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### NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS for the 2014 S.T.O.P. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN GRANT PROGRAM

#### **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS**

The Federal Grants Division and the Violence Against Women Grant Board announces that the State of Oklahoma has received an award for the S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Grant Program in the amount of \$1,746,314.7 of which \$1,663,594.53 is available for distribution.

#### **GRANT CONTINUATION POLICY AND MULTI-YEAR AWARDS**

**In 2014, \$357,191.16 is available for new projects or enhancements to current projects. The timeline for new projects and enhancements will not exceed one year. The remaining balance (\$1,306,403.37) is reserved for continuation requests for current subgrantees. For more information on the distributions of the 2014 VAWA award, please refer to the Funding Allocations Chart.**

While an effort will be made to continue funding projects with proven effectiveness, a project must stand on its own merit each year. No project is guaranteed continued funding. However, subject to VAWA Board approval, the District Attorneys Council reserves the right to modify and renew the award for 12 months contingent upon the subgrantees fiscal and programmatic performance and with the submission of appropriate paperwork. Multi-year awards are contingent upon the availability of U.S. Department of Justice funding.

**COURT SPECIFIC INFORMATION:** The VAWA 2013 reauthorization now requires that this money go directly 'to' the courts, however, Oklahoma received special permission to redistribute Court funding to the Discretionary category as no applicant would qualify under this new language. Current 2013 VAWA Court subgrantees that are no longer eligible for these funds should apply under the discretionary category, however, their application will be treated as a new project.

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the STOP Violence Against Women Grant is to support communities in their efforts to develop and strengthen effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to combat violence against women and to develop and strengthen victim services in cases of involving violent crimes against women. The S.T.O.P. VAWA Grant Program encourages victim service providers, prosecutors, law enforcement, and the courts to implement coordinated multidisciplinary approaches to address domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence.

**ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS**

To be eligible for the S.T.O.P. VAWA funding, an applicant must be one of the following:

- State agency
- Unit of general local government (i.e., city, county, town)
- Indian tribal government
- Public or private nonprofit organization, including faith based organizations
- Non-governmental victim services program

**FUNDING ALLOCATIONS**

The Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women mandates the following distribution formula:

Service Area	Distribution of Funds	Funds for Continuation Projects	Funds for New Projects and Enhancements	Total Funds
Victim Services	30%	\$357,074.74	\$92,095.78	\$449,170.52
Community Based Culturally-Specific Victim Service Set Aside	Mandated 10% of the Victim services	49,907.84	0.00	49,907.84
Prosecution	25%	372,478.31	43,420.32	415,898.63
Law Enforcement	25%	337,256.05	78,642.58	415,898.63
Discretionary	20%	189,686.43	143,032.48	332,718.91
Total				\$1,663,594.53

**COMMUNITY BASED, CULTURALLY SPECIFIC VICTIM SERVICE SET ASIDE**

Under the 2005 VAWA Reauthorization, the victim service allocation was amended and required that 10% of the 30% victim service allocation be set-aside for community-based, culturally sensitive projects. A community-based organization is defined by the Office on Violence Against Women to mean an organization that:

- a) focuses primarily on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- b) has established a specialized culturally specific program that addresses domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- c) has a primary focus on underserved populations (and includes representatives of these populations) and domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; or
- d) obtains expertise, or shows demonstrated capacity to work effectively, on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking through collaboration.

In order to receive funding under this allocation, an applicant must be a certified domestic violence and sexual assault program by the Office of the Attorney General or a Tribal victim service provider agency.

***\*PLEASE NOTE: Applicants applying for funds for a Victim Service Provider grant and for funds for a Victim Service Provider Grant for the Culturally Specific, Community Based Project, must submit **two separate** grant applications.***

**PURPOSE AREAS**

In order to be considered, applications must fall under one or more of these purpose areas:

1. Training law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.
2. Developing, training, or expanding units of law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors specifically to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.
3. Developing and implementing more effective police, court, and prosecution policies, protocols, orders, and services devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.
4. Developing, installing, or expanding data collection and communication systems, including computerized systems linking police, prosecution, and the courts or for the purpose of identifying and tracking arrests, protection orders, violations of protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions for violent crimes against women, including domestic violence, dating violence sexual assault, and stalking.
5. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services and legal assistance programs, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking programs; developing or improving the delivery of victim services to underserved populations; providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted; and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.
6. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing the needs and circumstances of Indian tribes dealing with violent crimes against women, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.
7. Supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts, to the extent not supported by state funds, to coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies, and other state agencies and departments, to violent crimes against women, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.
8. Training of sexual assault forensic medical personnel examiners in the collection and preservation of evidence, analysis, prevention and providing expert testimony and treatment of trauma related to sexual assault.
9. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and others to address the needs and circumstances of older and disabled women who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of such violence or assault and targeting outreach and support, counseling, and other victim services to such older and disabled individuals.
10. Providing assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in immigration matters.
11. Maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives, while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families;
12. Supporting the placement of special victim assistants (to be known as "Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants") in local law enforcement agencies to serve as liaisons between victims of domestic

violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and personnel in local law enforcement agencies in order to improve the enforcement of protection orders. Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants shall have expertise in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and may undertake the following activities--

- Developing, in collaboration with prosecutors, courts, and victim service providers, standardized response policies for local law enforcement agencies, including triage protocols to ensure that dangerous or potentially lethal cases are identified and prioritized;
  - Notifying persons seeking enforcement of protection orders as to what responses will be provided by the relevant law enforcement agency;
  - Referring persons seeking enforcement of protection orders to supplementary services (such as emergency shelter programs, hotlines, or legal assistance services); and
  - Taking other appropriate action to assist or secure the safety of the person seeking enforcement of a protection order.
13. Providing funding to law enforcement agencies, nonprofit nongovernmental victim services providers, and State, tribal, territorial, and local governments, (which funding stream shall be known as the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program) to promote --
- The development and implementation of training for local victim domestic violence service providers, and to fund victim services personnel, to be known as "Crystal Judson Victim Advocates," to provide supportive services and advocacy for victims of domestic violence committed by law enforcement personnel;
  - The implementation of protocols within law enforcement agencies to ensure consistent and effective responses to the commission of domestic violence by personnel within such agencies (such as the model policy promulgated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police ['Domestic Violence by Police Officers: A Policy of the IACP, Police Response to Violence Against Women Project' July 2003];
  - The development of such protocols in collaboration with State, tribal, territorial and local victim services providers and domestic violence coalitions.
14. Developing and promoting state, local or tribal legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
15. Developing, implementing, or enhancing Sexual Assault Response Teams, or other similar coordinated community responses to sexual assault;
16. Developing or strengthening policies, protocols, best practices, and training for law enforcement agencies and prosecutors relating to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and the appropriate treatment of victims.
17. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing sexual assault against men, women, and youth in correctional and detention settings.
18. Identifying and conducting inventories of backlogs of sexual assault evidence collection kits and developing protocols and policies for responding to and addressing such backlogs, including protocols and policies for notifying and involving victims.
19. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs and projects to provide services and responses targeting male and female victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking whose ability to access traditional services and responses is affected by their sexual orientation or

gender identity.

20. Developing, enhancing or strengthening prevention and education programming to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, with not more than 5% of the amount allocated to a state to be used for this purpose.

**SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM)**

VAWA funding requires all applicants to be currently registered on the System for Award Management (SAM) database. The SAM database is the repository for standard information about applicants, recipients, and subrecipients of federal financial assistance. **Registration can take time so please start early.**

**Registration on the SAM must be current prior to making application for these grant funds, so please update your registration if necessary. Please Note: Your SAM registration must allow for public search.** For more information about SAM registration, go to <https://www.sam.gov>.

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN GRANT BOARD PRIORITIES**

The Violence Against Women Grant Board, comprised of six members, is charged with developing the state implementation plan, reviewing grant proposals, and determining funding awards. The VAWA Grant Board eliminated any specific priority areas and will review each application on its own merit.

In general, subgrants through this program may support personnel, training, technical assistance, evaluation, data collection, and equipment costs to enhance victim safety and to facilitate the apprehension, prosecution, and adjudication of persons committing violent crimes against women.

**NOTE: The Board will not fund shelter staff personnel.**

**MATCH REQUIREMENTS**

It is anticipated that the Office of the Attorney General will provide the match by utilizing state appropriated funds to meet the 25% match required for all subgrantees. It is anticipated that subgrantees will not be required to maintain match funds on federal awards for this grant award.

**TO MAKE AN APPLICATION**

Applications for the VAWA Program are only available through the OKGrants Online System and will be open beginning **June 25, 2014**. Applications must be completed and submitted through this on-line system.

To access OKGrants, an applicant must create a user account and obtain a User ID and password. To obtain a User ID and password, go to: <https://grants.ok.gov> and click on "New User." Fill out the profile (user information) and wait for an OKGrants system administrator at DAC to activate the account. Once you are activated and logged onto the system, a training manual is available (click on "My Training Materials") to assist you through the application process.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION**

The deadline to submit the application on OKGrants is **11:59 p.m., August 12, 2014**. Any application received after this time and date will not be reviewed. Proposals received via mail, hand delivery, fax machine, or on disk will not be reviewed.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

For further information, contact Jacqueline Wagdalt Hunter, Grant Programs Specialist, Federal Grants Division, Oklahoma District Attorneys Council, at 405/264-5008, or via email at [Jacqueline.Hunter@dac.state.ok.us](mailto:Jacqueline.Hunter@dac.state.ok.us).