

MS Annual State Performance Report

Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

Reporting Period: [Oct 1, 2022 to Sept 30, 2023]

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

OVC VOCA Assistance Funds						
	2018-V2-GX-0168	2019-V2-GX-0032	2020-V2-GX-0021	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00581-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00770-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00447-ASSI
Federal Award Amount	\$30,399,551.00	\$20,596,471.00	\$15,218,388.00	\$9,532,820.00	\$12,876,068.00	\$12,047,234.00
Total Amount of Subawards	\$29,217,131.00	\$20,479,515.00	\$11,890,452.00	\$5,583,575.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	92	57	57	27	0	0
Administrative Funds Amount	\$1,519,977.00	\$1,029,823.00	\$760,919.00	\$476,641.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Training Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance Remaining	(\$337,557.00)	(\$912,867.00)	\$2,567,017.00	\$3,472,604.00	\$12,876,068.00	\$12,047,234.00

Subgrantee Organization Type						
<small>The total number of subgrants represents all subgrants funded across all federal awards active during the reporting period. The number is not unique as there are subgrantee organizations that are continuously funded from each federal award.</small>						
Type of Organization	2018-V2-GX-0168	2019-V2-GX-0032	2020-V2-GX-0021	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00581-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00770-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00447-ASSI
Government Agencies Only	26	18	25	12	0	0
Corrections	0	1	1	1	0	0
Courts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	10	4	9	6	0	0
Prosecutor	9	7	9	3	0	0
Other	7	6	6	2	0	0
Nonprofit Organization Only	66	37	29	14	0	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	33	19	14	9	0	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	1	2	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	12	5	6	4	0	0
Faith-based Organization	4	0	1	0	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	7	4	3	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	1	2	1	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	2	1	1	0	0	0
Multiservice agency	5	4	3	1	0	0
Other	1	0	0	0	0	0
Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only	0	2	1	0	0	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Court	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	0	0	0	0	0	0
Faith-based organization	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Organization provides domestic and family violence and sexual assault services	0	2	1	0	0	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	0	0	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Campus Organizations Only	0	0	2	1	0	0
Campus-based victims services	0	0	2	1	0	0
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Subawards	92	57	57	27	0	0

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

Subaward Purpose						
A single SAR can select multiple purposes. Numbers are not unique						
	2018-V2-GX-0168	2019-V2-GX-0032	2020-V2-GX-0021	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00581-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00770-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00447-ASSI
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	87	57	53	27	0	0
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	3	2	1	0	0	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	2	1	5	0	0	0
D. Start up a new Native American victim services project	0	0	0	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing Native American project	1	0	0	0	0	0

VOCA and Match Funds						
A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are not unique						
	2018-V2-GX-0168	2019-V2-GX-0032	2020-V2-GX-0021	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00581-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00770-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00447-ASSI
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	91	56	57	27	0	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	87	50	53	25	0	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	76	44	49	24	0	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	43	21	22	9	0	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	80	51	46	24	0	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	92	57	57	27	0	0

Priority and Underserved Requirements						
Priority Area	2018-V2-GX-0168	2019-V2-GX-0032	2020-V2-GX-0021	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00581-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00770-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00447-ASSI
Child Abuse						
Total Amount	\$13,198,080.00	\$7,662,038.00	\$6,975,007.00	\$3,162,643.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	43.00 %	37.00 %	46.00 %	33.00 %		
Domestic and Family Violence						
Total Amount	\$8,989,930.00	\$6,124,468.00	\$2,471,765.00	\$1,162,735.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	30.00 %	30.00 %	16.00 %	12.00 %		
Sexual Assault						
Total Amount	\$3,509,696.00	\$3,085,215.00	\$750,380.00	\$393,917.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	12.00 %	15.00 %	5.00 %	4.00 %		
Underserved						
Total Amount	\$3,514,391.00	\$2,562,768.00	\$1,693,282.00	\$855,738.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	12.00 %	12.00 %	11.00 %	9.00 %		

Budget and Staffing						
Staffing Information	2018-V2-GX-0168	2019-V2-GX-0032	2020-V2-GX-0021	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00581-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00770-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00447-ASSI
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	1059	560	487	214		

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

Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1229089	890668	695647	221039	
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1385	1134	1078	591	
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	96584	67336	37953	8914	

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)	29	432	505	518	509	491
Adult Sexual Assault	31	239	257	334	322	288
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	29	75	83	73	93	81
Arson	13	34	30	21	21	26
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	24	25	31	40	77	43
Burglary	14	332	302	326	280	310
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	37	1988	1966	1999	2375	2082
Child Pornography	22	54	50	43	44	47
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	38	2431	2447	2634	2752	2566
Domestic and/or Family Violence	38	2786	2826	2683	3107	2850
DUI/DWI Incidents	15	32	42	36	49	39
Elder Abuse or Neglect	20	11	25	11	10	14
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	14	1	0	1	1	0
Human Trafficking: Labor	21	15	6	8	12	10
Human Trafficking: Sex	32	131	104	93	152	120
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	14	88	119	125	132	116
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	17	13	10	15	55	23
Kidnapping (custodial)	15	4	9	5	3	5
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	9	1	5	1	1	2
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	14	24	67	19	14	31
Robbery	17	112	142	128	115	124
Stalking/Harassment	25	112	174	107	73	116
Survivors of Homicide Victims	26	383	433	319	288	355
Teen Dating Victimization	20	10	6	8	2	6
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	9	0	4	4	0	2
Other	11	3163	3786	3649	3741	3584

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	26	43	45	20	153
Homeless	207	185	303	306	2299
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	56	53	149	228	588
LGBTQ	104	83	79	65	377
Veterans	45	46	50	31	327
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	488	502	543	486	3089
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	79	87	194	222	856
Other	171	203	230	92	471

General Award Information

Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	48872	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	2224	

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

Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	27918	57.12 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	4033	8.25 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	7397	

Demographics		
Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian or Alaska Native	144	0.52 %
Asian	69	0.25 %
Black or African American	10502	37.62 %
Hispanic or Latino	889	3.18 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	10	0.04 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	11716	41.97 %
Some Other Race	152	0.54 %
Multiple Races	708	2.54 %
Not Reported	832	2.98 %
Not Tracked	2896	10.37 %
Race/Ethnicity Total	27918	
Gender Identity		
Male	8230	29.48 %
Female	16561	59.32 %
Other	21	0.08 %
Not Reported	501	1.79 %
Not Tracked	2605	9.33 %
Gender Total	27918	
Age		
Age 0- 12	8686	31.11 %
Age 13- 17	4357	15.61 %
Age 18- 24	1737	6.22 %
Age 25- 59	7593	27.20 %
Age 60 and Older	974	3.49 %
Not Reported	1712	6.13 %
Not Tracked	2859	10.24 %
Age Total	27918	

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	52	25267	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	12944
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	14125
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	25875
			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	15002
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	46	17050	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	769
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	432
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	2518
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	31438
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	6013
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	56
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	605
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	2203
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	17247
B10. Interpreter services	833			
C. Emotional Support or	13	13306	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	12869
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	7255
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	332

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

Safety Services **	42	15206	C4. Individual counseling	13122
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	4910
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	1604
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	1544
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	22	2913	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	41547
			D2. Transitional housing	2429
			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	563
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	43	9838	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	6107
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	1536
			E3. Assistance with restitution	984
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	1060
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	3638
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	255
			E7. Immigration assistance	71
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	1172
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	1087
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	2562
E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	1048			

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.	13
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	2595
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	76
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.	
None.	
Describe any planning or training events held during the reporting period.	
<p>During this reporting period, OAIV continued its mission of capacity building for new departmental staff and its subrecipients. The overarching goal has continued to be improvement with the State's technical assistance efforts to facilitate change with its grant application process. These training efforts focused on building financial and programmatic grant capacity, improving relationships with legacy providers through routine and quarterly engagement meetings, and establishing new relationships with other state coalitions. To help solidify these efforts, OAIV participated in several training joint initiatives with OVC TTAC, OVC PMT Data Analysts, and the MS AGO Victim Compensation Administrator. These consisted of the following topics: OAIV: Subgrantee Orientation: December 19th, 2022 OAIV VOCA Administrator and OVC PMT Data Analyst for Mississippi: PMT Training, Data Validation and PMT Strategic Planning for Timely Submission by Tier – January 10th-26th OVC TTAC: The Essentials of Successful Grant Writing Webinar – March 22nd MSO AGO Victim Compensation: Victim Bill of Rights, Compensation and Resource Training- March 30th OVC TTAC: Financial Management Back to the Basics – June 5th OVC TTAC: Financial Practices to Support Organizational Health- June 8th. OVC TTAC: Grant Reporting – November 6, 2023 OVC TTAC: Monitoring – TBA OAIV also used administrative funds to support statewide training efforts through one of its pass-through entities, Childrens Advocacy Center of Mississippi. CACM funded staff provided training at 11 conferences that resulted in 1,215 people being trained during the reporting period. Eighteen (18) people were trained during the New CAC Directors Roundtable and CAC Leadership Retreat, an additional 63 trainings with 1,362 people being trained. These trainings included: joint investigations, minimal facts interviewing, MDT, peer support, mandatory reporting, sex trafficking, opioid abuse, SANE, child abuse, MDT, family advocacy, and others. Additionally, curriculums for the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), Law Enforcement Academy, ChildFirst, Peer to Peer Support, Multidisciplinary Team and other Ad Hoc Trainings were developed over the course of the funding year. In addition, written materials, such as brochures, flashcards, and other materials were updated as needed during the reporting period. Lastly, continuing education credits were successfully approved for Social Workers, Law Enforcement, Guardian Ad Litem, Licensed Professional Counselors, Attorneys, Registered and Advanced Practice Nurses. Furthermore, the Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence (MCADV) works with twelve (12) domestic violence programs across the state to assist their clients. This coalition also hosts the Advocate Coffee Break training series which covers an array of domestic violence and trauma informed training topics. The most recent Advocate Coffee Break training was hosted in May 2023 which focused on legal resources for Mississippi domestic violence survivors. Over 25 advocates attended this event. MS Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MSCASA) conducted 40 training events where 1124 people have been trained. Two (2) participants from the MS Band of Choctaw Indians have participated in these trainings. These training events consisted of the following: 40-hour Pediatric SANE manuals Working Together: How Title IX Office and Victim Services Benefit Each Other Safety Planning and Advocacy Systems Investigations with Victim Services Support HBCU Campus panels Overview on Sexual Assault, Dating/Domestic Violence and Stalking Crime Victim Compensation</p>	
Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.	
<p>MSDH, OAIV continues to evaluate its policies and procedures. It was during the State's prior reporting period of 10/1/2021 through 9/30/2022, that the agency changed several procedural policies based on the VOCA Fix legislation. Because of this legislation, the department revised its Match Waiver policy, Match Determination Form and process to comply with this federal law. For the current reporting period, the State revisited its Match policy to ensure it complied with the pandemic end date established by the VOCA Fix legislation. Also, to mention, OAIV received technical assistance from the National Criminal Justice Association, VOCA Center, which helped the department finalize and implement a risk assessment tool, pre-site and on-site tool for monitoring, and incorporate the Suitability Determination Checklist in the State's monitoring policy and procedure. Because of this support, OAIV began monitoring for the FY 2024 period of performance. The State will continue to work with this organization to finalize its policies and practices on reimbursements, desk monitoring and the development of a funding methodology.</p>	
Describe any earned media coverage events/episodes during the reporting period.	
No media coverage events were conducted at the state level. Media coverage efforts are conducted on the subgrantee level.	
Describe any coordinated responses/services for assisting crime victims during the reporting period.	

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

During the reporting period, OAVI state continued its efforts to coordinate and enhance victim services by participating and engaging other state partners in its statewide collaborative efforts. These efforts have consistently helped with identifying and closing gaps in service delivery among various systems such as education, coalitions, tribal and county government entities. These initiatives consisted of the following: 1) MS Campus Cohort- which is funded through the Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault. The department's role is to identify funding barriers and service challenges that may hinder campus-based programming. 2) Coalition Meetings- OAVI VOCA, VAWA and Community Grant Administrators meet monthly with Executive Directors of the Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence (MCADV) and the Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MSCASA) with the inclusion of the State CAC chapter. 3) Continued tribal engagement with the State's only federally recognized tribe the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians with the expanded participation of other agencies such as the MS Attorney General's Office and the FBI, Victim Specialist. 4) CASA quarterly engagement- In April 2023 of this reporting period, VOCA Administrator, the OAVI director, representatives from the Center for Violence Prevention worked with the funded CASAs organizations to plan and develop quarterly engagement calls that discussed CASA services, funding for sustainability, and service coordination efforts with Center for Violence Prevention, Human Trafficking Staff. The purpose of these quarterly engagements was also to help departmental staff understand more about CASA services, news and updates (local/national) that are provided throughout our state. 5) CACM Executive Director meets every other month with the Commissioner of MDCPS to discuss and resolve challenges with victims receiving services. Additionally, CACM serves on the Children's Justice Act Task Force, Child Fatality Review Team, and the Supreme Court Commission on Children's Justice. These three task forces address system issues to improve the response to child victims and their families. 6) MCADV participates in monthly meetings with VOCA grantee partners, North Mississippi Rural Legal Services and Mississippi Center for Legal Services with the intention of being proactive to any gaps in services, issues, or improvement strategies. This relationship has fostered interest and efforts to collaborate on other victim outreach and services. MSCASA participates in monthly planning meetings with state administrators including VOCA; statewide task force on human trafficking, SANE, MS Campus Cohort (bi-monthly). These individuals consisted of RNs, faith-based leaders, college and university faculty and staff, advocates, government agency and tribal staff. Training topics discussed such as Strangulation, standard model of care to Pediatric survivors of sexual assault, safety planning and advocacy, trauma, and sexual abuse.

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

One of the major and on-going administrative issues for OAVI that prevents victims from receiving assistance is the continual decline in VOCA Formula Assistance funds. While working with CACM, CACM has identified their major issues were receiving cases that meet the protocol from CPS and law enforcement, lack of transportation which impact clients meeting scheduled appointments, and lack of mental health resources. Furthermore, the Mississippi Coalition Against Domestic Violence has indicated that victims continue to report that they didn't know free legal services were available for their crime victimization.

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 the State's Requests for Proposals (RFP), OAVI continues to require applicants to identify local cross system collaborations by identifying local partnerships and any memorandums with service providers, law enforcement agencies, and any victim sponsored support groups.

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

With the continued decline in VOCA Formula Assistance funds, OAVI has continued its efforts to promote sustainability planning by encouraging and allocating diverse funding opportunities to its subrecipients. It was during the previous reporting period, that the Governor signed HB 1550 Capitol Expense Funds into law in March 2022. Section 2 of the HB 1550 Capitol Expense bill granted the department additional state appropriations for fiscal year (FY) 2022 in the amount \$9,852,684.00. The State continued to use these funds by allocating the remaining unused funds to support the delivery of victim services during the FY 2023 period of performance. These funds were given to reimburse its subgrant recipients for the period beginning October 1, 2022, and ending June 30, 2023. Additionally, it was during the State's 2023 Regular Session Legislative Session that MSDH OAVI was awarded another opportunity to allocate state appropriated funds to support the delivery of victim services. Due to H.B. 1626, Section 37, which allowed for the appropriation of twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000.00) for the purpose of providing reimbursable grants from the Office Against Interpersonal Violence. Of the funds in this section, a minimum of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) was set aside for distribution to the Children's Advocacy Centers of Mississippi for the purpose of conducting additional forensic interviews. None of these funds were used administratively by OAVI to support the oversight and management of these funds. All funding was administered by current staff to the state's subgrantees.

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 state continues to ensure that with each RFP solicitation priority categories are identified during the solicitation process. As a part of the state's evaluation and selection process for funding, subgrantees have to clearly identify the funding priorities in their grant application. Budget requests for VOCA funding and project workplans have to align and support the required VOCA funding priorities. Presently, the State funds many organizations that address a variety of victimization types. These agencies presently range from law enforcement, district attorney offices, child placement providers, CASAs, CACs, domestic violence, campus-based organizations, sexual assault centers, and a non-profit legal service provider that offers statewide legal services. Lastly, the department continues to fund immigration legal assistance and interpreter services.

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

The State's solicitations mandate that all victims of federal crimes must be provided services on the same basis as victims of state and local crimes. Federal crimes may include human trafficking, bank robbery, kidnapping, etc. as well as crimes committed on federal property such as military installations, national parks, and certain Indian reservations.

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

Reductions in VOCA federal funds continue to be the emerging issue affecting crime victim services in our State. These reductions have a direct effect on agencies that have no sustainability plan, community buy in/ or alternative resources to provide service to victims of crime.

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

During last year's reporting period, the MS State Personnel Board implemented the SEC2 project. Project SEC2 was a state employee classification and compensation initiative. The goal of Project SEC2 is to create a classification and compensation system that is fair and equitable and allows for recruitment, retention, and motivation of a qualified workforce. The new classification and compensation system went into effect on January 1, 2022. As a result, the department reclassified positions and gave up to a 3% increase to staff currently employed with the department. During that time, OAVI was able to obtain higher paying salary pins and had a method to bring previous below market positions to market value. For the current reporting period, OAVI was able to hire three (3) programmatic grant staff coordinators and one (1) program assist to assist with the oversight of subgrant management for all federal and state funds allocated through OAVI.

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

During this reporting period, OAVI planned and executed more publication strategies in comparison to previous funding years to publicize its victim assistance funding to reach a broader audience to award new applicants through the following publication partnerships: Mississippi Public Universities – Institutions of Higher Learning Mississippi Administrative Office of Courts Mississippi Community College Board MCASA Campus Cohort MS Department of Health, Division of Aging and Adult Services, Adult Protective Services and Community Health Directors MS State Department of Mental Health, Office of Communications-newsletter list serv. MS AARP MS Attorney General's Office, Prosecutor and Law Enforcement Training Division, -list serv Funding availability was continued to be announced through the MSDH website and the agency's social media platforms, through the department's Events Calendar Smartsheet, and through the department's growing interested parties list. Lastly, subgrantees also conduct outreach in their local communities to ensure victim services funding announcements are publicized. Lastly, CACM regularly updates its website identifying services offered and the service area throughout the state. The website provides citizens with a user-friendly map of service areas and contact information. In addition, CACM updates all written materials, such as brochures, push cards and other written materials to distribute during training events and when solicited from the community.

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

For the past two reporting periods, the State has fallen below the required funding percentage for the underserved category. With this current reporting period, OAVI has been providing more joint training and technical assistance with the help of OVC TTAC and OVC PMT staff. Because of these training and technical assistance opportunities provided to our subgrantees, the state is hoping that it will help subgrantees accurately identify and report on the types of victims and victimizations instead of the classifying and reporting victims in one priority area. OAVI continues to track and monitor VOCA funding priorities by using PMT data. It was during this reporting period that OAVI identified the need to develop a funding method that was performance base that would also assist the department with allocating funding correctly by priority area.

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

OAVI continues with its practice of working in cross-system partnerships with state and federal agencies such as the MS Attorney General's Office for Victim Compensation and, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Victim Specialist to identify gaps in tribal and direct services. OAVI continues to engage routinely and quarterly with non-profit organizations such as domestic and sexual assault coalitions, CASAs, CACs, tribal engagements, and collaborative efforts with the MS Campus Cohorts with the assistance of MS Coalition of Sexual Assault. It was through this partnership that OAVI was able to allocate funding to campus-based organizations.

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

OAVI compiles and submits the number of victims served in the MSDH agency wide annual report. This report is also shared with the State's legislative budget office and publicized on the agency's website. CACM also develops an annual report for distribution to the governor, legislature, and other community partners.