

VT Annual State Performance Report

Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

Reporting Period: [Oct 1, 2020 to Sept 30, 2021]

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

OVC VOCA Assistance Funds				
	2018-V2-GX-0006	2019-V2-GX-0049	2020-V2-GX-0053	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00604-ASSI
Federal Award Amount	\$6,748,807.00	\$4,714,389.00	\$3,585,905.00	\$2,397,872.00
Total Amount of Subawards	\$7,115,996.00	\$4,493,393.00	\$3,448,680.00	\$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	79	60	51	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	(\$367,189.00)	\$220,996.00	\$137,225.00	\$2,397,872.00

Subgrantee Organization Type				
<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>				
Type of Organization	2018-V2-GX-0006	2019-V2-GX-0049	2020-V2-GX-0053	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00604-ASSI
Government Agencies Only	16	12	10	0
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Courts	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	4	3	3	0
Prosecutor	3	3	2	0
Other	9	6	5	0
Nonprofit Organization Only	63	48	41	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	13	12	12	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	5	4	3	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	3	3	3	0
Faith-based Organization	0	0	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	14	11	9	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	1	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	3	3	1	0
Multiservice agency	18	12	10	0
Other	6	3	3	0

Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool (PMT)

Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only	0	0	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	0	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	79	60	51	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				
	2018-V2-GX-0006	2019-V2-GX-0049	2020-V2-GX-0053	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00604-ASSI
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	71	60	51	0
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	0	0	0	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	8	0	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

	2018-V2-GX-0006	2019-V2-GX-0049	2020-V2-GX-0053	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00604-ASSI
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	78	60	50	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	73	54	47	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	56	45	41	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	32	26	21	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	65	48	43	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	79	60	51	0

Priority and Underserved Requirements

Priority Area	2018-V2-GX-0006	2019-V2-GX-0049	2020-V2-GX-0053	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00604-ASSI
Child Abuse				
Total Amount	\$1,234,564.00	\$770,287.00	\$641,524.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	18.00 %	16.00 %	18.00 %	
Domestic and Family Violence				
Total Amount	\$2,024,229.00	\$1,306,653.00	\$979,348.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	30.00 %	28.00 %	27.00 %	
Sexual Assault				
Total Amount	\$1,609,341.00	\$980,773.00	\$659,437.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	24.00 %	21.00 %	18.00 %	
Underserved				
Total Amount	\$1,732,541.00	\$995,740.00	\$1,057,879.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	26.00 %	21.00 %	30.00 %	

Budget and Staffing

Staffing Information	2018-V2-GX-0006	2019-V2-GX-0049	2020-V2-GX-0053	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00604-ASSI
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	383	301	241	
Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	144225	168843	90253	
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	459	406	337	
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	33959	26177	16839	

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)	62	1293	1205	1426	1498	1355
Adult Sexual Assault	86	591	633	666	514	601
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	84	168	147	172	105	148
Arson	20	17	40	32	146	58
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	44	35	37	50	43	41
Burglary	26	232	448	465	380	381
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	68	339	364	373	298	343
Child Pornography	58	23	28	17	24	23
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	81	796	825	623	677	730
Domestic and/or Family Violence	79	3974	3272	3696	3780	3680
DUI/DWI Incidents	26	199	182	249	284	228
Elder Abuse or Neglect	63	162	76	73	52	90
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	34	27	12	18	23	20
Human Trafficking: Labor	32	3	1	5	1	2
Human Trafficking: Sex	70	90	75	85	57	76
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	29	783	856	654	519	703
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	26	61	81	101	72	78
Kidnapping (custodial)	26	3	7	12	7	7
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	17	0	1	0	0	0
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	28	569	509	603	601	570
Robbery	27	201	165	237	196	199
Stalking/Harassment	69	355	483	596	427	465
Survivors of Homicide Victims	42	205	197	180	175	189
Teen Dating Victimization	69	11	25	26	21	20
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	14	0	0	3	0	0
Other	13	1400	1492	1472	1839	1550

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	32	33	38	44	235

Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool (PMT)

Homeless	412	388	400	441	2759
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	94	96	110	73	647
LGBTQ	113	100	107	122	900
Veterans	16	20	19	17	161
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	442	437	537	474	3125
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	97	95	82	70	632
Other	167	150	158	171	1013

General Award Information				
Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level			Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.			30788	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year			1525	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.			18842	61.20 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?			2095	6.80 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.			1604	

Demographics		
Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian or Alaska Native	56	0.30 %
Asian	134	0.71 %
Black or African American	540	2.87 %
Hispanic or Latino	207	1.10 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	25	0.13 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	11209	59.49 %
Some Other Race	103	0.55 %
Multiple Races	190	1.01 %
Not Reported	3731	19.80 %
Not Tracked	2647	14.05 %
Race/Ethnicity Total	18842	
Gender Identity		
Male	4044	21.46 %
Female	12155	64.51 %
Other	248	1.32 %
Not Reported	613	3.25 %
Not Tracked	1782	9.46 %
Gender Total	18842	
Age		
Age 0- 12	1701	9.03 %
Age 13- 17	1411	7.49 %
Age 18- 24	2060	10.93 %

Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool (PMT)

Age 25- 59	10117	53.69 %
Age 60 and Older	1607	8.53 %
Not Reported	1519	8.06 %
Not Tracked	427	2.27 %
Age Total	18842	

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	54	23514	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	20312
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	17056
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	7978
			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	9187
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	45	7802	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	140
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	94
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	1407
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	24318
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	462
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	45
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	292
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	1261
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	983
			B10. Interpreter services	508
C. Emotional Support or Safety	45	11694	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	5463
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	29604
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	155

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Services			C4. Individual counseling	44573
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	2894
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	315
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	1531
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	28	1839	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	55748
			D2. Transitional housing	17893
			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	913
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	44	19076	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	21547
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	1932
			E3. Assistance with restitution	2248
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	4283
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	1723
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	961
			E7. Immigration assistance	95
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	1657
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	787
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	9387
E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	5466			

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	1
No	0
Number of requests received for education activities during the reporting period.	29
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	158
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	3
Did the grant support any coordination activities (e.g., with other service providers, law enforcement agencies) during the reporting period?	
Yes	1
No	0

Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.

There have been approximately 3 specific training events during the reporting period in which approximately 158 people were in attendance. CCVS conducted a highly visible and well attended online event for CVRW featuring Dr. Christopher Wilson on the neurobiology of trauma, which 104 people attended. In addition to the scheduled events, we created 3 online pre-recorded modules that are accessible to all VT advocates and service professionals in an ongoing basis. Episode Views Topic Episode 1 364 Center for Crime Victim Services Episode 2 191 Anna Nasset Episode 3 144 VINE Link Episode 4 64 Vermont Network for Sexual and Domestic Violence Episode 5 85 Crime Victims- Law & Policy Episode 6 172 VT National Guard Episode 7 115 Restorative Justice Episode 8 51 Self-Care Episode 9 52 Storytelling for change Episode 10 221 Human Trafficking Episode 11 81 Sexual Assault Program Episode 12 54 Stalking Awareness Month Episode 13 40 Vermont Center for Independent Living Episode 14 30 Alteristic Episode 15 90 Title IX Episode 16 104 Domestic Violence Episode 17 162 Advocacy Episode 18 60 Law Enforcement Episode 19 112 Male Victimization Episode 20 57 GirlsFightBack.com Episode 21 138 Systematic Oppression & Racism Episode 22 43 Systematic Oppression & Racism PART II Episode 23 36 Empowering Gender Opportunities Episode 24 45 Vermont State Police 2,114 views Each year, the Center creates a series of materials to support the trainings that we offer. This year we created: - 3 pre-recorded online training modules: o The Victim Experience o Victim Impact Statement explained o Trauma & resilience - 25 episodes of the mend - podcast - PowerPoint presentations as well as handouts to accompany - Flyer to post physically as well as on the web and to share. - Posters as visuals for trainings - Updated web page location to support the increase in media coverage and providing a more central location for that coverage. - Instagram page [CCVS_VT_Wellness] - Youtube account [The Mend] - Soundcloud/iTunes accounts to support the various formats of the podcast.

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

We have held approximately 15 planning meetings with our external partners in training and development. Internal, we hold 1 – 2 weekly meetings to discuss and develop the materials and modules needed to host the Vermont Virtual Victim Assistance Academy. The total meetings held is approximately 35. During this reporting period the Center Training staff met regularly with the individuals who were the core trainers, from the previous in-person incarnation of Vermont's Victim Assistance Academy. Many are offering to stay on to help build the new Virtual Academy, and we are also recruiting new and diverse trainers. The pivot from in-person to virtual formats required that all individuals involved enhance their training toolkit, for the creation of on-line courses. As a result of this need, the Center staff began to develop a guide for the trainers called Vermont's Virtual Assistance Academy Trainer's Tips, A Guide for Subject Matter Experts. Vermont's Victim Assistance Academy used to bring participants to one location, for 4 two-day sessions over the course of one year. In our first meetings the training teams still believed the Academy was best in person and this caused them to pause to develop the material to fit in an on-line format and still be engaging. There were initial concerns in taking the training on-line, as the in-person format brought victim service professionals together and helped build relationships. This pivot is requiring a complete review of the materials to be used, as well as striking the balance between the synchronous and asynchronous delivery of the materials. Thus, in developing the on-line format, the Center is mindful of selecting platforms which can still build relationships and encourage collaboration. We know that the cohorts need to be smaller, that the presentations need to be shorter, that there needs to be independent learning, interesting homework assignments and opportunities for team projects. We hope to launch the first session of the new on-line academy in April around the time of Crime Victims Rights Week. This first session will cover the Criminal Justice Continuum in Vermont; Incidents of Crime in Vermont; Victim Rights; The Role of Community Based vs. State Based Advocates; Crime Victims Needs, and Where to Find Resources; and the Importance of Civil Rights Laws and Serving Marginalized Communities.

Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.

The Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services had revised its policies and procedures around the National Emergency Pandemic Mandatory Match Waiver. As such, pursuant to the passage of the VOCA Fix Act, CCVS implemented a blanket match waiver for all open VOCA Awards effective immediately. Any matching requirement, in its entirety, was waived until the expiration of the National Emergency Pandemic Period. At the conclusion of this period, CCVS will honor all match waivers granted during the national emergency pandemic until they expire at the end of the applicable VOCA subaward for which match was waived. New VOCA subawards made after the end of that period would no longer qualify for mandatory match waiver. Any match waiver requests for those subawards will be considered under CCVS ordinary match waiver process, outlined and available at <http://www.ccvs.vermont.gov/support-for-professionals/grants-program/program-reporting> To comply with OVC recommendations, all subgrantees submitted a Budget/Match Modification Request excluding the match component. Subgrantees had the option to accepting or declining this waiver.

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

Total earned media coverage – 14 Published Press releases – 9 – press releases are created by our communications coordinator. For specific events, meaningful news and significant changes at the Center for Crime Victim Services, press releases are shared with specific media outlets based on topic and location of event. Some significant topics on which press releases were written were The Crime Victim Assistance Awards Ceremony, Crime Victim Listening Forums, the release of the Mend podcast, other events and news from our subgrantees. Calendar listings – 7 – For events, a calendar listing is submitted in each relevant, local, media outlet with an online and print version. By posting our events with media outlets, we reach the community that the event is being held in and increase attendance. We also post our events on social media to increase visibility and allow the event to be able to be shared within social networks. Specific events that were listed with local media were Crime Victims Rights week community training opportunities as well as public meetings and forums. News stories – 6 – During the COVID era, having media presence at an event is nearly impossible. However, we were able to host several local media outlets at our annual Crime Victim Rights Week celebration. During the service award ceremony as well as the training, we had 5 local media outlets. 3 stories were written about that week of celebration. 3 other media mentions were gained through our training and social media shares.

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

Most of Vermont's VOCA funded Subgrantees serve on local multi-disciplinary task forces to coordinate and improve services to victims. During the reporting period, all VOCA subgrantees have taken measures to continue to provide high quality services to victims of crime in VT during the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional ARPA funding was awarded to all VT Network programs to support their service provision to victims of domestic and sexual violence during these uncertain times. CCVS has worked with state legislators that will codify the establishment of a Victim Services Advisory Council. This bill proposes to direct the Center for Crime Victims Services to establish a Victims Services Advisory Council to bring service providers, crime victims, and survivors together to improve public policy for and optimize the provision of services to victims and survivors of crime. The Council will be overseen by the Center and will provide meaningful input to stakeholders and policy makers, along with allowing allied victim services providers to pro-actively engage in meaningful and productive discussions that address challenges and identify solutions that promote healing. Lastly, CCVS is currently in the preliminary planning stages of establishing a Victim/Survivor Speakers Bureau. The Speakers Bureau will provide a platform for victims and survivors to educate providers, allied professionals, and policy makers on their experiences and how we can enhance service provision in Vermont.

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

CCVS became aware of research completed by the Vermont Racial Equity Task Force, highlighting the need of language access for crime victims in the state. More specially, addressing the issue of language access among members of Vermont's refugee communities who often face high risk of being re-traumatized and isolated by language barriers. To address this need CCVS is planning on a series of steps specifically and intentionally focused on raising awareness of the needs and language barriers faced by refugee and other vulnerable communities. We also intend to continue collaborating, organizing and providing technical assistance well beyond the event, as needed, to subgrantees and victim service providers in the state. The final goal is to develop a set of actionable steps towards addressing the language access needs within their organizations and thus, enhancing victim service provision across the state. During the continued rise of the COVID-19 pandemic, most VOCA Assistance subgrantees have adapted their service delivery to mostly online/virtual formats. As COVID-19 continues to spread across VT, service providers face additional challenges in providing the highest levels of care to all survivors and victims of crime. Coping with a pandemic continues to be the new normal, and the effects of the systemic disruptions will be felt by both crime victims, survivors, and those that support them. Technological and communication difficulties have slowed efforts to empower crime victims and survivors, and the sense of urgency caused by the pandemic have resulted in higher levels of stress for all. For example, the Legal partners have seen a vast increase on the request for services-reportedly, almost doubled during the pandemic. While they continue to move forward and innovating ways to provide quality legal services to victims of crimes, they face great challenges including the technological shortcomings that continue to distance disenfranchised victims from achieving justice. Underserved/marginalized populations in Vermont continue to suffer from both implicit and explicit forms of discrimination and bias. These maladies permeate the structures and organizations that ultimately are supposed to serve all victims of crime. Thus, steps need to be continuously and proactively taken to remove barriers to access and utilization of services to victims and survivors identifying as LBGTQ, racial and ethnic minorities, immigrants, older adults, and persons with disabilities. CCVS initiated conversations with subgrantees regarding best practices on racial equity and expect to report on these findings while conducting strategic planning to address the needs of victims in VT. Furthermore, there are perennial, insurmountable resource barriers that rural victims encounter including; the lack of safe, affordable housing, lack of transportation resources, and lack of employment opportunities. Often survivors are faced with these three barriers at once, leading to feelings of despair and anxiety. In addition, survivors often lack the resources to secure legal representation in civil matters such as custody and divorce. Without legal supports, survivors are at an extreme disadvantage, often being re-victimized through the legal process and receiving less favorable outcomes. An increased number of survivors seeking services are facing complex issues including substance misuse and significant mental health diagnoses. We are actively training and working with community partners to ensure staff are equipped to effectively support survivors and make appropriate referrals.

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.

In 2021 The Vermont Center for Crime Victim services continued to support a comprehensive demonstration project to place dedicated victim services liaisons in a variety of restorative and parallel justice programs to better serve victims and those affected by crime. The Voice and Choice for Victims Demonstration Project solidifies our vision and commitment to empower crime victims by honoring their voice and acting upon coordinated public/private solutions in repairing the harm done to them. VCCVS received applications from nine programs and was able to fund five, with the intention of renewed, non-competitive funding for three years, pending federal funding and performance. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and related funding uncertainties for these programs, CCVS decided to extend leveled VOCA funding through SFY22. At the end of the reporting period, these 5 Voice and Choice Demonstration Programs have served a total of 999 individuals. Most of these individuals served were Caucasian females ages 25-29 years old. The crimes they were victims to included: vehicular victimizations (e.g. hit and run), robbery, identity fraud, adult physical assault, stalking/harassment, burglary, and bullying. In addition to the important work they do serving victims of crimes in VT, these programs are also key partners in educating criminal justice related agencies and service programs on trauma informed practices. They have developed an implementation guide to replicate the program nationwide. Furthermore, they have also developed an Agency Self-Assessment Tool of victim-centered practices. This tool is intended for organizations to build awareness about how they respond to people who have experienced victimization. The assessment tool follows the Guiding Principles of Parallel Justice. Access to the tool is free online and once completed the assessment, agencies can request follow-up support from the Parallel Justice Program to guide them move towards more victim-centered practices. CCVS sets aside \$500,000 in VOCA funds for The Vermont Legal Partnership (VLP). This partnership was established in 2016 as a direct result of addressing Vermont's most urgent needs for crime victims in the state as identified in the VOCA strategic plan. It is made up of 6 non-profit organizations: Vermont Legal Aid, Disability Rights VT, Have Justice Will Travel, The VT Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, The South Royalton Legal Clinic at VT Law School, The Vermont Bar Association. CCVS subgrants with all the agencies within VLP to ensure that victims rights are enforced and if needed, they obtain legal representation in the aftermath of their crimes. Collaboratively, these partners have provided legal services to 2671 victims of crimes in VT during the reporting period. Most of these individuals were female, victims of domestic/family violence ranging from ages 25-59 years old. CCVS continued to support the work against human trafficking in VT. During the reporting period, a total of 314 victims of human trafficking (304 sex trafficking cases and 10 victims of labor trafficking) received services by VOCA Assistance subgrantees. A total of 183 victims of sex and labor trafficking received services by a specialized human trafficking case manager co-located in a Police Department (South Burlington PD & Rutland PD) or a statewide Rapid Response Program (Give Way to Freedom). CCVS continues to support agencies/programs that offer specialized services to underserved communities/victims of crime throughout the state. These include: Association for Africans Living in Vermont, Burlington Community Justice Center-Saint Joseph Orphanage, Community of Vermont Elders, Disability Rights Vermont, Prevent Child Abuse VT, Vermont Department of Public Safety- Major Crimes Unit, and Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence- Deaf Vermonters Advocacy Services. In aggregate, these programs have provided services to 2441 victims of crime in Vermont including services to adults

sexually assault as children, child abuse, domestic violence and identity theft.

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

CCVS continues to reach out to all VOCA subgrantees to offer technical assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have streamlined and informed subgrantees about the updated match policies and procedures. We continue to conduct monitoring via enhanced desk reviews using the zoom platform. In addition, we are planning to conduct our strategic planning assessment while including the voices of victims of crime and/or survivors. As VOCA funding has drastically diminished, we firmly believe that incorporating their voices in our strategic planning is a valuable way to inform both policy and funding decisions going forward. CCVS conducted a series of Listening Sessions this year. These sessions were held via Zoom with professionals from allied organizations that serve crime victims in Vermont. The questions focused on identifying the current services needs in VT. It is important to mention that the majority VOCA subgrantees expressed deep concerns about financial issues given their knowledge of federal funding cuts going forward. Further, a substantial portion of the subgrantees who participated in the Listening Sessions reported not having a formal sustainability plan in place. Thus, efforts were made to provide technical assistance in this area. As such, CCVS reached out to OVC TTAC and was able to reserve 15 seats in the online training entitled: Sustaining Your Program's Capacity to Serve Victims. In addition, CCVS received approval for one consultant to deliver a two-part virtual webinar series on advanced sustainability planning and grant writing on August 13 and 16, 2021. The sessions addressed diversifying funding, implementing sustainability plans and writing complex grants. Approximately 15 subrecipient agency staff attended the training that provided much needed guidance to support implementation of sustainability plans and techniques to strengthen grant writing for complex applications. These skills can assist the participants in creating stronger applications and in turn improving the chance of successful, sustainable funding for victim services in Vermont. CCVS will continue to use the information gathered during these Listening Sessions from our subgrantees and key stakeholders to be able to make well informed decisions as well as programmatic and financial planning going forward. Lastly, during this reporting period the Center for Crime Victim Services, with the support of the VOCA grant, continued to fund a Social Media and Communications specialist. The primary goal of the communications plan is to increase statewide awareness about the Center for Crime Victim Services, specifically, what services the Center offers, and how to access those services when they are needed. With improved access to information, crime victims in Vermont are better informed about how and where to get the materials they need in the wake of a crime.

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: The Vermont Child Advocacy Centers, who respond to child sexual assault crimes will receive VOCA funding to implement direct victim services, enhance trainings, and build capacity necessary to attain accreditation from the National Children's Alliance, with a focus on multidisciplinary teams, cultural competency and diversity, victim support and advocacy, mental health support, and forensic interviewing. Domestic Violence: All the program members in the Vermont Network receive VOCA funding. Sexual Assault: Approximately \$150,000 is enabling Vermont's current part-time statewide Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Coordinator to increase to a full-time Clinical Coordinator who can recruit and train additional pediatric and adult SANES to improve 24/7 availability of SANES in Vermont medical facilities. Of the 14 VOCA funded programs of Vermont's domestic and sexual violence coalition, 12 are dual sexual/domestic violence programming, and 2 are sexual violence programs. All of Vermont's Special Investigative Units serve sexual assault victims, these SIUs are collocated with the Child Advocacy Centers. This past year continued VOCA funding supported 2 Human Trafficking Case Managers at the Rutland City Police Department (to serve Southern Vermont) and the South Burlington Police Department (to serve Northern Vermont). In addition, VOCA funding is used to support the VT Rapid Response Support System ensuring that victims and potential victims of Human Trafficking receive services tailored to their unique needs through Give Way to Freedom. Underserved Populations: Organizations that serve traditionally marginalized populations receive VOCA funding to improve delivery of Victim Services. Those organizations include Association of Africans Living in Vermont (who serve many different nations with needs to understand 40 different languages), the Deaf Victim Advocate Program at the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, and Disability Rights Vermont and the Pride Center which serves LGBTQ victims who are victims of domestic and sexual violence. The Community of Vermont Elders also serves to educate and advocate for the needs of older Vermonters a highly marginalized population in the state.

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

The COVID-19 pandemic further exacerbated issues of access to justice amongst victims of federal crimes. VOCA funded legal service providers continue to work this past year in obtaining U visas for victims of domestic abuse who work with the US Attorney's Office. Language barriers and isolation continue to make it difficult for these victims to come forward; the efforts of Vermont's legal services and underserved populations program has given these victims a place to go for help. The US Attorney's Office staffs a full-time victim advocate who assists Victims of Federal crime navigate the justice system. This individual is responsible for informing these victims of their rights under federal law, provides information about the status of the case, refers victims to other supports and services, assists with Victims Compensation applications (logistical information with respect to reimbursement of crime related losses), accompanies victims to court, assists with victim impact statements, and assists with requests for restitution. The advocate in this office also compiles and updates resource directories for crime victims, some of these directories are for specialized services to victims with disabilities or sources for alternative therapies. Per official media announcement, The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Vermont collected \$1,874,911.26 in criminal and civil actions in Fiscal Year 2021. Of this amount, \$1,326,495.45 was collected in criminal actions and \$548,415.81 was collected in civil actions. Additionally, the District of Vermont worked with other U.S. Attorney's Offices and components of the Department of Justice to collect an additional \$291,607,284.62 in cases pursued jointly by these offices. Of this amount, \$20,151.91 was collected in criminal actions and \$291,587,132.71 was collected in civil actions. The U.S. Attorney's Offices, along with the department's litigating divisions, are responsible for enforcing and collecting civil and criminal debts owed to the U.S. and criminal debts owed to federal crime victims. The law requires defendants to pay restitution to victims of certain federal crimes who have suffered a physical injury or financial loss. While restitution is paid to the victim, criminal fines and felony assessments are paid to the department's Crime Victims Fund, which distributes the funds collected to federal and state victim compensation and victim assistance programs. Additionally, the U.S. Attorney's Office-District of Vermont, working with partner agencies and divisions, collected \$807,954.00 in asset forfeiture actions in FY 2021. Forfeited assets deposited into the Department of Justice Assets Forfeiture Fund are used to restore funds to crime victims and for a variety of law enforcement purposes.

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

While violent crime is decreasing during the pandemic, domestic violence calls for service are on the rise nationwide. People are more isolated. Abusive partners are under more stress. The options for escape are limited. These realities hold true in VT, as reported by the VT Network. Further, the VT Network programs and many of our VOCA subgrantees have not only seen an increase for services, they have seen an increase in the severity of domestic violence cases overall during quarantine. This is exacerbated by the lack of access to services in the most rural areas around the state. Domestic and sexual violence impacts all Vermonters. While the human toll of this violence is increasingly understood, the financial cost of this violence is unknown. A report released by the VT Network Against Sexual and Domestic Violence in April 2021 examined the economic impact of sexual and domestic violence on the state of Vermont through public expenditures using available data from 2015-2019. Based on these analyses, they reported that the public cost of sexual and domestic violence in Vermont totals over \$111 million per year. The per capita cost of domestic and sexual violence to each Vermonter is \$177.67 annually and approximately \$2,655 per victim in Vermont. Each year there are more than 40,000 victims of domestic or sexual violence in Vermont, though research indicates that most survivors do not report abuse. Statewide data on expenditures related to domestic and sexual violence is inconsistent and often unavailable, so use and extrapolation from national data is necessary. Further data collection is required to fully grasp the scope of state spending on domestic and sexual violence. Other emerging issues in VT relate to crime victim notification, expungement, and advocating for racial equity. In 2021 a bill approved by the Vermont House seeking to improve social equity in the state's fledgling marijuana market and modify the rollout of legal pot sales. The legislation would establish a fund to help people of color and others affected by past marijuana laws to open businesses in the new marijuana market. Another piece of legislation adds offenses eligible for expungement and sets up a study to look at expanding that list even more. The study, to take place during the 2021 legislative interim, will look at how to simplify the expungement process and consider a comprehensive policy that provides an avenue for expungement or sealing of records for all or most offenses except the most serious crimes, such as murder. The committee is called on to propose legislation for the 2022 legislative session regarding a policy to make all or most criminal history records eligible for expungement. Another bill, increasing notification to crime victims, establishes a working group to look at the need for a forensic treatment facility in Vermont. The legislation also would permit the prosecution to have its own psychiatrist examine a person charged with a crime when a court-ordered examiner has found that person incompetent to stand trial.

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

None.

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

Victim Assistance funding is announced via press releases from our congressional delegation. VOCA is used as a stable funding source for Vermont's core victim services, so not all the sub grants are competitive. VOCA funding has fluctuated quite a bit these past few years; in 2018 Vermont's federal grant was \$6,748,807 but in 2021 the amount was \$ 2,397,872. We are trying to support any new initiatives for least three years based on the four-year average of the VOCA grants the state has received. We are currently supporting the maximum amount of subgrants, given those parameters. We are very concerned given these decreases in funding. Therefore, we feel advertising and increasing initiatives at this time would be poor planning.

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

In regard to efforts supporting services for underserved communities, CCVS continues to provide significant VOCA funding to programs that serve crime victims from underserved populations. As such, CCVS provides Disability Rights Vermont VOCA funding, to advocate legally for victims of domestic violence that have disabilities and are working with the State's Attorney's Office to establish a protocol for working with victims with disabilities. The Community of Vermont Elders receives VOCA, for education and outreach and as a bridge to services for elders. The Association of Africans Living in Vermont receives VOCA funding to serve refugees and immigrant victims of domestic and sexual violence. Deaf Victim Advocates receives state funding and VOCA to serve deaf victims of domestic violence. The Pride Center of Vermont receives, VOCA funds to provide a comfortable place for LGBTQ victims to turn to when they have been in violent relationships. Additionally, significant funding is being provided to support human trafficking case managers as well as an emergency response program supporting culturally relevant projects aimed at serving victims and survivors of human trafficking. The following table provides a breakdown of the organizations that CCVS supported this past fiscal year with VOCA funding that address the unique needs of underserved populations.

Organization's Legal Name	Grant Name	Total Award Amount
Assoc. of Africans Living in Vermont	VOCA20	\$60,000.00
Disability Rights Vermont (Advocate and Legal)	VOCA20	\$94,000.00
Have Justice Will Travel Inc. (Legal)- Rural Clients RFAs	DVSV VOCA20	\$20,000.00
Prevent Child Abuse Vermont	VOCA20	\$45,000.00
Pride Center of Vermont-SafeSpace LGBTQ	VOCA20	\$92,710.00
Vermont Network (Deaf Victim Advocates)	VOCA20	\$111,462.88
Give Way to Freedom (Human Trafficking Rapid Response)	VOCA 20	\$15,000.00
Burlington Community Justice Center	VOCA 20	\$140,164.00
South Burlington PD (HT Case Manager)	VOCA 20	\$100,000.00
City Rutland PD (Human Trafficking Case Manager)	VOCA 20	\$100,000.00
Community of Vermont Elders	VOCA 20	\$ 68,534.00

CCVS continues to seek new partnerships to increase our collective capacity to better serve victims/survivors of underserved populations. The Center allocates funds and works with these subgrantees to do outreach and to provide training and technical assistance to increase options and visibility of currently available services. All these subgrantees engage in outreach activities in their communities, and they continue to reach out to agencies within their communities that provide services to specific age, cultural, and/or ethnic underserved populations. Each of the programs listed above provide training and technical assistance to other victim service organizations. This past year VOCA funding was also used to support families experiencing domestic violence in Vermont's most rural communities. Further, it is important to mention that CCVS is in the process of analyzing the possibility of creating an RFP specific to victim services for people of color and other underserved communities. The purpose of the RFP entitled Supporting Interventions or Survivors in Communities of Color and Other Underserved Communities would be to go beyond offering direct services as we currently fund many programs that offer just that as elaborated above. The new RFP would emphasize developing new models/approaches while reaching out to underserved populations and strengthening the work currently being done. These programs will be supported, in part, via the VOCA Assistance grant program administered by CCVS. The purpose of this RFP is to reach populations of crime victims that are hard to reach through current victims services, particularly historically underserved populations, including, people of color, men, and young adults and to reduce the risk of repeat victimization. The intent of this program is to collaborate with and complement the existing efforts within Vermont to delivering effective interventions that are rooted in evidence-based practices. CCVS continues to address issues of organizational capacity to broaden access to VOCA Assistance funding. As such, the above are still preliminary plans and can change as the planning process unfolds.

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

The state of Vermont continued to work from the VOCA strategic planning process conducted in 2016 which identified the unmet needs in Victim Services in our state. Given the economic uncertainties, we continue updating our strategic plan and reviewing our programmatic evaluations to inform the most judicious use of VOCA funding. In addition, we are planning to include the voices of victims of crime and/or survivors in our strategic planning as we solidify the work towards developing a Victim Speakers Bureau and Advisory Council. As VOCA funding has drastically diminished, incorporating their voices in our strategic planning is a valuable way to inform both policy and funding decisions going forward. As elaborated above, we were able to conduct a series of Listening Sessions with subgrantees and allied organizations. The findings from these listening sessions continue to inform our work towards responding to gaps in victim services in Vermont. We continue to collaborate with different agencies/programs to address gaps identified. For example, we have sought out training from OVC TTAC to address Indicators and Healthy Coping Strategies for Compassion Fatigue and Vicarious Trauma and Sustainability planning. Our VOCA funded Legal Partnership has agreed upon a set of questions that will help to evaluate the satisfaction of their services, which they have begun to implement in hopes to help to identify and better respond to gaps in services.

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

What follows are key excerpts from the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services report to the Vermont Legislature regarding outcome measures of its programming. CCVS STATE AND FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMMING How much did we do? CCVS's grants provides crucial services for the safety and security of Vermonters. Because CCVS is the hub for many victim service grant programs and key services, it is uniquely positioned to thoughtfully plan funding to avoid duplication. Domestic and Sexual Violence Programming: Numerous CCVS grants support this crucial safety net, without which the lives of individuals impacted by domestic and sexual violence would be at risk in our state. Supervised Visitation Programs (SVP) Supervised Visitation Programs (SVPs) provide a neutral and safe space in which a child may have contact with a non-custodial parent. These programs are geographically situated to best serve all 14 counties. Absent of supervised visitation, people end up using other alternatives that are not safe. Child Advocacy Centers (CAC/SIUs) Vermont's 13 Child Advocacy Centers house multi-disciplinary teams to make decisions about the investigation, treatment, management and prosecution of cases of child physical and sexual abuse and neglect. The CAC funding supports the coordination of wrap-around services to support the child and family. The Vermont Victim Assistance Program Advocates in the State's Attorneys offices in all 14 counties empower crime victims by helping them access the criminal justice system through empathy, support, information, resources, and referrals to community partners. Legal Network for Crime Victims With Victims of Crime Act, (VOCA) funding. Attorneys from seven state-wide legal service organizations came together to help people who have suffered, physical, financial or emotional harm because a crime occurred to them. They help with a wide range of legal problems flowing from their victimization, regardless of income, age, immigration status, cognitive or physical limitations. There is no cost for this service. The Voice and Choice Demonstration Project: Restorative Justice Centers In 2017 CCVS received proposals for a comprehensive statewide initiative, supporting dedicatee victim liaisons at Vermont community, restorative and parallel justice programs. Advocates Dedicated to Underserved Communities CCVS grants support specialized advocates who provide direct services and training to allied organizations to improve victim services to elders, people with disabilities, are deaf or hard of hearing, are of limited English proficiency, have mental health issues, people living in rural isolation and the First Nation. Positions Supported with CCVS Grant Funding, serving all counties in Vermont: Crisis Responders Hotline Workers Shelter Coordinators (and shelter space) Youth and Family Services Coordinators in Supervised Visitation Programs Family Court Advocates Criminal Court Advocates Volunteer Coordinators Hospital Advocates DV Trainer at the Vermont Criminal Justice Training Council Specialized Advocates for people with disabilities The VT DV Council Coordinator State's Attorneys Victims Advocates Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners Human Trafficking Case Managers Family Educators in Child Advocacy Centers Coordinators for the multi-disciplinary teams at the CACs serving child abuse victims Advocates trained for child witnesses of domestic and sexual violence The Vermont Victim Assistance Academy Positions Supported with Competitive Grants: Support for Vermont's Human Trafficking Task Force HT Victim Services Director, statewide HT Task Force Coordinator, statewide Dedicated domestic violence prosecutors (in three counties) Dedicated domestic violence investigators Web based training for victim service professionals Podcasts for victims and professionals How well did we do? CCVS aggregates performance data from the numerous reporting instruments required for its grant programming. These instruments include the Office on Victims of Crime's Performance Measurement Tool, the Office on Violence Against Women's Muskie Reports, the Federal Violence Prevention and Services Act Performance Progress Report, NCAtrak (National Children's Alliance), and the Office of Child Support (SVPs). These tools let us see how many people are being served, the types of services provided, the successes and challenges faced by the programs. Is anyone better off? A look at the numbers: 331 families received services from Supervised Visitation Programs 641 women, 76 men and 394 children were provided shelter from abusers o For a total of 57,875 nights 17,638 domestic violence hotline calls were answered 1303 children and 298 adults (FY 2019) received services from Child Advocacy Centers: o Counseling/Therapy was provided to 194 clients (152 children and 42 adults) o Referrals to Counseling to 755 clients (599 children and 156 adults) Legal Service