

Announcement

ANNOUNCEMENT OF AVAILABLE FUNDS

Crime Victim Services Funds (CVS)

- Victims of Crime Act Fund (VOCA)
- Violence Against Women Act Fund (VAWA)
- Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) and
- State Victim Assistance and Law Enforcement Program (State VALE)

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2018

OFFERED THROUGH THE COLORADO DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
(OFFICE FOR VICTIMS PROGRAMS - OVP)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: TUESDAY, March 1, 2016, 11:59 p.m.

Technical assistance will not be available after 5:00 p.m.

About the Funding Agency

The Office for Victims Programs (OVP), a unit of the Division of Criminal Justice, is committed to the physical and emotional recovery of crime victims and to the restoration of victims' confidence in the criminal justice system.

Program Description

This Announcement describes a consolidated application and funding process to distribute victim services grant funds from four grant sources – federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), federal Sexual Assault Services Grant Program (SASP) and State Victim Assistance and Law Enforcement (State VALE) funds for a single grant award period. Funds will be allocated in accordance with state and federal requirements and the intended uses of the four grant programs. Funding recommendations made by the *Crime Victim Services Advisory Board* will be for **two consecutive one-year periods with separate contracts for each year**, and successful applicants will not have to reapply for funds in 2017. Grant applications, goals and objectives, and budget information should reflect a **one-year period**. Contracts with grantees will be executed annually to assure that grantees are meeting all programmatic and financial requirements. The next CVS application process will occur in the spring of 2018, for funding in the calendar years 2019-2020. Financial obligations of the State of Colorado are contingent upon funds being appropriated, budgeted, and otherwise made available.

Although most applicants will submit one application, there may be situations where more than one application will have to be submitted. Applicants requesting funds for **separate, distinct** projects (such as a specialized prosecutor devoted to prosecuting domestic violence and sexual assault cases and a victim services project serving all crime victims within a district attorney's office) will be required to submit a separate application for each project. This is a function of the Colorado Grants Management System (COGMS). Applicants who are considering submitting more than one application should contact OVP before doing so to ensure that separate applications are appropriate. In most instances, a separate application will not be required.

OVP staff will administratively determine which funding source (VOCA, VAWA, SASP, State VALE) is appropriate for funded projects in accordance with the individual grant program requirements during the grant contracting process. Requirements such as the use of volunteers, amount and type of match, and match waivers, when applicable, will also be handled administratively by OVP staff during the grant contracting process. For a complete summary of specific federal and state funding allocations, match requirements, purpose areas, priorities, and eligible services please refer to the Application Instructions on the OVP website at <http://dcj.ovp.state.co.us/>.

Sexual Assault Programs: Sexual assault is an underreported crime and although Colorado has made great strides in recent years to provide services to victims of sexual assault, there is much more to be done to adequately serve victims. Programs providing services to victims of sexual assault, including direct services to victims, prosecution, law enforcement, courts and/or the development and enhancement of collaborative efforts, are strongly encouraged to apply for these grant funds.

Emergency Funds: After completing a statewide needs assessment, the need for additional funds for Emergency Assistance for victims of crimes was determined to be a top priority of programs across Colorado. In an effort to assist programs in meeting the needs of victims in their communities, applicants are encouraged to request funds for emergency assistance in this application. Examples of eligible types of assistance are funds to provide emergency shelter, including hotel stays and short-term

nursing home shelter for elder abuse victims, and support for food, clothing and supplies (toiletries, diapers, etc.) for victims and their dependents. Programs that request emergency assistance funds must be able to provide appropriate documentation of expenditures, including receipts, and be able to demonstrate a working relationship with Victim Compensation Programs in their Judicial District (this can be demonstrated through listing your local Victim Compensation Program as one of your collaborators in your application and providing us with a copy of your Memorandum of Understanding or a letter of support). Programs granted emergency assistance funds will be able to request reimbursement for their expenses on a monthly basis. For further details on applying for emergency assistance funds, please refer to the Application Instructions on the OVP website at <http://dcj.ovp.state.co.us/>.

Funding Details

Estimated Amount Available: A total of approximately \$26,000,000.00 from all sources of funds is estimated to be available for calendar year (CY) 2017. In CY2015/16, 158 projects were funded for a total of \$9,865,301. The sources and amount of funds to be allocated are:

- \$23,000,000 from the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Program.
- \$1,900,000 from the federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Program.
- \$350,000 from the federal Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP).
- \$750,000 in State Victim Assistance and Law Enforcement Funds (State VALE).

Criteria for Review of Applications

Applications are reviewed based upon the following criteria:

- The degree to which it is determined that the application meets state and federal requirements and intended use of the funds.
- The project meets at least one state or federal priority or purpose area.
- The extent to which the application fits within the Board's funding philosophy to distribute funds across the 5 service categories while taking into consideration geography, population, need, and available resources.
- Assessment of the applicant's ability to meet financial management, administrative, and organizational requirements and provide the designated services.
- The quality of the proposal and completeness of the information provided in the application.
- The agency has demonstrated a history of providing quality services.
- The community's need for the service has been demonstrated.
- The project would actively address the needs of underserved populations.
- The goals and objectives are clear, measurable, and appropriate for the delivery of services.
- A reasonable plan to collect data on the impact of services has been demonstrated.
- Budget items are reasonable, well justified, and proportionate to the activities. The budget is prepared and calculates correctly. The applicant demonstrates the ability to provide match.
- The diversity of the agency's funding.
- The agency coordinates with other existing services in the community. The project does not duplicate services being provided by other agencies.

Applications will be reviewed by OVP staff and members of the *Crime Victim Services Advisory Board*, which serves in an advisory capacity to DCJ.

Rejection of Proposals: The State of Colorado reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive informalities and minor irregularities in proposals received, and to accept any portion of the proposal or

all items proposed, if deemed in the best interest of the State of Colorado to do so. Failure of the applicant to provide information requested in the application shall be the responsibility of the applicant agency, and may result in disqualification of the applicant. The fact that an applicant meets eligibility requirements and applies for eligible services, does not guarantee funding.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligible applicants include: units of local government, criminal justice agencies, departments of state government, non-governmental non-profit victim services agencies, Indian tribal governments, statewide crime victim services coalitions, and non-profit agencies that provide crime victim services.

In order to be eligible for these funds, agencies must have a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number and must obtain and maintain a current registration in the SAM (System for Award Management). Review the Application Instructions for more information on DUNS and SAM.

Eligible projects/services include, but may not be limited to: Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs), child advocacy centers, domestic violence projects, crime victim services projects, SANE/SART projects, sexual assault projects, statewide victim coalition projects, domestic violence and/or sexual assault law enforcement and prosecution projects, victim advocacy projects, domestic violence “fast track” projects, District Attorney’s victim/witness projects, formal training projects on domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence; statewide multi-jurisdictional training pertaining to victim assistance; projects that provide services to the following types of crime victims: child physical or sexual abuse, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, adult sexual assault, robbery, assault, elder abuse, vehicular assault or homicide, DUI/DWI crashes, careless driving resulting in death, adults molested as children, survivors of homicide victims, disabled crime victims, and children who witness domestic violence.

Eligible project purposes include:

- To provide crime victims with access to direct services designed to: (1) address their emotional and physical needs; (2) stabilize their lives after victimization; (3) assist them in navigating the criminal justice system; and, (4) assure their safety and security;
- To implement rights afforded to crime victims pursuant to section 24-4.1-302.5 of the Colorado Statutes and for the provision of additional services and programs to crime victims;
- To improve the coordination of victim services and criminal justice-based victim services;
- To develop and strengthen effective law enforcement, prosecution, judicial strategies and victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women defined as domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking;
- To provide training and systems improvement to enhance the state or local community’s ability to address violent crimes against women and provide effective services for crime victims; and,
- To provide direct services to victims of sexual assault.

Organizational Requirements: All applicants must demonstrate in their application that they have the ability to meet the requirements of the grants. A list of these requirements is included in the Application Instructions; please review these requirements to ensure your agency is able to meet them.

Allowable Costs: Personnel providing eligible services, operating costs associated with eligible services, eligible services skills training, supervision of project-related staff and activities, well justified travel, and professional services/consultants providing eligible services, indirect costs, supplies, and equipment.

Unallowable Costs and Activities: Lobbying, fundraising, perpetrator rehabilitation, most food and refreshments, Victim Compensation eligible costs, most medical costs other than SANE exams, property loss, relocation of victims, and inherently religious activities. Please refer to the Application Instructions on the OVP website – <http://dcj.ovp.state.co.us/> - for specific unallowable costs for each grant funding source, which may apply to your specific project.

Award Period

January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2018 (two consecutive, one-year periods – separate contracts for each year).

Program Schedule

Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2016. Grant Application webinars will take place from February 3, 2016 – February 11, 2016. A list of upcoming and important dates is available on our website (<http://dcj.ovp.state.co.us/>). The CVS Board will meet in the summer of 2016 to make preliminary funding recommendations. Denied applicants will be notified in late July 2016 and will have the option to request a reconsideration of the Board’s decision. The reconsideration meeting will be held in August 2016. Final award decision letters will be emailed in late August 2016. For funded projects, award documents will be made available in October. The deadline for contracts to be returned to OVP is November 2016. A timeline/schedule is posted on the OVP website.

Program Website

The 2016 Crime Victim Services (CVS) Application and Announcement can be accessed through the on-line application system, COGMS, at <https://g3.state.co.us/grantium/frontOffice.jsf>.

Announcements for the regular CVS Application and the Training Funds, Application Instructions, sample Grant Agreement, Detailed Schedule of Activities, and Required Attachments to your application are available on the OVP website at: <http://dcj.ovp.state.co.us/>. Applicants are required to read all of these documents.

PLEASE NOTE: All applicants must have a valid Applicant Profile and be registered for the funding opportunity to apply for funds.

- **Current Grantees & Agencies that have previously applied for DCJ funding using COGMS:** If you are a current grantee, your Applicant Profile should already be in the COGMS system; please refer to the Application Instructions for information on how to get started on your application. If you are a current grantee and are having trouble finding your Applicant Profile information, please contact Kathryn Holland at OVP at 303-239-4395, 1-888-282-1080 toll-free (outside the metro area) or via email at kathryn.holland@state.co.us.
- **New Applicants:** If you are not a current grantee, please contact Kathy Holland at OVP at 303-239-4395, 1-888-282-1080 toll-free (outside the metro area) or via email at Kathryn.holland@state.co.us to set up an Applicant Profile in the COGMS system. You will not be able to start your application until your Applicant Profile has been validated by the state. **You must request your Applicant Profile no later than February 23, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.** Once your Applicant Profile has been validated you will be able to start and submit your application, which is due no later than March 1, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. You will receive an email from Kathy Holland once your applicant profile has been validated.

Contact Information

To assist potential applicants, we have created Application Instructions that are available on our website at <http://dcj.ovp.state.co.us/>. Please review this document for the answers to many of your questions. If after reviewing the Instructions document you still have questions, or if you have questions about COGMS, please contact OVP at 303-239-5719 or 1-888-282-1080 toll-free. Grant managers cannot provide specific advice on how to write your application but are available to answer questions about COGMS and application questions not explicitly addressed in the Instructions.