

SUZANNE McCLAIN ATWOOD
Executive Coordinator

TRENT H. BAGGETT
Assistant Executive Coordinator



STATE OF OKLAHOMA

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS COUNCIL

421 N.W. 13TH STREET, SUITE 290 • OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73103

EXECUTIVE
405-264-5000
FAX 405-264-5099

FISCAL
405-264-5004
405-264-5099

GRANTS
405-264-5008
405-264-5095

VICTIMS
405-264-5006
405-264-5097

MIS
405-264-5002
405-264-5099

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS
for the
2015 S.T.O.P. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN GRANT PROGRAM

AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

The Federal Grants Division and the Violence Against Women Grant Board announces the availability of the FY 2015 S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Grant Program. An allocation amount for the State of Oklahoma has not been received from the Office of Violence Against Women; however, it is anticipated that it will not be more than the \$1,722,116.54 which was available for funding in FY 2014.

GRANT CONTINUATION POLICY AND MULTI-YEAR AWARDS

The federal granting agency requires the District Attorneys Council to make application for funding on an annual basis. In 2015, the application process is open to all. Preference may be given to project's that have demonstrated effectiveness; however, a project must stand on its own merit. No project is guaranteed continued funding.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

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

- State agency
- State, local, or tribal court (including juvenile courts)
- 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.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the S.T.O.P. 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.

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, including the appropriate use of nonimmigrant status under subparagraphs (U) and (T) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)).

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 specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, as well as the appropriate treatment of victims.
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, classifying, and tracking arrests, protection orders, violations of protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions for violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence sexual assault, and stalking.
5. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services and legal assistance programs, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, 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 crimes of 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 the crimes of 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 the crimes of 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, or 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 the use of evidence-based indicators to assess the risk of domestic and dating violence homicide and prioritize dangerous or potentially lethal cases;
 - 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, 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 to 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, as defined in section 249(c) of title 18, United States Code.
20. Developing, enhancing or strengthening prevention and education programming to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, with not more than 5 percent of the amount allocated to a state to be used for this purpose.

FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

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

Service Area	Distribution of Funds	Funds Available
Victim Services	27%	\$440,290.14
Community Based Culturally-Specific Victim Service Set Aside*	3%	\$48,921.13
Prosecution	25%	\$407,676.06
Law Enforcement	25%	\$407,676.06
Discretionary	15%	\$244,605.64
Courts**	5%	\$81,535.21
Total		\$1,630,704.24
PREA Penalty Funds***		\$90,412.30
Total		\$1,721,116.54
20% Sexual Assault Set-Aside****		\$380,683.40

***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.

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.

****COURT SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

Under the 2013 VAWA Reauthorization, the 5% funding for the courts must go directly 'to' the courts. Thus, state, local, or tribal court entities are the only eligible applicants for this category. Any previous projects funded under the court category are no longer eligible for these funds and must apply under the discretionary category.

*****PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT (PREA)**

The State of Oklahoma has elected to continue progress in order to be compliant with the PREA. As a result, the PREA penalty funds set aside for projects that further compliance with the PREA standards. PREA related projects may come from any of the budget categories but these projects must focus on furthering compliance with PREA standards.

******SEXUAL ASSAULT REQUIREMENT**

Under the 2013 VAWA Reauthorization, 20% of the total award must be dedicated to projects that address sexual assault. The 20% sexual assault set-aside must include two of the following allocation categories: 1) law enforcement; 2) prosecution; 3) courts; or, 4) victim services. Due to this requirement, applicants should give careful consideration of the type of project which is submitted. Preference may be given to projects that meaningfully address sexual assault.

The sexual assault set-aside amount for Fiscal Year 2015 is \$380,683.40. Please note that these funds are NOT additional money which is provided to the state for sexual assault purposes but rather must come from the total available funding.

Projects that may help meet the 20% Sexual Assault Set-Aside include but are not limited to the following:

- **Training**
 - Sexual assault response training for advocates
 - Trauma Informed training for First Responders
 - Evidence-based prosecution training
 - Judicial training
- **Protocol Development**
 - Sexual assault response protocols
 - Protocols to address how sexual assault kits are processed
- **Direct Services**
 - Sexual assault advocate to offer continuum of services
 - Therapist or counselor
 - Sexual assault specific investigators or officers
 - Sexual assault prosecutor

TARGETED PROJECTS

The DAC is specifically targeting projects that will provide cultural competency training regarding underserved populations including but not limited to Tribal, Hispanic, and the LGBTQ communities. Training should focus on addressing professionals that serve victims such as advocates, law enforcement, prosecutors, and the judiciary. While training attendees may include other criminal justice or state agency personnel, the majority of those in attendance should be from these four categories in order to fall in line with STOP VAWA funding priorities.

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 23, 2015**. 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 11, 2015**. 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.