

# WA Annual State Performance Report

## Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

Reporting Period: [Oct 1, 2018 to Sept 30, 2019]

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

<b>OVC VOCA Assistance Funds</b>				
	<b>2016-VA-GX-0044</b>	<b>2017-VA-GX-0061</b>	<b>2018-V2-GX-0046</b>	<b>2019-V2-GX-0034</b>
<b>Federal Award Amount</b>	\$48,821,061.00	\$41,060,865.00	\$74,702,737.00	\$51,207,272.00
<b>Total Amount of Subawards</b>	\$50,392,860.00	\$30,167,935.00	\$15,931,776.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Number of Subawards</b>	554	215	94	0
<b>Administrative Funds Amount</b>	\$2,441,053.00	\$2,053,043.00	\$3,735,136.00	\$0.00
<b>Training Funds Amount</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Balance Remaining</b>	(\$4,012,852.00)	\$8,839,887.00	\$55,035,825.00	\$51,207,272.00

<b>Subgrantee Organization Type</b>				
<small>The total number of subgrants represents all subgrants funded across all federal awards active during the reporting period. The number is not unique as there are subgrantee organizations that are continuously funded from each federal award.</small>				
<b>Type of Organization</b>	<b>2016-VA-GX-0044</b>	<b>2017-VA-GX-0061</b>	<b>2018-V2-GX-0046</b>	<b>2019-V2-GX-0034</b>
<b>Government Agencies Only</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>0</b>
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Courts	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	6	0	2	0
Prosecutor	91	44	39	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Nonprofit Organization Only</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>0</b>
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	26	6	0	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	20	7	5	0
Faith-based Organization	0	0	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	15	7	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	53	16	4	0

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Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	26	9	0	0
Multiservice agency	232	96	28	0
Other	36	15	4	0
<b>Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0
Court	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	5	1	2	0
Faith-based organization	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0
Organization provides domestic and family violence and sexual assault services	12	5	2	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	6	2	0	0
Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	3	0	3	0
Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	15	5	5	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	8	2	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Campus Organizations Only</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Campus-based victims services	0	0	0	0
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Number of Subawards</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>0</b>

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

<b>Subaward Purpose</b>				
A single SAR can select multiple purposes. Numbers are not unique				
	2016-VA-GX-0044	2017-VA-GX-0061	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034

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A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	466	183	90	0
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	78	35	3	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	8	0	0	0
D. Start up a new <b>Native American</b> victim services project	8	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing <b>Native American</b> project	11	0	1	0

**VOCA and Match Funds**  
A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are not unique

	2016-VA-GX-0044	2017-VA-GX-0061	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	393	191	81	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	365	156	49	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	323	154	45	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	83	52	23	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	293	186	82	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	449	209	94	0

**Priority and Underserved Requirements**

Priority Area	2016-VA-GX-0044	2017-VA-GX-0061	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034
<b>Child Abuse</b>				
Total Amount	\$9,331,966.00	\$3,050,823.00	\$1,847,191.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	19.00 %	7.00 %	2.00 %	
<b>Domestic and Family Violence</b>				
Total Amount	\$10,261,773.00	\$11,237,627.00	\$8,397,633.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	21.00 %	27.00 %	11.00 %	
<b>Sexual Assault</b>				
Total Amount	\$16,779,626.00	\$11,149,525.00	\$2,437,213.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	34.00 %	27.00 %	3.00 %	
<b>Underserved</b>				
Total Amount	\$13,704,201.00	\$4,723,369.00	\$3,248,476.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	28.00 %	12.00 %	4.00 %	

**Budget and Staffing**

Staffing Information	2016-VA-GX-0044	2017-VA-GX-0061	2018-V2-GX-0046	2019-V2-GX-0034
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Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	14905	2222	1056	
Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1503634	1234634	497148	
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	10229	6871	1066	
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	804092	269387	66045	

**AGGREGATED SUBGRANTEE PERFORMANCE MEASURE DATA**

Victimization Type						
Victimization Type	Number of Subgrantees Indicating Intent to Serve This Victim Type	Number of Individuals Who Actually Received Services Based on a Presenting Victimization				
		Quarter 1 Total	Quarter 2 Total	Quarter 3 Total	Quarter 4 Total	Per Quarter Average
Adult Physical Assault (includes Aggravated and Simple Assault)	145	978	958	1018	1121	1018
Adult Sexual Assault	266	2641	2972	2651	2663	2731
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	220	576	634	724	684	654
Arson	144	15	12	13	15	13
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	107	63	77	114	92	86
Burglary	143	107	79	104	110	100
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	3	1106	785	1366	1093	1087
Child Pornography	150	12	22	6	8	12
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	5	3503	4164	3958	3830	3863
Domestic and/or Family Violence	65	9843	12793	9731	9497	10466
DUI/DWI Incidents	144	49	34	45	59	46
Elder Abuse or Neglect	1	115	111	100	96	105
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	1	60	56	67	65	62
Human Trafficking: Labor	148	75	50	56	90	67
Human Trafficking: Sex	6	251	224	249	221	236
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	145	849	975	939	892	913

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Kidnapping (non-custodial)	144	7	17	9	11	11
Kidnapping (custodial)	143	4	15	12	10	10
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	144	14	6	15	14	12
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	143	105	97	99	102	100
Robbery	144	169	171	159	157	164
Stalking/Harassment	145	494	581	737	830	660
Survivors of Homicide Victims	144	321	298	337	322	319
Teen Dating Victimization	124	184	184	160	130	164
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	144	0	0	0	1	0
Other	1	461	468	478	478	471

**Special Classifications of Individuals**

Special Classifications of Individuals	Number of Individuals Self Reporting a Special Classification				
	Quarter 1 Total	Quarter 2 Total	Quarter 3 Total	Quarter 4 Total	Per Quarter Average
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	174	218	168	168	658
Homeless	3224	3816	3172	3283	12278
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	867	971	748	765	3385
LGBTQ	297	386	335	362	964
Veterans	119	153	117	130	495
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/Physical /Mental	3179	4125	3185	3366	12280
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	1200	1295	1015	1039	4302
Other	0	0	0	0	0

**General Award Information**

Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	90823	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	0	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	59100	65.07 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	3085	3.40 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	1259	

**Demographics**

Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
American Indian or Alaska Native	2336	3.95 %

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Asian	1550	2.62 %
Black or African American	3411	5.77 %
Hispanic or Latino	9309	15.75 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	439	0.74 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	32784	55.47 %
Some Other Race	536	0.91 %
Multiple Races	1720	2.91 %
Not Reported	7015	11.87 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
<b>Race/Ethnicity Total</b>	<b>59100</b>	
<b>Gender Identity</b>		
Male	10626	17.98 %
Female	46469	78.63 %
Other	544	0.92 %
Not Reported	1461	2.47 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
<b>Gender Total</b>	<b>59100</b>	
<b>Age</b>		
Age 0- 12	6560	11.10 %
Age 13- 17	5267	8.91 %
Age 18- 24	6881	11.64 %
Age 25- 59	35899	60.74 %
Age 60 and Older	4473	7.57 %
Not Reported	20	0.03 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
<b>Age Total</b>	<b>59100</b>	

Direct Services				
Service Area	# of Subgrantees That Provided Services in This Category	# of Individuals/Contacts Receiving Services	Specific Service	Frequency of Service
A. Information & Referral	121	13835	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	1
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	1391
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	0

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			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	12888
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	121	42853	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	1838
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	3082
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	0
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	38039
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	1847
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	608
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	4606
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	1074
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	2228
			B10. Interpreter services	0
C. Emotional Support or Safety Services	103	20044	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	12353
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	0
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	0
			C4. Individual counseling	1632
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	2422
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	3375
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	4045
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	72	2465	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	2411
			D2. Transitional housing	9

			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	63
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	136	37057	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	5351
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	2197
			E3. Assistance with restitution	2447
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	953
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	2672
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	0
			E7. Immigration assistance	150
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	0
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	0
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	20959
E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	12354			

### ANNUAL QUESTIONS

Grantee Annually Reported Questions	
Question/Option	Count
<b>Were any administrative and training funds used during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	1
No	0
<b>Did the administrative funds support any education activities during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	0
No	1
Number of requests received for education activities during the reporting period.	0
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	0
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	0
<b>Did the grant support any coordination activities (e.g., with other service providers, law enforcement agencies) during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	1
No	0
<b>Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.</b>	
N/A	

**Describe any planning or training events held during the reporting period.**

N/A

**Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.**

Program policies changed in many ways during this reporting period. The largest changes are indicated below: State Contributed Match Dollars indicated on Grant Budget Template We updated those subrecipient contracts where match was supplied via state dollars in their contract to include reference to that fact on the Budget attachment. This involved listing the actual match dollars on the subrecipient contract budget, as well as a statement that the dollars are provided via state funds in the grant. Language also includes caveat that in the event that the subrecipient does not have enough state funding to meet the match requirements of their VOCA funds, the subrecipient must make up the difference. Invoice Procedure Updates to Track Match Provision For those subrecipient contracts where the subrecipient provides match outside of state funds, the subrecipient is now required to submit a Match Documentation Form with each invoice indicating how the reported match for that invoice was calculated. Subrecipients who submit inadequate back up documentation of the match provided will be required to resubmit the Match Documentation Form prior to reimbursement of their invoice. Printed Budget Forms To Document Any Budget Revisions For subrecipient contracts that contain VOCA funds, revisions to the contract budget amounts during the contract negotiation process or throughout the contract execution process now require a revised budget form to be typed and printed for the grant file. This will include line item adjustments made during the grant year. Revisions may not be handwritten. Managers may initial documents to indicate approval, but all other budget amount revisions should be typed. Documentation of application information for supplemental award files For renewal grants that are a second, third, or fourth year contract relevant to a single application, the original project narrative should be copied to each subsequent year. Alternatively, a single grant file may be used for several grants that relate to a single application. Separation of Administrative and Indirect Costs VOCA sub-recipients are no longer be given the option of Administrative OR Indirect costs. Grantees instead will be asked to categorize administrative costs directly attributable to program operations in the relevant line item – Salaries, Benefits, Goods and Services. Indirect costs will then be either Modified Total Direct Cost or Federally Negotiated Indirect Rate, either of which will be captured as Indirect on the budget template. Crime Victim Service Center grants changed to competitive process The Crime Victim Service Center program changed its funding strategy from formula based, in which a certain number of dollars was allocated to communities who then determined funding recipients based on a community planning process, to open competitive, in which all applicants compete for funds equally regardless of geographic region.

**Describe any earned media coverage events/episodes during the reporting period.**

None.

**Describe any coordinated responses/services for assisting crime victims during the reporting period.**

Office of Crime Victim Advocacy and the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) meet twice monthly to coordinate responses and services statewide. In addition, OCVA has been working closely with the Department of Labor and Industries which administers Washington's Crime Victim Compensation program to address the need of some sexual assault survivors who received billing for sexual assault forensic exams but did not qualify for Washington State's Crime Victim Compensation program. OCVA staff meets regularly with the Children's Advocacy Centers of Washington to discuss the service needs for children who have been victims of abuse. OCVA staff meet regularly with the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs to discuss sexual assault services across the state. OCVA staff meets regularly with Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress to confer on Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner services, training needs (not funded with VOCA). OCVA staff participate on the Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) Task Force, which involves work to address untested sexual assault forensic exam kits. The Office of Crime Victim Advocacy and DSHS conduct quarterly meetings/conference calls with state crime victim coalitions and associations to share VOCA implementation updates and gather information about emerging issues or needs state coalitions and associations may be hearing about from victim service programs throughout the state.

**Please discuss the major issues in your state that either assist or prevent victims from receiving assistance during the reporting period.**

One issue in Washington State that assists victims in receiving assistance is the strong statewide network of established service providers. The regional network of domestic violence, sexual assault, and crime victim service centers are available to victims of crime in every county of our state through phone and in-person community-based advocacy services. In addition, system-based service is provided via victim/witness staff in every county prosecuting attorney's office. An issue that also assists victims in receiving services is our commitment to partnering with programs within marginalized communities for the provision of service. Organizations operated by and for marginalized communities across many areas typically have developed strong relationships, established themselves as a trusted partner, and are recognized as a safe place to go within their communities. Organizations have established trust and rapport in order to address the various immediate and ongoing needs in the community, including the needs of individuals hurt or harmed by crime. Washington State has committed to fund services created by and for marginalized communities. and we are continuing to see more programs from communities of color. Native American Tribes. or other

marginalized populations such as LGBTQ+ beginning to apply for funding and partner with us to strengthen and enhance those supports crime victims. Longer term funding opportunities allow victim service programs to sustain infrastructure, capacity, and staffing in order to provide a continuity of comprehensive services. An issue that continues to prevent victims from receiving maximum support in Washington State is the requirement to make a report to law enforcement in order to access crime victim compensation. Many victims do not make a report to law enforcement and this hinders victim assistance programs in assisting crime victims in filing for compensation benefits. One related issue that we have encountered is the challenges sexual assault victim/survivors encounter if they received a Sexual Assault Forensic Exam in our state for an assault that happened in another state. Current statute in Washington prohibits the provision of Crime Victim Compensation Services for crimes that happened outside the state. Individuals who were assaulted in one state and received an exam in another face huge medical bills for the exam. Washington's Crime Victim Compensation program cannot pay for the exam due to state law; the state where the crime occurred may not be able to pay because of provisions in their own statutes that prohibit reimbursement for exams provided outside their local hospital network. The limitation on subcontracted services rate for federal funds at \$81.25/hour is not responsive to the prevailing rate for many direct services providers (such as therapists) in our state. An additional barrier to service is specific to work with immigrant communities. Increased ICE presence has impacted their sense of safety in seeking help, and even if the victim service provider is not connected to the justice system or immigration, that may be confusing to the victim and therefore they do not reach out.

**Please describe ways that your agency promoted the coordination of public and private efforts within the community to help crime victims during the reporting period.**

Washington State VOCA Assistance Administrators support the coordination of public and private efforts that help crime victims through local subgrantees activities. All VOCA-funded local subgrantees work collaboratively with agencies in their communities to provide victim-centered services. Domestic violence, sexual assault, and crime victim service providers routinely partner with systems, allied professionals

**Please describe any notable activities at the grantee level during the reporting period that improved delivery of victim services.**

The increase in VOCA funds in the reporting period created numerous opportunities for programs to address the more complex victim service needs of the community and increase the partnerships that they have with other service providers in the community. Some examples: A domestic violence program (YWCA of Spokane) launched a new initiative to provide mobile legal assistance to a six-county area in Eastern Washington. The legal team addresses the civil legal needs of domestic violence survivors and consists of attorneys, paralegals, a limited license legal technician, and subcontracted attorneys as needed. Referrals to the program are made by domestic violence victim advocates, who help prepare survivors for their appointments so legal professional time is utilized efficiently. Legal services are provided through a combination of clinics, one on one appointments, legal advice, assistance with filling out forms, and direct representation in court. The program design enables the legal team to reach a large number of survivors across a vast geographic area. The mobile model means legal professionals travel to the rural counties to reduce travel burdens on survivors, facilitating expanded access to critical legal services that help domestic violence survivors in rural areas pursue safety and stabilization after victimization. During the period 10/01/2018 – 09/30/2019, the legal team provided legal assistance to over 450 survivors. Another organization has successfully implemented a new program that coordinates behavioral health services for survivors of domestic violence (DV) and sexual assault (SA). The advocate has developed relationships with the providers, so they are familiar with the DV and SA. The organization also has staff that participate in the county's Crisis Response and Intervention Team, and are also called out to meet with clients during a behavioral health crisis. This is of great value, because advocates have identified that they are not able to provide effective advocacy services if these other behavioral health issues\* are not addressed simultaneously. \*behavioral health issues are related to the victimization. A different organization has increased the availability of housing for DV and SA survivors. They have done this by developing partnerships and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Housing Authority in the county, so that they can have specific access to newly available units. Additionally, the organization has added a satellite office in a neighboring town, and increased the number of emergency units available in that part of the county, to be more responsive to survivor's needs. They have housed three families and four children, for an average of seven residents per night. In this area, housing access continues to be of great need. In State Fiscal Year (SFY)17 this organization turned away an average of 3 people per month. In SFY18 that increased to 21. We share this information to highlight the intense need for emergency, transitional, and long-term housing in communities, as numbers continue to rise. An urban organization has used VOCA funds to increase their system coordination efforts. This includes system coordination with law enforcement, child protective services, and emergency departments/sexual assault nurse examiners in order to train these first responders about sexual assault and trauma, available services at KCSARC, and specific case coordination as needed. This county has thirty law enforcement jurisdictions. Reaching all law enforcement agencies is one of the goals for the organization. They accomplish this by doing outreach and education during each shift's roll call. One of the ongoing challenges is how to reach new hires. Once a jurisdiction has hosted the organization during each shift's roll call, they may be hesitant to repeat the orientation. However, with dedicated staff they can be persistent and trusted, for example they have met individual officers for coffee in order to provide information. They are very flexible about the time, place, format, etc. when doing system coordination. One of the surprising findings has been that many

workers in these systems are not aware of the impact of trauma and the community-based services available. Overall, they are receiving good feedback about the efforts and the organization is seeing an increase in victim service referrals. First responders and other providers interacting with victims are better trained and connected to available resources.

**Please discuss each priority (i.e., child abuse, domestic assault, sexual assault, and underserved) in which VOCA funds have been used to assist crime victims during the reporting period**

This reporting period we continued to provide services to victims of child abuse via the Children's Advocacy Center Child Centered Services VOCA Initiative. That initiative allocates 6.4% of VOCA subrecipient dollars to Child Advocacy Centers. In addition, this reporting period we also funding several child-specific services through other services, including CASA programs and therapy programs for children. Throughout this reporting period, the strength of our Domestic Violence Shelters continues to grow. With the increase in VOCA funds, we were able to fund these programs more fully than previously, allowing them to provide quality services to more victims than ever before. In addition, many of our DV shelter providers applied for and received one of the complementary competitive grants for enhancement of current services, which has allowed them to try out new modalities of service, including several different forms of housing assistance and advocacy designed to assist survivors in securing and moving into safe and stable housing, provide relocation support, or assist survivors to remain in their current housing. Our network of sexual assault providers has similarly benefited from the implementation of Washington's VOCA plan. Advocates are now being compensated at living wages and staff vacancies filled. The state's 36 accredited Community Sexual Assault Programs continue to guarantee access to every sexual assault victim in Washington, adult or child, to the services of crisis intervention, information and referral, medical/legal advocacy, and support. In addition to these core services, providers across the state continue to offer specialized sexual assault services (therapy, support groups, medical social work) as well as culturally and community specific advocacy and therapy services.

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

Several sub-grantees provide support and assistance to victims of labor and sex trafficking. Due to the strategies used by exploiters, individuals are very hesitant to come forward and advocates spend a tremendous amount of time building trust. Support and assistance for these individuals has included in-person advocacy, assistance with accessing medical care, crisis intervention, collaborating with treatment facilities and assisting individuals by purchasing food and clothing. Advocates have provided support during FBI interviews and collaborated with FBI Victim Specialists.

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

Advocacy agencies are continuing to look at ways to address the long-term care and support needs of survivors and their families, more comprehensive service models. There is a move to a more mobile advocacy model, which creates conversation around safety, technology, and confidentiality. Emergency financial assistance is a prevailing service need. Many survivors need help in meeting their immediate health and safety needs before they can work on longer term healing options. Service providers report that provision of services to refugees and immigrants is increasingly challenging, as many individuals who need services are afraid of coming forward for fear of being targeted by immigration officials (as shared below). Additionally the current political climate has resulted in increased and more severe violence towards immigrants. This has concurrently increased the need for services and had a significant impact on service providers and organizations responding to this need. Continue to see bias and victim blaming attitudes impact sexual assault survivors. Providers have shared that in their community there is a lot of harassment after survivors disclose. If the perpetrator is from a good family that really impacts how much harassment the survivor experiences. There are high rates of suicide in this community. Domestic violence victim advocacy programs have increased efforts to facilitate access to permanent, affordable housing for DV survivors. We continue to hear from domestic violence victim advocacy programs that securing access to affordable housing is a major challenge for domestic violence victims across the state. Housing prices have escalated rapidly in recent years, resulting in a low supply of units at affordable rates. It's a landlords market, and landlords are reluctant to rent to potential tenants who may have problematic rental histories, including evictions or police activity at the residence related to the domestic violence. In addition to providing rental assistance and focused advocacy to address housing needs, advocates in many communities have implemented intensive efforts to cultivate a network of local landlords, property managers, and affordable housing providers who are willing to support domestic violence survivors who are seeking safe and stable housing after victimization. DV programs in Washington state are increasingly engaged in providing housing and relocation support and emergency financial assistance to address domestic violence victims emergency financial and housing needs. Advocates have long noted that lack of adequate financial resources has been a major barrier to domestic violence victims ability to end an abusive relationship. Many programs have opted to include line items for emergency financial assistance and housing assistance into their budgets, and are now able to assist victims in addressing emergency needs quickly using internal resources. Programs have had to develop policies, procedures and new infrastructures to ensure assistance is provided in accordance with program priorities and funding regulations. Initial feedback from VOCA-funded programs suggests that even relatively moderate amounts of assistance makes it possible for survivors and their children to secure safe and stable housing, relocate away from an abusive partner, or otherwise restore a measure of security and stability after victimization. In addition, DV victim advocacy programs tell us that a large percentage of survivors seeking services from their programs are also struggling

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with serious mental health and substance abuse challenges. Victim advocates lack the formal training and credentials to provide mental health and/or substance abuse treatment, so programs are experimenting with different models to better meet the behavioral health needs of their clients, including hiring mental health therapists on staff, subcontracting with therapists, partnering with substance abuse treatment centers, and developing advocacy positions that specialize in addressing behavioral health issues. Programs are able to select providers who have domestic violence expertise and bring a trauma-informed lens to their practice, and through these partnerships are able to help domestic violence victims connect with behavioral health services in a timely and integrated way. The Crime Victim Service Center programs report increasing need for elder abuse and vulnerable adult abuse services. Service providers report that provision of services to refugees and immigrants is increasingly challenging, as many individuals who need services are afraid of coming forward for fear of being targeted by immigration officials.

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

The Washington State Office of Crime Victims Advocacy and Department of Social and Health Services both have historically high staff retention rate overall. Staff has served as program coordinators, section managers, and director for up to twenty-five years. While the state government does not provide compensation at the same rate as the private sector, it does offer reasonable benefits, union membership, and a work/life balance. With the recent increase in the VOCA Assistance award, administrative funds have allowed the department to hire more staff in order to develop and implement new subgrant programs, shift workloads to be more equitable, and increase staff's ability to address more complex issues.

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

This reporting period, funding opportunities were publicized in a variety of ways. Grant applications were released to current grantees for continuation of domestic violence and sexual assault services grants. Funding opportunities were advertised to current grantees via email, publicized to state coalitions, and application materials were posted on the state administering agency's website. In addition, outreach was conducted throughout the year by individual staff members to ensure that current subrecipients and others that might wish to become subrecipients were aware of different opportunities. Current subrecipients were repeatedly encouraged to reach out to other agencies within their respective communities to share information on available funds. We also posted our open competitive funding solicitations on the Washington Electronic Business Solution (WEBS) portal.

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

Funding is directed to underserved populations through Washington State's network of Crime Victim Service Centers. These direct service providers reach victims of all crimes other than sexual assault and domestic violence, including DUI/DWI crashes, assault, elder abuse, robbery, survivors of homicide victims, and other violent crimes. Crime Victim Service Centers are comprised of mainstream, community specific, and culturally specific organizations. In addition, funding is also directed to marginalized communities and Native American communities through sexual assault service providers. These direct service providers reach child, youth, and adult victims of sexual assault and their non-offending families/caregivers. New service providers and populations for Specialized Sexual Assault Services may be selected through a collaborative community planning process or a regional competitive application process, which occurs approximately every two years. Additionally, Washington State releases a competitive solicitation for Marginalized and Native American Communities Sexual Assault Services, which is a three year grant program. Children services are enhanced by Washington's Children's Advocacy Center grant program, which targets funding to children and youth. Additional state funding is directed to underserved populations of victims of domestic violence through the Washington State Domestic Violence Prevention Account for non-shelter-based services. State funding for shelter-based services to subgrantees serving culturally specific populations is considered through an annual non-competitive application process. The Washington State VOCA State Plan directs funding to new/underserved populations through Tribal Government, By and For Marginalized Populations, Human Trafficking, and Specific Services/Crimes subgrant programs. During this reporting period, OCVA and DSHS staff conducted outreach to communities across the state to discuss the availability of funding. All current grantees were asked to identify and forward information about grant opportunities to relevant service providers in their area, to promote the opportunity and encourage applications from providers who may not have previously received public funding. Outreach to Tribal Governments was extensive, and led to the successful implementation of our Tribal Initiative, which funded 16 of the federally recognized tribes in our state during this reporting period. In addition to these efforts, all of our current grantees are strongly encouraged to conduct community planning sessions in their geographic regions to identify new partners from underserved populations that would strengthen the network of services available to every victim in Washington State.

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

One way we do this is through regional community planning processes conducted by current subrecipients. The Office of Crime Victims Advocacy supports local control of funding and service decisions within the Sexual Assault programs to address unmet needs and gaps within that service area. Another way we address gaps in service is through an analysis of funding allocated and services provided. We analyze data on all of the grants funded through the Washington State VOCA Plan, as well as the data reported by those grantees. By analyzing agencies and projects funded, as well as crime victims served, and cross referencing that data against state demographics and crime prevalence information, we identify areas where gaps in services may exist, and target additional funding opportunities toward those areas where flexibility within our statewide plan allows. For example, past efforts resulted in priority areas within the Unmet Needs competitive funding solicitation, based on that analysis of gaps. State administrators meet regularly to discuss currently funded service areas, remaining needs, and develop strategies for funding gaps.

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

The hours of services provided by community-based advocates to victims of crime is averaged per subgrantee and provided to the Washington State Office of Financial Management on a quarterly basis. During the reporting period the average number of service hours per subgrantee was 3,750. This outcome measure is part of Washington State s Priorities of Government and both include a target goal and actual count.