

**COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT
(CDVSA)**

Location:
Bristol Inn
104 Main Street
Dillingham, Alaska

Quarterly Council Meeting
December 3 – 4, 2019

Thursday, December 3, 2019

Board Members Present:

Teresa Lowe
Laura Brooks
Jillian Gellings
John Novak
Angela Garay
Linda Stanford
Lydia Heyward

Board Members Absent:

Amanda Price
Niki Tsibaka

Staff:

Diane Casto
Angela Wells
Marjorie Hamburger

Minutes prepared by: Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Teresa Lowe called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

CONFLICT INQUIRY

No conflicts of interest were declared.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND ATTENDEES

Teresa Lowe introduced herself and opened the floor for board members and attendees to briefly introduce themselves.

AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Teresa Lowe called for a review of the meeting agenda. No changes were made to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 25, 2019

Angela Garay **MOVED** to approve the September 2019 meeting minutes, **SECONDED** by Lydia Heyward. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion **PASSED. (6/0)**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO SAFE AND FEAR-FREE ENVIRONMENT (SAFE)

Marilyn Casteel, the executive director for SAFE in Dillingham, joined the meeting and introduced members of the SAFE staff who were able to attend the presentation.

Marilyn Casteel reported that SAFE has been helping families deal with issues of sexual and physical violence between intimate partners, stalking, dating violence, and the victimization of children in the Bristol Bay region since 1980. SAFE is the region's shelter, prevention, and advocacy agency for domestic violence and sexual assault victims. She noted that Dillingham is a hub for dozens of surrounding villages in the Bristol Bay region. Dillingham's year-round population is 2,400, and the population can double or triple during the summer when the fishing season is in full swing because Bristol Bay, Dillingham in particular, is the salmon capital of the world.

Marilyn Casteel highlighted the history of SAFE as follows:

- In 1980 SAFE opened the doors to its first office. The building was only an office at the time, and victims would stay in the homes of a crisis volunteer, of which there was one.
- In 1998 SAFE purchased a home, which is their current location, after quickly growing out of their office building, and the need for more services and more space for a shelter was paramount. She noted that space for shelter became their top priority, and it is still their top priority today.
- In 1999 the shelter was added, and during this time, SAFE expanded its staff to include village services, outreach and education, court watch, a SART team to respond to victims of sexual assault, and a Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) specifically for children who were victims of assault.
- In 2002 SAFE expanded to include more office space for administrative staff and a proper reception and waiting area.
- In 2004 Ulla's Place became a reality.
- In 2006 SAFE added a floor above Ulla's to serve as a conference room that is used for support groups. The support group was a program started many years ago as a funded program, but once that funding was lost, the support group became a peer support group that continues to meet every Thursday.
- In March of 2011 SAFE opened its doors to the MySpace Wellness Center, which is a program focused on the middle and high school-aged students in Dillingham. SAFE's Community Action Network-directed CANDU grant ended in 2014, but SAFE continued to run with grants from Bristol Bay Economic Development, which allows SAFE to hire a MySpace advocate.

Marilyn Casteel shared that the inspiration for SAFE comes from the founder, Ginger Baim. Her vision was that every citizen in the region would be safe from violence in a region where violence is rampant and widely accepted. Ginger spent her entire career working towards creating change by developing and supporting prevention and

intervention techniques, training, and education. She believed that if everyone was all speaking the same language, the benefit to victims would be abundant. In response to challenges advocates faced in getting services for victims, her philosophy was that there was always a solution, it's up to us to find it. She believed in victim safety first, and everything comes after that.

Marilyn Casteel shared her personal story noting that she brings her personal life experiences to this work she is passionate about, and she works towards ending violence in her community and the Bristol Bay region every day. Marilyn shared that she has been the executive director of SAFE since April of 2014, but her passion became evident when she was asked to sit on the board of directors at SAFE from 1992 to 1997. After becoming the executive director of SAFE, she and her staff are committed to continuing Ginger Baim's journey and her vision by developing and supporting prevention through their Prevention Grant from CDVSA and improving their intervention techniques to meet the needs of their clients.

Marilyn Casteel shared that SAFE's greatest asset is its shelter program. They have a 16-bed shelter in Dillingham and private residence resources in King Salmon for clients who need alternative accommodations. She noted that they are beginning to see many women in their shelter program as a result of homelessness that always seems to have a base of domestic and/or sexual violence. Currently, their shelter is only able to house women and their minor children. Marilyn briefly shared the following statistics:

- In FY17 SAFE served 145 clients and provided 3,089 services for shelter clients.
- In FY18 SAFE served 139 clients and provided 3,993 services for shelter clients.
- In FY19 SAFE served 165 clients and provided 3,483 services for shelter clients.

Marilyn Casteel stated that over the years, they have seen many successes come out of devastating circumstances. She noted that last year, SAFE was extremely shorthanded in the shelter, and at times they did not have a shelter manager or a lead advocate, which put the bulk of the work on the direct services coordinator. It was at that point that they created an on-call status policy, which required employees and/or volunteers to be on-call for certain hours to respond to emergencies after normal business hours, and SAFE paid a special premium to employees and/or volunteers.

Marilyn Casteel shared that SAFE, the Community Coordinated Response (CCR) members, and the Multi-Disciplinary Alliance (MDA) continues to be extremely concerned for victims of violence in Bristol Bay, because currently the prosecutor's office is not staffed. She reported that there is a plan to have a prosecutor moving to Dillingham in January, and they are again hopeful that they will stay a while. Marilyn noted that justice for victims in rural Alaska is incredibly expensive beginning with an investigation through trial, and many times the prosecutor's office will decline to press charges or drop charges down to a misdemeanor. Sadly for victims, this also means that victim notification does not happen, which can result in a chain of events leading to more victimization and a lack of faith in the justice system for victims knowing there is no recourse, which often translates to there is no hope. Unfortunately, perpetrators know this as well. She stated that the CCRs and MDA work tirelessly to fill the gaps by pooling resources and reaching out to the victims to try to assist them with their needs.

Marilyn Casteel stated that it has become apparent that the opioid epidemic has reached the Bristol Bay region. It has claimed lives; dramatically impacted their legal, judicial, and medical systems; and has overwhelmed their Office of Children's Services. They are scrambling to find safe homes for the children. Grandparents raising their grandchildren is now commonplace. The traditional Yupik values that dictate behaviors and belief systems as a life guide are being challenged due to budget cuts in law enforcement, which is already non-existent in most of their villages. Poverty and isolation are already an issue in their region, and people now live in fear of violence and theft with no justice. Addicts are wreaking havoc on their villages and families.

Marilyn Casteel reported that the barriers to services in rural Alaska include the following:

- Logistical isolation
- Poverty
- Literacy
- Addictions and mental health challenges
- Housing
- Criminal background
- Family connections

She stated that it is hard to access services with no money, no childcare, bare cupboards, and no safe place to go. SAFE's goal in working with victims is to help them identify the challenges, connect them with those resources, and have those resources in turn connect the victim to the next level of resources that becomes identified. Those services include:

- Providing safe shelter
- Transportation
- Childcare

Marilyn Casteel stated that SAFE and its partners have been able to provide clients with connections to sustainable, wraparound, supportive services. The SAFE staff has received training on a social-ecological model approach to providing wraparound services to victims of violence living with co-occurring substance abuse, homelessness, and mental health issues, especially as it pertains to their day-to-day living and basic life skills. To provide adequate wraparound support services to clients, they need support from all of the agencies who deal with domestic violence and sexual assault. She said that SAFE keeps their channels open to all agencies, because they know that there may be a connection somehow, somewhere to services for the clients.

Marilyn Casteel shared that in 2016, Dr. Jemery Braithwaite did a dissertation based on interviews with adult survivors of sexual violence in Bristol Bay. Her takeaway was that where there is domestic violence, there is another trauma, albeit historical trauma, Native identity, adverse childhood experiences, or substance abuse, and you cannot talk about violence without talking about issues pertaining to violence. Her vision for the community is to have transitional housing for the many women who have given up everything to be free from violence.

Marilyn Casteel reported that their Domestic Violence Maintenance Initiative funding paid for a septic treatment system for their facility. They are now working on maintenance issues that remain. SAFE staff is researching the cost of repairing or replacing the security system, one that includes fire and intruder alarms.

Marilyn Casteel expressed her appreciation and shared that as SAFE's journey continues, it will grow, change, and expand to meet the needs and expectations of the people they serve. She extended SAFE's deepest gratitude to the CDVSA for walking so much of this journey with them.

SAFE STAFF REPORT:

SAFE staff Brandy Girogano, Lisa Haggblom, Alberta Hoseth, and Greg MarxMiller joined the meeting, described their responsibilities at SAFE, and shared the successes and challenges they face in their region as follows:

- Successes included:
 - Successful audits, no findings
 - Fiscal policies and compliance on point
 - MySpace program
- Challenges included:
 - Funding for regular maintenance position
 - Communication with DA's office
 - Recruitment, retention, and proper training of incoming staff
 - Handicap access to shelter
 - Homelessness and services for the male population

Gina Carpenter, the vice president of the SAFE board, joined the meeting to share that the board is very supportive of SAFE and expressed the board's appreciation for the funding that comes through CDVSA and others. She noted that the board members serve for three-year terms, and the board holds an annual meeting. She shared a recent insight from a client who described a "trap house" in Dillingham. That has been very concerning for her, and it demonstrates a dangerous change in culture in the community.

In closing, Marilyn Casteel shared that SAFE works closely with ANDVSA and appreciates the partnership and support. She asked CDVSA to consider rural Alaska in the work they do and think of the impact on rural Alaska programs during times when they are focused on state and federal regulation input and feedback.

PREPARATION FOR DILLINGHAM COMMUNITY DIALOGUE ON DV, SA, AND OTHER VIOLENT CRIMES

Teresa Lowe led a discussion and defined the expectations for the community meeting. She noted that CDVSA board members are there to show support for local agencies and provide a safe place for people to talk about issues that concern them. The Council is not there to step in and provide solutions, but they can listen and take concerns back to the appropriate department. Laura Brooks reminded the board to be aware of the

impact on board members hearing stories of violence and to be cognizant of triggers that may result from that.

CLOSING REMARKS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Laura Brooks commented that she appreciated hearing from the SAFE staff's successes and challenges. Other board members echoed that sentiment. Teresa Lowe remarked that it is humbling to hear the accomplishments of the SAFE staff with the resources that they have.

RECESS

John Novak **MOVED** for recess, **SECONDED** by Lydia Heyward. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**, and the meeting recessed at 3:32 p.m.

COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

(CDVSA)

Location:
Bristol Inn
104 Main Street
Dillingham, Alaska

Quarterly Council Meeting
December 3 – 4, 2019

Friday, December 4, 2019

Board Members Present:

Teresa Lowe
Lydia Heyward
Angela Garay
John Novak
John Skidmore
Laura Brooks
Jillian Gellings
Linda Stanford

Board Members Absent:

Niki Tsibaka
Amanda Price

Staff:

Diane Casto
Angela Wells
Marjorie Hamburger
MaryBeth Gagnon
Kelly Gohl

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Teresa Lowe called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

REVIEW OF DAY ONE

Teresa Lowe opened the floor for comments related to the community dialogue held the night before. A summary of the comments was as follows:

- The community forum was important because the board heard different sides of the issues Dillingham is experiencing, and although there may have been respectful disagreement on how to approach those issues, they were working towards a similar goal.
- The main theme of concerns with regards to DV/SA in Dillingham centered around histories of drugs and alcohol use and abuse and other generational issues. There was a push towards traditional types of healing.

- The meeting brought out the various viewpoints and strategies. The discussion regarding perpetrator accountability and reentry was interesting. People wanted accountability, but they recognize that there is going to be reentry, which ties into recognizing that the BIP programs need to be culturally relevant.
- The meeting was a demonstration of various viewpoints and approaches for accountability, recognizing the family ties of a community. There was a fair amount of concern about the prosecutor's office staffing.
- The community members showed a lot of support for SAFE.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Diane Casto directed the Council members' attention to the written report included in the board packet and highlighted the following information:

- Ella Nierra resigned from CDVSA to take advantage of an opportunity with the Department of Revenue. While Ella was at the Council, she did a superb job of organizing the position and has left it in a place that will be easier to define the duties. CDVSA will begin interviews for a new grants administrator.
- On November 13th and 14th, CDVSA held the Second Annual All Grantees Meeting. The meeting was focused on internal processes and financial reporting changes. Michelle Dixon-Wall from the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs presented three sessions that were to help programs understand providing supportive services for victims of sexual assault. Chellie Skoog from the Foraker Group presented on internal controls, budgeting, and administrative duties. There was discussion at the meeting related to the Batterers Intervention Programs, which the Council is looking to revise and improve, and making those changes culturally appropriate.
- Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime competitive VOCA-funded RFP has been out since October 25th. The proposals are due Friday. They have received 11 responses of intent to apply. CDVSA applied for and received a VOCA match waiver process to allow waiving a portion of the 25 percent match. CDVSA is looking for board members to volunteer to serve on the Proposal Evaluation Committee for the RFP. Three categories can be funded with the RFP:
 - Enhancing the services of Child Advocacy Centers
 - Children's trauma-informed mental health services for children through 18
 - Civil/legal advocacy and services for those impacted by interpersonal and violent crimes.

Diane Casto reported that the strategic plan process would require board involvement. CDVSA will be looking at the Council's vision for the next five years. The three-part process includes the following:

- December 16 – 17, 2019 staff will meet with Professional Growth Systems to lay the groundwork.
- January 7, 2020 present groundwork to the board for input and development of a draft document.
- End of January/beginning of February, CDVSA will begin the stakeholder engagement events in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, and Bethel. Staff and one board member will attend the stakeholder meetings.

Diane Casto reported that the Alaska Victimization Survey would be taking place in March of 2020. It will be fundamentally the same survey as in 2010 and 2015 with the addition of a few more questions that are going through the UAA Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval process.

Diane Casto reported that as a recipient of state and federal money, CDVSA is required to follow the Civil Rights Act requirements, and one of those is related to access, and language access is a critical piece of being able to have services available to the public. CDVSA does not have a Language Access Plan (LAP) for the agency but has made it a priority to become compliant with the Civil Rights Act to have a plan in place of how they will comply with and make sure that services can be accessed by the public regardless of their ability to speak English. CDVSA contracted with the Alaska Institute for Justice (AIJ) to develop a draft Language Access Plan for the Council. She directed the members' attention to the final draft plan included in the board packet for review.

After a short discussion highlighting some of the activities and timeline of the draft LAP, Jillian Gellings **MOVED** for approval of the proposed Language Access Plan, **SECONDED** by Lydia Heyward. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion **PASSED**. (5/0/1)

CDVSA BUDGET REVIEW, FISCAL REPORT, SFY20 BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES

Kelly Gohl joined the meeting and directed the members' attention to the financial documents contained in the board packet for review. Kelly highlighted the following information:

- Page 1 – Program Budget FY2020:
 - Total budget authority, \$25,789,500
 - Total operating budget, not including grants, \$4,004,417
 - Total program budget, \$18,832,250
 - Total budgeted allocated, \$22,836,667
- Page 2 – Grants Budget FY2020:
 - Total grant award authority, \$21,785,083
 - Total obligated in grant lines, \$18,832,250
- Page 3 – Detailed Sub-Award Plan for FY2020:
 - Total allocated for sub-grantees, \$18,832,250
- Page 4 – Contracts and Services FY2020:
 - Total authority for contract services, \$2,568,000
 - Total contracts and services obligations, \$1,786,526

PUBLIC COMMENT

A public comment period was offered, and a full transcript was prepared.

ANDVSA REPORT

Carmen Lowry, the executive director of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, joined the meeting to present the ANDVSA report. She expressed her appreciation to the Council for the opportunity to sit at the Council table and share the Network's perspective.

Carmen Lowry shared her perspective as the executive director of ANDVSA, her personal perspective, and the perspective as someone who has been involved in this work since 1990. She offered a broad overview of three grounding concepts guiding the Network's relationship with the Council as follows:

- Nature of civil society and partnership with the State of Alaska:
 - Sub-grantees can be referred to as civil society who serve to ensure that that State is being held accountable to the constituency of the organizations.
- Programming outcomes of respectful and reciprocal relationships to achieve shared goals:
 - Creating and nurturing respectful and reciprocal relationships amongst CDVSA and organizations that receive state and federal pass-through funding is critical to successful and impactful program implementation.
 - Fostering a partnership grounded in reciprocity and respect allows for a collective achievement of common goals.
- CDVSA being a trauma-informed donor and regulatory agency:
 - Being a trauma-informed regulatory agency calls for more conversation, dialogue, and interaction with those who have the content and contextual expertise so that the regulatory agency can be more responsive and impactful with how it allocates and monitors the federal or state funding.

Carmen Lowry shared with the board the Network's requests of CDVSA:

- More public forums for input, explanations, and feedback:
 - More public forums where input can be shared before policies are implemented, and decisions are made so that CDVSA can gain an understanding of impact and ability to implement decisions.
 - It is the State's responsibility to invite and listen to experts in the field when considering the introduction of new regulations and policies.
- Timeline and process to review and adopt regulations:
 - A timeline on when regulations will be reviewed and a clear differentiation about what is regulation in a statute, and what policies and practices are being introduced by CDVSA to be compliant with federal funding, and what is suggested best practices that grantees are encouraged to adopt.
 - The need for more transparency on how decisions are made and who is empowered to make those decisions.
 - That CDVSA reviews its special conditions and to include those special conditions when organizations sign contractual agreements in efforts to stymie new regulations being introduced as programs implement.
- More inclusion on determining vision and strategies:
 - Related to the FVPSA requirement that state coalitions and state administrators collaborate and coordinate on the disbursement of FVPSA funds, and the historical relationship between CDVSA and on-the-ground civil society organizations – a role currently held by ANDVSA through its recognition of being the State of Alaska Coalition.
- Clarification on CDVSA mission:

- As federal funding streams have diversified and now CDVSA serves as the administrator for funds designed to address all victims of crime, then a more robust conversation and consultation process needs to occur with additional clarifying language reflected in the statutory requirements of the Council.

Carmen Lowry shared the upcoming activities of the Network as follows:

- Third dialogue with mainstream victim service providers: ANDVSA, AK Native Tribal coalitions and workgroups, other tribal entities, and the Alaska Native Women's Resource Center.
- Legal and Advocacy and Wellness Training (AWT) – December 11th – 13th, 2019 in Anchorage.
- COMPASS Training and community support for prevention in Bethel and YK Delta
- Prevention Workshop to be held in January in Kenai. This is a collaboration of CDVSA, ANDVSA, and other partners.
- Men's Gathering Planning and Reflection group scheduled for December in Anchorage.
- Prevention support provided to Scammon Bay and other LeadOn actors.
- Revive shelter manager monthly peer-to-peer roundtable.
- New Membership Orientation. The Network has two new members and is working with three other organizations to prepare their membership applications.
- Upcoming social marketing project on engaging men and boys in ending violence (in collaboration with CDVSA and DHSS).
- More TA support on medical advocacy and sexual assault responses by expanding the contract with the medical forensic expert who serves on the State Sexual Assault Leadership Team.
- More discussion on the need to have in-depth fatality reviews for Alaska Native women who have been murdered.
- Continued discussions on the different research initiatives being funded by the State of Alaska, including the AVS and the SAKI study on perceptions of justice.

VISIT TO SAFE FACILITY

The CDVSA board members and staff made a site visit to the SAFE facility in Dillingham and conducted a short tour of Dillingham.

CLOSING REMARKS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Teresa Lowe opened the floor to board members for final comments. Board members expressed their sincere appreciation to Marilyn Casteel and SAFE for hosting the board meeting. Other comments included the following:

- It was helpful to hear from providers at the meeting.
- It was refreshing to see that a community with opposing viewpoints can still work together to solve community issues.
- It was helpful to see prevention and victim services programming come together, and the recognition of the need for rehabilitation services.

Teresa Lowe reminded board members that CDVSA would be looking for volunteers to serve on the Proposal Evaluation Committee as well as volunteers to attend the stakeholder events for the strategic planning process. She also expressed the board members' appreciation for a well-executed meeting and for the work that the CDVSA leadership and staff do throughout the year.

ADJOURNMENT

Angela Garay **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting, **SECONDED** by Lydia Heyward. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**, and the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

LOCATION:
Bristol Inn
104 Main Street
Dillingham, Alaska 99567

December 4, 2019
10:45 a.m.

ROUGH DRAFT TRANSCRIPT
Pages 1 - 25, inclusive

Board Members Present:

Teresa Lowe
Lydia Heyward
Angela Garay
John Novak
John Skidmore
Laura Brooks
Jillian Gellings
Linda Stanford

Staff:

Diane Casto
Angela Wells
Marjorie Hamburger
MaryBeth Gagnon
Kelly Gohl

Reported by: Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 TERESA LOWE: Now we are opening the
3 floor to our public comment session. We have about a
4 half an hour scheduled for that. So we'll give it
5 about ten minutes, and then if no one has called in at
6 that point -- we have to give it ten minutes?

7 DIANE CASTO: Yes. I think two people
8 already signed in.

9 TERESA LOWE: I do believe there might
10 be two people. So you go ahead and speak up,
11 introduce yourself, and we look forward to hearing
12 everybody's comments.

13 BRENDA STANFILL: Hi, this is Brenda
14 Stanfill from Fairbanks. I'm not sure if there was
15 any certain order that you wanted people to go in who
16 have signed up, or should we just pop in there?

17 TERESA LOWE: No, you can go right
18 ahead, Brenda.

19 BRENDA STANFORD: Okay. I'll kick this
20 off, because I'm still on the line.

21 So thank you for always having very open
22 public meetings and giving us lots of notice. Thank
23 you, Angela, for making sure that that is. I had a
24 little bit of a hard time finding the packet this
25 time, but I think I just got used to getting it

1 e-mailed to me. So I do apologize, I didn't do my
2 homework as well.

3 I also wanted to say thank you for all
4 the work that is being done in the Batterers
5 Intervention Program, really doing that deep dive to
6 figure out what we should be offering. That's been an
7 ongoing issue for a long time, and I appreciate the
8 attention to this as I really truly feel that to get
9 ahead anywhere on this issue, we've got to spend some
10 time working on the person doing harm to see if we
11 can't change some behavior.

12 Also very, very excited to hear that
13 strategic planning is getting started to happen. I'm
14 hoping the strategic planning will lead to things like
15 multiple types of services that can be offered through
16 the Council as we know that emergency shelter is only
17 one part of what it takes in order to escape an
18 abusive relationship.

19 Defining some expected outcomes. You
20 know, things are all over the place in terms of what
21 we really feel like we're supposed to be doing and
22 what outcomes we are supposed to achieve.

23 And that we find a way to strengthen
24 partnerships. We have found that it takes our entire
25 community engaged in this issue. I know we have a lot

1 of people sitting at the Council at the tables, but I
2 think there's folks that are not involved, and there
3 are folks who we could strengthen partnerships with.
4 And I feel like that the Network and the Council have
5 done a lot of work in the past, and I hope that we can
6 continue to strengthen that relationship as to how we
7 go forward as the Network is really out there
8 representing many of the stakeholders when it comes to
9 those who are directly impacted by domestic violence
10 every day or sex assaults every day in their lives.

11 I'm really glad to hear Diane say that
12 you all are still reviewing processes. I feel that --
13 I was reminded when I came into my agency 23 years
14 ago -- and it's hard for me to realize I've been there
15 that long, might be 24 -- and I came in with an
16 accounting degree, and I loved numbers. I still love
17 numbers. I'm just a very linear person, and I really
18 changed a lot of things to make sure that I had the
19 numbers and different things. And my staff started
20 pushing back, and I didn't understand why. And then I
21 realized that the nature of what we do makes it really
22 hard to put that really strong linear process in place
23 that I really wanted to as an accountant.

24 I wanted to give you just a couple of
25 examples of some of the changes that have happened and

1 how that has impacted on the ground or how that will
2 impact on the ground.

3 You know, at the end of last year, while
4 we've all been encouraged to be good stewards of our
5 money, our board had taken out a CD, some different
6 things, so when we knew that 9 percent was being
7 withheld, you know, it sounded like 9 percent, but
8 what actually happened is between the 9 percent of
9 regular money in our one grant, and these grants now
10 being split up, it ended up 9 percent of our one
11 grant, plus two months of federal dollars, which is
12 actually equivalent -- was about the equivalent of 25
13 percent of my yearly budget coming from the Council
14 being held up for a couple of months. It caused a lot
15 of unrest and challenges to our agency. To our staff
16 who understood, we were scrambling to make payroll; to
17 our vendors who had to wait a bit of time to get paid.

18 So, you know, looking at that process as
19 to whether it is really -- it is best practice, I
20 understand, to keep a chunk of money, but really does
21 it need to be 9 percent?

22 Also, one of the areas in terms of
23 budget revisions that I wanted to call your attention
24 to, requiring a budget revision before we spend money,
25 absolutely from an accounting and from a best practice

1 makes total sense, but I want to give you two examples
2 as to why this sometimes doesn't make sense in
3 practice.

4 We have emergency travel funds. We
5 budget what we think we know. But, you know, if I get
6 a request at 10 o'clock at night to fly in eight
7 people, a family of eight from the village, and I know
8 that that is going to cost me \$5,000 and I don't have
9 it in my budget, I'm still going to fly them in. The
10 way it is currently being rolled out is that I'm not
11 allowed to use Council money for that because I did
12 not ask for that revision beforehand.

13 Another example that happened last week
14 was we were pouring carbon monoxide into our
15 buildings. This also happened at 10 p.m. The cost on
16 that that had to be done within the next two hours was
17 very expensive and not one that I have in my repair
18 budget. I still had to do it. I'm still going to
19 have to figure out if that in any way can come back
20 and be used, any portion with Council funds.

21 The cutoff is June 1st. Where I am not
22 able to ask for a budget revision after June 1st is
23 also going to be very challenging when situations like
24 this happen that we can't really foresee.

25 So I would just ask that you keep in

1 mind that the emergency nature of our services makes
2 it where standard accounting that makes total sense is
3 sometimes a little challenging to fit into our models,
4 and just see if we can work on some kind of a
5 mechanism that there is an emergency process or
6 there's some kind of wiggle room where we don't end up
7 with an agency in a bad situation, or saying no to
8 someone because we have no other way to pay for that
9 with Council funds.

10 So I really thank you for your time and
11 for allowing me this opportunity to speak.

12 TERESA LOWE: Thank you so much, Brenda.
13 And I believe -- Michelle, are you on
14 the line?

15 MICHELLE DEWITT: I am. Thank you,
16 Teresa.

17 TERESA LOWE: So nice to hear your
18 voice.

19 MICHELLE DEWITT: You too.

20 TERESA LOWE: Okay. You have the floor.

21 MICHELLE DEWITT: All right. This is
22 Michelle DeWitt, and I was a former -- I'm calling
23 from Bethel today. I'm a former public member on the
24 CDVSA and a former executive director at Tundra
25 Women's Coalition.

1 And first, I just want to say hello and
2 say how much I appreciated serving on the CDVSA board.
3 And I'm very sorry I didn't have the opportunity to
4 serve a second term. I would have happily done so.
5 So I appreciate the work our board -- the board is
6 doing and the work of the Council staff immensely.

7 I want to share with you all today, and
8 I haven't had a chance to speak directly with anyone
9 about this, because I've been in a very busy period of
10 time with my day job as well as taking on some city
11 council over here. But I wanted to share that I had
12 some conversations with folks around the state who
13 have expressed significant concerns about some of the
14 announced changes to internal processes at the
15 Council. And so I just wanted to talk about that a
16 little bit, and specifically I want to talk about
17 budget revision deadlines, but then also sort of
18 bigger pictures about impacts.

19 So the Council has such a unique
20 position, especially for those of you who are newer,
21 to offer incredible flexibility in administering
22 funding in many ways and in many contexts. Not all of
23 them. There are obviously a lot of requirements in
24 regulations, but there is also a lot of flexibility,
25 especially with state general funds.

1 And the idea in particular of moving
2 budget revisions deadlines, when I heard that, that
3 gave me, like, stress and anxiety, like, horrible from
4 when I was working at TWC.

5 So domestic violence and sexual assault
6 programs are largely responding to crisis. They are
7 in a crisis environment. Many of them also have
8 significant facility investments. They own large
9 facilities. And so in the context of responding to
10 crisis and having really large facilities, and
11 extremely narrow margins and budgets, you know,
12 directors are doing their best to predict what is
13 likely to happen in a budget.

14 But nobody can control a catastrophe
15 among their staff and tragedies among their facilities
16 and failures among insurance changes, among all of
17 these things that are beyond our control. Like, I
18 think about even the ferry service that's been in
19 Southeast and what is that doing to program budgets of
20 funded programs in Southeast.

21 So all of these things that are beyond
22 our control, the Council has historically been the
23 most flexible funder, which allowed programs to
24 respond throughout the year and make changes. And
25 it's just imperative that they can make that to the

1 very end. There is just too much that changes quickly
2 with too large of sums of money. So I ask you all to
3 really give that some further reflection and some
4 consideration.

5 I think when we ever implement extra
6 rules or extra regulations, some of them just have to
7 be -- some things just have to be tightened up; but
8 when they don't have to be tightened up, I urge us to
9 not do it. I realize this makes things more difficult
10 for Council staff, much more difficult, but for
11 directors, and their staff, and funded programs, we
12 absolutely don't want to make things more difficult
13 for them. This is a major burnout factor. It's like
14 one more thing, death by a thousand paper cuts, right?

15 So at every opportunity that we can make
16 sure that we are flexible with our funded programs, I
17 really believe that we need to do that. And it's just
18 so anxiety-producing when you think about this from
19 the perspective of somebody in a position with a very
20 under-resourced program doing so much to have one more
21 thing, that's really a challenge. And it leads to
22 burnout, and it's going to lead to turnover, and it's
23 going to lead to problems, I think.

24 In my world, in my working world at the
25 local Community Foundation, I work on a lot of grant

1 making and philanthropy. And conversations there are
2 moving towards trusted-based grant making and funded
3 program -- funded programs as partners. And the
4 Council has always approached funded programs as
5 partners in the works. Neither entity exists fully or
6 wholly without the other.

7 And so there has to be healthy
8 boundaries, but I think that this topic is worthy of
9 some great Council board and Council staff and funded
10 partner discussions about how to manage that, because
11 it is super delicate.

12 But, you know, on things like changes to
13 processes or strategic plan, getting input from people
14 who know the work, who are immersed in it is
15 essential. And that's where, I think, public members
16 on the Council also have a role to educate yourselves
17 and to know kind of how to -- to learn how our funded
18 programs work and to ask questions. I think that is
19 really essential of our public members, especially
20 those who haven't worked at the programs that we are
21 granting money to to get a sense of how small tweaks
22 can create huge stress in grantee programs.

23 So those are a few things that I kind of
24 wanted to bring to light that I've heard kind of
25 ripple effects of around the state and had some

1 conversations with folks about.

2 I know that the intent spirit is
3 wonderful, it's fabulous, it is to make sure that
4 things are operating seamlessly in under-resourced
5 state organizations. I get it. This is coming from a
6 place of goodness, I have no doubt of that, but I also
7 know what that can -- what that can cause on the
8 absolute opposite end of the spectrum downstream.

9 So I hope that there is some further
10 conversations about this, because I know it is causing
11 some angst, some real stress for folks.

12 So thanks for letting me have the chance
13 to share this today. I really appreciate each one of
14 you and all that you are doing, your time that you are
15 spending on these important topics for Alaska. And
16 even though I'm not part of the Council body anymore,
17 I really am paying attention to what is happening, and
18 I'm engaged in it and support and champion your work.
19 So thank you everyone.

20 TERESA LOWE: Thank you, Michelle.

21 Is there anyone else on the line that
22 would like to make comments?

23 EILEEN ARNOLD: This is Eileen from
24 Tundra Women's Coalition. Sorry, I didn't sign up. I
25 clearly didn't do my whole homework either. But I

1 can --

2 TERESA LOWE: That's okay, Eileen.

3 EILEEN ARNOLD: I have something to say
4 as well.

5 TERESA LOWE: Okay.

6 EILEEN ARNOLD: So I want to thank the
7 Council for this, for creating this opportunity to
8 speak. And I want to speak in general about the
9 totality of changes that CDVSA has been implementing
10 these last two years, and specifically about a change
11 that was announced at the recent grantee meeting that
12 the due date for the last budget revision of the year
13 would be June 1st instead of the customary July 15th.
14 Both Brenda and Michelle already referenced that.

15 Generally, I think the last two years
16 worth of changes from CDVSA have been taken and
17 handled well, both by the CDVSA staff and the
18 programs. More recently, though, my experience is
19 that the Council's focus in on interpreting a strict
20 form of regulations and has departed from compromise
21 that is going to ensure that funded programs are
22 successful.

23 And that is why I'm speaking to you
24 today, so that you can just hear about what the
25 changes have been like for your grantees and to keep

1 our experience in mind when advising and making
2 policies rather than soliciting feedback after the
3 fact.

4 Program input versus program feedback is
5 something that I think is causing problems. In my
6 communication with CDVSA staff, they have said that
7 they are creating policies based on the input from
8 federal conferences, training, their federal program
9 specialists, financial experts, and even Foraker, a
10 non-profit whose mission is to support other
11 non-profits. I think that's all great, but I think it
12 is surprising that CDVSA isn't soliciting input from
13 CDVSA-funded programs.

14 An example being like the strategic
15 planning that CDVSA is going to -- that CDVSA is going
16 to go through not including the programs, or maybe not
17 including all of the programs, including maybe the
18 Network, but not the programs. I think it would be
19 great to just, you know, include the opportunity for
20 all of the programs to speak, because there's a
21 variety of experience.

22 You know, it is the grantees that are on
23 the front line of this work, and there's literally
24 decades worth of experience and knowledge from some of
25 the directors in this state, like Brenda having 23 or

1 24 years.

2 Almost no one on the CDVSA staff has
3 experience working in or running a victim's services
4 program. As CDVSA board members and staff, I want to
5 make sure that you are wondering if that experience of
6 working in a program is valuable and if it makes sense
7 to include that in decision making.

8 And I want to remind you that CDVSA has
9 a mission and a vision just like the programs do, and
10 those mission align, and at some level we are
11 partners, even though CDVSA does have a regulatory
12 role to fulfill.

13 I've heard from CDVSA staff that they
14 are learning from other regulatory specialists and
15 bodies, and that they are trying to apply what is
16 considered standard across the country, like in
17 comparison to Wyoming, I think, which has a similar
18 population.

19 But I don't think I need to remind
20 anybody on this board that Alaska, specifically rural
21 Alaska, has the highest rate of domestic and sexual
22 violence for adults and children in the country. I
23 don't think standard gets the job done when it comes
24 to our state and our programs.

25 Concerning that June 1st last revision

1 due date, at the grant meeting several large programs,
2 including TWC, voiced how difficult that would be to
3 manage. In my communication with CDVSA staff, they
4 said that some programs don't like it, some think it
5 is doable, and others are on the fence. They said
6 that they are going to do it anyway and measure the
7 impact.

8 When I read that, I had a lot of
9 feelings when I saw that, because I know one impact is
10 going to be my administrative team's increase in
11 stress and anxiety, and how can that be measured? Is
12 that going to be measured? You know, increasing the
13 burden on administrative staff at your funded programs
14 is going to drive the kinds of burnouts that lead to
15 administrative staff turnover at our highest levels.

16 I can tell you that since I heard about
17 this change, I've thought about it and worried about
18 it every day. I've worried about if I'm going to have
19 13 SART calls in June, which has happened before,
20 which might drive and increase my payroll past the 10
21 percent variance that they are going to allow. I've
22 worried about if our operating system or boiler is
23 going to give out, which might cost \$40,000 to
24 replace. That happened last year. I'm worried about
25 something happening that I didn't prepare for and

1 couldn't predict, because I can reliably predict that,
2 like, every year something new is going to happen that
3 I just, like, am blown away by.

4 But what I'm worried most about for my
5 program and CDVSA is that this increase in regulations
6 and rigidity is going to impact and increase my
7 program's, you know, rigidity. Flexibility is the
8 heart of victim services and working with people who
9 have experienced trauma. Our programs reflect that,
10 they have to.

11 Historically, CDVSA has reflected that
12 and done its best to help us be successful in
13 administering our budgets in a way that helps us meet
14 our mission and supports victim's safety. CDVSA
15 doesn't need to do things the same way Wyoming does.

16 Foraker, while good technical
17 assistance, you know, providers, you know, they have a
18 understanding of non-profits in general. They don't
19 have victim services non-profits experience in
20 particular. They are not privy to the kinds of
21 multi-funder, multi-crisis environments in which we
22 are operating.

23 I want to be clear. I am not
24 complaining about deadlines. Certainly there are
25 reporting requirements and deadlines that we have to

1 be complying with and will continue to comply with,
2 you know, that are federal mandates and that are
3 inflexible. But at every opportunity, I ask that the
4 Council support the incredibly challenging and under-
5 resourced work that we are doing while reflecting back
6 to us flexibility and the support we need to meet our
7 mission.

8 I would urge the Council board to
9 support the staff in maintaining flexibility wherever
10 it is allowed. Council staff's jobs -- you know, I
11 understand how difficult it is, but, you know, as a
12 person on the front line, I just -- I don't want those
13 jobs to be made easier at the expense of the victim
14 service program staff.

15 And I also urge you to request that
16 grantees are included in these discussions as they
17 historically have been, because these are the voices
18 of victims and survivors in the state. Thank you.

19 TERESA LOWE: Thank you, Eileen.

20 Is there anyone else on the line that
21 would like to make a comment?

22 MANDY COLE: Hi. This is Mandy Cole,
23 I'm the executive director at AWARE here in Juneau.
24 May I comment?

25 TERESA LOWE: Yes.

1 MANDY COLE: Thank you so much.

2 I can be very brief, because I think
3 everyone has spoken very clearly as to what some of
4 our concerns are, but there are two additional points
5 I want to make.

6 One is that victim service providers
7 have had a value of trying to keep administration
8 small and direct services large and comprehensive. We
9 did not -- I did not start this work so that I could
10 manage grants and manage budget revisions, and I
11 absolutely understand that those things have to
12 happen.

13 But for so long our goal has been to try
14 and keep administration small so that we could really
15 focus on service, and in the past two years that has
16 changed for us. We have had to add administrative
17 positions to be able to manage grants. We just
18 finished our first federal audit, and I'm going to
19 have to, like, outsource a little bit additional
20 accounting work based on this.

21 So partly what I would ask for is some
22 flexibility, like Eileen said, and some grace and
23 understanding that the way we've conducted business to
24 try and really focus on services versus kind of this
25 more rigid, regimental regulatory stance is costing

1 programs, and that we have to make changes and that
2 those changes are difficult for us to make. They cost
3 money. They are not necessarily provided for by
4 Council grants in their entirety.

5 And so we are trying to really rework,
6 not just how we implement a process, but really what
7 the full organization looks like, and that's is a
8 heavy lift. So that's the first thing.

9 The second thing is to say that, you
10 know, people talked about emergencies that happen at
11 the end of the year, which is why this increased
12 budget revision deadline to June 1st feels
13 unmanageable to us.

14 But I want to also add that we run an
15 incredible service, a 24-hour service that provides
16 10,000 shelter nights in Juneau alone with a shelter
17 staff of maybe seven permanent employees and then some
18 additional reliefs to help out.

19 But the trick to running a 24-hour
20 service with so few people is that you are absolutely
21 at the mercy of someone's illness, of someone's
22 vacation, of someone's -- anything that happens to
23 them that would mean that I would have to cover -- you
24 know, I have to double cover a shift, or I have to put
25 someone into overtime for three evenings, because we

1 don't have the option to not have the shelter open. I
2 don't have that size staff that I can predict what
3 their costs or personnel budget is going to be. If
4 someone goes on vacation or gets sick or their family
5 gets sick, it's in June, then I may have to pay
6 someone time-and-a-half for a week, and that right
7 there changes our budget calculations so
8 significantly.

9 You know, at the end of May, we will
10 have six weeks where -- because we have a two-week lag
11 on our pay period, we'll have six weeks worth of
12 personnel to budget out. You know, I was one of the
13 people who, when the announcement was made at the
14 grantee meeting, said, "You know, I would love for
15 you, Kelly, to come to AWARE and see what we do during
16 the last two months of the fiscal year," because we
17 are all working so hard to try and anticipate costs,
18 manage all of our different funding sources, and tie
19 things up so that we get everyone paid, that grants
20 are spent out, and that we have done the very best
21 that we can with the public's money. And to add a
22 deadline that makes that harder feels like, again,
23 another very heavy ask of a program that is already
24 working very hard.

25 So I do appreciate the organization and

1 the ease of communication with CDVSA. They pick up
2 the phone and they answer every single question. It
3 may not always be an answer that we like, but they are
4 incredibly communicative. They are heartfelt in their
5 desire to make this process work for us and work for
6 them, and I think we have to also put into this
7 calculation how we've done business in the past and
8 give some time and ability and flexibility as we make
9 changes rather than try and make changes precipitously
10 that are costing programs.

11 Thank you so much.

12 TERESA LOWE: Thank you.

13 So we have about approximately four more
14 minutes on the public comment. Is there anyone else
15 on the line that would like to make a brief comment?

16 RAE ROMBURG: Hi. This is Rae Romburg.
17 I'm calling from Juneau. I'm the prevention director
18 at the Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual
19 Assault.

20 TERESA LOWE: Thank you very much. Go
21 right ahead.

22 RAE ROMBURG: Thank you. Well, first
23 off, I'd just like to echo the thanks that the other
24 callers have given to you, the Council, for the
25 incredible work that you do. Because without it, our

1 work is quite -- would be made quite -- a great deal
2 more difficult. So thank you for your time.

3 I'm really calling also just to continue
4 that expression of gratitude for the Council and the
5 Network's relationship to the Council. I work in, as
6 I said, prevention, and the Council, in particular the
7 prevention coordinator Ann Rausch, and the Network,
8 myself as the prevention director, meet very often to
9 coordinate our prevention efforts in the state.

10 We just completed, in November, our 11th
11 LeadOn Youth Leadership Conference, and this year we
12 had 107 youth from 22 communities across the state
13 come together with 32 adult mentors to learn, over the
14 course of two-and-a-half days, to connect, to gain
15 leadership skills, healthy relationship skills, and to
16 start planning community projects.

17 So this event, which is supported
18 through funds from the Council, goes on to create
19 community change in those 22 communities as youth
20 return home and carry out their community projects.

21 So we are excited to share with you
22 throughout the year the projects that the youth work
23 on. This year we are able to support -- with some
24 funding from the Council, with funding from the
25 Department of Health and Social Services, and with a

1 partnership with Recover Alaska, we are able to
2 support those 22 communities with a small grant, a
3 mini-grant to carry out those projects.

4 So we believe the impact that we are
5 having in communities across the state is quite
6 significant, and the Council plays a very large role
7 in that.

8 So I just wanted to express my thanks
9 and let you know how successful another year of LeadOn
10 was. And I would be happy to share with you our small
11 video and the conference program. I'll make sure that
12 that gets to Diane so that she can go on and share it
13 with the rest of you once our video is completed so
14 you can get a little picture of the joy and the
15 empowerment and the diversity and the excitement of
16 the youth and the mentors that come together at this
17 great event.

18 So I really appreciate all of you and
19 our relationship with the Council. And I'm very
20 hopeful in seeing those youth and the change that they
21 want to see in their community that prevention is
22 possible.

23 I know that it is very heavy for all of
24 us as we see the things that happen in our state, the
25 lives that are lost. Just a few days ago, another

1 life -- two lives lost in Anchorage to domestic
2 violence. The heaviness is really there, and it is
3 important that we pay attention to that weight while
4 at the same time carrying some of that hope for the
5 idea that we can prevent this violence from happening.

6 Thanks very much for your time.

7 TERESA LOWE: Thank you so much. I
8 really appreciate that report.

9 This is -- is there anyone else on the
10 line that would like to add to the public comments?

11 Okay. Hearing none. Thank you very
12 much for everybody's comments. They are very -- I
13 really, really do appreciate everyone calling in and
14 speaking up and voicing their concerns and also
15 voicing some of the successes and -- several of the
16 successes that you guys have all been able to share
17 with us.

18 (End of public comment)

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**COUNCIL ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT
(CDVSA)**

Location:

Department of Law
1031 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, Alaska

Special Council Meeting

January 7, 2020

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

Board Members Present:

Teresa Lowe – Interim Chair
John Skidmore
Niki Tsibaka
Angela Garay
Linda Stanford
Lydia Heyward

Board Members Absent:

Laura Brooks
Jillian Gellings
Amanda Price

Staff:

Diane Casto
Angie Wells

Guests:

John Gregoire
Bill Dann

Minutes prepared by: Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Teresa Lowe called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Teresa Lowe called for a review of the meeting agenda. A presentation from Diane Casto on CDVSA data review and key accomplishments was moved to 10:15 a.m. John Skidmore **MOVED** to approve the agenda with the change, **SECONDED** by Angela Garay. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED. (6/0)**

CONFLICT INQUIRY

No conflicts of interest were declared.

INTRODUCTIONS

Diane Casto noted that the CDVSA meeting is an open meeting, and it is a listen-only opportunity for the public.

Diane Casto introduced John Gregoire and Bill Dann, from Professional Growth Systems (PGS), who would be facilitating the process for the meeting. She noted that PGS met with the CDVSA staff on December 16th and 17th, 2019 to garner their input into the planning process. PGS will be assisting the board of directors as they work through the CDVSA five-year strategic planning process.

PLANNING PROCESS

John Gregoire and Bill Dann introduced themselves and allowed the board members to introduce themselves. Bill asked board members to think about who they are, what their perspective is with regards to CDVSA, and why it is vital to do strategic planning.

John Gregoire and Bill Dann reviewed the agenda and explained the strategic planning process. Bill noted that the goal at the end of the meeting, with the board's input and the staff's foundational start, is to be prepared to go to key stakeholders with a presentation that makes sense and shares with them a path for the future.

Bill Dann presented the board with an overview of vision navigation. Vision navigation is a process that was borne out of the struggles executive directors experienced when trying to develop a strategic plan, providing a solution to the problems that were common throughout the planning process. The process includes:

- A complete strategic assessment
- A complete internal assessment
- Establishing the vision.

Bill Dann shared that the process examines what changes need to be made based on successes and lack of successes in current operations, trends, and the current availability of resources. He noted that a strategic plan represents a change agenda. Once the assessments are done and a vision established, that information will determine the strategic agenda, which will plot the course, design the instrument panel that will allow an entity to navigate the course, and allow for planned revision throughout the time the strategic plan is in effect.

CDVSA DATA REVIEW AND KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Diane Casto shared that ANDVSA was formed in the late 1970s, and the member agencies began offering shelter services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. They received funding from the Department of Health & Social Services (DHSS) to pass through to communities that wanted to provide services.

Diane Casto gave a brief history of the Council, which began in October of 1981 with an authorization through legislation to become the CDVSA, and progressed through an exchange of information and beliefs about intimate partner relationships and what is acceptable and what is not. CDVSA became the manager of the oversight of public funds from the federal government and the state government. CDVSA's defining legislation set and forwarded the agenda to reduce domestic violence and sexual assault, but the major work that CDVSA does is contracting to agencies for services for domestic violence and sexual assault issues; solicit people to do those services for CDVSA; and CDVSA monitors, tracks, and administers the work. Diane noted that in the last year, CDVSA has genuinely adopted the role of the regulatory agency. CDVSA is not the entity that literally works towards ending domestic violence and sexual assault, but it is the agencies CDVSA contracts with for services that work towards that goal.

Diane Casto noted that the question that comes up all the time is why CDVSA is housed in the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and not in DHSS. She shared that the reasoning was when the Council was first developed, the services were more of a social service intervention, but the act itself is a crime. Domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, cyberstalking, and strangulation are criminal activities that need to be addressed, not as a social service problem, but as criminal behavior that needs to be addressed to move forward with appropriate interventions.

Diane Casto reported that the CDVSA budget is approximately \$20 million, and the prevention budget is about 10 percent of the overall budget. The majority of funding goes to victim's services for domestic violence and sexual assault, and the majority of that goes for emergency shelter and safety. She noted that one of the issues they struggle with is that the majority of the funding is used for reactionary purposes; it is not proactive towards prevention. During the last three years, CDVSA has been working towards targeting how they can achieve an equitable continuum of care. They must balance prevention and early intervention and emergency shelter services, victim services, and then also make sure they have some effort being put forth for the perpetrators. Currently, the continuum is very heavy in the middle and light on both ends. The Council is working to find an equitable distribution of funding to make sure they are hitting a broader piece of the spectrum.

Diane Casto reported that currently CDVSA is undergoing a change, and developing the strategic plan will help the organization to move forward looking at the priorities for the agency using data to inform the direction they will move. She noted that the Council faced a federal site review where they were found out of compliance in 14 critical areas, particularly in financial distribution and monitoring the federal dollars. That led to the refocus at CDVSA on the fact that they are a regulatory agency, and they can't overlook the regulations. Since that time, CDVSA has worked to streamline processes to come into compliance with the federal and state regulations, procurement regulations; and in doing that, they disrupted the norm in the way CDVSA had done business.

Diane Casto reported that the Council's key accomplishments in the past three years included the following:

- CDVSA addressed the findings of the federal site review.
- CDVSA gathered existing data and put it in a format to be useful and assessed what data is needed for future operations.
- CDVSA increased federal authority.
- CDVSA put policies and procedures in writing.

DISCUSS AND ADOPT

Bill Dann shared that core ideology consists of two notions that describes an organization's consistent identity and transcends all changes related to its relevant environment:

- Core purpose, the organization's reason for being, and
- Core values, essential and enduring principles that guide an organization

Bill Dann noted that visionary organizations outperformed non-visionary organizations dramatically in the for-profit arena by a factor of 12. He stated that in a leadership position as the CDVSA, being clear on core ideology is vital for both employees and grantees.

Core Purpose

John Gregoire shared that it is essential to define purpose down to the very essence of the organization. Purpose exists forever, and it doesn't change, it is foundational. It differs from a mission in the sense that a mission is a combination of purpose and destination, and purpose is distinguished as the essence of the organization, which is timeless.

Diane Casto shared CDVSA's statutory purpose as follows:

- To provide for the planning and coordination of services to victims of domestic violence or sexual violence, or their families, and to perpetrators of domestic violence and sexual assault, and to provide for crisis intervention and prevention programs.

The staff of CDVSA, through their work with PGS, develop the following purpose:

- To give Alaska communities the ability to create a future free of violence.

After a brief discussion, the board recommended the following language:

- To empower Alaska communities to create a future free of...
(Note: The board will continue to work on finishing the statement at the joint staff/board meeting.)

Values

Bill Dann stated that the following statement guides the core value discussion for the purposes of strategic planning:

Council on Domestic Violence
and Sexual Abuse

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Quarterly Council Meeting

- From our history to date and from the commitments that we all share now about the future, we have designed the values that should guide all of our activities and staff in the years to come. These are our core values:

The staff of CDVSA, through their work with PGS, developed the following values:

- Excellence: Committed to ethics, high standards, and best practices.
- Passionate: A driven and curious approach to the work.
- Receptive: Compassionate, flexible, and open-minded.
- Collaborative: Working together to find solutions.

After a brief discussion, the board agreed on the following change to the values statements:

- Passionate: A driven and inquisitive approach to the work.

Vision

Bill Dann shared that there were two parts to a vision, the vision statement and vision purposes.

The staff of CDVSA, through their work with PGS, developed the following vision statement:

- By 2025, we have built a system of care accessible to all Alaskans to decrease interpersonal and sexual violence.

After a brief discussion, the board agreed on the following changes to the vision statement:

- By 2025, we have helped to create a comprehensive, interconnected system of services accessible to all Alaskans that decreases interpersonal and sexual violence.

The staff of CDVSA, through their work with PGS, developed the following vision purposes and the broad strategies CDVSA will employ to get to the vision:

- We will:
 - Promote statewide investment in primary prevention programming.
 - Utilize data to drive our work.
 - Maximize the use of technology to increase our efficiency and effectiveness.
 - Improve collaboration with stakeholders.
 - Enhance perpetrator rehabilitation programs.
 - Shift from the use of shelters as long-term housing to functional after-crisis services.
 - Provide training and technical assistance to organizations/boards we fund.

After a brief discussion, the board agreed on the following recommendations for the vision statements:

- Add an accessibility statement: We will expand services to underserved communities and populations.
- Add language: We will identify and eliminate barriers to access to services.
- Add language: We will expand and enhance perpetrator rehabilitation programs that are culturally relevant.
- Change the statement on shifting use of shelters to read: We will support the development of functional after-crisis services to decrease the shelters being used as long-term housing.

IDENTIFY THE CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING OUR VISION

John Gregoire shared that there are two types of barriers that meet the threshold of challenges to achieving the vision, obstacles, and missing elements.

John Gregoire and Bill Dann led the board through an exercise that identified barriers, and then they grouped the barriers with the strongest relationships together to distill the list of barriers and defined the effect the barriers have on each other. The barriers identified included:

- Lack of collaboration with tribal organizations rated high.
- Overcoming geographical challenges rated high.
- Lack of understanding and support for perpetrator programs rated high.
- Stakeholder collaboration.
- Lack of cultural understanding.
- Lack of transitional housing.
- Potential recipient buy-in is lacking.
- Internet connectivity.
- Accessibility of legislative authorities.
- Historic relationships limit access.
- Lack of staff resources in communities.
- Public not engaged with legislature or agencies.
- Lack of stable funding.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN & STRATEGIC AGENDA REVIEW

Bill Dann gave a brief overview of the environmental scan. He noted that GPS added an evaluation of the customer group, because particularly when working with agencies or organizations that do go through this process, an understanding of the customer group is often different than what the customer group is. He explained that the customer group is who pays for you to exist. Often people think that the people that are providing the service are the customer group, but in reality, CDVSA's customer is the federal and state government. From the perspective of federal and state governments and communities as customer groups, the following pains, gains, and other evaluation points were identified:

- **Pains:**
 - Violence
 - Not enough happening to solve problems

- Historical trauma
- Colonization
- Parse and divide
- Decreased funding
- A lack of data
- Geographical isolation.
- **Gains, what customer hopes to get from engaging with you:**
 - Investment in the future
 - Opportunity to create alliances
 - Alaska-specific programming
 - Solving problems
 - Reduction in rates
 - Data.
- **What do the funding agencies and communities see?**
 - Too many changes in the way CDVSA does business
 - High rates of violence
 - Divisiveness among constituents
 - A lack of responsiveness
 - Underserved populations
 - Revenue struggles
 - Need for safety.
- **What are the types of things people are saying?**
 - We're committed to public safety
 - There's a lack of empathy
 - Need to follow these rules and expectations
 - Too much government
 - Too much oversight
 - Here's the money, fix the problem
 - Processes take too long
 - Too many buzz words and talking points.
- **What are your customers doing?**
 - They are funding community work
 - They pass legislation and make laws
 - They monitor the spending of funds
 - They have lobbyists
 - They pass budgets.
- **What motivates them?**
 - The voice of the people
 - Reducing violence
 - High rates of DV/SA and no progress
 - Leveraging resources at reelection and optics.
- **What do they hear?**
 - Lack of law enforcement and justice
 - Mixed messages about the issue
 - Rural needs and voices

- Missing and murdered indigenous woman
- Fix it.
- **What do they think?**
 - They lack trust
 - CDVSA can make them look good
 - Why isn't it working?
- **What do they feel?**
 - Frustrated
 - Pressure
 - At a loss
 - Tired.

Bill Dann stated that from that evaluation, they then look at opportunities and threats and a potential strategy based on that. He highlighted the following information:

- **Threats that were presented were:**
 - Unstable funding,
 - Administration of policy change through election
 - Accommodating constituent influence
 - High turnover positions and lack of staffing programs
 - Historical trauma, colonization in government or organization community history creates difficulty
 - Secondary trauma or burnout.
- **Opportunities that were presented were:**
 - Present solutions to make it better
 - Address customer's unique perspectives with differing messages
 - Help support sustainability by designing processes and organizations that survive through change
 - Be able to tell the story of what is going on through data
 - Leverage resources with data
 - Address trust and improve collaboration
 - Get a better outcome data
 - Become more certain about what works
 - New and improved partnerships.
- **Potential strategic initiatives:**
 - Education and outreach to constituents
 - Plan for funding, response to unstable funding
 - Build a plan to create a certain future
 - Address secondary trauma, burnout, and stability of staff
 - Incorporate decolonization and historical trauma healing in our work
 - Maximize the use of data
 - Federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native corporations as partners.

Bill Dann reported that technology was the next thing they look at, because it is one of the greatest impactors in the world. Following are the trends that were identified:

- Telehealth

- Text and scheduling reminders
- Statewide hotline
- Webinars and electronic training
- Webpages
- HIMS rapid rehousing
- Outdated internal processes
- Increasing use of grant management systems
- Increasing use of databases
- Increasing use of listservs
- Increase in distance monitoring
- Increase use of social media
- Innovative VINE and CourtView.
- **Opportunity and threats:**
 - Telehealth
 - Text reminders
 - Statewide hotline
 - Webinars, maximize the use of technology
- **Potential strategic initiatives:**
 - Telehealth for SART training, forensic academy, rural services, behavioral health, and BIP.
 - Webinars and electronic training in collaboration with UAA,
 - Grant management and database,
 - Improving social media
 - Internet safety and in school.

Bill Dann reported that the next thing they look at is the trends, both political and economically combined. Following are the trends that they identified:

- Partisanship and a trend towards extremism on both sides
- Ever-changing of regulations
- DV/SA priority being highlighted in the legislature
- A lack of consistent funding
- State economic downturn
- A population loss in the state
- A lack of diversity of state income
- No state income tax
- General funds consistently available for DV/SA
- Federal funds consistently available for DV/SA
- Empowerment of tribes and state willingness to compact with them.
- **Opportunity and threats:**
 - The political and economic climate is both an opportunity and a threat.

- The education of legislature and population, both an opportunity and a threat.
- Increasing activism is an opportunity.
- Strengthen laws of sex abuse, domestic violence, and child abuse is an opportunity.
- Storytelling is an opportunity.
- Current administration supports public safety is an opportunity.
- **Potential strategic initiatives**
 - Support legislators in strengthening laws
 - Strategic outreach and education based on needs and wants of customers.

Bill Dann reported that the last category they looked at was the cultural and demographic changes. Following are the trends that they identified:

- Population loss in rural communities
- Increased recognition of the value of rural communities
- Increase focus on underserved populations by funders
- Increase human trafficking
- Increasing crime rates
- The increased cost of living and lack of housing
- Increase awareness of gender inequality, consent, and abuse of power
- Changing social norms around gender.
- **Opportunity and threats associated with these were**
 - Easing access to services for non-English speakers
 - Increase emphasis on prevention and support development in tribal courts.
- **Potential strategic initiatives**
 - Prevention programming and increased outreach and education to isolated populations.

Bill Dann shared that the process then moves to narrowing down the list to what has the merit to be the primary strategies, where CDVSA can have the most significant impact, and the highest potential for success. They also scan the data for low hanging fruit or things that don't need complicated strategies, and from that, they build a potential strategy list.

Bill Dann shared that based on the vision by 2025, the staff of CDVSA, through their work with PGS, develop the following potential primary strategic initiatives and improvement projects that could increase internal functions and make it possible to achieve the goals:

- Proactive plan for funding, work to build a certain future

- Maximize the use of technology and data including grant management and database, telehealth, webinars, and social media
- Strategic outreach and education based on the needs and wants of customers, including collaboration with federally recognized tribes and Alaska Native corporations.
- Implement written policies and procedures
- Improve internal communications
- Project selection and management, specifically the methodology of selecting projects and then managing them after they are chosen.

Bill Dann stated that the same evaluation would be done when they meet with the stakeholder groups.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROCESS DISCUSSION

Bill Dann shared an overview of the process they plan to use when meeting with the stakeholder groups, which is essentially the same exercise they did with the board and CDVSA staff.

Diane Casto reported that CDVSA is planning to hold four stakeholder meetings, one in Juneau, Fairbanks, Bethel, and Anchorage. They are looking at potentially March to do the stakeholders' meeting. Diane asked for volunteers from the board to participate in the stakeholder meetings, at least one board member per session. She noted that the meetings would be approximately three to four hours.

Bill Dann opened the floor for board members' input on additional information they would like to see from the stakeholder meetings. Following are the requests from the board:

- Ask who else do stakeholders identify as other users of the DV/SA resources.
- Ask stakeholders whom they want to reach out to but feel they are not capable at this point to do that.
- Ask what the stakeholders' perception of CDVSA is and what their expectations are regarding the Council.

NEXT STEPS

Bill Gregoire reported that when the information from the stakeholders comes back from the communities, GPS will share it with the board. They will use that information, along with the board members' and staffs' reflections after this meeting, and work towards finalizing the process to be able to say, "This is what CDVSA is going to do, this is the purpose, vision, and values that we are branding." At that point, the staff will organize and develop a detailed plan with set targets and realistic goals that can be accomplished, and bring that back to the board for final review.

CLOSING REMARKS BY BOARD MEMBERS

Diane Casto opened the floor for closing remarks from board members. Following is a summary of the comments:

- Appreciate getting an orientation of the challenges that are being faced.
- Looking forward to getting more clarity as we move forward in the process of what our strategic plan is to get to the goals.
- Glad to see points that are important like tribal cooperation and working with people in geographically challenging areas are being considered.
- Great meeting, phenomenal work done today.
- Appreciate everyone's participation.

Diane Casto expressed her appreciation to the board for the level of participation in the meeting. She commented that she believes the Council is going to have concrete steps to take moving forward in making sure that they are meeting their vision and that they are serving their purpose, and CDVSA will start to see a change in the numbers of victims who are impacted by violence through the balance in the continuum of care and prevention efforts.

The Council expressed their appreciation to Bill Dann and John Gregoire for their assistance in the strategic planning process and are looking forward to hearing what the stakeholders have to say and seeing how that aligns with the work the staff and the board has done.

ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** to adjourn was forwarded and **SECONDED** by board members. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**, and the meeting ended at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Wells, Angela E (DPS)

From: Casto, L Diane (DPS)
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2020 5:04 PM
To: Brooks, Laura M (DOC); Garay, Angela; Gellings, Jillian K (HSS); Heyward, Lydia; Lowe, Teresa; Price, Amanda (DPS); Skidmore, John B (LAW); Stanford, Linda; Tshibaka, Niki K W (EED)
Cc: Casto, L Diane (DPS); Cruz-Erisman, Morgan R (DPS); Gagnon, Marybeth E (DPS); Gohl, Kelly S (DPS); Hamburger, Marjorie (DPS); O'Brien, Shannen L (DPS); Rausch, Ann K (DPS); Stogner, Meggie L (DPS); Wells, Angela E (DPS)
Subject: RE: CDVSA Special Electronic Board Meeting -- Funding Recommendations
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good evening Board Members. The Electronic Board Meeting to consider funding recommendations for CDVSA Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime ended this evening at 5:00 p.m. We received 5 votes supporting the recommendations of the Proposal Evaluation Committees and CDVSA Staff. Five votes gives us our quorum to move forward. Thank you to those who participated in this review and vote.

Tomorrow CDVSA staff will begin notifying applicants of the recommendations for their specific agency and any changes to their total request amount. Actual Grant Agreements will be prepared and sent next week with a grant start date of February 1. In addition, I have drafted a media release to announce these new funding awards that Teresa Lowe, Interim Board Chair is currently reviewing.

Again, thank you for your participation in this Electronic Board Meeting. We are excited to get these new grant funds into the hands of community-based providers as quickly as possible! Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information.

L. Diane Casto, MPA
Executive Director
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
907-465-5503

Speak out, take action, make a difference!



Alaska's Council on
Domestic Violence
& Sexual Assault

From: Casto, L Diane (DPS)
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 7:44 AM
To: Brooks, Laura <laura.brooks@alaska.gov>; Garay, Angela <angela.garay@ymail.com>; Gellings, Jillian K (HSS) <jillian.gellings@alaska.gov>; Heyward, Lydia <lydhey@aim.com>; Lowe, Teresa <misstflowers@yahoo.com>; Price,

Amanda <amanda.price@alaska.gov>; Skidmore, John B (LAW) <john.skidmore@alaska.gov>; Stanford, Linda <LindaStanford35@gmail.com>; Tshibaka, Niki K W (EED) <niki.tshibaka@alaska.gov>
Cc: Wells, Angela E (DPS) <angela.wells@alaska.gov>
Subject: FW: CDVSA Special Electronic Board Meeting -- Funding Recommendations

Good morning CDVSA Board Members. This is a friendly reminder that we have 2-days left to cast a vote for funding approval of new Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime grant awards. **The electronic voting will end at 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 29.** Please review the attached information (or as much of the information necessary to make an informed decision) and return your signed ballot to me via fax or scan and email. As of this morning we have three votes submitted and we need a minimum of five votes, supporting the same choice, to meet our quorum.

If you have questions or need additional information please contact me. Awarding these new grant dollars is important to enhance and expand services to Alaska victims of crime. Thank you for your attention to this request.

L. Diane Casto, MPA
Executive Director
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
907-465-5503

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Alaska's Council on
Domestic Violence
& Sexual Assault

From: Casto, L Diane (DPS)
Sent: Thursday, January 23, 2020 11:02 AM

Subject: CDVSA Special Electronic Board Meeting -- Funding Recommendations

Hello CDVSA Board Members. I appreciate your quick response earlier this week and agreement to holding this Special Board meeting via e-mail and electronic voting. I know how busy everyone is and it is important we finalize these funding decisions to accommodate a February 1 start date for these new grantees.

Attached to this email is your Board Packet for this Special Electronic Board Meeting, including:

1. Report to CDVSA Board FY20-22 Enhanced Services Funding Recommendations;
2. Final Electronic Voting Sheet with 3 tabs including Final PEC/Staff Funding Recommendations; FY20 Funding Vote Ballot; and a page for comments;
3. FY20 Enhanced VOCA RFP Amounts and Budget Notes (this spreadsheet includes 3 tabs with a funding overview, budget details reviewed by staff prior to the PEC, and a short synopsis of each application;
4. Enhanced VOCA PEC Scoring Workbook – this spreadsheet includes many tabs and is a compilation of scores, comments and decisions from both Proposal Evaluation Committees.

We are giving you a great deal of information; depending on your need for detail, we have included it all. In addition we are providing more succinct forms such as the Final Funding Recommendations tab included with the voting ballot. I would also encourage you to read my narrative report that gives you a synopsis of everything included in these numerous documents. And finally, I would encourage you to review the first two tabs on attachment 4 (PEC Scoring Workbook) that includes an overview of the funding recommendations by PEC and staff and the PEC scores for each application.

In compliance with our Board Meetings being open meetings, all of the above information will be posted at the state's Online Public Notice page under DPS meetings.

Review and voting on the VOCA Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime funding recommendations begins today and will continue until COB Wednesday January 29, or sooner if all Board members have submitted their ballot. As stated earlier, we will need five votes (quorum) supporting the same funding option for approval. If this does not occur, I will contact the Board with next steps.

Thank you for your timely attention to this information. I know we all take these decisions very seriously as caretakers of public funds. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or need additional information prior to voting. Any additional information will be shared with all Board members. Once you complete your ballot, please sign and fax it back to me at l.casto@alaska.gov. I will inform you of the final results as soon as the votes are tallied.

Have a great day.

L. Diane Casto, MPA
Executive Director
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
907-465-5503

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**CDVSA SFY2020 - SFY2022
VOCA ENHANCED
SERVICES**

Program	SFY2020			
	Grant Request/Minus Unallowables	PEC In/Decrease Recommendation	PEC Recommended Grant Award	STAFF In/Decrease Recommendation
1 BRISTOL BAY AREA HEALTH CORPORATION	189,216.00	0.00	189,216.00	(59,627.00)
2 CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE S.A.F.E	37,516.00	0.00	37,516.00	0.00
3 COPPER RIVER BASIN	74,750.00	0.00	74,750.00	(26,162.00)
4 MANILAQ ASSOCIATION	48,573.00	0.00	48,573.00	(7,285.00)
5 PROVIDENCE ALASKA MEDICAL CENTER	62,312.00	0.00	62,312.00	0.00
6 STEVIE'S PLACE	66,924.00	0.00	66,924.00	0.00
7 SOUTH PENINSULA HAVEN HOUSE	59,676.00	0.00	59,676.00	(59,676.00)
8 THE CHILDREN'S PLACE	87,031.00	0.00	87,031.00	0.00
9 TUNDRA WOMEN'S COALITION	26,752.00	0.00	26,752.00	0.00
	652,750.00			
1 ALASKA NETWORK ON DV/SA	228,816.00	0.00	228,816.00	0.00
2 AIDING WOMEN IN ABUSE AND RAPE EMERGENCIES	23,253.00	0.00	23,253.00	0.00
3 INTERIOR ALASKA CENTER FOR NON-VIOLENT LIVING	47,946.00	0.00	47,946.00	0.00
	300,015.00			
1 ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	43,419.00		43,419.00	8,684.00
2 BARTLETT REGIONAL HOSPITAL	93,472.00	(93,472.00)	0.00	0.00
3 LEESHORE CENTER	15,675.00		15,675.00	3,135.00
4 STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST RAPE	125,000.00		125,000.00	(62,500.00)
5 TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE	126,150.00		126,150.00	0.00
6 VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA ALASKA	36,564.00		36,564.00	7,313.00
7 WOMEN IN SAFE HOMES	45,259.00		45,259.00	9,052.00
	485,539.00			
	1,438,304.00	(93,472.00)	1,344,832.00	(187,066.00)

PEC	APPLICANT	FINAL SCORE
CAC	STEVIE'S PLACE	143.50
CAC	TUNDRA WOMEN'S COALITION	137.00
CAC	PROVIDENCE ALASKA MEDICAL CENTER	135.00
CAC	CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE S.A.F.E	129.33
CAC	SOUTH PENINSULA HAVEN HOUSE	125.50
CAC	BRISTOL BAY AREA HEALTH CORPORATION	123.33
CAC	THE CHILDREN'S PLACE	123.33
CAC	MANIILAQ ASSOCIATION	111.17
CAC	COPPER RIVER BASIN	104.50
LAS	ALASKA NETWORK ON DV/SA	162.50
LAS	AIDING WOMEN IN ABUSE AND RAPE EMERGENCIES	139.67
LAS	INTERIOR ALASKA CENTER FOR NON-VIOLENT LIVING	132.50
MHC	ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	176.67
MHC	VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA ALASKA	166.67
MHC	WOMEN IN SAFE HOMES	145.00
MHC	LEESHORE CENTER	141.83
MHC	STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST RAPE	134.00
MHC	TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE	123.83
MHC	BARTLETT REGIONAL HOSPITAL	82.67

FY20 ENHANCED VOCA RFP APPLICANTS & AMOUNTS REQUESTED

AGENCY	LOCATION	GRANT CATEGORY	5 MONTH AMOUNT	Unallowable Cost Adjustment	Adjusted/ Allowable Amount	12 MONTH AMOUNT
1 BRISTOL BAY AREA HEALTH CORPORATION	DILLINGHAM	CAC	\$ 216,000.00	\$ 26,784.00	\$ 189,216.00	\$ 600,000.00
2 CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE S.A.F.E	JUNEAU	CAC	\$ 50,021.00	\$ 12,505.00	\$ 37,516.00	\$ 161,332.00
3 COPPER RIVER BASIN	GAKONA	CAC	\$ 74,750.00		\$ 74,750.00	\$ 74,750.00
4 MANILAQ ASSOCIATION	KOTZEBUE	CAC	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 1,427.00	\$ 48,573.00	\$ 100,000.00
5 PROVIDENCE ALASKA MEDICAL CENTER	ANCHORAGE	CAC	\$ 62,312.00		\$ 62,312.00	\$ 194,998.00
6 STEVIE'S PLACE	FAIRBANKS	CAC	\$ 66,924.00		\$ 66,924.00	\$ 154,520.00
7 SOUTH PENINSULA HAVEN HOUSE	HOMER	CAC	\$ 59,676.00		\$ 59,676.00	\$ 79,788.00
8 THE CHILDREN'S PLACE	WASILLA	CAC	\$ 102,535.00	\$ 15,504.00	\$ 87,031.00	\$ 355,000.00
9 TUNDRA WOMEN'S COALITION	BETHEL	CAC	\$ 26,752.00		\$ 26,752.00	\$ 69,555.00
CAC SUBTOTALS			\$ 708,970.00		\$ 652,750.00	\$ 1,789,943.00
10 ALASKA NETWORK ON DV/SA	JUNEAU	LA	\$ 228,816.00		\$ 228,816.00	\$ 549,200.00
11 AWARE	JUNEAU	LA	\$ 23,253.00		\$ 23,253.00	\$ 60,456.00
12 IAC	FAIRBANKS	LA	\$ 47,946.00		\$ 47,946.00	\$ 110,185.00
LA SUBTOTALS			\$ 300,015.00		\$ 300,015.00	\$ 719,841.00
13 ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	ANCHORAGE	MHC	\$ 43,419.00		\$ 43,419.00	\$ 104,206.00
14 BARTLETT REGIONAL HOSPITAL	JUNEAU	MHC	\$ 38,947.00	\$ 15,000.00		\$ 108,472.00
15 LEESHORE CENTER	KENAI	MHC	\$ 15,675.00		\$ 15,675.00	\$ 42,900.00
16 STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST RAPE	ANCHORAGE	MHC	\$ 125,000.00		\$ 125,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
17 TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE	FAIRBANKS	MHC	\$ 150,980.00	\$ 24,830.00	\$ 126,150.00	\$ 452,939.00
18 VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA ALASKA	ANCHORAGE	MHC	\$ 36,564.00		\$ 36,564.00	\$ 146,250.00
19 WOMEN IN SAFE HOMES	KETCHIKAN	MHC	\$ 49,759.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 45,259.00	\$ 119,837.00
MHC SUBTOTALS			\$460,344.00		\$ 392,067.00	\$ 1,224,604.00
GRAND TOTALS			\$ 1,469,329.00		\$ 1,344,832.00	\$ 3,734,388.00

CAC Funds Available		
Year 1: \$500,000	Year 2: \$1,000,000	Year 3: \$1,000,000

LA Funds Available		
Year 1: \$325,000	Year 2: \$750,000	Year 3: \$750,000

MHC Funds Available:		
Year 1: \$625,000	Year 2: \$1,250,000	Year 3: \$1,250,000

	Agency	Grant Category	Amount Requested (5 month)	Amount Allowable	Notes on Budget	Notes on Match	Indirect Cost Rate?
1	Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	CAC	\$216,000	\$189,216	<p>Personnel Expenses: All expenses allowable</p> <p>Travel Expenses: All expenses allowable</p> <p>Commodities: \$33,084 requested in this category, however \$25,500 is the amount that should be considered for funding. Program supplies and Office Supplies were not allowable within this RFP, however some of the items listed fit into the equipment/furniture category, which is allowable. •Office supplies valued at \$1084 are not allowable under this RFP and should be removed from funding consideration. •Program supplies valued at \$2,000 were not allowable under the RFP and should be removed from funding consideration. •Easels, Chalkboards, and Dry Erase Boards valued at \$1700 are considered Program Supplies and should be removed from funding consideration. •Kitchenette Items valued at \$2,000 are considered Program Supplies and should be removed from funding consideration. •Items listed under OTHER that would be allowable because they are considered equipment/furniture are as follows: oTables (\$5,000) oCouches/Chairs (\$10,500) oChildren's furniture (\$5,000) oCabinets and Shelves (\$5,000) o\$25,5000 would be the total allowable cost for these items.</p> <p>Other Contractual Expenses: \$20,500 requested in this category; however, \$500 is the amount that should be considered for funding. No contractual services other than those providing direct service (such as a contracted mental health clinician, etc.) is allowable under this category. •Professional Services valued at \$20,000 for evaluation and accreditation is not allowable and should be removed from funding consideration. •Registration fees for training is allowable under "training". \$500 should be considered for funding.</p>	Full 25% Match met (over)	Yes
2	Catholic Community Services	CAC	\$50,021	\$37,516	<p>\$50,021 is the total project cost which includes their matching amount, not they amount the need from CDVSA</p> <p>Personnel: All positions allowable, with clear percentage allocation for the Administrator time reflecting only the direct services portion of their role.</p> <p>Travel Expenses: All expenses allowable</p> <p>Equipment: All expenses allowable</p>	Full 25% match met	No
3	Copper River Basin	CAC	\$74,750	\$74,750	<p>Personnel Expenses: All expenses allowable</p> <p>Travel Expenses: All expenses allowable</p> <p>Equipment: All expenses allowable</p>	Full 25% Match met (over)	No
4	Manillaq Association	CAC	\$50,000	\$48,573	<p>Personnel Expenses: •All expenses allowable •Director time being used as match and clearly outlines the percentage of time spent supervising direct services (allowable)</p> <p>Travel Expenses: •All expenses allowable</p> <p>Equipment: \$2503 requested in this category; however, \$1427 is the amount that should be considered for funding. Program supplies were not allowable under this RFP, and most items listed within this category are toys, DVDs, and art supplies. •2 Loveseats valued at \$1370 is allowable and should be considered for funding •1 Cubical Organizer valued at \$57 may be considered for funding •Toys, DVDs, and art supplies totaled \$1033 and should not be considered for funding.</p> <p>Other Contractual Expenses: All expenses allowable (training costs)</p>	Full 25% Match met	Yes
5	Providence Alaska Medical Center	CAC	\$62,312	\$62,312	<p>Personnel Expenses: •All expenses allowable •Director time being used as match and clearly outlines the percentage of time spent supervising direct services (allowable)</p>	Under Match by \$247	No
6	Resource for Parents and Children	CAC	\$66,924	\$66,924	<p>Personnel Expenses: •All expenses allowable</p> <p>Travel Expenses: •All expenses allowable</p> <p>Other Contractual: •All expenses allowable (training registration)</p>	Match Waiver submitted (requesting full 25% waiver)	No
7	South Peninsula Have House	CAC	\$62,046	\$59,676	<p>Personnel Expenses: •All expenses allowable</p> <p>Travel Expenses: •Executive Director training is unallowable o \$2370 should not be considered for funding in this category o \$15245 should be considered for funding this category</p> <p>Commodities: •All expenses allowable (mobile recording unit)</p> <p>Other Contractual: •All expenses allowable (training costs and registrations for travel category) •Registration fee for training related to ED should be removed in BOY budget</p>	Match Waiver submitted (requesting full 25% waiver)	No

8 The Children's Place	CAC	\$102,535	\$87,031	\$102,535 is the total project cost which includes their matching amount, not the amount the need from CDVSA Personnel Expenses: •All expenses allowable	Of the required \$21,758 Match, No they are under by \$6,254
9 Tundra Women's Coalition	CAC	\$26,752	\$26,752	Personnel Expenses: •All expenses allowable •Director time being used as match and clearly outlines the percentage of time spent supervising direct services (allowable)	Full 25% Match met (over) No
Anchorage Community Mental Health Services, Inc.	MH	\$104,206	\$104,206	Personnel Expenses: •Narrative mentions serving children, but does not specify services will be limited to under 18 •Director time being used as match and clearly outlines the percentage of time spent supervising direct services (allowable) Indirect Costs: •Expenses under indirect cover administrative costs, including salaries and fringe of admin personnel, travel, admin facilities, supplies, audit, legal services, and other overhead costs. (allowable?) •They are requesting less than their federally approved indirect cost agreement rate. (allowable?)	Full 25% Match met (over) Yes: 12.4% (\$11,337 requested, \$2,838 Match)
11 Bartlett Regional Hospital	MH	\$108,472	\$93,472	Personnel Services: •Requested Fringe, but lumped it in with position cost •Source of in-kind match is not explained •Narrative did not specify working with under 18 (OK?) Travel: •Requested funds (\$3000) and match (\$1000) for staff training travel (not allowable) Other/Contractual Expenses: •Requested funds (\$4,500) and match (\$1,500) for staff training and registration fees (not allowable) •Requested funds (\$7,500) and match (\$2,500) for advertising (not allowable)	Full 25% Match met (over) No
12 The LeeShore Center	MH	\$15,675	\$15,675	Other/Contractual Expenses: •Source of in-kind match is not explained beyond "donation of services"	Requesting 15% Match Waiver (leaving LSC with a 10% match requirement if approved) No
Standing Together Against Rape	MH	\$125,000	\$125,000	Personnel Services: •Match source is allowable Other/Contractual Expenses: •All expenses allowable	Requested Match Waiver is not necessary due to Match Source qualifying as allowable No
14 Tanana Chiefs Conference	MH	\$150,980	\$126,150	Personnel Services: •MA Level Clinician: "will provide...services to youth, adults, and families..." (allowable if they remove "adults") •Clinical Supervisor: "will oversee the clinical activities of services to children and youth..." (allowable) •Case Manager: "will facilitate services for children, youth, and families..." (not allowable, \$15,519 + \$9,311 in fringe) •Substance Abuse Counselor: "will provide...services to children, youth, and families" (allowable) •Sources of Match not defined Other/Contractual Expenses: •Requesting \$20,000 in Match to train new-hires (allowable?)	Full 25% Match met (over) Even without the \$20,000 Match from Other and \$3,880 from the Case Manager position, they are still over the required Match amount. Yes, 36.10%
15 Volunteers of America Alaska	MH	\$36,564	\$36,564	Personnel Services: •All expenses allowable	Full 25% Match met (over) No
16 Women in Safe Homes	MH	\$49,759	\$45,359	Personnel Services: •Graduate Student (\$4,400 in Match): "will assist in initial program development, implementation, and evaluation..." (allowable as Match?) •All other expenses in this category are allowable Travel: •\$3,550 for staff training travel (not allowable) Facility Expenses: •Communications (\$375): cell phone for counselor (not allowable) •Rents/Leases (\$3,000 match): to be used for this project (allowable as Match?) Commodities: •Office and Program Supplies (\$625) (not allowable), (\$375 match) (allowable as Match?) Equipment: •Office Equipment (\$625 match): (allowable?) Other/Contractual: •Professional Services (\$2,400 match): legal, accounting, group facilitation, training, consulting, oversight, and evaluation (allowable as Match?)	Under on Match (should be \$12,440 for full amount requested, or \$11,315 for adjusted allowable amount. For adjusted amount, they are still short by \$15.) No
Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	LA	\$228,816	\$228,816	Personnel Services: •All expenses allowable Other/Contractual: •All expenses are allowable	Full 25% Match met No
Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies	LA	\$23,253	\$23,253	Personnel Services: •All expenses are allowable	Match Waiver, requesting 12% to be waived. Budget supports a 13% Match. No

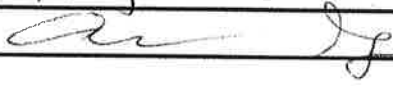
Interior Alaska Center for Non-				Personnel Services:	Full 25% Match	
19 Violent Living	LA	\$47,946	\$47,946	•All expenses allowable	met	No
				Other/Contractual:		
				•All expenses are allowable		

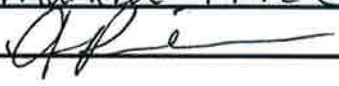
	Agency	Grant Category	Amount Requested (\$ month)	Amount Allowable	Synopsis	PEC Notes
Priority Category 3: Child Advocacy Centers Priority Category Three, Child Advocacy Center Enhancement, allowed for the following costs: •Personnel Costs directly related to providing direct services and supporting activities; •Skills Training for direct service provider staff, including training-related travel costs; •Equipment and Furniture to facilitate the delivery of direct services and equipment and furniture for work spaces, victims waiting rooms, and children's play areas; and •Mental Health Counseling services.						
*In total, 9 proposals were received for this category.						
1	Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation	CAC	\$216,000	\$189,216	BBHC is requesting funding for 2 additional full time positions (one forensic interviewer, one mental health clinician), training for these two positions, and funding to obtain new furnishings that would facilitate a child-focused environment in their new facility that they are transferring to. The new facility will provide additional office space and meeting rooms for meeting with victims and non-offending caregivers,	
2	Catholic Community Services	CAC	\$50,021	\$37,516	CCS S.A.F.E. is requesting funding for three partially funded positions: 1 Victim Service Assistant (.90 FTE) to provide advocacy to child victims and their families, a forensic interviewer position (.30 FTE) that conducts child interviews, and a SANE-P (.30 FTE) position to provide medical assessments. This proposal also requested a small amount of funding for their SANE-P position to travel to Anchorage for a medical preceptorship training, and a small amount was requested to purchase equipment such as a laptop.	
3	Copper River Basin	CAC	\$74,750	\$74,750	Copper River Basin is requesting funding for three partially funded positions: 1 forensic interviewer (.10 FTE), 1 Family Advocate (.35 FTE) and 1 MDT Coordinator (.40 FTE). This proposal also requested funding for training costs of the MDT coordinator, and to purchase equipment in the form of a medical evaluation system for their satellite site.	
4	Maniilaq Association	CAC	\$50,000	\$48,573	MFCC is requesting funding for the purchase of new furniture for their facility, training for their Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT), and a full-time child advocate position. The advocate position would perform intakes, referrals, children activities, and outreach visits to assist families with accessing services.	
5	Providence Alaska Medical Center	CAC	\$62,312	\$62,312	Providence Alaska Medical Center is requesting funding for 2 full-time Family Care Coordinator positions and two partial on-call positions that ensure coverage when the Center is not open. Family Care Coordinators are responsible for the assessment and referrals regarding the child's mental health as well as connecting children to the services they need. These positions also do follow-up case management to children and families.	

	Resource for Parents and 6 Children	CAC	\$66,924	\$66,924	Stevie's Place is requesting funding for 2 full-time positions; 1 forensic interviewer, 1 family advocate. The forensic interviewer conducts interviews with the child and collaborates with the MDT; the family advocate position finds appropriate referrals, facilitates communication, and documents case progress and data. A small amount of funding was requested for the training and registration fees of up to 4 staff members and travel to the required all-grantee meeting.	
	7 South Peninsula Have House	CAC	\$62,046	\$59,676	SPHH is requesting funding for 1.5 family advocate positions and a small portion of the Forensic Interview position (.15 FTE). The family advocate position provides advocacy, support and follow up services to the Kenai CAC for child victims and their family members; the forensic interviewer is an on-call position available to all CAC locations and participates in the MDT case review meetings. This proposal also requests training for approximately 7 staff members. A small portion of this proposal is requested for equipment in the form of a mobile recording unit.	
	8 The Children's Place	CAC	\$102,535	\$87,031	The Children's Place is requesting funding for several partially funding positions that collectively equal 1.29 FTE's: Program manager (.08 FTE), family advocates (total of 1.0 FTE), nurse practitioner (.21 FTE) and Medical Director (.05 FTE). These positions will expand the current efforts to serve victims by creating a fully funded budget, allowing them to fairly compensate staff and create more balance in the workloads of their direct service providers. The additional funding allows them to be fully staffed and improve services by providing adequate coverage for their facility.	
	9 Tundra Women's Coalition	CAC	\$26,752	\$26,752	TWC is requesting funding for one full-time position of a Family Advocate. This position schedules appointments with families and partner agencies in response to concerns about child sexual or physical abuse. The addition of another Family Advocate creates some relief for the center which currently has staff on-call for several weeks in a row to provide adequate coverage.	
Priority Category 2: Mental Health Counseling. Priority Category Two, Mental Health Counseling, allowed for the following: •Outpatient therapy/counseling provided by a person who meets professional standards to provide these services in the jurisdiction in which the care is administered; •Traditional, cultural, and/or alternative therapy/healing (e.g., art therapy, yoga); •Substance-abuse treatment so long as the treatment is directly related to the victimization; •*All services must be provided by licensed providers, when applicable, and delivered according to appropriate guidelines. *In total, 7 applications were received for this category.						
	10 Anchorage Community Mental Health Services, Inc.	MH	\$104,206	\$104,206	ACMHS is requesting funding for a clinician (1.5 FTEs). This position would allow ACMHC to enhance and expand mental health services to children assessed at CACs and their families.	

11	Bartlett Regional Hospital	MH	\$108,472	\$93,472	BRH is requesting funding for a Behavioral Health Clinical Therapist (1 FTE). This position would better help them increase their referral base from OCS and the Juneau School District, along with better meeting the needs of victims of crime.	
12	The LeeShore Center	MH	\$15,675	\$15,675	LSC is requesting funding for contracted mental health services. This funding would allow LSC to expand their services to include mental health services for children that they have previously been unable to provide.	
13	Standing Together Against Rape	MH	\$125,000	\$125,000	STAR is requesting funding for contracted mental health services through Full Spectrum Health, LLC. This would expand services to children and youth who have experienced abuse and are currently falling through an identified gap in services.	
14	Tanana Chiefs Conference	MH	\$150,980	\$126,150	TCC is requesting funding for a Clinical Supervisor (1 FTE), MA Level Clinician (1 FTE), and a Substance Abuse Counselor (1 FTE). This would increase their capacity to serve children who are victims of or witness abuse, and enable them to increase the number of children who are admitted after being referred to their services.	
15	Volunteers of America Alaska	MH	\$36,564	\$36,564	VOA is requesting funding for Youth Outpatient Mental Health Clinicians (2 FTE). This would increase the availability of mobile, responsive, community-based outpatient services to children and young people who are victims of or witness abuse.	
16	Women in Safe Homes	MH	\$49,759	\$45,259	WISH is requesting funding for a Counselor (1 FTE) and Tribal Behavioral Health Associate (.5 FTE). This would help reduce barriers to accessing services for youth, increase access to services and referrals to outside agencies, creates a central referral point for school staff working with students, and increase opportunities for culturally-responsive counseling services for Alaska Native/American Indian youth.	
Priority Category 1: Legal Assistance Priority Category One, Legal Assistance, allowed for the following: •Those (other than criminal defense) that help victims assert their rights as victims in a criminal proceeding directly related to the victimization, or otherwise protect their safety, privacy, or other interests as victims in such a proceeding; •Motions to vacate or expunge a conviction, or similar actions, where the jurisdiction permits such a legal action based on a person's being a crime victim; •Those actions (other than tort actions) that, in the civil context, are reasonably necessary as a direct result of victimization. *In total, 3 applications were received for this category.						
17	Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault	LA	\$228,816	\$228,816	ANDVSA is requesting funding for a Staff Attorney (.42 FTE) and Paralegal (.21 FTE). These positions would support ANDVSA Legal Program's collaboration with a network of legal services to crime victims statewide, called the Alaska Victim Legal Assistance Network (AVLAN).	


18	Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies	LA	\$23,253	\$23,253	<p>AWARE is requesting funding for a Legal Advocate (.38 FTE). This position would provide requested service support (such as accompaniment to court proceedings), more intensive services for victims who experience multiple barriers, and assistance in working with Tribal Courts.</p>	
19	Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living	LA	\$47,946	\$47,946	<p>IAC is requesting funding for a Staff Attorney (.25 FTE) and Paralegal (.12 FTE), along with funds to contract with local attorneys using lo-bono rates while the other two positions are hired. This funding would also support a partnership between IAC and Healing Native Hearts Coalition to increase the number of Alaska Native being served.</p>	

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault		
SPECIAL MEETING: VOTE TO APPROVE ENHANCED VOCA FUNDING		
MEETING PURPOSE		
ELECTRONIC VOTE		
LOCATION		
01/25/20		
DATE AND TIME		
VOTES		
FY20 ENHANCED VOCA FUNDING		
Approve the funding recommendations submitted by the Proposal Evaluation Committee and CDVSA Staff.		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES		<input type="radio"/> NO
Approve funding with specific recommendations from Council (Please write recommendations or comments on third tab)		
<input type="radio"/> YES		<input type="radio"/> NO
Do not approve funding recommendations.		
<input type="radio"/> YES		<input type="radio"/> NO
PRINT NAME: Angela G. Garay		
SIGNATURE: 		

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault		
SPECIAL MEETING: VOTE TO APPROVE ENHANCED VOCA FUNDING		
MEETING PURPOSE		
ELECTRONIC VOTE		
LOCATION		
01/25/20		
DATE AND TIME		
VOTES		
FY20 ENHANCED VOCA FUNDING		
Approve the funding recommendations submitted by the Proposal Evaluation Committee and CDVSA Staff.		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES		<input type="radio"/> NO
Approve funding with specific recommendations from Council (Please write recommendations or comments on third tab)		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES		<input type="radio"/> NO
Do not approve funding recommendations.		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES		<input type="radio"/> NO
PRINT NAME:	Amanda Price	
SIGNATURE:		

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault		
SPECIAL MEETING: VOTE TO APPROVE ENHANCED VOCA FUNDING		
MEETING PURPOSE		
ELECTRONIC VOTE		
LOCATION		
01/25/20		
DATE AND TIME		
VOTES		
FY20 ENHANCED VOCA FUNDING		
Approve the funding recommendations submitted by the Proposal Evaluation Committee and CDVSA Staff.		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES		<input type="radio"/> NO
Approve funding with specific recommendations from Council (Please write recommendations or comments on third tab)		
<input type="radio"/> YES		<input type="radio"/> NO
Do not approve funding recommendations.		
<input type="radio"/> YES		<input type="radio"/> NO
PRINT NAME: <i>Laurea Brooks</i>		
SIGNATURE: <i>[Signature]</i> 01/24/2020		

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault		
SPECIAL MEETING: VOTE TO APPROVE ENHANCED VOCA FUNDING		
<small>MEETING PURPOSE</small>		
ELECTRONIC VOTE		
<small>LOCATION</small>		
01/25/20		
<small>DATE AND TIME</small>		
VOTES		
FY20 ENHANCED VOCA FUNDING		
Approve the funding recommendations submitted by the Proposal Evaluation Committee and CDVSA Staff.		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; width: 40px; height: 20px; margin: 0 auto; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;">YES</div>		NO
Approve funding with specific recommendations from Council (Please write recommendations or comments on third tab)		
YES		NO
Do not approve funding recommendations.		
YES		NO
PRINT NAME: <i>Lydia Heyward</i>		
SIGNATURE: <i>Lydia Heyward</i>		

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault		
SPECIAL MEETING: VOTE TO APPROVE ENHANCED VOCA FUNDING		
MEETING PURPOSE		
ELECTRONIC VOTE		
LOCATION		
01/25/20		
DATE AND TIME		
VOTES		
FY20 ENHANCED VOCA FUNDING		
Approve the funding recommendations submitted by the Proposal Evaluation Committee and CDVSA Staff.		
<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> NO
Approve funding with specific recommendations from Council (Please write recommendations or comments on third tab)		
<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> NO
Do not approve funding recommendations.		
<input type="radio"/> YES	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> NO
PRINT NAME: Teresa M F Lowe		
SIGNATURE: 		



Report to CDVSA Board of Directors

Funding Recommendations for FY20-22 Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime Grant Program – VOCA funding only

January 23, 2020

CDVSA's Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime solicitation and funding process:

On October 25, 2019 CDVSA issued a new Request for Proposals (RFP) titled, **Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime**. The purpose of the **Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime** grant program is to provide funding to community, municipal or tribal organizations to serve victims of crime in Alaska. Funding is from CDVSA's Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) federal formula funding. VOCA funding provides specific services to all victims of crime including those who are underserved populations, who have experienced interpersonal violence, sexual assault, child abuse, child sexual abuse, and other crimes.

The intent of this RFP is to provide funding to *enhance* funding for programs that already exist, giving additional funding to increase, improve and support programming that provides services to victims of crime in three primary areas of service:

- 1) Legal Assistance Services;
- 2) Mental Health counseling for children and youth through 18 year of age who are direct victims of violence or have witnessed violent crimes;
- 3) Child Advocacy Center Services.

These three identified areas of service that will be funded through this RFP are priority areas that CDVSA has not specifically funded in the past. We are particularly excited to be able to fund improved services to children impacted by violence through funding for mental health services and child advocacy centers. In addition, legal assistance is a critical service that most victims of crime need and often do not have access to in a timely manner, if at all. Applicants were only allowed to apply for one of the three Priority Categories.

Enhanced Services applications were due to CDVSA by COB December 6, 2019. A total of nineteen proposals were received – 3 for legal services; 7 for mental health services; and 9 for child advocacy center services for a total of 19 proposals. The first step in the review process was for the staff to read each proposal to ensure they met minimum qualifications for review. In addition, staff went through each proposal's budget to identify if all expenditures were



allowable – allowability of budget requests looked for VOCA allowability, as well as RFP funding allowability. The RFP provided clear funding limitations for each of the three priority categories: Legal Assistance Services and Mental Health Counseling were limited to personnel costs of direct service providers associated with providing the identified services; funding for CACs was limited to personnel costs of direct service providers, training of direct service providers; and equipment and furniture to facilitate the delivery of direct services.

This RFP supports funding for 5-months of FY20, plus two continuation years (FY21 and FY22). Total available funds to be distributed in response to this RFP are approximately \$7.5 million, approximately \$1.45 million in FY2020 and \$3.0 million each in FY21 and FY22.

A copy of the Request for Proposals is available at the state's Online Public Notice site:

<https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/View.aspx?id=195902>.

Proposal Evaluation Committees (PEC):

Two Proposal Evaluation Committees (PEC) were held to review the 19 proposals. PEC #1 was held January 14, 2020; PEC members were Sharon Fleming, OCS, Carol Graham, OPA, and Michelle Demmert, CCTHITA (Tlingit & Haida). This PEC reviewed 9 applications for Child Advocacy Center Services.

PEC #2 was held January 16-17, 2020; PEC members were Pat Sidmore, Public Member, Charlotte Rand, DOL, and Allison Gottesman, DJJ. This PEC reviewed 10 applications for Legal Advocacy Services (3) and Mental Health Services for children and youth (7).

Each PEC member received electronic copies of each application for their review; they read and scored applications individually prior to the PEC meeting. PEC members were instructed to use median scoring (meaning if a question is worth 10 points, a median score will be 5, indicating the response to the questions met all requirements. If a response provides more information, detail or creativity, additional points can be added up to 10. If the response is lacking in its content and clarity, points can be deducted down to 0). Median scoring provides a more nuanced and accurate reflection of the quality of each response.

Application scores were worth a total of 240 points; using median scoring a score of 120 total points indicated that everything requested was provided. Three (3) applicants failed to meet the median score: Maniilaq Association (111.17); Copper River Basin (104.50); and Bartlett Regional Hospital (82.67). This did not disqualify the applicants from receiving funds, but scores were a consideration in final recommendations.



Cumulative Scores for PEC #1 (Child Advocacy Centers) are:

STEVIE'S PLACE	143.50
TUNDRA WOMEN'S COALITION	137.00
PROVIDENCE ALASKA MEDICAL CENTER	135.00
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE S.A.F.E	129.33
SOUTH PENINSULA HAVEN HOUSE	125.50
BRISTOL BAY AREA HEALTH CORPORATION	123.33
THE CHILDREN'S PLACE	123.33
MANIILAQ ASSOCIATION	111.17
COPPER RIVER BASIN	104.50

Cumulative Scores for PEC #2 (Legal Advocacy (3) and Mental Health Services (7)) are:

ALASKA NETWORK ON DV/SA	162.50
AIDING WOMEN IN ABUSE AND RAPE EMERGENCIES	139.67
INTERIOR ALASKA CENTER FOR NON-VIOLENT LIVING	132.50
ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES	176.67
VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA ALASKA	166.67
WOMEN IN SAFE HOMES	145.00
LEESHORE CENTER	141.83
STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST RAPE	134.00
TANANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE	123.83
BARTLETT REGIONAL HOSPITAL	82.67

PEC Recommendations:

Following the scoring for each PEC, members were asked for their recommendations related to whether to fund or not fund; funding amounts; special conditions related to funding; or any general recommendations for each proposal or general recommendations of items that many applicants had difficulty with, and the PEC wanted to give guidance moving forward.



PEC #1 (Child Advocacy Centers):

Following the final scoring and discussion, the PEC members unanimously recommended some level of funding for each applicant – even the two that did not reach the 120-point threshold. The belief was that the service enhancement for each of the Child Advocacy Centers applying for funding would address significant needs to meet the growing demand for these critical services. CACs have been flat funded for many years, yet the need for services has grown, including the need to keep CAC staff trained and qualified to provide quality services. Most CACs run very barebone programs, often without the appropriate equipment and staffing levels. While the PEC did not make specific funding recommendations, they recognized that the request for funding in FY20 exceeded the amount identified as available for the first 5-months.

Knowing that staff would need to make recommended cuts to the CAC requests, the PEC suggested that Copper River Basin, with a score of 104.50 and Maniilaq Association, with a score of 111.17 receive a proportional decrease based on their lower application scores. The PEC recommended any cuts to Maniilaq should come from their furniture line item rather than direct services or training. In addition, they suggested that if additional reductions in award amounts were needed that a reduction be made to Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation who asked for significantly more funds than any other applicant – 46% higher than the next highest requested amount – and felt that BBAHC did not identify needs significant enough to justify such a large amount of the available and limited funding. These suggestions were considered when staff recommendations were made.

PEC #2 (Legal Advocacy Services and Mental Health Services for Youth):

Following the final scoring and discussion, the PEC members unanimously recommended that all Legal Advocacy and Mental Health applicants receive funding except for Bartlett Regional Hospital (BRH). The application submitted by BRH was deemed non-responsive due to their total score of 82.7 out of 240 overall points. The PEC comments included, "Not well written, barebones application, lack of commitment to something worthy of public funding, were not clear that services were specifically for victims of crime nor were they clear that the services would be for children and youth through 18 years."

The application from Standing Together Against Rape (STAR), raised questions that need clarification and additional information before staff makes FY2020 funding available, based on the final funding recommendation. While the PEC supports some level of funding for STAR due to the identified need for services to youth victims of crime ages 16-18, there was apprehension about the focus on how to fund services. The questions that need clarification are related to



the proposed contract with Full Spectrum, a private agency providing therapeutic services to the identified population. The concerns with the application were related to the payment process of billing Medicaid or other insurance and then using CDVSA funds to increase payment for services to fully reimburse the provider. While the low Medicaid reimbursement rates is a very real issue and limits the number of available providers who can accept only Medicaid payments, the PEC felt the application was too focused on invoicing, reimbursement, earned revenue and making Full Spectrum a sustainable agency. The application responses offered limited discussion about services to child and youth victims of crime and the expected outcomes for the individuals receiving services. The PEC also indicated concern about the focus on medication management vs. counseling/therapeutic interventions. The PEC requested CDVSA reach out for clarification before any funding decisions/awards are finalized. The PEC suggested that STAR could/should also access mental health services for their youth clients from Anchorage Community Mental Health Services and Volunteers of America, both located in Anchorage and both recommended for funding through this RFP.

PEC #2 was impressed with applications from Anchorage Mental Health Services, Volunteers of America (VOA) and Women in Safe Homes (WISH), indicating they felt these programs could use additional funding to fully carry out their planned activities, and would support additional funding to ACMHA, VOA and WISH, if available. Staff recommended increases of 20% for each of these agencies, in addition to The LeeShore Center, who also requested a small amount of funds.

Both PECs provided a list of general comments indicating areas where many applicants struggled or could have provided more robust and solid information. Those recommendations are:

- Most applicants did not fully respond to Q. 1 by not discussing their level of training, expertise and experience providing trauma-informed services to victims of crime – they appeared to assume we “knew” they were well-versed in trauma informed services;
- Most proposals lacked outreach and collaboration with Alaska Native tribes in their service area. While some included Native health organizations, there was a lack of tribal partnerships, MOUs with tribes and limited discussion regarding the need to build better tribal partnerships. Knowing that Alaska rates of child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault are highest among our Alaska Native people, it is important that all providers engage in dialogue with tribes in their service area;
- A reminder when agencies are contracting for direct services to a third party, a copy of the contract, with specific deliverables, needs to be provided once an award is made;



- Agencies should increase outreach and service to outlying communities that are identified as part of the agency's service area—in most cases, the amount of service available to outlying communities appeared to be limited.
- Agencies should be more creative in finding ways to partner with other service providers and to engage in better informed outreach and services;
- A general feeling that Memorandums of Agreement (MOA) and letters of commitment need to be more specific to the relationship and the role of each partner. They need to be considered a living, breathing document that should be revisited annually, not just be written to meet a grant application requirement;
- In discussing outreach and informing underserved populations about available services (Q. 8), applicants did not include discussion of agency policies and practices regarding access (language, disabilities), how they are training staff regarding reaching and serving these populations, and their specific needs—more consideration should be given to better prepare staff and the agency to serve these identified underserved populations;
- Need more detailed emphasis on how agencies are using data and outcomes to measure levels of change and to improve programming and policies including the need to use (public domain) validated evaluation tools to increase valid measurement of change;
- It is recommended that CDVSA work with the Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) to provide grantees with training on the rules, regulations and processes for victims to obtain crime compensation benefits—many of the applicants have never engaged with VCCB;
- Many applicants need to develop more comprehensive and creative plans for recruitment, training, security and confidentiality regarding the use of volunteers within their agencies and programs;
- Few applications discussed their confidentiality plans and policies—this is a critical issue and should have been more prominent in each application;
- In future grant applications/proposals, writers should remember to write as if the reader does not know anything about their agency, community or programming—competitive grants require that PEC members only score the information provided in the “4 corners of the application.” If a proposal is written as if the reader already knows the agency and its programs, there will be questions and reduced scores because the information was not included in the proposal. All PEC members were not intimately familiar with each applicant agency or community.



Funding requests and staff allocation recommendations:

As stated above, both PEC #1 and PEC #2 made qualifying recommendations to fully fund most of the applicants who responded to the Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime RFP. Once PEC recommendations were made, staff worked to determine specific funding allocations, based on PEC scores, comments and recommendations, and available funding for FY2020. Funding allocations were determined based on the funding request from each applicant, the PEC considerations and some internal determinations related to current grantee standing.

Staff funding recommendations for the Child Advocacy Center category includes reductions to three applicants and one deferred grant award; all other applications are recommended at full funding:

- Copper River Basin (35% reduction) due to minimally responsive application and the lowest score among this category (104.50 out of 240);
- Maniilaq Association (15% reduction) due to a lack of detail in their application and lower score (111.17 out of 240);
- Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation (reduced by 31%) due to their exceptionally high dollar request with limited justification why their need was so much higher than other CAC applicants;
- South Peninsula Haven House (no funding in FY20) due to this sub-grantee currently being on "special conditions" with CDVSA due to financial irregularities in FY19. CDVSA proposes deferring a funding decision on this application until FY21, once we have evaluated their current agency status as a CDVSA grantee and improved financial oversight and internal controls. If they are removed from "special conditions" in FY21, CDVSA recommends approving this application for 2-years of funding, as requested.

Staff funding recommendations for the Legal Advocacy Services category includes full funding for all three applicants.

Staff funding recommendations for the Mental Health Services for children and youth category includes:

- Staff and PEC recommend full funding for Tanana Chiefs Conference, recognizing the large geographic area TCC serves and the documented need;
- No funding for Bartlett Regional Hospital due to low score (82.67 out of 240) and non-responsiveness to RFP;
- Anchorage Community MH Services; The LeeShore Center; Volunteers of America (VOA) and Women in Safe Homes (WISH) all received excellent scores, provided



exceptional application responses and requested small amounts of funding – staff and PEC recommend offering each of these programs the opportunity to receive a 20% increase in their request for FY2020;

- Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) is being recommended for funding at 50% of their request due to concerns expressed by the PEC. Funding will be delayed until clarifying documents are received and reviewed by staff.

Copies of two (2) spreadsheets are included in your Board packet. One spreadsheet, FY20 Enhanced VOCA RFP_Amounts and Budget Notes, is a compilation of staff reviews of each application prior to sending to the PEC for review. The second spreadsheet, Enhanced VOCA PEC Workbook, includes final PEC and staff Funding Recommendations (Tab 1) and all notes and information from the PECs.

Final Board Action:

A decision was made by a majority vote of the CDVSA Board of Directors that final review and approval of these grant funding awards will be conducted via email, with an electronic vote. This meeting will be considered a Special Board meeting and meet the criteria of the public meeting requirements with information posted on the state's Online Public Notice site, including copies of all materials the CDVSA Board receives to formulate their decisions including this memo, and grant funding spreadsheets with PEC scores, and PEC/Staff funding recommendations. Materials will be posted online and sent to each Board member by COB Thursday, January 23. The packet will also include a voting "ballot" with the options of full approval of PEC/Staff recommendations; recommended decreases and/or increased for one or more applicant agency(ies); or disapproval of funding as recommended by the PEC/Staff.

As discussed at the FY2020 Q. 2 CDVSA Board meeting in December, funding has been set aside in our FY20 budget to adequately fund these new grant awards at the funding levels set in the RFP.

If any Board member has questions or would like additional information, please submit in writing to L. Diane Casto, Executive Director; any additional information provided will be submitted to all Board members and posted online prior to the voting deadline.

All voting will be concluded by COB on Wednesday, January 29, 2020. A final decision to approve funding level recommendations will require a quorum of 5 votes agreeing to the same funding scenario. A final spreadsheet will be posted at the OPN site on Thursday, January 30 with the results of the Board funding decisions.



Alaska's Council on
Domestic Violence
& Sexual Assault

Once the CDVSA Board makes their final recommendations and votes to approve the funding plan for the **Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime** RFP, CDVSA staff will finalize the process of notifying applicants of their pending grant award and preparing Grant Awards, with certifications and conditions, for signature and final award. Our intent is to have all Grant Award documents sent to grantees no later than February 15. As a reminder, year one of this funding covers February 1-June 30, 2020. Continuation applications for funding in FY21 will be submitted in May.

Respectfully submitted by L. Diane Casto, CDVSA Executive Director

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