

OK 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.

OVC VOCA Assistance Funds				
	2018-V2-GX-0001	2019-V2-GX-0012	2020-V2-GX-0002	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00592-ASSI
Federal Award Amount	\$39,885,767.00	\$27,033,125.00	\$20,068,992.00	\$12,620,084.00
Total Amount of Subawards	\$38,549,796.00	\$23,637,469.00	\$12,724,938.00	\$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	252	189	103	0
Administrative Funds Amount	\$1,335,881.00	\$1,350,156.00	\$1,003,449.00	\$0.00
Training Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance Remaining	\$90.00	\$2,045,500.00	\$6,340,605.00	\$12,620,084.00

Subgrantee Organization Type				
The total number of subgrants represents all subgrants funded across all federal awards active during the reporting period. The number is not unique as there are subgrantee organizations that are continuously funded from each federal award.				
Type of Organization	2018-V2-GX-0001	2019-V2-GX-0012	2020-V2-GX-0002	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00592-ASSI
Government Agencies Only	46	60	7	0
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Courts	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	15	14	6	0
Prosecutor	31	46	0	0
Other	0	0	1	0
Nonprofit Organization Only	187	111	78	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	57	34	23	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	3	1	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	13	6	1	0
Faith-based Organization	1	0	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	47	21	11	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	1	1	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0
Multiservice agency	30	20	15	0
Other	35	28	28	0

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Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only	18	17	17	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	4	2	2	0
Court	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	5	11	7	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	2	1	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	1	0	2	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	1	0	1	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	2	2	3	0
Other	1	0	1	0
Campus Organizations Only	1	1	1	0
Campus-based victims services	1	0	1	0
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	1	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Subawards	252	189	103	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				
	2018-V2-GX-0001	2019-V2-GX-0012	2020-V2-GX-0002	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00592-ASSI
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	239	181	99	0
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	4	2	2	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	9	4	2	0
D. Start up a new Native American victim services project	1	2	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing Native American project	4	0	0	0

VOCA and Match Funds

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

	2018-V2-GX-0001	2019-V2-GX-0012	2020-V2-GX-0002	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00592-ASSI
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	210	180	98	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	210	185	99	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	146	112	64	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	86	70	38	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	169	154	76	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	218	189	103	0

Priority and Underserved Requirements

Priority Area	2018-V2-GX-0001	2019-V2-GX-0012	2020-V2-GX-0002	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00592-ASSI
Child Abuse				
Total Amount	\$5,857,481.00	\$3,514,788.00	\$2,407,647.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	15.00 %	13.00 %	12.00 %	
Domestic and Family Violence				
Total Amount	\$15,265,779.00	\$8,135,279.00	\$5,106,029.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	38.00 %	30.00 %	25.00 %	
Sexual Assault				
Total Amount	\$6,064,191.00	\$3,829,754.00	\$1,755,762.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	15.00 %	14.00 %	9.00 %	
Underserved				
Total Amount	\$11,283,755.00	\$8,086,214.00	\$3,262,819.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	28.00 %	30.00 %	16.00 %	

Budget and Staffing

Staffing Information	2018-V2-GX-0001	2019-V2-GX-0012	2020-V2-GX-0002	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00592-ASSI
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	4384	1062	743	
Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	2262854	1120709	558952	
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	10233	3796	2804	
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	364914	150405	130465	

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)	102	5007	5142	5308	5592	5262
Adult Sexual Assault	118	1818	2007	2294	2430	2137
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	79	808	570	616	707	675
Arson	46	59	66	98	73	74
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	67	1070	996	1489	1758	1328
Burglary	51	1780	2224	2080	1780	1966
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	143	5718	6095	6136	5531	5870
Child Pornography	100	78	183	97	132	122
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	144	3204	3492	3860	4037	3648
Domestic and/or Family Violence	150	16290	15524	17495	17205	16628
DUI/DWI Incidents	46	393	434	671	457	488
Elder Abuse or Neglect	93	197	247	267	295	251
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	42	0	8	6	10	6
Human Trafficking: Labor	46	29	37	50	32	37
Human Trafficking: Sex	102	116	108	117	136	119
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	70	3462	3429	3610	2977	3369
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	78	150	200	221	228	199
Kidnapping (custodial)	80	57	46	48	66	54
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	36	16	21	20	32	22
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	45	433	582	502	484	500
Robbery	53	307	384	504	318	378
Stalking/Harassment	114	3718	3274	3680	4040	3678
Survivors of Homicide Victims	64	881	1067	1181	1165	1073
Teen Dating Victimization	101	196	229	305	291	255
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	34	3	3	1	2	2
Other	21	1818	1938	2418	2453	2156

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	73	85	105	183	646

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Homeless	1093	1249	1480	1480	7676
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	416	395	373	409	1896
LGBTQ	224	237	292	278	1439
Veterans	134	147	149	156	942
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	1413	1532	1619	1814	9248
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	619	592	557	645	3650
Other	14	18	14	15	245

General Award Information		
Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	142900	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	5121	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	90911	63.62 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	30869	21.60 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	9946	

Demographics		
Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian or Alaska Native	9609	10.57 %
Asian	478	0.53 %
Black or African American	8826	9.71 %
Hispanic or Latino	5928	6.52 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	788	0.87 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	44136	48.55 %
Some Other Race	302	0.33 %
Multiple Races	2724	3.00 %
Not Reported	17805	19.59 %
Not Tracked	315	0.35 %
Race/Ethnicity Total	90911	
Gender Identity		
Male	24787	27.27 %
Female	54295	59.72 %
Other	151	0.17 %
Not Reported	11409	12.55 %
Not Tracked	269	0.30 %
Gender Total	90911	
Age		
Age 0- 12	17365	19.10 %
Age 13- 17	7624	8.39 %
Age 18- 24	9079	9.99 %

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Age 25- 59	37502	41.25 %
Age 60 and Older	4842	5.33 %
Not Reported	14074	15.48 %
Not Tracked	425	0.47 %
Age Total	90911	

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	159	98352	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	81622
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	84780
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	45519
			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	55469
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	167	73588	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	451
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	3736
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	4452
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	95545
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	9280
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	623
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	4274
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	3408
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	9420
			B10. Interpreter services	1959
C. Emotional Support or Safety	103	47466	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	42179
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	16209
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	2939

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Services			C4. Individual counseling	35087
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	14585
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	5786
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	9468
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	65	6438	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	73541
			D2. Transitional housing	54592
			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	1703
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	133	88270	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	73153
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	7900
			E3. Assistance with restitution	31633
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	42134
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	114991
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	1784
			E7. Immigration assistance	2837
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	6018
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	2426
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	6930
E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	7965			

ANNUAL QUESTIONS

Grantee Annually Reported Questions	
Question/Option	Count
Were any administrative and training funds used during the reporting period?	
Yes	1
No	0
Did the administrative funds support any education activities during the reporting period?	
Yes	1
No	0
Number of requests received for education activities during the reporting period.	2
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	290
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	11
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.

There were no program or education materials developed during the reporting period with VOCA Assistance funds.

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

The following training events were held by the DAC s Training and Outreach Division during the reporting period: *Drug Trends and Threats and the Elephant in the Room *2020 Fall Conference - Victim Witness Coordinator/CCRT/Victim Advocate Afternoon Session *2020 Fall Conference - Victim Witness Coordinator/CCRT/Victim Advocate Morning Session *Evidence Based Domestic Violence and Lethality Assessment Protocol *Stalking Investigations *Strengthening Those Who Care for Others *Evidence Based Domestic Violence Lethality Protocol Assessment *Evidence Based Domestic Violence Prevention *Child Abuse and Mandated Reporting

Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.

The VOCA Fix that was effective on July 22, 2021, resulted in match waivers being granted to all existing subgrantees that had unmet match. DAC s Match Waiver Policy was revised to include the VOCA Fix guidelines that were released by OVC in September 2021. Monitoring visits continued to be held virtually thru either the Microsoft Teams or GoToMeeting platform in place of an in-person visit. No other notable policy changes were made during the reporting period.

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

See the separate attached document in JustGrants.

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. The newest coordinated teams to be developed are the E-MDT teams, or those specifically for elder abuse. VOCA subgrantees attend meetings and work on making things better for victims and work to keep them in the state system for as short a time as possible to ensure a safe outcome in each case. Coordination has been very beneficial since the Supreme Court McGirt decision. CCRT teams collaborate on victim service issues on and outside the reservations. This allows key players to interact, network, and develop responses that only benefits the victims. The CCRT teams were instrumental in bringing together tribal, state, and federal partners after the McGirt ruling. Covid has had an impact, but after the first year, most agencies have become accustomed to holding meetings virtually or through practicing socially distanced meetings in person. Other coordination effort include Celebrate Recovery which provides support for clients with substance abuse issues and developing protocol for sheltering animals and families together with Pets for Life. Finally, those agencies that have Family Justice Centers in their area, report working and coordinating on a weekly, if not a daily basis, with those organizations.

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

Common issues that continually come up as preventing victims from receiving proper assistance are the following: lack of transportation, lack of phone service, lack of transitional housing or assisted living for clients who are neglected by caregivers, legal services (especially for elderly victims), and enough beds in emergency shelters (this has become an issue during Covid when shelters had to reduce capacity for safety reasons). After COVID hit, the DHS offices in Oklahoma closed their physical doors and went to a teleworking office situation only. This has caused many issues for victims and victim service providers across the state. Victims have been unable to apply for and obtain benefits in person, relying on advocates to assist them in navigating the online process. This year, Oklahoma had to make the hard decision to cut VOCA subgrantees by 30%. There are inadequate resources to continue to assist victims of crime at the level that was being done prior to the pandemic. COVID caused non-profit agencies to halt fundraising activities and programs are struggling to keep volunteers. There are no State funds to fill in the gap. The one source of potential help is the ARPA money that will be applied for in the next reporting period.

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 with 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 during monitoring visits. Some things that stood out were: *A domestic violence shelter having an excellent working relationship with the local child advocacy center, which located next door to the courthouse. If the advocates at the DV shelter are unavailable, the advocates at the CAC are trained to help victims with POs and locating a place to stay. * Outreach events that target the undocumented, English speaking Latino community. *Utilizing social media for CCRT activities. * Returning to in-person National Crime Victims Rights Week events after a year of virtual events. DAC held a Victims Services track during the District Attorneys Summer Conference. Victim Witness Coordinators and VOCA-funded advocates from across the state attended to learn about further coordination efforts being made in light of the McGirt decision.

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

In May 2021, the VOCA Assistance grant was moved from the Victims Services Division with the District Attorneys Council to the Federal Grants Division. Six employees were transferred with this move. The Victims Services Division became solely responsible for the Oklahoma Crime Victims Compensation program and Federal Grants Division is now responsible for all pass-thru and discretionary grants that are administered by the DAC. This will ensure that there is consistency and equitable treatment for all subgrantees (many of whom have multiple grants that are administered by DAC). Forms, policies, and the division website were revamped to include VOCA and the new staff members. Subgrantees have reacted positively to this change.

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

Child Abuse: One case in particular that stood out is a case that involved a family of five children who were being brutally abused by a father and stepmother. All children received forensic interviews by the VOCA funded employee and the judge permitted the children to testify against their parents from the subgrantee's center instead of testifying in the courtroom. The advocate has been with the victims every step of the way through the prosecution and VOCA funding is what made this happen. VOCA funds have been instrumental in the operation of many CASA programs across the state. To gather feedback, one CASA program provides the children who are at least 6 years and older a survey about their CASA. When asked if their CASA cares about them, 100% said all the time. When asked if they feel like they can talk to their CASA, 88% said all the time. Some of the quotes included, "She listens, she motivates me, she understands me", "My CASA helps find me a home, talks to me about life skills, helps teach me life skills, helps teach me relationship skills with other people", "My CASA talks, listens, understands me", "My CASA volunteer comes to see me because she cares about me and loves me", "My CASA volunteer comes to help me work out my problems." Domestic Assault: A subgrantee reports that they have a survivor that they have served for more than two years. She was strangled and beaten near death. They have seen her through the judicial system and her abuser is in prison. She received funds from the Victims Compensation Fund for medical and dental expenses. They were able to move her into her own apartment from a dilapidated camper with no electric or water. She is an active member of their weekly support group and has regular, frequent, counseling. She no longer is a substance abuser nor sells her body. She lives in a disabled housing authority complex and is very happy. Another subgrantee states that without VOCA funds they could not keep their doors open. Specifically, funding for salaried positions makes it possible for them to operate their domestic violence shelter and offer services. One young woman was finally able to break free of her abuser with whom she had been with for many years. The subgrantee was able to provide resources, transportation and shelter while she gained stability on her own and gained a bright new future for herself. Another success story from the past year is that they were able to assist a new mother who was leaving an abusive relationship. They were able to maintain confidential services for her late during her pregnancy and through the birth. They were able to provide support for her until she found stable housing and employment. Another client had utilized the emergency shelter several times throughout the years. She was finally able to leave her abuser, get new employment, provide for her children and locate new housing by using the resources the subgrantee provided to her. It could not have been done without the help of VOCA funding. Quotes from clients: "This place was prayers answered." "I'm sure my stay here saved my life." "I am very thankful for the help. I have received while here." "Words cannot express how staff support has impacted my family. This has been a place of safety and healing." "Advocates were a Godsend. Helpful, attentive to needs and very sweet. I have grown so much in my time here thanks to utilizing all forms of counseling - looking forward to my future now where I couldn't even SEE a future when I first arrived here- anxiety level down - I am so much more calm, confident - and hopeful! Thank you all so much!" Sexual Assault: The VOCA funding has had a very positive impact on the victims of crime in a rural Oklahoma county. The number of victims of crime have not decreased and they have had more and more individuals come forward who said they heard about the VOCA funded Resource Advocacy and are in need of resources. During the reporting period, the subgrantee had a rape victim who told prosecutors she would not have made it through the process if she had not had the Resource Advocate. The Resource Advocate stood by her and walked her through the process - attending court proceedings with her during the yearlong process. The case has been sent to the Federal Bureau of Investigations, as the suspect is Native and is a high profile case. This case is only one of many who have come forward stating how important it was to have advocacy throughout the process. Underserved: A tribal subgrantee reported that their transitional housing program continued to grow at an impressive rate: from 11 houses in October 2020 to 38 houses in September 2021. In the last year, clients have had personal victories, from starting new jobs to reconnecting with estranged adult children. VOCA funding provided the first transitional housing the tribe received and since then they have built upon that with other funding sources.

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

The VOCA Administrator and staff have regular communication with all U.S. Attorney Victim Specialists and the FBI Specialists in the State to discuss matters of importance in Indian Country and services for victims of federal crimes in those communities. The VOCA Program Specialists continue to participate in Tribal Roundtable discussions coordinated by the 3 U.S. Attorney Victim Specialists and hosted by various Tribal victim service programs in the state, all in an effort to enhance services to victims of Federal crimes. Since the McGirt Supreme Court ruling in July 2020, it has been even more important that participation in discussion between tribal and state voices be heard to ensure victims cases are not lost in the transition from state to federal and tribal court jurisdictions.

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

In July 2020, the Supreme Court ruled in McGirt vs. Oklahoma, that the lands given to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN) remain the MCN's sovereign territory. This ruling has been expanded to also cover the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, and Seminole Nations. 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. These five tribal nations encompass 37 counties in Oklahoma, all three US Attorney districts, and 16 DA districts. The effect on victims and victim services is becoming more clear as cases are being moved from state court and being retried in tribal or federal court. Although both the tribes and the US Attorneys Offices are trying to hire more prosecutors and victim advocates, the enormous amount of cases has been overwhelming. At the present, there are only two FBI Victim Advocates in Oklahoma whose caseloads also increased tremendously since the McGirt ruling. During the reporting period, the US Attorneys have started a monthly virtual meeting to specifically discuss the implications of McGirt. This meeting is for prosecutors and law enforcement and the issues of tribal cross-jurisdiction. Although things are starting to head in the right direction, there is a lot of work to be done to prevent victims from being 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 during the reporting period. With a 30% funding cut for most subgrantees in the 2021 grant cycle, staffing retention may become an issue.

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 (DV/SA, tribal DV/SA, CACs, CASAs), all Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police, all District Attorneys, and all Tribes. The request for funding proposal is also emailed to listservs and email addresses of those who have requested to be put on the VOCA funding announcement mailing list. The RFP is also placed on the agency website.

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

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DAC directs funding to new/underserved populations by encouraging existing projects to reach out to the underserved in their communities. With the consolidation of the VOCA Assistance grant with the Federal Grants Division, it has allowed staff that are working on the VAWA Implementation Plan and conducting Focus Groups with underserved communities, including the LGBTQ+, Asian, African American, and tribal to consider not only VAWA as a potential funding source but VOCA as well. We are hoping that with the next application cycle this will lead to an increase underserved, grass-roots organizations applying for VOCA dollars.

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

The biggest gap in services heard during the reporting period was emergency shelter and/or transitional housing. The COVID pandemic caused most shelters to reduce capacity and utilizing hotels for emergency shelters skyrocketed. Unfortunately, when making a safety plan for the victim, victims have reported turning down a hotel stay because they did not feel safe. Transitional housing is another gap due to the high expense vs. low number of victims served. The VOCA Board has continued to support programs that provide emergency shelter and transitional housing. VOCA funded five transitional housing projects, while also funding thirty-four emergency shelter projects.

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 2020/2021.