

DARYL FOX: Good afternoon, everyone, and welcome to today's webinar, FY 2024 Preventing Trafficking of Girls, hosted by the Office for Victims of Crime. At this time, it's my pleasure to introduce Cindy Erich, Senior Policy Advisor with OVC, to begin the presentation. Cindy?

CYNTHIA ERICH: Great. Thank you, Daryl. Again, my name is Erich. I am a Senior Policy Advisor in the Office for Victims of Crime Human Trafficking Division. And we are so pleased that you're joining us today to receive an overview of OVC's 2024 Preventing Trafficking of Girls solicitation.

Today, I will be talking about OVC's mission, the solicitation, including the opportunity focus, eligibility, and required documents. Then we'll talk about the application process and resources. And there will be time to answer your questions at the end of the presentation or throughout. As Daryl mentioned, you can put them in the Q&A section of Webex here. It'll be really helpful if you are following along with the solicitation and taking notes to help when you are submitting your application by the deadline. So I'll give you an opportunity now, if you have the access, to open up that solicitation. And, Daryl, thank you for putting that in the chat. For those--you can click on the link and it'll lead you directly to the solicitation there to follow along.

So the Office for Victims of Crime is part of the US Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs. We administer the Crime Victims Fund, which is financed by fines and penalties paid by convicted federal offenders and not from tax dollars. OVC channels that money towards victim compensation and assistance throughout the United States. Our focus is raising awareness about victims' issues, promoting compliance with victims' rights laws, and providing training and technical assistance, as well as publications and products to victim assistance professionals. This funding supports formula programs to state, territories, and tribes, as well as many OVC discretionary grant programs for victims of crime.

So a little bit about the Office for Victims of Crime Human Trafficking Division. We lead the nation in supporting victim-centered and trauma-informed programs, policies, and resources that promote justice, equal access, and empowerment for minors and adult victims and survivors of human trafficking. Our office manages the largest amount of federal funding for human trafficking victim services awards across the federal government. We currently oversee 465 anti-trafficking awards that total over \$400 million. These range the gamut from services for trafficking survivors to multidisciplinary teams, including law enforcement and prosecutors, to statewide responses to child and youth trafficking, and, of course, our training and technical assistance program.

This is our small but mighty team that manages all of these awards under the leadership of Brecht Donoghue and Sara Gilmer. The Human Trafficking Division is a team of highly passionate professionals dedicated to enhancing anti-trafficking stakeholders' capacity to identify, assist, and provide services to all victims of human trafficking.

And the reason that you are here today is to get information about the 2024 Preventing Trafficking of Girls solicitation. We do have several solicitations currently open and opening soon, so please be sure to check our funding page often. If you have a program that provides prevention services primarily to youth, you are in the right place and you will want to apply under this solicitation.

Before we begin, please mark your calendars with these dates. The Grants.gov deadline for this solicitation is April 24th, 2024 at 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time. The JustGrants deadline is May 8th, 2024 at 8:59 PM Eastern Standard Time. I'll--this will all make sense, why there are two deadlines, what this all mean. It's in the solicitation and we'll be covering it in detail today. But, again, these are really important deadlines. If you miss those deadlines, you may miss the opportunity to be in the running for this funding. We expect to make the awards by September 30th, and these are 36 months in length beginning October 1st. So, already, I threw a lot of dates at you. This is all in the solicitation. And, again, if there's questions, put those in the Question and Answer box on the Webex.

This is a highly competitive solicitation. There--here's a list of the entities who are eligible to apply. And you will see that it is quite inclusive. You can reference the solicitation if you go to page eleven for more information on eligible applicants. OVC, we will consider applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award. However, only one entity may be the applicant. Any others may be proposed as subrecipients or subgrantees. So if you're the applicant, you must--you would be the entity that would have primary responsibility for carrying out the award, as well as administering the funding and managing the entire program. There's information--there's a link as well to the Application Resource Guide for information--additional information on subawards.

So with this solicitation, we will fund programs up to \$500,000 each to support prevention and early intervention services for girls who are at risk of or are victims of sex and/or labor trafficking. So risk factors that may make girls vulnerable to sex or labor trafficking include a history of childhood sexual and physical abuse, witnessing domestic violence, involvement in the child welfare and juvenile justice system, poverty, running away or being homeless, a lack of strong support networks, including family, peers, community ties, et cetera, academic difficulties or failures, and/or substance use disorders. And that is who--that we're looking to support prevention and early intervention strategies and services for these girls. They may be provided--services may be provided with this funding to girls and young women up to the age of 25.

You'll see on page nine of the solicitation the goal of this program is to prevent and reduce victimization of girls who are vulnerable to sex and/or labor trafficking. Services may be provided to girls and young women, again, up to the age--up to and including 25, and considerations for the unique needs of LGBTQI+ individuals is encouraged. Additionally, due to the high rates of trafficking reported among certain populations--excuse me, specifically Native Hawaiian, American Indian, Alaska Native, Black, and Latino populations, organizations primarily serving these communities are also

encouraged to apply. These services must be tailored to ensure that they are developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive, victim-centered, and trauma-informed. In addition to encouraging a use of a shared decision making model, OVC promotes the use of evidence-based and evidence-informed practices when working with children and youth victims of crime.

More information--this is linked in within the solicitation. And our objectives, that you'll also see, are outlined on the slide and on page nine of the solicitation and include the following: to replicate and scale up prevention and early intervention programs, to implement or enhance efforts to identify and provide comprehensive, trauma-informed, developmentally appropriate and culturally responsive services to girls and young women who are at risk of or victims of sex and/or labor trafficking. So this can include street outreach efforts, partnerships with culturally-specific organizations, partnerships with organizations that serve youth, partnerships with juvenile justice and child welfare systems, or collaboration with key community stakeholders. You will also be--if selected, you'll be expected to participate in an annual peer-to-peer learning opportunity hosted by the OVC-funded training and technical assistance provider. So those that are selected to be a part of this initiative will be working alongside our TTA provider throughout the life of the award in the development or developing the need-based assessments, and providing any training and technical assistance to help you meet the goals and objectives as outlined in your response to this solicitation.

In order to further the Office of Justice Programs' mission, we will provide priority consideration when making award decisions under two areas. Under 1A, applications that propose projects that are designed to meaningfully advance equity and remove barriers to accessing services and opportunities for communities that had been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization. So to receive this consideration, you should describe how your proposed project will address the identified inequities and contribute to greater access to services and opportunities for the communities that you will be serving that had been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization. This could be--consideration may include improving victim services, justice responses, prevented--excuse me, prevention intervention initiatives, reentry services, and other parts of the organizations or community efforts to advance public safety.

Under Priority Consideration 1B, applicants that demonstrate their capabilities and competencies for implementing their proposed projects are enhanced because they, or if one of your subrecipients, are serving a population or a specific organization that serves communities that has been historically underserved, marginalized, adversely affected by inequality, and disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, and victimization. So this--for 1B is where you would put within the Budget Narrative if you have a subrecipient that will be receiving at least 40% of your award funding that meets this criteria. And it's really important to note that in your Abstract, that you are requesting this priority consideration. And this, again, is one of the many factors that we

will be considering in making the funding decisions. Receiving priority consideration for one or more priority area does not guarantee an award. However, if you look closely at this solicitation and you believe that you should be considered for either Priority Consideration 1A or 1B, do make sure that you note it clearly in your Abstract and in the Program Narrative.

As part of this funding, we would expect the deliverables as outputs. So these would be tangible or intangible that are documented and submitted within the scope of the project. This includes--this could be services measured by quarterly or service hours or units delivered, to include the type of service and other key data points. Award recipients will be required to submit performance measure data in the Performance Measurement Data Tool. This is what we call our PMT. And submit separately semi-annual performance reports in JustGrants. There's much more information and guidance on the post-award submission process that will be provided if you are selected for an award. It's just good to note what the expectations will be, but there's nothing that you would have to submit in advance as far as your performance measure data, just a clear understanding of what will be expected of you if you receive this funding.

Okay. We covered a lot. And, again, we appreciate you sitting along with us. We know how important this is and how lengthy these applications and submissions can be. So your taking your time means a lot. And there will be a lot of information that is covered, which is why it is so great that you are getting an advanced start on this review. So now that you have a better understanding of the intent of the program, we're going to jump into a bit of information on the application process.

These timelines. So, the Grants.gov timeline is the first step. And before submitting an application, you must register with the System for Award Management, also known as SAM. I'm going to get to that slide in a few minutes, but the SAM application is actually your very, very first step in submitting this application, because you need this--to be registered with SAM, the System for Award Management, before you can submit in Grants.gov. And you must renew and validate your registration with SAM every twelve months. If you do not renew your SAM registration, it will expire. It will--it will expire. And an expired registration can delay or prevent application submissions in JustGrants--in Grants.gov and JustGrants. Registration and renewal can take up to ten business days to complete, so be sure to get started early. Again, I will have the link to SAM.gov in a few slides, but this is definitely a really important first step and should not wait for the last minute. And then our Grants.gov deadline, again, is April 25th. The JustGrants deadline is May 8th. And I'll explain that in more detail also as I get into the direct links to those slides--direct links in a few slides. But these are just the important dates to note. And we will move on and I'll get into more detail in a moment.

To meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and even receive consideration, your application must have these elements. Now, there--the main one is the SF-424 and the LL [SF-LLL], the lobbying forms within Grants.gov. Those are the two forms in Grants.gov to get you started. And then everything else, the full application, will be done in JustGrants. JustGrants is our system from peer review through

application through award to the end of the closing. Everything that we do is in the JustGrants system.

So in that, we will need to see for the basic minimum requirements, your Proposal Abstract, your Proposal Narrative, your--which will include a description of the issue, the project design and implementation, your capabilities and competencies, your plan for collecting the data, and the budget, which is a web-based form which includes budget details and a budget narrative. Remember, if you forget to submit any of the required documents, your application will not be considered for funding. Unfortunately, this is a very, very competitive solicitation. The funding is limited. So you could be kicked out of the process--the review process this early if these basic minimum requirements are not submitted. So, again, it's fabulous that you're here, you're here early, and you're getting an understanding of what the requirements are.

So web-based form, this, again, will be completed in JustGrants. We need to break out the cost by year, reflecting 36 months total of the project activity. This award--if you are a previous grantee or a current grantee even for another solicitation, this award does not require any kind of in-kind match. So it would be 36 months of the total project activity. There's times we've seen--looking at--this is a \$500,000--up to--you can apply for up to \$500,000. That is total. That is across the entire length of the award. The award is for three years, total of thirty-six months. It's not \$500,000 a year. It is \$500,000 total across those 36 months.

You'll complete the JustGrants web-based budget form. And then--funded for this program--you'll see some JustGrants training. I'm going to show you a slide here in a moment on application submission, completing the budget detail form. I'm also going to throw this link in the chat. I'm going to copy and paste this real quick, because this can be--it's going to be quite a process to get that form submitted. And we have a tremendous amount of training and resources on our site through the JustGrants training.

There are some activities that cannot be supported with grant funds, and those are listed again in solicitation. And the first is holding beds. And what this means, you cannot hold a bed in a housing facility by charging the cost to the grant and keeping them empty until a victim needs that bed. In other words, if there's other victims that need access to those beds, this would be an unallowable contingency payment. So if other victims need access to these beds and you're holding them by charging the cost to the grant and keeping them empty, that would be unallowable. And in great--greater detail in the solicitation under the CFR in the solicitation as well.

And stipends or incentives to participate. So this means that cash or non-cash stipends or incentives cannot be paid to victims or participants to encourage their participation. Nominal cash or non-cash stipend, so this could be taxi or rideshare vouchers, public transportation tickets or tokens, money to pay for childcare, or gift cards for meals that are necessary. When participants receive services, those are allowable, but they cannot be used to incentivize them to participate in the program.

Beginning on page twenty, look closely at the list of additional application components and make sure to submit all that are applicable to your agency. There are quite a few. As they do not apply to all, I'm not going to go through each and every one of those, but be sure to reference the application checklist at the end of the solicitation before you submit and be sure to include all that do apply to your agency.

So the application checklist at the end of each solicitation will list the documents to include. Use that checklist to review closely, prior to you submitting your application, to ensure that you have all the attached documents. The other resources to aid you in developing your application can include the DOJ Application Checklist, which is listed here, the JustGrants Quick Reference about application attachments. And we'll make sure all of these job aids are included in the chat. And there's a larger application submission job aid covering potential applicants that you'll be asked for--to provide. Again, all of these links--and I appreciate your assistance, team. The team behind the scenes adding these in the chat and for my colleagues answering the Q&A until I'm done. So appreciate the teamwork here. But this is all of the additional documents that you'll need to apply.

And the process of submitting an application in JustGrants actually begins, as we mentioned, in Grants.gov. Once you've located the funding opportunity, you'll submit your SF-424 and your SF-LLL in Just--in Grants.gov. So that's the first step. This is the extent of the application requirements in Grants.gov. You must submit the required documents by the deadline, which is April 24th. And I would really suggest that you try to submit at least 72 hours prior to that deadline just to provide you with enough time. If you need to correct any errors or resubmit, it'll just give you--you're here now. So this would be the time to get these two forms in. And then if there's any issues, you can get those corrected. It's okay to enter preliminary information in Grants.gov, even if you haven't fully determined your budget or project scope. All of that will be collected in the--JustGrants, which has a later deadline, and that's one of the purposes for that. So you can get into Grants.gov, make sure you have those forms submitted, which will then allow you the access to submit the application, when you're ready, in JustGrants. That deadline is May 8th. And it may take several days for Grants.gov to complete the validations and release it to JustGrants. So that's another reason why--we get asked a lot and it is one extra step of why there are two deadlines. So Grants.gov receives those two forms. They have to be validated. And then, and only then, is it released to JustGrants. So that does take a little bit of time.

The rest--your entire application is entered in JustGrants. It streamlines the process by allowing the ability to use a web-based detail--budget detail worksheet and validation of your budget too, and this will allow the process of clearing new budgets much faster. It should include all of the items that are required in the solicitation.

Now, for your organizations, specifically your assigned entity administrator can control users and award assignments and does not require intervention from DOJ. So all of these updates can be made in JustGrants. And all of the trainings--I'm going to show

you a link to the training in JustGrants here in a moment, but there are tremendous videos, job aids, resources that are available on that site.

Now, we'll explore the different resources available to you and the information on the different systems that you will touch in your application. Again, I know this is a lot of information to take in, and know that you will have resources available throughout the entire time that you are developing your application. So if you have questions or interest to know more about the Office for Victims of Crime, you can learn about our history, our funding. You can find projects with the--you can register for upcoming events at our site. You can see what other funding opportunities are available under our Funding and Awards. So all of that is listed at the OVC website. [<https://ovc.ojp.gov>]

And the Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to assist OJP grantees/applicants in preparing and submitting applications for OJP funding. [<https://www.ojp.gov/funding/apply/ojp-grant-application-resource-guide>] We are co-hosting a question and answer session next week on Monday at 1:00 PM. There will be an opportunity to ask questions directly from--regarding the Grant Application Resource Guide. I'll put that link in the chat as well in a moment.

And this is where--I mentioned SAM. So SAM.gov. This is--before submitting an application, you must register with the System for Award Management system, SAM. This is a vital step as registration and renewal can take up to ten business days to complete, so be sure to get started early. This--you will not be able to submit in Grants.gov until this step is completed.

Then moving on to the system tools, which I've mentioned, but to highlight them again. Once you're all set in SAM.gov, Grants.gov will be your first stop in starting the application. [<https://www.grants.gov>] So under the application--Applicants tab, you'll find training and information on applying, the Grants.gov system, and finding opportunities--and finding the funding opportunity process. So that's--once you get into Grants.gov, you'll see that tab for applicants and you'll see all the information that you need there.

As I mentioned, our solicitations have the two deadlines that must be met to be considered for funding. The first is in Grants.gov and then in JustGrants. So once you submit here in Grants.gov, please keep an eye out for an email confirming that you have successfully submitted. If you don't successfully submit in Grants.gov, you will not be able to complete your JustGrants application. It will not be validated and sent to JustGrants.

Once it is, the JustGrants--this is--as I mentioned, this is intended to be an end-to-end grants management system. So this is where you apply. You put in your project narrative, your budget, all of your information. This is where we conduct the peer review and this is where we make the awards. And then once you are selected as a grantee, this is where we work with you and collect your performance measure data, your progress report. This is throughout the grant cycle from application to award to closeout.

And JustGrants offers training and resources on their website here.

[\[https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov\]](https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov)

Would register--or strongly suggest registering for the weekly training webinars. They--there's four weekly sessions. They--the Post-Award Management Weekly Training webinar, the Entity Management Weekly Training webinar. There's going to be a link in a moment to the applications mechanics. So how to submit an application? There's a weekly training webinar on this. They can walk you through this process on JustGrants and then award acceptance should your application be selected. So here is this link. [\[https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/training/training-virtual-sessions\]](https://justicegrants.usdoj.gov/training/training-virtual-sessions) The office hours on the application mechanics is every Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time. These are live virtual sessions that discuss everything that you know to--need to know to submit an application. The next--the upcoming sessions are listed here and then you'll see on our website, you can moving forward have the opportunity to join these across the different topic areas. I would get into this page, bookmark it, check back regularly for session dates, as well as registration links.

And when you are thinking about your budget, a good starting point for applicants is the DOJ Grants Financial Guide. [\[https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm\]](https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm) This serves as the primary reference manual to assist the Office of Justice Programs, as well as our sister agencies, the Office on Violence Against Women and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, also known as the COPS office. So all of the award recipients in fulfilling their fiduciary responsibility, this helps to safeguard your grant funds and ensures that funds are being used for the purposes in which they are awarded. It compiles a variety of laws, rules, regulations that affect the financial and administrative management of your award. References to underlying laws and regulations have been provided in the guide as much as possible.

You'll see here on the screen, this is the--a screenshot of the website. You can also, on the same page, download the PDF version of this. However you would like to use this guide. But it is one that I certainly have on my desktop. It is bookmarked on the website as well. This is the starting point for all recipients, as well as grant managers. And you can see the top ten topics of the guide are listed here. This is Financial Management Systems, Allowable Cost. As you're developing your budget, get in there and take a look at the allowable versus the unallowable cost. It'll save you. It doesn't--just because you submit for an unallowable, it does not mean that you will not be funded. But we would have to then redo your budget if you are and remove the unallowable costs. So educate yourself in advance, get to know what you can use this funding for, what is allowable, unallowable. The two examples I gave earlier, the holding beds and the stipends, are just two examples. So know specifically, as you're developing your budget, it'll save you time and us time as we're reviewing the applications, and it'll make your application so much stronger.

Be sure to start your application as soon as you get confirmation that you have access to it and do your best to submit the application before the due date. We will only accept late applications—and this is not often—we will accept late application if you can

demonstrate that there had been a technical reason that you could not submit. So you want to make sure that you have plenty of time to address any technical issues that you might encounter. So do try to apply well before the deadline of JustGrants.

We have the contacts for JustGrants here. And this is the support desk, the number as well as the email. [833-872-5175; JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov] If you have questions, concerns, issues, they will work with you. They are available to address the concerns that you have in submitting your application. Please be sure to request a tracking number so that you can also document that you sought assistance with your issue. This will be important in the event that you need to document that you did have a technical issue that prevented you from submitting your application.

And then also up here we have the OJP Response Center support. And this--they can be reached on the phone number or the email listed on the screen, as well as in the solicitation. [800-851-3420; grants@ncjrs.gov] If you're a current grantee, please, we appreciate your understanding that your grant manager and other OVC staff cannot answer any questions about an open solicitation directly. We want to make sure that this is an absolutely fair impartial process. So if you have questions and you--and even if you have contacts at OVC, please have--send your programmatic questions, and that is the purpose of the Response Center. If you have programmatic questions, contact them directly and they will send a response. And often they do reach out directly to the program manager. If they're—if they cannot answer the question, particularly for this award, they will contact me. But that'll keep the process fair and I will help them develop the response of any inquiries. But that would be where you would address any programmatic questions. And all of your questions will be documented and addressed officially through that process.

If you--please keep in mind, the OJP Response Center is who you would need to contact within 24 hours of the Grants.gov or JustGrants solicitation deadline. So if you are unable to submit by the deadline, you had technical issues, you have contacted the Grants.gov or the JustGrants helpline, you have your tracking number, you have a verification that you have tried to submit, there was a technical issue, do let the response center know. Again, you will need to document the technical issues, which is why starting your application early and maintaining any tracking numbers if you've reported an issue is critical. But the Response Center is our clearinghouse of programmatic questions, concerns, and technical issues to help to make sure that you--you're going to be putting a lot of time. You're spending this hour with me today. You're going to be putting time into this application. You have to start with SAM.gov if you haven't. So this will take a lot of time to not have your application get to our review because of a technical issue, that does not have to happen. So I appreciate, again, you being here and you taking the time, getting ahead of this, and addressing any questions that you have as early as possible.

You can stay linked to us. Here are all of our socials. Stay up to all--with all of our news and are happening. Follow us, like us, subscribe, as we do in this world today. This is

everything you can find as we are announcing new awards, new solicitations. This is where our information can be found in addition to our website.

So with that, I am going to stop talking. I'm going to get onto the questions and answers to see how my colleague is doing in responding. I know there's been some fast and furious ones coming in. And so I, again, thank you for your time and your attention. And then I'm going to go over to the Q&A box to see if I can help address anything that has not yet been addressed.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Hey, Cindy. It's Darian. I figured I'd just pitch them to you this way.

CYNTHIA ERICH: Okay.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: So one of the questions we have here is, "Can we offer non-cash incentives if they are paid by--for by other sources other than OVC grant funds?"

CYNTHIA ERICH: Sure. So this application--this solicitation does not require a match. So what you need to know, if there's any in-kind, either cash or non-cash services, you would also--you can certainly use them. It's not a requirement and they would be subject to audit. So that answer is yes, but knowing that that would then become part of the budget system and you would have to reflect that when you do your financial reporting to us. So any funding that's being used as part of this program would have to be reported back to us and would be part of a potential future audit.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Thanks. Another one here is, "Does screening and victim identification fit as a service?"

CYNTHIA ERICH: Yes.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Uh-hmm.

CYNTHIA ERICH: Yes, it does. And this is--again, in our prevention work, this screening is absolutely part of the services that can be provided.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Another question we have is, "Is the annual peer-to-peer leaning opportunity going to be virtual or in-person?"

CYNTHIA ERICH: In-person likely. So what we do--and if that's--well, I'll back this up. Yes, and you should budget, per the solicitation, at least, I believe it's three of your staff--up to three of your staff, a minimum of one to attend this in-person. Now in the event that changes, we would then reallocate those funds in the budget. But I would anticipate and plan and budget for an annual in-person with the training and technical assistance providers.

And then also note that they will be coming to you quite often. They do an in-person site visit. They are absolutely fantastic. They'll be working alongside of you in the life of the award if you are selected to really help address your needs and to provide you the individualized training and technical assistance that your program requires. So they-- you will see them. It's not always you traveling to them. But we do ask that you budget, at least, three trips, so one per year, for an onsite visit--or I'm sorry, an onsite training opportunity. And it's also an opportunity to network with the other--the cohort, the other members of--the grantees within this program to do lessons learned, to learn promising and best practices, to learn from one another. I find it's been--well, some of the most empowering work that we have done is when grantees get together, when programs get together and learn from one another.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Great. And there is a question asking where the training is. I don't believe there's a location announced yet.

CYNTHIA ERICH: There is not. And there's guidance on how to budget, because the next question is going to be like, "Well, how do we know how to budget?" So there is a kind of a standard--the government per diem, just to give an estimate, to get a number within that travel line item. We do not know. They tend to find--try to find one that's central as these funding--these awards are made throughout the country and we've been funding this program since FY 2020. So you would be meeting up with those that are still being funded through this award, which will likely be since FY22. So we don't know exactly where it'll be located. And then the training and technical assistance provider would set that up and take care of all of the logistics of that. But at this point, we would not know where the--that training would be located.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Got it. Another question here is, "Do tutoring programs qualify as long as the audience is girls at risk of trafficking or does it need to explicitly address trafficking?"

CYNTHIA ERICH: Tutoring program--girl--yeah. If you can--if there can--if you can articulate within your program design how these girls may be at risk for trafficking, that would be acceptable. Tutoring, mentoring programs are absolutely acceptable as part of this program.

And what's great, what I really do appreciate about this funding and if there's people on the line who are grantees for other OVC-funded program, this is unique in that the funding stream does not come through the TVPA, it is through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency--the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, which means we are able to use it for primary prevention activities. The other funding, typically through OVC programs, has to be to serve victims of a crime. This funding is different in that it can be primary prevention because it comes from a different funding stream. So tutoring, mentoring, articulating that it can serve at risk of human trafficking, either sex and/or labor trafficking of minors up to the age of 25 is an absolutely appropriate expense. Sorry. I want to take a quick sip of tea. I'm starting to lose my voice. Okay. I'm ready.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: We have another question here. It's, "Can developed programs be web-based or do they have to be in-person?"

CYNTHIA ERICH: So if I understand the question, training programs for clients served? I'll answer this both--I would have to see the program plan and how it would be targeting the target audience specifically and meeting the goals of this solicitation. I think that would--I--I'd have to review that on a case-by-case basis to see exactly how--what type of evaluations, how you know you're reaching your target audience that's being impacted. So I would need more information on that question.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Awesome. "And is this program considered a renewal for organizations who might already be offering this program or are funded under a previous iteration of this solicitation?"

CYNTHIA ERICH: You are able to apply for additional funding. This is not continuation funding. So if you are currently a Preventing Trafficking of Girls grantee, this would not be an automatic assumption that you would receive this funding because it's not continuation. As it is highly competitive, we would open it up to be competed for as many grantees as we can. If you are managing this--if you're a previous grantee, absolutely you may apply, but there are no guarantees, because you were a previous grantee, that you'll--you will be funded again. We go through a really stringent external peer review process. So once you meet basic minimum requirements and you're in the JustGrants system, we use external peer reviewers to review all of the applications. They go through that process, and then they are selected within OJP. So, again--I'm sorry, within the Office for Victims of Crime for the final decision making. We look at priority considerations. We look at geographic diversity. We look to make sure that the best use of the funds are being made as they are limited in scope. So I hope that answers your question. You may apply. There are no guarantees nor should there be expected.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Another question we have is, "If our organization has an OJJDP or Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention mentoring grant, are they able to apply for this program as well?"

CYNTHIA ERICH: Yes.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Great. And another question I have here...

CYNTHIA ERICH: So let me--Darian, I'm sorry.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Oh, it's okay.

CYNTHIA ERICH: I'm--I was taking a drink so I made a really quick yes and I've been answering it. So I do--it's really important when you're doing your application that you let us know that you have a current funding that it's within the same area and clearly

articulate--and this is if you already have a program or if you're applying for another program, whether it is within the Office of Justice Programs or if you're applying for an HHS grant that you're looking to fund the same program. And there's nothing wrong with applying for multiple grant awards. You do need to let us know if you're currently managing this program with federal funding, how this funding will not--will be--will not be duplicative of the efforts. So how it will support but not be duplicative. And there is a section within there that we ask you to put in a disclosure of funding. And, again, that's not a negative. It's better to let us know in advance that you are either managing--you have funding through OJJ or you have funding through HHS, and, you know, that you've been a great steward of that funding, and then how you're going to--how you would use--potentially use this funding to enhance but--how you keep the--keep it separate so it's not--the financial is separate so it's not duplicative. I hope that answers the question.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: Thanks, Cindy. Another one I'm seeing here is, "Does the grant need to be used over the full three years or can an organization propose a budget of like, for example, \$250,000 for only two years?"

CYNTHIA ERICH: The award--you can--if you have a smaller award--if you have a smaller program that you are not seeking the full \$500,000, you absolutely can submit a budget for less than. We do ask it would be through the length of--the award would be for three years. If it ends early, that--there's no--there's no negative consequences to that.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: And, Cindy, those are the only questions I see in the chat that haven't been addressed.

CYNTHIA ERICH: Okay. I'll definitely stay on for a few--you know, a few more minutes as long as people need. Do keep in mind, you know, as you're going through this, there's so much information that you sat through and received, questions are going to come up and that's why you have all the resources here in the solicitation. As you have programmatic questions, go directly to the OJP Response Center. They have tremendous knowledge of this solicitation. If there's anything that they don't answer, they send it to me. I respond as quickly as I possibly can to get it back to you. Again, the fact that you are taking this time, you're getting in early, I want to be as responsive to your needs as well. So as the questions come up, as they will, use that resource. Again, the OJP Response Center. Any concerns with Grants.gov, JustGrants, you have all of their contacts as well. So we are fully accessible. We wish you luck in this process. We thank you for all the work that you all are doing in this field. And, again, I'll stay on the line for a few more minutes to see if you have direct questions now.

DARIAN HANRAHAN: I doubt--I see we're starting to lose people. I won't keep anyone here longer than they need to be. If you want to close it out, I will turn it over to you.

DARYL FOX: All right. Thanks so much. So on behalf of the Office for Victims of Crime and our panelists, we want to thank you for joining today's webinar. This will end today's presentation.