

# VI Annual State Performance Report

## Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

Reporting Period: [Oct 1, 2022 to Sept 30, 2023]

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

OVC VOCA Assistance Funds						
	2018-V2-GX-0059	2019-V2-GX-0016	2020-V2-GX-0030	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00603-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00683-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00474-ASSI
<b>Federal Award Amount</b>	\$1,574,785.00	\$1,219,852.00	\$1,027,338.00	\$823,616.00	\$944,159.00	\$914,015.00
<b>Total Amount of Subawards</b>	\$1,482,687.00	\$1,012,924.00	\$448,349.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Number of Subawards</b>	7	3	2	0	0	0
<b>Administrative Funds Amount</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Training Funds Amount</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Balance Remaining</b>	\$92,098.00	\$206,928.00	\$578,989.00	\$823,616.00	\$944,159.00	\$914,015.00

**Subgrantee Organization Type**  
The total number of subgrants represents 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	2018-V2-GX-0059	2019-V2-GX-0016	2020-V2-GX-0030	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00603-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00683-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00474-ASSI
<b>Government Agencies Only</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Corrections	0	0	0	0	0	0
Courts	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Nonprofit Organization Only</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	1	1	0	0	0	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	0	0	0	0	0	0
Faith-based Organization	0	0	0	0	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	3	0	1	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multiservice agency	1	2	0	0	0	0
Other	2	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Court	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	0	0	0	0	0	0
Faith-based organization	0	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Organization provides domestic and family violence and sexual assault services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	0	0	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Campus Organizations Only</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Campus-based victims services	0	0	0	0	0	0
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Number of Subawards</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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

<b>Subaward Purpose</b>						
A single SAR can select multiple purposes. Numbers are not unique						
	2018-V2-GX-0059	2019-V2-GX-0016	2020-V2-GX-0030	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00603-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00683-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00474-ASSI
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	7	3	2	0	0	0
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	0	0	0	0	0	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	0	0	0	0	0	0
D. Start up a new <b>Native American</b> victim services project	0	0	0	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing <b>Native American</b> project	0	0	0	0	0	0

<b>VOCA and Match Funds</b>						
A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are not unique						
	2018-V2-GX-0059	2019-V2-GX-0016	2020-V2-GX-0030	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00603-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00683-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00474-ASSI
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	5	2	1	0	0	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	5	2	1	0	0	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	5	2	1	0	0	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	2	1	1	0	0	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	6	3	2	0	0	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	6	3	2	0	0	0

<b>Priority and Underserved Requirements</b>						
Priority Area	2018-V2-GX-0059	2019-V2-GX-0016	2020-V2-GX-0030	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00603-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00683-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00474-ASSI
<b>Child Abuse</b>						
Total Amount	\$309,815.00	\$287,081.00	\$47,486.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	20.00 %	24.00 %	5.00 %			
<b>Domestic and Family Violence</b>						
Total Amount	\$901,770.00	\$362,921.00	\$281,589.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	57.00 %	30.00 %	27.00 %			
<b>Sexual Assault</b>						
Total Amount	\$203,225.00	\$226,826.00	\$103,478.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	13.00 %	19.00 %	10.00 %			
<b>Underserved</b>						
Total Amount	\$67,877.00	\$136,096.00	\$6,728.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	4.00 %	11.00 %	1.00 %			

<b>Budget and Staffing</b>						
Staffing Information	2018-V2-GX-0059	2019-V2-GX-0016	2020-V2-GX-0030	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00603-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00683-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00474-ASSI
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	45	23	13			

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

Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	37379	21618	12994			
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	70	70	24			
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1430	7970	240			

## 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)	3	55	19	41	25	35
Adult Sexual Assault	3	15	17	10	25	16
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	2	23	23	17	28	22
Arson	2	0	1	0	0	0
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	3	13	27	26	24	22
Burglary	1	0	0	1	0	0
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	3	21	8	19	25	18
Child Pornography	1	4	4	2	0	2
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	2	19	10	9	19	14
Domestic and/or Family Violence	3	321	197	183	201	225
DUI/DWI Incidents	1	4	0	4	0	2
Elder Abuse or Neglect	2	33	17	30	26	26
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	1	7	3	2	3	3
Human Trafficking: Labor	2	6	3	1	0	2
Human Trafficking: Sex	3	4	0	1	2	1
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	2	3	5	3	8	4
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	1	0	1	0	0	0
Kidnapping (custodial)	2	0	0	0	0	0
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	0	0	0	0	1	0
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	1	0	0	1	5	1
Robbery	2	0	0	0	1	0
Stalking/Harassment	2	54	24	34	44	39
Survivors of Homicide Victims	2	44	22	25	34	31
Teen Dating Victimization	1	4	15	2	2	5
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	11	16	7	9	10

## 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	4	8	4	4	52
Homeless	40	43	51	48	323
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	17	17	18	26	276
LGBTQ	10	25	26	11	99
Veterans	8	10	9	8	72
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	23	29	25	22	214
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	16	30	22	8	283
Other	0	0	0	0	25

## General Award Information

Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	1776	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	116	

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

Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	1524	85.81 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	254	14.30 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	13	

Demographics		
Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
American Indian or Alaska Native	2	0.13 %
Asian	6	0.39 %
Black or African American	768	50.39 %
Hispanic or Latino	466	30.58 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	0.13 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	184	12.07 %
Some Other Race	33	2.17 %
Multiple Races	50	3.28 %
Not Reported	13	0.85 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
<b>Race/Ethnicity Total</b>	<b>1524</b>	
<b>Gender Identity</b>		
Male	448	29.40 %
Female	1041	68.31 %
Other	35	2.30 %
Not Reported	0	0.00 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
<b>Gender Total</b>	<b>1524</b>	
<b>Age</b>		
Age 0- 12	237	15.55 %
Age 13- 17	195	12.80 %
Age 18- 24	333	21.85 %
Age 25- 59	640	41.99 %
Age 60 and Older	119	7.81 %
Not Reported	0	0.00 %
Not Tracked	0	0.00 %
<b>Age Total</b>	<b>1524</b>	

Direct Services				
Service Area	# of Subgrantees That Provided Services in This Category	# of Individuals/Contacts Receiving Services	Specific Service	Frequency of Service
A. Information & Referral	3	685	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	373
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	346
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	175
			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	319
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	3	510	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	116
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	3
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	39
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	264
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	0
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	86
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	148
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	66
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	184
B10. Interpreter services	38			
C. Emotional Support or	3	667	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	597
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	543
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	52

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

Safety Services **	2	896	C4. Individual counseling	1321
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	46
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	231
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	273
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	2	133	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	95
			D2. Transitional housing	56
			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	86
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	3	151	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	86
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	18
			E3. Assistance with restitution	8
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	140
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	77
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	23
			E7. Immigration assistance	54
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	4
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	30
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	14
E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	42			

## ANNUAL QUESTIONS

Grantee Annually Reported Questions	
Question/Option	Count
<b>Were any administrative and training funds used during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	1
No	0
<b>Did the administrative funds support any education activities during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	1
No	0
Number of requests received for education activities during the reporting period.	0
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	46
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	1
<b>Did the grant support any coordination activities (e.g., with other service providers, law enforcement agencies) during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	0
No	1
<b>Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.</b>	
Yes, 'LEPC conducted a subrecipient Grant Management Training entitled, Working Together for OUR COMMUNITY through Collaboration, Communication and Compliance' on the island of St. Thomas (March 13th-14th) and on the island of St. Croix (March 16th -17th). This training was conducted in partnership with the Office of Justice Programs Territories Financial Support Center (OJP TFSC). There were 46 participants in the training across both districts, with 20 on the islands of St. Thomas/St. John and 26 on the island of St. Croix. Please refer to Appendix A for supporting documentation. On the first day of the event, three members of the OJP TFSC training team led the proceedings. A slide presentation, collaboratively prepared with input from the Law Enforcement Planning Commission (LEPC), covered various topics, including pre-award processes, internal control, allowable and unallowable costs, budget management and modification, performance reporting, financial reporting, procurement, special conditions, closeouts, and preparation for onsite monitoring. On the second day, individual sessions with potential subgrantees took place. The event proved to be informative, and the attendees expressed their appreciation.	
<b>Describe any planning or training events held during the reporting period.</b>	
Yes, 'LEPC conducted a subrecipient Grant Management Training entitled, Working Together for OUR COMMUNITY through Collaboration, Communication and Compliance' on the island of St. Thomas (March 13th-14th) and on the island of St. Croix (March 16th -17th). This training was conducted in partnership with the Office of Justice Programs Territories Financial Support Center (OJP TFSC).	
<b>Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.</b>	
N/A	
<b>Describe any earned media coverage events/episodes during the reporting period.</b>	
Noted below are the earned media coverage event during the reporting period: 1. Women s Coalition of St. Croix (WCSC): WCSC consistently appears on local radio and television programs to disseminate information about services for crime victims and upcoming events. In collaboration with JKC Communication, WCSC co-produces monthly talk shows that highlight issues affecting crime victims while promoting WCSC services. The talk show, titled "Let s Talk: EEEzing into Change (Engagement, Education, Empowerment, and Experience)," aims to engage the public and raise awareness. WCSC has garnered media coverage for its events, further amplifying its outreach efforts. 2. Family Resource Center (FRC): FRC had several events during the reporting period garnered media attention and support from the community. The most noted events were: a) Candlelight Vigil on the Island of St. John – Candlelight Vigil on St. John Island – Conducted as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, this event aimed to heighten awareness about domestic violence in the territory. b) Domestic Violence Awareness Month Event c) Octoberfest Appreciation on Magens Bay Beach – A community gathering dedicated to raising awareness and fostering support to combat domestic violence and child abuse in the territory. d) Protect our Children s Future Pinwheels for Prevention – This event takes place during the month of April, designated as National Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Month. It serves as a dedicated time to prioritize the well-being of children and families. e) National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims – This event is held in the month of September; this event brings the community together to support and console families and friends who have lost loved ones to violence. It represents a powerful collaboration involving the US Virgin Islands Department of Justice, Victim Services Unit, the Family Resource Center, Inc., the Virgin Islands Police Department, and the Office of Gun Violence. The local TV channels in the Virgin Islands featured FRC s awareness and events. The keynote speaker was a powerful advocate for the marginalized in all events sponsored by FRC. 3. Legal Services of the Virgin Islands: LSVI had several events during the reporting period garnered support from the community: a) Participated in several domestic violence awareness month events. b) Legal Services Training on Medicare Fraud Errors and Abuse, Estate Planning, Power of Attorney, Wills and Deeds – Seniors on St. Thomas, St. Croix	
<b>Describe any coordinated responses/services for assisting crime victims during the reporting period.</b>	

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

1. Services providers collaborate with other providers and agencies thru the hosting of outreach events, through interagency meetings and through court hearings that provided the opportunity to promote availability of services and crisis intervention. 2. Victim service agencies coordinated services with the local Department of Human Services, the local police department and other non-traditional services to provide services to victims. 3. The legal advocate agency collaborated with other services providers such as the Court, and the law enforcement to assist victims of crime and to address concerns regarding the violations of restraining orders. They also assisted victims with getting victim compensation. They also worked with law enforcement to assist clients in submitting U-Visa petitions to the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. 4. State agency and service providers participated in domestic violence and sexual assault council meetings. 5. Service providers collaborated with the VI Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Council, The St. Croix Child Abuse and Neglect Task Force, St. Croix Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Team, the Virgin Islands Police Departments Domestic Violence Unit, Men s Coalition of the VI, Legal Services of the VI, the Office of Attorney General, and the U.S. Attorney s Office.

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

Issues that Assist: 1. Outreach campaigns for Domestic Violence Awareness Month; Sexual Awareness Month; Child Abuse Prevention Month March and Candlelight Vigil provide service providers with the opportunity to reach victims and potential victims. 2. Mainstream service providers continue to ensure their presence in the community and the services available. Outside of awareness months ads and notices are displayed often. Issues that Prevent Assistance: 1. DHS has not filed new petitions, thus essentially creating a system in which victims are not receiving services. 2. The issuance of Permanent Mutual Restraining Orders by the Magistrate of Superior Court 3. Service providers are not able to provide assistance to victims of crime during Civil Hearings in Domestic Violence Court, despite the fact that the proceedings are conducted virtually. 4. Staff shortages and lack of adequate funding to hire new staff has affected service providers ability to provide assistance during the reporting period. 5. Slow response to Domestic Violence call by the Virgin Islands Police Department (VIPD). 6. VIPD is not arresting batterers for violation of Restraining Orders. 7. The VIPD Domestic Violence Unit is grossly understaffed. 8. Individuals who have experienced psychological abuse as victims of crime are unable to obtain a Restraining Order. 9. The bail for domestic violence cases is set at an insufficiently low level.

## **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.**

1. State agency encouraged collaboration among victim service providers and governmental agencies. 2. Encouraged the participation of victim and social service providers in community outreach efforts bringing awareness of services for victims of crime. 3. Service providers have been able to assist victims through the participation and coordination of the services and assistance garnered from the involvement in the Child Abuse Task Force, Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Council and other related groups to assist new and returning clients. 4. Service providers have raised awareness via Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, radio talk shows, the Virgin Islands Daily News (local newspapers) and in person services.

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

1. Conducted regular monitoring and compliance reviews. 2. Provided technical assistance to subgrantees and potential subgrants where applicable or when requested. 3. Service providers maintained a visible presence in the community by radio, television, internet and in-person events. 4. Participation during Domestic Violence Awareness and Child Abuse/Sexual Assault month activities increased. Victims actively sought out services and support throughout the events during these events. 5. The Mobile Justice Unit (MJU) conducted weekly intakes at high traffic and convenient and strategic locations to victims of crime such as the Thomas Brown Sr. Fire State parking lot, near the magistrate courthouse, Tutu Park Shopping Center for St. John residents.

## **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**

In the reporting period, the VOCA Assistance funding enabled victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and neglect to obtain services including individual counseling, support/group counseling, crisis intervention, assistance with filing out restraining orders, accompanied to the court, the hospital, local police department, and other governmental agencies as well as other related services referrals. Additionally, VOCA funding provided domestic violence shelters and other types of temporary housing i.e. Airbnb and hotels for victims of crime.

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

1. Provision of victim centered services to federal crime victims, maintaining working relationship with the Victim Witness Coordinator office (at the District Attorney s Office), Homeland Security Investigations, and Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE). Victims of federal crimes were provided with advice and counsel regarding victim s compensation assistance. 2. Provided assistance to victims referred by the Dept. Homeland Security with immigration related matters. 3. Service providers collaborated with local and federal law enforcement agencies, and other organizations providing services to victims of crime. 4. Service providers work closely with the Victim Advocate Coordinator in the US Attorney s Office. 5. Victims were assisted with filing of police reports, restraining orders, court preparation, notification of court dates, and other means of support, etc. in order to lessen their anxiety

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

Below are several issues affecting victim services as noted by service providers: 1. The physical attacks on female victims are becoming more violent 2. Numerous victims from various states have expressed a desire to move to the Virgin Islands. 3. Finding affordable housing for victims has become a serious issue with the high rise in rent, and lack of available rentals, and a long list for Housing Choice Voucher Program 4. Increase in unemployment. 5. Lack of adequate resources and activities for the youth in the Virgin Islands. 6. VIPD failing to enforce court orders. 7. The Victims of Crime Compensation funds have not been made available to victims for at least a year.

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

Agencies that reported staffing retention issues cited the following issues: 1. Staff retention issues due to relocation for better opportunities in pay or families issues. 2. Increasing inflation and the high cost of living in the Virgin Islands contribute to employees leaving agencies. 3. Programs experienced challenges retaining and attracting potential staff due to their inability to offer lucrative benefit packages. 4. There is a shortage of qualified candidates for the open positions. 5. Senior staff members are reaching retirement age and choosing to retire. 6. Burnout among employees is a significant factor contributing to the challenge of staff retention.

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

The availability of victim assistance funding is publicized in the local print media, radio, the State Administering Agency website, governmental press releases, notices are sent to stakeholders and other partners when possible.

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

Funding is directed through the request for proposals process. The solicitation invites proposals to address the underserved populations which are in the territory.

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

Responding to gaps in services during the reporting period was aided by: Making appropriate referrals to other agencies to address the gaps or needs Through fundraising, friend raising, and donations from concerned citizens and well-wishers in the community.

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

Awarded agencies and their funded amount are reported to the governor and the legislature. Included in the report is a description of the program scope, types of services and the number of persons served.