

Overview and Justification for CDVSA FY24 Grant Funding Recommendations for Review & Approval by the CDVSA Board of Directors

June 8, 2023 – FY23 Q. 4 Board Meeting

This spring, CDVSA issued two competitive Request for Proposals—one for our Enhanced Services grant program and one for our Community-Based Victim Services grant program. Our three other grant programs, Prevention, Battering Intervention, and Prison Based BIPs are continuation grants for FY24.

This document will support and supplement the FY24 Funding Recommendations Spreadsheet listing each grant program and the recommended funding for each agency that applied for or is continuing a grant program. To assist you with the acronyms listing the programs on the spreadsheet, I have attached a list of each program, its acronym, and the community it is located in.

Enhanced Services for Victims of Crime grant program, available to provide funding to community, municipal, or tribal organizations to provide services to **enhance existing services** in three specific areas:

1. Legal Assistance Services for victims of crime.
2. Mental Health counseling for children/youth (through 18 years of age) who are direct victims of abuse or have witnessed a violent crime.
3. Child Advocacy Center Services (CACs) for the purpose of serving child/youth victims of sexual or physical abuse.

Enhanced Services are funded with federal dollars received through Alaska's VOCA Formula and OVC discretionary grants. Because these funds are limited and are for the purpose of enhancing existing services, grant funds are restricted to direct service personnel costs only.

This RFP was released on February 21, with applications due to CDVSA by April 3. CDVSA held one Proposal Evaluation Committee (PEC) for the ES applications on April 20. PEC members were Lydia Heyward (CDVSA Board), Brandy Coltellaro (DJJ), and Michael Ramsay (DOC). A total of 16 proposals were received, with 1 program not meeting the intent of funding to enhance an existing program; the request was to develop a new program. A total of \$3,169,244 was requested and only \$2,542,572 was available for distribution. [See page 2 of the Funding Recommendations spreadsheet for recommended funding for all three ES categories.](#)

Community-based Victim Services grant program is to provide immediate safety and support to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and their dependent children, in life-threatening situations, and to strengthen local community responses to these and other crimes.

The Council also provides funding for services to youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and underserved victims of violent crimes.

Community-based Victim Services are funded using multiple state and federal funding streams. Most expenditures are allowable including personnel, travel, facility rental, services, commodities, equipment, and other needs to provide comprehensive direct victim services.

The Community-based Victim Services RFP was released on March 6, with applications due to CDVSA by April 18. Due to the large number of proposals received, CDVSA held 2 PECs, splitting the number of applications between the PECs. The first PEC was held May 9-10 and the second PEC was held May 11-12. PEC members were Tony Piper (DBH); Jennifer Summer (ANTHC); Kami Moore (AASB); Jenny Weissaupt (MH Board); Amanda Woody (DBH) and Lisa Morley (new CDVSA staff). A total of 27 proposals were received and reviewed. All programs that applied were recommended for funding. A total of \$20,273,901 was requested and only \$17,343,637 was available for distribution. [See page 1 of the Funding Recommendations spreadsheet for recommended funding for the Victim Services grant program.](#)

The other two grant program funding recommendations are for continuation funding for 13 Prevention subgrantees and 6 BIP/PBP subgrantees. These two grant programs will be funded at the same level of funding as received in SFY 2023. [See page 3 \(Prevention\) and page 4 \(BIP/PBP\) of the Funding Recommendations spreadsheet for funding amounts recommended for Prevention and BIP/PBP.](#)

The final funding recommendations are for our VAWA/STOP funding – only two agencies receive grants from this federal award, based on the required allocations for victim services: ANDVSA will receive \$209,648 and Alaska Native Women’s Resource Center (AKNWRC) will receive \$25,000 for cultural set-aside. In addition, AKNWRC will receive \$75,000 in GF for a total grant award of \$100,000. These recommendations are based on the required STOP Victim Services/Cultural Set-aside funding amount and are not negotiable. For this reason, they are not included in the FY24 Funding Recommendations spreadsheet and are included here for your information.

Funding Recommendation Process & Conclusion

Funding recommendations were made with a combination of input from staff reviews, PEC reviews, funding availability, and funding projections for FY25. We knew going into a competitive grant year, that funding would not meet the requested needs, we also anticipated that some agencies might not reapply, some new agencies would apply, and the amount of funding available for FY24 would be short.

While we would have liked to recommend higher funding levels for FY2024, available funding did not permit additional funding this year. We recognized and have argued that adequate funding for these critical services has not been increased in many years, resulting in reduced funding due to inflation. While we are recommending small cuts to current VS sub-grantees for

FY24 (2% or \$353,951) we increased the total VS funding by \$553,164, adding two new programs to expand and enhance services in Alaska.

Funding projections for SFY2025 indicate we will be short approximately \$3.6 million to continue funding at these recommended amounts, primarily based on the loss of one-time funding sources (CSLFRF, OVC Discretionary, FVPSA-ARPA, and 1-time Relief GF). The FY25 projected GF dollars include the addition of \$500,000 in Prevention and BIP grant funding included in our FY24 budget.

Please review the information provided before we discuss these recommendations during our June 8 Board meeting. Program and grant staff will be available to answer any questions you have. Also, recommendations made and approved by the Board, will not be final or implemented until Governor Dunleavy signs the FY24 budget.