

**Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking —
Webinar Transcript**
May 4, 2022

DARYL FOX: Good afternoon, everyone and welcome to today's webinar, *Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking*, hosted by the Office for Victims of Crime. At this time, it's my pleasure to introduce Alissa Huntoon, Senior Policy Advisor with the Office for Victims of Crime, to begin the presentation. Alissa?

ALISSA HUNTOON: Wonderful, thank you so much, Daryl, and welcome to everyone who is joining for this webinar to learn more about the Enhanced Collaborative Model, or ECM, Task Force Solicitation. For those of you who may be past recipients, welcome back, for those of you who might be brand new, and want to learn about this program, a quick reminder that the purpose of this webinar is to go over information at a high level about key components of the solicitation. Everything we're going to be talking about is in the solicitation itself. So, I have a lot of slides to get through. And I'm going to be referencing the solicitation often, in some cases it has page numbers, but want to be able to make sure we get to the end. So, we have some time for questions and answers as well. Don't worry if you don't get your question answered, we also have a slide that has contact information, emails, phone numbers, et cetera for questions, any questions, technical or programmatic related to this solicitation as well. So, who am I? I'm Alissa Huntoon. I am Senior Policy Advisor within the Office for Victims of Crime and my role there is to be a part of a larger team within our Human Trafficking Division that supports a broad range of programs that provide funding to support direct services to human trafficking victims, as well as multidisciplinary approaches, statewide approaches, legal services, et cetera.

So quickly, today we'll have this overview of the Office for Victims of Crime, for those who aren't familiar we'll break down the solicitation a little bit. And then we will talk about the application process, review some key dates, this two-step process and then have time for questions and answers, Daryl and Tammy, my colleagues will also be here to assist. And I've definitely asked them to let me know if I'm rambling on and need to keep things moving to make sure that we can get through all of the slides. As we've mentioned, there is a chat function, but all of your questions and answers when we get to that point, we're going to ask you to use the question-and-answer box because that's where we will look to find those.

So, for those who aren't familiar, the Office for Victims of Crime, here is our mission, which is around supporting the nation's capacity to assist crime victims, and provide leadership in changing attitudes, policies, and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims. And then there's some bullets there that describes the kinds of programming that OVC funding supports to include survivors of human trafficking.

Key--and we're jumping right into key dates here for the timeline for this particular solicitation, the first being the Grants.gov deadline, which is June 9th, to be followed by the JustGrants deadline, June 16th. We have more slides later on to describe this two-step process in more detail and the difference between the two. But for now, at a high level, this timeline, and then DOJ expects to make all these award announcements no later than September 30th of this year. That's the end of our fiscal year. Therefore, project start dates should be on or after October 1st. And again, here in red, please note because of the volume of awards that the Office of Justice Programs makes every year, budgets are going out sometimes without a final cleared budget. You might have what's called a conditional cleared budget. And so, please remember that even if you are successful and you're offered an award and you accept you may not begin work until that budget goes through that review process and is officially reviewed, excuse me, officially approved, by OJP. A lot of that information is spelled out in the actual award package itself and you have the opportunity to ask questions. Again, this is post applications and if you're successful and offered an award.

So, who is eligible for this solicitation? This information is included on the first few pages of the solicitation generally state, governments, city, township, county governments, Native American tribal governments, if you don't know or aren't sure if you're eligible, or fit under one of these broad categories, state governments, et cetera, please send an email or use the contact information on the solicitation and just ask to clarify. And we ask you to do that as early as possible. Then there are two separate purpose areas that entities may choose to apply from. And it is your choice depending upon if you meet the eligibility criteria. So, we'll get into this a little bit more but want to point out for purpose areas one and two, for both of these, if you have received funding in fiscal years FY20 or FY21, you are ineligible to apply under this purpose area. What I mean by that is received funding means were you offered, were you were awarded, funding in that fiscal year? So, if you were awarded funding in fiscal year 2020, you received funding in 2020, and therefore would be ineligible to apply. And that is for recipient means were you the lead entity that applied for that award? So, were you the law enforcement agency or were you the victim service provider? So that's for both purpose areas, the last two fiscal years are ineligible. Technically, there's still funding available to you; those are three-year awards. Purpose Area 2, under this solicitation, the eligible applicants must be a previous recipient of an OJP Enhanced Collaborative Model in the past. Previous recipients says OJP, because in the past this has been a joint solicitation, you may have received funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance and your partner may have received funding from Office for Victims of Crime or vice versa. You might have received from OVC, and your partner received from BJA. But you--the only eligible applicants for Purpose Area 2, are those that have received previous funding for the ECM program.

Here's a quick slide about within OVC we have a Human Trafficking Division that was established in June of 2020, which consolidated a lot of the human trafficking work across the Office for Justice Programs and our mission is to help enhance capacity to identify, assist, and provide services to victims of all forms of human trafficking, and to lead the nation in supporting victim-centered and trauma-informed programs, policies, and resources that promote justice, access, and empowerment. And this is across all of our human trafficking solicitations.

For this solicitation, there are again two Purpose Areas. I wanted to point out the dollar amount available for each entity is \$750,000 per applicant. This solicitation requires a joint application from both the lead law enforcement and victim service provider and that's why the number of awards there will be thirty awards total across those two categories, which funds 15 task forces. So, that's approximately nine task forces under Purpose Area 1, and approximately six task forces under Purpose Area 2. Please note there's a couple additional pieces of information on this slide. Purpose Area 1 is primarily focused for task forces that are newly formed, operational less than three years, maybe you've never received funding before and again, Purpose Area 2 eligible applicants must be a previous recipient of an OJP-ECM award.

So, what is the Enhanced Collaborative Model Program goal? Why does this exist? Why do we have funding to support this approach? So, our goal of this program is to support a sustainable, multidisciplinary co-leadership approach, which is why we're funding two partners as co-leads, a service provider and a law enforcement entity, to identify victims of all forms of human trafficking, provide access to services, and investigate and prosecute traffickers at all levels. That is the overarching ECM Program goal.

Pulling out the difference between the two purpose areas, in terms of generally what the funding supports, the first--Purpose Area 1, again, it's around starting up that multidisciplinary task force, building that foundation, enhancing that foundation, maybe there is some informal structure already there. And the purpose of these funds are going to help solidify that, maybe expand partnerships, clarify what this co-leadership structure is going to look like, take time to understand roles and responsibilities and establish an internal processes and protocols. Also, within that first 12 to 18 months of funding, we'll be working on formalizing structure developing some procedures that are for the taskforce overall, as opposed to individual partners, access professional development, training opportunities, and delivering training to key stakeholders and conducting a community assessment. Again, I just want to be clear that folks take time to understand sort of the general goal of each purpose area.

Purpose Area 2, again, is supporting previously funded ECM task forces. So, building on that foundation, expanding partnerships, perhaps refining or creating new protocols, meaningful survivor engagement, and implementing and executing a range of proactive approaches. Please note, I included the bullet that there--the solicitation also includes mandatory program requirements for both purpose areas. Again, I'm trying to limit the amount of just tons of text on these slides. So, this is very high level. So please be sure to make sure you go back and read the solicitation carefully too for the full details.

So as part of this Enhanced Collaborative Model Program and approach, the solicitation provides several different definitions. How OVC defines these various victim-centered, trauma-informed, survivor-informed proactive approaches and the expectations around that for if you apply and accept these funds. And also, OVC has model standards for serving victims and survivors of crime. So please be sure that you read those definitions as well because that is what we will use to help guide the work and support for the task forces with this funding.

I'm going to quickly go through these, but I've included the page numbers. So, you've got the funding available, you sort of understand the two different types of categories we have. One is essentially newer task forces, the other is established longer term task forces. And so, what are you all doing with the funding? And so, these objectives give you a good sense of the type of grant activity that should be happening with the federal funds, one of which is, again, to look at your co-leadership structure and your partnerships and use our task force roadmap as a guide. Developing and implementing protocols that can help document, again how all the partners are going to work through a variety of issues as a task force together and identify, serve all victims, all forms of human trafficking.

Active involvement from all taskforce partners, you are investigating, referring, and prosecuting cases of both sex and labor at all levels. You are assisting victims to help them achieve safety and independence and self-sufficiency. And you are regularly collecting data and conducting ongoing assessment activities to ensure that your program is meeting stated goals and objectives.

So those objectives, right, are sort of general activity that are happening. And then deliverables are often slightly different and that a deliverable can be something that is tangible and is required for you to submit to OVC as part of this grant funding. So always be sure that you're fully aware of what deliverables are connected with the solicitation and that your task force will be required to oftentimes work together to submit to OVC. Again, this is just a summary of these deliverables. There is much more detail in the solicitation. But overall, creating MOUs, documenting collaborative

partnership, hiring a full-time task force coordinator, or designating a full-time task force coordinator or director, conducting community assessments, creating protocols, delivering training and public awareness materials that have shared messages, providing services, revising and implementing a plan for conducting proactive approaches, and developing sustainability planning. So that's a high-level review of Purpose Area 1 deliverables that would need to be completed by the time the three-year award is over.

Generally, Purpose Area 2 again, a summary, had funding for a while or in the past. So, we're expecting a little bit more here in-terms of building upon the work from previous grants, previous ECM grants. So of the task force protocols, assessing any gaps in those shared protocols, potentially develop new ones. Continuing to hire and identify a full-time task force coordinator or director. Identify and conduct a range of approaches that go beyond online and vice style operations. Provide an array of services for victims of all forms of trafficking. Again, continue to deliver targeted training and public awareness. And this particular deliverable, as it's stated in the solicitation, if requested, and under the direction of OVC in any of our TTA partners, we may ask you to provide peer support, share some of this knowledge that you have gained to newer task forces in the form of webinars or presentations. So again, please be mindful of the deliverables that are expected under both purpose areas.

This is across all of OJP solicitations. There's information in here on priority areas and I've written down the page number for you all. It's on page 11 and 12. And this is a priority area around advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities. There's information in the solicitation in two different areas that explains what it is we're looking for if you want to request this priority consideration, in-terms of what you need to describe, explain in your narrative as well as in your budget. There's also definitions in the solicitation that talk about what do we mean by culturally specific organization as well as underserved communities. So again, that is page 11 and page 12. This is a priority area that is included in all of OJP solicitations.

Please note that the ECM awards are cooperative agreements. This is different than a grant. Those are the two main vehicles under which OJP usually makes award, a grant or cooperative agreement. And the difference is, and why that's important, is because a cooperative agreement, there will be substantial involvement between OVC and the recipients during the award. And we closely participate in performance of the program. That is spelled out further in award conditions as well. And if you're successful and receive an award, you usually have a conversation with your Grant Manager as well to explain what that means in-terms of communication, interaction, oversight with OVC and your Grant Manager.

All right. So, we are going to get into a little bit about application and submission information.

Again, here is what an application must include. An abstract, a narrative, a budget worksheet, and other, in this solicitation, specifically, if you're Purpose Area 1, letters of intent, and if you're Purpose Area 2, memorandums of understanding. And again, there's specific information in the solicitation about what should be included for each of those. And again, this is a joint application. And so therefore, you have a lead victim service provider and a lead law enforcement agency submitting. You each have to submit the application separately, but there are all of these required documents for both.

I'm not going to spend much time on these, it just goes into more detail about what should be included in your proposal abstract. Please note this will be completed in a web-based form.

Proposal narrative, some more specifics about how to prepare that and it should not exceed 20 pages.

Key elements in that narrative, again, when these go through an external peer review process, which we'll talk about, they assess and score applications and these certain sections are weighted differently. And you can see the percentages here. The majority of the focus is on project design and implementation.

Here's just some tips, over the years that we've gathered, and applicants usually ask about. For your narrative, be brief, concise, and clear. Make sure that there are goals and measurable objectives, and that you have a realistic timeline that's clear to complete project goals and objectives.

For the budget worksheet and the budget narrative, this is also a web-based form. So again, for those of you who have last year, the year before, that might be familiar with the new JustGrants system, you may have used this. If you're brand new and have never submitted a federal grant before, this is a web-based form, so you're not uploading a budget or anything into the system. Make sure that those personnel costs relate to the key personnel for the budget, and that you are budgeting adequately across the 36 months. Anything that you believe is necessary and allowable and within scope for you to complete the goals and objectives and those deliverables that we talked about earlier. And that is up to you to determine how best to budget that, and it should be sound and correspond with information in the narrative. Note, again, there's some priority considerations that I talked about. And if you are going to request priority

consideration under those, make sure that that information is clear in your budget, again, if applicable.

Again, just some more tips around creating your budget: being specific, making sure it's measurable, attainable, relevant, and that the budget is time bound, broken down year by year.

This program, by statute, requires a match, which is 25%. This slide in the solicitation gives you a sample of how to calculate match. There are some resources also listed on OVC's human trafficking page around match or just the DOJ Financial Guide, etcetera, that also talks about match as well and links in the solicitation to those.

This solicitation and this program, the ECM Program, also has specific costs that have been deemed unallowable. These are on page 13. These are just the bullets. There is more explanation in the solicitation, but your budget should not include items or expenses around holding beds, stipends or incentives that you are requiring that clients must have to participate in services, primary prevention activities, as well as purchasing or leasing vehicles.

This is a lot. I'm not going to read through these. There is a checklist at the end of the solicitation, which is always very helpful, and I encourage everyone to go through. But I do want to highlight that there are some of the required attachments for the solicitation included on this list as well that may be new. Please note that there is a task force organizational chart that is a required attachment. Again, if you are Purpose Area 1 or Purpose Area 2, there is a letter of intent or an MOU that is required at time of application. The solicitation includes information about what should be included in those. And also, a plan to implement proactive approaches is also a required attachment and more details. So those are some attachments that are specific to this program. Many of these items here, again, are standard and across the board required OJP but I wanted to highlight a couple that were specific for this program.

Hallmarks of an outstanding application. OVC, we have some links in here later, I did a couple webinars earlier this year, around tips for submitting grant applications and some of this information is taken from those webinars. Ensure that it's simple and concise language, it's organized. You might be able to add some tables and graphs. Just again, be mindful of that page limit that you have, and that they--again, that's what has been in the grant guidelines. Make sure it's consistent with the solicitation, and solicitations change every year, every now and then. So again, make sure you know what the specific deliverables, objectives are for this FY 22 ECM solicitation. And then here, it's

just encouraging you to check and recheck and check again your budget and any other grant requirements.

Common reasons that are cited for a weaker application that come through our competitive review process. The narrative might be too ambitious or lacks focus, or has not noted or stated, therefore, it appears that they lack appropriate expertise to carry out the project, no evidence of feasibility. So again, these are external reviewers with expertise in a wide variety of disciplines and areas, but they may not be as familiar with your particular project, as you are, of course. And then obviously, poor writing and a lot of errors is often a reason cited for a weaker application.

All right, moving specifically into the application process itself.

Reminder, this is a two-step application process. There are two different deadlines that are important to remember: June 9th and June 16th. One is into Grants.gov and the other is the full application into JustGrants in Grants.gov.

Here is giving you some information about this high-level overview that it's okay to input information into Grants.gov and later update into JustGrants. But that final JustGrants submission should include all items as defined in the solicitation. And again, we're going to give you information, we're going to give you contact information. I cannot answer every single question about the technical aspects of this solicitation, that's why we have multiple numbers for you to call. I can talk to you about the programmatic aspects of this program. But the technical pieces about uploading into JustGrants or trying to troubleshoot something in Grants.gov., that is why we have all that contact information for you in the solicitation and encourage you to log on now and start figuring these things out and asking questions of Grants.gov and JustGrants, if you don't know.

So again, here, it's requiring you to do two things in Grants.gov and a reminder that this is separate from DOJ. This is not a DOJ system. This is federal. Sort of all federal grants across federal agencies are here. So just keep in mind it's a separate system, which is why there's a separate contact information for questions. Basically, you're going to apply for grants here in Grants.gov and then they're looking for an SF-424 and the SF-LLL, that's lots of letters and numbers for you, but they are referencing certain forms and pieces of information that need to be successfully validated and confirmed in order for you to continue on in the process.

All right, so again, the full application will be submitted into JustGrants.

Here, it's confirming where there are web-based forms in JustGrants. Again, just highlighting this, emphasizing this because it is different than in years past, where there were a lot of documents that were uploaded. These are now web-based forms, and there are certain forms here that *must* be submitted directly into the system: the Abstract, any solicitations-specific data, goals, objectives, deliverables, a Budget Detail Form, and then always to remember and double-check that Application for Disclosure of Duplication Cost. Again, that's where that checklist is super helpful, making sure you got all the required documentation and to do it early. Here again, as a reminder, to pay attention to these sections if it's required and it's actually asking you for web-based information, you cannot upload a document instead. Please be prepared for that and be able to use the format that's required in the application.

Here's a little bit of information about what to expect after you submit that. Basically, this slide is telling you that if you are successful and you are offered an award, you'll be notified of that before September 30th of 2022, which is the end of our fiscal year. And here, the next blurb or bubble there, is telling you who gets notified, because there's specific roles in the JustGrants system, and that's an entity administrator and the authorized rep who are going to get notified about if anything has changed, application submitters, entity administrators, and their rep when it's been received in JustGrants, and, of course, the entity administrator when the award notification has been sent. And also, a reminder that you as the applicant can check the system regularly to make sure if any upcoming deadlines for submitting your application have been addressed. Important note at the bottom here. Once the application deadline passes in JustGrants, so for this solicitation, June 16th, if you are going in and checking regularly after that date, it says you may see a banner that says its past due, but if your status says submitted, it's been received.

A reference here to the multiple JustGrants training resources that they have on their website. I find it to be very user-friendly and I refer to it often. The job aids, the videos, are very helpful. There's often screenshots of specific areas. Step-by-step instructions coupled with the videos. So please make use of those JustGrants training resources as well.

There is an OJP Grant Application Resource Guide. Here is the website that is also embedded in the solicitation itself. So, you can find that and access that. And I know Tammy is putting a lot of these links in the chat as well as we go in real time.

I mentioned this before, but OVC produced and held multiple pre-application webinars for general information about applying for federal grants, what to consider when putting together a budget, putting together that proposal and what to expect. One of those talks

a little bit about peer review and then we also have one around upcoming funding opportunities. So, there are many OVC funding opportunities currently available and more still to come. And you can also sign up from--news from OVC so that you can stay up to date. So those four are already done and available, recorded. They're on the OVC website. You can watch them. You can review the slides, whatever you have time for and are able to do, but I encourage you to do so.

More important resources. As I referenced before, please try to familiarize yourself with all of these as any of them could be handy and helpful to you in answering questions. General OVC site, the Financial Guide, obviously the JustGrants and the Grants.gov are helpful. General information about OVC's training and technical assistance performance measure reporting. If you're curious about what does that mean and what might you be required to do as part of this award is there.

And here is the very, very, very important slide that I'll probably come back to when we get to the Q&A. Again, some of your technical questions, I'm not going to be able to answer today and you're going to have to submit them to one of these numbers. So, again, technical assistance for Grants.gov. That's your first step. And the deadline is June 9th. There's an 800 number, an email, and a website. Same thing for JustGrants, 800 number, an email, and a website. And then OJP's Response Center, that too is, you know, mentioned before. Like, "Hey, am I eligible? Is my state government, does that fit?" Here, you're talking about the MOU, and you say that, "We need X, Y, and Z. I have a question about that," you know? So, anything that's a programmatic requirement related to the solicitation that we may not get to today, that is what that OJP Response Center is for. But the Grants.gov and the JustGrants are also really important for actually submitting that application and making sure you get the right information into Grants.gov so that you can submit the full application.

And, again, just a quick reminder of those dates, June 9th, June 16th. Notice the time. June 9th is midnight, essentially, and June 16th is 9:00 PM, not midnight.

Here, just a reminder. You can stay connected for future funding opportunities. And, a reminder, folks can put all their questions in the Q&A. So where I'm going to go to is in the Q&A box for questions when we get there.

So National Crime Victims' Rights Week happened already. However, you're welcome to use any of the artwork that we have to help inspire or use in your community and awareness materials if you'd like or if you just want to find out more about the activities that happened during Crime Victims' Rights Week.

You can also go social with us. There is our Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube link.

And now we are in the Q&A portion. And, again, please put all your questions in the Q&A box as you all are familiar with the technology too. I can only look so many places at one time. So I'm more apt to get it if it is in the Q&A box.

And I'm also going to put this slide up during questions and answers. And then I'm also going to ask Tammy and Daryl to also help me too. So, again, I'm going to be answering questions that you have submitted in here that are programmatic-related to the solicitation in general. If there's questions about your status, DUNS, you know, anything that's technical that's required for you to actually submit your application into Grants.gov and JustGrants, you're going to have to send or call Grants.gov, because they're very individualized and I can't access those systems so I can't answer those questions right now.

So, one question here. "For those of us who never had ECM funding, where do we go for something similar to this project?" I'm not sure--I just wanted to read it so that person know that I saw it, but I'm not sure where you go for something--I don't know exactly what you mean, so I'm going to ask you to maybe provide some additional clarification on that question.

Another question. "Has an award been given to a local PD or should people only partner with county, state, or federal partners?" So, again, the eligibility information is included on the front page. That's like the first couple of pages. It is on the first page. So in terms of who you partner with, that is up to you. If you are a local PD or if you're a sheriff's department or if you're a state agency, that is--you're eligible. That is completely up to you in terms of--I don't know what the landscape is in terms of your task force in your jurisdiction. However, as noted on page one and two, this solicitation requires each lead applicant to submit your entity application into JustGrants. That is an eligible lead law enforcement agency and an eligible lead victims service organization, so.

Somebody is asking that they have previously sent a question about eligibility. And, again, if they are, you know--sorry. An eligible--again, state government, local government, they would be eligible to apply. Okay. And for the previous person, it sounds like they've picked it up. Sorry.

This question is a good one. "Does the project have to encompass both labor and sex trafficking or can it be one or the other?" This solicitation, as we noted, requires you as a task force to focus on both. So it's not acceptable to focus all your efforts on sex trafficking of minors. So, all of those objectives that I talked about, the deliverables are

all focused on serving all victims from all forms of trafficking. So, we would expect that you would focus your efforts and work on identification of victims from both sex trafficking and labor trafficking and providing services to both as well.

Just I want to make sure I clarify, because there's another question about submission of the application and dollar amount. "So do both the law enforcement partner and the services partner submitting the application received up to \$750,000 or is it a shared amount?" So that \$750,000 is per applicant. So, it's basically \$1.5 million per task force. So, the lead law enforcement entity can request up to \$750,000 and the lead victim service provider partner can request up to \$750,000 as a joint submission for that task force.

I might ask for some additional clarification. This was--so there's an existing task force out there or a task force somewhere that, after reading this solicitation or announcement, seemed to think that it doesn't or does not prefer to support direct victim services through subcontracts with community-based victim service providers. So, I don't know why they think that. I think it explicitly states in the budget on the victim services' side that a majority of these funds are for direct services for victims and we actually asked you to spell that out whether or not you decide to do that as your entity or in partnership with others through subawards is also talked about as well. So, there's no language in there that OVC has stated that we prefer that that not happen.

"Will required attachments, in particular the Task Force Organizational Chart, be attached in JustGrants or part of the 20-page requirement?" So that's a good question. So, the 20-page requirement, that's your Narrative. So that's where you're going to be answering and responding to all of those criteria around statement of the problem, program design and implementation, you know, capabilities and competencies that we've talked about. The task force organizational chart is considered a separate attachment. So that was on that sort of longer list and it's a separate section of the solicitation as well. So, yes, that is a separate attachment and should not be--you might talk about it or reference it, right, in your Narrative but it is a required attachment separate from your Program Narrative.

Somebody is asking about having some more information about the match, the 25%. I don't know exactly what--more information you want, other than there is the 25% required. If you have questions about what can be considered match or be used as match, there's some links in the solicitation as well as the one slide here that had all of those resources listed, the DOJ Financial Guide, OVC Human Trafficking page has resources about match requirement as well, because, again, that's across the board with all of our human trafficking grants funded using the TVPA.

"Can officers be hired to work on the task force as some agencies are stretched thin?"
Yes. If you look on page--since I find it helpful to direct you to the page number because I know these are very long documents. So I can help you find it later. On page 18, in the middle of the page, it basically says so the applicant should reflect elements listed below in the Budget Worksheet Narrative. So, it talks about service providers, that priority within the budget should reflect sufficient funding dedicated to the provisions of services either directly or through project partners. And then law enforcement agencies, it says personnel. Caution that positions funded 100% with overtime funds are discouraged. But personnel to support law enforcement investigations, prosecutions, and that can include analytical or intelligence functions that directly support human trafficking cases.

There's a question, yeah, again, around primary prevention activities, because, again, the scope of the statutory authority under which OVC received funding to do this, through the TVPA, is very much focused on victim identification. So prevention isn't in our scope primarily. There's a lot of other, you know, HHS and State Department places like that--do a lot of focus on prevention efforts, per se. So here it would be if there are some indicators that someone is a potential trafficking victim or a confirmed victim but not somebody who just might be at risk, that you suspect might be. So, the bulk of your funding should be used for victim identification and direct services for trafficking victims.

Question, "Can one of the applicants have a subcontractor that the other applicant doesn't?" Sure. The budgets for these two are going to be different because, again as I noted, the scope of how the funding should be used for the service provider versus the law enforcement agencies is a little different so those budgets can be different. And, again, it's up to you to put together your budget in a way that you believe is best and most responsive to the requirements outlined in the solicitation. And so maybe you feel like that involves having a sub-award. That's up to you to propose.

Again, here to clarify around--this is--I think this is--because this application requires joint applications, it's a common question. And, again, if I don't answer it clearly, you know, make sure that you ask. But, yes, the law enforcement and service provider both need to separately submit the application. There are multiple aspects of the application that are going to be identical so it's going to be the same--and this is talked about on page--as of what an application should include. It talks about, you know, identical--page 14, 15. Pages 14 and 15. The following application elements must be included in the application to meet basic minimum requirements, submitted separately by each lead applicant, because, again, these are going to be separate grant awards, because the victim service provider is one fiscal entity, and the lead law enforcement agency is the

other lead entity. It's a joint application because you need the Abstract, the Narrative, you know, MOUs and things like that if it's required for your purpose area, those need to be identical, right? Because it's a task force and you're all working together, so what you're proposing is how you're going to be working together. It's the budgets that are separate because, again, the scope of how the funds can be used is different. So that is why, again, both the lead law enforcement entity and the lead victim service provider need to submit the application separately. So it's not one submission from one of you. Both of you need to submit it. And it's primarily an identical application document except for the budget.

This is a question about eligibility. "Our task force is about six years old. We've never received funding. Would we be eligible to apply?" That--again, it's up to you. You know, you wouldn't be eligible--again, you have to be able to demonstrate have you ever--has any of the lead entities of your task force--I don't know who your lead service provider partner would be or who your lead law enforcement entity would be--would be, but if none of them have ever received OJP funding, you know, then you would be eligible for Purpose Area 1, and then you would just need to ensure that you fit the criteria as stated in terms of eligibility. So, are you a state government, local government, et cetera, city or township government, nonprofits that have a 501(c)(3) status, et cetera?

All right. We're--a couple--thanks for all those that are hanging in here for the questions. "Are action research partners--are evaluations required in the solicitation?" No. There is no specific using of those terms listed in the solicitation. I will note, as I said, one of the objectives and then one of the deliverables involves ongoing data collection and assessment efforts and conducting that community assessment. So those are the requirements of the solicitation as it relates to objectives and deliverables.

"Can partners share coordination duties rather than hire a fulltime coordinator?" I'm not quite sure if I'm getting the gist of that question correctly. The requirement is that, as a task force, you have a fulltime coordinator that is dedicated to task force coordination. How you decide to fund that is up to you.

There's a question about eligibility around local prosecutor's offices as eligible entities. Yes, prosecutor offices are eligible, again, as long as you're a city, township government, county government, et cetera.

"Will this grant opportunity be available next year?" We never know. That is up to Congress, as they--and the President, as they obviously have an annual budget every year. So, we hope but we never know until we have a budget every year.

"If we're funding both the law enforcement and services component of our task force, do we submit two applications to the solicitation?" So that one I'm not clear on because, to me, that sounds like you're one entity that's representing both and so I don't know how you do that. But, again, there needs to be a law enforcement entity and a services provider entity. That one might require some follow up and submitting an email to the OJP Response Center there so we can gather a little bit more information from you.

"For previously funded ECMs who have split awards between the law enforcement and service provider, are there any scenarios to be aware of in regards to reapplication?" So I'm guessing this would be--if you're previously funded, you would. And if you choose--you know, tend to apply for Purpose Area 2, I would just say be familiar with all the objectives, mandatory program requirements, and deliverables as stated in the solicitation under Purpose Area 2.

There's a question about sustainability planning for Purpose Area 2. And if you're looking at the solicitation on page 10 and 11, it will list out the specific expectations of what's to be completed for Purpose Area 2 task forces.

There's another question about how many members of the task force can benefit financially? Could law enforcement and three service providers? I'm not exactly sure I understand all of that question, but essentially it is up to you. Again, the solicitation outlines the parameters of how the funding should--if there's any--like I said, if there's any unallowable costs specifically, generally how the funding should be used, and it spells out the requirements, and then it's up to you to determine what you need then to meet--to complete that, to successfully complete that. So, it's up to you to decide if you need one staff, three staff. You know the need. I don't know the need in your jurisdiction or that you're--the area that your task force is serving, and I can't help you strategize, right, about how to put that together. That--we're not able to do that. So just look at the resources that are available, look at the requirements as outlined, look at the scope and the purpose and the objectives, and then determine that in terms of what you think is then necessary to successfully complete all those goals and objectives.

There's a question about has a local government ever been awarded so far? So, we do have--OVC has a map on their website. And I know we just have two minutes left. OVC has a map on their website. ICP, one of our partners, has a map of ECM Task Forces. And, yes, because city and township governments and county governments and state governments have always been eligible, so if you want to see exactly who's been funded in the past, you can go to OVC website or ICP Human Trafficking page and see the map.

There's a question about what's required on the MOU? So, again, the solicitation lists out who the required signatories are. It's definitely the lead law enforcement entity, the lead victim service provider entity. We highly recommend a federal partner that you work with, but then if there's other partners that you have, then it's up to you in terms of who else you want to add to your MOU.

It is time now. So, Daryl, I don't know if you want to make any closing remarks, but I will say, again, to everyone, thank you so much for joining. If we did not get to your question today, please submit it early and often to either the OJP Response Center, if it's something programmatic, around the requirements of the solicitation, if it's something technical related to actually submitting, getting any required numbers, you know, or documents associated with your organization. And please be sure to log on to Grants.gov. Call them, email them, and get your questions early. Please, please, please do not wait until two days before to do any of this. Again, I say that, acknowledging that this is a lot of work. I know it takes a lot of work. So please do so early as possible. And thank you all for your interest in this funding opportunity.

DARYL FOX: Great. Thanks so much, Alissa. So, on behalf of the Office for Victims of Crime and our panelist, I want to thank you for joining today's webinar. This will conclude today's presentation.