

KY Annual State Performance Report

Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

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

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

OVC VOCA Assistance Funds					
	2019-V2-GX-0028	2020-V2-GX-0026	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00627-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00749-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00439-ASSI
Federal Award Amount	\$30,568,043.00	\$22,594,642.00	\$14,131,655.00	\$19,418,383.00	\$18,222,343.00
Total Amount of Subawards	\$30,399,883.00	\$22,586,897.00	\$12,972,866.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	137	136	83	0	0
Administrative Funds Amount	\$168,155.00	\$0.00	\$706,582.00	\$970,919.00	\$911,117.00
Training Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance Remaining	\$5.00	\$7,745.00	\$452,207.00	\$18,447,464.00	\$17,311,226.00

Subgrantee Organization Type					
<small>The total number of subgrantees represents all subgrantees funded across all federal awards active during the reporting period. The number is not unique as there are subgrantee organizations that are continuously funded from each federal award.</small>					
Type of Organization	2019-V2-GX-0028	2020-V2-GX-0026	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00627-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00749-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00439-ASSI
Government Agencies Only	48	50	25	0	0
Corrections	0	0	0	0	0
Courts	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	10	9	5	0	0
Prosecutor	35	38	17	0	0
Other	3	3	3	0	0
Nonprofit Organization Only	87	84	57	0	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	30	39	22	0	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	0	0	3	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	14	14	7	0	0
Faith-based Organization	0	1	1	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	5	3	2	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	4	2	1	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	10	7	8	0	0
Multiservice agency	2	2	2	0	0
Other	22	16	11	0	0
Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only	0	0	0	0	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0	0
Court	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	0	0	0	0	0
Faith-based organization	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0	0
Organization provides domestic and family violence and sexual assault services	0	0	0	0	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0	0
Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	0	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	0	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Campus Organizations Only	2	2	1	0	0
Campus-based victims services	0	0	0	0	0

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

Law enforcement	0	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	1	1	0	0
Other	2	1	0	0	0
Total Number of Subawards	137	136	83	0	0

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

Subaward Purpose					
A single SAR can select multiple purposes. Numbers are not unique					
	2019-V2-GX-0028	2020-V2-GX-0026	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00627-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00749-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00439-ASSI
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	128	132	79	0	0
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	4	3	4	0	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	5	1	0	0	0
D. Start up a new Native American victim services project	0	0	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing Native American project	0	0	0	0	0

VOCA and Match Funds					
A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are not unique					
	2019-V2-GX-0028	2020-V2-GX-0026	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00627-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00749-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00439-ASSI
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	133	133	72	0	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	110	112	64	0	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	107	109	67	0	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	52	47	31	0	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	106	105	60	0	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	137	136	83	0	0

Priority and Underserved Requirements					
Priority Area	2019-V2-GX-0028	2020-V2-GX-0026	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00627-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00749-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00439-ASSI
Child Abuse					
Total Amount	\$8,670,002.00	\$8,613,333.00	\$4,427,317.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	28.00 %	38.00 %	31.00 %		
Domestic and Family Violence					
Total Amount	\$13,001,859.00	\$7,640,569.00	\$4,489,231.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	43.00 %	34.00 %	32.00 %		
Sexual Assault					
Total Amount	\$4,186,472.00	\$2,221,113.00	\$2,177,243.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	14.00 %	10.00 %	15.00 %		
Underserved					
Total Amount	\$4,529,815.00	\$3,874,944.00	\$1,879,072.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	15.00 %	17.00 %	13.00 %		

Budget and Staffing					
Staffing Information	2019-V2-GX-0028	2020-V2-GX-0026	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00627-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00749-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00439-ASSI
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	2069	1649	978		
Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1139757	750974	455999		
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1758	1531	953		
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	173966	101612	94816		

AGGREGATED SUBGRANTEE PERFORMANCE MEASURE DATA

Victimization Type						
Victimization Type	Number of Subgrantees Indicating Intent to Serve This Victim Type	Number of Individuals Who Actually Received Services Based on a Presenting Victimization				
		Quarter 1 Total	Quarter 2 Total	Quarter 3 Total	Quarter 4 Total	Per Quarter Average
Adult Physical Assault (includes Aggravated and Simple Assault)	58	2272	2517	2194	1547	2132

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

Adult Sexual Assault	71	1325	1629	1530	1352	1459
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	66	928	819	785	573	776
Arson	34	59	50	60	51	55
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	63	1076	994	990	786	961
Burglary	39	402	528	387	293	402
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	99	4840	5322	4757	4706	4906
Child Pornography	72	254	259	265	258	259
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	105	5702	6658	6094	5856	6077
Domestic and/or Family Violence	109	16494	16680	16115	16340	16407
DUI/DWI Incidents	36	147	207	166	130	162
Elder Abuse or Neglect	48	107	101	103	87	99
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	47	55	57	63	28	50
Human Trafficking: Labor	62	80	99	84	110	93
Human Trafficking: Sex	86	249	309	309	316	295
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	38	370	437	422	414	410
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	47	78	84	67	53	70
Kidnapping (custodial)	49	176	168	179	164	171
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	34	120	93	96	71	95
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	34	204	154	167	97	155
Robbery	42	181	165	171	147	166
Stalking/Harassment	79	1823	2113	1552	1541	1757
Survivors of Homicide Victims	58	285	334	260	339	304
Teen Dating Victimization	85	112	149	108	90	114
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	27	6	7	7	11	7
Other	16	1071	900	1097	1033	1025

Special Classifications of Individuals

Special Classifications of Individuals	Number of Individuals Self Reporting a Special Classification				
	Quarter 1 Total	Quarter 2 Total	Quarter 3 Total	Quarter 4 Total	Per Quarter Average
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	102	119	99	91	661
Homeless	2401	2077	2048	1684	17934
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	725	1186	711	1214	7338
LGBTQ	619	686	573	508	3281
Veterans	163	143	160	178	1135
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	2558	2913	2808	2593	18103
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	787	1047	851	1033	7064
Other	3015	3837	3707	3420	16733

General Award Information

Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	113763	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	3999	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	72979	64.15 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	22304	19.61 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	7393	

Demographics

Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian or Alaska Native	135	0.18 %
Asian	458	0.63 %
Black or African American	11026	15.11 %
Hispanic or Latino	4000	5.48 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	77	0.11 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	46728	64.03 %
Some Other Race	583	0.80 %
Multiple Races	2095	2.87 %
Not Reported	7346	10.07 %
Not Tracked	531	0.73 %
Race/Ethnicity Total	72979	

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

Gender Identity		
Male		16700 22.88 %
Female		50255 68.86 %
Other		260 0.36 %
Not Reported		5555 7.61 %
Not Tracked		209 0.29 %
Gender Total		72979
Age		
Age 0- 12		13375 18.33 %
Age 13- 17		7122 9.76 %
Age 18- 24		7866 10.78 %
Age 25- 59		35225 48.27 %
Age 60 and Older		3181 4.36 %
Not Reported		6057 8.30 %
Not Tracked		153 0.21 %
Age Total		72979

Direct Services				
Service Area	# of Subgrantees That Provided Services in This Category	# of Individuals/Contacts Receiving Services	Specific Service	Frequency of Service
A. Information & Referral	111	68475	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	54632
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	43279
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	28087
			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	125934
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	95	38466	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	1649
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	1836
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	2621
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	71056
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	7312
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	1128
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	7313
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	16391
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	18207
			B10. Interpreter services	4963
C. Emotional Support or Safety Services	97	58050	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	186429
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	25781
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	431
			C4. Individual counseling	58407
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	40737
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	10769
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	9437
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	47	7568	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	181796
			D2. Transitional housing	25700
			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	2242
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	86	53227	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	29158
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	2539
			E3. Assistance with restitution	3489
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	20456
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	17891
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	13922
			E7. Immigration assistance	2199
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	3564

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	E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	1636
	E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	17913
	E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	867

ANNUAL QUESTIONS

Grantee Annually Reported Questions	Count
Question/Option	Count
Were any administrative and training funds used during the reporting period?	
Yes	1
No	0
Did the administrative funds support any education activities during the reporting period?	
Yes	0
No	1
Number of requests received for education activities during the reporting period.	8
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	200
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	66
Did the grant support any coordination activities (e.g., with other service providers, law enforcement agencies) during the reporting period?	
Yes	1
No	0
Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.	
JPSC worked in collaboration to develop an advanced Victim Assistance Academy for organizational leadership, targeting vicarious trauma and self-care for victim service staff. JPSC developed resources and presented a webinar for subrecipients to support compliance with the Written Determination of Suitability award condition. JPSC developed resources and presented a webinar for subrecipients regarding the Cabinet's revised contract process for VOCA subaward acceptance. JPSC staff participated in a podcast series with Kentucky's domestic violence coalition, and provided dozens of virtual and on-site training and technical assistance meetings.	
Describe any planning or training events held during the reporting period.	
The Kentucky Victim Assistance Academy Steering Committee met regularly during the reporting period, several planning meetings were held to discuss the competitive subaward solicitation process for the 2023-2024 project period. Additionally, a 3-day virtual training was held covering all aspects of grant administration, and smaller trainings were held covering policies and procedures developed in response to the OIG audit.	
Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.	
In the interest of promoting child safety, JPSC GMD has added two (2) award condition enhancements to the baseline requirements set forth in the OJP written determination of suitability award condition: Requirement to Maintain Written Policy: Subrecipients must implement formal, written policies and procedures that (a) document the factors and considerations that will be considered in making determinations regarding suitability, (b) identify the specific public sex offender and child abuse websites/registries, criminal history registries, and similar repositories of criminal history records that will be searched when making determinations regarding suitability, and (c) address personally-accompanied contact" situations as defined in paragraph 3(c)(2) of the OJP award condition. Updates and Reexamination Schedule: Subrecipients must update all required searches specified within this policy and reexamine the covered individual's suitability in light of those search results every two (2) years. When appropriate, the determination must be modified or withdrawn.	
Describe any earned media coverage events/episodes during the reporting period.	
Press release by Governor's Office regarding 2023-2024 VOCA subawards.	
Describe any coordinated responses/services for assisting crime victims during the reporting period.	
JPSC VOCA leadership met regularly with Kentucky's victim service coalitions for domestic/family/intimate partner violence, sexual assault, children's advocacy centers, and Court Appointed Special Advocate programs to coordinate efforts to assist crime victims. Each one of those coalitions receives a subaward to support victim service training and technical assistance and coordination. JPSC has also established a subaward with the Kentucky Crime Victim's Compensation Board to coordinate services to victims of crime seeking assistance and compensation. JPSC continues to support the VOCA project at the KY Office of the Attorney General. This project supports a "floating" victim advocate that provides support to prosecutor-based advocates around the state, as well as providing advocacy upon request in jurisdictions that lack the funding to support a prosecutor-based advocate JPSC grants programmatic and financial staff participate in many state and local meetings, task forces, councils, and other gatherings to help coordinate services, and also works with the Kentucky Victim Assistance Academy Steering Committee to support quality training for victim service staff around the state.	
Please discuss the major issues in your state that either assist or prevent victims from receiving assistance during the reporting period.	
Major issues that prevent victims from receiving assistance include the ongoing opioid crisis, which intersects significantly with criminal victimization and hinders the ability for survivors to access services. Another major issue is the lack of recognition of the specific needs of underserved populations - Kentucky has a high percentage of rural, geographically-isolated citizens, for whom poverty/economic depression limits income and ability to travel to seek out service providers. Rural areas hinder access due to intersectionality between poverty, victimization, and distance from service providers. The economic climate of the 2022-23 reporting period hindered organizations, both non-profits, units of state and local government, as well as the VOCA Assistance SAA, from hiring and keeping victim service staff due to a combination of noncompetitive salary/benefits and the nature of victim service work which often cannot be performed remotely. Non-profit and government pay increases have lagged behind the private sector, resulting in staff retention challenges and difficulties filling vacant positions in a climate of historic inflation and low unemployment. Additionally, the cost-increasing effects of inflation have multiplied the effects of the nationwide reduction in the availability of VOCA funding to support crime victim assistance work. Programs are still working hard to rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic which placed major barriers in the way of victims seeking and receiving assistance -- domestic violence survivors being locked down with perpetrators, child victims separated from school-based support systems, and delays in processing of court cases and protective orders were major challenges during the reporting period. Factors that have assisted victims in receiving assistance include strong victim service coalitions for domestic violence, sexual violence, children's advocacy, and Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs that provide technical assistance and coordination of activities state-wide. JPSC also received a one-time allocation of \$10M/yr in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) for state fiscal years 2023 and 2024, which have helped address the reductions in availability of funds from the CVF.	
Please describe ways that your agency promoted the coordination of public and private efforts within the community to help crime victims during the reporting period.	
Programmatic and financial staff have participated in many state and local meetings, task forces, councils, and other gatherings to help coordinate services. Encouraging mentoring opportunities between newer and more experienced VOCA subrecipients; VOCA staff attend several MDT meetings around the state and encourage subrecipients to participate as well. VOCA staff also attended Child Fatality Review Board meetings to gather information and help coordinate services. VOCA funds also supported the Multidisciplinary Team Enhancement Project through the Children's Advocacy Centers of Kentucky, working to establish an active MDT in each of Kentucky's 120 counties.	
Please describe any notable activities at the grantee level during the reporting period that improved delivery of victim services.	
Improved Grant Management, especially focusing on improved timeliness of award notifications, which promotes the sustainability of programs by ensuring they receive notification in time to carry out project activities that deliver services to crime victims. JPSC provided training to all subgrantees on the requirements of the written determination of suitability award condition, and required all subgrantees to submit for review and revision written agency policy established to ensure compliance with the DOS conditions and JPSC enhancements referenced above. JPSC updated its process for establishing subaward agreements with applicant agencies in order to take greater advantage of the full array of internal controls available via the state's accounting system. Participation in committees developing resource guides and protocols that promote victim-centered and trauma-informed service provision. JPSC VOCA staff participated in the development of the KY VAWA STOP Implementation Plan, which helps to shape the state's crime victim assistance focus areas. JPSC VOCA staff regularly participate in the planning and execution, as well as utilize VOCA administrative funds to support, the Kentucky Victim Assistance Academy. During the reporting period, a virtual Advanced Academy (for individuals within victim service organizations with the authority to implement organizational change) was held in November and December of 2022, and an in-person Basic Academy for students with 0-3 years of victim service experience was held in August 2023. The in-person Basic Academy was supported with ARPA funds but coordinated by JPSC VOCA staff.	
Please discuss each priority (i.e., child abuse, domestic assault, sexual assault, and underserved) in which VOCA funds have been used to assist crime victims during the reporting period	

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

For federal fiscal year 2023, Kentucky JPSC awarded \$21.6M in VOCA assistance awards to 119 victim service programs. 31.02% of those funds supported services for victimizations related to child abuse, 41.83% supported services for victimizations related to domestic and intimate partner violence, 13.94% supported services for victimizations related to sexual assault, and 13.21% towards underserved categories of criminal victimizations. Applications submitted for that period reflected less application diversity than in previous years, as multiple projects moved off of federal funds and onto state or local funding due to reductions in VOCA Assistance funding. Kentucky recently passed Marsy's Law at the constitutional level, and those entities now have constitutionally required victim notification responsibilities. SAA funding strategy for FY 2022 included providing funding preference to regionally-designated victim service providers, which provide victim assistance services across a designated set of counties, in order to avoid competition, conflict, or duplication of services. Other organizations that provide these types of services are also supported within those regions, if a program focuses on particular underserved populations or identifies within their project proposal additional need for services within a particular region. FFY 2023 was the second year where subaward amounts were substantially impacted by the reductions in VOCA funding availability. Approximately 24% less VOCA funding was available to support projects during the reporting period, even with the SAA using less than the allowable amount of administrative funding to provide additional funding to Assistance subawards. JPSC has communicated regularly with subrecipients regarding the unknown stability of VOCA Assistance funding. In FFY 2023, JPSC funded 115 continuing projects and 4 new projects. Under the Child Abuse Priority Area, 13 stand-alone Childrens Advocacy Centers and 2 combined Childrens Advocacy and Sexual Violence Resource Centers were funded, along with 18 Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs across the state. Also funded are 4 programs providing shelter and/or mental health services to child victims of crime in residential settings, including the only residential program in the state certified to serve adolescent girls severely traumatized by abuse. Additionally, the following projects were funded: 2 programs providing mental health services to child victims of crime and their non-offending caregivers, a shelter program focused on homeless youth victims of crime, a program providing civil legal aid services specifically to child victims of abuse, and a program providing services addressing Emergency and Short-Term needs of child victims of abuse and exploitation. Under the Domestic Violence Priority Area, 14 stand-alone Domestic Violence programs and 3 combined Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault programs were funded. Additionally, a large percentage of the services provided by our 24 prosecutor-based victim advocacy programs and 7 LE-based victim advocacy programs also serve victims of domestic violence, and the agencies that serve child abuse victims also address the intersection between domestic violence and child physical abuse on a daily basis. 5 of the 6 legal aid projects also provide the majority of their services to survivors of domestic violence, and JPSC also funds 2 projects that provide hospital-based forensic exams to victims of domestic violence. Under the Sexual Assault Priority Area, 7 stand-alone Sexual Assault resource centers were funded along with the aforementioned 5 programs combining Sexual Violence Resource Centers with either Domestic Violence or Childrens Advocacy Center programs, ensuring that sexual assault services are available in every area of the state. Additionally, 2 hospital-based Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) projects are funded, along with a continued support for a community-based MDT Coordination project. Under the Underserved priority area, many agencies allocate a portion of their funds to served victimization types identified as underserved. LE-based victim advocacy project and an underserved minority victim advocacy project serve underserved communities in their service area. Additionally, the following projects are funded: a project providing Family Advocacy, Housing Assistance, and Community Outreach to victims of crime who also experience poverty & food/housing insecurity, a project providing culturally specific and sensitive victim advocacy services to Latinx crime victims, 2 Human Trafficking Programs, the continuing project providing services to victims of the mass violence incident at Marshall County High School in January 2018, a program providing victim assistance services to individuals in state guardianship, and continued support for a project enhancing access to restorative justice

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

No specific efforts, but all subrecipients are made aware of their responsibility to serve victims of Federal crimes.

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

Substance abuse is extremely prevalent in the state, which intersects in many ways with criminal victimization. The JPSC has established the K-CARE Opioid and Substance Abuse response program in partnership with BJA, supporting Community Resource Coordinators (CRCs) embedded within 6 civil legal aid organizations and one law enforcement agency. Those CRCs are trained to appreciate the intersection between substance use disorder and criminal victimization, and provide referrals for victim assistance support as well as substance use support. The COVID-19 pandemic created unprecedented issues for victim service providers in Kentucky, and the effects, especially of the "shadow pandemic" of criminal victimization during the lockdown period, continue to impact programs. JPSC continues to seek opportunities to support subrecipient agencies in addressing evolving needs within their service areas including, but not limited to remote work technological needs, telehealth needs, Emergency Shelter needs, specialized cleaning, and new needs for training and technical assistance to meet those evolving needs. Protective order requests continue to increase - more law enforcement professionals need training on issues related to protective order assistance. JPSC is continuing to fund state-wide implementation of electronic emergency protective order technology to increase access to protective services for victims of crime. At least one modality of human trafficking (typically more than one) operates in every one of KY's 120 counties; the JPSC is in communication with several agencies, as well as the state-wide Human Trafficking Task Force, to develop a targeted VOCA solicitation for agencies providing services specifically for Human Trafficking victims. Other notable trends include the economic challenges caused by the dual impacts of inflation and VOCA reductions: it costs more than ever to pay victim assistance staff and provide essential services, while at the same time funding availability is drastically reduced. Kentucky's victim service coalitions have met with JPSC regularly, and the coalitions are working with the General Assembly to seek an allocation of State general funding as bridge funds for their member programs. However, JPSC is unaware of the status of any additional funding requests for victim services or revisions to the General Assembly's SFY 2025-2026 biennial budget. At this point, JPSC is planning to rely solely on funding from its FY 2023 VOCA Assistance award to support victim services for the 2024-25 project period. JPSC takes every opportunity to educate victim service stakeholders on the nature of VOCA, the Crime Victims Fund, and the process of allocating VOCA funds to subrecipients around the state.

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

The volatility of the KY Employees Retirement System, and legislative changes to retirement policies, accelerated retirement in recent years both at the SAA and subrecipient agency levels. The accompanying loss of institutional knowledge has been very challenging. High turnover due to heavy workloads and low salary and benefits has been an issue for many subrecipient agencies. While additional organizational capacity at the SAA level was established in June 2020 with an administrative reorganization that allowed for additional management support and hiring of additional VOCA SAA staff, much of the future of that organizational capacity relies on steady funding for the victim assistance program. The JPSC has been unable to retain multiple experienced staff members who have left for better pay and more flexible schedules. Due to the lack of availability of VOCA administrative funds, those positions have not been filled and their continued viability is unknown at this time. Without sustainable funding, staffing levels for the JPSC victim assistance program will be reduced, which will have undesirable consequences on provision of essential victim services.

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

In January, JPSC Grants Management Division (GMD) completed a projection of available funds, updated the state VOCA application solicitation guidelines, and updated and finalized award conditions for subawards. JPSC published a press release in March announcing VOCA funding opportunities and directing all interested applications to our online grants management system. The Kentucky JPSC GMD website also provides information about funding opportunities along with VOCA guidelines and instructions. JPSC staff also send emails announcing VOCA funding, make announcements, and give technical assistance at local conferences, community and task force meetings, etc. JPSC staff make a concerted effort every year to provide opportunities for technical assistance with both current and potential subrecipients. However, with the decrease in VOCA funds, JPSC funding strategy has shifted from promoting "incremental, sustainable growth" in both number of subrecipients and award amounts, to a strategy of program sustainability and diversification of funding streams. Awards for FFY 2024 were significantly smaller than awards in previous years.

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

JPSC establishes an open and competitive VOCA solicitation every year, providing new applicants and agencies serving underserved populations with access to much-needed funds. For FFY 2023, JPSC reviewed applications from a pool of 10 applicants who were not recipients of prior year VOCA subawards. Three (3) applicants were recommended as candidates for other funding sources administered by JPSC. The remaining seven (7) were not recommended for funding at this time. VOCA Program staff have met with multiple grassroots organizations to provide technical assistance with applying for VOCA funds.

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

JPSC continues regular communication with victim service coalition partners and is working to improve data sharing with the coalitions to help identify gaps in services. VOCA SAA partners with the KY Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center to improve data analysis and gap identification.

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

N/A