

# OK 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.*

<b>OVC VOCA Assistance Funds</b>				
	<b>2017-VA-GX-0003</b>	<b>2018-V2-GX-0001</b>	<b>2019-V2-GX-0012</b>	<b>2020-V2-GX-0002</b>
<b>Federal Award Amount</b>	\$22,336,310.00	\$39,885,767.00	\$27,033,125.00	\$20,069,000.00
<b>Total Amount of Subawards</b>	\$21,581,494.00	\$35,665,231.00	\$16,008,339.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Number of Subawards</b>	165	216	128	0
<b>Administrative Funds Amount</b>	\$754,816.00	\$1,994,288.00	\$1,350,156.00	\$0.00
<b>Training Funds Amount</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Balance Remaining</b>	\$0.00	\$2,226,248.00	\$9,674,630.00	\$20,069,000.00

<b>Subgrantee Organization Type</b>				
<small>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.</small>				
<b>Type of Organization</b>	<b>2017-VA-GX-0003</b>	<b>2018-V2-GX-0001</b>	<b>2019-V2-GX-0012</b>	<b>2020-V2-GX-0002</b>
<b>Government Agencies Only</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Courts	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	6	15	10	0
Prosecutor	25	31	21	0
Other	4	0	0	0
<b>Nonprofit Organization Only</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>0</b>
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	34	47	24	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	0	2	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	7	9	2	0
Faith-based Organization	1	1	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	22	36	11	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	2	1	1	0

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Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0
Multiservice agency	14	26	14	0
Other	31	30	27	0
<b>Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	2	4	2	0
Court	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	5	5	11	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	4	4	2	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	1	1	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	2	1	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	2	2	2	0
Other	3	1	0	0
<b>Campus Organizations Only</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
Campus-based victims services	0	0	0	0
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	1	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Number of Subawards</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>0</b>

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

<b>Subaward Purpose</b>				
A single SAR can select multiple purposes. Numbers are not unique				
	<b>2017-VA-GX-0003</b>	<b>2018-V2-GX-0001</b>	<b>2019-V2-GX-0012</b>	<b>2020-V2-GX-0002</b>
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	147	203	122	0

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B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	9	4	2	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	6	9	2	0
D. Start up a new <b>Native American</b> victim services project	2	1	2	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing <b>Native American</b> project	3	4	0	0

**VOCA and Match Funds**

A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are not unique

	2017-VA-GX-0003	2018-V2-GX-0001	2019-V2-GX-0012	2020-V2-GX-0002
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	149	207	123	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	155	207	127	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	96	143	71	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	52	83	47	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	116	166	101	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	159	215	128	0

**Priority and Underserved Requirements**

Priority Area	2017-VA-GX-0003	2018-V2-GX-0001	2019-V2-GX-0012	2020-V2-GX-0002
<b>Child Abuse</b>				
Total Amount	\$3,962,834.00	\$5,442,897.00	\$2,973,533.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	18.00 %	14.00 %	11.00 %	
<b>Domestic and Family Violence</b>				
Total Amount	\$7,900,296.00	\$14,015,124.00	\$5,436,800.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	35.00 %	35.00 %	20.00 %	
<b>Sexual Assault</b>				
Total Amount	\$3,488,628.00	\$5,489,359.00	\$2,522,835.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	16.00 %	14.00 %	9.00 %	
<b>Underserved</b>				
Total Amount	\$6,132,504.00	\$10,608,750.00	\$4,948,839.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	27.00 %	27.00 %	18.00 %	

**Budget and Staffing**

Staffing Information	2017-VA-GX-0003	2018-V2-GX-0001	2019-V2-GX-0012	2020-V2-GX-0002
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	2290	3850	719	

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Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1007512	1847566	629813	
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	11996	9087	2877	
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	181227	303100	121479	

**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)	106	4967	4758	4326	5325	4844
Adult Sexual Assault	116	2019	1990	1452	1805	1816
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	72	624	695	479	628	606
Arson	38	73	59	54	97	70
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	69	1169	1316	1027	875	1096
Burglary	52	1968	2108	1987	2453	2129
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	2	5684	5430	5387	6305	5701
Child Pornography	51	134	88	144	90	114
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	1	3574	3114	3059	3788	3383
Domestic and/or Family Violence	158	19154	18865	15466	17470	17738
DUI/DWI Incidents	1	445	373	319	466	400
Elder Abuse or Neglect	1	501	201	184	228	278
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	7	5	2	1	6	3
Human Trafficking: Labor	23	78	35	27	28	42
Human Trafficking: Sex	55	43	149	131	129	113
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	58	2485	4308	3961	3508	3565
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	62	202	195	251	181	207
Kidnapping (custodial)	40	30	51	41	37	39

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Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	10	2	9	14	13	9
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	39	601	574	482	723	595
Robbery	53	453	481	413	470	454
Stalking/Harassment	114	4438	3837	3203	3552	3757
Survivors of Homicide Victims	1	1009	1022	670	783	871
Teen Dating Victimization	37	101	231	120	173	156
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	10	17	12	29	43	25
Other	1	1643	1452	1578	2008	1670

**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	112	89	72	78	487
Homeless	1362	1274	945	1223	5632
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	408	452	387	342	1367
LGBTQ	242	248	208	193	1028
Veterans	205	120	133	192	745
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/Physical /Mental	1974	1416	1074	1439	6874
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	668	605	482	507	2808
Other	23	69	11	1	225

**General Award Information**

Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	146335	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	6034	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	93965	64.21 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	28939	19.78 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	10293	

**Demographics**

Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
American Indian or Alaska Native	9530	10.14 %
Asian	526	0.56 %
Black or African American	9025	9.60 %

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Hispanic or Latino	5750	6.12 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	402	0.43 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	45902	48.85 %
Some Other Race	399	0.42 %
Multiple Races	2645	2.81 %
Not Reported	19762	21.03 %
Not Tracked	24	0.03 %
<b>Race/Ethnicity Total</b>	<b>93965</b>	
<b>Gender Identity</b>		
Male	25115	26.73 %
Female	56003	59.60 %
Other	99	0.11 %
Not Reported	12748	13.57 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
<b>Gender Total</b>	<b>93965</b>	
<b>Age</b>		
Age 0- 12	17470	18.59 %
Age 13- 17	7407	7.88 %
Age 18- 24	9241	9.83 %
Age 25- 59	38753	41.24 %
Age 60 and Older	5101	5.43 %
Not Reported	15992	17.02 %
Not Tracked	1	0.00 %
<b>Age Total</b>	<b>93965</b>	

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	163	106259	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	85720
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	88105
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	45281

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			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	53539
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	169	72029	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	1477
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	3657
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	4255
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	91629
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	8490
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	384
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	4676
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	2882
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	10539
			B10. Interpreter services	1096
C. Emotional Support or Safety Services	104	49781	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	49771
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	16302
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	2696
			C4. Individual counseling	34288
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	16759
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	6426
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	8088
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	68	7160	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	58169
			D2. Transitional housing	23675

			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	1531
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	134	88719	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	65686
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	6733
			E3. Assistance with restitution	31861
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	43849
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	109216
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	2565
			E7. Immigration assistance	3959
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	5464
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	2186
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	7119
E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	9679			

### ANNUAL QUESTIONS

#### Grantee Annually Reported Questions

Question/Option	Count
<b>Were any administrative and training funds used during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	1
No	0
<b>Did the administrative funds support any education activities during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	1
No	0
Number of requests received for education activities during the reporting period.	66
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	362
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	25
<b>Did the grant support any coordination activities (e.g., with other service providers, law enforcement agencies) during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	1
No	0
<b>Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.</b>	



The Victims Services Division and Training and Outreach Divisions of the District Attorneys Council partnered with the Attorney General's office to update the Oklahoma Crime Victims Rights Information brochure to reflect the updates due to Marsy's Law that took effect November 1, 2019. The below revised victim rights brochure can be found at both the District Attorneys Council and AGs Office Websites for easy access by victims and law enforcement: <http://www.oag.ok.gov/Websites/oag/images/Victims%20Rights%20Brochure%20-%20Revised%2011-2019.pdf> In addition, VOCA funds are also used to print and provide these brochures to law enforcement in the field. In addition, the Training Division assisted with the redesign of the Caddo County Resource Card given to victims of domestic violence.

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

In March 2020, the Training Division hosted an Advanced CCR/SAR Team and Victim Assistance Training event, in Tulsa, OK. The agenda is in the attachments. The training was set up as a mock crime that followed the victim from the point of report through the trial. We discussed best practices for interviewing victims, trauma informed care, and practiced de-escalation techniques. The mock crime was set as a strangulation event in a living area, and we were able to have a hands on experience with a device the trainer provided that when you squeezed it, it measured the force output and showed the level of injury that force would inflict. During the trial portion of the training, we covered how to testify in court, and best practices for prosecution, as well as PTSD and how to prevent re-traumatization in the court room. In addition, the Training Division provided 14 in-person training events, and during COVID, the Division provided 17 VOCA centered web based training events, bringing the total number of training events to 31 for the reporting period. Some of the sessions were repeat titles, for instance, we get multiple of requests for Evidence Based DV and Lethality Assessment Protocols, which was provided 6 times during the reporting period. Some of the other training events were: CCRT Training, Commutations 101, Determining the Predominant Aggressor, Domestic Violence, Law Enforcement, Dynamics and Responses to Abuse in Later Life, Following the Digital Breadcrumbs: Identifying, Preserving, and Presenting Digital Evidence, Forfeiture by Wrongdoing, Human Trafficking, OKDHS's Response to Covid-19, Practical Child Abuse Investigations Prosecuting Cases Involving Victims with Developmental Disabilities: A Focus on Sexual Assault (AEquitas), Q & A with Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs, Ready. Help. Go; Part of the Be a Neighbor Initiative Responding to Domestic Violence, Stalking Identification and Response, The Science and Power of Hope: Hope Rising, Trafficking and Exploitation Within Gangs, Victim Protective Orders (VPOs) during the Pandemic, Victim's Rights Regional Training, Violence Against American Indian and Alaskan Native Women, Multi-Disciplinary Training

**Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.**

The only program policy change related to virtual monitoring visits. Due to COVID, on-site visits were discouraged and in some cases just not possible. Our agency utilized Microsoft Team to hold virtual site visits.

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

Please see additional attachment in JustGrants for response.

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

Many VOCA-funded programs are members of CCRT/SART and MDT teams in the counties they serve. They attend meetings and work on making things better for victims and work to keep them in the state system for as short a time period as possible to ensure a safe permanent home. Training and case staffing are provided through the CCRT meetings which helps with networking among community responders and permits members to discuss how they can improve services to victims. Programs described maintaining contact with victims through text message, e-mail and telephone during the pandemic. COVID disrupted many of the community events that bring together those serving victims of crime and others in need, but CASA, in particular, continued to work with State and national CASA associations to ensure our work moved forward as well as possible during the pandemic. New policies and procedures were drafted and implementing to ensure the foster children assigned to their program were being served to the best of our ability. Many programs also switched paper forms to pdfs so those could be emailed during those months when face-to-face contact was impossible. Programs did their best to make sure victims still had personal contact with advocates. One program described that they hold events throughout the awareness months to raise awareness of domestic and sexual violence prevention. They were able to do the October DV events in person last year, 2019, however the subsequent months of Stalking, Teen Dating Violence and Sexual Assault in 2020 necessitated virtual awareness raising through social media and news outlets. They actively engage on Facebook and Instagram where they posted encouragement and information daily. Another program chose to host a weekly virtual Breakfast Club sessions which are open to partner and community agencies where guest speakers are brought in to train on various topics in order to keep everyone engaged. There were 40 Lunch and Learns, with 700 attendees, which focused on topics including: Victims Resistance to Violence, Coercion, and Oppression, DVNEs: What They Are, The Benefits and the Referral Process, Gangs in OKC, Mental Health - Hearing Voices Simulation, Stalking, Spiritual Care at Palomar, Infant Mental Health and Wellbeing, Catholic Charities: Disaster Service, Holy Family Home, and Sanctuary Women's Development Center, Counseling Services at Palomar, Overview of Victim Services at DOC, Childhood Sexual Abuse and Problematic Sexual Behavior of Children, and LGBTQ+ Trauma Informed Care.

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

The major issue in the State is insufficient State and Federal resources to adequately continue to assist victims of crime. Due to the pandemic, programs have become increasingly reliant on VOCA funding at a time when VOCA cuts have become inevitable. The pandemic has cut down on fundraising activities and programs are struggling to keep volunteers and services to crime victims intact. There are no State funds to fill the financial gaps that exist and the situation will become dire in FFY 21 if the looming 78% cut to VOCA becomes a reality. Oklahoma is currently using FFY 2020 VOCA funds and there is very little carryover from the 2020 grant to absorb such a massive cut in FFY 2021. Programs will be forced to terminate services to victims and staff.

**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.**

Promoting the coordination of public and private efforts within the community to help crime victims is always a top priority. Within the VOCA grant application, applicants are asked to identify how they coordinate public and private efforts and this is a focus of our monitoring visits. During the reporting period, DAC collaborated with NVAA and OVCTTAC to hold a pilot effective management series entitled: Sustaining Your Program's Capacity To Serve Your Community which focused on coordinating public and private efforts. There were 60 VOCA-funded programs showing an interest the first day it opened for registration and only 40 could attend. This interest demonstrated the need for this type of training, which will only increase as VOCA funds are reduced. With the advent of the McGirt Supreme Court ruling, Victim Assistance programs have increased and refined their collaborative efforts with tribal and federal agencies investigating child abuse and other major crimes involving victims and perpetrators who are tribal members.

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

With the McGirt Supreme Court ruling, the DAC State-Tribal Liaison has been instrumental in bringing together State and Federal victim advocates in order to facilitate the seamless transition of victims services from the State system to the Federal system so the victims in those transferred major crime cases continue to receive basic victim services. This is an ongoing effort that will extend into FFY 2021 and beyond.

**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**

Sexual Assault: One program had a victim who was sexually and physically assaulted by her boyfriend who was a doctor. She initially did not want to pursue charges because of how difficult it would be for her emotionally. She eventually did decide he needed to be held accountable and charges were filed. The victim advocate was instrumental in keeping the victim informed and provided much needed guidance along the way. We also helped her get victims compensation for out of pocket medical and counseling expenses. This was a lengthy process that ended with a jury trial conviction and a prison sentence. Domestic Violence: A female victim was in an increasingly abusive relationship. The female's husband was physically, emotionally and sexually abusive to her. The victim was in her final semester at college and was working hard to get away from her abusive partner while trying to keep her grades up. Her abuser had other plans. He worked hard to get her kicked out of school. He would do things like call campus police and report she was selling drugs on campus. He also called her professors and threatened them. Once the VOCA-funded program became involved, they were able to make referrals to get a protective order. They also worked with the college to get the victim's schedule changed so her perpetrator couldn't find her and she was given time off for meetings with attorneys. Finally, she was given other accommodations so that she could be successful. She was able to graduate in May. Child Abuse: VOCA funds were used to fund forensic interviewers. Clients and their families wrote the following after the forensic interview: "It was a great experience and we felt very comfortable." "Friendly, welcoming, inviting atmosphere with staff that truly care." "Comfortable friendly environment for my girls so they felt safe." "People were friendly & helpful with all my concerns with other children in family." "The kindness we received and how patient everyone was. Another program wrote the following: In one of our cases involving a 17-year-old teenager, her CASA inspired her to get her driver's license, reach out to learn about applying to a local university, and to continue working on life skills through Oklahoma Successful Adulthood. She does not wish to be adopted, but she wants a better life for herself and her CASA encourages her to pursue that dream. For infants and very young children who do not have the ability to express their wishes, our CASAs work very hard to ensure their safety and to determine what is in their best interests. One of our advocates was assigned to two young boys who adamantly stated that they did not wish to return to their mother, who had a long history of choosing partners who were violent with both her and her children. The boys feared for their safety and wished to stay with their paternal grandmother, but their pleas to stay with her were largely ignored. Through her persistence with the child welfare workers, the boys' attorney, and with the constant contact with the biological family, she was able to help all the parties come together to agree on a guardianship plan for the boys to stay with their grandmother. The boys finally found peace that their concerns were heard inside the courtroom and that they have permanency with a family member. Underserved: A district attorney's office who serves primarily underserved crime victims reports that they

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received a number of phone calls during the reporting period from victims who are so grateful for the efforts our program has made in collecting restitution on their behalf. One individual who was assisted in filing for Oklahoma Crime Victims Compensation in a horrific domestic abuse case said the money she received gave her a chance to start over. VOCA funding has given the resources to have dedicated staff to help victims pursue their rights and receive court-ordered restitution in our rural community. The VOCA program in one of our tribal communities writes the following: VOCA funds made it possible for the abused and neglected children to remain in contact with 4C staff and their art therapist during the pandemic. COVID 19 created new forms of stress for our children. Having the ability to work through that stress with their art therapist is very beneficial to the child and allows them the opportunity to explore a traditional approach to resolve or relieve the stress they are experiencing.

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

With the McGirt Supreme Court ruling, many State cases will now be Federal cases. State prosecutor offices, many of whom receive VOCA Assistance funding for victim services, will continue to serve victims of crime in Federal cases by providing victims compensation assistance. Advocates at the State level will also continue to refer victims of Federal crimes to resources within the community.

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

In July 2020 regarding McGirt v Oklahoma the U.S. Supreme Court found that the lands given to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN) as their sovereign territory by the U.S. government (and eventually Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee and Seminole territories) remain to this day Indian land. Therefore, under relevant laws and treaties, the enforcement and prosecution of crimes committed by Indians or against Indians on Indian land are under the exclusive jurisdiction of tribal government or the U.S. government. The immediate area affected by the decision was the Muscogee (Creek) reservation. The reservation boundaries include all or part of eleven counties, two U.S. Attorneys offices, and seven DA districts. The long-term effect on victims and victims services is uncertain as the decision may also affect other reservation areas and a larger geographical area of the state. However, in the MCN reservation alone a number of challenges to criminal case prosecution have emerged. For instance, appeals by Native American defendants seeking retrial in the federal courts are stressing victim witness, investigative, and prosecutorial resources in the U.S. Attorneys Offices. In addition, new criminal cases involving either an Indian offender or Indian victim are inundating the same USAO s, MCN law enforcement, and MCN Attorney General. Consequently, the short term result of overburdened federal and tribal criminal justice systems is many victims becoming lost in the transition of cases from one system to the other.

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

There are no staffing retention issues at the SAA level at this time. In July 2020, the VOCA Board made cuts to funding for existing VOCA programs. Staffing retention will be difficult with these cuts and are expected to worsen in the next fiscal year.

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

The SAA publicizes the victim assistance funding opportunities by mailing funding announcements to: existing programs, statewide coalitions, all Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police, all District Attorneys, and all Tribes. The request for funding proposal is also e-mailed to listservs and e-mail addresses of all those who have requested to be put on the VOCA funding announcement mailing list.

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

The State directs funding for new/underserved populations by encouraging existing projects to reach out to the underserved in their communities, particularly American Indian Tribes. Oklahoma is unique because it is a checkerboard jurisdiction between state and Tribal jurisdictions. Tribal programs are encouraged to apply for VOCA funds and are provided technical assistance during the application process.

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

Prior to the new VOCA rule being enacted, we heard time and again that the biggest gap in services related to civil legal services for crime victims. We addressed this gap by funding 21 separate Legal Aid grants aimed at providing legal services throughout the State. These Legal Aid projects collaborate with the local DV/SA programs in every area of the State. Another gap identified continues to be legal services in Indian Country. The VOCA Board is addressing this gap by continuing to fund civil legal services provided by the Native Alliance Against Violence Circle Project. This project funds attorneys with knowledge of Tribal code who can assist victims of crime in Tribal Court with Victim Protective Orders, child custody, and other legal difficulties crime victims face. With the implementation of the Marsys Law State Constitutional Amendment that was passed by a ballot measure November 6, 2018, we anticipate the roles of the VOCA-funded attorneys will be expanded as they may be asked to also advocate for the constitutional rights of the crime victim throughout the criminal case. This makes the cuts to VOCA

especially difficult because this need is so great.

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

No outcome measures were required in 2019/2020.