

DARYL FOX: Good afternoon, everyone, and welcome to today's webinar, OVC FY 2022 Advancing Hospital-Based Victim Services, hosted by the Office for Victims of Crime. At this time, it's my pleasure to introduce Sharron Fletcher, Lead Victim Justice Specialist with the Office for Victims of Crime to begin the presentation. Sharron?

SHARRON FLETCHER: Hi. Thank you for that introduction. Good afternoon, everyone, my name--or hello, depending on where you are in the world. My name is Sharon Fletcher and I'm a Lead Victim Justice Specialist in OVC. And I'm here today to talk to you about our Advancing Hospital-Based Victim Services solicitation. So, it will be helpful as we go through it, if you have a copy of the solicitation available to follow along and take notes. So I encourage you to do that. And just to get started, we'll talk a little bit about the OVC and the overview and mission of our office. We'll then go through and break down the solicitation and talk about its purpose, goals and objectives, eligibility, and other requirements. We'll also spend some time talking about the application process. And then at the end, we'll have time for questions and answers. And again, if you would please remember to put your Q&A questions as we go along in the Q&A section, and any tech difficulties that you might experience, you can put those questions into the chat.

So, we will start with an overview of OVC. So the Office for Victims of Crime administers the Crime Victims Fund, which is financed by fines and penalties that are received from convicted federal offenders and not from your tax dollars. So, OVC channels that money towards victim compensation and victim assistance programs throughout the country. We raise awareness about victims' issues, promote compliance with victims' rights laws, and we also provide training and technical assistance and develop publications and products for victim assistance professionals. So, through the Crime Victims Funds, OVC programs support victims and tribal communities, state victim compensation and assistance programs as I've mentioned. And again, we provide training and technical assistance and other resources. We support victims of human trafficking. And we also support a number of national scope demonstration projects, such as our advancements in hospital-based victim services program.

A few timelines you want to make sure everyone is aware of. So for this solicitation, there's a two-step application process. The first step is our Grants.gov, is submitting in Grants.gov. And that deadline is Wednesday, June 8th. The second step is submitting the full application into JustGrants. And the deadline to do that is Wednesday, June 15th. And now, for all of the awards that will be made to this solicitation, Department of Justice expects to make those awards no later than September 30th of 2022, this year. And all of the project start dates for these projects will begin on October 1st. And please take note that if successful applicants may not begin working on the budget until the

budget is reviewed, I mean, receives final approval from OJP. And you'll get additional information on that process after the award is made.

So, we'll start by going through the solicitation eligibility requirements. So, we have a wide array of organizations that are able to submit applications in this solicitation. So, those types of organizations include government organizations that are at the state level, city or township level, as well as county governments, public- and state-controlled institutions of higher education. So that includes colleges and universities, public housing authorities or Indian housing authorities, Native American Tribal organizations, and that's whether or not they are federally recognized tribes, as well as nonprofits that have 501(c)(3) status, and others that also do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS. And then lastly, for-profit organizations that would also include tribal for-profits. However, all for-profit organizations must agree to forego any profit or management fees. And these eligibility requirements are also outlined on our solicitation cover page. So that's right there on the front page of the solicitation.

So, the goal of our advancing hospital-based victim services program and solicitation is to support evidence-based models, practices, and policies that improve partnerships between the victim service field and hospitals to increase support for crime victims. And in this solicitation, we are specifically focused on increasing supports for victims of gun and community violence. So, the objectives of these partnerships that were mentioned are to provide comprehensive, coordinated, culturally relevant, and trauma-informed services and supports that address the full range of victim needs. So, again, this solicitation is specifically focused on funding projects that are responding to community violence and victims of gun violence. However, sites are able to consider using other related approaches to support multiple types of victimization in their proposed projects.

A few solicitation requirements we want to go over and highlight. Applicants should include detailed descriptions of their specific approach they plan to use and the specific types of victims they will reach and how those approaches will improve outcomes for those victims. Applicants should also include detailed explanations of how their partners will assist in meeting the complex needs of victims. And these details should also cover how any referral networks and collaborations between the hospital program and other organizations, such as law enforcement or other nonprofit and public agencies in your area, will be strengthened for the purpose of improving responses to victims of gun and community violence. Each project must respect the decision-making independence of crime victims, support self-sufficiency, and promote victims' feelings of increased safety and well-being. So that is a very strong tenet that OVC is focused on making sure our programs uphold. We also want to make sure that the services provided in the project do not have to be offered at the hospital itself. So, while we understand the hospital will

be used as that connection point to enroll participants into the programs and connect them to services, we are hoping that these programs will also be establishing a network of support with other programs and projects or other providers that are in the surrounding community, so to make sure that these services are easily accessible for the survivors that are participating in the project.

One solicitation requirement of significance we want to highlight is that each applicant is required to work with a local research partner to track and evaluate their efforts and use that data to make program improvements. So, we are asking that each applicant use at least \$25,000 per year of their budget to support this local research partner and that partnership. And the partnership be an independent entity that is not connected directly or indirectly to the applicant agency. And to outline what that partnership looks like, we're asking that each applicant submit a memorandum of understanding or MOU or a letter of support or intent from the partner with the application.

So, a few activities that might be included and these are only intended as examples. They are not the only things that you're able to do. We do encourage applicants to use innovation and to be as, you know, thoughtful as possible in what they're proposing, but a few examples of activities that might be included in this proposed activities in the solicitations are creating trauma-informed services and supports for survivors that are identified by program advocates or case managers and other staff when entering hospital emergency departments, funding positions and training for hospital staff on the use of screening tools and other methods to identify victimization and trauma, conducting training for staff on the use of victim-centered and culturally relevant and trauma-informed of course approaches when working with survivors, as well as again finding partnerships to expand that network of support services available for survivors and the surrounding community so that those services are easily accessible for the participants. And then lastly, using multidisciplinary teams linked to the hospital to identify and address service gaps and barriers that improve agency responses to victims and create a seamless network of services for survivors.

A few deliverables that we intend for these projects to produce include submitting quarterly financial reports and semiannual progress reports in compliance with our DOJ grant requirements. So of course, there will be a required reporting, as well as participating in conferences and meetings hosted by the Health Alliance for Violence Intervention or the HAVI, OVC, and other partners. And I'll note too that the HAVI is the dedicated training and technical assistance provider for this initiative and will be working specifically with the sites that are funded through this solicitation. And then last deliverable I will highlight is each of the sites that are selected will be required to submit a final report when the project is over to describe how the grantee implemented its

project and talk about its partners, areas of success, and lessons learned from the program data collection and evaluation efforts.

So OVC's role in the project will be, of course, reviewing and approving any major plans that are submitted. So that would be your program narrative and other pieces that you are submitting. And that would also include changes to those plans and key decisions around project operations. OVC would also be of course, involved in reviewing and approving any major project-generated documents and publications, things of that nature. We also will be providing guidance on significant project plans and participating in training events or meetings, as well as of course, selecting the participating demonstration sites through the application process that were described here today in the solicitation.

So, you'll also notice in this solicitation that there are several priority areas that applicants are able to apply under. So through these OJP priority areas, applicants are able to--well, they're basically--I'll back up and say that our priority areas reflect OJP's commitment to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. So, and these are all outlined in the Priority Consideration Supporting Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government. So, in support of this executive order, OJP and OVC will give priority consideration to applications that include projects that will promote racial equity and the removal of barriers to access and opportunity for communities that have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality when making award decisions. So to receive this consideration, applicants must describe how the project will address potential inequities and barriers to equal opportunity and contribute to greater access to services for underserved and historically marginalized populations. And that is specifically to receive consideration under Priority 1(A). For those applications that are interested for 1(B), we will give--we, meaning OJP and OVC, will give priority consideration to applicants that can demonstrate their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed projects are enhanced because the applicant is a culturally specific--or identifies as a culturally specific organization. So, to receive this additional priority consideration, applicants will describe how being a culturally specific organization, again, will enhance their ability to implement the project and also specify which culturally specific populations are intended to be served or to have their needs addressed under the proposed project. And we'll go through this again, these priority considerations again later on in the webinar. So, but we want to go through this now just to give you a heads up.

And then lastly, the second priority consideration area is for those organizations that are connected to the White House Community Violence Intervention Collaborative. So OVC will give priority consideration to programs connected to CVIC efforts in their jurisdictions. So to receive this consideration, applications need to identify their connection to the CVIC in their program abstract, explain how program or site efforts will strengthen the local community violence intervention infrastructure and provide services to communities impacted by gun and community violence in the program narrative, and also submit at least one MOU or letter of intent or support from a lead partner involved in the local CVIC effort as an attachment to the application. And so, for additional information on these priority areas, please see the solicitation and then I see too that there is a link that was in the chat where you can also link to see more details on these priority areas.

So, through this solicitation, OVC anticipates making three awards of up to \$500,000 each, which brings the total of funding to be awarded through this solicitation to \$1.5 million. The awards will each start--their period of performance will start on October 1st of this year, and it will last for 24 months. So, that period of performance or award period will start on October 1st of 2022, this year, and end in 24 months on September 30th of 2024. And these awards will all be made as cooperative agreements, meaning that there will be substantial involvement between the awarding agency, which is OVC, and the recipients during that performance period.

So next, we are going to go over the Application and Submission Information. So, each of your applications that are submitted must have these requirements that are outlined here. So, each submission has to include and that is to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding. Each application must include a program abstract, a program narrative that contains these four elements, a budget worksheet and budget narrative, as well as other attachments that are all outlined in the solicitation. And please keep in mind as this--it's highlighted here in red on your screen, that if you fail to submit any of these required documents, the application will not be considered for funding. So we will now take a little time to go through what each of these pieces entail.

So, the proposal abstract, which should be no more than 400 words, summarizing the proposed project, including the purpose of the project, primary activities, expected outcomes, identify the service area, intended beneficiaries and subrecipients, if they are known at the time of application, will be completed in JustGrants web-based form. So, this piece goes directly into the JustGrants system. This abstract should be written in third person and will be made publicly available on the OJP website if the project is awarded. And also note, please remember to indicate connection to the White House

Community Violence Intervention Collaborative on the program abstract if your program is intending to claim one of those priority areas for consideration. The proposal narrative should adhere to the proposal format requirements that are outlined in the solicitation. And again, keep in mind if the proposal narrative does not comply with the link-related restrictions, which is 25 pages, then it can be bumped out and considered noncompliant. So please be sure to follow that. And again, the narrative should be double spaced using 12-point font, one-inch margins, no less than that, and not exceed 25 pages. And please be sure to number your pages so that we keep everything in order. And this can be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants.

Again, the following sections are part of the proposal narrative, your statement of the problem, your project design and implementation, as well as your capabilities and competencies. And last, the plan for collecting the data required for the solicitation's performance measures, okay? So be sure to outline all of the grant requirements and make a plan to fulfill each and every requirement. I know it seems daunting, but it can be done. So we'll go through these components of the proposal narrative, okay? So we'll start with the statement of the problem. In this section, you must describe how the funding will support the project's value to victim services or to the field by meeting the goals. Describe how the funding and the goals of the solicitation are the same. You want to describe how the funding will support the project and meeting those state goals using data to provide the evidence that there is a need for the effort and demonstrate the scope and size of that need. You want to make a convincing case that the project addresses a gap in existing resources. Also, this is a great space for you to also talk about if you're receiving funding from other sources, how will the OVC funding leverage and support that funding that you're receiving from another source?

The project design and implementation section. This section should include goals and objectives and activities that are aligned with the solicitation. You want to make sure you're being brief, concise, and clear, and then you want to make sure that you're creating solid goals and measurable objectives, and you want them to be smart, okay? So those objectives should be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time-bound. So focusing on the future and setting a realistic timeline to complete the project is what we want to do in this section. Applicants that are seeking priority considerations, and the Priority 1(A) should be sure to address in their project design and implementation, how the proposed project will promote racial equity, and/or the removal of barriers to access and opportunity, and/or contribute to greater access to services for communities that have been historically underserved. And then those applicants that are seeking priority consideration for connections to the CVIC should explain how the program is connected to efforts in their jurisdiction to strengthen the local community

violence intervention infrastructure and provide services to communities impacted by gun and community violence.

Also next, moving on to the Capabilities and Competencies section. In this section, you want to explain the roles and responsibilities of the lead agency. And also really give a good plan for communicating with the multidisciplinary team, and other agencies and partners. We want to make sure that we're describing the project's organizational structure and operations. And we also want to make sure that we attach a copy of the applicant's organizational chart. This section should also identify a coordinator within that lead agency that's responsible for overseeing these program efforts. And that individual should be empowered to lead the effort, and have the ability to really show how they're leading this well-designed staff-supported structure and have the capacity to oversee all of those programmatic and financial responsibilities that are outlined in the solicitation. This is also an area where we would ask that applicants discuss any previous or current experience they have providing victim services using multidisciplinary partnerships and balanced public health approaches, as well as data-driven strategies. And then we also would love to see in this section the personnel listed that will be in addition to the identified coordinator that will be supporting the program and responsible for managing and implementing the major stages of the project. And this is a great spot also to describe how each of those staff members have any unique qualifications and enable them to fulfill their responsibilities. One last note again, going back to our priority areas of consideration. Any applicant that is seeking priority consideration for Priority 1(B) should describe in this section how being a culturally specific organization will enhance their ability to implement the proposed project and specify what culturally specific populations are intended or expected to be served under this project.

Moving to the plan for collecting data. So our performance measures are parameters that measure the progress of meeting that goal. So it's a common language linking your plans and your performance, and consists of your program's inputs, activities, outputs, and outcomes, and so all of these are things that might be contained in a logic model. So while this data satisfies the reporting requirements for the grant, it also provides an excellent opportunity to self-assess the program and the agency's processes. So as a first step, reviewing the program performance measures and focusing on the numbers, narratives, or other data that will need to be collected to answer the questions posed by OVC in that reporting space. You'll also have--once you develop a firm understanding of the type of data that you need to collect, you will be able to formulate a plan for how the agency will collect the data and report it back to OVC. Performance measures for OVC programs and other resources can be found on the website. And that's also highlighted in the solicitation, that link. And so in this section, that said, what you will do to respond

is, applicants will provide a plan for collecting all of that performance measure data that's required in the solicitation, and then also describe the qualifications of the staff that will be responsible for collecting the data and reporting those performance measures in JustGrants.

Moving on to the budget, this can be submitted in the JustGrants web-based form, okay? So we ask that you break out those costs by year reflecting the 24 months of the project period, so that's 2-year period. Applicants are able to review and encouraged to review the budget preparation and submission information section of the OJP grant's application resource guide for details on the budget and associated documentation such as information on proposed subawards, proposed procurement contracts under the awards, and pre-agreement costs. And questions around budget and examples of allowable and unallowable costs can be directed or you could find a lot of information to answer those questions rather in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide. And that link is also available in the solicitation. In the budget, applicants that are interested in Priority 1(B) consideration and are seeking that based on the identification of at least one proposed subrecipient or themselves as a culturally specific organization. This is in the budget is where you'll need to make sure that you are showing at least 30% of the budget is going to a culturally specific organization as a subaward, if that is the consideration that you wish to use.

So just as though your objectives and goals should be SMART, we want your budget to be SMART too. So your budget should be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. So it should be specific when listing all of your expenses and the various budget subcategories. It should be measurable. If you use the budget template within the system, then you'll be able to adhere to measuring your budget appropriately. And this is by using that computation column in the budget that's already in the system. Your budget should also of course, be achievable and attainable. So to ensure your budget items are achievable or attainable, it should make sense. So is there enough work for your project director to be hired in full time? And on the flip side, do you have ample resources included in your budget to meet your objectives? If there's required training for staff to attend in a given area, are you including enough money to cover that? So these are some of the questions to consider. Is it relevant? So if you put your timeline next to your budget, are you sure that each item is accounted for? And if so, are you listing hiring a project director in your timeline and discussing that project director's role in your project design so that it would be relevant to include that project director in your budget?

So again, making sure that those connections are clear from the program narrative to the budget are so important, as well as making sure your budget is time-bound and

broken down by the year or by month, if that is more relevant to what you had in mind. So it's important to pay attention to the duration of the grant. And if you're applying for a grant that is for a 2-year period, we definitely want to see a full 2 years covered in the budget, broken down for your personnel computations, like on an annual basis, any rent or supplies should be broken down by a monthly timeframe to show how those are being allotted and budgeted for and things of that nature.

So this screen lists some of the other documents that need to be included with your application. So along with the three requirement documents, the following documents, which should be included in the application, some of these will be included as attachments, some are included such as like this disclosure lobbying and disclosure of duplication and costs. Those are some--and certified standard assurance. Those are certifications that are included in the system. So this is a list of those different pieces that would be submitted along with the application.

So, some of the hallmarks to an outstanding application are using simple and concise language. Your information that you present should be very well organized, right? Definitely use tables, and graphs, photos, and other images where possible. But do keep in mind those page limitations. Definitely be realistic about how you are going to achieve your goals. And it's very important and I encourage you all to definitely try your best to get feedback from those who may run the project, because they'll have different insights to how the project runs, and will be able to give you good feedback to let you know if what you have makes sense and is how things flow. Definitely make sure the proposal is consistent with the solicitation, of course, and then check, recheck, and check again to make sure you have everything you need as far as the budget grant requirements, references, and other details that are outlined in the solicitation.

So, some of the few reasons that may have been cited over time through the years for weak applications, and these are just shared so that you can avoid these pitfalls are one, being too ambitious or lacking focus in your proposals. Be sure to--again, that's where being concise and making sure that what you're able to do is consistent for the timeline. So 2 years, a 2-year grant period isn't a long time, so you want to make sure that whatever you're proposing are things that can actually be achievable and not too ambitious. Applicants lacking appropriate expertise to carry out the proposed project. Again, this is where it's very important to remain realistic about what can be done within a given time period with the amount of money that you might receive through this award which is up to \$500,000. And then also, making sure that you are being clear on the number of partners and those qualifications of staff that are going to be included in the project. No evidence of feasibility, do not assume reviewers are as familiar with the project as you are. So again, if you have different innovations or different strategies and

approaches that you're using, please be sure to be clear about what those are and adding any citations or examples. And as far as poor writing and a lot of errors, this is where it's very important to make sure that you're checking your work and having others review to make sure that they are perhaps catching things that you could miss after having spent long days staring at the screen, because that happens to all of us.

So next, we will go over the application process. So applications are going to be submitted in a two-step process. The first step of that process is submitting in Grants.gov by the June 8th deadline. And then the second step is submitting the full application into JustGrants by our June 15th, 2022 deadline. I also want to note that there are several outages planned between Grants.gov and JustGrants in the month of May. So please be sure to check both of those websites for timeframes from when those outages will occur. So in this space of the grant's lifecycle, we'll say applicants will be submitting both web-based forms and attachments based on the requirements of the solicitation. So the process of submitting an application in JustGrants begins in Grants.gov. So that's the first step in the application process. Once you've located the funding opportunity with DOJ, then you submit the 424 and the SF-LLL in Grants.gov. And that's step one. And then, the full application is submitted in JustGrants by that second deadline of June 15th. So again, just to--repeating for emphasis, step one, you will apply in Grants.gov. So the first step of doing so is making sure you're registered in Grants.gov and looking for that funding opportunity and application package on the Grants.gov website. You can also enter your email address, so that you can start receiving notifications of any changes to the opportunity package before the closing dates.

And then, the second step for the Grants.gov piece is then you will submit the 424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov. So after that is done, within 48 hours of submitting those two documents, you will receive two notifications from Grants.gov. One will confirm the receipt of those documents and then the second will state whether or not the documents were successfully validated and submitted, or if they were rejected due to errors, and they will have an explanation if that is the case. So you'll have time to go in and make changes and respond to any errors that are identified. So again, step two is to submit the full application into JustGrants here at the JustGrants website by that second June 15th deadline. And that's where you'll be submitting all of your attachments, as well as completing the web-based forms in JustGrants. So there are certain web-based forms that must be submitted directly into the JustGrants system. Your proposal abstract and solicitation are two of those. For those who are return users, you will need to submit your goals, objectives, deliverables, and timeline just like before, and those pretty much make up what that program narrative will be comprised of. And you must make sure your budget information is included in the budget detail form as well as the disclosure of

duplication in cost items. So you really do need to pay attention to these required sections. If the section is required, you must submit it. I will add that you are able to submit attachments to support or in addition to your program narrative and budget detail. However, you are not able to skip the web-based forms for the program narrative and budget details. So please keep that in mind.

So after you have submitted your application, you're probably wondering what's next. So, once all of the information for the solicitations have been reviewed, then your entity or the organization that applied will be notified what happens before September 30th and along the process. So the system will notify your entity administrator and authorized representative when deadlines for applications have changed. The application submitter, entity administrator, and authorized representative will also be notified when the application is received in JustGrants from Grants.gov. And then the entity administrator is notified when the award notifications have been sent. So there are different checks that are going to be happening and made throughout the time period that the application process started. So one thing to note as well, is once the application deadline passes in JustGrants, you'll see a banner that says it's past due. However, if your status shows as submitted, your application was received by DOJ and you don't need to pay attention to that past due banner. So the thing to remember in all of these notification reminders is that it's important for you to make sure that you are one, checking your own emails and keeping those emails up to date, as well as checking the system itself regularly so that any upcoming deadlines aren't missed and if there are any changes after the submission piece, you're not missing those as well. And I will also note that the roles that are outlined on this page, the entity administrator and application submitter, these are all roles that are designated by your entity administrator for your organization. And those are things that are done by your organization and outside of what we can do in OVC and the other Grants.gov or JustGrants support desks.

So there are a number of JustGrants training resources on the DOJ website. So I encourage all of you to review these and become familiar. So once you've selected a topic to explore, you can open the different pages with training resources dedicated to that topic. Typically, you'll find job aid reference guides and links to step-by-step videos. And the videos are short and they're meant to be used while you're working. So you don't need to feel like you need to set aside a lot of time to review them. They're very helpful if you're in the middle of a task in JustGrants and want to verify next steps. And the same thing goes for the job aid reference guides, and the step-by-step quick guides as well. So again, I encourage you all to familiarize yourself with these training resources.

The solicitation incorporates the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by reference in a number of places, so you'll see that very frequently. And so this Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants on how to prepare and submit to OJP any applications for funding. And so any changes to that will be highlighted in the solicitation. But for the most part, the Grant Application Resource Guide is a wonderful go-to for how-tos on how to submit your applications and tips as well on how to prepare different sections.

Oh, and also, so this year OVC did something different. We were able--to assist potential applications in developing proposals to submit for our current funding opportunities, we developed a webinar series for our interested stakeholders to learn more about the program's objectives and submission requirements. And there was also like a Q&A held at the end of each webinar. So this four-part series is available from this link. You can also review OVC's current funding opportunities. In addition to our hospital-based solicitation, there are several additional solicitations that are currently open and more are being put out every day. And then you can also sign up for news from OVC to stay up to date with the webinar schedule and other things, other webinars and other resources that OVC puts out throughout the year.

So this next slide goes over several important web resources that are referenced throughout the solicitation and are very useful for you all to keep in mind. So that includes our OVC website, a link to the DOJ Financial Guide. Of course, the links to JustGrants and Grants.gov, a link to the Grants Application Resource Guide that we just mentioned, a link to our OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center, as well as links to the Grant Performance Measurement Reporting tool and our OJP Resource Center. And so here is contact information for our Grants.gov and JustGrants. So these two, we want to make sure that you are taking note of the phone number and email. If you have any tech issues with either Grants.gov or JustGrants and run into any difficulties, please be sure to contact those support desks for assistance. However, if you have any issues or questions around the program requirements for the solicitation, please direct those to the OJP Response Center and you'll see that at the bottom here, and make sure that you are directing those questions to their email or phone, so all of these resources are here to support you as you prepare your applications and apply for this solicitation.

So again, applicants should consider reviewing one or more of the previously recorded application mechanics submitting an application sessions because they will be helpful and give you some how-tos in how to navigate the application process. Also I want to make sure that we are reminding you of the deadlines on the screen here. First part of the application process is submitting the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov by the June 8th deadline and that's by 11:59 p.m. eastern standard time on June 8th. And then the

second part in the application process is to submit the full application in JustGrants by June 15th at 8:59 p.m. eastern standard time, and those timeframes are established because those are also the times that the support desk for Grants.gov and JustGrants close, and so that's why those timeframes are highlighted here.

And last but not least, I hope you will all stay connected to OVC through our listservs. You can sign up using this link from news on funding opportunities and other announcements, so please do that. Also can't go by without acknowledging our 2022 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, which is this week. The artwork has been available for some time and we hope it inspires your communities to raise awareness about victims' rights. This year's theme is rights, access, equity for all victims. And underscores the importance of helping crime survivors find their justice by enforcing victims' rights, expanding access to services, and ensuring equity and inclusion for all. And we definitely want you to go social with OVC. You can like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and watch us and subscribe to our YouTube channels. And now we reached the time for Q&A. So please submit your questions using the Q&A box and select all panelists.

DARYL FOX: Great. Thanks so much, Sharron. And just a reminder to everybody on the webinar today that the PowerPoint recording and transcript will be posted to the OVC website. So if there's anything you want to go back on and reference, that'll be available. And we will be sending a notice to the registration list for today. So the first question coming in, "Regarding the requirements for using a local evaluation partner. What is meant by local? Is it city, state, region? Is there any more specifics?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: By local, we want it to be someone who is, like, within your city or state and able to connect easily with you. Because again, \$25,000 a year isn't a lot. But we do want that local research partner to have close proximity and be able to really engage and partner in the program.

DARYL FOX: "Regarding fees, is GNA included in that first budget?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: I'm sorry. I'm not familiar with what that is.

DARYL FOX: For that person that did ask the question, if you could just clarify a little bit. I'll go back to that or if you'd like to, you could just contact the OJP Response Center. I'll put this slide back up as well, for everybody that does have follow-up specifics. "How much of the budget should be set aside for travel for OVC-required meetings, including those related to working with the HAVI?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: We don't have a specific amount dedicated to travel. But you do need to be mindful of incorporating some funding for travel to participate in conferences, meetings, and events. But there's no set amount outlined in the solicitation for that.

DARYL FOX: "Is there a general guideline or definition of community violence for OVC?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: We don't have a specific one, but we do follow what is outlined by the White House Community Violence Intervention Collaborative, so you can look to that link there and what they've outlined that collaborative to be supporting.

DARYL FOX: And this one's specific to the priority areas. "For Priority Area 1, can we demonstrate both A and B are just one of the two?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: You're able to demonstrate both--if you're able to demonstrate both, that is fine.

DARYL FOX: And then a follow up to that, "Also can the 30% be split between two subrecipients or does 30% of the budget have to go to one culturally specific organization?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: It can be split amongst however many subrecipients there are. It's more about the 30% being reflected in the budget, not how many entities. So the 30% is like that minimum percent that has to be supporting a culturally specific organization, so it can be one or more.

DARYL FOX: And for this particular person, "In a previous OVC grant award, they used an evaluator researcher from a different department within the same institution. They want to do that again, although through a different researcher, but are worried that this will not be viewed as independent giving the wording in this particular solicitation."

SHARRON FLETCHER: No, that would not be what we would prefer and the requirement is that you use independent researchers. So that means that they would not be in your organization.

DARYL FOX: "And the amount for \$500,000 is for 24 months?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: Yes, that is correct. Awards will be made up to \$500,000 for a 24-month award period.

DARYL FOX: "Regarding budget and indirect costs, is there a percentage limit for the amount of indirect costs that can be included?" This particular person works for a hospital, it typically requires 64% indirect rate. So they're wondering if there's a cap for these indirect costs.

SHARRON FLETCHER: No, we do not have a cap on the amount of indirect costs that can be charged. But you do of course, raise an important issue and that we would hope that you could negotiate that rate down so that you can use as much funding as possible to support the program, but that would be a local decision for your hospital to make.

DARYL FOX: "Are software costs an allowable expense in this solicitation?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: Yes, you are allowed to purchase software to support the program.

DARYL FOX: "Is there a requirement to serve the full gamut of crime victims? Is there any way to focus on one population like sexual assault victims or domestic abuse victims?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: All of the projects funded from this solicitation must be focused on supporting victims of community violence and/or victims of gun violence.

DARYL FOX: "And just confirming that institutions of higher education are eligible to apply?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: Yes, they are and you can review the eligibility requirements on the front page of the solicitation.

DARYL FOX: "Does the research integrity attachment apply if we are only doing process and implementation evaluation and not involving human subjects research that would require an IRB?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: No, you do not need to submit the research and integrity attachment. You are correct, since this evaluation will not involve human subjects.

DARYL FOX: "Page 14 mentions letters of support but has no other text. Are we allowed and are encouraged to submit letters of support for this application?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: Yes, you are allowed and encouraged to submit letters of support for this.

DARYL FOX: "Are existing HVIPs able to acquire additional funding on this solicitation?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: Yes, by existing, I hope you mean not OVC funded at the moment. But yes, so this project is specifically for existing HVIPs to expand or continue support for their programs.

DARYL FOX: "If one is not sure if they have a CVIC in their community, is there a way to help determine that if there is such a local entity?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: The CVIC Collaborative is not all encompassing. It's specifically the organizations that are listed in the link or the cities that are listed in the link to the CVIC Program. So that priority consideration will be specifically only for the hospital-based programs that exist in those cities.

DARYL FOX: "Regarding the requirement to partner with a local data research entity, does this apply even to academic medical centers that may be applying for funding?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: Yes, every project must have a local research partner that is independent from their organization.

DARYL FOX: And then following up on the budgeting for travel, a couple questions. "How many meetings, is there a set amount anticipated? And then will there be an annual required OVC grantee meeting in addition to some number of HAVI meetings?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: I would say that we don't have at this point a specific number for that, but I would encourage you to plan at least for one meeting with the HAVI as far as the travel piece goes.

DARYL FOX: "Should the researcher have prior published work around the victim and anti-violence areas?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: That is not a requirement of the solicitation. However, if your program feels that that is a requirement, that is a decision that you would need to make.

DARYL FOX: And I'm not sure this acronym, "Would a LOS from a HAVI be considered a conflict of interest?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: I don't know what a LOS is.

DARYL FOX: They clarified, "Letter of support."

SHARRON FLETCHER: Letter of support? It's not a conflict of interest but it's not necessary because you have to work with them anyway. The letters of support would be more meaningful if they are submitted from partners that are supporting the program locally. Again, we are very focused on making sure that the programs are connecting with other service providers in your area. So, that's a good area for you all if you have made those connections with other NGOs and other providers and other spaces to provide additional supports for victims. The letters of support and the MOU is a good space for you to reflect those partnerships and networks and how they're connected in services provided, things of that nature.

DARYL FOX: "Would Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Programs and SART Teams be considered community violence related?"

SHARRON FLETCHER: Traditionally, I would say no, they are not and they have not been. We have separate funding for those types of programs. And there is separate funding available through both OVC and I believe OVW for those types of programs.

DARYL FOX: And I believe that is a forthcoming solicitation that will also have webinars. So definitely visit the OVC funding page for information on when that is released.

SHARRON FLETCHER: Yes, yes. I know we haven't submitted and I will also say that OVC has not released all of their solicitations yet. So I know there are some regulars that we have seen or you may have seen our DOJ Program Plan that includes other solicitations, so we have not finished putting all of those out just yet. So there are more forthcoming.

DARYL FOX: So with that, Sharron, we are at 2 p.m. Is anything in closing you wanted to mention?

SHARRON FLETCHER: Just thank you all for your time today. And again, please be sure to direct any other programmatic questions you have to the OJP Response Center and good luck with your applications.

DARYL FOX: So on behalf of the Office for Victims of Crime and our panelist, we want to thank you for joining today's webinar. This will end today's presentation.