

WA Annual State Performance Report

Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

Reporting Period: [Oct 1, 2021 to Sept 30, 2022]

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

OVC VOCA Assistance Funds					
	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00605-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00686-ASSI
Federal Award Amount	\$74,702,737.00	\$51,207,272.00	\$38,159,052.00	\$23,924,343.00	\$32,966,344.00
Total Amount of Subawards	\$78,432,307.00	\$40,762,374.00	\$34,506,704.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	410	294	209	49	1
Administrative Funds Amount	\$3,735,136.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Training Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance Remaining	(\$7,464,706.00)	\$10,444,898.00	\$3,652,348.00	\$23,924,343.00	\$32,966,344.00

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-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00605-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00686-ASSI
Government Agencies Only	57	57	45	7	0
Corrections	0	0	0	0	0
Courts	2	3	0	1	0
Juvenile Justice	3	5	0	2	0
Law Enforcement	2	2	1	0	0
Prosecutor	47	44	43	3	0
Other	3	3	1	1	0
Nonprofit Organization Only	314	195	156	23	1
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	27	23	10	9	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	1	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	12	5	12	0	0
Faith-based Organization	1	2	1	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	8	7	9	1	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	70	27	13	1	1
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	8	9	1	0	0
Multiservice agency	167	103	94	11	0
Other	20	19	16	1	0
Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only	39	42	8	19	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0	0
Court	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	4	6	1	3	0
Faith-based organization	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0	0
Organization provides domestic and family violence and sexual assault services	6	7	1	4	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	4	5	2	2	0

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Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	4	3	1	1	0
Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	16	16	3	8	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	5	5	0	1	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Campus Organizations Only	0	0	0	0	0
Campus-based victims services	0	0	0	0	0
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Subawards	410	294	209	49	1

*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-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00605-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00686-ASSI
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	374	282	208	49	1
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	14	3	0	0	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	18	9	1	0	0
D. Start up a new Native American victim services project	2	0	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing Native American project	2	1	0	0	0

VOCA and Match Funds					
A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are not unique					
	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00605-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00686-ASSI
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	281	203	160	48	1
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	257	201	138	48	1
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	247	167	134	17	1
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	84	10	78	0	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	264	223	177	16	1
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	323	242	179	48	1

Priority and Underserved Requirements					
Priority Area	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00605-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00686-ASSI
Child Abuse					
Total Amount	\$16,755,905.00	\$9,814,478.00	\$5,012,095.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	22.00 %	19.00 %	13.00 %	0.00 %	0.00 %
Domestic and Family Violence					
Total Amount	\$30,815,140.00	\$6,712,452.00	\$19,832,655.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	41.00 %	13.00 %	52.00 %	0.00 %	0.00 %
Sexual Assault					
Total Amount	\$16,146,694.00	\$9,704,796.00	\$4,317,708.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	22.00 %	19.00 %	11.00 %	0.00 %	0.00 %
Underserved					
Total Amount	\$14,378,882.00	\$14,479,188.00	\$5,344,245.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	19.00 %	28.00 %	14.00 %	0.00 %	0.00 %

Budget and Staffing					
Staffing Information	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034	2020-V2-GX-0022	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00605-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00686-ASSI

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Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	4684	2950	2767	351	1
Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1974079	1311421	1353653	175915	1726
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	3553	3076	1890	1296	1
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	412373	236460	208475	23300	30

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)	128	833	893	910	539	793
Adult Sexual Assault	193	2269	2296	2382	1666	2153
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	155	469	464	475	421	457
Arson	126	14	17	10	9	12
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	87	93	85	139	76	98
Burglary	126	98	159	101	188	136
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	208	1164	1003	1135	668	992
Child Pornography	209	69	68	62	53	63
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	282	3955	4267	3968	3047	3809
Domestic and/or Family Violence	202	7405	8213	8665	6973	7814
DUI/DWI Incidents	126	38	49	45	28	40
Elder Abuse or Neglect	128	71	81	69	74	73
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	129	37	58	62	51	52
Human Trafficking: Labor	136	84	107	97	121	102
Human Trafficking: Sex	139	233	246	215	188	220
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	126	571	719	764	299	588
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	126	19	24	20	10	18
Kidnapping (custodial)	126	15	9	6	14	11
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	126	13	12	16	8	12
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	126	64	73	65	24	56
Robbery	126	126	165	168	99	139
Stalking/Harassment	127	493	533	584	447	514
Survivors of Homicide Victims	129	315	258	267	222	265
Teen Dating Victimization	216	119	121	147	105	123
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	125	0	7	4	1	3
Other	0	329	426	442	194	347

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	101	137	137	138	1100
Homeless	2204	2322	2521	2353	21258
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	870	868	861	690	6217
LGBTQ	325	396	389	380	2138
Veterans	72	70	68	75	795
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	2539	2853	2973	2551	22266
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	1126	1078	1099	885	8000

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Other	0	0	0	0	0
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General Award Information		
Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	73619	
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.	48377	65.71 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	1991	2.70 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	568	

Demographics		
Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian or Alaska Native	2089	4.32 %
Asian	1385	2.86 %
Black or African American	3155	6.52 %
Hispanic or Latino	9547	19.73 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	411	0.85 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	24052	49.72 %
Some Other Race	488	1.01 %
Multiple Races	1286	2.66 %
Not Reported	5964	12.33 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
Race/Ethnicity Total	48377	
Gender Identity		
Male	8698	17.98 %
Female	37928	78.40 %
Other	703	1.45 %
Not Reported	1048	2.17 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
Gender Total	48377	
Age		
Age 0- 12	5980	12.36 %
Age 13- 17	5478	11.32 %
Age 18- 24	5645	11.67 %
Age 25- 59	27578	57.01 %
Age 60 and Older	3689	7.63 %
Not Reported	7	0.01 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
Age Total	48377	

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	142	14085	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.	3492
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	0
			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	11667
			Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	1281
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	1566
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	0
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	39998

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B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	152	44416	B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	4479
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	550
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	3730
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	1893
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	1074
			B10. Interpreter services	0
C. Emotional Support or Safety Services	133	19274	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	9485
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	0
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	0
			C4. Individual counseling	5080
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	2191
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	1951
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	3231
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	81	2192	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	1938
			D2. Transitional housing	8
			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	248
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	145	35655	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	4530
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	1284
			E3. Assistance with restitution	1298
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	2142
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	2266
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	0
			E7. Immigration assistance	262
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	0
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	0
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	22227
E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	8575			

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	0
No	1
Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.	
None	
Describe any planning or training events held during the reporting period.	
None	
Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.	

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Washington State Department of Commerce/Office of Crime Victims Advocacy updated the following policies as a result of the enhanced desk monitoring conducted January 24-26, 2022: 1. Updated policies and procedures addressing the requirement to ensure potential vendors/contractors have not been suspended or barred prior to awarding federal funds. 2. Updated procurement procedures regarding conflicts of interest in the selection, award, and administration of contracts. 3. Updated monitoring policy and procedure reflecting subrecipient compliance with the award condition Determination of Suitability of Required, in Advance, for Certain Individuals Who May Interact with Participating Minors 4. Updated Match Waiver process procedure 5. Updated policies and procedures ensuring subrecipient notification when each funding source is used 6. Updated policies and procedures reflecting monitoring of pass-through entities including risk assessments and monitoring compliance with 2 C.F.R. 200.332 requirements.

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. OCVA 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.

Our service providers continue to struggle with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. While most of our service providers that had to close their offices last year have reported that they've re-opened, some service providers still struggle as staff may not yet feel safe working with the public. Combined with the significant loss in local support and outreach opportunities triggered by the cancellation of the majority of in-person events in the last year, providers often report feeling overwhelmed. In addition, many service providers have reported an increase in staff turnover and difficulties in filling direct service advocate positions. While direct services have always been a high turnover profession, we are seeing some increase in difficulties in staff vacancies, particularly in rural areas, that struggle to find qualified applicants willing to provide those services in rural communities. Some service providers in very rural areas report that finding qualified applicants is further hindered by challenges in communities where an advocate appearing in court with a client will result in that advocate facing harassment from an offender or the offender's supporters in communities where everyone knows everyone. This makes it even harder for small, rural agencies to recruit advocates. Executive leaders (Executive and Finance Directors) at service programs are struggling with exhaustion, burnout and overwhelm, and we are seeing several long-time leaders choose to retire or step away from managing victim service programs. This is resulting in a loss of historical perspective and practical institutional knowledge about funding streams, financial management, compliance requirements, and service delivery best practices. We see this in the form of increased errors on invoices, neglecting to include required documents with invoices and applications, and increased communications about eligible/ineligible expenses. For victim service providers, there are multiple impacts from staff experiencing COVID-related personal losses, chronic staffing shortages, and advocates struggling to support victims who are experiencing worse violence in an economic landscape where there is even less access to safe, affordable housing, childcare and transportation, making it much harder to assist victims with increasing safety and stability. Programs are needing to provide sheltering services for longer durations because in many communities there aren't affordable places for survivors and their children to go.

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 subgrantee 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 allied professionals in law enforcement, prosecution, and the court system.

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

One example of notable activities at the grantee level was the project of the Multicultural Child and Family Hope Center. This program applied for and received a competitive award under our VOCA Unmet Victim Service Needs initiative under the priority area of Girls of Color. The grantee provided a 24-month trauma informed services project to Girls of Color. The service touched on the frequent, critical needs of girls of color, not just through crisis intervention but by also addressing the underlying poverty and forced isolation that frequently accompanies victimization. The project was very successful in providing support and mentorship to girls and young women impacted by crime and trauma, particularly those that had few other resources. The program gave significant voice to youth and young adults who had experienced trauma and crime. The program's participants reported that they felt very comfortable and heard when sharing how they wanted to address their mental health needs. The project adapted services to fit their clients, often pivoting their service structure based on the needs of their participants. They created outdoor hiking opportunities where girls could go on a hike – an opportunity many of their clients did not normally have – which would then transition to opportunities to receive counseling once rapport and trust had been established. They worked very closely with their state grant administrator throughout, and the Multicultural Child and Family Hope Center has recently received a new three year funding opportunity to continue the project and serve even more girls and young women of color. Crystal Judson Family Justice Center, which received the VOCA Unmet Needs funding this reporting period, developed a local partnership/workgroup to address the substance use treatment needs of domestic violence victims in Pierce County, WA, including creating a specialized advocate position focused on supporting survivors with substance use challenges, developing strong referral relationships with treatment providers and enhancing trauma-informed approaches to working with DV survivors participating in treatment. This initiative was developed with VOCA funds, but the Crystal Judson FJC was able to grow the project with supplemental FVPSA funds to provide staffing for culturally specific services for Black/African-American survivors with substance use challenges. SafePlace is a program that has been providing housing and relocation assistance for survivors for many years with a variety of fund sources, including prior awards of VOCA Unmet Needs funding. They now have access to local government funds that enable SafePlace to assist victims with move-in costs and temporary rental assistance; however, those local funds are limited to housing assistance for homes in their county. Unfortunately, there aren't enough affordable housing units in the county so even though there are funds to support move-in costs and rental assistance, many survivors are on wait lists and can't immediately get into a unit. SafePlace identified that a subset of survivors they work with actually have a safe, affordable housing situation they could move into, but the option is located in a different part of the state or perhaps even in another state (e.g., a family member that will let the survivor move in or the survivor can transfer jobs to another city with more affordable units, etc.). For their current Unmet Needs contract, SafePlace is prioritizing use of VOCA funds to support those survivors with relocation costs so they can get to a place where they can access safe, affordable housing and stabilize their lives more quickly.

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. We set aside 6.4% of our VOCA grant subrecipient dollars to Child Advocacy Centers. In addition, this reporting period we also funded a new to direct funds to other providers of service to children, with the Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect Initiative which funded one time 12 months grants to programs providing services to child victims of abuse and neglect who would not otherwise receive VOCA funding. Our Domestic Violence Shelters continues to support victims of Domestic Violence across our state. 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. DV victim services programs, including those that do not operate shelter facilities, are using VOCA funds to expand provision of therapy services, legal support, and provide culturally and community specific services for immigrants and refugees, Latinx survivors, Black/African-American survivors, Native American/Indigenous survivors, Deaf/Hard of Hearing survivors, and LGBTQIA survivors. Our network of sexual assault providers has similarly benefited from the implementation of Washington's VOCA plan. Advocates are now being compensated at living wages and staff vacancies filled. 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, 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. 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 35 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 continue to serve a wide variety of crime types in 17 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 within populations historically impacted by discrimination. During this reporting period, we funded a total of 33 By and For grants to programs that are culturally based, directed, and substantially controlled by communities historically impacted by discrimination.

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

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Seven Washington state 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.

We are preparing for an increase in reporting of crimes that experienced a decrease in reporting during the shelter-in-place orders, such as reports of child abuse, neglect, and crimes against elders. However, this comes in conjunction with a decline in the amount of funding available, and we are anticipating we will begin to see longer wait times for services as many of our grantees are already at capacity. The lack of affordable housing units and the super competitive rental market means even with sufficient VOCA funding to support move-in costs and temporary rental assistance, programs are still having a hard time finding options for survivors.

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. 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 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.

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. Funding opportunities were advertised to current grantees via email, publicized to state coalitions, and application materials were posted on our agency's website. We also notify everyone that signs up for our agency's GovDelivery mailing list of all funding opportunities. We post all of our open competitive funding solicitations on the Washington Electronic Business Solution (WEBS) statewide portal. 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 are always finding new ways to ensure our funding solicitations reach as many service providers as possible.

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

One of the more heartbreaking aspects of the reduction in funding is the increase in awareness of our funding opportunities. When we initially experienced an increase in VOCA funding, we struggled to encourage new or underserved populations to apply for funding or, in some cases, to even return our phone calls. However the few new programs that took that chance had such a positive experience that word has spread. Now we regularly encounter application processes with far more applicants than we have funds available. We continue to commit to finding ways to provide funding to new/underserved populations, in some situations by targeting funding (as we did with the Victims of Child Abuse and Neglect grant mentioned in question 15) to entities that don't already have access to VOCA dollars.

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

One way we do this is through regional community planning processes conducted by current subrecipients. 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 competitive funding solicitations, based on that analysis of gaps. State administrators meet regularly to discuss currently funded service areas, remaining needs, and develop strategies for funding gaps.

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.