

[Transcript from the DOJ Grant Programs to Support Victim Services & Public Safety in Tribal Communities webinar, which was held July 18, 2019. The archived webinar can be found at: <https://www.ovc.gov/grants/webinars.html>.]

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Good afternoon, everybody. Welcome to today's webinar, the DOJ Grant Programs to Support Victim Services & Public Safety in Tribal Communities. At this point then, I'm going to turn over the webinar.

JACOB SCHELLINGER: Good morning. This is Jacob Schellinger and I'm the Government Affairs Director at the National Congress of American Indians [NCAI]. We are glad to host the Department of Justice today at the NCAI Tribal Embassy in Washington, D.C., for this webinar on the Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Program.

Congress passed the Victims of Crime Act in 1984, which created the Crime Victims Fund to be the Federal Government's primary source of funding for crime victim services and compensation. Since then, formula funding from the Crime Victims Fund had been distributed on an annual basis to state and territorial governments, and tribal nations had to rely on state pass-through funding to access the program. Due to this state pass-through system, tribes do not have access to adequate victim services funding, creating a severe disparity in the availability of services for crime victims in Indian Country.

After years of advocacy by tribal nations, NCAI, and our partners, Congress provided a three percent Tribal Set-Aside from the Crime Victims Fund in fiscal year 2018 totaling \$133 million. Unfortunately, efforts to administer this funding last year resulted in 20 percent of the Tribal Set-Aside remaining unobligated and being returned to the U.S. Treasury. NCAI is very concerned that the full amount of the appropriated funding is not reaching tribal communities where it is badly needed. In FY 2019, Congress again provided a Tribal Set-Aside from the Crime Victims Fund; this year totaling \$168 million, which is the subject of today's webinar. We need to ensure that this time all of the funds make it out to tribal communities across Indian Country. So again, we are glad to host DOJ for this webinar and the Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Program and hope it will ensure progress in administering these funds.

Thank you. And with that, I will turn it over to Darlene Hutchinson, Director of DOJ's Office for Victims of Crime [OVC].

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: Thank you, Jake. Many thanks to our partners and colleagues here at NCAI and appreciate so much you all hosting us today and allowing us to be here at your facility. And I want to thank our partners also within DOJ. We have representatives from the office--from BJA and the COPS Office who you'll be hearing from shortly to talk about some important law enforcement and public safety programs that they have ongoing. But the bulk of today's webinar will be about the OVC Tribal Set-Aside solicitation, which is still open and will be open until August 16th. Many of you have already heard that that deadline has been extended the--as we are very eager to reach every tribe we can and make sure that everybody is able to apply for this important funding.

We also--I want to give appreciation to our--Leidos who is helping us through this process. We rarely take a webinar on the road, but we are excited about doing this and this has been a fun experience. And, of course, to the OVC Staff who's worked very hard to make this happen, Emily and Yolanda you'll be hearing from, and we have a lot of people back at the home office who have worked hard bringing this event together today.

Many of you have maybe heard, we will also be doing webinars next week from Alaska. And the following week, we will have one from Nashville where USET [United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.] will be our host and we are very excited about those programs. You can find out more about that on our website.

I do urge everybody to check out the many resources you can find at [OVC.gov](https://www.ovc.gov). When you go to the front page, there will be a link off to the right where you can connect to the--to a page full of Tribal Set-Aside information. Past webinars are archived there, links to the open solicitation, and many, many other resources.

Also, I want to mention quickly that we will have a consultation happening in August, [on] August 20th. It's in Michigan. It is held the day before the OVW consultation is held and you can find out more about that on our website also. As Jake mentioned, there is a little over a hundred--almost \$168 million that has been set aside for fiscal year 2019. And we are eager to put all that funding out into the field and make sure that tribes are benefitting from that and the many ways that we can. We are aware and very concerned about the serious public safety challenges that face American Indian and Alaska Native communities and we are fully aware and concerned about the lack of services that are actually reaching crime victims and we are determined to address the gap in various ways. In the Department of Justice and OVC, we are incredibly honored to have this opportunity to administer this critically important funding to ensure that American Indian and Alaska Native survivors do receive these vital services.

Last year in 2018, fiscal year 2018, we were able to fund 154 applicants who met the requirements under the solicitation and that was within a 6-month period. We were able to put that program together and put those grants out there from the time that the appropriations was enacted to the end of the fiscal year. But there are all sorts of programs we've been able to create to help child and elder victims, domestic violence victims, sexual assault survivors, victims of human trafficking, and then also the family members of homicides, and so many other types of crime that we were able to assist. And there are--while there are--There's a wide variety of funding options and things that can be funded under this grant. Under the Victims of Crime Act, there are limitations, however, and that's--Yolanda will be getting into that in detail in a little while. But just for instance, there are some things such as we're not able to pay for programs that are crime prevention or investigative or law enforcement, capital expenses, construction. There are a variety of things that are worthy and necessary expenses, but that are not permitted under the Victims of Crime Act. The--as I mentioned, there is a stand-alone solicitation still open. And that was, in addition to, there was funding available through CTAS, which

closed many months ago and those will be--those applicants who are receiving awards will get that information in a couple of months.

We will not necessarily have slides for every speaker you hear from today, but for the most part, the conversation will be facilitated by slides that will be on your screen and then we will open it up to questions at the end. If you have questions and are listening, you can submit those and then the folks here in the room will have an opportunity to offer some questions, too. So, I am going to now turn things over to Yolanda, I believe? Yes, who will be telling us more about the specifics of the Tribal Set-Aside, the standalone solicitation that is currently open.

**YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON:** Good morning, everyone. As Darlene mentioned, my name is Yolanda Curtis Gibson and I'm a Victim Justice Program Specialist in the Federal, International, and Tribal Division at OVC. As previously mentioned, I'll be providing an overview of OVC's Fiscal Year 2019, Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Program, solicitation requirements, and allowable activities.

During today's presentation, we will take a brief look at OVC's mission, highlight key sections of this year's solicitation, briefly review the application process, and reserve time at the very end of the webinar for your questions and answers.

OVC administers the Crime Victims Fund which is financed by fines and penalties paid by convicted federal offenders, not from tax dollars. Federal revenues deposited into the fund also come from funding--excuse me, from gifts, donations, and bequests by private parties. OVC channels funding for victim compensation and assistance throughout the United States, raises awareness about victims' issues, promotes compliance with victims' rights laws, and provides training, technical assistance, publications, and products to victim assistance professionals. OVC is dedicated to constant improvement in the national response to crime victims by identifying the emerging needs and gaps in existing services, enhancing the skillsets of service providers to better meet those needs, and promoting greater public awareness of the issues that crime victims face.

So now in this section, we're going to take a look at this year's Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside solicitation and we'll start by talking about where to find a copy of this year's solicitation.

If you don't currently have a copy of this year's solicitation, you can use one of the three links in this slide to access it. It is available on Grants.gov, on the OVC website, and also on the Office of Justice Program or OJP website.

Next, I'm going to talk about eligibility requirements for this solicitation. So in addition to federally recognized Indian tribes, we will also accept applications from an organization that is acting as the authorized designee of a federally recognized tribe, as well as some tribal consortia. For the purposes of this solicitation, a consortium may be an existing formal tribal consortium. It can also be two or more federally recognized tribes joining together to submit a single application for funding under the solicitation. What matters

most is that the proposed project benefits each member of the consortium and that you submit some kind of legal evidence showing that you have authority from the involved tribe to apply. While all applicants should submit an authorizing tribal resolution or its legal equivalent with your application for funding, OVC will accept applications from applicants who do not have a resolution. So if you don't submit one with your application, your application can move forward to peer review, but you will have to submit a resolution at some point if you are funded. So now we'll take a look at how many applications OVC will accept from each eligible applicant.

Each eligible applicant under this solicitation, again, whether it's a federally recognized tribe, the authorized designee of a federally recognized tribe, or tribal consortium, may only submit a single application for funding. However, an individual federally recognized tribe may submit its own application for funding and also benefit from an application submitted by a consortium to which it belongs. The important thing to note is that, if that is the scenario, the applications will need to cover different areas that can't be duplicative.

All federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for funding under the shared OVC tribal Set-Aside solicitation. If you have received recent DOJ funding from OVC or OVW under the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation, also known as CTAS, or the Set-Aside Program, or if you have a pending fiscal year 2019 CTAS application, you are still eligible to apply for Set-Aside Funding. Please note, however, and I briefly mentioned this, that you cannot request funding to cover the same costs and activities that are already being supported with the current CTAS or OVC Set-Aside Awards. You also may not request funding to pay for the exact same costs that are included in a pending fiscal year 2019 CTAS application. Instead, your application must include only costs and activities that are different and distinct from an existing award or pending applications for funding. Please be advised that fiscal Year '19 Tribal Set-Aside Applicants who receive an award must not use the funds to supplant tribal funds that have already been appropriated for the same costs. If you need more information about what constitutes supplanting, I recommend that you take a look at the DOJ Financial Guide, which you can find in the Funding Resource Center section of the OJP website. The links of the DOJ Financial Guide will be on a later slide in this presentation.

So now, we'll briefly recap what we covered about who's eligible for this program. Again, eligible applicants are federally recognized Indian Tribal Governments, and Authorized Designee of a Federally Recognized Indian Tribe, or a Tribal Consortium. Again, each tribe may submit only one application, but that tribe can also be a member of a tribal consortium that is also submitting an application. The request for funding must be different and distinct from activities and expenses that are currently being funded. Proposals must supplement existing victim services, if any, and may not include costs that supplant, or replace, existing funding for victim services. And, again, all applicants must submit a current tribal authorizing resolution or other satisfactory evidence of legal authorities from the tribe to apply for funding. Again, if you don't submit an authorized resolution with your application, it will still be considered, but if you are funded, there will be a withholding special conditions placed on your award until we receive that document.

So as my Director previously mentioned, the application submission deadline for this solicitation has changed, since it was originally posted, and that deadline is now Friday, August 16, 2019 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time.

So now we'll talk about the purpose and intent of the Tribal Service Victim Services Set-Aside Program. This solicitation is intended to support the ability of a tribal community to address the comprehensive needs of all crime victims and can support a comprehensive range of activities including needs assessment; strategic planning; program development and implementation; program expansion; and other activities that are needed to address the wide variety of crime victims in tribal communities.

Next, we'll take a look at the two purpose areas for this year's solicitation. Purpose Area 1 is for the establishment of a New Victim Service Program. Purpose Area 2 is for the coordination and expansion of an existing Victim Service Program. Applicants must choose to apply to one purpose area or the other. You cannot apply to both. Please make sure that you choose the appropriate funding opportunity number when you start your application on Grants.gov. And the applicable funding opportunity numbers are noted on your screen. Now I'm going to review each purpose area in more detail.

So as noted here, Purpose Area 1 is for applicants who do not have an existing Victim Services Program. Applicants who may have an existing Victim Services Program but who have not received OVC Funding in the past are encouraged but certainly not required to submit an application under Purpose Area 1. Purpose Area 2 would be a more appropriate choice for any applicant who has an established Victim Services Program, as it offers an opportunity to expand or enhance established programs.

So again, Purpose Area 2 is most appropriate for applicants who have established Victim Services Programs. Purpose Area 2 applicants should propose to expand on the services provided by their current program by adding new services. So this might include something like adding transportation assistance for victims, when that has not been provided before. Targeting new populations of victims, so an example might be expanding a program that currently only serves women and girls, to include men and boys, or new forms for victimization such as human trafficking.

This slide summarizes how Purpose Area 2 applicants can use funding from this year's Set-Aside Program to enhance the tribe's systemic response to crime victims through supporting efforts to make the response trauma-informed, culturally competent, or victim-centered. The response can also be enhanced by improving coordination among chief stakeholders at the tribal, state, and federal levels; or by filling in gaps and service delivery or increasing victim access services.

So I want to emphasize that the funds from this program can only be used to provide services to victims of crime. This slide includes several examples of the types of issues that can be addressed with the award funds and they include, but are certainly not limited to, sexual assault programs; domestic violence programs; program that's focused on serving victims of elder abuse; child abuse programs, including a child advocacy center;

and assisting victims of financial abuse and exploitation among many other topics you could cover. These funds cannot be used for costs or activities related to crime prevention, investigation, prosecution, offender services, or corrections. And the funds also cannot be used for construction costs.

If you'd like more detailed information about allowable and unallowable costs under this program, a list can be found in Appendix A of the solicitation. The two questions provided here on the screen should help you determine whether not a specific cost or activity might be allowable under this program. When deciding whether or not a cost is allowable, you should ask if this cost is related to supporting and assisting crime victims and how the expense directly helps crime victims. If you can answer these two questions in support of victims, then the expense is most likely allowable.

So now we'll take a closer look at unallowable costs and activities. This slide summarizes the costs and activities that are statutorily prohibited under VOCA. I've mentioned many of these unallowable costs already. Please note that this list is not comprehensive. There are other costs and activities that are generally prohibited by other federal laws, policies, and regulations. And some examples of these include using award funds for lobbying or to pay for grantwriting activities. If you include a request for unallowable costs or activities in your application for funding, it will influence how your application will be evaluated. And if your application is ultimately selected, you will be asked to remove the unallowable costs or activities from your Program Narrative and Budget.

So next, we'll take a look at some important information about the amount of funding available to make awards this year. OVC has allocated \$90 million to make awards under the fiscal year 2019 Tribal Set-Aside Program, and I know that number is less than what Director Hutchinson mentioned earlier, but some of that total amount that she mentioned goes towards the CTAS Purpose Area , applications that are currently open, as well as funding for training and technical assistance, specifically dedicated to tribal communities such as the Tribal Financial Management Center. So under this particular solicitation, we have \$90 million allocated. We are unable at this time to estimate how many awards we will be able to make this year, because our goal is to find as many eligible applicants to satisfy the solicitation criteria as possible. Each grantee will receive an award with an award period of 36 months or 3 years. We anticipate that we will make awards that average between \$500,000 and \$720,000. An individual applicant can request an award that totals more than \$720,000. However, that applicant must present a very strong justification to demonstrate an exceptional need for an award that totals more than \$720,000. So for example, applicants could cite the large size of the total population to be served by the proposed project, evidence of an emerging form of crime victimization and some examples that I'll provide are maybe human trafficking, or drug endangered children, or other unique factors in the community that would be served by the proposed project in order to demonstrate that there is exceptional need and a strong justification for funding that exceeds \$720,000. So this concludes our review of the program requirement.

Now I'm going to talk about the documents that should be included in your application for funding. All applicants must submit each one of the documents included on this slide.

These are the Program Narrative, the Budget Detail Worksheet and Narrative, and the Disclosure of Pending Applications. While all three of these documents are required, only the [Program] Narrative and Budget are scored. If your application is missing any of three documents identified here, it will be removed from funding consideration. So now we are going to take a look at the documents that should be included in your application for funding.

This slide summarizes all of the other documents that should be included in your application for funding. Again, if your application is missing any of the three documents that are marked with a red asterisk here, so again that's the [Program] Narrative, the Budget, and the Disclosure of Pending Applications, your application will be removed from funding consideration. There are some documents listed under other attachments here on this slide. Those are the OVC approved strategic plan, logic model, and resumes for key personnel. And the OVC approved strategic plan and logic model are obviously for applicants that have received prior OVC funding. It is completely within your discretion to decide whether or not to attach a strategic plan or logic model that was previously approved by OVC. If you have these documents, however, they could enhance the information presented in the description of the issue section of your Program Narrative. You are strongly encouraged to submit resumes and position descriptions for employees and consultants who will staff your proposed project. These documents can prove an important supplement to the information in the capabilities and competency section of your Program Narrative.

Please keep in mind that if you fail to submit many of the other documents listed here as an attachment to your application and your application is selected for funding, your award will include withholding special conditions that will prevent you from obligating, expending, or drawing down any funds for the award until you submit the missing documentation and OJP issues a Grant Adjustment Notice to retire the withholding special condition. So in short, I highly recommend that you submit as much information as you can upfront with your application.

Next, I'll provide more detailed information about the documents you are required to submit starting with the Program Narrative. You are strongly encouraged to stick to the formatting guidelines for the Program Narrative in the solicitation. These guidelines have been formulated to ensure that your Program Narrative is easy to read. If you expand the margin, use a smaller than recommended font, reduce the line spacing, or submit a Program Narrative that exceeds 25 pages, it will make your Program Narrative more difficult to read. And if the reviewers cannot find the required information in your Program Narrative, it could negatively impact how your Program Narrative is evaluated. You are strongly encouraged to use the various sections of the Program Narrative as subheadings. Those sections are listed on your screen and they are the Description of the Issue, the Project Description and Implementation, Capabilities and Competencies, and Plan for Collecting Data. These subheadings will help you organize your information, increase the likelihood that your Program Narrative is responsive to all of the solicitation requirements, and make it easier for reviewers to find required information. So now we'll take a brief look at the--at the four required Program Narrative sections.

So, again, the first section is the Description of the Issue. This section should be narrowly focused on the problems that will be addressed by the proposed project so that the demographic and crime data you provide are relevant and logically related to the goals and objectives of the proposed project. Next, I'll take a look at the Program Design and Implementation section.

The Program Design and Implementation section is the most important section of your Program Narrative as it carries the most weight in how your Program Narrative will be evaluated. The goals and objectives in this section should be relevant and logically linked to the problems that you are proposing to address in the Description of the Issue section. You're strongly encouraged to use a SMART Goal format to describe your goals and objectives, and the objectives required to achieve them. SMART Goals are goals that are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-bound. Next, we're going to look at the Capabilities and Competencies section.

You could use the Capabilities and Competencies section to illustrate your organizational capacity to carry out the goals and objectives of the proposed project. This is also where you should identify the key personnel, consultants, or contractors who will be responsible for carrying out the goals and objectives of the project and describe how they are qualified to do so. Attaching an organizational chart, position descriptions for proposed project personnel, and resumes for any current employees or known consultant will enhance the information in this section. So now we're going to review the section of the Program Narrative that is focused on collecting the data required.

Page 14 of the solicitation describes the Post-Award Performance Measurement Data Collection and Reporting Requirements for successful applicants to this program. You are encouraged to carefully review this information and explore the link included on this page so that you understand your post-award requirements. You should use this section of your Program Narrative to do two things. The first is to demonstrate your understanding of the performance data recording requirements for this grant program. And the second is to detail how you will gather the required data should your tribe or organization receive funding. So now we're going to wrap up our review of the Program Narrative requirements with some tips.

In summary, your Program Narrative should use simple and easy to read and understand language instead of jargon, abbreviations, or acronyms. It should be focused on providing services to crime victims and present SMART Goals and objectives that can realistically be achieved in a 36-month project period.

Now we're going to review the Budget Requirements for this program.

In general, your budget must include cost for a full 36 months of award activities and must be consistent with the activities and project personnel described in your Program Narrative. As I mentioned previously, it should not exceed a total of \$720,000, unless you have provided a strong justification in your Program Narrative about the exceptional need



in the community to be served by the proposed project. Again, all costs included in the budget must be logically connected to the personnel, consultants, contractors, and activities described in the Program Narrative. Every cost in the budget must be properly itemized and every line item must have a narrative description which clearly and concisely justifies the item by explaining how it is related to the goals and objectives of the Program Narrative. The Budget Detail Worksheet must organize all line items using OJP-approved budget categories, and must include a Budget Summary Page. If you'd like more information about developing your budget and using the Budget Detail Worksheet, please access the recording of the Budget Detail Worksheet overview webinar that OVC conducted in Fiscal Year 2018. You can access it by using the link on your screen.

So now, we will take a look at the recommended Budget Detail Worksheet for this solicitation. OVC strongly encourages all applicants to use the OJP's Budget Detail Worksheet. The OJP Budget Detail Worksheet is a user-friendly Excel Workbook that contains all of the required OJP budget categories and it also includes formulas that will calculate the subtotal for each category, and will use the subtotal to populate the required Budget Summary Page. The OJP Budget Detail Worksheet can be accessed by using the link on this [slide](#).

And so now, we'll take a look at some tips for preparing your budget. Again, if you use the OJP Budget Detail Worksheet, you should be less likely to have difficulties with ensuring that your calculations are accurate. The OJP Worksheet also includes space to add a narrative description to the line items in each budget category, thereby eliminating the need to submit a separate budget narrative document. As a reminder, your budget must cover a full 36 months of project activities and, again, should not exceed \$720,000 total without required justification in the Program Narrative. All costs must be reasonable, allowable, consistent, and allocable. Also keep in mind that OVC will not be able to approve a request for a no-cost extension of the award period for these grants. You should also note that you can check the list of unallowable and allowable items in Appendix A if you want to know which costs are allowable to add to your budget. And finally, you can access the DOJ Financial Guide if you have questions about other financial accounting-related issues.

So as mentioned earlier, all applicants must include a Disclosure of Pending Application. There is no template for this disclosure so applicants should submit the disclosure as a Word document. OVC asks for this because we want to ensure that we are not funding applications that duplicate costs and activities that are already included in an applicant's current federal award, or in an applicant's pending application for federal funding. So, you might be asking what are we interested in when we read your disclosure of pending applications. Well, we want information on federal awards that you received and/or any application for federal funding that you've submitted in the 12 months prior to your submission of an application for the fiscal year 2019, Tribal Set-Aside Program. This includes awards for which you are the actual or proposed direct recipient or subrecipient. You are required to disclose a federal award that you've received or pending application for federal funding that supports the same projects being proposed in the application under this solicitation, and that would cover any identical cost items outlined in the budget

submitted in response to this solicitation. Your written statement should include the three data elements on the bulleted list on this slide. These are the federal or state funding agency name for the award or application that you're declaring; the solicitation name, project name, and description of the project; and the point of contact information at the applicable funding agency. If you do not have a federal award or pending application to report, your disclosure statement can simply state that. So, this concludes our review of the application attachment. I do want to note a few things before we move on to information on how to apply. Remember that if you do not attach an authorizing tribal resolution, a disclosure of pending applications, or many of the other "should" documents listed on this slide, a few slides back, such as disclosures of high-risk status and lobbying activities, and your application is submitted--excuse me--selected for funding, your award will include a withholding special condition that will permit you from being able to obligate, expend, or draw down funds until you submit the missing documents and OJP issues a grant adjustment notice to remove the special condition.

So next, we'll talk about how to submit an application for funding.

Again, all applications must be submitted online by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time on Friday, August 16, 2019. You will submit your applications on Grants.gov. You are strongly encouraged to review and bookmark the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by using the link in this [slide](#). It is an important application resource that contains a detailed description of the application process. Please, and I emphasize, please do not wait until the last minute to start your application. If you follow OJP's advice and start your application about 72 hours prior to the deadline and preferably before that, you should have sufficient time to correct any errors in your Grants.gov submission.

Grants.gov has a number of tools available for applicants who are unfamiliar with the system. This slide summarizes some of those available resources. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of them if you have not used Grants.gov before. So, this slide includes a list of websites that may prove useful to you as you prepare your application for funding, these include links to the OVC Tribal Set-Aside website, the DOJ Financial Guide that I referenced earlier, the Grants Management System, and the Performance Measurement Tool.

If you need technical assistance with submitting your application in Grants.gov, please contact the Grants.gov helpdesk using the contact information on your screen. The helpdesk is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to provide support to applicants.

If after today's session you have questions about the technical requirements of the solicitation or about the OVC Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside Program, please contact the NCJRS Response Center using the contact information on your screen.

So this concludes my presentation. I'm happy to answer any questions you have at the very end of the webinar. And now I'm going to turn it over to my BJA colleague, Julius Dupree.

JULIUS DUPREE: Thank you, Yolanda. Hello, my name is Julius Dupree, I'm a Policy Advisor with the Bureau of Justice Assistance. And the Bureau of Justice Assistance provides financial and training and technical assistance resources, to states, tribal governments, as well as local jurisdictions to actually address crime issues and hopefully protect public safety and reduce recidivism.

And so I wanted to just kind of--The way our office is set up is we provide programs that actually span the criminal justice system. So I'll just talk about these particular programs briefly and I'll talk about them by discipline, just because I know that we have a limited amount of time. But I'm also going to provide you with some resources, some information on where you can find out more information about these opportunities if you want to learn more about them. So at first, I'd like to talk about the general funding stream that's--the general funding stream for tribes that actually the Department of Justice bundles a lot of the tribal funding, and that's the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation. And for the Bureau of Justice Assistance, we actually administer the Purpose Area 2 funding, which is the--that really gives jurisdictions an opportunity to engage in strategic planning. We also have Purpose Area 3, which is actually another--a purpose area that allows jurisdictions to look at their justice systems, and actually provide--or come up--or implement programming, if you will, to actually address substance abuse, drug abuse issues, as well as enhance drug tribal courts, and implement healing and wellness courts. Purpose Area 4 is actually another category where we provide funding for tribes to be able to enhance their tribal justice infrastructure capacity. So if you have facilities, like tribal justice facilities such as courts, multi-purpose justice centers, police departments, as well as correctional facilities and halfway houses that you want to renovate or if you want to renovate a facility within your tribe, then you can provide, you can actually apply for funding to help you build that sort of capacity under that program.

So now I want to talk a little bit about some of our substance abuse programs that we provide in recognition to the fact that opioid is a big issue. We actually have a comprehensive opioid abuse subsite base program, which really provides funding for jurisdictions to be able to address opioid issues within their reservations. We also have the Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program. So if you are looking to implement a drug court program to treat nonviolent offenders, then that's--that particular program is available as well. Another substance abuse-related program is the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program. And what this is, is actually a program that actually supports cross-system collaboration to improve responses and outcomes for individuals with mental health issues. So that's, in summary, a lot of our substance abuse-related programs.

Now, I want to just hop into a law enforcement. So some of the law enforcement-particular programs that we have available is we have Strategies for Policing Innovation Program, which really gives jurisdictions, law enforcement agencies an opportunity to address the most pressing crime issues within the--their communities. Basically, gives an opportunity for law enforcement agencies to look internally in operational issues and organizational changes that can impact these pressing crime issues. We also have a couple programs around addressing school violence. We have a program entitled Student, Teachers, and Officers Preventing School Violence; and so this is a program that really looks at

enhancing technologies for, you know, reporting mechanisms, and also providing, you know, counseling or addressing mental health issues within schools to hopefully stem back violence as well. Project Safe Neighborhoods, that's a--that's a grant program that's really led by the U.S. attorneys. But what it is, is it's a--it's an opportunity that allows jurisdictions to address serious violent crime issues. And it's really dependent on a partnership between local, state, tribal, federal agencies. So that's a program that's available as well. And then we do partner with the--we partner with Office of Victims Against Crime. I'm sorry, Office of Victims of Crime. And we partner with them on a--at a program called Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking Program. And so this really gives tribes an opportunity to address human trafficking issues or, you know, labor trafficking, sex trafficking types of crimes as well. Another law enforcement-related program is our Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program. So if you have--if you have a department that wants to implement body-worn camera policies and procedures, and then actually purchase equipment to implement that, then that's a program that you may want to look at as well. So the...

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: Oh, Julius?

JULIUS DUPREE: Yes.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: I'm sorry, I'm going to pause you real quick. I've--we've learned that folks might have lost audio, so I'm just confirming before you move on that the participants can hear. So pause one moment, please.

If the participants on the webinar could send in notice using the chat functions, whether or not you can hear us, that would be most helpful. We don't want to pause the webinar for too long if you can hear us. Otherwise, you'll hear nothing. Okay.

Okay. I'm hearing that participants can still hear us, so we haven't lost audio, so we'll continue the presentation now.

JULIUS DUPREE: Okay. Thank you. Okay, just to continue with the presentation, as far as law enforcement-related resources, we have a Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program where we have program that allows tribes to apply for reimbursement for funding for bulletproof vests. We actually refund up to 50 percent of the total cost of the body armor.

There's also a Local Law Enforcement Crime Gun Intelligence Center Integration Program. Now this is--the--an effort that allows for tribes to work with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, and it's to provide funding to entities that are experienced precipitous increases in gun crime issues, and try to come up with efforts to reduce that violent crime.

The--another law enforcement-related initiative is the National Sexual Assault Kits Initiative. So basically what this program is designed to do is it provides jurisdictions with resources to address sexual assault kits in their custody and those kits that have not yet been submitted to a forensic laboratory for testing to the combined--CODIS or Combined

DNA Index System. Index--And another piece that I'd like to address as far as law enforcement is our Innovations in Community Based Crime Reduction Program. So basically this is a program that really focuses on high-crime communities with hotspots. And so it gives law enforcement an opportunity to work more closely with communities to address potential hotspots within those--within these communities.

We also have another program entitled, Supporting Innovation Field-Initiated Programs to Improve Officer and Public Safety. And so this particular program gives law enforcement agencies an opportunity to develop and test solutions that will improve officer and public safety.

Now another--and one of the last law enforcement piece I want to talk about is really focused on the States of Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas only, and it's entitled, the Southwest Border Rural Law Enforcement Information Sharing and Interdiction Assistance Grant Program. So what it does is that it allows for jurisdictions to address violent crime along rural areas or along the southwest border.

I'd like to also talk a little bit about our--some of our corrections program funding. We have a lot of--a lot of resources around reentry or helping with the reintegration of individuals back into communities after a period of incarceration. So our Second Chance Act is a--it's actually--the Second Chance Act Comprehensive Community-Based Adult Reentry Program. And it really supports jurisdictions and actually providing a comprehensive reentry services to program participants from the time that they transition from jail to the community. And so you want to get services within the facility to help with that reintegration process, you can apply for this funding for that, as well as post-incarceration resources as well.

Another program that we administered is actually--it's called Implementing the Prison Rape Elimination Act Standards. And this is really around helping jurisdictions with strategies to actually protect inmates and safeguard communities to help, you know, prevent prison rape. And so that's--that opportunity is available to tribes as well.

Another corrections program I wanted to touch base on is the Innovations in Reentry Initiative. And this is really around providing local jurisdictions with the necessary tools to be able to identify assets and gaps within their current local reentry systems and develop capacity to actually address those gaps.

For those of you who may have probation departments, or for tribes that may have probation departments, we have Innovative Responses to Behavior in Community--and the Community: Swift, Certain, Fair Supervision Program. And what that does is it allows probation departments to be able to come up with strategies, if you will, to be able to implement programs that actually hold offenders accountable, you know, through Swift, Certain, and Fair types of, you know, sanctions and incentives.

The--another piece I wanted to talk about is the Co-Occurring Disorders Programs. So we have a reentry program that's really focused on adults with co-occurring substance abuse

and mental illness program, and what it does is it improves access and delivery to--of services to offenders with co-occurring substance abuse and mental health illnesses when they leave an incarceration to reenter the community.

So we also have a couple of court programs, and I just wanted to highlight and then I'll just go ahead and give you the--some guidance on where you can go to find out more information on these programs. So as far as the courts are concerned, we have an Innovative Prosecution Solutions Program and what that does is it provides states, local, and tribal prosecutors with information and resources on training and technical assistance to actually delivery effective strategies and programs to address violent crime and prosecute individuals responsible for homicides caused by illegal opioids.

And then we have the Upholding the Rule of Law and Preventing Wrongful Convictions Program. So what this does is it allows courts or jurisdictions to be able to look at, you know, if there are some folks that were wrongfully accused or there's a belief that was someone was wrongfully accused for a crime, then it looks at ways to enhance your capacity to basically look at these claims of innocence and then hopefully, find the actual offenders that may have committed the crime or crimes.

Now a lot of those programs that I just discussed there--all of those programs I should say are closed for this fiscal year. But we do, I mean, historically, we've been able to offer these programs year after year, but that is, obviously, contingent on congressional appropriations in funding. But what I would, you know, encourage you all to do is to--if you want to find out more information about these funding opportunities, you can actually go to the Bureau of Justice Assistance website and that's [www.BJA.gov](http://www.BJA.gov). But I think, if you really want to have a passive way of being able to find out when these opportunities are available, what I would encourage you to do is to start to register for some of the funding websites. One big one is the Grants.gov and that is at [www.grants.gov/register.html](http://www.grants.gov/register.html), and what that is, is basically the--I should say, the portal for all federal grant funds; and so you can register through that website and then you can be able to get updated on whatever funding opportunities are going to be coming out. I also encourage you to go to our Department of Justice Tribal Justice and Safety website which is the department's website of all the Department tribal funding and training and technical assistance resources, and you access that by going to [www.justice.gov/tribal](http://www.justice.gov/tribal). And if you register for that website, what'll happen is all the grant opportunities that I just spoke about will actually be sent through an email distribution list. And so if you get registered for that list, you'll get all these opportunities as they're rolled out, throughout the course of the year. There's also a--If you want to get a forecast of what the Department's going to be offering as far as grant opportunities, you can go to the Department of Justice website and look up Program Plan. So if you look up--if you go--you can either--even Google it. If you go to DOJ Program Plan, you'll get a whole list of everything that all of the offices are going to be offering for fiscal year '20, which is coming up soon. So keep an eye out for that, as well. The--As far as the training and technical assistance is concerned, there--we--the Department offers a myriad of training and technical assistance that actually spans the criminal justice continuum. If you go to Tribal Justice and Safety website, and then you click on the Training and Technical Assistance link, you'll see that. That we have a cadre of services

around in alcohol and substance abuse; law enforcement tribal court; tribal civil and criminal legal assistance; corrections alternatives and alternatives incarceration and reentry; juvenile delinquency prevention and juvenile justice; victim services, as Darlene and Yolanda discussed; intergovernmental collaboration; information sharing; sex offender registration notification act; domestic and sexual violence crimes, as well. So that's really the portal to really find out a lot about what the DOJ is doing around tribal programming, training, and technical assistance. And BJA actually--And in addition to those resources that we--that I just discussed, BJA has a catch-all training and technical assistance provider, it's called BJA National Training and Technical Assistance Center. And basically what it is, is if there's--there are--there are issues that you may have or you have technical assistance needs that may not fit into any of those available training and technical assistance categories that are already out there, this is more of a--the training and technical assistance center is a catch-all TA provider where we can plug you in to some consultants or training and technical assistance providers that may be able to help you out. So I can give you an example. We had a tribe that actually had an issue around--they wanted to implement an information-sharing system. And we were able, through this particular service, to give--to basically have a consultant go out, work with that tribe, on a, you know, a long-term basis to help that tribe, you know, identify information exchanges that are necessary to implement their information sharing system. So again, this is the kind of thing that may not fit in some of those categories that I talked about, but we'll find a way to be able to address some of those technical assistance needs that are not readily, you know, accessible through our current resources. And so I encourage you to also look into that resource as well.

I know this PowerPoint is not available currently but, I mean, we can make arrangements, I can--I can work with folks here to be able to get these resources to you so that you have that information but at this time, I think I'll go ahead and turn it over to Matt Lysakowski with the COPS Office and he can talk a little bit more about those resources. So...

**MATTHEW LYSAKOWSKI:** Thanks Julius. My name's Matt Lysakowski and I'm the Senior Adviser for Tribal Affairs for the COPS Office, or Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. And I want to thank our host today, NCAI, for providing an opportunity for us to reach out to our tribal audience and also OVC for inviting the COPS Office to participate today--in today's webinar.

I'm going to talk a little bit about the COPS Office's programs, resources, and technical assistance for law enforcement. For those who may not know, the COPS Office mission is to advance community policing and we do that through funding directly and training and publications and other resources that we provide to the field.

Our fiscal year 2019 programs, most of them are closed, but we do have a couple that actually are going to be opening up here in a few weeks, we hope. The--For tribes that--the main one that folks look at is the Tribal Resources Grant Program, or TRGP. And we offer that program through CTAS, as Julius described earlier, that's the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation, the Department Of Justice's method for soliciting for tribal-specific

grant programs. The deadline for that program was March and we hope to make our awards by September, at the end of the fiscal year.

Two other programs that we are hoping to actually announce in the coming weeks, likely in the summer of 2019 here, are the COPS Hiring Program and the Community Policing Development Program from--with Microgrants. The COPS Hiring Program is open to all law enforcement agencies in the nation, and it's a little bit different from the Tribal Resources Grant Program, in that it provides 75 percent of officer salary and benefits for up to \$125,000 for 3 years.

I'm going to talk a little bit more about the Tribal Resources Grant Program in the next slide but just to give you an overview of these two other programs I wanted to mention, the COPS Hiring Program and our Microgrants for Community Policing Development. The microgrant initiative is really seed money for innovative community policing projects and we typically ask applicants to focus on specific areas in the solicitation, it might be youth engagement, or hiring and recruitment, or the opioid epidemic. So when that solicitation comes out, please take a look at that for the specific topic areas that we're going to be focusing on for this year. Those are small grants typically \$75,000-\$100,000, but they can be impactful for tribes. And just to give you an example, a few years ago, we funded the Nez Perce Tribe to engage their youth and develop a youth explorer academy at the local level there, which was very successful.

The Tribal Resources Grant Program, again, that's solicited through Purpose Area 1 in CTAS, and it provides two different areas really, the hiring of entry level non-specialty positions, officers for tribal law enforcement agencies, and also equipment and training. And the goal of the program is to meet the most pressing needs of tribal law enforcement. The program does include options for anti-meth and anti-opioid activities and BIA service tribes are eligible, just to clarify on that point. Similar to OVC, we typically include an allowable and unallowable cost list for the program each year and it will list out the things that we specifically allow and some of the things that we unfortunately cannot allow under the program. Just to give you an idea of some of the most popular items under the program, we often see in addition to the officer position requests of course, we see lots of requests for vehicles for the law enforcement agency, particularly specialty types of vehicles that maybe needed in some of the diverse geographic areas, with mountainous terrains, snow-covered terrains, those kinds of things. We typically see lots of requests for those vehicles; radios for law enforcement officers; uniforms; basic issue equipment for officers; and then some of the bigger information technology types of requests for records management systems; computer-aided dispatch; and those kinds of projects as well. In 2018, just to give you a--looking back a bit, we have awarded \$24.7 million in this Purpose Area in CTAS. In 2019, we received 133 applications requesting over \$56 million in funding. So as you'll see, our requests are well-over the amount that we will have available this year. We will likely fund probably 40 to 50 applications for about that same amount probably roughly around \$24 million this year in 2019.

As Julius mentioned, pending congressional appropriations, we hope to have the program again in fiscal year '20 in part of CTAS. And historically, we've launched CTAS in the late



fall and early winter timeframe, so if we keep to our past practice, that's the time to look for the CTAS solicitation. I wanted to mention some of the education and outreach we do around the solicitation itself and Julius mentioned the [justice.gov/tribal](https://justice.gov/tribal) website where we post the solicitation and all of our solicitation-related materials. We host teleconferences and webinars, just like this one during the application period. And past recordings are available for those as well, so if you want to take a look at this past--this current year's recordings, you could go and do that. You can also review all the past solicitations for CTAS and fact sheets for each Purpose Area. We maintain frequently asked questions on the website. And like I said, we post those prior solicitations. And we also have sample redacted applications so you can take a look at what a successful application looked like in the past.

As Yolanda mentioned, it's never too early to start planning for the next year's solicitations and to get your applications going and in, well in advance of those closing timeframes, so always sort of be mindful of the next year's solicitations and start planning as early as possible.

In addition to our grant resources, I want to talk a little bit about our Collaborative Reform Initiative for Technical Assistance Center. And similar to BJA's National Technical Assistance Center, this is a way that we can assist grantees and non-grantees with technical assistance needs that they might have. And the center provides tailored technical assistance resources to tribal, state, and local law enforcement on a wide variety of topics. And we really take the approach that this is a "by the field, for the field" type of initiative in delivering this individualized technical assistance using experts from across the field, yeah, and public safety, crime reduction, and various community policing topics. And we've partnered with the International Association of Chiefs of Police to administer this program, but they have numerous other partner organizations such as the National Sheriffs' Association and others that will solicit and provide specific subject matter experts for the requested technical assistance.

The methods that we utilize for the technical assistance vary according to the needs of the field. It could be providing individualized training on site for the tribal law enforcement agency, it could be doing a peer-to-peer type of consultation where we identify a subject matter expert who has had experience in the topic that the tribe is in need of consultation on and we'll have a peer-to-peer exchange where we'll send a current, say, Chief of Police out to work with the Chief of Police that's having the challenge around a particular topic and really try to coach and work with them to identify ways that they can address those needs. You'll see on the slide there, some of the topics that we can engage on in this technical assistance, ranging from cross-deputization, hiring and recruitment, drug identification, youth partnerships, really the whole gamut of public safety and law enforcement needs, we will try to assist with.

To submit requests through the Collaborative Reform Initiative Technical Assistance Center, you can visit our website, [cops.usdoj.gov/collaborativereform](https://cops.usdoj.gov/collaborativereform). And you'll see on the slide there what that page looks like. There's a couple of buttons there, you can click on. The Fact Sheet gives you a little more detail about the initiative. We recently published

an Annual Report from last year's initiative that describes some of the successes we had under the program. So you can take a look there, if you, sort of, want to get a feel for the types of technical assistance we've provided and can provide in the future. And then finally on the far right there, is the Request Assistance button. And you can click on that, and it will take you to a link where you can fill out a brief form to submit a request for the technical assistance under the program.

In addition to our grant programs and our technical assistance, I wanted to just quickly also mention the Tribal Access Program. Some of you may be familiar with the Tribal Access Program, but it's a way for tribes to access the CJIS, the Criminal Justice Information Systems of the FBI. And this was launched in 2015 and continues to expand. In fact, last year, we added 25 new tribes that are participating in a program. And BIA direct service locations were also added. In 2019, we are anticipating additionally-- additional expansion for the program, as the COPS Office received a new \$3 million line item to provide expansion of the Tribal Access Program. We anticipate that period opening for folks--for tribes to submit applications to participate in the program on September 1st. And that's going to be open from September 1st to October 31st. You can review the slide there if you want to learn more details about TAP. And, of course, at the [justice.gov/tribal](https://justice.gov/tribal) website, there's much more information about TAP, and the program and participants in the--in the program itself now.

So Julius mentioned the grants.gov website, and I'll also, of course, promote our website, [cops.usdoj.gov](https://cops.usdoj.gov), as an opportunity to learn about the various publications and grant opportunities that we have. I didn't specifically put a slide in here about our publications, but we have a wide array of publications across the law enforcement field and topics, as well as tribal-specific publications, including a flash drive that we offer that has all of those tribal-specific publications available on it that you can review at your convenience on your desktop. And with that, I think I'll turn it back over to our facilitators for our question and answer session now.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: Great. Thank you, Matthew. And thank you to all of our presenters today. This ends the presentation portion of the webinar. And we'll begin taking questions. For those that are online or listening to the WebEx, please enter your questions using the chat box if--chat box, if you haven't already. We're going to start with questions in the room, and then we'll move into questions that have come in through the WebEx presentation.

ESTHER LABRADO: Hi. This is Esther Labrado, and I'm a staff attorney here at NCAI. I just want to, again, thank everyone for being in the room. We really appreciate your being here today. And, you know, this is such an important funding opportunity, and we're excited that we could be able to share and encourage tribes to apply and hopefully answer any other questions. I'll go ahead and start off the Q&A session.

"I know that there was a mention that the funding cannot be used for any investigation or prosecution purposes, so I just wanted clarify, what about--could the funding be used for--

to hire a victim advocate that would be in the prosecutor's office, or would that run into that prohibition?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Yes, you could hire a victim advocate that is systems-based. So, in the prosecutor's office or law enforcement, that's okay. Investigation and prosecution are prohibited, but a victim advocate that's there to just help them navigate the criminal justice process and connect resources is completely fine. Thank you.

ESTHER LABRADO: Great. Thank you. "And if you can maybe give some more clarification on--I understand there's a prohibition on construction costs. And I wondered--I have, kind of, a couple of examples of things that I wonder whether they fell into that category, but it might also might be useful just to expand on that prohibition generally. But, for example, if there was a domestic violence shelter, for example, that wanted to or needed to, add a wheelchair ramp along the side to be a--better serve a wider variety of victims, would that be considered construction costs and therefore be prohibited?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Well, all construction--well, not construction. Of course, construction is prohibited. All renovation costs are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. But, yes, you could order a wheelchair ramp and attach it to the outside of a facility to make it more accessible to victims. Other renovation costs, it could include maybe replacing windows or floors in a domestic violence shelter, but, as I said, again, that's evaluated on a case-by-case basis. And if you include those costs in your budget and your budget is approved by OCFO, which is our Office of the Chief Financial Officer, there are still some additional post-award reviews that will need to take place to make sure that your request for renovations actually fit the definition of renovations. OVC does not determine that. That's something we'd have to consult with our Office of the General Counsel. And also to make sure that whatever you're requesting is compliant with regulations like NEPA [National Environmental Policy Act] and NHPA [NHPA National Historical Preservation Act].

ESTHER LABRADO: Fine. Thank you. "And for the evaluation on a case-by-case basis, I wondered, are there recommendations or other guidelines in terms of, when you're trying to put back into your budget, should you explain the last time the windows were able to be replaced or the--you know, if you had--could you pay for an inspector to come and evaluate whether they need to be replaced?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: I would have to consult with OVC leadership and OGC on whether or not you can pay for an inspector. But, yes, I would recommend that if you put it in the application, that you explain what you mentioned, the necessity and specifically why it's needed to serve victims.

ESTHER LABRADO: Okay. Thank you. "And what about funds if there's, you know, staff that has been employed, either with the shelter in the Victims Services Program for a long time and haven't seen any pay increases, could you use the funds to give them raises with, you know, the--justifying it by staff retention?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Well, again, I emphasized that you can't use funds just to supplant. But if that staff person is going to be paid under the grant, then, yes, you can offer raises to them, either--whether it's an annual cost of living raise or performance based.

ESTHER LABRADO: "So if there's a staff member who's exist--a current staff member on-working in a shelter and their salary then will continue to be paid for by grant funding, then you could use it to increase their salary? Their salary under the new program would be higher?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Are you saying that the staff person is currently paid under a grant...

ESTHER LABRADO: I'd say no.

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: ...that you already have?

ESTHER LABRADO: No, not currently.

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Okay. If they're going to be paid under this grant, then, yes, you could incorporate raises for them into your budget.

ESTHER LABRADO: "And the prohibition would be because if they were paid under another grant, that would then run into your--using funds for the same project and that's prohibited?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Yes. Now, if they are genuinely going to have their time split between two grants, the duties associated with two different programs, you can do that and split the cost for the raises, accordingly; however that works. But if you have a staff member that's already being paid on another grant and they aren't genuinely going to be doing anything different that qualifies under this grant, you don't want to just move them, because then that would be the supplanting.

ESTHER LABRADO: Great. Thank you.

"And then what about if there--in terms of, if you need emergency housing for victims, what--are there guidelines in terms of, could--you know, apply with the idea that you would then maybe purchase a mobile home to use as emergency housing or if you have tribal housing or other facilities?" I know that there are some allowances for rent assistance. So could you--I guess, I'll break those into separate questions. "Could you use the funding to get--to purchase a mobile home that could be used as emergency housing for victims?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Yes. You could do that.

ESTHER LABRADO: Okay. "Could you use the funds to rent space as emergency housing if that housing is tribal housing?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: No. You cannot use grant funds to pay rent on housing that's owned by the grantee, the tribe in this case. You can, however, use grant funds to pay rent on housing that is not owned by the grantee. Just keep in mind that if you're going to provide a--like a security deposit or anything like that, that it is a grantee's--you, as a grantee--responsibility to recover the security deposit once the grantee vacates the premises. The same is also true if you are providing security deposits for utility services. And once you get the funding, you can work with your OVC grant manager to establish policies and procedures for how you handle that.

ESTHER LABRADO: Great. Thank you. Well, are there any other questions in the room? Well, I can probably think of some more, but I'll just go ahead and turn it over to see if there's any available on the chat. Thank you.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: Thank you, Esther and Yolanda. Mary Jo, please let us know if there are questions that came in through WebEx?

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Yes. We have two questions, and they're follow-ups to each other. "My tribe already submitted its application during the initial deadline. The maximum amount was less than we--what is currently listed in the solicitation. Are we allowed to amend our application to increase our services and budget, as we should not be penalized?"

And then the follow-up was an indication that, "there's a format requirement and page limits are different. So I'm not sure what changed there." From the initial deadline I guess or something--I don't quite understand that part of the question. And this person is no longer on the call.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: Yes. I think what we said is we would answer her question during the call and then make sure we emailed her the response afterwards.

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Correct. That is...

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: So we'll go ahead and answer it for the rest of the folks that are listening.

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: This is Darlene. I suspect that the person asking the question probably is referring to--they applied for the CTAS grant which closed many months ago because the maximum amounts were different for what you could request through CTAS. And both are being paid for from this Tribal Set-Aside. When the CTAS solicitation was issued, we had not yet received this funding, so we weren't certain we would receive it, and therefore the caps were set at a different level. So you could add to your grant as Yolanda has--or your application. Yolanda has discussed that you cannot request the same thing, so if you, for instance, requested--you're building out your domestic violence programs and you may have built in your original application, say, two employees and now you want to add a third, or you want to request a vehicle, which wasn't in the original

one, you could add to it, but they should not be--you shouldn't be asking for same thing and paying for the same cost or activities in both proposals. They shouldn't overlap in that way. But you certainly could add to it.

The CTAS application did not have the provision where you could go over the cap, as Yolanda has talked about. In the stand-alone Set-Aside solicitation, with the proper justification, you could request more than the 720--\$720,000 amount, but it would have to be a pretty strong justification because we're, of course, trying to make funding available to as many tribes as possible. So I suspect that's what that caller or the listener was inquiring about.

Did--Mary Jo, I know it had two points to it. Did that, sort of, cover both?

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: The second point was the part where I--it's not a complete sentence, so I'm not sure exactly what they are saying. And it was referencing the change in--the require--"the format requirements and page limits are different," is what they said. But I don't know what the question about that is.

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: Yes. In CTAS, it probably was a different amount. I didn't bring that solicitation with me today. And for this one, the 25 pages is what the--we've set the limit at. And to elaborate on a point that's been made, I would strongly suggest on any of these questions, you just build out your explain--your narrative and your explanation as fully as possible, so that the people evaluating and looking at the application understand and that it coincides with your budget. So different line items and sections of your budget that it's being fully explain in your narrative.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: Mary Jo, do you Want to move on to the next question?

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: And that--that's it. That's--those are the only questions that we have at this time.

ESTHER LABRADO: I had one more that I thought of. And I wanted to give a special thank you to both Julius and Matt, your descriptions of the funding opportunities that are available through your offices were really helpful, and I appreciated that you gave, kind of, specific examples of projects that had been funded before. "And I believe you mentioned that there is redact--there are success--previously successful applications available online, is that correct?"

MATTHEW LYSAKOWSKI: That is correct. So on the justice.gov/tribal website, then you go to the CTAS area on the page. It was--yeah. I think it's under the, I believe, closed solicitation area within the CTAS banner and so in and there you can see the previously successful, redacted applications.

ESTHER LABRADO: Thank you. "And is there something similar for the Set-Aside?"

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: At this time, there is not. But it appears to be a great idea that we may. Of course last year's 2018 Set-Aside was the first time we had done this, and I believe the narratives last year were limited to 4-8 pages. And it was the two-phased process because of the time limits that we had. But I believe that maybe an idea that we may be considering from our colleagues.

MATTHEW LYSAKOWSKI: And within CTAS, of course, OVC has had two purpose areas the last few years, so there are OVC-related, at least, successful applications from those purpose areas in the past on the website. So they might not be exactly the same as what you would see in the Set-Aside solicitation being successful, but they are OVC-related, at least, examples.

ESTHER LABRADO: Great. Thank you. And then I--well, I had a chance to take quick look at the budget breakdown, and I wanted to sort of clarify for, "could funding be used to cover victim travel, whether that's--perhaps the type of travel that could be covered might be limited; but, in general, could you use it to--for a victims to get services for example?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Yes, you can, as long as whatever they're traveling for is directly connected to their victimization; it could be travel for medical appointments, to court, counseling, etc. Just keep in mind that the travel category in the OJP budget is travel for employees. So traveling for victims is usually lumped into some kind of--not--maybe not necessarily emergency assistance, but some kind of assistance pot for victims, and that's usually in the other items category.

ESTHER LABRADO: Great. Thank you. "And if our--there's a shelter that currently has a certain amount of budget as for food costs, could we use the grant funding to cover increasing those costs--our food budget?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Yes, as long as that shelter is housing crime victims.

ESTHER LABRADO: Thank you. Hmm. Well, I'll ask one more questions if there's no additional ones online or maybe give others time to think of other questions. And so I guess, maybe, this one goes back to planning for future renovations. And I--and perhaps this falls into the category as the type of question you've already answered. "But could the funds be used to develop architectural drawings? Would that be, sort of, the same as--I think what you had answered previously, want to double-check, in terms of plans to do a certain renovations, without perhaps using this funding for the actual renovation?"

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: I would need to check with OGC. My first inclination is to say No, because it's construction-related cost. But that is something that I would have to confirm with our General Counsel.

ESTHER LABRADO: Okay. Hmm. Thank you. I think that's all of my questions.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: Mary Jo, did we have any further come online?

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: No, we did not.

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: I want to--this is Darlene again. I want to follow up and elaborate on a couple of things that I thought of, as Yolanda presented her slides. That--I know she mentioned that \$90 million have been allocated for this stand-alone solicitation. And that is an estimate that we made when it was first issued, and it's something we would certainly look at to see as applications come in, and we begin that review process if it needed to be increased. And there's flexibility. Obviously, there is a total of \$167.65 million available, and some is dedicated toward training and technical assistance that we know is necessary for the grantees to be successful. And there are--we have a phenomenal financial tribal--or Tribal Financial Management Center that we've made available to a lot of the applicants and grantees so that they can create strong infrastructure and be successful managing their grants financially and otherwise, but then also the programmatic side, we're providing TTA for.

And then there's a couple of other items like Matt was talking about, the TAP program. We've been able to contribute to that to make sure that tribes are able to benefit from that. And then some of the other grants that we already had issued, dealing with law enforcement, or elder abuse, telehealth; there was few of those that we already had out that had a tribal category. And so we had some amounts reserved for that. So as solicitations are coming in and we're doing our evaluation, and there's a lot of flexibility in there. So the \$90 million is what we were shooting for, but we, of course, want to make sure that as much as the funding as possible can go straight and directly to the tribes. Because, as Yolanda mentioned, it is our goal to make sure we fund as many as possible.

And one other thing I want to elaborate on, is this is technically a competitive grant but--and the peer review process will occur rather differently than usual. They will be reviewed, obviously, but they won't be--in typical solicitations where you're choosing the best of a group, one would not be competing against another necessarily in the stand-alone solicitation. It will be reviewed to make sure that they are meeting the obligations of the solicitation, and if they're not requesting things that are not allowable, and that they have a strong program proposal put together, and then a variety of other things, the risk analysis that we always do. But the competitive and peer review nature will be rather different with this solicitation as we move forward.

And one other--just to say one more time and elaborate on this, that if anyone has technical difficulties as they get near to the deadline, whether it's logging on or getting any of their credentials, I just urge anybody to contact. There's email address and phone numbers throughout the solicitation. You don't want to wait too long. If you wait outside of the window and contact us and tell us you had problems, that could certainly jeopardize your ability to be successful with this grant. So please, please absolutely be in touch with us and utilize those contact email address and phone numbers, and let us know what issues you might be having.

I'm looking to see if we had any other issues. And the overall general thing to think of with some of the questions that Yolanda was doing such a great job answering, is to think of



them in terms of, "Is this victim servicing? Can you support that and explain it? And if you were to ever be audited, you know, if it is windows or a fence or something like that, is it decorative or are you doing this for security or because it's necessary?" The roof is leaking, therefore, yes, you should probably replace the roof. But if you're doing it just because you want to do it, that may be harder to support and explain if you're ever audited or when the grant manager checks in on you and, you know, is helping along with the grant. You want to make sure that all of that is supported, because the bottom line is it is victim services that we're looking to fund here. So if you can support that it's victim services, you should--you should be okay.

I'm looking around. Does anybody else have questions?

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: I just wanted to clarify something. So earlier I said that you could purchase a mobile home. You can do that. But I want to emphasize that you cannot use grant funds to purchase real property, so--or real estate, to buy a building. But for a mobile home or a trailer that's used to house victim service staff or maybe to serve as a shelter for victims, then that is allowable.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: I mean, this is Emily. We've had a few questions come in that we have been answering just directly to the questioner. But most of them about whether or not the slides are going to be available after the presentation. The slides for OVC's portion, most--the majority of those are already up on our website. But we will work with COPS and BJA to see if we can provide 508-compliant PDFs of those presentations on our website as well. So those may be forthcoming.

If you had a question that hasn't been answered, because we're hearing that there may be a few...

MARY JO GIOVACCHINI: Emily, if I can stop--jump in right now. If you--if I haven't address to your question, it's possible that you sent it to somebody privately, and therefore I cannot see it. So if you could resubmit it and make sure that you select all panelists, that will allow me to also see it.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: Thanks, Mary Jo. In the meantime, an individual did email their question directly to NCAI. So I'm going to read those aloud now. The first is, "if you received a strong justification, would OVC issue a grant under the Tribal Set-Aside over \$1 million to a tribal nation who has the capacity to man--managed that type of grant? If no, why not?"

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: Yes. If you had a strong justification, we certainly would and could. During the 2018 grant year, we did--actually there were a couple that were--I shouldn't say a couple. I don't know exactly how many. But some were over the \$720 [thousand] limit, and I'm fairly sure some were over \$1 million.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: And another, a second question was, "where could tribal leaders find the definition for renovation?"

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: It may be in the chart.

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: They--maybe in 2 C.F.R. 200. But, like I said, we don't generally make those calls. So if you could send your question to NCJRS, we'll try to work with OGC and our finance office to point you to some exact resources.

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: And, as Yolanda had mentioned earlier too, there is a very extensive chart in--at the last few pages of the solicitation. I don't know--I'm glancing quickly to see if any of that is elaborated on. But then also--certainly what Yolanda had just mentioned, submitting your question where we can route it to the right person to get the best answer we can for you. But the chart is, like I said, rather extensive. It's many pages. So, therefore, I'm not finding renovation. In general, sometimes we've been told that you're not changing the footprint of the facility, but if your renovations are necessary to be able to serve victims, it's typically a good rule of thumb. But if you have something in particular in mind, that's a good question to submit.

ESTHER LABRADO: And I thank you for mentioning that appendix, I believe it's Appendix A. I went ahead and pulled up the solicitations online, and perhaps I'm--but I think this is the most recent copy, although, perhaps it's not. But I just want to note that I'm looking at page 21 and then on page 22, and it looks like the formatting might have been shifted on page 22. It looks like it starts in the middle of the sentence on the unallowable costs. Is there another place we can find the solicitation? Or maybe just flag that for, if they'll...

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Okay, because I actually just printed it from the website this morning--well, yesterday, and that's--I don't notice that changed. But one of the slides in my presentation showed three different links you can use to access the solicitation. Let me--maybe we can go back to that if I can remember the slide number.

WOMAN: [INDISTINCT]

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: [INDISTINCT]

YOLANDA CURTIS GIBSON: Oh, okay. Oh, okay. Darlene pointed that out. So we'll have to work on that. Sorry about that.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: And the issue that we had earlier with the other question was that the questions were being directed directly to me and I didn't have my chat function open, so I've gone through to ensure that no additional questions came in directly to me. And I believe, at this point, we have answered all the questions that have come in online.

I did want to go back to the question that we received from the individual who's no longer on the webinar. The follow-up question that they had, sounds as though--it's specific actually to our Tribal Set-Aside solicitation because they say, "The format requirements and page limits are different." So I know we thought they were talking about CTAS, but maybe we'll take... No? Okay.

WOMAN: [INDISTINCT]

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: I know. I'm wondering if we need to--we'll take a look at the solicitation and respond directly to ensure that those requirements are accurate in the solicitation.

So I don't believe there are any further questions in the room and online. So with that, I'm going to direct it back to Darlene to wrap things up.

DARLENE HUTCHINSON: Again, I want to thank our host here. And this has been wonderful to be here offsite with them, and NCAI, and just all of the partnerships that we've had with the various associations. I cannot tell you how valuable the feedback is, and we actually are trying to create the best program we can here. And--so we can only do that with feedback from the field and the comments we receive at our consultations, the follow-up ones that we receive by email, or otherwise, we just--we truly appreciate because that's how we're going to create the best system we can here because, in the long run, I know all of us want to serve victims and make things better for them and enhance public safety along with our partners at BJA and COPS, and everybody throughout all of the Department.

And so we will be having two more of these programs next week. So if you come up with questions between now and then, you can call in and--or if you're in Alaska and you're interested in actually being on site with us, we can look into having that happen too. We will be Bethel and Anchorage. And then on the 29th [of July], we will be in Nashville, Tennessee with USET. So we are very excited about getting out there. And do look at the solicitation, start early, as Yolanda was stressing, so that if any questions come up or problems along the way, especially technical problems, we have time to troubleshoot those. And with that, I have nothing further. If anybody else does... We will sign off here. And join us next week if you would like. Thank you so much.

EMILY BAUERNFEIND: And this concludes the webinar. Thank you.