

DARYL FOX: Good afternoon, everyone. And welcome to today's webinar, "Emergency and Transitional Pet Shelter and Housing Assistance Grant Program," hosted by the Office for Victims of Crime.

At this time, it's my pleasure to introduce Victoria Jolicoeur, program manager with the Office for Victims of Crime for some welcoming remarks and to begin the presentation. Victoria?

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Thank you so much, Daryl. All right. My name is Victoria Jolicoeur. I'm a program manager within the Divisionary--Discretionary Programs Division with Office for Victims of Crime. We want to thank you all for joining us today.

So we want to go over this web--What we want to go over in the webinar is the OVC overview and mission; breakdown of the solicitation, which includes the project purpose, goals and objectives, eligibility, application and award timelines, required documents; application process. And at the end, we'll have some time for questions and answers. It's also good to have a copy of the solicitation available as you follow along and take notes.

The Office for Victims of Crime administers the Crime Victims Fund, the Fund, which is financed by fines and penalties paid by convicted federal offenders and not from tax dollars. OVC channels that money towards victim compensation and assistance throughout the United States, raises awareness about victims' issues, promotes compliance with victims' rights, laws, and provides training and technical assistance and publications and products to victim assistance professionals. Throughout the Crime Victims Fund, OVC programs support victims in tribal communities, state victim compensation and assistance programs, provide training and technical assistance and information resources, support victims of human trafficking, and then the national scope demonstration and service projects.

So the timelines, these are very important dates that you want to keep in mind. Write them down again and again. Grants.gov deadline is Monday, June 13th, 2022. Then two weeks later, JustGrants deadline is Monday, June 27, 2022--I'm sorry, 2022. And DOJ expects to award grants no later than September 30th, 2022. All project start dates should be on or after October 1st. Please note some successful applicants may not begin work until the project--until the budget has been reviewed and officially approved by OJP. But any additional information and/or restrictions may be outlined in your award package.

Eligibility requirements. Here you can see kind of straightforward state government and other units of local government and Indian Tribes.

OVC--There are two categories this year. OVC will consider applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award. However, only one entity may be the applicant. Any other--any others must be proposed as a subrecipient. For additional information on subawards, you can see our OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

OVC may also elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2022 solicitation and future fiscal years dependent on among other considerations, the merit of the applications, and the availability of appropriation.

Program Description. The decision to leave an abusive situation can be made ever more difficult for the victim when it involves leaving a pet behind. This grant program will enable domestic violence shelters to become pet-friendly so that victims of domestic violence and their pets may seek safe shelter together. A large majority of domestic violence shelters do not allow pets and the reasons for this may vary. Therefore, this program will provide funding for those shelters that want to be able to house domestic violence victims and their pets. Examples of program activities include purchasing kennels, installing pet amenities, partnering with veterinarians to provide species-specific medical care, housing relocation, pet boarding, shelter modifications, and other activities related to providing services to support housing domestic violence victims and their pets together.

It's also worthy to note that grantees will make the housing and supportive services described above available to a victim for a period of not more than 24 months, which may be extended an additional 6 months in the case of a victim who has made good faith effort to acquire permanent housing for themselves and the victim's companion animal during that 24-month period, and have--and has been unable to acquire permanent housing within that period.

There's definitions here. You can see the term "domestic violence victim" means a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, as established in Public Law 115-334.

Pretty straightforward, the goal of this program is to provide shelter and transitional housing to victims of domestic violence and their companion animals. The objectives here, there are a couple. Increase the number of shelter beds and transitional housing options to meet the needs of victims of domestic violence who need shelter or housing for them and their companion animals. Then provide training on one, the link between domestic violence and the abuse and neglect of companion animals. Two, the needs of victims of domestic violence. Three, best practices for providing, or referring, support services to such victims. And then four, best practices in designing and delivering services that protect victims' confidentiality.

Deliverables. So there are--There are a couple here on the screen. I won't read through them all, it's a lot. But it's--you'll also--you can find this in the solicitation.

Services will be--will be measured quarterly by service hour or units delivered types of service, number of new and continuing victim services and other key data points. Grantees will also provide data to OVC on a number of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking with companion animals who were provided with grant-funded assistance and the purpose amount type and during of such assistance.

The OJP Priority Areas. OJP is committed to advancing the--advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equality, 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 the law enforcement and the community. One, priority considerations supporting Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equality and Support for Underserved Communities Throughout the Federal Government. Consistent with this executive order, the term underserved community refers to a population sharing a particular characteristic as well as a geographic community that has been systemically denied a full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civil life, or whose members have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by inequality. Such communities include, among others, Black people, Hispanic and Latino/Latina people, Native American and other Indigenous peoples of North America including Alaska Natives, Eskimos and Aleuts, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders.

Also, in support of Executive Order 13985, OJP will give priority consideration to applicants--applications, excuse me, that include projects that will promote racial equality 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. Now to receive this consideration, the applicant must describe how the proposed project will address those potential--those addressed potential inequities, excuse me, and barriers to equal opportunity and/or contribute to greater access to services for underserved and historically marginalized populations. B, give priority considerations to applicants that can demonstrate that their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed projects are enhanced because the applicant or at least one proposed subrecipient that will receive at least 30 percent of the requested award funding, as demonstrated in the budget worksheet and budget narrative, identifies as culturally specific--as a culturally specific organization. To receive this additional priority considerate--consideration, applicants must describe how being a culturally specific organization or funding the culturally specific subrecipient organizations will enhance their ability to implement the proposed project and should also specify which culturally specific populations are intended or expected to be served or to have their needs addressed under the proposed project.

And finally, culturally specific organizations are defined for purposes of the solicitation as private, nonprofit, or tribal organizations whose primary purpose as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to, among others, Black people, Hispanics, and Latino/Latina people, Native Americans, and other Indigenous peoples of North America.

Addressing these note--please note, addressing priority areas is one of the many factors that OJP considers in making funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration for one or more priority areas is not a guarantee of an award.

Federal Award Information here. OVC may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this solicitation through continuation awards. OJP will consider among other factors OJP-strategic priorities and recipient's overall management of the award, and the award-funded work's progress when making continuation decisions. This solicitation and award, if any are made under the solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in the solicitation is to and does not create any rival benefit substantive or procedural enforceable at law or in equity by any part against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person. OVC expects to make awards under this solicitation as grants. And you can see the Administrative National Policy and Other Legal Recipients--oh, excuse me, my goodness, slow down. Other Legal Requirements section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulation, and award conditions that apply to many OJP grants.

So this year, we have the two categories. Category 1, the dollar amount there is \$400,000. And then Category 2, which we are calling mini awards up to \$100,000 each. And the project periods are 36 months, both categories.

We just went over this, the type of awards that will be made; grants. Awarding agency maintains an oversight and monitoring role without substantial involvement with the awarding agency. For more information on grants, what grants are, how--you can see the [OJP Application Resource Guide](#), to meet the requirements. Sorry.

Application and Submission Information. So keep in mind, if you do not submit any of the required documents, your application will not be considered for funding. So pay close attention. When you see "must" in the solicitation, these elements--these elements must be included in the application submission to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to the peer review and receive consideration for funding. Proposal abstract, proposal narrative. And you can see the percentage--the weighted percentages of each. Proposal narrative will include the statement of the problem or description of the issue, project design and implementation, capabilities and competencies, planning for collecting the data for this solicitation's performance measures, and a budget worksheet and budget narrative. We have it noted on the slide. If you fail to submit any of the required documents, your application will not be considered for funding.

Proposal Abstract. A clear--a clear--An abstract is a clear and simple summary statement about your proposal. A proposal abstract, no more than 400 words, summarizing the proposed project including the purpose of the project, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries and subrecipients, if known, will be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be written in the third person and will be made publicly available on the OJP website, if the project is awarded.

The Proposal Narrative. Adhere to the proposal narrative formatting requirements. It's important. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length-related restrictions, OVC may consider such noncompliance in peer review and the final award decision.

So when you're--The proposal narrative format, when you are preparing your application, you want to outline all the grant requirements and make a plan to fulfill each and every requirement. We have a quick tip noted here for you. Outline all grant requirements, and make a plan to fulfill each and every requirement.

The Proposal Narrative, Description of the Issue. This section must include, so you want to make sure you clearly state the goals and objectives of this project in alignment with those stated in the solicitation. You want make sure you provide a description of the victim services that will be provided through the proposed project, such as an emergency and transitional housing assistance; assistance with expenses incurred for the relocation or temporary shelter housing, boarding, or fostering of the companion animals that are incidental to the securing the safety of the animals; and support services designed to enable a victim who's fleeing a situation of domestic violence to located and secure safe housing. Describe how and where these services will be provided. Also, describe planned training for relevant stakeholders on the link between domestic violence and abuse, and the neglect of animals; the needs of victims of domestic violence, best practices for providing support services to such victims; best practices for providing such victims with referrals to victim services; and the importance of confidentiality.

So, Proposal Narrative: Project Design and Implementation. The application must provide a clear link between the proposed activities and the need identified in the description of the issue section. This section must clearly state the goals and the objectives of the project. Goals and objectives must be in alignment with those stated in the solicitation. Provide a description of the victim services that would be provided through the proposed project.

So, we have some more quick tips here. Be brief, concise, and clear. Make sure the information is consistent throughout your proposal. Create solid goals and measurable objectives. Objectives should be SMART, here we have specific measurable, attainable, realistic, and time-bound.

Proposal Narrative: Capabilities and Competencies. Again, you have this section's musts. There's a lot on here. I won't read through it, but you want to demonstrate your institutional experience, describe specific roles and responsibilities, demonstrate the individuals who will staff the project are qualified to provide services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and can successfully implement the proposed project activities. Like I said earlier, when the sections--if you see must, make sure you respond to those must requirements.

Proposal Narrative: Plan for Collecting Data. Performance measures are parameters against which progress toward goals can be assessed, right? A common language

linking your plans and your performance, and consists of your programs, inputs, activities, outputs and outcomes, (i.e., a logic model). While this data satisfies the reporting requirement of your grant, it is all--it also provides an excellent opportunity to self-assess your program and your agency's processes. As a first step, review your program's performance measures focusing on the numbers, narratives, and any other data you will need to collect to answer the questions posed by OVC. OJP will require each successful applicant to submit their regular performance data that show the completed work result--work's results. Excuse me. The performance data directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables discussion. Applicants can visit OJP's performance measurement page at www.ojp.gov/performance for an overview of performance measurement activities. You can also find that in the solicitation.

Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative Web-Based Form. The applicant will complete the JustGrants web-based form, breakout the cost by year reflecting the 36 months total of the project activity. Applicants can see Budget Preparation and Submission Information section of the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) for details on the budget and associated documentation, such as information on proposed subawards, proposed procurement contracts under awards, and pre-agreement costs. For questions pertaining to budget and example of allowable and unallowable costs, visit the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#).

The former Excel version can help you prepare for your materials. If an applicant does not have--does not have access to Microsoft Excel or experiences technical difficulties with the Excel version, then the applicant should use the 508 compliant accessible Adobe Portable Document Format PDF version.

Create a SMART budget, okay? Just like your objective needs to be SMART, so does your budget. Your budget also needs to be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. Specific, be specific when listing all your subcategories. Measurable, if you utilize the budget template within this book, excuse me, then you will be able to adhere to measuring your budget appropriately. This is under the computation column of the budget. Achievable, ensure that your budget items, I'm sorry, are achievable. Your budget needs to make sense. Is there enough work for your project director to be hired at a full-time basis, for example? Also, on the flip side, do you have ample resources included in your budget to meet the objectives? Is there a required training for two staff to attend a three-day training in Washington, DC and your organization is based out in California? Would you only include \$100 for the training in the budget? No, you wouldn't. Or if you really could, let us know. Relevant, so relevant. If you put your timeline next to your budget, and you are sure that each item is accounted for, then your budget should be relevant. If you listed hiring a project director in your timeline and discuss the project director's role in your project design, then it would be relevant to include a project director in your budget. On the other hand, if you did not include a project director in your timeline or project design, then it would not be completely relevant to include in your budget. Finally, time-bound. Your budget is usually listed year by year or for a certain duration, into 3 years. It will be--excuse me, it will be confusing

for the reviewer. Some grant periods are less than a year and only for a specific season. Therefore, it is important to pay attention to what the duration is, even if you are applying for federal grant and it is a 3-year grant. They're going to want to see your budget broken down year by year.

Applications should also include, along with the three required documents, the following information should be included in the application submission. And you can see both columns here. This screen lists the other documents to be included. You can use the checklist in your review prior to submitting your application. The DOJ application submission checklist is another resource to aid you in developing your application.

Hallmarks of an application. While you are preparing your application, you want to make sure that you use simple and concise language. Information should be presentable and organized. Be realistic about how you will achieve your goals and get feedback from those who may run the project. Check, recheck, and check again, budget grant requirements, references, and any other grant details.

Common reasons for a weak application. Too ambitious or lacks focus. Applicant lacks appropriate expertise to carry out the proposed project. No evidence of feasibility. Also, don't assume that reviewers are familiar with your project or as familiar with your project as you are. And poor writing and a lot of errors.

So now we're going to go over the Application Process.

Remember these dates and we stated them earlier. You want to make sure that you complete your submission into Grants.gov by June 13th. But your full application is due in JustGrants and Grants.gov by July 27th at 8:59 PM. Pay attention to these dates.

Application Submission Overview. Okay. This part of the grant's lifecycle involves completing and submitting web-based forms as well as the attachments that are requested based on the requirements in the published solicitation. Okay? The process of submitting an application in JustGrants begins in Grants.gov. Once you have located a funding opportunity with DOJ, you will submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL in Grants.gov. If you are applying for funding from COPS office, you will also submit a supplemental to the SF-424. Aside from the SF-424, excuse me, and the SF-LLL, most of your application is entered into--in Just--into JustGrants. Little tongue twister. Your entity information is populated based upon entries made in SAM.gov and used in Grants.gov. So you want to make sure you have your SAM.gov registration also. You will have two application submission deadlines, one for Grants.gov and one for JustGrants. Most of the application requirements will be submitted from JustGrants. Excuse me. Each solicitation has an application submission deadline in Grants.gov. After this date, the solicitation is removed from Grants.gov and no one will be able to apply any longer. So it is highly recommended that you check the due date or you write down this due date. Excuse me. And try to submit at least 72 hours prior to the deadline to provide you with enough time to correct any errors and resubmit, if necessary.

Had to take a sip of water. Excuse me.

Okay. So applying in Grants.gov. Grants.gov login is separate from JustGrants. Grants.gov provides access to funding opportunities from multiple government agencies and is not managed by DOJ. We will provide a training video from Grants.gov website in the next slide as well as some screenshots of the site. However, if you have questions about Grants.gov, you will need to contact them for support. You will apply by selecting the option in Grants.gov to apply. You will log in using the email address you want to receive notifications. There will be a workspace icon that will--that will allow--that will allow you to access funding opportunities. Okay? Once you have determined any funding opportunity and applied, you will receive notifications from Grants.gov confirming receipt of the SF-424, and stating whether the SF-424 and SF-LLL were validated and submitted, or were rejected with errors. The notification will include an explanation for any errors. This is why it is good idea to submit in Grants.gov at least 48 hours prior to the deadline to give you some time you--to give you time you need--you may need to correct any errors. You will not be able to correct any errors or continue with the application process once the deadline in Grants.gov has passed. Keep that in mind.

Applying in JustGrants, you will submit your full application and all attach--all and any attachments into JustGrants at [JustGrants.gov](https://www.justgrants.gov).

Web-based forms for submission in JustGrants. There are certain web-based forms that must be submitted directly into the system, your proposal abstract and solicitation. For those who are return users, you will need to submit your goals, objectives, deliverables, and timelines, just like before. Make sure your budget information is included in the budget detail form. And lastly, your disclosure of duplication and cost items. Pay attention to required sections. If a section is required and presents you with web-based entries, you cannot upload a document instead. You must use the format required in the application.

What to expect after submitting an application? Well, after you've submitted--have submitted your application, you're probably wondering what's next. Once all the application for the solicitation have been reviewed, the entity will be notified, which all happens before September 30th. Please remember who your Entity Administrator and Authorized Representative are, for they will be notified when the deadline for applications will be changed. The system will also notify the Application Submitter, Entity Administrator, and Authorized Representative when the application has been received in JustGrants from Grants.gov. And the Entity Administrator will receive notification on when the award notification has been sent. If you have submitted your application, the status will be "submitted." You may also see a banner that indicates that it is past due. This banner indicates that the submission deadline has passed, not that your application is past due.

So, JustGrants training resources on the DOJ website. Once you've selected a topic to explore, you will open a page with training resources dedicated to that topic. Typically,

you will find a job aid reference guide and links to step-by step-videos. These are very short videos. They are meant to be used while you're working. Excuse me. So don't feel like you need to set aside a lot of time to do them. They can be really helpful if you are in the middle of a task in JustGrants and just want to verify next steps. The job aid reference guide provides step-by-step instructions with screenshots to help you walk through a task. You can print these or view them on the screen, depending on how you like to work. They are also a great reference, if you are in the middle of a task and want to verify the next steps. You will also find quick reference guides that will walk you--excuse me, walk you through step-by-step through specific tasks. There are two new quick reference guides in the performance group reporting topic, [Navigating to a Performance Report](#) and [Completing a Question Set and Submitting a Performance Report](#).

JustGrants office hours, you want to get in and you have some questions preparing to apply, entity onboarding. You can jump on, the [website](#) is on the--on the screen. I'm sure we have dropped it in the chat somewhere for you.

OJP Grant Application Resource Guide. This solicitation incorporates the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#) by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants for preparation and submission to OJP of applications for funding. If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.

OVC pre-application [webinars](#), holding here today to assist--this is to assist potential applicants in developing strong proposals in response to our [current funding opportunities](#). OVC hosts educational webinars for interested stakeholders to learn more about program objectives and submission requirements. A question and answer session is held before the conclusion of every webinar. If you'd like to sign up for [News From OVC](#) to stay up to date, you can do so.

And here's another list of important web resources. So, and they are referenced throughout the solicitation. That may be resources for you as you prepare your application, read the resource name. So if you want any information on any of the--anything that we discussed today, [performance group--measure reporting](#), all that is there, [grant financial guide](#).

And here's a list of important contact information. As you're preparing your applications, first is Just--Grants.gov, which is available to provide technical assistance when submitting the SF-424 and the SF-LLL. They, Grants.gov can be reached by phone at 1-800-518-4726 or email and we just dropped it in the chat for you. And then next, JustGrants, which is also available to provide technical assistance on submitting the full application. Their telephone number and email is also dropped in the chat. And then finally, the OJP Resource Center, which is available to provide technical assistance with programmatic requirements, they can be reached by phone and email as well.

Applicants should consider--should consider reviewing one of the previously recorded Application Mechanics--Application Mechanics: Submitting an Application sessions. Submit part one by the deadline in the solicitation. Submit part two by full application date, which is June 27, 8:59 PM, Eastern.

And then finally, sign up and stay connected. We're always uploading some new information--some new information or resources for you, and just [stay in touch](#) with us and what's going on in OVC. And again, we'll drop that in the--in the chat as well.

And if you are social, you have any social media, and you'd like to follow us, we're there on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#).

And finally, to submit a question, use the Q&A box and select all panelists.

DARYL FOX: All right. Thanks so much, Victoria, for that useful presentation. A lot of good information there.

Just a reminder to the attendees today, the PowerPoint, recording, and transcript will be posted to the OVC website. So if you need to go back and reference anything, you'll have the chance to do so. And you'll get a notice in your email when those items are posted. If you do have a question, as Victoria said, you'll enter in the Q&A box, send to all panelists. We have some time remaining today we can get to those as they are submitted.

So, looking in the queue at this time. "Regarding the eligibility, can a single nonprofit submit based on the "other" determination that was listed?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Can a single nonprofit submit based on what? I'm sorry, I don't--yes. A nonprofit--a single nonprofit, you don't have--you don't have to sign up with someone else. You don't have to. Is that the question?

DARYL FOX: "Can a single nonprofit submit an application in the "other" determination of eligible applicants?" I guess within this slide here, you know.

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Oh, yes. Right. Other. Yes. I'm sorry. Yes.

DARYL FOX: And regarding...

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Let me go back to the eligibility. Let me go back to eligibility because--let me just go back. So yeah, I--there's a little--there's some missing. Yes. The answer is yes. So this is not out--eligibility, I just will go really quick. Any other organization that has documented history of effective work or work concerning domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, that would include domestic violence and sexual assault, victim service providers, or any other nonprofit or nongovernmental organization, or any organization. And it's in the solicitation. My apologies. It's this eligibility criteria is missing a couple of other eligible entities. So

animal shelter, well--animal well--animal welfare organizations are also eligible, any organization that works directly with pets, service animals, emotional support animals, or horses, and collaborates with any of the organizations that we talked about earlier.

DARYL FOX: "Are MOUs needed for the grant application? If so, where do you submit those?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: So, the MOUs are--it's not--it's not one of the requirements. But as if you're--so if you're working with an organization, when you get--if you--if awarded, we would definitely want to see the MOUs.

DARYL FOX: "Would an entity qualify for funding if they haven't built the pet shelter yet? Could it go towards funding a new shelter? Or does it need to be an established shelter?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: It does not need to be an established shelter.

DARYL FOX: And then, "can one partner..."

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: But you want to make sure that--go ahead. I'm sorry.

DARYL FOX: No, please. No. Please.

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: But you want to--you do want to make sure that you have the capabilities to do the work.

DARYL FOX: "Can one partner with a local animal shelter?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Yes.

DARYL FOX: "Should an organization submit two different applications to be considered for the large award or the mini award? Or can you submit one for the large award and indicate you would not be interested in the mini award? Or indicate you would be interested in the mini award, if the large is not awarded?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: We don't have anything that says you can't submit for both categories. But, you know, if you--if you are awarded--well, so the application submissions, the proposals are reviewed, they go through a peer review process. So it's not necessarily a thing where you want to go if this, then that. You want to make sure that your project activity aligns with either the larger award or the smaller award amount. So it needs to make sense in either proposal.

DARYL FOX: The next question somebody had is, "if it's not technical in nature and have questions, who can they contact?"

And I put this slide up, the OJP Response Center is going to be your main contact there at 800-851-3420 or at grants@ncjrs.gov. So anything programmatic within the solicitation itself, contact them. And if it is technical, you would want to contact Grants.gov or JustGrants, depending on an entity you have a question about.

And somebody did have a “question about the dates.”

Once again, there are two separate due dates one for Grants.gov and the other for JustGrants. So definitely want to get that in early prior to these deadlines, in case there are any technical issues. If you do not make the Grants.gov deadline, it will not be eligible to pass through to the JustGrants. So that first important date: June 13th.

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Yep.

DARYL FOX: “Regarding the shelter question, again, are construction costs allowable or the purchasing of kennels, etc.?”

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Yes. So you can purchase kennels, that is one of the examples that I think we used. Yes.

DARYL FOX: And then, somebody wanted some clarification on the idea of two or more entities. “What’s the degree of separation for those? Their local government staffs a DV shelter and is already a partner with this shelter. Would this be an acceptable two-party entity? For the grant, could a vet be a partner?”

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Yes.

DARYL FOX: “Could funding for this grant be used to pay for pet deposits for survivor housing?”

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Yes.

DARYL FOX: “Is there a list of previously funded projects or qualifying projects within this program?”

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: I--If I’m not mistaken, there may be the funded, previously funded awards on the OVC website.

DARYL FOX: “Is there a percentage of the budget that must go to emergency safe housing, versus pet support items?”

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: No.

DARYL FOX: And then “could you just briefly explain the difference between the large and mini awards besides the dollar amount? What are you particularly...”

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Sure.

DARYL FOX: "...looking for, for each?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Yes. So basically, that's it, we kind of--We, kind of, got some feedback. And we want--wanted to make sure that maybe there were smaller shelters or organizations who didn't necessarily need a \$400,000 award, but they will look--needed the support, the funding support on a--on a smaller scale. So that was, kind of, the idea behind that.

DARYL FOX: "If an application submitted to go towards building a shelter, does the shelter have to be up and running by October 2022? Or can it go towards a capital campaign?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: So we--is--do you--So okay, as far as construction, do you want to build a shelter?

DARYL FOX: Yeah, that seems to be stated in the question.

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Yeah. No. So you--we're not necessarily able to break ground. But you can do building renovation and things like that. We have--if the award--we'd have to make sure that, again, it's not breaking ground type of construction.

DARYL FOX: "What type of documentation are required to provide as far as domestic violence work goes, if you're an animal welfare nonprofit?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: I don't--I don't think I understand the question. And I may have to get back to you on that. So you could submit that to the OJP Response Center.

DARYL FOX: "Could funds be used for pet vaccines required, for those who have been approved for safe housing, but will need the pet vaccinated prior to admission?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Yes, we can--we cover those types of pet costs.

DARYL FOX: "Would the installation of fencing for pets qualify, or is that considered a construction cost?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: If it's not breaking ground, but you could--you could submit that question to the OJP Resource--Response Center in a little more detail and then maybe we could get back to you on that. But we're not breaking ground. But installation on a--or previous--something that's already there, that sounds like something that would be allowable.

DARYL FOX: "Letters of support be submitted; would that enhance an application?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: I'm sorry--I'm sorry?

DARYL FOX: "Letters of support, are those able to be submitted?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: It's not a require--It's not a requirement. I don't think in the solicitation that we have that. But if you have them and you want to submit them, I would follow the solicitation requirements and make sure I have the--you have those--everything that is a must-required, and then if it falls under the should, then you can--you can add that. But you want to make sure you submit the requirements because the peer reviewers review the application based on what was submitted, versus what was asked for.

DARYL FOX: "And if an entity is awarded, how is it managed monetarily? Is it reimbursement based or is..."

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Yeah. So when you say--so--okay. So no, this is not necessarily a grant reimbursement based. But that sounds like, that's more of a question that's like, while you're--once you're awarded and you're submitting things for reimbursement that you've already paid, that--it's not necessarily reimbursement based. But if you want to go and you have a further, a deeper question, you could submit that to the Response Center and I can try and get a better response for you.

DARYL FOX: "Is there such thing as an acceptable indirect cost percentage one can reference?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: No, I don't have anything to reference. But you could submit that to the OJP Response Center.

DARYL FOX: And then, "can funds be used for emergency vet services, as needed?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: Yes.

DARYL FOX: And then, this was sort of addressed earlier, just clarification from a couple people. "Is the MOU required for the two entities?"

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: You want to make sure you go back to the solicitation and review the required documentation.

DARYL FOX: And actually, somebody did enter that on page 20 of the solicitation, it does list MOU under additional components. So you can, as Victoria said, reference page 20 of the solicitation for the requirements there.

Another question on the reimbursement grant based question. So for that person, definitely want to contact the OJP Response Center, here grants@ncjrs.gov. Go ahead and enter your question, and they'll be able to provide a comprehensive response for you specific to your question.

Okay. And then actually, “regarding once submissions are in, could you explain the process as far as the next steps once applications are submitted?”

I think I can put this--I can put the slide back up. And it lays out what to expect after submitting your application.

And basically, “I don't know if you have any information on the peer review process.”

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: That would be great. I could--I was--I was actually looking for the slide. So I didn't--I didn't miss--so I don't--didn't misspeak over it. So I was looking for the slide. I know we talked about it. What to expect.

DARYL FOX: And there's a couple of questions on “if they cannot make the submission date by the June dates, will this opportunity be available again next year?”

VICTORIA JOLICOEUR: We would hope. There's never a guarantee that funding is going to be available. But you can always sign up for updates and notifications from OVC. So you can stay ahead of our funding announcements.

DARYL FOX: Okay. So that will conclude today's program. 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.