DARYL FOX: Good afternoon, everyone, and welcome to today’s webinar, FY 2021 Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking, hosted by the Office for Victims of Crime. At this time, I’d like to introduce today’s presenters, Alissa Huntoon, Senior Policy Advisor and Law Enforcement Program Coordinator, and Maria Anderson, Grants Management Specialist, both with the Office for Victims of Crime. Alissa’s going to be starting things off today. Alissa?

ALISSA HUNTOON: Thank you. Thank you so much, Daryl. I appreciate that. And welcome, everyone. Thank you so much for joining for this pre-application webinar for the Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking, also referenced as ECM. Because, you know, that’s a mouthful in terms of a title. So, we are going to be going over a lot of material today, all of which, of course, is in the solicitation itself. I just want to point out that some of these slides are going to look text heavy and I’m not just going to read the slides to you, because that’s no fun. But all that text is sometimes—in the solicitation. And this webinar, as he said, will be recorded and posted. So you’ll have a chance to go back and look at it. But we wanted to make sure that we pulled out key pieces of that solicitation to review with you today. But it does not replace, you know, reading that full solicitation to understand all the requirements and aspects. So hopefully, we’ll give you some clarity today. We’ll have some time for questions and answers. We’ll do our best to get through all of them. If we don’t get to your question, you can still submit those questions to the Response Center, which we will talk about later in this presentation.

Lastly, I will just acknowledge, for those of you, maybe this is your first time with an interest in a federal grant, maybe you’ve—this is your 10th federal grant. We know that we have here at the Office of Justice Programs launched a new system to help us manage our grants, which will involve a new application process as well. So, we just want to acknowledge that it’s new and can cause a little bit of frustration because of that. And so, urge you again, to ask as many any questions as possible and to apply as early as possible in case you happen to run into some questions with submitting your application.

So with that, I’ll move forward into a little bit about our outline. What we’re going to cover, a little bit about OVC for those of you who aren’t familiar. Again, we’re just going to talk about some sections of the solicitation. We’ll highlight key aspects of the Application Process and then go into some questions and answers. And where possible, we’ve included page numbers in the solicitation itself. So if you have a copy of it, with its really, really small font, you’ll know how to quickly reference that.

So the Office for Victims of Crime is a part of the Office for Justice Programs, if you’re not familiar. And, of course, our charge is to assist crime victims and to provide leadership for them in terms of policies and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime. So there’s a list of the types of funding that we support from tribal communities, to victims of international terrorism, human trafficking here, and then a variety of other demonstration and service projects.
So the range of programs is pretty broad. And, again, reaching to support victims from all kinds of crimes.

Some important dates to note specifically, the solicitation closes on June 29th. We will make these awards no later than September 30th. That is the end of our fiscal year. So the Office of Justice Programs needs to make all of those awards by the end of the fiscal year and that often happens on a rolling basis. So if you have submitted an application and you want to find out when you’ll be notified, it’s not like all the, you know, enhance--ECM grants are going to be notified by a particular date. It happens on a rolling basis. So unfortunately, we will never be able to answer that question for you of exactly when you’re going to get notified, whether you got the award or not. Just know that all awards will be announced and made no later than September 30th.

I do want to note there, in the triangle with the exclamation mark, successful applicants may not begin work until their budget has been reviewed and officially approved by OJP. So, please be aware of that, you know, now at this stage and at this phase. And the reason for that is, is because of the large volume of grants that get processed through the Office of Justice Programs. Oftentimes, in order to get all those out by September 30th, they’re made with what’s called a conditional budget clearance, meaning we want to offer you this award on the condition, you know, that your budget still needs to be reviewed and cleared, and that can sometimes take a little while post-award. So just something to be aware of and to potentially expect. However, the project start dates always still remain October 1 of 2021.

So for those who aren’t familiar, the ECM program goal is to support a sustainable long-term multidisciplinary task force approach to combat human trafficking. The emphasis here is to really identify victims and to ensure that they have access to a wide range of services that are specific to their needs and also to provide justice for those victims by prosecuting traffickers.

So what does this funding support? You know, why does this program exist? So this funding is made available to help support the development of those task forces, expanding those task forces, and strengthening those, as defined by the federal Trafficking Victims Protection Act, the TVPA, and its subsequent reauthorizations.

So eligibility in terms of who is able to apply. This is found on the first page of the solicitation. You see all the various entities listed there. It is up to you to determine as an applicant if you fall into one of those categories. I can’t tell you if you’re a state government. You know, I can’t tell you if you’re a county government. That’s up to you. If you have questions though still certainly submit those to the Response Center if you’re just not sure if you fit into one of those categories or not. The other aspect to eligibility that I wanted to call out here is if you are a previous applicant or have current funding from us for this ECM program in fiscal years FY ’19 or FY 2020, you’re ineligible to apply under this solicitation. And I will provide a little bit more clarity on eligibility in a future slide.

So, we make this funding or we’re offering this funding available in two different categories. The first is Category 1, which is titled Development of Human Trafficking Task Forces. And this funding is really meant to support task forces out there that has--newly formed or you’re still forming, maybe you’re not a formal task force, you’re working on developing some formal
structure and protocols, but you don’t have a whole, you know, you don’t have many in place yet, etc. And we’re going to work with you in this category to help support you with those foundational activities around developing your task force. So structure, leadership, who’s on there, who needs to be on there, clarifying roles and responsibilities, and helping you document some of those structures, internal processes, and protocols in place as you move forward.

The other category that we’re offering funding is for Existing Human Trafficking Task Forces. In this funding is meant to support those that are formal or have been formally operational for at least 3 years. You have demonstrated structure. You’ve got protocols in place that outline and govern how your task force works. You have a history of identifying victims and prosecuting traffickers. There is a note in the solicitation that might be a little unclear and cause some confusion. So, to clarify, again, the eligibility, as it states on the first page, is the only fiscal years that are ineligible to apply are fiscal 2019 and 2020. So if you have received funding from us for an ECM, say in FY ‘18, your initial grant end date was on or before September 30th, 2020--‘21. So therefore you’re eligible to apply. There’s nothing in here that talks about no-cost extensions and whether or not they impact your eligibility. So, I just wanted to clarify that for you.

So, what is required in terms of the application for the solicitation? It does--it is a little unique from some other federal grant programs. But because this is designed and intended to be a truly collaborative, co-leadership task force model with a lead, co-lead law enforcement agency, and a co-lead victim service provider equally sharing leadership responsibilities for the task force, we asked for two separate, but coordinated applications. And that they are developed collaboratively and they get submitted together. So page 5 talks about the specific application elements and we’ll go over those as well, which will clarify this even further. But just wanted to underscore there is the lead law enforcement and the lead service provider. You need to work together on the application to submit, but you’ll each have to--you’ll each have to set--submit those separately.

So, again, I don’t--I don’t want to read all of these to you, but they are important and we want to make sure you spend the time looking over what the objectives are of this funding. So we told you what is the overall goal, and to help you accomplish those, we have talked about some objectives. And again, that is to develop, sustain, and just strengthen the structure and coordination of these multidisciplinary task forces. We have a link in the solicitation, as well as here, to resource or a helpful tool that you might find useful to you as a guide, which was developed in the last year, too. [Multidisciplinary Collaborative Model for Anti-Human Trafficking Task Forces: Development and Operations Roadmap] And that’s, again, just to help you understand, sort of, the full range of development of a task force, various core elements, and functions. And really grasping the nature that this is also teamwork, right? And teams evolve over time, and there are various phases, and that impacts the ECM program as well. The point here is that you’re identifying and serving victims of all types of human trafficking. So, all ages, all genders, sex trafficking, labor trafficking, this is not--your task force will not be focusing on one particular kind of trafficking. And that you’re implementing victim-centered, trauma-informed, and collaborative approaches. And that’s where developing those protocols and receiving and conducting training comes into play.

Active involvement from all task force partners in planning and executing proactive investigations and prosecutions, investigating, refer, and prosecuting both sex and labor trafficking cases at all levels. There is a hyperlink there because in the solicitation, that takes you to another tool. That’s
up to you if you want to take a look at, but it’s a prosecution case review resource and tool that was put together by our TA partners to assist task forces with doing this exact objective. Also assisting victims of human trafficking, both sex and labor, to achieve and increase safety, independence, self-sufficiency, and well-being through, again, provision of services specific to the needs of that individual, as well as always collecting data and engaging in ongoing assessment of your task force activities to understand for you, even the local level, are you meeting your goals and objectives? Are you meeting the grant goals and objectives and do you need to shift accordingly?

So when we give out funding under these categories in federal funds, we often ask for actual tangible deliverables that you’re required to submit to us before the end of your grant. And we provide a range of resources and support to help you be successful in doing so. There’s also activities that are required that aren’t necessarily tangible deliverables, but still expected. So here they are and, again, they’re in the solicitation. For Category 1, which are those newer task forces, it’s really focusing on developing those protocols during the appropriate partnerships. You are--you will be required to identify a full-time task force coordinator. There’s a community assessment; delivering, training, and public awareness activities; providing an array of services for victims of both sex and labor trafficking; conducting proactive investigations and prosecutions; and producing some annual reports that talk about how you’re using data, how you’re collecting information, how you’re discussing this all as a task force to help you meet your goals and objectives; and then developing a plan for sustainability.

Category 2, there’s some overlap in the deliverable that since you’re an existing task force and hopefully a little bit further on, these deliverables are slightly different. We’re asking you to refine your existing task force protocols and conduct an assessment of any gaps in your protocols. When’s the last time you looked at them? Is it necessary to develop new task force protocols? Again, looking at the collaborative partnerships that exist and potentially expanding those, and involving relevant other system- and community-based service providers or stakeholders. Category 2 is also required to identify a full-time task force coordinator, conducting proactive investigations, prosecutions, services, public awareness, training activities, sustainability planning. This says provide peer support to newer task forces. We talk about that in the solicitation. So being able to produce information and knowledge and be able to share that with the field, based upon the work that you’ve done, and develop annual reports, and tools, and resources.

Federal Award Information. So there’s two different categories or purpose areas here. In Category 1, we expect to make 18 awards, which equals 9 task forces total. Because again, there’s two awards per task force, one to the service provider, one to the law enforcement agency. Each of those awards can be up to $750,000 and the period of performance, again, is 36 months--to 36 months. Category 2, we’re expecting to make up to 12 awards, which would be 6 task forces total. Again, $750,000 is the maximum amount, per each of those awards.

These are may--you know, we say Grants and cooperative agreements, and they’re actually not interchangeable. They are two sep--they do mean two separate things. These awards, under the ECM program, are made as cooperative agreements. And what does that mean to you? If you received this, applied and received it, is that there’s a little bit more involvement, there’s substantial involvement between you and the Office for Victims of Crime during the award period. So we really are there to help closely participate in the performance of the program, meaning being able to
give feedback and provide guidance as you’re working to accomplish those activities and deliverables that we talked about previously.

And with that, I’m going to turn it over to my colleague, Maria Anderson, who will take it from here.

MARIA ANDERSON: Thank you, Alissa. I’m going to talk to you about the Application and Submission Information.

Applications must include Proposal Abstracts, Proposal Narratives. This is what you’re going to tell us what this problem is and how you’re going to work with us with the capabilities and plan for collecting the data for the solicitation. I’m sorry. Solicitation’s performance measures. Everyone has to do a budget and budget narrative. This is 15 percent of the application. You’ll need to have identical task force MOUs, signed preferably. Next.

The Budget Worksheet is a big deal. So personnel costs should relate to the key personnel in the project. The budget should include adequate funding to implement the project, broken out by year, reflecting 36 months. So that means you’re going to have a budget for year one, year two, year three, and then a total. The budget should be mathematically sound and correspond with the Proposal Narrative.

Unallowable Costs. Holding beds, stipends or incentives to participate in services, primary prevention activities, and the purchase or lease of vehicles. Rentals may be allowed with sufficient justification. And in the past years, this has really become to be a big deal. If you can go the next page?

In preparing the budget, please notice that victim service providers’ priority is placed on provision of services. That means specific services clearly outlined. Law enforcement agencies. We need personnel to support investigations, prosecutions, analytical and intelligence functions that directly support the human trafficking cases. Travel. Travel is required, related to training and professional development. However, right now in our COVID world, travel to other places are not yet required. But I think we want to go ahead and put this in the budget because hopefully, we’ll soon be traveling again. Next slide.

And I’m not going to read all of this to you. But needless to say, applications require a lot of information. I would ask you to read each requirement and to fully fill out all of the information that we’re asking for. And to grade your application, if you do not have all of these things, I will say that the disclosure of duplication in cost items is one of the biggies that we do not get, and it’s very important that we know that you aren’t using other funds for the same purposes.

Okay. Onto the Application Process.

Okay. So Application Mechanics eLearning Videos are available. There’s job aids, there’s Application Checklists, and there’s other resources that you have in order to successfully navigate the mechanics of submitting an application. And all of these, you know, I would suggest that you start earlier than later to start working on your application and talking with the people that will be
working on the program if you are chosen. So that you have a valid application and that it’s a, you know, a good application that we can fund. So next--or next page.

Review the Application Submission. This is--this is a recording. It’ll take you through the steps prior to applying for funding. You’ll find open DOJ funding opportunities in Grants.gov. You will apply for funding using JustGrants. The JustGrants roles and responsibilities and required actions on how to navigate and use the system, and where to find training materials, job aids, and other sources. Next page, please.

Review the DOJ Application Submission Checklist. Before you send your application to us, make sure that you have answered all the questions in the checklist. And please take enough time in order to submit a very thorough application. Next page.

Here are some JustGrants Training and Resources. You can access recording and slide deck from previous webinars. You can refer to the JustGrants Training Application Submission page and bookmark JustGrants Training pages for updates. And I will add to this, apply early. The earlier you apply, the less chance of having traumatic things happen, you know, on the last day, at the last hour, at the last minute.

Submission information. So you submit your SF-424 and an SF-LLL, that’s the lobbying form, to Grants.gov. You’ll register in Grants.gov. You must have a DUNS number. And you must have a SAM registration. The--Then, you’ll come over to JustGrants and you’ll submit the full application, including what you attached in the just--including all attachments at JustGrants.usdoj.gov. Refer to the Registration and Submission section of that OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

Okay. Here we’re going to go to the Resource Guide. Here it is, the address for you. And so, next slide, please.

Important Resources. At the Office for Victims of Crime, we have beautiful resources that have been collected and written. So please use all of the guides if you’re a first person applier or if you’ve applied for hundreds of grants with DOJ. It just really makes it easier if you know what the regulations are, you know what an unallowable cost is, how to use JustGrants and Grants.gov. Please read the Application Resource Guide. And we have an OVC Training Assistance Center called--we called OVC TTAC. We have Grant Performance Measuring Reporting and we do have a Resource Center also. Lots of information to help you.

Here are technical assistance items for you to look at, if you need help. You know, it’s phone numbers, it’s email addresses. But again, please, the best information I can give you is to apply slowly, early, and make sure you--you’ve attached all of your items that are needed in the application. Next page.

Important Dates. You need to submit your SF-424 and your lobbying registration in Grants.gov by June 15th, 11:59 PM, Eastern Time. And then part two, you need to submit your full application in JustGrants by June 29th, 11:59 PM, Eastern Time. And please, do not submit at the midnight timeframe. That is one minute too late.
Okay. Now we are going to do some question and answers. There’s some questions over here already. Have you looked at them, Alissa? And do you want to start answering or how do we want to do this?

ALISSA HUNTOON: Yes, I will. Thank you very much, Maria. I appreciate that everybody. And thanks to Maria. Just a couple quick things I want to mention before we get into the Q&A. That--so both Maria and I, of course, we are not experts in the application process or submission process. So please, please, if you have questions or technical issues, send those emails and calls to the technical helpdesk, thank you. The Grants.gov or the JustGrants, they’re going to be the ones that can help you with the SAM registration, with, you know, any of those things that are technical related to that. So what Maria and I can help answer are generally about this program and the solicitation itself.

And I did want to point out to those of you make--who have done this before even if it’s--or even if it’s your first time doing it, it is a two-part process. So that’s different this year. Normally, it’s just been one. So it is a two-part process, that’s why you see those two different dates. So like we said, ask questions early and often if you have about those. So, and again, we’ll get to some of these questions and if we don’t have time to get through all of them, you can certainly submit your question to the Response Center, as well.

So I’m going to read through the questions. “do we need to have…” Well, and the other thing I’m going to say too, sorry. We can also not help you strategize for how you submit your application, how you put that together. This is a fair and competitive process, I can answer questions about what is in the solicitation and publicly available. So I can help clarify that, but I can’t tell you, you know, whether or not you should have a particular person on your task force, you know. How--I cannot give you guidance or help you strategize about how to put your application together. So I just want to clarify that for everybody because there’s going to be some questions that get to that and we just--we just can’t. That is up to you as a local jurisdiction to determine how you want to put your application together, given the requirements and guidance that we’ve outlined for you in the solicitation.

So, okay. First question, “Do we need to have a task force in place before we apply?”

So I’m not--what I’m going to tell you is go back to those two categories that I talked about before. Category 1, talks about if you’re newly formed, if you’ve been operational for more than 3 years or less than 3 years, that is--that’s for you to determine. So I don’t know. If you have a task force in place already and which category that you want to apply to, that is something that you determine as a jurisdiction.

The next question, “How many fiscal year 2018 applicants received funding under the ECM Program?”

All that information you can find on the Office of Justice Programs website and the OVC’s website, .gov. I’m just going to direct you there because we have maps and we have listings of all the grantees that we have.
“Can we apply to develop a labor trafficking task force in our area or state?”

So I’m going to direct you back to the goal and objectives that are stated. And to make sure that you understand, if you’re applying for this funding, you are committing to completing all the activities and deliverables that we’ve talked about. So you’re focusing on both sex and labor trafficking, all forms, all ages, etc.

Next question, “When submitted together, is it just one organization putting in the application for both or are they completely separate?”

So this is a good question because it is tricky. So this might be—I think this is a combination of, sort of, both substantive and technical questions. So be sure that you clarify with JustGrants and Grants.gov when it comes time to submitting the application. They’re two separate awards, so one award is going to a lead victim service organization and a separate award is going to a law enforcement agency as part of the task force and you’re co-leadership but you’re in—your application materials need to be the same. So the slide that talked about identical project abstract, identical program narrative. So you’re submitting them separately but it’s the same document, right? So the law enforcement agency shouldn’t have a completely different program narrative than the victim service provider does for that task force. And the technical aspects of how you submit those, again, that is a question for JustGrants and Grants.gov.

And I think I answered that next one. To clarify—yep, okay.

Question, “Would a state attorney’s office be eligible to apply as a law enforcement agency?”

So again, going back to the list, to the eligibility—the first page, if the state attorney’s office fits into one of those categories, so if they are, you know, a state government, then that is one of the eligible category.

Next question, “Does the project timeline and plan for conducting proactive tasking investigations have to be identical as well?”

Thank you for asking that and I apologize that we didn’t get into some of the attachments that are included. It’s all in the solicitation, what you need to include. And on page—I don’t know Daryl if you can go back to the slide on identical—what needs to be attached? It’s application and submission information. On page 5 of the solicitation, that tells you specifically what documents that need to be submitted are identical. So it’s just the proposal abstract, the proposal narrative, the budget worksheets, they need—they’re—you both have to do them, they’re going to be separate, and then identical task force MOUs. Thank you. So he’s got the slide up again. Anything else in there does not—is not identical because it’s unique. So the plan for conducting proactive investigations, of course, is going to be unique to the law enforcement partner, but obviously will involve some inputs as you’re putting that together.

Next question, “Our task force have been in existence about 3 years but we only recently hired a…”

Oops sorry. “…a POC, and do not have any written protocols or procedures. Would we apply?”
Again, I can’t determine that for you. That’s up for you to decide which category you want to apply to, based upon your current status.

And next question, “In prior years, there has been a required attachment focused on service delivery with many required service MOUs. I don’t see that here. Please confirm that this is no longer required.”

So what is required in terms of MOUs is listed on page 7 of the solicitation and it talks about what also should be included in that MOU or MOA, so if it’s a Memorandum of Understanding or Agreement. So that is included on page 7. I’m reading it, really quickly, to make sure if there’s anything else I wanted to point out based upon that question. So it talks about roles and responsibilities of all the core partners, but it doesn’t say anything specifically about other multiple MOUs.

Okay. Next question, “Is it possible for one applicant, either the law enforcement or service provider to apply for $900,000 and the other apply for $600,000, so that the first can host the task force coordinator position which supports both grantees? We’ve done this in the past.”

So I’m going to--if you don’t--I don’t know if you want to go back to that slide or not. But as stated in the solicitation and in the slides here, the maximum amount available for either applicant is $750,000. And the task force coordinator position, again, how that gets funded is determined by you, the task force. So there, yep, $750,000.

Okay. Next question, “In the past, the ECM Program required that action research be carried out throughout the grant period. I didn’t see this, can you confirm?”

So there is language in here that I talked about, that’s listed in the deliverables section. And it depends upon how you’re defining action research. That term is not included in this solicitation. But both categories are required to conduct a data-driven community assessment. So collecting data to understand where vulnerabilities are for trafficking in their jurisdiction and you are also required to both assess task force performance and produce annual reports that documents task force efforts. So those are the requirements around ongoing assessment of task force activities; separate from the performance measures that are required.

Okay. Sorry, my question and answers, they keep moving up and down. Next question is about--okay. “In the past, the application required a separate attachment on the plan for service delivery.”

Again, if it’s required as an attachment, it will be listed in the solicitation, if you don’t see it listed, it is not required. How you talk about service delivery is up to you as the applicant.

Quest--Next question, “Does the lead victim service agency and lead law enforcement agency have to submit same position descriptions and resumes? It says tailored to the application.”

So, no. Yeah, again, that depends if you’re a victim service provider and you’re wanting to use the grant funding to hire a victim advocate or an intake case manager, that position description I’m assuming would be different than if you’re a law enforcement applicant and you want to hire an
investigator or a crime analyst. So, of course, that description will be different. So that’s what we need in terms of tailored.

“Is equipment for investigative processes allowed?”

So again, this is--it depends. We don’t list equipment as an unallowable cost, but all the costs that you submit, like we said in the application, in the budget section, needs to be able to directly relate to how you’re going to complete the goals and objectives of this grant, and support trauma-informed, victim-centered human trafficking investigation. So if you include equipment, you need to justify why.

Okay. Here’s a question, it says, “Under…” I think it’s meaning unallowable costs, “…it states that victim service providers may not include primary prevention activities but can law enforcement?”

So this--all this funding is under the same statutory authority, which is 22 U.S.C. And we do not--which prevents us from funding prevention--primary prevention activity.

Next question, “Task force MOUs, at what level does the signatory have to be? Are signatures from HSI and FBI required for Category 2?”

I’m going to direct you back to the solicitation on page 7, where we talk about task force memorandum. And your question is about category… Sorry, my screen with my questions keeps bouncing up and down I think as new ones come in. So I apologize, I’m losing the question, okay. So you’re asking about Category 2. And it states on page 7, Category 2 applicants are required to submit an MOU that includes signatures from the following representatives: the lead law enforcement agency, the lead victim service providers, federal law enforcement representation, it says preferably both FBI and HSI, participation of both is identified as a promising practice. And if it includes tribal lands, it should also include a signature from tribal law enforcement. So, question-the answer to your question is on page 7 of who to include.

Next question, “Would it be acceptable to list a prosecutor/commonwealth attorney under the personnel of the budget?”

Again, that is something that you need to decide. We’ve listed what the unallowable costs are and we talked about on the law enforcement side, personnel to support law enforcement investigations and prosecutions, to include analytical and intelligence functions that directly support human trafficking cases.

Next question is, this is a--could be a potential type of situation, so I’m looking. So, there was--okay, on page numbers should have been… There was a question about, it says, “See page 14 for a list of required elements?”

It was updated to remove page numbers, so all the required elements about the task force MOU and MOA are in that section, so it’s all there on page 7.
Next question, “Does the time-task plan, position descriptions, and letters of intent need to match in both submission packages?”

Again, the position descriptions and resumes are going to depend upon the positions on either the law enforcement or the service provider. And the letter of intent is there to support the task force. So, I don’t, you know, they’re--again, they’re uploaded. It’ll be uploaded jointly, so it’d be the same letter uploaded in both.

Next question, ‘Would it be better to get agreement letter of intent to join the task force from our partners before applying?’

Again, I can’t answer that. So, I can tell you what we’ve asked for, you know, as requirement and it’s up to you to determine what your strategy is in terms of putting your applications together.

Next question, “Do we know if this grant will be offered again next year?”

Great question. Our hope is—that’s always—that’s a question for Congress and the budget for next year. We don’t know what the President or Congress will do in terms of how they appropriate funds each year. So unfortunately, I can’t answer that. Our hope is yes.

Next question, “Is there a requirement to include research about…”

Okay, I answered that already. The requirements in terms of what you’re required to do related to ongoing assessment and research are listed in the deliverables and category--and activities section.

Again, so there’s a question again about the “two different application deadlines.”

So, and again, I’m sorry I’m reading these. They were submitted a long time ago. Correct. It’s a two-step process.

In terms of--here’s a question, “can we subcontract for victim services?”

Yes, it’s up to you, subawards are allowed. I would encourage you to read the OJP Financial Guide around rules, around making subawards. But there’s nothing in here that explicitly says that you are not allowed to subcontract.

“Is there a limit for specific speculations to how much we can do as subcontractors in terms of hourly rate?”

Again, I would review the information in the Financial Guide about subawards.

There’s a question about “JustGrants for disclosure of duplication,” it looks like.

And, again, I’m going to direct you back to JustGrants. They are the ones who are going to be able to answer questions about any--anything you’re submitting it to JustGrants.
And I know we’ve got about 10 minutes, but I’ve got a lot more questions, so I appreciate everybody hanging in there. And Maria, feel free to jump in too.

Next question is--sorry, “Are the--are these grants for smaller rural areas as well as large metropolitan areas?”

So, the eligibility--I sound like a broken record. On the first page, mentions nothing about population size, etc. It’s the type of entity that you are, whether you’re eligible or not.

The next question is, “On the OVC website’s performance measures page, the link doesn’t work.”

Okay. We will check that out and make sure to fix that. Thank you for letting us know.

‘When uploading the full application, should it be in a PDF form or is there a checklist?’

That’s a question for JustGrants or Grants.gov because they’re going to help you with the actual submission of the document.

‘For allowable evaluator activities, does this include the development of a sustainability plan?’

That’s, kind of, a strategic question and that is up to you to determine how you want to put your budget together and what you want to budget for.

Next question is, “Do I have any advice for rural areas applying for this grant? Do we stand a good of a chance compared to largers?

Yeah. So, unfortunately, again, I can’t give any advice other than reading the solicitation. And there is--there is no stated preference in here. Again, we didn’t--we didn’t--there’s no eligibility or different categories based upon jurisdiction size or anything like that. But my advice to everyone, as we’ve talked about through here, is to read through the solicitation carefully. If there is a resource, or a hyperlink, or tools, or something, I would take a look at that because it’s going to give you more information and more background about the program. As well as the expectations for if you accept this award, kind of, what the responsibilities are and the capacities that all organizations need to have to complete all the goals and objectives.

Correct--answered that one about funding eligibility.

There’s a question about, “performance measures, tracking and reporting.”

That information is included in the solicitation. I don’t know the exact page number, off the top of my head, but I can find it. Okay. There’s information--but I will just say that yes, there are--with every federal grant, there are performance measures and data that we ask you to collect.

Here’s a question again, “just to clarify on applications, again, as two separate agencies but it’s a joint application.”
The budgets are going to be different, of course. So you’re each going to have--because you’re budgeting for potentially different staffing and as we stated in the solicitation on the slide, the service provider budget, the priority placed there is on direct services. And so that’s going to look different than a law enforcement budget, which is not providing direct services.

“If a law enforcement agency already has their 2022 budget set, can part of their match hours be from ICAC or drug investigators, who at times work human trafficking cases?”

So that’s the question, again, I can’t help you strategize about how to create your budget or include match. Sorry everybody, again, all my questions continually get bumped.

Question, “Can the law enforcement agency apply with their systems-based victim service provider or does the victim service provider need to be community-based?”

Again, there are no requirements noted about who that victim service provider needs to be, other than they need to meet the eligibility criteria.

And the next question, we’ve got about 3 minutes to go. Daryl, just hop in if you need to do anything before we end. Sorry. I’m just--There’s a lot of these that I/we’ve answered.

“Does the solicitation include both domestic and international?”

So, these are--I actually don’t know what that question is asking. Are you--are you--I’m not sure if you’re asking if it includes providing services for victims or potential victims domestically and internationally, or who’s eligible to apply, if it’s domestic or international. But I’m going to assume application, which is domestic because it’s Federal, U.S. Federal funds.

I cannot--examples of match are included in the Financial Guide. There’s an entire section on match and types of match. There is a 25 percent match required, as part of the solicitation and there’s more information and links in the solicitation.

I’m trying to scroll to see if there’s any questions that I haven’t answered yet.

“If we are recipient for the comprehensive services for human trafficking victims, are we able to apply…?”

Sorry, that question just disappeared again. I’ve got time for one more. I’m just going to answer this one. It sounds like it was asking, “if you have an existing OVC grant, are you eligible to apply?”

So again, there’s nothing that says being a recipient of a previous OVC Comprehensive Services Grant makes you an eligible. So… And it is 3:59. So Daryl, I just wanted to pause and just--if there’s anything you wanted to say in closing. But again, let everyone know, if we didn’t get to your question please submit that to the Response Center, it’s listed on the slide that you’re seeing now, there’s an 800 number as well as the grants@ncjrs.gov.
DARYL FOX: Most certainly. Thanks, Alissa. So just to reiterate this slide here shows three different, separate entities. If you have questions as far as submitting that 424 or LLL, Grants.gov. You got JustGrants for the main application. And then the Response Center for any programmatic and technical assistance questions. So you can contact them via these portals.

And another note is that reminder the PowerPoint recording, PowerPoint, and transcript will be posted to the OVC website on or about 5 to 10 business days. It will be posted within the actual solicitation itself. So, you can go back, reference it, print it out, as needed.

So, Alissa, with that unless there’s anything else, on behalf of the Office for Victims of Crime and our panelists today, I want to thank you for joining the webinar. This will end today’s presentation.