

IL Annual State Performance Report

Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

Reporting Period: [Oct 1, 2019 to Sept 30, 2020]

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

OVC VOCA Assistance Funds				
	2017-VA-GX-0048	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017
Federal Award Amount	\$71,746,088.00	\$128,771,417.00	\$86,235,200.00	\$63,167,824.00
Total Amount of Subawards	\$60,287,926.00	\$97,214,700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	42	82	0	0
Administrative Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Training Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance Remaining	\$11,458,162.00	\$31,556,717.00	\$86,235,200.00	\$63,167,824.00

Subgrantee Organization Type				
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.				
Type of Organization	2017-VA-GX-0048	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017
Government Agencies Only	6	23	0	0
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Courts	0	4	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	3	0	0
Prosecutor	0	12	0	0
Other	6	4	0	0
Nonprofit Organization Only	36	58	0	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	1	15	0	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	1	3	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	9	9	0	0
Faith-based Organization	4	1	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	3	4	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	2	2	0	0

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Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0
Multiservice agency	6	13	0	0
Other	10	11	0	0
Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only	0	1	0	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0
Court	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	0	1	0	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	0	0	0	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0
Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Campus Organizations Only	0	0	0	0
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
Total Number of Subawards	42	82	0	0

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

Subaward Purpose				
A single SAR can select multiple purposes. Numbers are not unique				
	2017-VA-GX-0048	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	31	68	0	0

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B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	2	6	0	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	9	8	0	0
D. Start up a new Native American victim services project	0	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing Native American project	0	0	0	0

VOCA and Match Funds

A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are not unique

	2017-VA-GX-0048	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	32	68	0	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	27	64	0	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	31	56	0	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	18	43	0	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	31	67	0	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	42	82	0	0

Priority and Underserved Requirements

Priority Area	2017-VA-GX-0048	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017
Child Abuse				
Total Amount	\$8,359,939.00	\$17,357,810.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	12.00 %	13.00 %		
Domestic and Family Violence				
Total Amount	\$30,382,113.00	\$43,546,039.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	42.00 %	34.00 %		
Sexual Assault				
Total Amount	\$16,684,993.00	\$23,358,311.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	23.00 %	18.00 %		
Underserved				
Total Amount	\$4,860,831.00	\$12,941,704.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	7.00 %	10.00 %		

Budget and Staffing

Staffing Information	2017-VA-GX-0048	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	1211	1809		

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Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1032451	2045841		
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1189	4846		
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	167042	278714		

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)	1	3374	3165	2924	4304	3441
Adult Sexual Assault	53	4327	4389	3577	3959	4063
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	34	1388	1393	1142	1296	1304
Arson	22	33	33	23	35	31
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	39	426	551	450	509	484
Burglary	27	645	582	408	646	570
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	60	5847	6081	5502	7083	6128
Child Pornography	23	103	119	86	232	135
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	61	9622	8946	6880	13402	9712
Domestic and/or Family Violence	18	23954	23345	22822	28167	24572
DUI/DWI Incidents	1	897	984	747	1799	1106
Elder Abuse or Neglect	21	154	127	112	172	141
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	25	99	101	83	121	101
Human Trafficking: Labor	31	18	15	13	17	15
Human Trafficking: Sex	44	41	69	56	69	58
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	23	339	261	144	328	268
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	19	14	8	12	46	20
Kidnapping (custodial)	19	22	19	26	40	26

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Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	18	41	44	44	47	44
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	23	424	267	308	449	362
Robbery	28	1066	914	575	1033	897
Stalking/Harassment	45	6171	5794	4976	6275	5804
Survivors of Homicide Victims	1	1074	1061	831	2107	1268
Teen Dating Victimization	37	102	98	99	97	99
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	14	94	1	28	87	52
Other	12	17337	17750	16016	12790	15973

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	188	213	157	205	674
Homeless	427	817	638	733	1849
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	1020	1067	953	1345	3536
LGBTQ	1199	1258	997	1158	3425
Veterans	266	281	194	238	834
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/Physical /Mental	1829	1962	1458	2078	7766
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	4137	4103	3477	4554	14766
Other	406	399	383	493	978

General Award Information

Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	249764	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	15421	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	120525	48.26 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	28059	11.23 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	37446	

Demographics

Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian or Alaska Native	469	0.39 %
Asian	2507	2.08 %
Black or African American	28816	23.91 %

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Hispanic or Latino	21125	17.53 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	210	0.17 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	48655	40.37 %
Some Other Race	2558	2.12 %
Multiple Races	2425	2.01 %
Not Reported	11804	9.79 %
Not Tracked	1956	1.62 %
Race/Ethnicity Total	120525	
Gender Identity		
Male	23568	19.55 %
Female	86062	71.41 %
Other	1209	1.00 %
Not Reported	7963	6.61 %
Not Tracked	1723	1.43 %
Gender Total	120525	
Age		
Age 0- 12	19029	15.79 %
Age 13- 17	10635	8.82 %
Age 18- 24	11785	9.78 %
Age 25- 59	58109	48.21 %
Age 60 and Older	5217	4.33 %
Not Reported	13318	11.05 %
Not Tracked	2432	2.02 %
Age Total	120525	

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	96	99750	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	103711
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	82891
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	46829

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			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	55733
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	86	81956	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	7214
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	1792
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	2712
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	198538
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	3568
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	730
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	34890
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	2435
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	20914
			B10. Interpreter services	5068
C. Emotional Support or Safety Services	86	92135	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	62682
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	116924
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	3518
			C4. Individual counseling	196912
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	41769
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	24869
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	1600
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	53	2858	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	1638
			D2. Transitional housing	5680

			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	2757
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	85	111243	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	75100
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	1287
			E3. Assistance with restitution	3057
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	11132
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	30481
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	41385
			E7. Immigration assistance	3947
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	4618
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	3234
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	67009
E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	9691			

ANNUAL QUESTIONS

Grantee Annually Reported Questions

Question/Option	Count
Were any administrative and training funds used during the reporting period?	
Yes	1
No	0
Did the administrative funds support any education activities during the reporting period?	
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
Did the grant support any coordination activities (e.g., with other service providers, law enforcement agencies) during the reporting period?	
Yes	0
No	1
Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.	
N/A	

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

The VOCA Training Administrator surveyed all VOCA grantees in November 2019 to determine training priorities. 184 grantees responded and training priorities for the fiscal year were set based on the responses. All planned in person regional trainings were changed to webinars due to COVID. A series of consultation calls on the challenges of remote services during COVID was offered to our most isolated/rural programs in the spring of 2020. In summer 2020 a series 10 webinars were offered on the principles of trauma informed care. In fall 2020 a series of 6 webinars were offered on meeting the needs of teen victims of crime. In addition to our training series, ICJIA created the Vicarious Trauma Toolkit (VTT) Cohort with the support of the U.S. Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC) to address vicarious trauma at the organizational level. In this cohort, agency representatives are trained to create organizational changes that mitigate the risks for vicarious trauma for their staff and increase the opportunity to experience vicarious resiliency—the personal growth and strength that comes from witnessing clients recovery and healing—using OVC s VTT. Initial in person regional cohort trainings were scheduled for the spring but then postponed to September 2019 and made virtual. 30 agencies were provided an overview of vicarious trauma, how an organization can build meaningful protective factors, and a full explanation of the VTT. This foundation allowed the agencies to launch the Vicarious Trauma Organizational Assessment in the new fiscal year. All training was funded with OVC VOCA Discretionary Training Grant funds. No VOCA Victim Assistance funds were used.

Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

Major issues that prevent victims from receiving assistance during the reporting period include the following: During the reporting period, we dealt with pandemic-related issues that prevented victims from receiving assistance including difficulty disseminating information about how to access the court system given closures and limited services being provided in person, that included technological barriers to court proceedings and a lack of transparency and uniformity of the court system s COVID-19 response. With limited staff at the courthouses, individuals seeking new orders of protection, stalking no contact orders, or civil no contact orders faced challenges obtaining orders due to the lack of assistance with drafting, language barriers, lack of interpretation services, and being turned away for bringing their children with them. The unmet needs of victims of sexual harm in Chicago continue to revolve around the lack of political will and prioritization of combatting sex-based crimes within the criminal justice system. The primary barrier for crime victims is the failure of the state to routinely prosecute sexual assault and the difficulties that the state has in prosecuting sexual assault in a timely and efficient manner. Grantees continue to look for ways to address the low rate at which the state files charges against rapists who have been reported to police, including encouraging police officers to complete more thorough investigations and regularly requesting cases be taken to felony review. For a number of victims of sex-based crimes, however, they regularly are faced with disbelief by law enforcement or even an outright denial of the seriousness of the crime. The Victim Compensation Process continues to encounter problems. Many programs report the length of the process, immediacy of victims financial need, and the requirement of cooperation with the justice system as the major hindrances for victims in seeking and obtaining victim compensation. On a policy level, a huge barrier is the requirement that survivors of domestic violence either file a police report within 72 hours or receive a plenary order of protection in order to be eligible for Crime Victims Compensation. Delayed reporting is a common occurrence in these situations and the victim should not be penalized as a result. Refusal by the police to actually take a report is another common situation. Several victims have stated that they called the police after an incident of domestic violence, the police came out, and instead of taking a police report, just told the victim to seek an order of protection. Some transitional housing participants have trouble finding a landlord to work with due to prior rental history, evictions, and other systemic barriers. Sometimes because of these barriers, the options for securing housing of the participant s choosing is limited and this creates further challenges; such as, location to public transit, work opportunities, community supports and childcare. The major area to victims in receiving assistance during the reporting period included the following accomplishment: Most grantees adjusted quite quickly to working from home. While at home, legal grantees can attend court cases virtually, complete all legal matters (obtain orders or protection, etc.). Intakes are still available over the phone, and consultations and meetings with lawyers are available to crime victims over the phone or over secure Zoom videoconferencing. Medical advocacy, telehealth, counseling, help in obtaining housing, and childcare are other services that are being conducted via Zoom.

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.

A community violence program grantee, along with the City of Chicago and the Chicago Department of Public Health; provided shelter for more than 400 homeless and displaced individuals within three locations. They provided these individuals with meals and a safe and warm place to sleep, while also maintaining social distancing standards to help flatten the COVID-19 curve. They also received countless donations of food, and hygiene kits for the individuals during their stay. Due to COVID 19, a group was created to triage the issues that attorneys, advocates, and litigants were facing at the courthouse. The group also advocated for procedures to be implemented by the court. Most notably, members of this working group, drafting and enactment of an emergency Illinois Supreme Court rule regarding remote service of protective orders in open court. This group also coordinated the referral procedures from other agencies who developed hotlines providing remote assistance to litigants seeking emergency orders of protection. Rape crisis centers formed a collaboration with other stakeholders to improve the medical/forensic processes, police investigation, and prosecution of sexual assault cases. These efforts focus on increasing all responder s sensitivity to victim trauma, better handling, and more-timely processing of evidence collection kits, increasing arrests, and increasing the rate of prosecution. Strategies involve joint planning and cross-training among court advocates of rape crisis centers, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors.

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

Civil legal grantees worked with court staff at the Domestic Violence Courthouse and with others in the domestic violence advocacy community, advocating for clients in each of these situations, to ensure these issues are addressed promptly so that victims have access to justice. A hotline was created for victims seeking protective orders. Victims can call and get assistance from an attorney for help in drafting their petition. HEALS grantees hired staff remotely and took advantage of special trainings online geared toward telehealth service delivery in order to enhance the experience and support for their clients. With increased flexibility, staff were able to attend several online trainings that enhanced their ability to provide trauma informed care. In addition, all staff and clinical manager were able to complete Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to work towards becoming certified. Grantee case managers worked quickly to pivot from in person services to utilizing virtual platforms and conducting sessions over the phone. While most group services were suspended, a Facebook page was created to communicate resources and affirmative messages for participants to safely access. Grantees began using Zoom out of Police Department s to allow victims access to court hearings. A presentation about Title IX was given over Zoom. The training specifically focused on education laws and new Title IX regulations. Especially as Title IX regulations change, our program considers it an essential priority to ensure that allies across Cook County are educated on the legal specifics of these regulations and the impacts they have on victims of sex crimes in the community. Projects which provide services to child witnesses of domestic violence provided emotional support and general advocacy to children. More projects are meeting with children at school to provide services. This is critical as more victims are encountering difficulties obtaining transportation to programs for services. Some providers utilize a small portion of their VOCA subcontract to provide evaluation and therapy for children exhibiting emotional and behavioral disturbances and developmental delays. This has proven to be highly successful. The programs have done a good job of finding and developing a professional relationship with child therapists. The most effective projects train their staff to identify children who need this level of help. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA s), waited in food lines for hours for children who have been placed in homes where the foster parents could not go themselves to wait in line due to children being online for school or not having a vehicle.

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

Child Abuse: This quarter the crisis counseling program served a 13 year old female victim of rape. The victim does not use or refer to her female birth name as she identifies as transgender therefore, she will be referred to as he, him, or his in the rest of this paragraph. The victim was initially living in a single family home with his mom, stepdad, and two of his half-sisters. When his mom s half-brother was released from prison, he (uncle) moved in with the family too. The family suggested the victim give his bedroom to the uncle and he started sleeping on the sofa in the living-room. Shortly after the exchange of rooms, the abuse started. Due to the abuse carried out by his uncle, the victim is quick to anger, easily irritated and annoyed, always anxious, unable to sleep, and as stated by his mom and other family members, loss a sense of identity. The Victim states the abuse has caused a rift between family members that is almost beyond repair as he reports that he is repeatedly called inappropriate belittling names by family members, especially his stepfather. The back and forth name calling and fighting amongst family members led to the victim and his mom being kicked out of the family home. They were homeless until mom s brother allowed them to temporarily move in with him. During his first crisis counseling session, the victim thoroughly described how his uncle raped him three times. The victim said it was very obvious that the abuse was not right because the uncle insisted that nothing be said about it. The victim felt that because he kept the abuse to himself for so long, he thought about harming himself and physically hurting others. The Victim said when he thought it was safe to share, he told an online friend and a neighbor, and the neighbor told his mom. During his second session, the victim discussed feeling very anxious, having frequent panic attacks, feeling hurt, and targeted. The victim also discussed being in an open intimate relationship and partaking in a couple of

online/internet relationships. He admits to having low self-esteem and feeling worthless. The victim is still in counseling and is working on ways to manage and improve his challenging feelings, reducing his stress, and learning how to cope with complicated relationships. The Counselor is also working with him on the importance of focusing on things he can change, positive self-talk, assertive communication, and conflict resolution. The Counselor is consistently reiterating the importance of saying no and creating a positive support team. Domestic Assault/Violence: Flor first encountered our program in the summer of 2019. In the first meeting with her clinical case manager, Flor shared that she had survived domestic and sexual violence since she was a child. Flor's mother forced her into child prostitution at a young age, and later, Flor was trafficked to the United States when she was only 19 years old as a sex worker. Flor disclosed that as a result of this situation, she had immigration issues which led to her being detained in ICE custody for over 10 months, and on house arrest for another 10, during which time she experienced a devastating separation from her young children. On top of this, Flor was in an abusive relationship where her husband regularly emotionally belittled her as well as utilized physical violence to maintain power and control in the relationship. Due to this history of trauma, Flor came into the program feeling very low, with thoughts of suicide, and easily triggered. Flor shared her thoughts on her first experience of therapy, saying, In my community, people make me feel ashamed of how I feel. However, my counselor told me I have a right to feel this way. When I walked out the door, I felt lighter. Over the course of the year, our clinical case manager helped Flor understand domestic violence, sexual abuse, and the impacts of trauma in her life. Flor became more self-confident and began to trust in her own instincts. Flor was preparing to leave her husband and start a new life free from abuse. Then COVID-19 hit, and Flor's husband contracted the virus and had a stroke. Suddenly, Flor became the caretaker for the man who had abused and belittled her for many years. Flor felt like she was taking a huge step backward but felt the obligation to care for her husband during his time of need. However, through counseling, Flor had the tools to challenge her negative thoughts, and find ways in which she could still have power and peace in her life, and she was able to move forward without engaging in the same suicidal ideation that had brought her into counseling in the first place. Flor was referred by her clinical case manager to an entrepreneurship course and learned skills to open her own business. For Flor, this was very empowering and gave her ideas on how to start and run a business that could help provide for her and her family. With the support of her case manager, Flor

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

Many of the programs are beginning to find themselves serving victims of federal crime. For this reason, grantees are sending staff to workshops or are attending online workshops to educate themselves on how to spot and care for these individuals who are being trafficked. Some of the trainings attended this past year included: The State's Attorney's Office Community Justice Center in collaboration with the 11th District Police Department and Our Resilience Sexual Assault awareness workshop. Topics covered included consent, healthy relationships, rape culture, victim blaming and risk factors. During the week of October 20th, 2020 grantees attended the Coordinated Service Referral Network (CSRN) human trafficking and trauma-informed care training. On November 16, 2020 grantees attended The State's Attorney's Office Community Justice Center in collaboration with the Chicago Police Departments 11th District CAPS Unit and the Salvation Army STOP-IT Program on Human Trafficking Awareness webinar. Rape crisis centers are responding to victims of trafficking with advocacy and counseling services. In some cases, those victims of trafficking have been taken across state lines by their perpetrators. In addition, Centers located near military bases work with survivors who are military or military family members. Some grantees have formed a collaboration with federal law enforcement and the US attorney's office, to improve services to Victims of Federal crimes.

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

One issue that has become a cause for alarm is that judges have been setting very low bonds for offenders committing terrible domestic violence offenses. This has been noted even on cases when the individual has prior offenses on their record. Locally, when considering emerging trends regarding crime in the Macon County, Illinois, it is worth noting the increasing amount of community violence in the last 3-4 months in Decatur, Illinois. For example, the number of shootings in 2020 through August (102) have already surpassed the number of shootings in all of 2019 (83), 2018 (90), and 2017 (95). These shootings are having a significant impact on the neighborhoods in which they are occurring. Unfortunately, due to the extensive history between groups of people and fears of retaliation, victims and the affected community members are reluctant to reach out for services. Improved access to safe and reliable dependent care is also needed for many programs. Limited access to affordable childcare is a barrier for many victims and limits their ability to engage in educational and vocational programs, thereby impacting their ability to achieve financial stability or meet other identified needs. This has been an increased need during the pandemic, as many individuals with children have been required to give up employment and other opportunities due to lack of childcare and schooling resources. Abusive partners may withhold necessary items, such as hand sanitizer or disinfectants, share misinformation about the pandemic to control or frighten survivors, or to prevent them from seeking appropriate medical attention if they have symptoms, by withholding the insurance card, or threatening to cancel the medical insurance altogether. Increase in the number of domestic cases that involve substance abuse. Educating judges on Victim's Rights continues to be a work in progress. Some of the judges have made some positive strides, but others continue to fight change a bit. For example, some judges still require victims to present victim impact statements in advance of the hearings and the victims may only read directly from the written statement. On a programmatic level, clients include a significant number of single mothers who must now remain at home on weekdays to ensure children are participating in remote learning activities. As a result, they cannot maintain

daytime employment; but even with evening or nighttime jobs, program clients often cannot find (or afford) adequate childcare. Since its launch in Spring 2020, Illinois rape crisis advocates and counselors have provided nearly 2,000 video and/or text counseling or advocacy sessions on the virtual video/text platforms. However, the availability of electronic services exposed many additional barriers facing low income and rural communities including no or limited access to internet and technology. These barriers contribute to a feeling of isolation felt by survivors making in-person services essential.

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

Transitional Housing grantees struggle with the idea that they are a dual agency (sexual assault/domestic violence) and a 24-hour program. Staff complain about needing to be on-call, work holidays, or cover support staff's shifts when they are ill or on vacation. Trauma Recovery Centers find that staffing is difficult to maintain when it comes to the type of services that their program provides. It's difficult to help team members balance what is going on in their communities with the civil unrest, personal and community losses by COVID-19, as well as managing the severity of many of their patient needs. Team members have had difficulty balancing the amount of time they have available for each of their patients and the personal needs of the staff members. At times it is difficult to hang on to the small wins when there are so many things that they are not able to provide for their patients, due to lack of resources. Civil Legal grantees struggled to fill open positions late 2019. It was discovered that colleagues in the legal aid arena were facing similar difficulties filling positions (to the point where the Chicago Bar Foundation surveyed Chicago's legal aid providers to see if a root cause could be determined). Fortunately, they had more success in early 2020, and were able to fill two vacant positions. We have had some staff turnover this fiscal year and, due to COVID-19, had some VOCA-funded staff that chose to shelter-in-place due to their own health concerns.

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

A new state law for the creation and publication of grant funding opportunities was initiated in Illinois in 2014. The Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) provides for a centralized and systematized grant application process. All VOCA funds have been designated through either a competitive process as per GATA or designated as a sole source funding opportunity. Funding opportunities will be announced through a GATA Notice of Funding Opportunity which will be made public, along with an announcement, on the agency website. Funded programs will still be listed on the website. As of October 1, 2020, twelve VOCA programs were administered via the GATA process and nearly 180 new grant programs were implemented throughout Illinois with VOCA funds.

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

The ICJIA Ad Hoc Victim Services Committee, comprised of criminal justice and victim services professionals and members of the community, met in January 2017 to review crime and victimization trend data, information on current efforts, and data from funded programs. Participants included the executive directors of the major statewide victim service associations, including the coalitions against domestic violence and sexual assault, and individual agencies representing underserved communities, such as Mujeres Latinas en Accion, Arab American Family Services, and the Center on Halsted, a gay/lesbian/bi/transgender organization. The 12 priorities recommended for funding included: Promote Awareness and Access. o Fund initiatives that raise public awareness of victim services. o Increase funding for advocates and social workers within a variety of organizations to increase victim access to immediate services. o Increase funding of services for underserved victims of crime. Address Core Needs. o Increase funding to address fundamental needs of crime victims. o Fund core direct services to victims of all crime types. Provide victim-centered and trauma-informed services. o Encourage development and expansion of programs that address the impact of multiple victimization experiences. o Promote multidisciplinary responses to victimization. o Encourage trauma-informed and trauma-focused services for victims of crime. Fill Key Gaps o Fund services that address long-term victim needs, such as counseling and mental health services. o Support Programs that specifically address needs of individuals exposed to community violence. Implementation, Outcomes, Sustainability. o Encourage the use of evidence-informed (or promising) and evidence-based practices and programming. o Fund activities that encourage data collection and reporting, document victim outcomes, facilitate program evaluation, and increase knowledge of victimization and service provision in Illinois. With these priorities as guidance, program funding opportunities were developed and published. Targeted underserved populations through these funding opportunities have included underserved geographical areas of the state, including urban and rural areas, as well as victim populations, such as vulnerable populations, young men of color, and victims with mental health or substance abuse issues.

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

Fund planning continues throughout the year in meetings of the ICJIA Victim Services Ad Hoc Committee, Budget Committee, and meetings with individual subgrantees. At the last ICJIA Victim Services Ad Hoc Committee meeting, participants were presented with information and data concerning gaps in service. The two priorities recommended concerning gaps in services included: o Fund services that address long-term victim needs, such as counseling and mental health services. o Support programs that specifically address needs of individuals exposed to community violence. The recommendation made by the Victim Services Ad Hoc Committee was applied in funding recommendations made by staff to the ICJIA Budget Committee. To address these gaps all VOCA-funded programs were encouraged to increase counseling services and mental health services. In July 2020, a Trauma Recovery Center program was funded through VOCA with five sites selected serving victims throughout the state. This was an expansion of the program previously funded with VOCA in Chicago and Peoria Illinois. These programs follow an evidence-based trauma recovery model.

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

N/A