

WA 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-0061	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022
Federal Award Amount	\$41,060,865.00	\$74,702,737.00	\$51,207,272.00	\$38,159,100.00
Total Amount of Subawards	\$39,007,822.00	\$61,243,583.00	\$8,266,497.00	\$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	421	318	59	0
Administrative Funds Amount	\$2,053,043.00	\$3,735,136.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Training Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance Remaining	\$0.00	\$9,724,018.00	\$42,940,775.00	\$38,159,100.00

Subgrantee Organization Type				
<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>				
Type of Organization	2017-VA-GX-0061	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022
Government Agencies Only	58	54	38	0
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Courts	3	2	0	0
Juvenile Justice	2	2	0	0
Law Enforcement	1	2	0	0
Prosecutor	52	47	38	0
Other	0	1	0	0
Nonprofit Organization Only	325	228	21	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	23	25	1	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	18	6	0	0
Faith-based Organization	0	1	1	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	13	5	1	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	38	35	4	0

Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool (PMT)

Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	18	8	0	0
Multiservice agency	194	130	6	0
Other	21	18	8	0
Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only	38	36	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	6	4	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	9	5	0	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	4	4	0	0
Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	3	4	0	0
Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	12	14	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	4	5	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Campus Organizations Only	0	0	0	0
Campus-based victims services	0	0	0	0
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Subawards	421	318	59	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-0061	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	359	302	56	0

Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool (PMT)

B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	48	11	1	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	2	3	1	0
D. Start up a new Native American victim services project	8	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing Native American project	13	2	1	0

VOCA and Match Funds

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

	2017-VA-GX-0061	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	286	266	22	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	358	257	20	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	217	214	15	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	65	34	0	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	248	251	59	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	413	304	59	0

Priority and Underserved Requirements

Priority Area	2017-VA-GX-0061	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022
Child Abuse				
Total Amount	\$8,027,656.00	\$15,767,881.00	\$1,554,726.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	20.00 %	21.00 %	3.00 %	
Domestic and Family Violence				
Total Amount	\$12,899,236.00	\$16,169,982.00	\$1,735,647.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	31.00 %	22.00 %	3.00 %	
Sexual Assault				
Total Amount	\$11,504,523.00	\$15,701,988.00	\$745,308.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	28.00 %	21.00 %	1.00 %	
Underserved				
Total Amount	\$6,520,474.00	\$13,302,468.00	\$4,226,266.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	16.00 %	18.00 %	8.00 %	

Budget and Staffing

Staffing Information	2017-VA-GX-0061	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	3546	3579	323	

Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool (PMT)

Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1772328	1569635	226762	
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	7846	2724	102	
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	374266	310774	24652	

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)	179	1165	1219	967	975	1081
Adult Sexual Assault	265	2713	2646	2078	2267	2426
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	223	630	653	531	536	587
Arson	178	8	9	7	11	8
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	93	107	127	105	70	102
Burglary	178	111	110	114	148	120
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	254	1651	1598	1294	1543	1521
Child Pornography	247	11	24	24	33	23
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	7	4166	4475	3525	3885	4012
Domestic and/or Family Violence	26	9861	9380	7593	5582	8104
DUI/DWI Incidents	178	79	80	57	54	67
Elder Abuse or Neglect	1	105	122	106	78	102
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	180	68	70	48	71	64
Human Trafficking: Labor	193	76	60	83	47	66
Human Trafficking: Sex	2	247	241	179	153	205
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	178	907	923	804	787	855
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	178	11	7	19	11	12
Kidnapping (custodial)	177	12	12	6	7	9

Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool (PMT)

Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	178	13	7	28	13	15
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	178	121	126	106	109	115
Robbery	178	200	184	164	169	179
Stalking/Harassment	179	809	714	587	716	706
Survivors of Homicide Victims	3	320	347	317	266	312
Teen Dating Victimization	187	142	148	94	90	118
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	176	1	1	0	0	0
Other	1	479	508	524	679	547

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	150	139	123	109	789
Homeless	3268	3232	2493	1945	15013
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	771	922	790	545	4142
LGBTQ	392	382	258	257	1286
Veterans	118	116	87	71	593
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/Physical /Mental	3556	3535	2643	2204	15264
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	1281	1179	969	790	5357
Other	0	0	0	0	0

General Award Information

Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	83348	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	0	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	55132	66.15 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	2231	2.68 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	1095	

Demographics

Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian or Alaska Native	2225	4.04 %
Asian	1503	2.73 %
Black or African American	3333	6.05 %

Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool (PMT)

Hispanic or Latino	8738	15.85 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	464	0.84 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	29449	53.42 %
Some Other Race	770	1.40 %
Multiple Races	1538	2.79 %
Not Reported	7112	12.90 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
Race/Ethnicity Total	55132	
Gender Identity		
Male	11161	20.24 %
Female	42332	76.78 %
Other	677	1.23 %
Not Reported	962	1.74 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
Gender Total	55132	
Age		
Age 0- 12	7631	13.84 %
Age 13- 17	5258	9.54 %
Age 18- 24	6342	11.50 %
Age 25- 59	31705	57.51 %
Age 60 and Older	4169	7.56 %
Not Reported	27	0.05 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
Age Total	55132	

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	119	16718	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	0
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	5179
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	94

Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool (PMT)

			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	13268
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	126	47413	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	1190
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	2026
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	0
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	42163
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	3976
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	539
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	3528
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	2257
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	1210
			B10. Interpreter services	0
C. Emotional Support or Safety Services	103	21013	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	9557
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	0
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	0
			C4. Individual counseling	6087
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	2436
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	1609
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	4296
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	65	1890	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	1705
			D2. Transitional housing	17

			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	170
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	132	40829	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	6140
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	2090
			E3. Assistance with restitution	2325
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	2815
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	3099
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	4
			E7. Immigration assistance	631
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	0
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	0
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	24978
E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	8967			

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	0
No	1
Number of requests received for education activities during the reporting period.	0
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	0
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	0
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.	
n/a	

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

N/A

Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.

Program policies changed in many ways during this reporting period. The largest changes are indicated below: Invoice Documentation Procedure: New procedures were implemented beginning July 1, 2020 to require additional backup documentation for all reimbursement invoices from sub-recipients. Site Visit procedures: Site visit procedures were formalized beginning July 1, 2020 to include mandatory review of primary backup documentation, time keeping, and fiscal policies. Match Waiver Procedure: Washington State finalized and submitted for approval our Match Waiver procedure that was approved by Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) on August 4, 2020. The new procedure allows us to approve match waiver requests from sub-recipients in the event of well-justified hardship or when unique circumstances justify such an action. The new procedure includes documentation requirements for both sub-recipients requesting a waiver and for OCVA.

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

None

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

Office of Crime Victim Advocacy (OCVA) and the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) meet approximately twice monthly to coordinate responses and services statewide. OCVA staff meets regularly with the Children s Advocacy Centers of Washington to discuss the service needs for children who have been victims of abuse. OCVA staff meet regularly with the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs to discuss sexual assault services across the state. OCVA staff meets regularly with Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress to confer on Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner services, training needs (not funded with VOCA). OCVA staff participate on the Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) Task Force, which involves work to address untested sexual assault forensic exam kits. The Office of Crime Victim Advocacy and DSHS conduct quarterly meetings/conference calls with state crime victim coalitions and associations to share VOCA implementation updates and gather information about emerging issues or needs state coalitions and associations may be hearing about from victim service programs throughout the state.

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

The most major issue at this time in our state is the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has had a severe impact on providers trying to assist victims, as shelter-in-place orders and social distancing concerns have predictably reduced traffic to and from agencies. Several of our service providers had to close their offices entirely during the initial phase of the quarantine. Some Native American service providers found their options severely limited when their Tribe closed its borders to slow the spread of the virus. Many/most service providers experienced challenges related to not being included in local government emergency planning procedures and not being officially designated as essential workers, yet still being required to provide critical, time sensitive services which required them to put themselves at risk in order to meet the emergency victim services needs in their communities. At the same time victims have been prevented from seeking or receiving services by that same pandemic. Shelter-in-place orders prevented individuals from leaving home for an extended period of time, which often meant they were being quarantined with an abuser. Children in particular experienced serious obstacles to receiving assistance, as school closures in Washington State have been in effect since March 13, 2020. As teachers and other school staff are often the individuals to identify and report instances of suspected child abuse/neglect, that route to referrals was cut off for those children experiencing harm. WA State victim service programs have also shown flexibility by pivoting and providing more services remotely, so that they can continue to connect with victims in new ways. We have seen support groups move online, increase in tele-therapy, and more work done via phone. Additionally, many advocates are meeting with clients outside in spaces where they can talk but maintain social distance requirements. Ongoing training and resources specific to technology and confidentiality/privacy considerations for victim services is of great need and value.

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.

Washington State VOCA Assistance Administrators support the coordination of public and private efforts that help crime victims through local subgrantees activities. All VOCA-funded local subgrantees work collaboratively with agencies in their communities to provide victim-centered services. Domestic violence, sexual assault, and crime victim service providers routinely partner with systems allied professionals.

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

Many of our grantees pivoted service delivery during the pandemic in ways that actually increased participation. For example, one grantee said that offering court participation via Zoom has actually increased involvement, as it makes it more accessible to individuals in rural areas that couldn't secure transportation. Holding court proceedings virtually also allowed working parents to participate without putting their jobs in jeopardy, as they can call in during a break or lunch hour rather than having to leave the job site. In other improved delivery activities, one grantee, Rod's House, used their VOCA grant to hire the agency's first ever staff member dedicated to facilitating therapy. The new staff member logged 310 hours of therapy for crime victims in the first half of 2020 alone, compared to only 18 hours the prior year when no such position existed. The Dove House has found numerous ways to slightly change their procedures, but the result has been an easy way to make sure victims (clients) can access emergent and essential resources in a trauma-informed way. The organization provides basic hygiene supplies (shampoo, soap, etc.) in the lobby, and recently also opened a Little Free Pantry outside the building. Clients are able to access these resources directly. Additionally, Dove House has a partnership with the Food Bank where they are open on Tuesday evenings for Dove House clients only. The Kalispel Tribe of Indians has used VOCA funds to support sexual assault advocates. They have shared that it has been very difficult to provide sexual assault services in the community, as the topic is still very taboo, and for many survivors, it is very likely that their perpetrator is still a part of the community. However, the victim services program has grown tremendously. They have multiple locations and strong partnerships with other agencies. Most recently they were able to incorporate sexual assault awareness and information about services in the local basketball competition, greatly increasing their presence in the community and helping to encourage conversations about the topic. Partners with Families and Children shared that when not providing mental health services, the mental health therapist is the primary handler for their Courthouse Facility Dog, Skipper. During the first six months of 2019, Skipper was utilized in 55 forensic interviews, which totaled 85.08 hours. He was also made available for 11 medical examinations, totaling 8.75 hours, sat in on 81 mental health sessions, totaling 75.91 hours, was present for 6 court related events/activities, totaling 19.5 hours and provided 6 hours of community support. Support, Advocacy, and Resource Center (SARC) has a counseling program that began working at home per the pandemic. At first, sessions were held by phone. However the organization participated in numerous webinars and workshops on TeleMental Health and ethics, quickly learned new technology to allow them to see clients, even if it was not in person. The organization has become very creative at providing these services through the TeleMental Health technology, including to their youngest clients. This shift has informed services and they are seeing the value, efficiency, and positive outcomes of providing services remotely. Remote therapy will improve our ability to provide quality mental health services to clients who may not be able to participate in therapy at our office. In six months, 89 children were able to access quality trauma therapy through SARC.

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

This reporting period we continued to provide services to victims of child abuse via the Children's Advocacy Center Child Centered Services VOCA Initiative. That initiative allocates 6.4% of VOCA subrecipient dollars to Child Advocacy Centers. The network of Children's Advocacy Centers provide a range of support, therapy, forensic interviews, and multi-disciplinary coordination to children and their non-offending families who are surviving child abuse, neglect, and sexual assault. OCVA currently funds 23 CACs across the state. In addition, this reporting period we also funded a new initiative to direct funds to volunteer child advocacy services via 11 Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) programs. Throughout this reporting period, the strength of our Domestic Violence Shelters continues to grow. With the increase in VOCA funds, we were able to fund these programs more fully than previously, allowing them to provide quality services to more victims than ever before. In addition, many of our DV shelter providers applied for and received one of the complementary competitive grants for enhancement of current services, which has allowed them to try out new modalities of service, including several different forms of housing assistance and advocacy designed to assist survivors in securing and moving into safe and stable housing, provide relocation support, or assist survivors to remain in their current housing. Our network of sexual assault providers has similarly benefited from the implementation of Washington's VOCA plan, as we have been able to sustain or network of services and additionally use VOCA funds to enhance and grow services. The state's 36 accredited Community Sexual Assault Programs continue to guarantee access to every sexual assault victim in Washington, adult or child, to the services of crisis intervention, information and referral, medical/legal advocacy, and support. In addition to these core services, additional sexual assault services providers across the state continue to offer specialized sexual assault services (therapy, support groups, medical social work) as well as culturally and community specific advocacy and therapy services. In total, the sexual assault provider network includes 63 programs across the state. Underserved victims of other crimes are funded in Washington through variety of different initiatives. Victim Witness Assistance Units, located in 38 of our county Prosecutor's offices, work with victims of all crime types, including victims of assault, elder abuse, and other crimes. Our network of 43 Crime Victim Service Centers across the state serve victims of all crimes other than Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence. Our Human Trafficking initiative focuses resources for victims of sex trafficking and labor trafficking. Services to tribal grantees via our Tribal Government Initiative serve a wide variety of crime types in 19 of our state's 29 federally recognized tribes, and include focus areas of elder abuse, child abuse, and other underserved crime types. Similarly, our initiatives to fund Services By and For Marginalized Communities fund all crime types.

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

Several sub-grantees provide support and assistance to victims of labor and sex trafficking. Due to the strategies used by exploiters, individuals are very hesitant to come forward and advocates spend a tremendous amount of time building trust. Support and assistance for these individuals has included in-person advocacy, assistance with accessing medical care, crisis intervention, collaborating with treatment facilities and assisting individuals by purchasing food and clothing. Advocates have provided support during FBI interviews and collaborated with FBI Victim Specialists. Human trafficking grantees located in Seattle are experiencing an increase in referrals related to labor trafficking. One program is providing civil legal assistance to victims seeking T-Visa certification. The program has noticed an increase in domestic servitude cases. Another program in Seattle is providing support and assistance to victims of labor trafficking and assisting individuals in accessing housing and other services.

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

Of course with the pandemic and resulting shelter-in-place orders, trends in advocacy and crime victim services have been significantly impacted. One of the emerging issues we've encountered is the challenge for victim service providers to be included in their community's emergency planning and management. While victim services are often not considered essential workers, they are still trying to work with individuals in crisis, while at the same time not being included in regional planning efforts to do so. Several Tribal grantees reported on the difficulty of maintaining the services urgently needed by crime victims due to tribal borders being closed due to the pandemic. Hospital response in particular was a service area that had extraordinary challenges during the first few months of the pandemic. Currently, many grantees are pivoting to more distance advocacy options and thinking creatively about the best method for providing high quality services to individuals who are understandably hindered by the pandemic and social distancing concerns. Service providers continue to report that provision of services to refugees and immigrants is increasingly challenging, as many individuals who need services are afraid of coming forward for fear of being targeted by immigration officials. Additionally the current political climate has resulted in increased and more severe violence towards immigrants. This has concurrently increased the need for services and had a significant impact on service providers and organizations responding to this need. One of the emerging issues we are preparing for currently is the potential upsurge of individuals needing services after having been required by necessity to shelter-in-place, potentially with an abuser, for a significant period of time. Mandatory reporting of child abuse decreased significantly with the closure of public schools, and service providers for children are bracing for an eventual wave of children needing assistance. Elder abuse is another area where reporting decreased during quarantine and providers anticipate an increase in service requests once it becomes safe for individuals to interact in public again. Domestic violence, of course, faces significant issues related to the pandemic, as shelter-in-place orders hindered many individuals from seeking services. Many providers are seeing a decrease in non-restricted funding from fundraising events, due to the impacts of the pandemic (as well as other community specific dynamics). Concurrently, organizations have shared that they are seeing an increased need for technology, and that it is a challenge to find the funding to support these expenses.

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

The Washington State Office of Crime Victims Advocacy and Department of Social and Health Services both have historically high staff retention rate overall. Staff has served as program coordinators, section managers, and director for up to twenty-five years. While the state government does not provide compensation at the same rate as the private sector, it does offer reasonable benefits, union membership, and a work/life balance. With the recent increase in the VOCA Assistance award, administrative funds have allowed the department to hire more staff in order to develop and implement new subgrant programs, shift workloads to be more equitable, and increase staff's ability to address more complex issues. Since the advent of the pandemic, state program managers have admirably risen to the additional challenges required by working remotely and managing additional barriers to productivity. Support for victim service providers and ensuring that high quality services are being provided continues to be our priority. However, the additional stress and isolation caused by the pandemic have had a significant impact on staff morale. While this has not yet had a significant impact on staff retention, the potential for it doing so in the future is cause for concern.

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

This reporting period, funding opportunities were publicized in a variety of ways. Grant applications were released to current grantees for continuation of domestic violence and sexual assault services grants. Funding opportunities were advertised to current grantees via email, publicized to state coalitions, and application materials were posted on the state administering agency's website. In addition, outreach was conducted throughout the year by individual staff members to ensure that current subrecipients and others that might wish to become subrecipients were aware of different opportunities. Current subrecipients were repeatedly encouraged to reach out to other agencies within their respective communities to share information on available funds. We also posted our open competitive funding solicitations on the Washington Electronic Business Solution (WEBS) portal.

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

Funding is directed to underserved populations through a variety of initiatives. The Washington State VOCA State Plan directs funding to new/underserved populations through Tribal Government, By and For Marginalized Populations, Human Trafficking, and Specific Services/Crimes funding initiatives. OCVA also has a sexual assault services initiative specific to Marginalized and Native American Communities. During this reporting period, OCVA and DSHS staff conducted outreach to communities across the state to discuss the availability of funding. All current grantees were asked to identify and forward information about grant opportunities to relevant service providers in their area, to promote the opportunity and encourage applications from providers who may not have previously received public funding. Outreach to Tribal Governments was extensive, and led to the successful implementation of our Tribal Initiative, which funded 19 of the federally recognized tribes in our state during this reporting period. In addition to these efforts, all of our current grantees are strongly encouraged to conduct community planning sessions in their geographic regions to identify new partners from underserved populations that would strengthen the network of services available to every victim in Washington State. Washington State also utilized non-VOCA funds to support underserved populations. The federal Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) application strongly encourages applicants to address needs of underserved communities. This focus has been continually supported by our conferrals with victim service providers and the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs.

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

One way Washington State responds to gaps in services is through regional community planning processes conducted by current subrecipients. This occurs every two years. The Office of Crime Victims Advocacy supports local control of funding and service decisions within the Sexual Assault programs to address unmet needs and gaps within that service area. Another way we address gaps in service is through an analysis of funding allocated and services provided. We analyze data on all of the grants funded through the Washington State VOCA Plan, as well as the data reported by those grantees. By analyzing agencies and projects funded, as well as crime victims served, and cross referencing that data against state demographics and crime prevalence information, we identify areas where gaps in services may exist, and target additional funding opportunities toward those areas where flexibility within our statewide plan allows. For example, past efforts resulted in priority areas within the Unmet Needs competitive funding solicitation, based on that analysis of gaps. State administrators meet regularly to discuss currently funded service areas, remaining needs, and develop strategies for funding gaps. This includes feedback from state coalitions and associations on what they are hearing from their membership regarding service gaps and needs.

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

We did not report any outcome measures to state entities this reporting period. Outcome measures to our Governor's office that we previously reported on are on hold this year.