NC Annual State Performance Report

Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

Reporting Period: [Oct 1, 2019 to Sept 30, 2020]

This aggregated data is self-reported by the grantees and subgrantees in each state/territory.

OVC VOCA Assistance Funds

	2017-VA-GX-0050	2018-V2-GX-0061	2019-V2-GX-0067	2020-V2-GX-0057
Federal Award Amount	$56,971,254.00	$103,435,763.00	$70,371,764.00	$52,368,300.00
Total Amount of Subawards	$55,289,142.00	$97,605,647.00	$52,101,047.00	$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	174	167	124	0
Administrative Funds Amount	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Training Funds Amount	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Balance Remaining	$1,682,112.00	$5,830,116.00	$18,270,717.00	$52,368,300.00

Subgrantee Organization Type
The total number of subgrants represents all subgrants funded across all federal awards active during the reporting period. The number is not unique as there are subgrantee organizations that are continuously funded from each federal award.

Type of Organization	2017-VA-GX-0050	2018-V2-GX-0061	2019-V2-GX-0067	2020-V2-GX-0057
Government Agencies Only	**25**	**22**	**10**	**0**
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Courts	9	8	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	1	0
Law Enforcement	2	0	3	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0
Other	14	14	6	0
Nonprofit Organization Only	**149**	**139**	**112**	**0**
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	31	23	29	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	7	1	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	15	25	7	0
Faith-based Organization	0	0	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	57	41	29	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	8	6	4	0

Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	10	11	9	0
Multiservice agency	15	16	22	0
Other	6	16	12	0
Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0
Court	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	0	0	0	0
Faith-based organization	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0
Organization provides domestic and family violence and sexual assault services	0	0	0	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0
Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Campus Organizations Only	**0**	**6**	**2**	**0**
Campus-based victims services	0	4	0	0
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	0	0
Other	0	2	2	0
Total Number of Subawards	**174**	**167**	**124**	**0**

*This number is not unique across fiscal years as there are subgrantee organizations that are funded from multiple federal awards.

Subaward Purpose A single SAR can select multiple purposes. Numbers are not unique				
	2017-VA-GX-0050	**2018-V2-GX-0061**	**2019-V2-GX-0067**	**2020-V2-GX-0057**
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	107	110	82	0

B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	26	18	14	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	41	37	28	0
D. Start up a new **Native American** victim services project	0	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing **Native American** project	0	2	0	0

VOCA and Match Funds
A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are not unique

	2017-VA-GX-0050	2018-V2-GX-0061	2019-V2-GX-0067	2020-V2-GX-0057
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	161	157	118	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	142	148	109	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	147	144	118	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	94	86	69	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	144	138	104	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	173	165	123	0

Priority and Underserved Requirements

Priority Area	2017-VA-GX-0050	2018-V2-GX-0061	2019-V2-GX-0067	2020-V2-GX-0057
Child Abuse				
Total Amount	$17,041,983.00	$17,293,689.00	$19,546,805.00	$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	30.00 %	17.00 %	28.00 %	
Domestic and Family Violence				
Total Amount	$21,242,365.00	$33,239,329.00	$17,170,377.00	$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	37.00 %	32.00 %	24.00 %	
Sexual Assault				
Total Amount	$6,723,701.00	$12,010,573.00	$6,062,501.00	$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	12.00 %	12.00 %	9.00 %	
Underserved				
Total Amount	$9,263,903.00	$34,096,453.00	$9,032,836.00	$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	16.00 %	33.00 %	13.00 %	

Budget and Staffing

Staffing Information	2017-VA-GX-0050	2018-V2-GX-0061	2019-V2-GX-0067	2020-V2-GX-0057
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	540445	2348	1331	

Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1313210	1777027	1295633	
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	6763	15557	10849	
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	385211	822570	239657	

AGGREGATED SUBGRANTEE PERFORMANCE MEASURE DATA

Victimization Type

Victimization Type	Number of Subgrantees Indicating Intent to Serve This Victim Type	Number of Individuals Who Actually Received Services Based on a Presenting Victimization				
		Quarter 1 Total	Quarter 2 Total	Quarter 3 Total	Quarter 4 Total	Per Quarter Average
Adult Physical Assault (includes Aggravated and Simple Assault)	126	15356	15943	14371	17536	15801
Adult Sexual Assault	3	5136	5272	3553	15385	7336
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	154	1715	1360	1047	1604	1431
Arson	20	413	262	181	249	276
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	1	3705	3337	3070	4022	3533
Burglary	28	3477	2403	2479	3189	2887
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	175	6358	6259	6240	6575	6358
Child Pornography	104	266	232	144	174	204
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	1	7131	6189	5848	7582	6687
Domestic and/or Family Violence	28	46937	45288	40377	47940	45135
DUI/DWI Incidents	23	1856	887	671	1656	1267
Elder Abuse or Neglect	1	1327	636	500	632	773
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	53	61	27	26	26	35
Human Trafficking: Labor	104	194	198	166	210	192
Human Trafficking: Sex	1	543	487	452	608	522
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	1	5865	6131	5656	10417	7017
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	52	462	512	415	498	471
Kidnapping (custodial)	57	97	95	76	151	104

Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	22	145	160	184	42	132
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	31	1540	2097	1815	3303	2188
Robbery	33	1836	1823	1539	2059	1814
Stalking/Harassment	155	4927	4843	3810	4913	4623
Survivors of Homicide Victims	3	819	598	503	667	646
Teen Dating Victimization	152	636	246	198	327	351
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	17	87	122	108	131	112
Other	6	750713	1895932	1685465	110137	1110561

Special Classifications of Individuals

Special Classifications of Individuals	Number of Individuals Self Reporting a Special Classification				
	Quarter 1 Total	Quarter 2 Total	Quarter 3 Total	Quarter 4 Total	Per Quarter Average
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	242	245	204	293	1006
Homeless	4242	4309	3820	4429	16188
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	3067	2960	3086	3095	11536
LGBTQ	1083	1081	868	1100	3193
Veterans	1030	883	924	1026	2832
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	3409	3315	3035	3397	13069
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	4809	4707	4040	4575	21217
Other	706	374	744	498	429742

General Award Information

Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	429508	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	4406663	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	269534	62.75 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	83680	19.48 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	19070	

Demographics

Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian or Alaska Native	2135	0.79 %
Asian	1627	0.60 %
Black or African American	55122	20.45 %

Hispanic or Latino	18155	6.74 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	439	0.16 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	97118	36.03 %
Some Other Race	1670	0.62 %
Multiple Races	3421	1.27 %
Not Reported	73062	27.11 %
Not Tracked	16785	6.23 %
Race/Ethnicity Total	**269534**	
Gender Identity		
Male	64521	23.94 %
Female	167627	62.19 %
Other	4636	1.72 %
Not Reported	30674	11.38 %
Not Tracked	2076	0.77 %
Gender Total	**269534**	
Age		
Age 0- 12	22650	8.40 %
Age 13- 17	11741	4.36 %
Age 18- 24	27505	10.20 %
Age 25- 59	109125	40.49 %
Age 60 and Older	13703	5.08 %
Not Reported	71986	26.71 %
Not Tracked	12824	4.76 %
Age Total	**269534**	

Direct Services				
Service Area	**# of Subgrantees That Provided Services in This Category**	**# of Individuals/Contacts Receiving Services**	**Specific Service**	**Frequency of Service**
A. Information & Referral	309	234720	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	260237
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	285597
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	126379

			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	197848
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	291	96569	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	5940
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	18885
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	13647
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	236917
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	12575
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	7799
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	7607
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	16510
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	30681
			B10. Interpreter services	17730
C. Emotional Support or Safety Services	308	134741	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	177963
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	137071
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	6613
			C4. Individual counseling	146351
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	26223
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	21868
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	24384
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	192	17194	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	119242
			D2. Transitional housing	4400

			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	11986
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	266	4659047	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	5025824
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	46626
			E3. Assistance with restitution	30719
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	71929
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	12380
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	18990
			E7. Immigration assistance	8184
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	15443
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	55038
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	36395
			E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	37787

ANNUAL QUESTIONS

Grantee Annually Reported Questions	
Question/Option	**Count**
Were any administrative and training funds used during the reporting period?	
Yes	1
No	0
Did the administrative funds support any education activities during the reporting period?	
Yes	1
No	0
Number of requests received for education activities during the reporting period.	848
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	4409
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	132
Did the grant support any coordination activities (e.g., with other service providers, law enforcement agencies) during the reporting period?	
Yes	1
No	0
Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.	

Materials necessary for GCC s annual Grant Writing and Grant Award Workshops and published Request for Applications (RFAs) are made available for the upcoming application period . Included is an electronic copy of the Grant Management Guidelines for all attendees to use for ongoing reference. Other workshop materials and presentations are available on the GCC s website for convenient access. This year, due to COVID-19 and necessary safety restrictions, GCC developed 2 virtual workshops, as opposed to the 4 in person workshops offered the previous years. This allowed 1276 attendees to participate and access information and guidance. Educational materials were developed and provided by statewide agencies who receive a portion of administrative and training funds. These agencies include: the NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence, (NCCADV) the NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NCCASA), the NC Victim Assistance Network (NCVAN), the NC Human Trafficking Commission (NCHTC), and Child Advocacy Centers of NC (CACNC). Each of these organizations provide subject-matter training, guidance on best practices, and requirements for programmatic compliance to best serve vulnerable populations across the state. The NCCADV provides a Training Program for local domestic violence response agencies and stakeholders across the state on domestic violence response and best practices. Content experts create facilitation guides and have standardized materials for each individual training. The NCCASA continues to develop Statewide and County-wide info graphs and website guides related to sexual assault and similar offenses for service providers and the public. The NCHTC continues to maintain fact sheets on human trafficking incidents and response for local community groups, response teams, and other service providers. PowerPoint presentations are available for training with human trafficking 101 and human trafficking within the agricultural industry. In addition, The NCHTC is in draft form of a Toolkit for providers and a training for the healthcare industry. The NCVAN continues to provide tangible resources to survivors of homicide victims and others harmed by violent crimes in the state. Through administrative funding, NCVAN has developed materials and curricula on vicarious trauma. This training involves exercises and materials that target prosecutors and advocates. Additionally, the training team has cultivated materials for their website to include webinars and information about series, making it easier for staff to access training events.

Describe any planning or training events held during the reporting period.

(Service delivery and training delivery has transitioned due to the COVID-19 pandemic.) GCC hosts workshops for subrecipients and applicants. The Grant Writing Workshops focuses on the pre-award process through the GCC, and educates subrecipients on the policies, procedures, and requirements for all VOCA-funded projects through the GCC. The Grant Award Workshops provide training on compliance for VOCA-funded projects on topics related to 2 CFR 200, cost principles, audit requirements, documentation and record-keeping requirements, monitoring procedures, financial reporting, additional DOJ guidelines, and GCC Grants Management policies. This year, the GCC collaborated with OVC-PMT to provide guidance to subrecipients about PMT validation and best practices. Additionally, the GCC collaborated with OVC-PMT to provide formal training to GCC grant managers on PMT validation practices. The NCCADV conducted trainings on domestic violence basics, language access, teen dating violence, issues impacting immigrant communities, technology abuse, children and domestic violence, and mental health. NCCADV facilitators participate in short train-the-trainer sessions so that they may bring new skills back to their trainings. Members of the coalition have asked for more trainings on how to serve survivors with disabilities. The NCCASA conducted webinars and online trainings on sexual assault victim response, resources, and best practices. The NCVAN developed curricula on vicarious trauma geared toward prosecutors and advocates. The NCHTC provided training events for local community groups, regional response teams, task forces, coalitions, law enforcement, and not-profit/non-government agencies. CACNC has provided trainings focused around child advocacy centers and the requirements of accredited organizations. CACNC has provided multi-disciplinary team trainings, two statewide symposiums, and forensic interview training. Additionally, CACNC developed an abbreviated narrative interview training for first responders and began training, a physical abuse simulation lab for the MDT, and sex abuse 101.

Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.

The GCC publishes an updated Request for Applications (RFA) each fiscal year with updates to policies, procedures, and priorities. The funding priorities are determined by the Commission and posted on the GCC web page each September. The updated RFA highlights additional policies of the GCC and various federal entities to ensure ongoing compliance with new and previously funded programs. Through updates of the RFA, the GCC works to strengthen grant writing requirements of applicants and subrecipients. Initial pre-award risk assessments are conducted for new agencies that have never been awarded projects. This assessment reviews the new subrecipient s organization structure, accounting procedures and practices, programmatic goals, personnel policies and procedures, as well as the agency s general policies and procedures. Due to COVID-19, these assessments were conducted remotely. GCC continues to work on improvements to grants management and monitoring practices within the agency. Grant Management staff provide regular monitoring of awarded grants at different periods throughout the life of the grant, which includes initial risk assessments of awarded projects, desk reviews, and regular site visits. The Grants Management team s updates to the risk matrix tool and the site visit monitoring tool has proven to be more concise on metrics and program outcomes. The Governor s Crime Commission s risk assessment policy updates have allowed for increased compliance with 2 CFR200.331(b), which requires that federal grant recipients and pass-through agencies evaluate each subrecipient's risk of noncompliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the sub award for purposes of determining the appropriate subrecipient monitoring or specific conditions. While first time subrecipients receive a pre-award risk assessment, most risk assessments are conducted by Grant Managers when assigned a new grant. Risk assessments should be completed in

the first 90 days after a grant in opened in our Grant Management Enterprise System (GEMS). A risk assessment can be conducted using the Risk Matrix Tool. This tool assesses subrecipient risk in: key/leadership staff qualifications, history of meeting reporting requirements, funding utilization, amount of funding, and a self-assessment of internal controls. Subrecipients are assigned a risk level of LOW, MEDIUM, or HIGH based upon this risk evaluation. Subrecipients may also be assigned to a higher risk level outside of the risk matrix tool based upon documented concerns by the Grant Manager. A copy of the subrecipient s risk evaluation form and a copy of documentation pertaining to the subrecipient s compliance, financial, and or organizational risk should be uploaded to the project s electronic file. Medium and high-risk subrecipients are not automatically prohibited from receiving new awards from the GCC. However, subrecipients determined to be at increased risk will receive extra monitoring and technical assistance as needed, or special conditions to ensure that federal funds are being used appropriately. The following special conditions may be applied to those that are High-Risk Status: additional monitoring (both programmatic and financial), requiring additional detail to financial reports, and establishment of additional prior approvals. The Grants Management team develops plans to assess the project concerns and the risk for misuse of federal funds. It is recommended that actions be taken to assess the subrecipient through either a site visit, desk review, conference call, or meeting following the high-risk determination. Based upon the assessment, the Grant Manager should document and convey to the subrecipient the actions that the subrecipient needs to take to address concerns and if any special conditions need to be met. All policies and procedures were developed according to and consistent with OVC s Guidelines and the Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide for the awarding and monitoring of grants.

Describe any earned media coverage events/episodes during the reporting period.

On March 19, 2020, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued OMB memorandum M-20-17, Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) due to Loss of Operations, affording Federal awarding agencies with additional flexibilities to provide administrative relief to funding recipients affected by the loss of operational capacity and increased costs due to the COVID-19 crisis. The Commission used reverted program funds for outreach and coordination due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Describe any coordinated responses/services for assisting crime victims during the reporting period.

Collaboration with local and statewide organizations is a GCC requirement for agencies applying for VOCA funding. In addition, agencies must demonstrate their willingness to provide coordinated community responses to victims of crime, maintain Memoranda of Understanding/Agreement s with partner agencies-indicating the responsibilities of each partnering agency. Service delivery and training delivery has transitioned due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This practice is especially important for Family Justice Centers and partnering agencies who share office space and collaborative services. The GCC maintains application priority designated for Collaborative/Multi-Agency Models (Family Justice Centers) and accepts applications for the development of models across the state. Funding awarded to Collaborative/Multi-Agency/Family Justice Center models assists local communities in providing services to victims through the establishment of co-located service models. Where funded, proposals promote the collaborative effort of service providers in making services more available to victims and promote the collaborative efforts of agencies within a local/regional area. Each center establishes a collaborative plan specifying how victims will access services and must provide evidence of pre-existing collaborative relationships between partners. All MOU/MOAs must outline how the collective will provide core services to victims of crime. Some examples of partners in existing projects include domestic violence advocates, sexual assault advocates, child advocates, law enforcement, prosecutors, civil legal support, and mental health services.

Please discuss the major issues in your state that either assist or prevent victims from receiving assistance during the reporting period.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact and caused us to have to make fast and creative adjustments with our members, partners and community. GCC staff, members, victims, and community are making new choices about how to live, receive education, services and are all challenged with creating new expectations about flexibility, working conditions, technology, safety and life balance. A continued, now heavier issue is accessibility to services for victims in rural communities, who struggle with meeting needs due to lack of transportation and public transit services, and now personal protective equipment and high-risk health issues. Statewide partners have adapted quickly to the necessity for COVID policies and virtual or online training events. GCC continues to utilize the Crime Victim Services Advisory Group learn about promising practices, emerging issues, and chronic challenges faced by communities throughout North Carolina. The Advisory Group consists of staff from individual agencies and subrecipients throughout the state who provides input on barriers that prevent victims from receiving assistance. The Governor s Crime Commission and its Statewide Partners are focused on resiliency concerning new obstacles arising from the COVID-19 crisis, including victim identification issues, ability to maintain 24/7 response, implementing and maintaining social distancing safety. Statewide partners continue to highlight the need for a law enforcement task force specific to human trafficking efforts, which is not VOCA-fundable. Additionally, there is a need for emergency housing for victims of human trafficking, 24-hour case management response, and additional specialized services for this victim population. While the state has populous areas in need of resources, the identified barriers are especially detrimental to culturally specific communities and in rural/remote areas of the state. There is a continued need for culturally specific service providers that are equipped to support

specific victim populations; this includes African American communities, Latinx communities, immigrant communities, and LGBTQ+ communities. Additional barriers include a shortage of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, a lack of qualified medical forensic examiners, and a backlog of untested sexual assault forensic examination kits.

Please describe ways that your agency promoted the coordination of public and private efforts within the community to help crime victims during the reporting period.

During this reporting period, GCC was able to fund projects that assisted during the initial COVID-19 crisis on a statewide basis to ensure victims were aware that services continue to be available and to respond to victim needs. (1) Individual assistance to crime victims was provided for emergency housing, food, clothing and other items needed to restore the victim s sense of security, vouchers to certain hotels and technology to assist with connecting victims to direct services through non-traditional methods. (2) Additionally, outreach campaigns to crime victims were provided supporting public awareness and education designed to inform crime victims of specific rights and services and provide them with or refer them to services and assistance. Subrecipients oversaw the outreach campaign via contracting with multi-media outlets (tv, radio, web ads/PSAs, social media platforms and other technology-based media) based, served as the subject matter experts on the content, and were the referral recipients(s) in the outreach materials. Additionally, the Crime Victims Services Team at the GCC holds quarterly meetings to bring public and private agencies together to discuss common issues. These meetings foster a collaborative atmosphere the emphasize how each of the agencies can contribute to and support other groups to provide a higher level of service to victims of crime. Training delivery has transitioned due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please describe any notable activities at the grantee level during the reporting period that improved delivery of victim services.

The Commission thru VOCA funding, continues to supports a program that works to combat human trafficking among justice-involved youth through direct services at youth development centers across the state. This project has supported in increasing the capacity of local programs that work with youth victims of human trafficking. They identify and respond directly to youth who have been victimized and provide resources and services for victims of other crimes in this population (which may include dating violence, child abuse, and sexual violence). Additionally, COVID has caused many staff to redesign service deliver to include virtual therapy and support group sessions, victim app creation, and lodging costs and needs.

Please discuss each priority (i.e., child abuse, domestic assault, sexual assault, and underserved) in which VOCA funds have been used to assist crime victims during the reporting period

GCC allows subrecipients to structure/prioritize the focus areas of the Commission and those of the Office for Victims of Crime. Federally mandated minimum allocations are met through the following GCC-identified priorities: Sexual Assault/Spousal Abuse Victims Services, Child Advocacy Centers, and Underserved Crime Victims Services. The remaining priorities published in our 2020 VOCA Request for Applications include: Legal Services for Victims of Crime, Collaborative/Multi-Agency Models, Victims of Human Trafficking, Child Abuse Victim Services, Other Services for Victims of Crime, and Automated Victim Notification Services. Under the Sexual Assault/Spousal Abuse Victims Services, proposals should include a plan of action to provide core crisis intervention services to sexual assault and/or intimate partner abuse (domestic violence) victims including client outreach services, legal assistance, crisis line operation, relocation expenses, evidence-based mental health services, shelter services, information and referral services, transitional housing, language crisis line, and sexual assault examinations/rape kits. Through the Child Advocacy Centers priority, proposals must describe services provided by an accredited Child Advocacy Center (CAC) or a provisional CAC who is developing child advocacy services. Agencies must submit a letter of support from CAC NC. All applicants must have a signed interagency agreement with the District Attorney s office, Department of Social Services & Law Enforcement. Proposals include costs to cover direct services personnel for advocacy, mental health services, child medical evaluation, forensic interviews, and forensic medical evidence collection exams. In addition, if an accredited CAC wants to provide additional/enhanced services, that project would be included in the Child Abuse Victims' Services priority. As provided by OVC, Underserved Populations may be distinguished by the crime type or by demographic characterizations. Proposals should describe services to a population defined by communities to be underserved. For example, rural populations, disabled victims of crime, African American victims, family/friends of homicide victims, American Indians/tribal victims, LGBTQ+ victims of crime, culturally specific populations, immigrant crime victims, male victims of crime, and elderly victims of crime. Under the Legal Services for Victims of Crime priority, proposals are accepted for state, regional or local legal non-profit agencies to provide services to victims of crime including victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, human trafficking and/or child abuse. Proposals are considered for statewide legal agencies/organizations providing legal services to crime victims and local/Regional Non-Profits that provide legal services to crime victims. Through the Collaborative/ Multi-Agency Models priorities, proposals promote the collaborative effort of service providers in making services more readily available to victims and to promote the collaborative efforts of agencies within a local/regional area. Funding awarded under this priority assists local communities in providing services to victims through multi-agency co-located service provision. This priority was previously identified as the Family Justice Centers priority; however, the language has been updated to include other types of collaborative models. For Victims of Human Trafficking, proposals are accepted from agencies to address human trafficking, including child victims of trafficking by increasing the level of awareness of human trafficking and

improving the level of service provided to victims. Proposals include strategies for improving / developing multi-system, interagency, multi-disciplinary responses to the needs of human trafficking victims, including improving and/or developing interagency protocols on effective response and/or improving and/or developing an advocacy council, task force and/or multi-disciplinary team to, among other tasks, meet regularly to review current services/cases. Proposals for Other Services for Victims of Crime include a plan of action to provide enhanced services to victims such as transitional housing, relocation services, forensic medical examinations, sane nursing services, forensic interviews, emergency legal assistance, emergency medical assistance, client outreach services, court advocacy services, evidence-based mental health services, services to address victims of financial fraud and/or identity theft, and services to victims addressing the intersection of violence and substance abuse. Finally, under the Automated Victim Notification Services priority, proposals focus on statewide automated victim notification systems and technology services with text notification and preferred alerts to victims on the status of offenders including location and legal status changes with jail/court.

Please briefly describe efforts taken to serve Victims of Federal crime during the reporting period.

In addition to the conditions and regulations governing VOCA program eligibility, the GCC requires all applicants seeking VOCA funding to submit a letter to their regional US Attorney to notify them of their agency s ability to provide resources to victims of crime. Additionally, an upload of the letter must be provided at the time of application for funding. Programs must also identify an individual or individuals responsible for assisting crime victims with applying for victim s compensation. This covers the range of victimization that may cross state lines. This requirement is consistent with all VOCA applications and has not changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Please identify any emerging issues or notable trends affecting crime victim services in your state during the reporting period.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused the GCC to make fast and creative adjustments with our members, partners and community. In addition to the living restrictions and disruptions, the victim services field has faced unique and complex. The GCC, along with our community partners have continued to be flexible, providing support and free resources and opportunities to connect with services, recognizing the need for remote work while continuing to serve victims. Emerging issues reported to the GCC include challenges with technology, including barriers for victims seeking assistance through the criminal justice system. As technology continuously changes, legal issues surrounding victim services has become challenging to navigate. Other ongoing issues remain to be services geared to address the intersection of substance use disorder and specific victimizations, a lack of housing for victims of human trafficking, a shortage of transitional housing, and providing resources to victims for long-term stability.

Please briefly outline any staffing retention issues that your victim assistance program has and why these issues may occur during the reporting period.

Due to COVID-19 staff needs and stress levels have increased which in turn increases agencies needs to support staff and retain employees. Staff illness due to COVID-19 whether temporary or permanent has affected agencies ability to provide services. Lack of ability to do traditional fundraising activities has reduced agencies budgets-due to community restrictions-this has affected the ability to meet match requirements as well as maintain non-grant funded salaries. Due to the reductions in VOCA funding since 2018, many projects/staff funded by projects were not able to be funded.

Please explain your state process to publicize its victim assistance funding for services to victims of crime during the reporting period.

Prospective subrecipients are notified of funding availability through a variety of means. Annually, the GCC publishes updated Requests for Applications to the website, in addition to making this information available at the annual Grant Writing and Grant Award workshops. Statewide coalitions and agencies also receive notification of funding availability to share with local agencies across the state. These coalitions include the NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault, the NC Human Trafficking Commission, Child Advocacy Centers of NC, and the NC Victim Assistance Network. These agencies are well connected to local programs across the state. Additionally, current and previous subrecipients receive notification through email regarding the availability of VOCA funding. The Crime Victim Services Advisory Group, whose members may belong to various local and statewide agencies, also refers interested entities to the GCC for information on funding and the application process.

Please explain how your state is able to direct funding to new/underserved populations during the reporting period.

The partners of the Crime Victims Services team, along with agencies across the state continue to collaborate to make improvements with regards to our funding strategies. Through the Crime Victims Services Advisory Group, our goals include learning about promising approaches, emerging issues, and chronic challenges faced by specific communities throughout the state. The Commission continues to participate in outreach to agencies and groups across the state, making them aware of funding opportunities. Partnering statewide agencies who work alongside local agencies, also prioritize underserved and culturally specific communities. Examples of these agencies include the NC Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the NC Coalition Against Sexual Assault, and the NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement. Finally, collaborating with other funding sources, such as STOP/VAWA, helps build relationships with local agencies who provide funding to culturally specific populations. VAWA funding allows us to continue to explore ways of reaching culturally specific organizations.

Please explain how your program is able to respond to gaps in services during the reporting period.

The GCC funded Statewide partners with emergency COVID-19 funding from our VOCA Assistance program funds. With the COVID-19 Grants, NCCACNC was able to assist and provide direct services to victims of child abuse and their non-offending caregivers as it relates to the COVID pandemic. COVID has created tremendous challenges to service providers trying to serve those in need, while also meeting the health and safety needs of clients and staff. This pandemic, creates a critical need to ensure that victims seeking justice and healing, are able to access services safety and affectively. GCC maintains a close working relationship with local and statewide agencies, in efforts to inform them of our funding priorities and to give insight to the gaps in services through progress reporting, grant monitoring, outreach, and other assessment-based approaches. These approaches may be in collaboration with other funding sources. Through this collaboration, the GCC is able to identify resources that may be used to support agencies in providing uninterrupted services to the crime victim population. Where available, the GCC may provide funding to agencies during the funding period who may identify increased needs for services or require emergency funding. Examples of this may be agencies in areas of the state that are impacted by adverse weather events (such as hurricane flooding). Where possible, the GCC may provide reverted or unallocated funding to support agencies ability provide continuous funding to those victimized by crime.

Please list and explain any outcome measure(s) that are reported to the governor, legislature, or other state entity during the reporting period.

Outcome measures include data reported to the Office for Victims of Crime through the quarterly and annual PMT reporting measures. Additionally, many funded programs have public-facing reports on the number of crime victims served and the amount of funding devoted to victims of crime throughout the state. All GCC subrecipients are required by North Carolina General Statues 143C-6-23 to file annual reports on how that subrecipient has utilized all State or Federal pass-through grant funds. There are 3 reporting levels with differing forms to be completed at each level. GCC also reports each year to the N.C. General Assembly (the Legislature) on all levels of funding and the number of sub awards issued. GCC reports to General Assembly as well as to individual members of the General Assembly — both members of the House of Representatives as well as the Senate on specific requested grant information. GCC has a statistical analysis center which collects, and analyses grant data. Results are shared with the General Assembly, the Council of State, members of the Commission, the law enforcement community, etc. Service delivery and training delivery has transitioned due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*This data Entry has been completed by Daun Brown on 2020-11-20 16:16:36.993.