



Pennsylvania
**Commission on Crime
and Delinquency**

Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP)

FFY 2025 Allocation Funding Plan

Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

June 2026

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About the PA Commission on Crime & Delinquency (PCCD)

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) was established in 1978 and serves as Pennsylvania’s State Administering Agency (SAA), responsible for strategic planning and oversight of federally-supported justice programs, including Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) funds. For nearly 50 years, PCCD has supported programs and practices that align with its mission to advance justice system collaboration, support victims, and promote safer schools and communities through planning, training, and financial assistance.

Over the course of its history, the agency has been charged with administering a wide range of programs and funding streams designed to address emerging and longstanding public safety challenges. In recent years, this has included efforts to improve outcomes for individuals with behavioral health needs interacting with the justice system, as well as [supporting investments](#) in local efforts to prevent and reduce violent crime, including gun violence.

As the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s justice planning and policymaking agency, PCCD brings together a wide range of stakeholders and perspectives to understand issues facing communities, identify solutions, and invest in strategies that can make a difference. PCCD’s governance structure consists of an overarching Commission, comprised of 49 statutorily designated members, including law enforcement and public safety leaders, victims’ services professionals, judges and court officials, nonprofit and community experts, and state and local elected officials. To better inform the Commission in its work, PCCD is comprised of [training boards and Advisory Committees](#), as well as the [School Safety and Security Committee](#). PCCD staff support the work of the Commission and these groups through the work of six offices.

The Commission, its Advisory Committees, and Boards are comprised of subject matter experts, practitioners, and community members who are well-attuned to the public safety challenges and opportunities faced by Pennsylvania’s communities. PCCD’s funding priorities are guided by the agency’s Strategic Framework, developed every five years. PCCD’s [2026-2030 Strategic Framework](#), unanimously adopted by the Commission in December 2025, was developed in collaboration with PCCD leadership and a committee comprised of Advisory Committee Chairs to ensure alignment with respective Advisory Committee priorities and responsibilities. PCCD also routinely seeks feedback and input from stakeholders on funding, policy, and programmatic strategies via surveys, listening sessions, and other mechanisms.

The agency’s core values shape priorities around service, expanding its understanding from experts, measuring its effectiveness by the professionalism of practitioners, and, above all, committing strongly to integrity in the pursuit of these goals.

Pennsylvania's Crisis Landscape

While significant progress has been made in recent years, Pennsylvania continues to experience an ongoing need to expand behavioral health and crisis care options throughout the Commonwealth, including those focused on reducing gun violence, firearm suicides, domestic violence, and responding to other traumatic incidents.

Behavioral Health & Crisis Services in Pennsylvania. The need for behavioral health and crisis services has continued to increase statewide and at every level of care. According to NAMI Keystone PA, in 2025 more than 2.3 million adults in Pennsylvania had a mental health condition with nearly 600,000 having serious mental health illness (SMI).¹ Pennsylvania ranks fifth nationally for the number of drug overdose-related deaths, with a rate of 25.6 per 100,000.² Additionally, recent reports estimate a 35% treatment gap among adults and a severe shortage of child psychiatrists, with only 1.2 available per 100,000 children in Pennsylvania.³ Nationally, poor mental health is estimated to cost the economy nearly \$48 billion annually in lost productivity.⁴

The launch of 988 in 2022 has increased the visibility and use of crisis services. The number of 988 calls routed to PA monthly has doubled, growing from 6,715 in July 2022 to 13,395 in April 2026, demonstrating a growing need for lifeline and crisis services that has exceeded the state's capacity, with a portion of PA's crisis calls continuing to be routed outside the state.⁵ Communities also face limited workforce capacity within behavioral health and justice systems, uneven access to mobile crisis services, long wait times for treatment, and gaps in system coordination. These challenges are particularly protracted within rural and other underserved areas.

Behavioral Health & the Criminal Justice System. The intersections of mental illness, substance use disorders (SUDs), disabilities, and other co-occurring issues within the justice system are well-documented, and this holds true in Pennsylvania. In 2025, the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections found that 57.1% of the state incarcerated population had been diagnosed with an SUD and 38.4% required some form of mental health treatment.⁶ In 2024, 124,876 individuals were admitted into county jails and 156,017 individuals were under county supervision.^{7,8} It is estimated that these individuals faced similar rates of behavioral health concerns, suggesting between 107,000 and 160,000 justice-involved

¹ [Mental Health in Pennsylvania](#). NAMI Keystone PA.

² [Drug Overdose Mortality by State \(2024\)](#), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

³ Santos T, et al. [Access to Mental Health and Substance Use Treatment in Comprehensive Primary Care Plus](#). *JAMA Netw Open* 2024; 7(4): e248519.

⁴ Witters D and Agrawal S. [The Economic Cost of Poor Employee Mental Health](#). *Gallup Workplace*, 2022.

⁵ [988 Lifeline State-based Monthly Reports](#), 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, accessed May 14, 2026.

⁶ [2025 Inmate Statistics](#), Pennsylvania Department of Corrections

⁷ [2024 County Statistics and General Information](#). Pennsylvania Department of Corrections.

⁸ <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/cor/about-us/offices-and-bureaus/office-of-county-inspections-and-services/inspections-and-statistics>

⁸ [Pennsylvania County Adult Probation and Parole 2024 Caseload Statistics Report](#). Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. https://www.pa.gov/content/dam/copapwp-pagov/en/pccd/documents/aboutus/capap/county_caseload_stats_2024.pdf

Pennsylvanians could have SUDs or mental health needs. Research also shows links between behavioral health and crime victimization, suggesting individuals with SMI and other behavioral health concerns are more likely to experience violence.⁹ People with SMI also have longer incarceration times¹⁰ and higher recidivism rates than people without mental illnesses.¹¹

Gun Violence in PA. According to data from the Pennsylvania Department of Health’s Violent Death Reporting System (PA-VDRS), 1,807 Pennsylvanians died from firearm-related injuries in 2023, mostly from suicides.¹² In recent years, Pennsylvania’s investment in public safety has played a key role in reducing violent crime across the Commonwealth, including gun violence. Between 2023 and 2024, homicides dropped by 23% statewide - outpacing a national decline (15%).¹³ The current firearm-related death rate has dropped to nearly pre-COVID-19 levels; provisional 2024 data suggest a decreased rate to 11.9 *per 100,000*¹⁴ (**Figure 1**). Pennsylvania is ranked seventh in the nation for number of firearm-related deaths.¹⁵

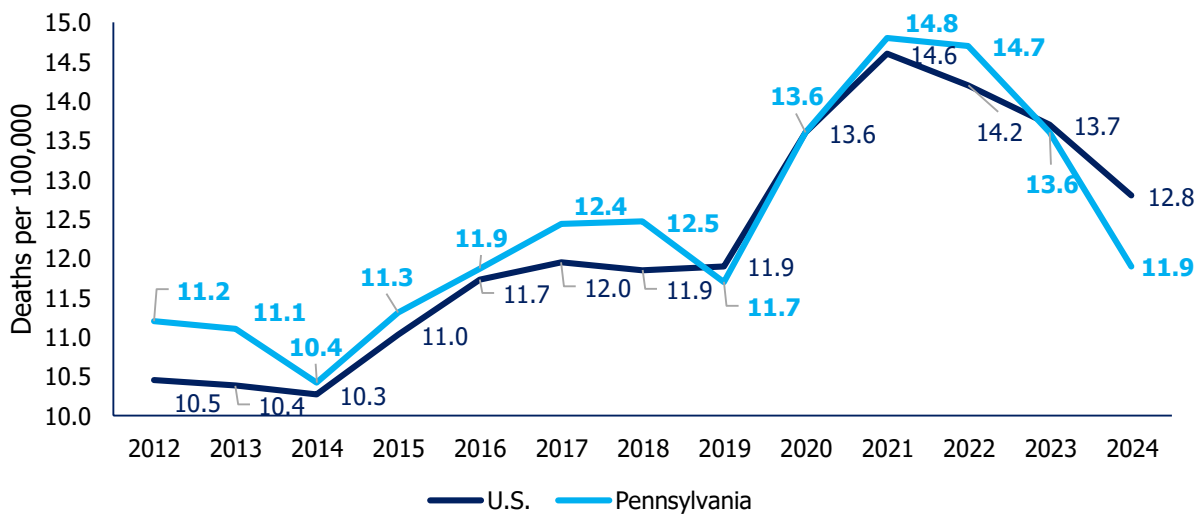


Figure 1. Rate of firearm related deaths in Pennsylvania and the United States, 2012 – 2024.

Firearm Suicide Trends in PA. While this recent progress is welcomed, suicide remains the leading cause of gun-related deaths in the U.S. and in Pennsylvania (**Figure 2**),¹⁶ with the number of firearm-related suicides increasing 16% between 2020 and 2023.¹⁷ Notably, since 2018, the rate of firearm suicides among Black Pennsylvanians (3.3 vs. 6.1 *per 100,000*)

⁹ Jeanne Y. Choe, Linda A. Teplin, and Karen M. Abram, Perpetration of Violence, Violent Victimization, and Severe Mental Illness: Balancing Public Health Concerns, *Psychiatric Services* February 2008 Volume 59 Number 2.

¹⁰ Osher F, et al. [Adults with Behavioral Health Needs Under Correctional Supervision: A Shared Framework for Reducing Recidivism and Promoting Recovery](#); New York: The Council of State Governments Justice Center, 2012.

¹¹ Cloyes KG, et al. [Time to Prison Return for Offenders with Serious Mental Illness Released from Prison: A Survival Analysis](#), *Criminal Justice and Behavior* 37, no. 2 (2010): 175–187.

¹² [Violence Dashboard](#), Pennsylvania Department of Health, accessed May 11, 2026.

¹³ [Gun Violence in Pennsylvania](#). Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

¹⁴ [All Injuries](#), National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

¹⁵ [Firearm Mortality by State](#), National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

¹⁶ [Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System \(WISQARS\)](#), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

¹⁷ Pennsylvania Violent Death Reporting System.

and Hispanic Pennsylvanians (2.7 vs. 4.3 per 100,000 in 2018 and 2023, respectively) have nearly doubled (**Figure 3**).

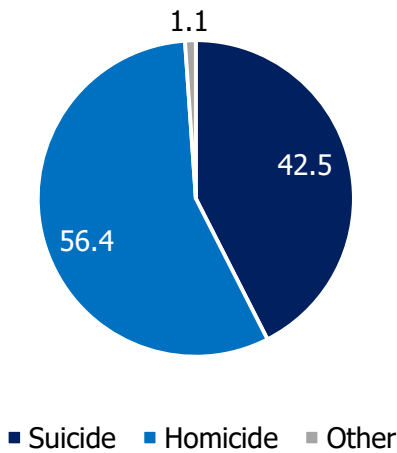


Figure 2. Percentage of firearm-related deaths by intent, 2023.

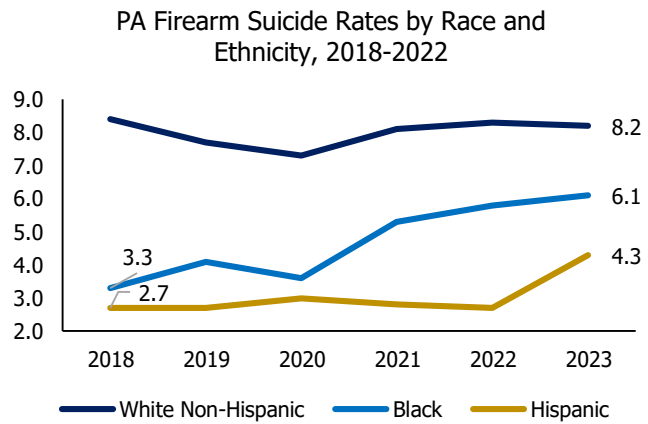


Figure 3. PA firearm suicide rates per 100,000 by race and ethnicity, 2018 – 2022.

Across age groups, older Pennsylvanians remain most likely to die by suicide,¹⁸ although rising rates observed among children and young adults in recent years are cause for concern (**Figure 4**).^{19,20} Recent data from the 2025 Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) found that, alarmingly, 13.9% of surveyed middle and high school students reported they seriously considered suicide, 10.7% reported they planned suicide, and 4.5% reported they attempted suicide within the past year.²¹

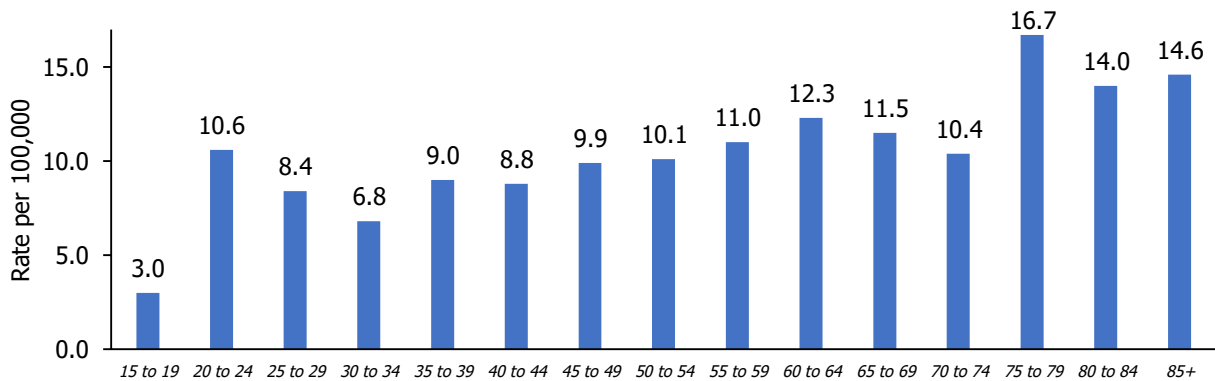


Figure 4. PA firearm suicide rates per 100,000 by age group, 2023.

Firearms are a uniquely lethal means of suicide; as many as 85-90% of firearm suicide attempts result in death, compared to less than 5% for other methods.²² In Pennsylvania, over 90% of

¹⁸ [Suicide](#), National Institute of Mental Health.

¹⁹ [The Rise of Firearm Suicide Among Young Americans](#), Everytown Research & Policy, June 2, 2022.

²⁰ Makennan McBryde, [Gun Suicides Among Kids Are Soaring](#), Giffords, September 24, 2024.

²¹ [2025 Pennsylvania Youth Survey Statewide Report](#). Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.

²² Anglemeyer, A., Horvath, T., & Rutherford, G. [The Accessibility of Firearms and Risk for Suicide and Homicide Victimization Among Household Members: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis](#), 160 *Annals of Internal Medicine* 101 (2014).

self-inflicted gunshot-related hospitalizations result in death.²³ These statistics underscore a need for more comprehensive, trauma-informed, and collaborative suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention strategies in Pennsylvania, particularly as it relates to firearm suicides.

Domestic Violence involving Firearms. Along with the troubling increase in firearm-related suicides, Pennsylvania also saw 106 victims lose their lives to domestic violence (DV) homicides in 2024 - down 11% from the prior year, and down 5% since 2019.²⁴ Firearms have been used in the majority of DV homicides every year in PA over the last decade, and were involved in 66% of DV homicides in 2024 (**Figure 5**).²⁵

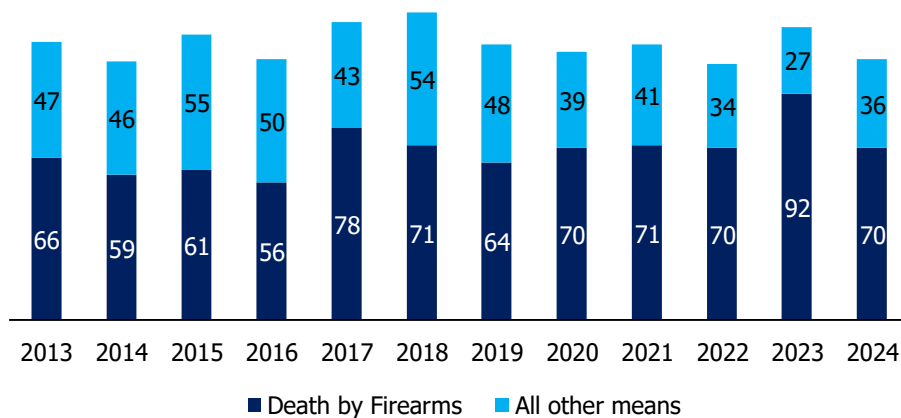


Figure 5. PA domestic violence homicides involving firearms (dark blue) and all other means, 2013-2024.

Following the enactment of [Act 79 of 2018](#), Pennsylvania became one of 29 states that requires the surrender of firearms and other weapons by individuals subject to final protection orders or convicted of DV-related offenses.²⁶ Research conducted by PCCD examining data from Pennsylvania State Police’s Protection from Abuse Database (PFAD) suggests that while the number of protection orders with weapons cautions and relinquishment orders has been increasing since the law took effect, there are significant variations in implementation across counties, suggesting a need for more standardized court-based protocols to ensure that DV survivors can seek safety.

²³ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *WONDER: Nonfatal Injury and Mortality Data, 2018–2023*.

²⁴ [2024 Fatality Report](#), Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV).

²⁵ [2024 Fatality Report](#), Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV).

²⁶ [The Effects of Surrender of Firearms by Prohibited Possessors](#), RAND, July 16, 2024.

The Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program in Pennsylvania

As stated previously, PCCD serves as Pennsylvania’s SAA and is responsible for oversight and administration of Byrne SCIP funds, authorized through the federal Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) of 2022 and administered by the U.S. Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). Under Section 12003 of BSCA, SCIP funds may be used to implement state crisis intervention court proceedings and related programs or initiatives, including but not limited to law enforcement crisis intervention, court-based programming, referrals to treatment for people in crisis, and extreme risk protection order (ERPO) programs.²⁷

Looking Back: Pennsylvania’s FFY 2022-23 and FFY 24 SCIP

Priorities & Accomplishments to Date.²⁸ Consistent with prior BJA’s SCIP guidelines, PCCD’s Commission was identified as the state’s required Crisis Intervention Advisory Board for the development of the FFYs 2022-23 and 2024 Byrne SCIP Plan, utilizing a Committee of Chairs plus additional representatives from the Governor’s Office, Lieutenant Governor’s Office, Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), and Pennsylvania Department of Human Services’ (DHS) Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS).

Pennsylvania’s inaugural **FFY 2022-23 SCIP Funding Plan** identified three priority areas with underlying objectives and approaches: (1) improve crisis intervention services and supports across behavioral health, civil legal, and other settings, with a focus on reaching people and communities experiencing gun violence; (2) improve coordination of services and responses to gun violence victimization; and (3) address the intersections of domestic violence and intimate partner violence with gun violence. The FFY 2022-23 SCIP Funding Plan identified four projects to be supported by SCIP State Share funds totaling \$4,275,000 aligned with these areas: (1) coordinated gun violence services pilot project; (2) Act 79 for 2018 Qualitative Research Initiative; (3) Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) and Crisis Intervention Services Landscape Analysis; and (4) SCIP research and evaluation. The plan also outlined specific uses and eligible activities for Local Share and Less than \$10K Share funds totaling \$2,467,154 and \$1,057,274, respectively, to be awarded to units of local government through competitive solicitation.

Example Accomplishments:

*Twenty **FFY 2022-23 SCIP Local Share and Less than \$10K Share subgrants** have been made to 17 local units of government and are currently supporting various activities including co-responder initiatives, embedded social workers, suicide prevention, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training, behavioral health training for court personnel, and operation of a new 24/7 crisis walk-in facility. To date, PCCD and BJA have approved 23 FFY 2022-23 SCIP subawards totaling \$5.48 million.*

²⁷ [BJA FY25 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Formula Program](#).

²⁸ For FFY 2022-23, Pennsylvania was eligible for \$8,548,557 (two-year combined total) in SCIP funds; for FFY 2024, Pennsylvania was eligible for \$4,991,633.

Through the **Resource for Gun Violence Victims Needs Assessment and Technical Assistance Initiative**, ICF Incorporated, LLC conducted a comprehensive inventory of available victims' service providers and resources across Pennsylvania. The statewide and regional findings from this assessment, published in 2025, helped inform Pennsylvania's efforts to promote healing and trauma-informed victims' services and are laying the groundwork for the development the Philadelphia Healing & Hope Center (PHHC) pilot. This first-of-its-kind pilot initiative is designed to serve as a centralized, trauma-informed "one-stop" hub for gun violence victims, survivors, and impacted communities. Consistent with best practices of the federal OVC Resiliency Center model and based on recommendations of ICF, a potential community-based entity has been identified as the holding agency for the PHHC pilot. During the second phase of the project set to launch in Summer 2026, PCCD will use up to \$2 million in previously allocated State Share FFY 2022-23 SCIP funds to support operations of the PHHC pilot led by ICF and Congreso. The PHHC pilot will:

- Establish a "one stop shop" where victims/survivors and individuals impacted by gun violence can receive assistance and crisis intervention services, using a "no wrong door" philosophy;
- Provide/coordinate counseling and case management on a continuing basis;
- Connect outreach services to help victims/survivors, friends, neighbors, and family members;
- Provide long-term case management services;
- Provide ongoing support/training for first responders; and
- Address other needs as identified in the assessment.

The more recent **FFY 2024 SCIP Funding Plan** built on the progress made by its first two years of funding by honing in on three new priority areas: (1) equip Pennsylvania communities with training and resources to respond holistically to behavioral health crises; (2) reduce firearm suicides in Pennsylvania; and (3) advance local strategies to reduce the number of intimate partner homicides and empower survivors. Four State Share projects totaling \$2,994,979 aligned with these areas: (1) establishing a first-of-its-kind statewide Crisis Intervention Team Training and Technical Assistance Center (CIT TAC); (2) expanding opportunities to collaborate locally through a Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) mapping "train-the-trainer" course; (3) directing funds toward a variety of firearm suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention strategies through competitive applications; and (4) SCIP research and evaluation.

Example Accomplishments:

FFY 2024 SCIP Local Share and Less than \$10K Share subgrants have been made to 10 local units of government and are currently supporting various activities including community-based holistic services for individuals in crisis, co-responder initiatives, suicide prevention, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training, and other behavioral health and crisis-related trainings. Additionally, subawards were made to six organizations to support firearm suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention activities through FFY 2024 SCIP State Share funds. To date, PCCD and BJA have approved 18 FFY 2024 SCIP subawards totaling \$3.84 million.

Pennsylvania established a first-in-the-nation statewide PA Crisis Intervention Team Training and Technical Assistance Center (CIT TAC) using FFY 2024 State Share SCIP funds to address challenges in coordinating local resources and improve crisis infrastructure within Pennsylvania's

67 counties. PCCD is partnering with the Center for State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, who leads this new statewide TAC initiative in collaboration with CIT International providing subject matter expertise as a project partner and subrecipient. The CIT TAC works collaboratively with PCCD and local communities to advance and support CIT through:

- Enhancing state-level infrastructure via a statewide CIT Steering Committee which oversees program training, policies, coordination, and expansion, as well as drafting statewide CIT Program standards and branding for programs that meet those standards;*
- Data collection and reporting through identification of data goals and metrics with the CIT Steering Committee, developing a centralized database and reporting protocols, and visualizing data through a public-facing dashboard;*
- Supporting sites interested in implementing or expanding CIT International training curriculum and certification to meet statewide standards drafted by the CIT Steering Committee. CSG also helps counties implement alternative law enforcement and behavioral health training curricula, and leverages findings and recommendations from the PA CIT and Crisis Assessment to address identified county needs;*
- Law enforcement and behavioral health partnerships to support the design and implementation of interventions, including prevention programs, crisis response models, and deflection/diversion programs. These partnerships will foster peer-to-peer learning opportunities through site visits, visits to Police-Mental Health Collaboration (PMHC) learning sites, webinars, and peer exchange hours; and*
- Individualized county technical assistance: CSG references findings and recommendations from the PA CIT and Crisis Assessment to provide additional training and technical assistance, as needed.*

Pennsylvania's FFY 2025 Byrne SCIP Funding Framework

The total amount of SCIP funds awarded to states is broken into four areas, each with their own unique requirements for how funding is to be used. Pennsylvania submitted an application in May 2026 to BJA for its FFY 2025 SCIP award totaling **\$4,409,454**:

1. **Local Share (40% - \$1,763,782):** States must pass through at least 40% of their SCIP funding allocation to local governments:
 - **Direct Local Pass-Through:** Pennsylvania plans to make **\$1,222,692** available for direct local share projects aligned with Goals and Objectives identified in the FFY 2025 SCIP Plan.
 - **Less than \$10,000 Pass-Through ("Under \$10K Share"):** States must provide additional funds to state courts that provide criminal justice and civil justice services as the "less than \$10,000 jurisdictions" within the state and/or subaward funds to such jurisdictions. Consistent with prior SCIP funding cycles, PCCD is planning to fund multiple less-than-\$10K jurisdictions via a competitive Under \$10K Share solicitation. Pennsylvania plans to make **\$541,090** available for Under \$10K Share projects using FFY 2025 SCIP funds that are aligned with goals, objectives, and priorities identified in the SCIP plan.

2. **State Share (60% - \$2,645,672):** The amount of funding remaining after the above totals have been set aside may be used by the state in support of projects aligned with identified priorities, including statewide projects.
 - **Administration:** Up to 10% of the total award may be used for costs associated with administering SCIP funds and must be budgeted from the State Share. PCCD plans to utilize its full administrative set-aside for FFY 2025 (**\$440,945**), making **\$2,204,727** available for other projects.

Local Share: Direct Local Pass-Through	\$1,222,692
<i>Competitive Funding Announcement (Local Share Initiatives)</i>	
Local Share: Under \$10K Share	\$541,090
<i>Other Under \$10K Supported Initiatives</i>	
State Share	\$2,645,672
<i>Firearm Suicide Prevention, Intervention, & Postvention</i>	<i>\$1,704,727</i>
<i>Education & Training for Act 79 Implementation</i>	<i>\$500,000</i>
<i>Direct Administrative Costs (PCCD) – 10%</i>	<i>\$440,945</i>
TOTAL:	\$4,409,454

Funding Announcement Structure & Approach. PCCD plans to issue an FY 2025 Byrne SCIP Local Solicitation as well as an Under \$10K Solicitation open to all eligible applicants within PCCD's Egrants system to allow eligible entities to request funding across one or more objective(s) or eligible program area(s):

- Eligible applicants for **Local Share** initiatives include units of local government (counties, municipalities).
- Eligible applicants for **Under \$10K Share** initiatives are limited to units of local government that were not eligible to receive a direct award due to their small size *and/or* an entity that serves these jurisdictions. *(Note: PCCD will identify these eligible entities/jurisdictions within the Under \$10K Share solicitations.)*

In addition to these eligible applicants, SCIP funding can be used to indirectly support a wide range of subrecipients including, but not limited to, nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education, courts (state, county, local), educational institutions, law enforcement, supervision agencies, prosecutors, public defenders, victims' services programs, behavioral health providers, emergency communications agencies, etc.

Eligible applicants for both the Local Share and Under \$10K Share solicitations can request up to \$200,000 over a two-year period to support Local Share initiatives aligned with the goals, objectives, and priorities articulated in Pennsylvania's FFY 2025 SCIP Plan. As with other competitive solicitations administered by PCCD, the Local Share and Under \$10K Share solicitations will be reviewed to ensure geographic diversity among recommended applications. In addition, priority consideration will be given to jurisdictions demonstrating high levels of need, as shown through relevant statewide and/or local datasets.

Because federal SCIP funding is authorized only through FFY 2026, PCCD is proposing an approach aligned with its [2026-30 Strategic Framework](#) that prioritizes filling critical funding gaps, enhancing PCCD's ability to meet its statutory obligations, and supporting investments that can be sustained beyond the limited lifespan of SCIP funding. Local Share and Under \$10K Share funding priorities articulated below are "subject to availability of other funding," allowing the funding plan to respond to any funding appropriated as part of the SFY 2026-27 state budget and/or FFY 2027 federal budget (both pending as of the writing of this Funding Plan).

Under SCIP funding guidelines published by BJA, all subawards must be expressly authorized by BJA post-award via a Grant Award Modification (GAM) before funds can be obligated for subawards. In addition, states may not release solicitations until their SCIP Funding Plan is approved by BJA. The timeline below accounts for these requirements but may be subject to change depending on the time allotted for BJA's review of Pennsylvania's SCIP Plan, as well as subsequent recommendations for subawards.

Funding Timeline:

Timeframe	Activity
June 2026	Commission Approval of SCIP Plan and Submission to BJA for Approval. Commission approves SCIP Plan in mid-June. PCCD submits the approved SCIP Plan to BJA for approval. Following approval by BJA, PCCD announces availability of SCIP funds.
August – December 2026	Funding Announcements Developed and Released. After Commission and BJA approval, PCCD will release various funding announcements in Egrants.
	Funding Announcements Question Periods Close. All questions must be submitted to PCCD by this date for consideration.
	Funding Announcements Question / Response Postings. All questions posed to PCCD and their responses posted on website.
	Funding Announcements Close. Application Deadline date (TBD). Funding Announcements close in Egrants.
	Administrative Rejection. Notice sent to applicants for any applications administratively rejected.
January 2027	Scoring Process. Applications are reviewed and considered based on alignment with <i>SCIP Funding Priorities and Objectives</i> , geographic distribution, agency past performance.
February 2027	Advisory Committees. Recommended applications are vetted by committees during quarterly meetings.
March 2027	Commission Meeting and BJA Approval. Present recommended applications to the Commission for consideration. After Commission action, recommended subawards are forwarded to BJA for approval.
April 2027	Subaward Projects Notified of Award (<i>subject to BJA approval</i>)

In accordance with PCCD’s application management policy, each award recommendation will be reviewed by PCCD staff, presented for action at relevant Advisory Committee meetings, and presented to the Commission during publicly accessible quarterly meetings.

Staff, subject matter experts, and Advisory Committee members will meet with regularity to discuss issues, review proposed projects, and subsequently provide recommendations for funding of those that are well-positioned to accomplish the SCIP Plan goals, objectives, and funding priorities.

Additionally, and in alignment with the FFY 2025 SCIP requirements, upon approval of the Commission, recommended subawards will be reviewed by BJA for final approval.

FFY 2025 Priority Areas, Objectives, & Funding Approaches

Priority Area #1: Reduce firearm suicides in Pennsylvania.

Objective 1.1: Continue supporting local strategies for firearm suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention.

Context: The Commonwealth has supported a number of initiatives and evidence-based strategies to address suicide, including hosting a multi-agency Suicide Prevention Workgroup led by DHS, distribution of free gun locks by DOH, implementation of 988 and disbursement of suicide prevention grants through OMHSAS, and supporting Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) Teams through the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA).

With FFY 2024 SCIP funds, Pennsylvania sought to advance research, strategies, and programs working to reduce the risk of firearm suicide and mitigate its impacts in communities by making approximately \$1 million in State Share funds available for a variety of firearm suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention strategies. Eligible applicants included local governments, nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education, statewide organizations, and state agencies for up to \$500,000 toward projects addressing firearm-related suicides. Demand for these grants far exceeded expectations, with nearly \$11 million in funding requests received - more than ten times what was available.

Proposed Approach: Recognizing the significant demand for funding from the FFY 2024 solicitation and the concerning trends in firearm suicide rates in Pennsylvania, PCCD is proposing to direct additional FFY 2025 SCIP funding toward firearm suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention strategies (approximately **\$1.7 million in State Share SCIP funding**) to local governments, nonprofit organizations, and institutions of higher education. In addition, **PCCD will continue to prioritize SCIP Local Share and Under \$10K funding** for units of local government (counties, municipalities) seeking to support strategies to reduce firearm suicides.

Such strategies may include, but are not limited to:

- Supporting trauma-informed community-based programs to aid individuals, families, and communities in recovery from firearm-related suicides;
- Engaging in cross-system planning for programs to address firearm suicide and enhancing local infrastructure (e.g., local suicide prevention task forces);
- Expanding or enhancing local suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention strategies, including supporting training and technical assistance programs;
- Postvention programs for survivors and/or loved ones impacted by firearm suicide;
- Providing free or reduced cost firearm storage devices;

- Developing and disseminating public education campaigns focused on securing firearms; and
- Research examining precedents of firearm suicides and prevention/intervention strategies.

Priority Area #2: Continue equipping Pennsylvania communities with training and resources to respond holistically to behavioral health crises.

Objective 2.1: Support enhanced behavioral health responses in local jurisdictions across Pennsylvania.

Context: As described above, local jurisdictions across Pennsylvania have implemented programming to respond holistically to behavioral health crises, but continue to face significant challenges. Despite these investments, law enforcement agencies and other first responders across Pennsylvania are overwhelmed with behavioral health calls and many times are unequipped to respond to individuals in crisis, the court system is bogged down with individuals in need of treatment that could be diverted away from the justice system, emergency rooms are overcrowded with individuals in behavioral health crisis, and many individuals in Pennsylvania lack access to immediate behavioral health services, especially in rural areas or for individuals who are uninsured or underinsured. Sustained resources are needed in local jurisdictions to ensure that all Pennsylvanians have access to rapid, effective, and compassionate care during a crisis.

Proposed approach: PCCD is proposing to continue prioritizing **SCIP Local Share and Under 10K applications** focused on one or more of the following program activities:

- Establishment or enhancement of CIT Programs
- Mobile crisis teams (co-responder and civilian)
- Crisis stabilization services (regional crisis call centers, crisis receiving and stabilization facilities for individuals in crisis, triage services)
- Community-based holistic services and programming (e.g. non-law enforcement responses) including integrated case management and wraparound supports for people who are experiencing/have experienced behavioral health crisis
- Hiring/embedding of client advocates, peer navigators, social workers, and other related positions at all levels of Pennsylvania' behavioral health and justice systems

Priority Area #3: Advance local strategies to reduce the number of intimate partner homicides and empower survivors across Pennsylvania.

Objective 3.1: Continue expanding and enhancing adoption of the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) across Pennsylvania.

Context: The Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) is an innovative, evidence-based approach designed to enhance the response to domestic violence cases and reduce lethal risk. Under LAP, law enforcement officers or other trained professionals use a standardized questionnaire to assess for a variety of risk factors, such as access to firearms, history of strangulation, escalating violence, threats of homicide, and more. Based on the assessment, and in consultation with a local domestic violence program, immediate safety planning and support recommendations are identified and connections to services for victims at high risk of being killed are made (e.g., shelter, counseling, legal advocacy, etc.). LAP aims to empower victims and ensure that they receive interventions to mitigate the risk of future violence.

PCCD has partnered with PCADV since 2012 to support LAP in Pennsylvania, utilizing a number of state and federal funding streams – from Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Grants to STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grants to Byrne SCIP and Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) – to advance this evidence-based model in Pennsylvania communities. At its beginnings, Pennsylvania’s LAP initiative had nine local domestic violence programs and 12 police departments; today, LAP has expanded to reach 51 local programs and 467 law enforcement agencies, covering more than a third of Pennsylvania’s local police departments.

Proposed approach: PCCD is proposing to **prioritize SCIP Local Share and Under \$10K funding** for applications seeking funding to support adoption of LAP by new jurisdictions and law enforcement agencies in Pennsylvania, as well as the enhancement of existing LAP initiatives within high-need areas (e.g., refresher trainings, equipment costs for cell phones, coordination among local partners, increased personnel-related costs, etc.).

Objective 3.2: Address identified gaps in the implementation of Act 79 of 2018 by increasing local capacity and supporting targeted education, training, and technical assistance informed by findings from a statewide assessment.

Context: Pennsylvania is one of 29 states that require individuals subject to final PFA orders and/or convicted of misdemeanor crimes of domestic violence to relinquish firearms and other weapons within 24 hours. While the law significantly increased protections for victims and survivors of domestic violence, it also spurred a dramatic shift in practices for courts, victim advocates, and state and local law enforcement. Research recently conducted by PCCD found that while protection orders with weapon cautions and relinquishments have increased since the law took effect in 2019, significant variations in counties’ implementation persist.²⁹ Stakeholders engaged by PCCD have emphasized the need for more standardized protocols – from courts to law enforcement – as well as increasing availability of other community-based resources to

²⁹ Brandon Vick et al. Analysis of Weapons Relinquishments in Protection-from-Abuse Orders in Pennsylvania, 2019-2023. Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. October 2024.

ensure domestic violence survivors can safely and confidently seek justice – no matter where they live.³⁰

FFY 2022-23 State Share SCIP funds are being used to conduct a qualitative assessment of Pennsylvania counties' implementation of Act 79. Temple University was selected through a competitive solicitation process to build upon quantitative research previously conducted by PCCD and the Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) that identified variation in the implementation of Act 79 across the Commonwealth. To date, Temple University has completed courtroom observations in seven of eight proposed counties and is interviewing judges responsible for implementing Act 79's weapons relinquishment provisions, law enforcement officers responsible for retrieval of weapons, victim advocates, and survivors, observing the differences in county procedures. At the conclusion of the study, Temple will disseminate findings and recommendations to key stakeholders, including strategies to strengthen Act 79 implementation.

Proposed Approach: PCCD is proposing to direct **\$500,000 in FFY 2025 State Share SCIP funding toward competitive grants that fill gaps identified by Temple University's study on counties' Act 79 implementation**, including education, training, and technical assistance toward statewide and local implementation efforts. This can include using a portion of funds for the development of standardized best practices tools developed in consultation with key partners like PCADV and the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), such as "decision-tree" guidance for judges, court personnel, and other key stakeholders to increase awareness of implementation requirements of the law.

Additionally, PCCD is proposing to **prioritize SCIP Local Share and Under \$10K funding** to support local applications seeking funds for Act 79 implementation, with an emphasis on increasing timeliness, consistency, and safety of weapons relinquishment protocols. Examples of eligible activities that could be supported with Local Share and Under \$10K funding related to this objective include supporting additional court personnel and resources involved with filing PFAs, technology improvements, on-site victim advocates at courthouses to help domestic violence victims navigate the process, etc. Under this priority area, PCCD also plans to support costs associated with assisting survivors navigate the legal process as well as steps to increase victim safety (e.g., domestic violence shelters, legal aid services), along with expenses related to specialized training for law enforcement officers, court personnel, and victim advocates. Funds can also be used to enhance local infrastructure and capacity to improve compliance and safety related to weapons retrieval (e.g., technology upgrades, storage space, additional staff to retrieve weapons or provide follow up supports, technical assistance and training, etc.), as well as expanding safe firearm storage and surrender locations for weapons relinquished pursuant to Act 79.

³⁰ [Office of Gun Violence Prevention and Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence Host Listening Session on Intersections of Gun Violence with Domestic Violence & Intimate Partner Violence](#), PCCD, November 14, 2024.

Coordination with Other Funding Streams & Programs

As noted in the *Introduction*, PCCD administers a number of state and federal funding streams to advance effective public safety strategies. PCCD staff conducted analysis of available state and federal funding streams related to SCIP program areas administered by the agency and by partners as part of the FFY 2025 SCIP planning process:

Current State Funds	Current Federal Funds
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Safety & Mental Health Grants • Stepping Up Initiative (SMI + jails) • Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) • Violence & Delinquency Prevention Program (VDPP) Grants • Indigent Defense Grants • County Adult Probation and Parole Grants • Act 80 Jail-based Medication Assisted Treatment Grants • State Victims’ Services and Compensation funds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Byrne JAG • Comprehensive Opioid & Substance Use Program (COSSUP) • Community Violence Prevention and Intervention Grants • Project Safe Neighborhoods • State Opioid Response (SOR) – <i>jail-based MAT, problem-solving courts</i> • Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grants • STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grants

As mentioned previously, Pennsylvania’s FFY 2025 Byrne SCIP Program Plan and Budget was developed at a time in which available state and federal resources were still in flux. As such, the Program Plan and Budget provide mechanisms for adjusting funding amounts and priorities subject to the availability of funds.

In addition to quarterly meetings of PCCD’s advisory committees, PCCD staff consult regularly with counterparts at the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH), and Pennsylvania Department of Human Services’ (DHS) Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS), and Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) to ensure coordination and reduce the risk of duplication of efforts.

Finally, PCCD conducted a crosswalk analysis of PCCD’s strategic plans and priorities adopted by the Commission, Advisory Committees, and related groups in recent years to inform this plan. These include:

- [The Commission’s 2026-2030 Strategic Framework](#);
- [The Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee’s 2026-2030 Strategic Plan](#);
- [The Pennsylvania Office of Gun Violence Prevention’s Initial Report and 2025 Strategic Plan](#); and
- Pennsylvania’s STOP Violence Against Women FFY 2026-2029 Plan (currently being finalized).

State Administering Agency Capabilities & Competencies

To ensure full compliance with grant management requirements of Byrne SCIP and to increase agency capacity to take on this work, PCCD will utilize its full administrative set-aside to support its Program and Fiscal staff complement.

- The agency has dedicated **SCIP Manager** and **SCIP Specialist** positions within the agency's **Office of Justice Programs (OJP)** responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the initiative, including coordinating with project partners and subgrantees.
- PCCD also has **Program** and **Fiscal Staff** who will be assigned to subgrantees to monitor performance and provide ongoing technical assistance support.

PCCD has found that this personnel structure ensures that the agency is able to meet the scope of required grant-related activities for SCIP FFY 2022-23 and FFY 2024 and fully support subgrantees in their project implementation.

The SCIP Manager and SCIP Specialist are housed within PCCD/OJP's unit of Criminal Justice System Improvements (CJSI). OJP-CJSI is responsible for the administration and oversight of numerous federal funding streams, including the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG). Assigned Fiscal Staff are housed within PCCD's Office of Financial Management and Administration (OFMA) and will work with Program Staff in OJP-CJSI.

In addition to dedicated staffing supports described above, other relevant PCCD offices will collaborate with OJP to support implementation of Pennsylvania's FFY 2025 Byrne SCIP Funding Plan and facilitate the development of funding announcements, review of applications, and facilitating the engagement of various PCCD Advisory Committees for approval before projects are taken up by the Commission. While additional PCCD Offices will not directly manage the SCIP grant itself, the information collected and disseminated through coordination with these Offices will be instrumental in ensuring SCIP-funded initiatives align with the broader strategic priorities and needs across the systems PCCD engages.

Performance Monitoring & Measurement

PCCD will require any subgrantees funded using SCIP dollars to report on any performance indicators prescribed by BJA. PCCD will also encourage subgrantees to create and report on project-specific performance indicators.

PCCD's SCIP Project Coordinator will ensure data from participating sites is collected in accordance with BJA's performance measurement requirements and will also work closely with research/evaluation partners to facilitate site-specific and project-wide performance measurement, data analysis, and evaluation efforts.

