1998 pursuant to Public Law 11-47, CJPA's Councils and authorities were created by law.

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency was established as the staff of the Supervisory Council, to function in a manner consistent with the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth and tasked to comply with the Federal Omnibus Crime Control and Safety Street Act of 1968, as amended, and other related Federal Laws.

The Northern Marianas Commonwealth Council for the improvement of the Criminal Justice System, also known as the CJPA Supervisory Council, serves as the "Supervisory Body" for the administration of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) grant programs for the CNMI and as a mechanism for cooperative action among the various law enforcement and criminal justice agencies and related community programs in the CNMI.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency is committed to providing service to the public and community programs by securing federal funds on critical criminal justice needs under the direction of the Governor, Supervisory Council and Youth Advisory Council. CJPA currently functions in a manner to achieve these two broad goals:

1. To successfully administer federal programs relating to the CNMI criminal justice system by preparing and developing annual state plan applications for federal funds that will benefit the CNMI criminal justice system and monitoring and evaluating criminal justice programs and projects funded under CJPA administered programs.
2. To advise and assist the Governor in developing policies, plans, programs, and budgets for improving the coordination, administration, and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in the Commonwealth.
3. To encourage comprehensive justice planning efforts.
4. To monitor, evaluate and coordinate programs and projects, funded in whole or in part by the Commonwealth Government, aimed at reducing crime and juvenile delinquency and improving the administration of justice.
5. To apply for, contract, receive and expend for its purposes any appropriations or grants from the Commonwealth, the Federal Government, or any other source, public or private, in accordance with the appropriate process.
6. To collect from any Commonwealth department, agency, instrumentality, office or other entity, information data, reports, statistics or such other material which is necessary to carry out the Council's or Agency's functions.

2020 SUPERVISORY COUNCIL

Chairman: Hon. Alexandro C. Castro
Chief Justice, CNMI Supreme Court

Vice-Chairman: Hon. Edward Manibusan
Attorney General, CNMI

Robert A. Guerrero
Commissioner, Department of Public Safety

Hon. Robert Naraja
Presiding Judge, CNMI Superior Court

Douglas Hartig
Public Defender, CNMI

Wally Villagomez
Commissioner, Department of Corrections

Ramon B. Camacho
Chairman, Board of Parole

Alfred Ada
Commissioner, Public School System

John I. Tagabuel
Executive Director, Carolinian Affairs Office

Ignacio Aquiningoc
Chairman, CJPA Youth Advisory Council

Vacant: Rota Representative

Hon. Vicente Santos
Mayor, Northern Islands Representative

Maisie B. Tenorio
Women Representative

Patrick Tenorio
Citizen Member

Jim Arenovski
Citizen Member

YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Chairman: Ignacio P. Aquiningoc
Rep. John Paul Sablan
Yvonne R. Pangelinan
John S. Blanco
John Gilbert Saludez
Crystal Cabrera
Shirley L. Norita
April Tumada
Sylvio Ada
Hiima Marie Persson Castro
Theodora Lizama
Tina Tudela
Calvani Deleon Guerrero
Joseph Villagomez
Maxine Pangelinan
Mariah Barcinas





PROGRAMS

GRANTS

The Criminal Justice Planning Agency currently administers the following grants:



Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program:

The Edward Byrne Memorial Assistance Grant (JAG) Program is the primary provider of federal criminal justice funding to states and units of local government. The funding may be used to provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, and training for law enforcement programs, prosecution and court programs, prevention and education programs, corrections and community corrections program, and drug treatment and enforcement programs, to name a few.



Violence Against Women Act (VAWA):

The Violence Against Women Act is designed to improve the criminal justice responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and to increase the availability of services for victims of these crimes. The funding may be used for personnel, supplies, and training.

Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant Program (SASP):

The SASP Formula Grant Program funds states and territories to support rape crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations, including faith-based and other community organizations that provide core services, direct intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault.



Victims of Crime Act (VOCA):

The Victims of Crime Act Grant Program supports direct services to crime victims (i.e. persons who have suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm as a result of the commission of a crime).



Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP):

The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grant supports the state, local, and tribal efforts to reduce and prevent delinquency, improve the juvenile justice system, and protect children from violence and abuse. The funds may be used for personnel, supplies, and training.



Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF):

The Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) Program will provide funding to assist eligible states, local units of government, and tribes in preventing, preparing for, and responding to the coronavirus.

GRANT SUB-GRANTEE'S

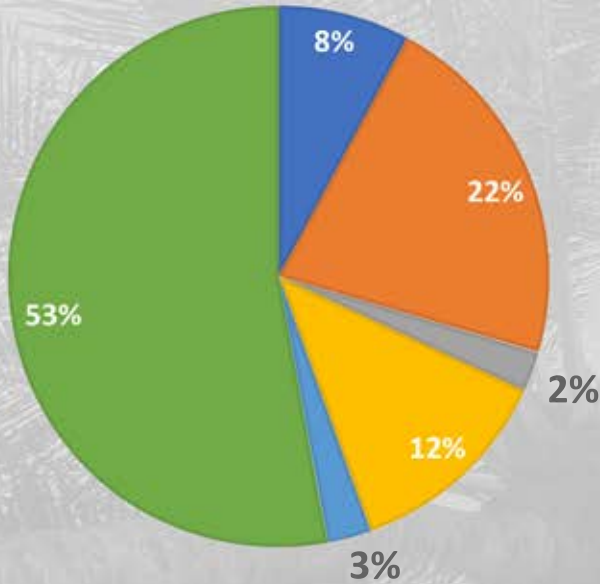
- CNMI Judiciary
- Division of Youth Services
- Division of Customs
- Office of the Attorney General
- Department of Public Safety
- NMI Crime Stoppers
- Family Court
- Karidat
- Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
- Superior Court
- CNMI Drug Court
- Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- Department of Corrections





FINANCES

WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM



- Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program - \$223,880.00
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) - \$618,560.00
- Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant Program (SASP) - \$69,013.00
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) - \$357,868.00
- Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) - \$1,509,123.00
- Justice of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) - \$74,112.00

WHAT OUR MAIN EXPENSES ARE



PERSONNEL
\$135,000.00

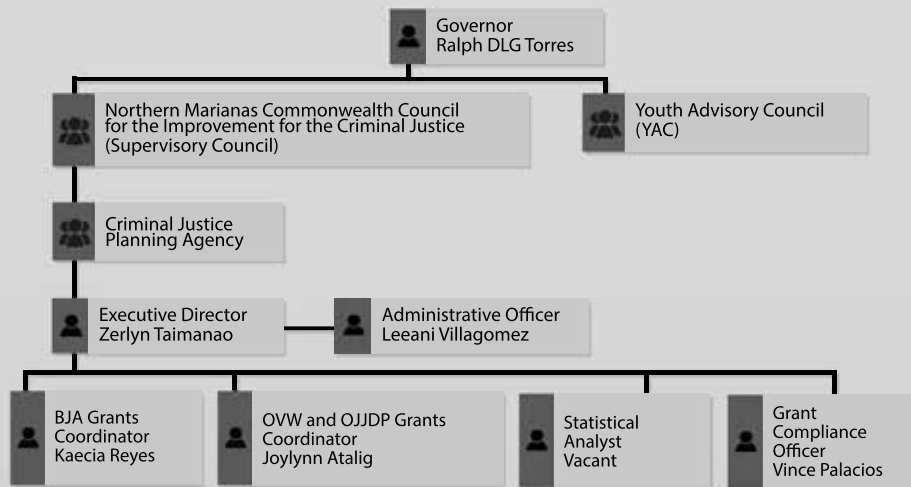


OPERATIONS
\$15,022.88



UTILITIES
\$6,382.53

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





OUTLOOK

CHALLENGES

- **COVID-19:** The Coronavirus has devastated our economy, requiring the C.N.M.I to rely heavily on grants through our federal partners. COVID-19, has redefined normalcy and has required us to change the way we work on a daily basis.
- **Capacity:** CJPA currently has 5 staff members on board. Some staff members handle two to three grants alone. The need to build capacity will help our agency effectively manage our existing grants and also submit new grants that will aid in supporting the C.N.M.I's law enforcement community.
- **Infrastructure:** The CJPA office needs a renovation. Our current federal grants that the agency administers does not allow for reconstruction and renovation.
- **Funding:** Although CJPA is funded partly through local appropriations and federal grants there is a need for additional funding. Funding is needed to build capacity, improve our office infrastructure, and improve our daily operations.

LOOKING AHEAD

- **Training:** CJPA looks forward to training its staff to keep them informed on new trends and funding to support our law enforcement community.
- **Collaboration:** CJPA looks forward to more collaborations with other federal partners, government agencies and private entities that will support our community.
- **Data Collection:** CJPA will work on improving its data collection methods that will aid in a more effective report and response to our federal partners and our community. In addition, CJPA will work on revamping its website and social media page.
- **Support:** CJPA will work on streamlining and strengthening its process and procedures to better support our sub-grantees, government agencies and private entities that we work with.

CONTACT



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