

[Transcript from the OVC Fiscal Year 2019 Enhancing Community Responses to the Opioid Crisis: Serving Our Youngest Crime Victims preapplication webinar, which was held June 10, 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 Enhancing Community Responses to the Opioid Crisis: Serving Our Youngest [Crime] Victims hosted by the Office for Victims of Crime.

At this time, I would like to introduce you to today's presenter, Bethany Case, Victim Justice Program Specialist - Youth, Office for Victims of Crime.

BETHANY CASE: Hello and good afternoon to everyone. Thanks so much for joining today's webinar presentation. I'm thrilled to see that we have a lot of participation. So, that's wonderful. So this slide right here is sort of an outline of what we're going to be covering in today's webinar.

First, we'll be talking about the mission of DOJ, the Department of Justice and OVC, the Office for Victims of Crime. Then we'll be talking about the scope of this particular grant program. Third, we'll be walking through the actual solicitation and I encourage you all to have a copy of the solicitation with you, either the electronic version or printed, to follow along, and that might--because I will be referencing specific page numbers. So, hopefully many of the questions that you might have right now will be answered as we go through today's webinar. And then finally we'll spend some time asking questions and I'll do my best to provide answers. So let's get going.

So on the first page of the solicitation, we acknowledge, sort of, how this program fits into the Department, or the Department of Justice's larger mission. And we fit into their--the larger mission by providing resources to support state, local, and tribal efforts to assist crime victims.

Our mission at OVC, the Office for Victims of Crime, is to enhance the nation's capacity to assist crime victims and provide leadership in changing policies and practices to promote justice and healing for all victims of crime.

So we're going to talk today about the scope of this particular grant program. And I see that many of you have joined today's webinar. Our numbers are going up. I'm going to try not to look at that number. I'll be distracted by the number while we're going through this. But we, OVC over the years, and other offices and bureaus within the Department of Justice, have started doing these preapplication webinars. And they seem really helpful. People seem to appreciate them and it's just an opportunity to really walk through the actual program solicitation and, kind of, pull out some of the key parts because they can be super overwhelming. But that is--that is pretty much the extent of what we will be doing today. So, we won't be covering anything that is not contained in the actual program solicitation. And I will be proving specific page numbers so that you

can go and, you know, reference things in the future as you're working on your application.

So the first slide, here, really focuses on the scope of this program. So, what are we trying to accomplish with this grant program? And so, it really boils down to three key definitions. So, I also have a copy of the program solicitation pulled up. And just a side note, if you were familiar with last year's solicitation, you may notice that this year's is just much shorter. It is the same grant program. It's just that the Department of Justice is working hard to make our solicitations more concise. So, it may take me a little bit longer to find the answer to your questions, since this is a new format. But this is, yes, this is the same grant program that we initially released last year.

So the definitions were very helpful for folks last year and so we're going to start off with those. On page 1 of the solicitation, we define what we are talking about when we say--use the term opioid epidemic or opioid crisis throughout the solicitation. And so on the bottom of page 1, there's a footnote. Please read the footnote. Please use that as a guide in develop--in having conversations with your team and in developing your grant application. So what we say here. And I'll just read it for those who may only be listening, "Although the opioid epidemic is the current substance abuse crisis facing Americans, OVC recognizes that drug trends change and individuals who use illegal drugs (or misuse legal drugs) often use or migrate to multiple other substances. Therefore, it is OVC's intent to create a program that foremost provides for the needs of young crime victims affected by substance abuse, regardless of the type of substance in question."

Our second really big definition is children and youth. So what do we mean by children and youth? That's on page 5 of the solicitation. So I'm scrolling to that and we have a footnote on page 5. So we are talking about, when we--for the purposes of this grant solicitation, when we say--use the term children and youth, we are really trying to target newborns to those all the way up to 18 years old.

And our third really big definition is crime victims and that's right underneath the children and youth definition, that's on page 5. And we provide examples of types of victimization that children and youth and, of course, all people could be victims of. So, "Children and youth may be victims of a range of crimes including, but not limited to child abuse, criminal neglect, assault, sexual abuse and assault, identity theft, exploitation, endangering the welfare of a child, human trafficking, kidnapping, etc. A crime does not have to be reported to authorities for a child or youth to be eligible to receive services provided through this solicitation." But we are the Office for Victims of Crime. We're funded by the Crime Victims Fund and so that's why it's important that we--that we acknowledge today that the purpose of this grant program is to serve crime victims.

So a little bit about last year, and some program overview is that last year we first released this program. We developed it, kind of, in response to the opioid crisis and opioid epidemic. And at OVC, we talk with our--we talk with our stakeholders, and leadership, and said, "What can we do? How can we use our resources to really help

within the, you know, the confines of our statutory authority that we--things that we are able to do?" So, we developed this grant program. And it was very--folks in the field, the feedback that we're getting is that it was very well-received. And we've--we initially anticipated that we would fund about 30 grants last year, but we ended up funding 41 direct services grants in communities across the country and we awarded more than \$27 million total. Last year, we had two purpose areas in our--in our solicitation. We had the direct services component and we had a training and technical assistance provider. So, we were able to secure a tech--training and technical assistance provider last year and that will continue to be the same training and technical assistance provider this year that will be providing assistance to our next pool of grantees funded here in 2019. So we are not recomputing that element. But we are opening up the opportunity to bring onboard other communities who are--who are interested in implementing this program in their communities, so that's what we will be doing here in fiscal year 2019.

So a little bit more specific to this program, just some more description language and we really, kind of, pulled out some, you know, some key language, but always go back to the solicitation and read the entire solicitation. So the purpose here--this is information that's on page 5. The purpose of this solicitation is to address an urgent gap in crime victim services related to the opioid epidemic and to expand upon existing or establish new programs to provide services to children and youth who are victimized as a result of the opioid crisis. We anticipate that this solicitation will support service providers in expanding their current scope and expertise to ensure that children and youth, the most vulnerable victims impacted by the opioid crisis, are supported as they heal from the impact of crime and substance abuse. So that's really what we're--what we're looking to do with this grant program.

So, our statutory authority, as I mentioned a little bit earlier in his webinar, this program is authorized by the Victims of Crime Act [VOCA] and so it's important to acknowledge that our statute has really specific purposes and there are expenses and activities that are not allowable through this funding. So things that are allowable, some examples are programs and services that provide awareness about victimization and awareness and information about the resources available to crime victims. Examples of things that are allowable include direct services that provide for the needs of crime victims, and support crime victims in navigating the complex systems often associated with victimization. So for this particular issue, those systems are often criminal justice and child welfare systems. Some things that are not allowable through this grant program, so please do not spend time including this in your proposal because this is not an allowable activity, are primary prevention programs. So that means that programs aimed to target populations before something has happened. So, before--crime victimization has happened, those are not permissible in this particular grant program. There are many other grant programs throughout the government where these would be permissible, but it is not permissible through this particular grant program.

So going back to our program description, we recognize and, kind of, acknowledge that across the nation, communities are struggling to respond to drug abuse and addiction. And right now and that issue is particularly challenging related to opioids, and the opioid

epidemic. And then, communities are also struggling with the social and economic consequences of this crisis and that includes crime victimization. So that's where OVC sees our nexus with this issue. We know that there's a strong link between crime victimization and substance abuse and that link has been evidenced for some time. And we also know that there is no single organization or discipline that can address these issues; that it takes a team approach. And so we believe that OVC and the crime victims' field, you all, we believe that we play a critical role in supporting young victims affected by this crisis. And we are committed to expanding crime victim services and community partnerships to ensure that these young crime victims are supported--no matter when or where they may access services.

Our overarching goal, which you can find on page 6 of the program solicitation, is to support children and youth who are crime victims as a result of the opioid crisis by providing direct services and support to these young victims at a community or jurisdictional level.

Here is some information on this slide, slide 13, about the eligibility. So we have a really wide range of eligibility. We have nonprofit and for-profit organizations (including tribal), faith- and community-based organizations, colleges and universities (including tribal institutions of higher education), public agencies, state agencies, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments. You, as an applicant, you must be able to demonstrate the knowledge and understanding of the effects on children and youth who are crime victims as a result of the opioid crisis. You should have--you should be able to demonstrate through your grant application that you have proven experience in serving this unique niche of crime victims, and you have knowledge and understanding of best practices necessary to support these crime victims. You must have the staff, resources, and capacity to develop new initiatives or enhance your existing program as it's--as it's described in this program solicitation. You must be willing to work cooperatively with OVC and our TTA provider, who is JBS International. And you must participate in a program assessment if OVC decides at some time, at some point that we would like to participate in that type of activity.

We have more information about eligibility. If you--if your organization received a grant in last fiscal year, fiscal year 2018, either through this grant program from OVC or we also funded nine grants jointly with the Bureau of Justice Assistance through one of their partnerships, COAP Programs [Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-Based Program]. If you are one of these 50 grantees, you cannot apply. And the reason is because we're opening this up to be able to make a greater impact. So if you've already grant--got a grant, we're already working with you and we'll continue to work with you through your entire 3-year period. It's time to give folks in other communities a chance to be able to make an impact on their issues as well.

And here's some more information about 501(c)(3) status. And just please know that we welcome applications where there are two or more entities responsible for carrying out the award, but you must identify one entity as the lead applicant. And that lead applicant will serve as a pass-through organization. There's information in the solicitation and

some links about where to find that information elsewhere, but you'll have this relationship with a pass-through organizations as subgrantees. So, someone has to be the lead. And you can't make any money off of us. That was the last thing.

So we established a framework and that's described on page 7. So, we have a goal that we described and we identified three objectives that would--that we envision would successfully help support the success of communities in undertaking this project. And these are pretty vague. So they get specific, so, yes. You must--your application does need to address the framework outlined in the solicitation and your application will describe how you will accomplish these objectives. We've provided some suggested activities and some deliverables that can help you--I think I might be jumping ahead a little bit. But just know that these objectives are not limiting. They're really broad. And so we want to know where do folks fit within these objectives and what's unique about your community and your program, and your partners, in how you're going to actually carry these out.

Let's see. We have a couple of questions. I addressed one. "What is meant by jurisdictional level? That is where it says community or jurisdictional level."

It just means that you all, as an applicant, you decide, kind of, the area that you're searching--that you're looking to impact. So that might be a city, it might be a state, it might be a county, or a parish. It could be a tribe--a tribe. It could be some type of--some type of group. But we're really looking for you to tell us, you know, what group, what area are you looking to impact. And we're also going to be looking to make sure that you have the appropriate partners and partnerships in place with folks who work--who are related in that jurisdictional area to--so that you are successful in undertaking this project.

Okay. Let's see.

So Objectives, Activities, and Deliverables. I see another question that might be--might be relevant. Someone says, "I believe an organization in our city receive a First Responder Grant. Where can I see a list? If another organization in our city is a recipient, would that prohibit our organization from applying for this grant?"

So it depends on--if what type of grant that they were--received. Those--BJA provided a lot of--a lot of grants through their COAP program. Only nine were awarded through that particular category. So, you should--information is public on the DOJ and OJP website about what awards were made in 2018, so you can go and research that. On OVC, for the grants awarded by OVC, you can go to our webpage, click on "Grants and Funding," and then choose the option that says "Awards Made My OVC." And you can select a year, you can select a state, you can select a keyword, and all of those will pop up. You'll have to do a little bit more digging to figure out if they were recipients of that BJA category. I would also encourage you to--if you--if others in your area are--did receive grants related to opioids, you need to be coordinating with them. This is--this is an issue that's affecting everyone and there is--we will not be duplicating efforts with this funding.

And we will be--that's what we're going to be looking to your application to, you know, if someone is getting federal money, how is this different, or how will it build upon, and expand, and complement that effort because we're not looking to create, you know, additional silos.

All right. So Objectives, Activities, and Deliverables on page 7. So you will develop a 3-year timeline that will begin on October 1st and end on--of this year, and end on September 30, 2022. No time extensions will be granted, that is a non-starter here at OVC because our statute has explicit language about when funding must be spent. And so that's your--that's your period that you will be working with, with this money, that's it. And I do want to note that there may be some delays in project start up, because of--and you can reference that footnote on page 9. There are some--a lot of internal approvals that have to happen and this past year we did see delays in budget approvals that resulted in delays in project startups. So what that means is that you will then need to, kind of, condense the work that you proposed into a shorter timeframe. So, I just wanted to give you all the heads up on that. Many folks, kind of, build in some project startup and planning into their timelines; so for some, that was not an issue. But that end date is the end date, 3 years.

We're going to be providing you a Performance Measurement Tool to help you all report on your performance measurement data. And OVC has developed performance measures across all of our grant programs and this gives us the ability to collect information. No personally identifiable information is collected. So we're not asking for that level of information, but we are looking at different types of information that will help ensure--it's one way, one mechanism for you to demonstrate that you're doing what you said you were going to do. And we provide--we, kind of, roll this data up and then provide reports out to the general public and to Congress about how government funding is being used, so it's very important, and some more information about performance measurement is in the solicitation.

So we talked a little bit, a few slides ago, about our objectives, so this program has three objectives, and you will notice that they're--they get specific but they're intended to be broad. First, we think that to accomplish the program goal, you need to be able to deliver information, services, and support to children and youth who are crime victims as a result of the opioid crisis. So, your application needs to demonstrate how you'll achieve that objective. Second, you will need to implement some type of feedback system. Some way that you--because this is a crisis and it's unfolding, and other factors continue to kind of unfold, you'll need to build in a way that you're able to kind of move, and adjust, and grow, and adapt as the issue unfolds in your community. And as you're--you may identify some new resources that are available, so you'll want to fold those in and continue to moving forward. And then finally you're going to establish or enhance a seamless comprehensive community-driven and multidisciplinary response to children and youth who are crime victims as a result of the opioid crisis. So who are your partners, how are you going to work with them to make sure that you're reaching the victims in your community? And you'll notice in the solicitation pages 7 and 8, we really, you know, we tried to make it, you know, pretty clear by providing examples of activities

that we would consider fulfilling the objective. Personalize these, make these your own. Tell us about, you know, your unique challenges and resources and strengths, and how those will all contribute to achieving this ultimate program goal in your area. And know that deliverables are expected. So there are things, you know, countable things, tangible things that will be able--that will--that will come out of these efforts. And everything is related right back to the performance measures. So once we have a good--you all have, kind of, a good system setup, ideally you'll be able to easily report on your performance measures and be able to continue referencing the original grant proposal that you wrote.

So Qualified Opportunity Zones are new this year. And as appropriate, OJP will give priority consideration to folks who are going to be serving Qualified Opportunity Zones and here's some more information about where to find out if you will be serving a Quality [Qualified] Opportunity Zone and some more information is in the solicitation about how to share that information within this application.

So, how many grants are we looking to give, and how much money? We know that the maximum dollar amount for each award is \$750,000, so that's your max. Only request what you need. Only request what you can use. Only request what is needed to carry out your individual proposal. We know--well, the start date that you should work with is October 1, 2019. We know that the end date is September 30, 2022. So your period of performance will be 36 months; though as we said, there could be some delay in project startup that will cause you to adjust a little bit. But your award amount and your end date will not change. We expect to make a range of 12-24 grant awards. So, you know, you can see that's a range. And last year, I mentioned what we were able to fund.

This will be a grant. We often award cooperative agreements, but this one is a grant.

And here's what must be included in your application. So be sure you're reading this, highlighting this, taking notes on pages 11-14 and page 17. In a sort of condensed--so I think some stuff with some--in some parts of the solicitation and other stuff was in another part and I tried to, kind of, smooch it all into this one spot. So you can see, kind of, how you're being graded. So you must have a Project Narrative and so this is how we score that Project Narrative, by the statement of the problem; your project design and implementation, which basically means how you took the framework, the objectives activities--the goal, objectives, and activities and made it your own; capabilities and competencies, that's 25 percent; how you're going to collect your--the information needed to--for performance measurement, that's 10 percent. Your Budget Detail Worksheet is going to be 15 percent of your score. There is a form for that. I think we're going to be talking of--talk about that on another slide. There's an--there's an OJP form that we--that you need to use. And Letters of Support from your project partners. There are some items you'll notice with the little asterisk. If those aren't submitted, if you missed one of those, your application will automatically be kicked out from the beginning. It won't move forward for further consideration. So, at--it's the items with asterisk, but it's also the items that are bulleted.

Here are some more items that your applications must include. And I'm actually not going to read through all of these, because you can find information about that in the solicitation and there are plenty of links where you can go online and read more about those.

So, one reason that the solicitation was reduced in length this year is because OJP took a lot of the content out and moved it online to this [OJP Grant Application Resource Guide](#). So, read up on stuff there. It's stuff that you need to know about. You will get notification of who is awarded by September 30th. You'll find out, so whoever registered and--oh, yeah. Well, yeah, they'll get notice through GMS. Yep. Yes. This is okay. So GMS is the Grants Management System. And so though you'll be submitting your application through Grants.gov, you will get your notifications about whether or not you got the grant from our Grants Management System. Yep. So, you'll get an email from this system. It's in automated stuff. So, when you put in your points of contact, make sure they don't leave. And check your junk folder because sometimes people miss things. Oh, and lots of legal requirements, please read them carefully, please know what you're getting into. It can be overwhelming but it's doable. All right.

Remember, this is just the first step, folks. So, you know, just doing a little commentary right here. We see plenty of grant writers. No offense to grant writers. You write beautiful grants, but that's just the beginning. You really need to be in it with the team to be able to plan their start up and help them implement the project as well. Because an application is only the very first step of a very involved 3-year plus, relationship with the federal government because you can be audited for many years moving forward. There are a lots of federal regulations associated with execution and management of a federal grant. So while you're writing your application, read, read, read, read, read, consult, consult, consult, ask questions, and you must be willing and able to abide by all of these regulations. There are serious consequences associated with not following those regulations. And here is a little bit more information about the competition ID number in Grants.gov. [OVC-2019-15644]

So when I said a lot of federal regulations, back--how long has it been now? Well over 5 years ago, Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements came into play. And so these--these federal regulations apply for all federal grants. And so there are--there are a lot of regulations associated with that. It, kind of, consolidated a lot of multiple circulars into one single resource and you can go online and read about that. But that's where a lot of our language about you must do this, you must do this, and that's where it's coming from.

And also, you're--we're also going to be heavily reliant on the [DOJ Grants Financial Guide](#), which is DOJ's interpretation of the Uniform Requirements.

So just a little bit about your Program Narrative. To make it can be easy for reviewers to read, double-space, use standard 12-point font, 1-inch margins, don't exceed 22 pages. We're not looking for, you know, a college paper here. We're looking for a proposal that

makes sense and that really gets to the meat of what's going on, what you have, and what you're going to--what you plan to do.

We talked a little bit earlier about performance measures and there's this, kind of, on page 13, you can read up a little bit more and see what those performance measures are. They're pretty, but this--I'm a social worker by trade, so it's pretty easy stuff. I mean it's not easy, but it's important and if I can figure it out, you can figure it out too. And that you--hopefully you'll be able to see how it all ties back to the, kind of, the--this framework that was developed.

Budget Detail Worksheet, there is now a DOJ standard form called the Budget Detail Worksheet. There's a link to the current version. It's considered a standard form now because it went through OMB approval. So please use it. It is a--It comes in an Excel version and a PDF version. I encourage you to use the Excel version unless you absolutely cannot, because it includes these formulas that, like, kind of, calculate expenses and it helps--it definitely helps our budget office in reviewing budgets because they review thousands of them every year. It combines your budget detail, so your, kind of, computations and your breakdowns and the narrative into one single document. You need to make sure that this aligns with what you're saying in your narrative you're going to do. So if you're proposing that personnel are going to do this thing and you're describing that in your--in your Project--Program Narrative you need to make sure that that matches up with your budget. Otherwise reviewers are going to say this doesn't align and they're going to score you lower. And you should be breaking down the expenses by year and you have 3 years. This worksheet has tabs for 5 years, but you're only going to use 3 years. And it must be mathematically sound and of course, you know, everything needs to be matched up.

So how do you apply? So, first you register, and then you'll submit your applications through Grants.gov. We, you know, we suggest that you do this at least 72 hours prior. But get going really, really, like, practice doing this stuff, logging in and filling in things and uploading things, well in advance. Of course Grants.gov has their own helpline so that's who you'll call when you have technical problems with Grants.gov. All applications are due, period, the end by 11:59 p.m., on July 11th, that's it. There are very rare circumstances, very rare, that people get exceptions and that's if, you know, if you had a--you were submitting your application and a tornado came through your community at that, you know. But shoot folks, don't wait until that last day to submit your applications. Get going on it now and you'll also want to triple check that you've uploaded all of the solicitation requirements.

So some more information, you notice--so, if we repeat ourselves, know that that's for good reason. That's because we're in--reinforcing something. So again, we're talking about this OJP Grant Application Resource Guide. Go there. Make sure that you register for SAM. You want to be doing this now. Make sure that you're registered in SAM now. And of course they have, you know, a help desk and all that kind of stuff there.

Technical problems. So as I mentioned earlier, these are reasons that will not be accepted for late submissions. So if an--I just can't reinforce enough that you need to get started early. You need to get everything lined up. Even if your, you know, your internet goes down on the day of, that's not enough of a reason for the--you know, for us to accept a late submission. Let's see.

So attachment tips. As the--you know, as a person who reviews grant applications, holy smokes, you can have, like 20 different applications and your eyeballs are crossing because you don't know what's what. So make it easy on us. We will--we will thank you. So some good examples of, you know, what to save an application as, is "Budget Detail Worksheet." You know, that should be how you label your Budget Detail Worksheet. "Letters of Support" for your Letters of Support. Here are some bad examples. Calling something "Other Attachments," please don't do that. And calling something, you know, by a number or a letter. Please use the words that are described in the solicitation, it will make everyone's lives so much easier. Let's see. Do you...

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: You want me to do that?

BETHANY CASE: Yeah.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: All right. So, a little bit more about adding attachments. There are two types of attachments that you're going to need to add, mandatory and optional. OJP will receive all files whether they're mandatory or optional. But if you have something that is mandatory, do not attach it to an optional file; do not attach it to something else. And in order to add the attachment, you're going to use the attach--**Add Attachment** button. Do not use the paperclip icon; that is not going to attach a file to [for] you. After you've done attaching the files, you can view them and make sure that everything that you need is there by selecting the **View Attachment** button and that can confirm what you have. If you've submitted something or duplicated a budget file or something like that, you can always delete the files that you don't need by selecting the **Delete Attachment** button.

Both.

So, you also have the ability to check for errors. You can do this by selecting Check Application button in the Management Workspace on the Forms tab. Once you've done that, it'll let you know if there's any cross-form errors. And if you get that message after clicking the Application button and refer to the Cross-Form Errors help article for more detailed information about this validation error. You can consult the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for further information. I think that's the third time we've mentioned that Guide. So...

BETHANY CASE: Uh-hmm. Hint, hint.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Yeah. So that's a good place to go.

BETHANY CASE: All right. So be sure you start early. We've been--you know, we've been saying that from the start. Make sure you have your DUNS number. Make sure you have your SAM registration, like, today. Get on Grants.gov, familiar--familiarize yourself with the process. Make sure you are registered everywhere. Identify your partners, start talking with them, getting letters of support, turn over stones, see what other resources are in your community. You want to be bringing everybody to the table on this thing. Schedule planning meetings. Get people--make sure you apply under the correct competition ID, yes, absolutely. Use the Budget Detail Worksheet template. Ask for the amount of money that you need, not anything different than that. And, you know, we have a 187 participants on this webinar right now, so we're going to have some pretty good competition. So bring your A-game, folks. Don't be discouraged, but bring your A-game. We want to see it.

And again, the deadline is 11:59 on July 11th--11:59 p.m., so obviously, like, right before midnight. But I'm sure all of you will have your stuff submitted sooner than that. You have--yeah, it's a month away. So you've got some time. I think you have more time than people had last year. So not--as much time as we would've liked you to have, but you do have some time.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: And... So that takes us into questions and we will start answering the questions that you've submitted after we go through a couple more slides and I'm going to quickly go through those because we want to give enough time here to answer these questions. So the slide showing right now lists important websites. The OVC website, of course is a place that you want to use as a resource, www.ovc.gov. Again, you'll see the second bullet is that Grant Application Resource Guide. This is a great jumping off point for actually the next couple of bullets that are listed. From the Application Resource Guide, you can consult and link to the DOJ's Grant Financial Guide, which is a resource you want to use when developing your budget and finding out what costs are allowed and not allowable. There's also a link to the Budget Detailed Worksheet from the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide. You can also contact and look at the OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center, www.ovcttac.gov. There's also links on the slide here for the Grants Payment Request System and the Grants Performance Manage--Measurement Reporting tool.

If you have any questions after today's webinar regarding this solicitation or any other solicitations, please feel free to contact the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, they are available at www.ncjrs.gov. They have an 800 number, 1-800-851-3420, and an email, grants@ncjrs.gov. So if you have a question about this opportunity, submit it to them, they will work with Bethany to get an answer to you about that. They also have a couple newsletters that you might want to subscribe to and JUSTINFO comes out twice a month and the Funding Newsletter from NCJRS, this is a really great one. It comes out every Friday. It announces all new funding opportunities from the Office of Justice Programs, will alert you for webinars such as this one, and will also alert you when the artifacts from the webinars such as the recording and the transcripts have been posted. They are open 10:00 to 6:00, Monday through Friday, Eastern Time. They are open later on the day the solicitation closes. But as we have stressed before, you're

going to submit that application 72 hours in advance, so it doesn't matter if they're open later.

BETHANY CASE: Uh-hmm.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: All right. And the last thing before we get to questions, Grants.gov. As Bethany stated, they are available if you're having any technical problems with submitting your application or uploading any of the documents. Their Customer Support Hotline is 800-815-4726 or 606-545-5035. They are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays. And you can also email them at support@grants.gov. So now without any further delay, we are going to jump into these great questions that you all have asked.

“So does a successful proposal need to address all three objectives and how will it achieve associated deliverables in their proposal?”

BETHANY CASE: Yes. And we--so some of these questions were submitted before we began the webinar, so they may have been...

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Yeah.

BETHANY CASE: ...answered during the webinar. But we did answer that during the webinar. Yes.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Okay. “Is there a threshold number of victims annually or over the 3-year grant period that a successful applicant must serve?”

BETHANY CASE: No, you need to define that based on, you know, what you're--what's going on in your community and be realistic.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “Who is the TTA provider?” And you did mention that real quickly.

BETHANY CASE: Yeah. JBS International.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “On crime victims, we work with foster children. The number of children in the foster system has increased 40 percent during the opioid epidemic and many kids are here because of substance abuse. Are they considered crime victims for this grant purpose?”

BETHANY CASE: So I'm going to refer you back to the solicitation because we do talk in there about our partners over at HHS and the impact that that's had on our collective work. So, I'm going to refer you to pages 5 and 6 to read about that. And I'll refer you back to the definition of who we consider crime victims, which is not limited, you know, may include but are not limited to, on the bottom of page 5.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Should the proposal focus on one of the stated objectives or may the proposal include more than one of the stated objectives?"

BETHANY CASE: Your proposal must address all of the stated objectives.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Does a successful proposal need to..."

BETHANY CASE: We got--I think everybody's been asking that same question.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Yeah. "Is data collection to be completed by a third party such as a university?"

BETHANY CASE: No. You should--I mean, you can have your data collected by a third party. But there's no reason that you can't collect that. This is not--you're not being--you're not participating in a program evaluation through this--through this grant at this time. But the performance measure is, you know, kind of tracking the activities that you've carried out during various reporting periods. And we can give you spreadsheets to use as tools to be able to collect that data. So, you--but you certainly can elect to pay someone else to do that as well.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Is there a benefit to the primary applicant being a university versus a direct service provider? For example, if a university is partnering with a service provider, is there a benefit to one or the other being the lead versus the subcontract?"

BETHANY CASE: I would say that you--every community and every organization has different capacity. And that's going to depend on who has the capacity to really fulfill these federal requirements. So, that may weigh into your decision.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "To confirm, each year can be no more than \$250,000, per year? Or can the budgets be no more than \$750,000, over the 3-year grant award?"

BETHANY CASE: The second. Your budgets can be no more than \$750 [thousand] total over the 3-year grant award. So, we don't specify how you break that down over the 3 years.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Will we have the benefit or the opportunity to see the Performance Reporting Tool prior to applying?"

BETHANY CASE: Yes. There is a link in the solicitation that will take you to--let's see what page that's on. We referenced it in this webinar. But there's a link to performance measurement.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Right there. There, it's the last link.

BETHANY CASE: So, on page 37, the last link, Grant Performance Measurement Reporting, that's where you can find out information about that.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: And I'll just read it out to you, <https://ojp.gov/performance/>. And again, that is the Grant Performance Measurement Tool. And it is showing on the slide right now for those that are--want to see that.

“Does a target population have to be directly impacted by the opioid epidemic or can they be victims of substance abuse--use that doesn't include opioid use?”

BETHANY CASE: So, I'm going to refer you back to the definition of how we define the scope. So, page--the bottom of page 1, we recognize that it's not just opioids, that for every community this is different, and the issues are changing, rapidly. But you need to describe what your issues are, what your substance abuse issues are and you need to describe how you're going to be working with children and youth and how these folks have been crime victims as a result of those substance abuse issues.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “Can the fiscal agent grantee include an indirect rate in the budget?”

BETHANY CASE: Yes.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Sorry. I'm trying to scroll through. There's a couple questions that were repeated.

BETHANY CASE: And, yes, just to reiterate for everyone; yes, address all three objectives. Yes.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “In regard to the grant objectives, must”--oh, that's the same one. We've already addressed that \$75,000--or \$750,000, over 3 years.

BETHANY CASE: Uh-hmm.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “Are successful narratives from last year available to review?”

BETHANY CASE: No. But you can--you can find on the OVC webpage under ovc.gov, and then you go to “Grants and Funding,” and then you select “Awards made by OVC.” And you can see who was awarded last year. And you could certainly reach out to those programs and talk with them. But OVC will not be sharing that information.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: “When you said that OVC provides examples of programs, can you indicate the page numbers where I can find these examples?”

BETHANY CASE: So, the examples of programs. So, we provide--I think you're talking about who we funded. And that's at that same link that I--that I just described.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Is there a cap on indirect costs if subawardees are to be used?"

BETHANY CASE: You need to make sure that you follow all of the information pertaining to that in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for the indirect costs. It needs to be a current federally approved, negotiated, indirect cost rate that applies to the period that you're proposing.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: And again, I'm going to speak for Stephanie--or I'm sorry, Bethany, here for a second. Yes. You need to address all three objectives. And the \$750,000 is over a 3-year period.

BETHANY CASE: It looks like this person may have continued to ask these questions, routinely, over and over and over.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Yeah. Okay. So...

BETHANY CASE: So, we won't continue, since it's just one individual.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "An organization in a different geographic area is interested in replacing our evidence in the program..."

BETHANY CASE: Replicating. Yeah.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Sorry, replicating. "...which agency should be the primary applicant, us, or the program experts, or the potential replicator, as the local expert with existing partners?"

BETHANY CASE: Yeah. You guys need to sort that out.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Is the DOJ Budget Detail Worksheet the same one that was used for CTAS and located on GMS?"

BETHANY CASE: Nope. It is--there is a--it's a standard form. And the link to that Budget Detail Worksheet is found on slide 37. And even if you, kind of, went on the internet and searched DOJ Budget Detail Worksheet, it'll bring you to a webpage. And just make sure that you're using the current version that breaks down the expenses by year. I think that one expires in 2020.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "What is the role of the TA agency?"

BETHANY CASE: The role of TA agency is to help you, kind of, provide a range of support to you to help you, I'd say, boost your success in what you're trying to achieve in your community.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: All right. One second, please. "Are there specific activities and deliverables described in the RFP required, or are they examples? Are the specific activities and deliverables described in the RFP required, or are they just examples?"

BETHANY CASE: Hmm, I would say--So, this particular area is going to take--you're going to be graded on it for 25--I think it's 25 percent of your overall score. So, I would make sure that at a minimum, you address all of these activities. But again, they're broad. And they're--and so personalize them and make them your own.

Yes. Everybody address all three objectives.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Last year's grantees had four legal aid programs, but double checking that legal help to children/caregivers is allowed?"

BETHANY CASE: So, what we're learning, which is, you know, really important. Which--I mean, we already knew. But it's that this grant program is helping us to really demonstrate that children need--rely on their caregivers to survive. And so a service to a child is much more than, say, a weekly therapy session. That crime victim services...

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: She' saying.your phone hung up.

BETHANY CASE: Okay. Sorry. We thought we had a technical issue, so back to children and caregivers. So, the service that you're providing to the child's caregiver must be helping the child with their victimization. So if you are, you know, if a child is a victim, say--well I don't want to get into examples, because that's not in the solicitation. But remember that everything needs to be considered a service that's responsive to the needs of the crime victims who are children and youth affected by the substance abuse crisis. If you can, you know, bring things together and justify why certain types of services are--why you consider those to be services to children and youth who are crime victims, then that's great.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: One second, please.

I'm just--to let you guys know we are at 2:05. We do have a handful of questions and we are going to finish answering them. So if you have patience and want to stay with us, we will hopefully get to your question.

"Are there any recruitment referral requirements? Are there any collaboration requirements, (i.e., are there certain types of agencies that we must partner with)?"

BETHANY CASE: We don't define who, at a minimum, you should be partnering with, but we describe some examples of those partnerships. It's going to look different in every community. But everyone needs partners.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Where can I find the link to the federal regulations that grantees have to follow?"

BETHANY CASE: All over the solicitation and this webinar. I would say start with the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide. I would say start with that. And that will bring you in every direction. And this program solicitation, you know, when it brings you to a link, or references a link, follow that link.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Is there a max indirect rate that is allowed?"

BETHANY CASE: You have to--you have to share your federally approved, signed, negotiated, indirect cost rate agreement. And that's what we use.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Can you help distinguish objective two from objective three? Can the collaborative--Can the collaborative you do in objective three be the group that does the needs assessment with you in objective two?"

BETHANY CASE: Yes. It could absolutely. So all of these feed into one another. And you can distinguish them, I'd say, by reading the objectives, the activities listed under each objective. So you can see why we think they're different.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Earlier in the webinar, I heard you say that the RFP provides examples of services that might be provided, not who was previously funded. Did I hear correctly?"

BETHANY CASE: Examples? Yes. So earlier--let's go back up into the--they were very broad. So it was very early on. It was when we said, these are the types of things that can be funded and these are--these are the things that cannot. So that was on slide--you just...

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Did I...?

BETHANY CASE: Yeah.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: One more up?

BETHANY CASE: Go up. Go down--I think it was like eight or nine. Maybe where we talk about VOCA.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: There we go.

BETHANY CASE: So on page--what is this, slide nine maybe?

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: It's slide 10.

BETHANY CASE: Slide 10, where it says Program Description: Statutory Authority. So examples include that are allowable through our statute--Examples include programs and services that provide awareness about victimization and the resources available to

victims, direct services that provide for the needs of crime victims, and support to navigate the complex systems often associated with victimization. So I'm going to, kind of, like--also plant a seed for the person that asked about the legal aid services. I would use this as a, you know, a touch point. Do they meet these criteria? So the reason--one reason that we went over this slide is to let folks know because it's a common question, is that primary prevention programs are not permissible.

Oh, great. So--and someone asked about that.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Yes. Another question about Letters of Support. "Our organization has several locations with medical, dental, social services, and youth clubs. Can we use Letters of Support within our depart--our organization from our various departments to show support and commitment to work with the new staff team under this grant?"

BETHANY CASE: You can--you can provide Letters of Support in any form--format. And that's going to depend on the unique kind of makeup of your community. But we really try to get home--drive home the point that one single organization or one single discipline cannot successfully fully address this issue alone.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Can an organization submit two separate proposals if they would like to implement services in two different locations within the same state? Or are we limited to one per--proposal per organization?"

BETHANY CASE: You're limited to one proposal per organization. But you could--your organization could have one proposal to serve two different areas.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: This kind of expands a little bit.

BETHANY CASE: "Primary prevention is not allowed by the grant. However, it is required that information be distributed to children. Would this be specifically to connect them with services?"

Yes. And I would say the materials don't specifically have to be distributed to children. But to those who are coming and it can be--those who are coming into contact with children. So that they know, "Hey, this is an issue. This is what we're trying to address. These are--these are the services that are available."

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "Do the interventions need to be evidence-based curricula or is evidence-informed acceptable?"

BETHANY CASE: Evidence-informed is acceptable. It's an important--it has been--and I'm not sure what--as to what extent its included in this program solicitation. You may want to use that find feature on the program solicitation, the PDF, to see the mention of evidence-based. That has been a priority of the Department. But it--evidence-informed is good, as well, for this program.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: "You stated that if there is another group within our region receiving federal money for victim substance abuse that we would need to partner with them instead of request a new grant. Does this pertain to victims in general, or children and youth victims?"

BETHANY CASE: So I'm not clear what you're asking. I can tell you that we're trying to reach as many communities as possible through this grant program. So we may be looking for some geographic diversity and we're looking at who got these grants last year. We're not--They were--are not eligible this year. If you live in a community where someone--another organization got a grant for this purpose, you know, that--we'd be asking questions about why are you duplicating what they've already gotten money to do. So I would encourage you no matter what, to partner with different victim service providers.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: All right. And that is our last question. And it is 2:12.

BETHANY CASE: All right. We have a few folks left, so thank you all for hanging in there. I'm exhausted. But I hope this helps to answer some questions and clarify some items for folks. And, oh, absolutely, thank you so much for joining all of you, and for considering applying for this program. We've, you know, gotten some really great feedback from the 41 folks who received last year's grant awards. So we're looking forward to expanding the pool.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: And real quickly before we do go, I have the NCJRS slide up one more time. You can reach them at grants@ncjrs.gov, again, if you have any questions that were not addressed. I mean, we got everything that we saw. But if something comes to your mind after we hang up, you can go ahead and send it there. So on behalf of Bethany, OVC, thank you very much for joining us. And have a wonderful day.

BETHANY CASE: Thanks, everyone.