

[Transcript from the OVC Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Transforming America's Response to Elder Abuse: Mobilizing Attorneys for Older Victims of Abuse and Financial Exploitation preapplication webinar, which was held June 24, 2019. The archived webinar can be found at: <https://www.ovc.gov/grants/webinars.html>.]

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Good afternoon everybody and welcome to today's webinar, OVC Fiscal Year 2019 Transforming America's Response to Elder Abuse: Mobilizing Attorneys for Older Victims of Abuse and Financial Exploitation, hosted by the Office for Victims of Crime. At this time, I'm going to turn it over to the presenter. Okay.

KATHRINA PETERSON: Thank you, Mary Jo. Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Kathrina Peterson, or as some of you know me as, Kate Peterson. I'm an Attorney-Advisor and also Acting, right now, as the Deputy Director over the State Compensation and Assistance Division for the Office for Victims of Crime. One of the areas that I am particularly excited to work in is elder abuse, so I'm very excited to be presenting on this solicitation that OVC has developed.

So with that, let's get into the solicitation and talk about it. So, what we're going to talk about today is the mission of DOJ and OVC. We'll also talk about the nuts and bolts of the solicitation, the program focus, the required documents, the application deadline, the award amount, and timelines, how to apply, and then I'll be happy to take any questions and hopefully try to answer any questions within the parameters that Mary Jo has laid out.

So, the DOJ, this program furthers the Department's mission to provide a comprehensive response to older victims of crime. And as I'm going to talk about, this project is really--came about in collaboration with the Department of Justice Elder Justice Initiative [EJI] and also Health and Human Services. So, let's go onto the next slide. Thank you.

Our mission at OVC is to enhance the Nation's capacity to assist crime victims and to provide leadership in developing policies and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime.

The entity that's going to be awarded funding under this solicitation will undertake activities related to expanding access to legal assistance for older victims of crime. The ent--This entity is also going to be working with subgroups, suborganizations that will be providing training and technical assistance on elder abuse. It's--this is a cooperative agreement for this program. It's awarded under the Victims of Crime Act, specifically 34 U.S.C. 20103(c)(1)(A) for the lawyers who are participating, which authorizes funding for victim services, training, technical assistance, demonstration projects, and fellowships.

So, in 2017, the President of the United States signed the Elder Protection and Prosecution Act (EAPPA), which really demonstrated the Nation's understanding of the devastating impact of crimes against our older members of society. And through

EAPPA, the President affirmed the Nation's commitment to supporting older victims of crime by requiring the Department to do a number of certain activities, including enhancing the investigation and prosecution of crimes against older victims; to improve trainings for federal prosecutors, law enforcement, and other allied professionals. And this is where we really come into the picture as the Office for Victims of Crime. It required the Department to identify and respond to gaps in services for older victims of crime.

So, this is where this project is so important and critical. And we have had similar projects in the past, both through our legal assistance work and specifically, on working with older--providing legal services for older victims of crime. So, we are going--This project is going to be providing increased legal services for older victims of crime, focusing particularly in rural areas. The goal also is to educate attorneys, other attorneys, and other allied professionals about the needs of older victims, and to increase coordinated and multidisciplinary responses in supporting older victims of crime.

I just want to take a moment here and pause, and explain what some of the other legal assistance programs are that we have--that we have worked on. So I'm sure some of you are familiar with them. They include the comprehensive and holistic victim assistance legal networks, there was a 2012 and 2014 legal assistance network programs that really were coordinated legal assistance networks. So a combined legal assistance through coordinated efforts through different legal organizations to provide comprehensive legal assistance to crime victims with the--with the focus on crime victims' rights enforcement. We have also supported the crime--we supported--sorry. Through an interagency agreement with the Elder Justice Initiative, we supported AmeriCorps, which provided funding to an organization that then--that then provided legal services to older victims of crime. And we also have done--most recently, we have done--we have done another massive legal assistance project where we--what we are calling internally the Crime Victim Justice Corp Project, where we are funding another organization to support attorneys throughout the country to provide legal assistance to crime victims on a variety of issues, including trafficking, campus sexual assault, and many other issues. So, this program that--this 2019 program is really building off of all of those projects.

So, the goal of this program is to place attorneys in host site organizations to provide direct legal services to older victims of crime. And as it says on this slide, you can see examples on page 6 of the solicitation. We are also hoping that the selected applicant will provide training and technical assistance to attorneys, to host sites, and other allied professionals. And when we say attorneys, we mean the attorneys who are going to be participating in the program and also attorneys outside of the program; so attorneys who are providing legal services, generally, to older victims, and also prosecutors or other members of the community who are working with older victims. Another goal is to enhance and/or increase multidisciplinary, coordinated community responses to supporting older victims of crime. And then finally, another goal of the program is to conduct an assessment of the program.

So now we're covering program objectives. One of the objectives is to select qualified attorneys to deliver legal services to older victims of crime. We are expecting the selected applicant to collaborate with the Office for Victims of Crime, the Elder Justice Initiative [EJI], and the Administration for Community Living [ACL] which is housed within HHS, and other federal agencies, and other organizations in support of the program goals. We also expect the selected applicant to select a training and technical assistance provider to support the attorneys, the host sites, and other allied professionals. So that training and technical assistance provider, we really expect to be hands-on because we have found through all of this experience that really the TA component is absolutely critical to the successful launch of this program, and to supporting the attorneys who are out there delivering the services in the field. We also expect the attorneys to educate professionals across disciplines about elder abuse and to encourage multidisciplinary and coordinated community responses regarding elder abuse. And we also are expecting the selected applicant to determine appropriate criteria to assess the program.

And I'm sorry if you all can hear that crazy background noise. We are not flying off on an airplane anywhere exciting. It's just that there is a really loud fan that nobody seems to be able to control in this office. So, I apologize for the fan background noise. Okay. So moving on.

More deliverables for the program. We have--there's going to be a competitive selection process of the--of the qualified attorneys. That means that the selected applicant, we expect that selected applicant to issue a--we expect the selected applicant to select subrecipients or subgrantees who are going to be hosting the attorneys. They will have to--Those subgrantees are going to have to competitively select qualified attorneys for positions within their offices. In other words, you can't have preselected or just offer somebody a position without competing that position. All of the--both--all of the--All participants in this project must partner with the TA provider. The selected applicant must conduct a--at least one in-person training for the attorneys. They must provide a training plan for the duration of the program. The attorneys conducting training for allied professionals on multidisciplinary responses to elder abuse and another deliverable will be a written report providing an assessment of the program.

So, now onto eligibility, it's--nonprofit organizations, faith- and community-based organizations, institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education), public agencies, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments that can demonstrate... And this is really critical. So, all those organizations are eligible. And then these are the next components that also are requirements for eligibility: knowledge and understanding of civil legal representation for older crime victims, experience with enforcement of crime victims' rights, management of subaward organizations, and experience with training and technical assistance.

So, we welcome applications under which two or more entities would carry out the award. However, there's only going to be one entity that actually receives the award.

So, any others must be proposed as sub--any other organizations must be proposed as subrecipients, or subgrantees, or would be partners to the project. The applicant must be the entity that would have the primary responsible--responsibility, excuse me, for carrying out the award including administering the funding and managing the entire project. A nonprofit does not have to have 501(c)(3) status to apply for grant funding under the solicitation. And all of this eligibility information is in the solicitation on page 2.

All right. Now we get into the more exciting parts of the solicitation, the money part. So, the maximum number of awards, as I've said, is one. We expect to make one award under the solicitation. We expect the amount to be up to \$3.5 million. And the period of performance will be--start October 1, 2019, and the end date will be September 30, 2022. The period of performance duration is 3 years. There will be no no-cost extensions, at all. And all awards--this is just our normal legal language. I don't need to read it. That's standard.

Okay. All of our--this award can be made as a cooperative agreement, which means that there is going to be substantial involvement between us, between OVC and recipient during the performance period. And as I said at the beginning, we also really expect there to be substantial participation between the Elder Justice Initiative and between the Administration for Community Living as well. And also, the awarding agency will closely participate in the performance of the program. So, there's really a lot of coordination and collaboration between OVC and then the--and then the other federal organizations.

So, Part 200 Uniform Requirements. The general information about Part 200 that apply to the award recipient and any subrecipients or subawards, you can see the [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#). The link is on the slide. And you can also review the [DOJ Financial Guide](#). The link is also on the slide and it's on page 9 of the solicitation.

All right. Critical elements of the application, again, the details of the nuts and bolts of the solicitation. So, the Program Narrative, this is pretty standard, pages 11 to 14 of the solicitation. You have to provide a Description of the Issue, the Project Design and Implementation, the Capabilities and Competencies of the organization, and then the Plan for Collecting Data Required for the Performance Measures. You also have to provide a Program Timeline. That's on--that detailed on page 16 of the solicitation. And you also have to provide a Proposed Position Description for the site attorneys, that's detailed on page 17 of the solicitation. And you have to provide a Budget Detail Worksheet including the Narrative. And that is explained on pages 14 to 15 of the solicitation. And so if you do not provide those critical documents, those are fundamental documents. And if you don't provide them, the award will not proceed or the application--it shouldn't say the award, it should say the application will not proceed to peer review. And then there's--you can go to page 17 and there's just--it's a detailed breakdown of what the requirements are and the percentages.

Okay. So, the Program Narrative format. We have--double-spaced--You need to present a double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font, Times New Roman is

preferred, 1-inch margin, not to exceed 15 pages. Pages should be numbered. And if the Program Narrative fails to comply with these length-related restrictions, OVC may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

So, the Letter of--oh wow, sorry, Memorandum of Understanding and the Letter of Intent talked about on pages 12 and 16 of the solicitation. So, this is really, it's an explanation of what the--of your partnerships. So, for services to be provided by project partners, applicants must include, for each named partner, a Memorandum of Understanding or a Letter of Intent that confirms the partner's agreement to provide the service and describes the cost agreement between the agencies. It should be a separate attachment to the application, describing the commitment from the organization to perform a specific service. It should have the project partner name, the specific service they're going to provide, and a description of the fee for the service or the cost to the grant for each service.

Data collection, this is set out on pages 13 to 14 of the solicitation. And this is--this is standard. Every solicitation and every award, you're required to collect data and report on key performance measures as part of our, [OVC's Performance Measurement Tool](#). Again, there's a link set out on the slide there. And in--for this solicitation in particular, we are requiring applicants to provide relevant measures about training, technical assistance, collaborative partnerships, excuse me, strategic planning, and victim services.

Okay. So, the Budget Detail Worksheet, we have--okay. So, you need to use the DOJ standard form. There's an Excel and PDF version online. It combines the--You're going to combine the budget detail and budget narrative into one single document. And you can look at page 14 of the solicitation. The Budget Detail Worksheet and the Budget Narrative are combined into a single document and referred to as the Budget Detail Worksheet. We really encourage applicants to use the Excel version, rather than the PDF version. You should break out the costs, by year. So, you have to provide the personnel costs. That should relate to the key personnel for the project and they should be broken out by year, reflecting a 36-month total of the project activity. Sorry. So, the budget should include adequate funding to fully implement the project broken out by year, reflecting 36 months and then the budget narrative should be mathematically sound and correspond with information in the Budget Detail Worksheet. And then applicants can also see the budget preparation and submission information section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for details on the Budget Detail Worksheet and on budget information and associated documentation such as information on proposed subawards, proposed procurement contracts under awards, and pre-agreement costs.

So, for questions pertaining to the budget, and examples of allowable and unallowable costs, I really encourage you to look at the Financial Guide, which again, the link is in the--is in the--sorry, it's in the solicitation. And we just passed it a couple slides ago. Which, but I can get--we can get it pulled that back up for you if you guys need it. But again, really strong--especially under this solicitation, I really encourage you all to look

at the Financial Guide because there will be subawards. So, you want to make sure that you are doing the subawards correctly and if you are--you will be proposing subawards in your application so you want to make sure that you're getting that correct. So, please look at your--please look at the DOJ Financial Guide and--for the--for the correct regulations and make sure that you are in compliance, in getting that correct, because it is critical.

Okay. Applicants must also include--this is listed out on page 21. The Application for Federal Assistance, the SF-424, that's on page 11 of the solicitation; project abstract on page 11; the Indirect Cost Agreement explained on page 15. And if you are a tribe applying, Tribal Authorizing Resolution, page 15. The Financial Management Questionnaire on page 15. Disclosure of Lobbying Activities, that's on page 16. Disclosure of Pending Applications, that's also on page 16. Disclosure and Justification of High-Risk Grantees, that's also on page 16. Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity, that is also on page 16. I'm just confirming that that's really on page 16. Yep, that's on page 16. Okay. Service Partner MOU and Letter of Intent, that's on page 18. The Program Timeline, that's on page 16. Proposed Position Description, that's on page 17. The Names, Positions, Titles, and Resumes, that's on page 17.

And I want to go back for one second to the Proposed Position Descriptions on page 17. What we're asking there for the Proposed Position Description is that the selected applicant develop a Proposed Position Description that all of the subgrantees, or host sites, will be able to use as a Proposed Position Description when they are selecting or competing for a--for attorneys in their host organizations. So the goal is to have a standard Position Description that is used across the board amongst all host sites. And then, last but not least, the Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver and that's on page 10.

Okay. So, How to Apply? Applicants must register in and submit applications through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov). Registration and submission steps outlined in the OJP Grant Application Resource [Guide]. We really, really encourage you to submit the application at least 72 hours prior to the application due date, which is July 15th. And as someone who is absolutely a procrastinator and would wait until the last minute to submit my application, I really encourage you not to do that because inevitably there will be problems with submitting your application, and you will not get an extension just for technical difficulties that could've been avoided. So really, really try to submit your application at least 72 hours beforehand. Call Grants.gov, Customer Support Hotline at 1-800-518-4726 or 606-545-5035, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for technical difficulties. Again, there are a lot of steps, so don't wait until the last minute. Do not be like me. Definitely don't wait until the last minute. Thank you.

Okay. And this is an important SAM.gov alert, which is noted in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide. If you are a new entity registering in the system for an award, for SAM award, or an existing entity that needs to update or renew your SAM registration, you must submit an original signed, notarized letter appointing the authorized entity administrator within 30 days of the registration activation. Notarized

letters must be submitted through the U.S. Postal Service Mail. Read the alert at the sam.gov website to learn more about what is required in the notarized letter, and read the Frequently Asked Questions at www.gsa.gov/samupdate to learn more about this process change.

All right. We are covering, again, what the application must include, this is listed out on page 17. We are covering this again to go over the percentages and just to remind you all about what needs to be included. And if there are questions we can definitely take questions about it. Again it's the Project Narrative which includes the Description of the Issue, that's going to be five percent of the application score; the Project Design And Implementation, that's 35 percent of the application score; Capabilities and Competencies, that's 25 percent of the application score; Plan for Collecting Performance Measurement Data, that's five percent of the application score. The Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative that's 20 percent of the application score. And the other documents, that's 10 percent of the application score. And the additional documents, those include what we discussed earlier. The MOU or Letter of Intent, the Program Timeline, the--sorry, Proposed Position Description, and then the Names, Positions, Titles, and Resumes of any key staff.

Okay. Federal Award Administration Information. You can look at the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on award notifications and instructions. Award notifications will be made by September 30, 2019 through email, through GMS, to the individuals listed in the application as the point of contact and the authorizing official. Detailed instructions on how to access and view the award documents and steps to take at GMS to start the award acceptance process are available in the Guide. There are a lot of legal requirements, so read carefully, and make sure to follow the legal requirements. That one makes me laugh, as a lawyer. Okay.

And tips, again, start the application process early, where you've got a couple of weeks left, so hopefully--yeah, this award is open for 30 days, or sorry, the application process is open for 30 days. So make sure you've got your registrations, your DUNS, your SAM, your Grants.gov. Identify your partners, schedule planning meetings with your proposed partners, subgrantees, subawardees. Get that information in and together. Apply under the correct competition ID number OVC-2019-15640. Use the Budget Detail Worksheet template for this critical element. And ask for the amount of funding that's actually needed.

Technical problems or request for late submissions. So, this is what we are talking about earlier. Examples from the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the following conditions generally are insufficient to justify late submissions: failure to register in SAM or Grants.gov in sufficient time (The information, it does take a while to transfer, so SAM registration renewal can take as long as 10 business days to complete the information transfer from SAM to Grants.gov can take up to 48 hours.); failure to follow Grants.gov instructions on how to register and apply as posted on its website; failure to follow each instruction in the OJP solicitation; technical issues with the applicant's computer or

information technology environment, such as with firewalls or browser incompatibility. Those will not usually get you an extension for late submission.

Okay. Attachment tips, these are on pages 3 and 11 of the solicitation. We strongly encourage applicants to use descriptive names when labeling attachments. It is really helpful if you all do that! So good examples are "File 4: Budget Detail Worksheet," "File 6: Information on Proposed Subawards." Bad examples, file name, "budget," file name "file 4." It gets really confusing. So it's very helpful if you guys can identify the file names by the actual name of the document.

Okay. When adding attachments, Grants.gov has two categories of files for attachments: "mandatory" and "optional." OJP receives all files attached in both categories, so do not embed "mandatory" attachments within another file. An applicant must use the add attachment button to attach a file to its application. Do not click the paperclip icon to attach files. This action will not attach the files to the application. After adding an attachment, select the view attachment button to confirm you attached the correct file. To remove the file, select the delete attachment button.

Checking for errors. Examples from the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, an application can be checked for errors via the Check Application button on the Forms tab of the Manage Workspace page. The button is active if the set of forms in the workspace matches those required in the application package. If you receive a Cross-Form Errors message after clicking the Check Application button refer to the Cross-Form Errors help article for more detailed information about this validation error.

All right, again, the submission deadline is 11:59 p.m., on July 15th. And I already said it a lot but I'll say it again, we really urge you to submit the--your applications 72 hours prior to the application due date.

Okay, time for questions and answers. That was a lot of talking. I really don't like these things. I mean, I do--I like these things because we get to share information but it's so much stuff for me talking, so I apologize for all of that. But so, now time for questions and answers.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Actually we're going over three more slides before...

KATHRINA PETERSON: Oh, sorry.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: That's okay, before we start questions and answers.

KATHRINA PETERSON: Sorry, Mary Jo.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: We're going to just list some resources, Kate mentioned a couple of resources and URLs throughout the webinar, they are all located here on this one slide, important websites. We're going to start off, obviously, with the Office for Victims of Crime website which is www.ovc.gov. The other resource that you mentioned

several times is the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide and that's the second one listed here. I'm not going to read out that URL because it is quite long. Actually if you go to the Resource Guide you can get to the DOJ Financial Guide as well as the Budget Detail Worksheet, which is the next two bullet points here. So from there, once you go to that one website you can go to the other two as well. OVC has a Training and Technical Assistance Center, [www--sorry](http://www.ovcttac.gov). I don't know if I said three or four Ws, www.ovcttac.gov. And there's also links on this slide for the [Grants Payment Request System](#) and [Grant Performance Measurement Reporting](#).

The last two slides, the Technical Assistance. She--Kate mentioned this already. There's a slide here dedicated to Grants.gov. If you're having problems submitting or uploading anything, please contact Grants.gov. Again, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They are closed, though, on federal holidays. You can reach them at 1-800-518-4726. And you can also email them at support@grants.gov. When you report any issues with them, they will give you a tracking number and--to follow-up. And that's going to come in handy on the next slide and I'll explain that in a second.

NCJRS is available if you have questions after today's webinar and you can submit those questions to them at grants@ncjrs.gov. You can also call them at 1-800-851-3420. If, for some reason you have technical difficulties and, even though you started 72 hours before the application due date, you are unable to submit your application by the due date, you do need to take that tracking information that I mentioned to you, that Grants.gov would give you, and you need to email NCJRS at [grants@ncjrs](mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov) within 24 hours of the application due date with all the documentation of every step you took in order to try to successfully submit your application. This is the only way that you would be considered for a late submission. But again, as Kate mentioned, the items that she mentioned are not going to be justification. So it's going to be something outside of that. NCJRS is open 10:00 to 6:00, Monday through Fridays and they are open until 8:00 p.m., the date the solicitation closes.

So we're going to start diving into the questions. As a reminder, I've seen several questions submitted through the chat feature. Would you please mind--or would you mind resubmitting those to Q&A? It's much easier for us to keep track of what questions you're asking and to ensure that we are not missing anything.

So the first question. "If we are able to host the attorneys in our office, do we need to enlist additional host sites?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: I'm not sure that I entirely understand that question, but I think... I--let me--Let me explain the way that we envision this program working and maybe that will answer the question. So the way that we envision this program working is that there will be one organization that we give funding to. That organization is going to then select host sites, and those host sites in coordination with the selected OVC organization and OVC and the other federal agencies will select attorneys that will be placed in the host sites. So the actual host sites will not be needing to coordinate with other host sites. They will have already been selected by the organization that OVC is

funding to choose the host sites. That's a little--so let me be clear. I think I would--just used host sites like eight times. That was very confusing.

So OVC is going to select an applicant, an awardee. That awardee is going to then issue a competitive solicitation and will select host sites. And those host sites will then have attorneys placed in them. I hope that answers your question. And if it doesn't, just follow up with us and I'll--and I'll try to better answer your question.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Can you clarify the geographic area to be covered? You mentioned a national project as one of your past projects. Can this one be statewide?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: So, no, this is a... That's a yes and a no, to that question. So again, the--there's going to be one organization that is selected. That organization is going to then select subgrantees throughout the country. And place an--and attorneys will be placed in those subgrantee organizations. And so, it would not necessarily be a statewide project, but there could be different organizations within the state where attorneys are placed.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "At \$3.5 million, over 3 years to hire over 20 attorneys and to oversee the project collect data, evaluate, and offer training, has an average of around \$50,000 per attorney to cover the--all these costs plus fringe benefits and overhead. Is this realistic?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: We believe it is realistic.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Can you apply if you are current VOCA or DOJ grantee?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: Yes. Absolutely. It--I'm sorry, just to be clear, you can apply at both levels. You could apply at--you could apply at the initial level, directly to OVC to be the one applicant and awardee. And then you could also apply to be the subgrantee and the subrecipient. So again, the way that we envision this working is that OVC is going to give out one award. And that one grantee, that one selected grantee will then subaward out to different organizations to host different attorneys. So if you are already receiving DOJ or--and/or VOCA funding directly, you can--you would be eligible to apply at either one of those two levels.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Is the priority for this RFP, for rural applicants only? Can you please define rural?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: It's not--there isn't a priority, necessarily. We are just encouraging sub--we are encouraging attorneys to be placed in rural areas throughout the country at the subrecipient level. And we left rural to be broadly--to be defined by the selected grantee and by--and by potential applicants, and by subrecipients.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Can you please explain how attorneys are selected that we would manage?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: Sure. The way that would work is that--is the--there is a--there would be a competitive--a competitive solicitation and selection process that would be reviewed by the host organization, it would be reviewed by the OVC selected grantee, and by OVC and the partnering federal agencies. And we would all review the applications for the attorneys, the resumes for the attorneys, and agree on which attorneys were best suited for the positions. And then they would be selected and appointed, and offered the positions, and hopefully accept.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: One second, please. "Might you confirm that the intention is that the selected TTA provider is to train the participating attorneys to train allied professionals, versus the TTA provider is to provide training to allied professionals?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: Oh, yes. That's right. So--yes, sorry if that--if I was--if I was unclear about that. Right. The TTA provider is to train the participating attorneys to train the allied professionals. That's absolutely right. So the TA provider is--would be partnering with the selected applicant and the selected awardee specifically to provide training and technical assistance to the attorneys who are hired through this solicitation and award. Those attorneys will then be providing training and technical assistance to the community, to other attorneys, to other allied professionals. The TA provider will be supporting the OVC-funded attorneys in that effort. The TA provider will not be providing the TA directly to community members. Again, if that answer wasn't clear, just follow up and let me know.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "So this cannot be a regional project?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: It's a--I get--I mean, no--I'm not really sure how to answer that question. It's--it would be a project--I guess conceivably, it could be a regional project. It would be hard--it's kind of hard for me--I'm just looking at--I'm looking at the language in the solicitation. It is--I see--Now I see where you're going with that question. I get it. It's possible. I guess it's possible. I guess it's possible. So there would be an organization and placing attorneys within a certain state or a certain regional area, like a southwest area or something. I guess that's possible. Yes, I hadn't really thought about it like that, but I don't think that there's anything that's restricting that--restricting--that would prevent that in the solicitation.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Does a prosecutor's office qualify? If so, could we request three positions such as a prosecutor, investigator, and victim advocate?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: No. A prosecutor's office--so again, that would be as a subrecipient level and--because what we're looking for at our level, the applicant that we select is going to be one entity that is placing attorneys at different subrecipient organizations. So at the subrecipient level, what we're--the language is limited to civil legal aid and so it would not be--in Crime Victims' Rights enforcement, it cannot be prosecute--prosecutorial activities and it--and we're not talking about victim advocacy. Either we're talking specifically about legal services, direct legal services.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Must we name the evaluator in the proposal?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: I do not think that is a requirement in the solicitation. I'm double checking. I think that was just--but I don't--I don't think that's a requirement. Sorry. You can go on to the next question...

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Oh, okay.

KATHRINA PETERSON: ...and I'll try to answer that one more concretely.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Is it--is the application the same for the grantee and the subgrantee or are we to be in communication with the grant applicant with the actual grantee?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: Okay. No, it would be--so, "is the application the same for the grantee and the subgrantee?" Yeah. So the way that this will work is that we will first select the grantee, the OVC-funded grantee. Then the OVC-funded grantee will issue a solicitation to select it' subrecipients. So OVC will not be involved--I mean, we will be involved in that we will collaborate. But OVC will not be involved in issuing the solicitation for the subrecipients. That will come directly from the OVC-funded grantee. So it's a separate process.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Can you please clarify what you meant by being able to apply at multiple levels?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: I think that was the question--somebody asked about whether a DOJ-funded grantee would be able to apply as--would be able to apply for funding. And what I was trying to clarify was that they could apply. That a DOJ-funded grantee would be eligible to apply either, directly to OVC, or would also be able to apply to the OVC-funded grantee at the subrecipient level.

Mary Jo, does that answer make sense?

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Yes.

KATHRINA PETERSON: Okay.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Will the possibility of a regional support network not contradict what was previously stated for the selected identity?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: For the selected entity.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Oh, I'm sorry.

KATHRINA PETERSON: Yeah, no, no, no, I understand what you're saying.

So--no, the language--whatever is in the solicitation sticks and so I'm just going back into--looking in the--into the solicitation language. At the goal: place attorneys in host site organizations to provide direct legal services to older victims of crime. And so I--somebody pointed out that I added in, "throughout the country" and that's--and I think that person was right. I added in the words "throughout the country." I don't think that's-- I don't think that's in the solicitation. So that--so whatever is in writing in the solicitation is correct. And if--and if I incorrectly added in "throughout the country," then just ignore those words and it can--and act like I did not say, "throughout the country." In which case, then that limitation would not apply.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: On second, please. "So is this a request for a national--for national organizations to apply, or can nonprofits that serve the entire state apply?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: So given what--given that clarification that somebody just made for me, it would be both. Both can apply. I mean, anybody--yes, anybody that will--anybody that's eligible to apply under the eligibility criteria and so it would not just have to be a national organization that would be placing attorneys nationally. But I will say what is in writing is an emphasis on--priority will be given to organizations located in rural communities, that's at the subgrantee level.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Great. "How long do you envision the competitive process taking after the awardee is chosen?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: That will be up to the subgrantee. And that--I can't really answer that question because that's part--that's part of the timeline process that the subgrant--oh, sorry, that--not the subgrantee, the--our--the--whatever selected applicant, that's part of the timeline process that the applicant would have to propose.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Will there be an IAA between OVC, EJI, and ACL that outlines roles? And if so, when will it be issued, as a level of partnership activities may have budget impacts?"

KATHRINA PETERSON: No, there's no IAA. This is an informal working relationship between OVC, EJI, and ACL. And there's no--So there's no money exchanged between OVC, EJI, and ACL.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: All right. At this time, it looks like that is our last question. I am just going to do a quick look here. So give me a minute. I apologize for the silence. Just give us a minute. I do want to make--I want to make sure that I don't miss anybody's question. Yes.

KATHRINA PETERSON: All right. Okay. Sorry. I wanted to follow up on that question about the assessment. And it does say on page 12 of the application that, "All applicants must identify key partners in the program including the proposed TTA provider and any proposed to conduct--and any partners proposed to conduct an

assessment of the program. The name of the agency and the staff name or position title of the persons that will be providing the TTA service outlined should be included." So the proposed partners who will be conducting the assessment of the program should be included. And that's on page 12 of the application.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: How maybe--I think what they're trying to say is, "How would we envision or evaluate a state-level proposal versus a nationwide proposal being a very different process?" I don't really--fully understand the question. I guess they're trying to ask how we would evaluate a state level proposal versus a nationwide one.

KATHRINA PETERSON: Well, I mean, we would just--it's going to be evaluated on the same criteria that's laid out. So yeah, it would be a different type of project. But all criteria that--we can only evaluate the criteria that's set forth in the solicitation, so that's what we would be evaluating on.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: All right. And at that time, we are almost out of time and that happens to be our last question. So we are going to end this webinar. Thank you very much, on behalf of OVC and Kate, for attending today and good luck on your proposal.

KATHRINA PETERSON: Thanks everybody.