

# NC Annual State Performance Report

## Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

Reporting Period: [Oct 1, 2020 to Sept 30, 2021]

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

<b>OVC VOCA Assistance Funds</b>				
	<b>2018-V2-GX-0061</b>	<b>2019-V2-GX-0067</b>	<b>2020-V2-GX-0057</b>	<b>2021-15POVC-21-GG-00583-ASSI</b>
<b>Federal Award Amount</b>	\$103,435,763.00	\$70,371,764.00	\$52,368,267.00	\$32,775,778.00
<b>Total Amount of Subawards</b>	\$103,952,896.00	\$65,253,994.00	\$51,388,236.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Number of Subawards</b>	179	143	144	0
<b>Administrative Funds Amount</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Training Funds Amount</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Balance Remaining</b>	(\$517,133.00)	\$5,117,770.00	\$980,031.00	\$32,775,778.00

<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>2018-V2-GX-0061</b>	<b>2019-V2-GX-0067</b>	<b>2020-V2-GX-0057</b>	<b>2021-15POVC-21-GG-00583-ASSI</b>
<b>Government Agencies Only</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Courts	10	0	1	0
Juvenile Justice	0	1	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	3	2	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0
Other	18	8	11	0
<b>Nonprofit Organization Only</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>0</b>
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	23	37	15	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	4	0	2	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	25	7	18	0
Faith-based Organization	0	0	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	40	29	36	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	8	4	4	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	11	9	7	0
Multiservice agency	18	30	37	0
Other	16	13	7	0

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

<b>Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	1	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
<b>Campus Organizations Only</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
Campus-based victims services	4	0	3	0
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	0	0
Other	2	2	0	0
<b>Total Number of Subawards</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>144</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>2018-V2-GX-0061</b>	<b>2019-V2-GX-0067</b>	<b>2020-V2-GX-0057</b>	<b>2021-15POVC-21-GG-00583-ASSI</b>
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	115	100	121	0
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	19	14	6	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	43	29	16	0
D. Start up a new <b>Native American</b> victim services project	0	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing <b>Native American</b> project	2	0	1	0

**VOCA and Match Funds**

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

	2018-V2-GX-0061	2019-V2-GX-0067	2020-V2-GX-0057	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00583-ASSI
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	169	137	141	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	153	127	131	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	148	136	136	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	87	73	91	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	143	122	123	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	177	142	144	0

**Priority and Underserved Requirements**

Priority Area	2018-V2-GX-0061	2019-V2-GX-0067	2020-V2-GX-0057	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00583-ASSI
<b>Child Abuse</b>				
Total Amount	\$18,522,088.00	\$24,954,420.00	\$9,931,292.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	18.00 %	35.00 %	19.00 %	
<b>Domestic and Family Violence</b>				
Total Amount	\$35,544,782.00	\$22,967,564.00	\$21,646,673.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	34.00 %	33.00 %	41.00 %	
<b>Sexual Assault</b>				
Total Amount	\$12,552,363.00	\$8,001,564.00	\$6,262,736.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	12.00 %	11.00 %	12.00 %	
<b>Underserved</b>				
Total Amount	\$36,567,876.00	\$9,041,918.00	\$9,716,044.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	35.00 %	13.00 %	19.00 %	

**Budget and Staffing**

Staffing Information	2018-V2-GX-0061	2019-V2-GX-0067	2020-V2-GX-0057	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00583-ASSI
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	2597	1903	60279	
Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1985378	1590115	1170155	
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	15621	10931	3190	
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	829654	261643	243526	

## 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)	122	20567	16049	18862	16204	17920
Adult Sexual Assault	1	4877	4065	4352	8789	5520
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	150	1428	1493	1371	1246	1384
Arson	27	170	168	187	156	170
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	1	4495	3691	6694	4560	4860
Burglary	33	2700	2113	2017	2044	2218
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	183	6917	7286	8030	11771	8501
Child Pornography	115	216	205	383	290	273
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	1	6583	7766	7638	7131	7279
Domestic and/or Family Violence	28	42582	41701	46179	61257	47929
DUI/DWI Incidents	1	1963	770	1038	979	1187
Elder Abuse or Neglect	3	534	497	740	837	652
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	58	34	39	46	42	40
Human Trafficking: Labor	108	254	204	245	270	243
Human Trafficking: Sex	2	537	468	532	598	533
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	1	5062	3987	3591	3699	4084
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	66	379	343	383	397	375
Kidnapping (custodial)	72	80	69	94	99	85
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	32	45	85	43	48	55
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	34	2315	2651	2712	3540	2804
Robbery	35	1606	1609	1456	1295	1491
Stalking/Harassment	159	4568	4330	6414	5052	5091
Survivors of Homicide Victims	2	659	578	569	630	609
Teen Dating Victimization	160	298	281	2135	772	871
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	21	96	105	120	96	104
Other	6	126276	135201	189407	587338	259555

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	238	222	242	245	1244

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Homeless	3940	3526	4318	4430	20245
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	2969	3032	3165	3093	14963
LGBTQ	1117	1244	1385	1475	4504
Veterans	933	748	992	888	3723
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	3548	3602	5218	3520	17049
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	4431	4082	4640	5195	26101
Other	1104	124230	176670	271	523749

General Award Information		
Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	970029	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	530831	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	487177	50.22 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	92474	9.53 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	24674	

Demographics		
Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
American Indian or Alaska Native	2350	0.48 %
Asian	1566	0.32 %
Black or African American	55755	11.44 %
Hispanic or Latino	17428	3.58 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	628	0.13 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	93847	19.26 %
Some Other Race	2130	0.44 %
Multiple Races	3710	0.76 %
Not Reported	201323	41.32 %
Not Tracked	108440	22.26 %
<b>Race/Ethnicity Total</b>	<b>487177</b>	
<b>Gender Identity</b>		
Male	63136	12.96 %
Female	158573	32.55 %
Other	3897	0.80 %
Not Reported	150321	30.86 %
Not Tracked	111250	22.84 %
<b>Gender Total</b>	<b>487177</b>	
<b>Age</b>		
Age 0- 12	26189	5.38 %
Age 13- 17	14049	2.88 %
Age 18- 24	33357	6.85 %

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Age 25- 59	107432	22.05 %
Age 60 and Older	13890	2.85 %
Not Reported	197629	40.57 %
Not Tracked	94631	19.42 %
<b>Age Total</b>	<b>487177</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	318	237963	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	259028
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	288520
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	126690
			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	185656
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	287	94076	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	4088
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	9899
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	8557
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	164685
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	14508
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	7901
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	9071
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	22450
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	21852
			B10. Interpreter services	15523
C. Emotional Support or Safety	305	127904	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	231575
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	150679
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	5069

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Services			C4. Individual counseling	140755
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	24605
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	28178
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	40802
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	196	18056	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	113388
			D2. Transitional housing	16305
			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	13049
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	262	1215956	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	2935064
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	57041
			E3. Assistance with restitution	22892
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	75548
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	10297
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	14441
			E7. Immigration assistance	7813
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	12043
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	7670
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	26400
E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	44574			

**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.	160
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	6652
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	373
<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

**Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.**

GCC's annual Grant Writing and Grant Award Workshops and published Request for Applications (RFAs) are made available on the GCC website as early as November 1, for the upcoming application period. Applicants and Subrecipients also have access to the Grant Management Guidelines for all attendees to use for ongoing reference as well as other workshop materials, interactive training modules, and posted presentations. Due to the lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and necessary safety restrictions, GCC held virtual workshops, as opposed to several in-person workshops offered the previous years. There were approximately 750 attendees that were able to participate and interact with staff during the workshops. 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. For example, NCCADV worked with an external consultant to create a new online training for the purposes of onboarding new hires at local programs. Also, NCCASA conducted webinars and online trainings on sexual assault victim response, resources, and best practices. NCVAN developed a new training curriculum related to victims rights, resources for victims, homicide, how to compassionately communicate difficult news to victims of crime in the courtroom settings, providing notification of death and provided associated handouts. NCAOC created 4 public podcasts on human trafficking. CACNC developed and added a monthly medical tele-video training and bring in speakers from across the country to train on advancing medical topics related to child abuse.

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

The GCC hosted annual workshops for subrecipients and applicants virtually. The Grant Writing Workshops focused 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 provided training on compliance for VOCA-funded projects, 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. Statewide partners (NCCADV, NCCASA, NCAOC, NC VAN, CACNC) developed and incorporated new practices related to virtual trainings and new policies related to virtual communication and advocacy.

**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 to the RFA, GCC works to strengthen grant writing requirements of applicants and subrecipients. Additionally, the GCC has worked to improve grants management and monitoring practices within the agency. GCC Grant Management staff provide regular monitoring of awarded grants at different periods throughout the life of the grant. This includes initial risk assessments of awarded projects, desk reviews, and regular site visits. The Grants Management team continues to use the updated risk matrix tool and the site visit monitoring tool to be more concise on metrics and program outcomes. There have been updates to the application process as many documents are required of all grant projects. As this can be cumbersome for agencies who apply for multiple grants, the new Organization Documents section in the Grant Enterprise Management System allows the subrecipients to upload specific agency documents that will cover all their projects/grants. GCC also implemented Match Waiver approvals for grantees due to a sufficient financial need created for all states in response to the COVID-19 crisis as soon as we were notified of this flexibility by OVW. Statewide partner NCCADV implemented policy changes to accommodate changing needs brought on by COVID-19, including meeting an urgent need for new hires needing advocate privilege, NCVAN developed new practices related to virtual trainings and new policies related to virtual advocacy.

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

Key media coverage during this reporting period reported by our statewide coalitions and agencies includes commercials and coverage for resources available. Decreases in VOCA funding provided by GCC was highlighted through local news media.

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

Collaboration with local and statewide organizations continues to be 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/Agreements with partner agencies-indicating the responsibilities of each partnering agency. This practice is especially important for Family Justice Centers and partnering agencies who share office space and collaborative 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 continues to have an impact on staff and service delivery. It is especially challenging when trying to handle TA and meet training needs that cannot be done in person due to safety risk. The technology has been great, but it is ever evolving the longer we are remote and thus creates a demand for staff to learn new technology and adapt quickly. As a result, we continue to be ready for fast and creative adjustments with our members, partners, and community. Our staff, members, victims, and community are making new choices about how to live, receive education, services and we are all creating new expectations about flexibility, working conditions, technology, and safety, and life. A continued issue has been 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 continue to adapt to necessary COVID policies and virtual or online training events. NCVAN communicated delays in the processing of court cases (both in superior court, related to homicide cases and district court, related to other violent crimes) related to pandemic backlog, premature dismissal of domestic violence cases because of the backlog, prosecutor triaging, and language access/ victims rights compliance. NCAOC added that many agencies providing direct services to victims in NC have suffered significant grant funding loss over the past 18 months. Agencies that have remained operating and open during the pandemic have reported no decline in referrals and some report increases. Shelter and housing continue to be a need area for victims, especially shelter that is specific to human trafficking and not overlapped with other shelter populations. NCCASA has seen an increase in need for training of new staff due to turnover. NCCADV members have expressed a need for more accessible training to support shelter staff in a variety of scenarios, including maintaining morale in shelter, responding to mental health crisis, and managing survivors substance use in the shared living environment. Through the Crime Victim Services Advisory Group, the GCC works to learn about promising practices, emerging issues, and chronic challenges faced by communities throughout the state. The Advisory Group consists of staff from



individual agencies and subrecipients throughout the state who provide input on barriers that prevent victims from receiving assistance.

**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 continued to fund projects that assisted during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis on a statewide basis to ensure victim awareness of available services 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, continued 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 GCC continues to hold quarterly meetings to bring public and private agencies together to discuss common issues, fostering a collaborative atmosphere to emphasize how each of the agencies can contribute to and support other groups to provide a higher level of service to victims of crime.

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

Through VOCA funding, we continued to support a program that works to combat human trafficking among justice-involved youth through direct services at youth development centers across the state. This project seeks to increase the capacity of local programs to work with youth who are victims of human trafficking, 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 delivery 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**

The Governor's Crime Commission allows subrecipients to structure and prioritize the focus areas of the Commission and those of the Office for Victims of Crime. We primarily meet the federally mandated minimum allocations 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 2021 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.

**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, 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.**

In addition to the living restrictions and disruptions, the victim services field has faced unique and complex adjustments due to the continued COVID-19 Pandemic. GCC, along with our community partners have been challenged to become more creative with service provision, 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 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 that remain services 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. Additionally, Statewide partners such as NCVAN experienced issues with advocate and victim's safety during the pandemic particularly shelter settings, including pharmacological related issues, lack of support for non-DV/SA victims of assault or community violence, immigrant fears of reporting crime and seeking services. The lack of dependable broadband infrastructure can be crippling to victims in need of services during the pandemic as experienced by CACNC. With many services being provided via tele-health due to safety/health risk, those in areas without adequate coverage find it even harder to access needed care. Often these areas are the already rural areas of the state where services such as medical and mental health care is already limited. NCCASA added issues emerging with ensuring survivor awareness of services that remain available and helping local programs find ways to continue to provide hospital and court accompaniment while adhering to the facility COVID protocols and keeping survivors and advocates safe. Lastly, the state Internet Crimes Against Children program through the SBI has reported an increase in cases throughout the pandemic.

**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. Some agencies have reported a lack of ability to continue servicing victims and have had to adjust/change implementing agencies. Also, Due to increased reductions in VOCA funding, there were projects/staff funded by projects that 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, for example GCC has reached out to US Tribal Organizations virtually and in person, and had meetings to collaborate regarding projects, needs, and available funding. Annually, 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 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.**

Prospective subrecipients are notified of funding availability through a variety of means. Annually, 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 GCC for information on funding and the application process.

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

GCC funded Statewide partners with emergency COVID-19 funding from our VOCA Assistance program funds. COVID-19 continues to create 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, can 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, 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, 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.