

Announcement

To: Current Mentors

Subject Line: Changes to the Peer Mentoring Program

Dear Colleagues,

We are so pleased about the success of the Peer Mentoring Program, and you deserve all the credit. At this point in time, VOCA administrators from 22 states and territories are engaged in the program as either mentors or mentees. You are sharing VOCA administration best practices by phone, email, Skype, and onsite. And through the efficient and effective administration of VOCA funds, we believe that more victims of crime will have access to comprehensive, quality services.

We know that you spend a significant amount of time consulting with your mentees; the cost of that time is currently absorbed by your VOCA offices. Starting in January, approved mentors will have the option to provide consultation outside of your standard work time and be reimbursed for your labor hours in addition to your onsite travel expenses. We understand this is not a permanent solution or one that will work for everyone, but we recognize the need to compensate you for your time and effort.

As a government employee, it is your responsibility to confirm with your agency/employer that you are operating in accordance with all state and local laws as well as the agency's policies and procedures before accepting compensation for time spent consulting as a mentor. Some employers may not allow this arrangement; some employers may allow it, but require you to take leave from your job when engaging in "outside employment." The choice of whether to seek compensation for your mentoring time is yours, and so is the responsibility to comply with your employer's regulations.

Kathleen Demro will contact you to discuss next steps. Regardless of your decision about compensation, please know how highly we value the time and expertise that you share with other VOCA administrators through the Peer Mentoring Program.

Thank you,

Kathrina Peterson
Office for Victims of Crime

Terms for Determining Labor Costs

Onsite Visit

2 days travel	\$225.00/ day	\$450
2 days in-office	\$650.00/ day	\$1,300

Remote Technical Assistance

8 hours	\$81.25/ hour	\$650
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Total Contract		\$2,400
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