

WI 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					
	2019-V2-GX-0045	2020-V2-GX-0009	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00606-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00689-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00480-ASSI
Federal Award Amount	\$39,619,715.00	\$29,294,541.00	\$18,258,383.00	\$25,235,262.00	\$23,643,268.00
Total Amount of Subawards	\$38,138,269.00	\$26,242,670.00	\$15,622,593.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	151	98	63	0	0
Administrative Funds Amount	\$1,263,510.00	\$1,464,725.00	\$912,919.00	\$1,261,763.00	\$1,182,163.00
Training Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance Remaining	\$217,936.00	\$1,587,146.00	\$1,722,871.00	\$23,973,499.00	\$22,461,105.00

Subgrantee Organization Type					
<small>The total number of subgrantees represents all subgrantees 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	2019-V2-GX-0045	2020-V2-GX-0009	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00606-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00689-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00480-ASSI
Government Agencies Only	26	15	6	0	0
Corrections	1	1	0	0	0
Courts	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	6	4	0	0	0
Prosecutor	13	8	5	0	0
Other	6	2	1	0	0
Nonprofit Organization Only	122	74	54	0	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	16	6	10	0	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	0	2	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	8	8	3	0	0
Faith-based Organization	0	0	0	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	51	37	19	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	2	1	2	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	5	4	0	0	0
Multiservice agency	22	8	11	0	0
Other	18	8	9	0	0
Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only	2	9	3	0	0
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0	0
Court	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	0	0	0	0	0
Faith-based organization	0	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0	0
Organization provides domestic and family violence and sexual assault services	1	7	1	0	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0	0
Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	0	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	1	2	2	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Campus Organizations Only	1	0	0	0	0
Campus-based victims services	0	0	0	0	0

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

Law enforcement	0	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Subawards	151	98	63	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					
	2019-V2-GX-0045	2020-V2-GX-0009	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00606-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00689-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00480-ASSI
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	151	98	63	0	0
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	0	0	0	0	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	0	0	0	0	0
D. Start up a new Native American victim services project	0	0	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing Native American project	0	0	0	0	0

VOCA and Match Funds					
A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are not unique					
	2019-V2-GX-0045	2020-V2-GX-0009	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00606-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00689-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00480-ASSI
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	143	98	61	0	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	140	94	60	0	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	134	93	58	0	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	47	55	37	0	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	135	94	56	0	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	147	98	63	0	0

Priority and Underserved Requirements					
Priority Area	2019-V2-GX-0045	2020-V2-GX-0009	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00606-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00689-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00480-ASSI
Child Abuse					
Total Amount	\$7,126,853.00	\$4,475,420.00	\$3,599,215.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	18.00 %	15.00 %	20.00 %		
Domestic and Family Violence					
Total Amount	\$13,723,988.00	\$10,598,683.00	\$4,924,434.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	35.00 %	36.00 %	27.00 %		
Sexual Assault					
Total Amount	\$3,804,044.00	\$3,672,565.00	\$1,611,757.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	10.00 %	13.00 %	9.00 %		
Underserved					
Total Amount	\$13,310,816.00	\$7,495,213.00	\$5,415,444.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	34.00 %	26.00 %	30.00 %		

Budget and Staffing					
Staffing Information	2019-V2-GX-0045	2020-V2-GX-0009	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00606-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00689-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00480-ASSI
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	1907	1435	665		
Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	1606093	1092803	536231		
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	370	206	62		
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	18924	23637	1964		

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)	111	5725	4750	5344	4920	5184

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

Adult Sexual Assault	121	4386	4394	4774	4843	4599
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	113	1526	1379	1644	1475	1506
Arson	52	161	200	289	143	198
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	105	1351	1345	1585	1449	1432
Burglary	77	1695	1762	1710	1631	1699
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	120	3966	3751	3877	3592	3796
Child Pornography	84	252	260	322	246	270
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	122	4852	4910	5174	4943	4969
Domestic and/or Family Violence	129	15069	15216	17175	16714	16043
DUI/DWI Incidents	64	646	615	664	598	630
Elder Abuse or Neglect	85	722	716	675	729	710
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	59	480	372	471	334	414
Human Trafficking: Labor	55	150	152	151	150	150
Human Trafficking: Sex	105	473	447	516	487	480
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	81	1536	1395	2550	1778	1814
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	64	127	137	145	138	136
Kidnapping (custodial)	55	84	74	93	91	85
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	38	264	202	239	128	208
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	53	589	366	721	640	579
Robbery	76	1035	886	952	1045	979
Stalking/Harassment	118	2148	2115	2440	2710	2353
Survivors of Homicide Victims	83	2289	2481	2122	1997	2222
Teen Dating Victimization	96	437	302	351	276	341
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	28	66	54	59	62	60
Other	70	6770	6377	6184	8386	6929

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	187	178	199	180	1168
Homeless	2127	2039	2400	2626	13228
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	1053	908	918	1059	6864
LGBTQ	871	812	868	978	4848
Veterans	131	123	121	130	1039
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	3138	2835	3144	3126	22951
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	1520	1288	1364	1513	10504
Other	147	90	98	127	962

General Award Information

Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	133158	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	14539	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	85163	63.96 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	37381	28.07 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	3177	

Demographics

Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
Race/Ethnicity		
American Indian or Alaska Native	2757	3.24 %
Asian	1993	2.34 %
Black or African American	16513	19.39 %
Hispanic or Latino	7114	8.35 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	112	0.13 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	35701	41.92 %
Some Other Race	430	0.50 %
Multiple Races	2203	2.59 %
Not Reported	13997	16.44 %
Not Tracked	4343	5.10 %
Race/Ethnicity Total	85163	

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

Gender Identity		
Male		18626 21.87 %
Female		54309 63.77 %
Other		859 1.01 %
Not Reported		8470 9.95 %
Not Tracked		2899 3.40 %
Gender Total		85163
Age		
Age 0- 12		10028 11.78 %
Age 13- 17		6245 7.33 %
Age 18- 24		8906 10.46 %
Age 25- 59		41128 48.29 %
Age 60 and Older		5785 6.79 %
Not Reported		10075 11.83 %
Not Tracked		2996 3.52 %
Age Total		85163

Direct Services				
Service Area	# of Subgrantees That Provided Services in This Category	# of Individuals/Contacts Receiving Services	Specific Service	Frequency of Service
A. Information & Referral	121	87155	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	75862
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	75064
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	37471
			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	69223
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	115	45613	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	1617
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	3214
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	4094
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	222731
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	3521
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	1958
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	8202
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	10729
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	16845
			B10. Interpreter services	8407
C. Emotional Support or Safety Services	118	70592	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	54686
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	55371
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	2941
			C4. Individual counseling	154325
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	31830
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	41367
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	14472
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	71	8540	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	83103
			D2. Transitional housing	13696
			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	10365
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	111	57256	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	56951
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	4955
			E3. Assistance with restitution	5577
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	13059
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	19542
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	8449
			E7. Immigration assistance	3284
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	8806

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	E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	3527
	E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	12233
	E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	9242

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.	0
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	528
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	11
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.	
<p>OCVS hosted a three-part webinar series continued from the last reporting period about the upcoming VOCA reductions and preliminary plans for OCVS next competitive cycle in its efforts to continue providing accurate, timely information to subgrantees. Part III included a pre-recorded webinar in February 2023 and live Q&A in March 2023. OCVS also hosted a VOCA funding update webinar in September 2023. During the next reporting period, OCVS plans to host at least four live Q&A events both virtual and in-person to provide updated information about the next VOCA competitive cycle. OCVS also distributed, and posted to our website, three OCVS Grants Updates Bulletins. The bulletins reached subrecipients and other stakeholders and included timely updates on OCVS activities or changes, helpful grant hints or reminders, OCVS funding opportunities, and upcoming events, trainings, and important deadlines. We also share updates on new staff for OCVS which can better connect OCVS subgrantees to Crime Victim Compensation and victim rights resources and staff as well as with grants staff. OCVS staff continue to provide input in the development of the new Wisconsin Department of Justice website with respect to the crime victim services pages. The webpage will include resources and information about all of OCVS services and grant programs. The new website is expected to launch in January 2024.</p>	
Describe any planning or training events held during the reporting period.	
<p>During the reporting period, OCVS hosted the Nuts & Bolts training with 66 participants in attendance. Nuts & Bolts is an introductory course for victim services providers that focuses on victim rights, privacy protection, community collaboration, general victim services, and OCVS victim services programs. In addition, OCVS collaborated with Wisconsin's statewide sexual assault coalition, Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault (WCASA) to conduct the Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy School (SAVAS) Introductory Training for Victim Service Providers (ITVSP) across four sessions in November 2022, February 2023, May 2023, and August 2023. And as requested, OCVS presented on Crime Victim Compensation, Victim Resource Center, Safe at Home, and SAFE Fund resources through our office to VOCA funded victim services staff. OCVS also conducted three sessions totaling 64 hours of training for its Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Seminars with a total of 75 attendees trained as SANEs. Continuing education webinars included the following topics: African American women survivors of intimate partner violence at the intersection of healthcare and law enforcement, supporting survivors of internet crimes against children (ICAC), photographing visible and invisible injuries, and human trafficking. Sixty-nine participants attended these webinars which were also recorded for future reference. OCVS continues to participate in various planning events including Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse Committees (Legislative and Policy Committee, Budget Committee, and Access Committee - the committees address issues brought to the committees by the Governor's Council on Domestic Violence) and the Systems Subcommittee for the statewide Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW) Taskforce. OCVS participates in regular meetings with American Indians Against Abuse (statewide Tribal victim services coalition), Black and Brown Womyn Power Coalition (statewide victim services coalition), End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin (statewide domestic violence coalition) and Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault. OCVS also regularly meets with Department of Children and Families (FVPSA administrator) and Department of Health Services (RPE administrator) to coordinate funding and address issues affecting victim service providers. Most of these efforts continued uninterrupted during the grant period while others were modified, or the frequency adjusted due to the VOCA Administrator vacancy. Separate from the training events conducted, OCVS Grants staff performed 51 grant monitoring visits (virtually or in-person) during the grant period and numerous technical assistance meetings.</p>	
Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.	
Changes to program policies and procedures not listed elsewhere in the narrative include Grant Monitoring Procedures Policy effective 10/11/2022 and Excessive Turnback Policy effective 07/05/2023.	
Describe any earned media coverage events/episodes during the reporting period.	
<p>At the grantee level, OCVS was featured in the media for the below activities via the VOCA-funded OCVS Victim Resource Center. Jul 24 2023 Former Burnett County Assistant District Attorney Sentenced for Three Felony Counts of Representations Depicting Nudity Apr 27 2023 Former Burnett County Assistant District Attorney Convicted of Three Felony Counts of Representations Depicting Nudity Apr 17 2023 Attorney General Kaul Releases Update in Advance of Two-Year Anniversary of Clergy and Faith Leader Abuse Initiative Apr 16 2023 Former Cardinal Theodore McCarrick Charged With 4th Degree Sexual Assault Following Report to Clergy and Faith Leader Abuse Initiative Nov 2 2022 Jury finds Wood County Man Guilty of 1984 Murder Wisconsin DOJ Recognizes Domestic Violence Awareness Month At the subgrantee level, many programs are highlighted during October, for domestic violence awareness month, and April, for sexual assault awareness month (SAAM).</p>	
Describe any coordinated responses/services for assisting crime victims during the reporting period.	
As mentioned in question #7, OCVS coordinates with other funders in Wisconsin, such as VAWA, FVPSA, and state funders, to leverage funding and provide the best coordination of funding to ensure the ever changing and complex needs of victims are met. Additionally, VOCA staff met with the state coalitions to further secure the needs of direct services agencies were being met through various forms of technical assistance and training.	
Please discuss the major issues in your state that either assist or prevent victims from receiving assistance during the reporting period.	
<p>Agencies report the below trend that assisted but also hindered victims in receiving assistance. Subrecipients reported the following: We have a large number of newer judges on the bench. Assisting victims with their right to be present, heard, and request restitution has been challenging. Victims were at times left in Zoom waiting rooms despite VWs efforts to make the court and ADA aware they were there. Restitution has become onerous for victims to request in front of some judges. We had a case recently in front of a judge, who despite holding a full restitution hearing with victims having to testify, then determined the defendant has no means to pay and set restitution at \$0. VWs are working closely with ADAs to address the concerns. Despite the challenges described above and services we have struggled to provide, we have opened our charging conferences to be in-person. We have asked law enforcement to invite victims into our office and are meeting with victims in person during charging conferences when they choose to appear. This gives us an opportunity to fully discuss the case and their concerns, get them connected to resources in a meaningful way. Agencies report a wide range of issues (statewide and/or local) that hinder victims from receiving assistance. Some issues are specific to the agency or community, while others are systemwide. Here are some specific examples of barriers from subgrantees: Access to the internet and ability to use technology by victims continues to be a struggle as victims are usually unaware of assistance available in their communities to facilitate electronic communication and the sending of documents. Greater demand for services and not enough funding coming in from VOCA to serve everyone. With VOCA funding decreasing we are really panicking right now to figure out how we will cover such a large gap. Clients ability to access resources: There are long waitlists for access to services. This includes mental health services, childcare, housing programs, and more. These services are crucial to our clients as there are many layers to our clients' journeys to maintain long-term stability, and even to meet short-term goals. Lack of affordable housing: With the cost of living increasing every day between groceries, housing costs, and gas prices, it has been challenging for many. With the increase in housing costs comes the lack of availability of affordable housing. If the going rate for rent seems to be well over \$1,000, there is not much incentive to charge below that amount. These rent amounts are not reasonable, especially for those that are starting back on our feet. Not just the increase in rent but the overall availability of housing. We have had to house families in our temporary shelter for a lot longer than "normal" due to housing shortages. We have had many clients on approved housing assistance programs just waiting to find a place. We have even had to recommend leaving our county in order to expedite the process. Fear of VOCA Reduction in 2024-2025: We fear losing all we have built up with the VOCA increase! Now all the work we have done! We are going to lose connections, staff, as well as victims who will go unserved and unheard. No other sources fund us in the way VOCA did. There are many programs, specifically shelter related, that have begun to or will continue to close or not offer shelter related services. These programs have had to cut their budget and one of the first things to go was their shelter program. This has created a hardship for other programs within the state of Wisconsin who remain in operation of a shelter program. More individuals will be forced to make the choice to move further away from their communities in order to seek shelter. This puts a hardship on the individuals who are already in these communities because there may not be room to support all needs at any given time. There is a lot of time, money, and people power that goes into supporting victims of domestic and sexual violence when it comes to emergency services. Harbor House does not currently have a transitional housing program and finds that the urgent need is in emergency services. Shortage of mental health professionals providing services to adults and children: We continue to see a more acute level of need due to mental and behavioral concerns for children and their caregivers. Our biggest challenge is recruiting and retaining therapists as there is a shortage in our region. Ever since the pandemic, we have not been able to keep up with the demand for therapy services. Labor shortages have adversely impacted WI victim service providers. Small non-profits are not able to compete with large corporations or other businesses in the community that are hiring at better wages, better benefits, as well as large sign-on bonuses. Staff left the WI non-profit victim service providers sector like never before.</p>	
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.	

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

Below are some detailed examples from VOCA subrecipients on how their agency collaborated in their community: Inter-State Agency collaboration: WI DOJ's Victim Resource Center and WI DOC's Office of Victim Services and Programs continue conducting joint staff meetings throughout the year to better serve victims statewide. Safe Haven has been working diligently to collaborate with our sister programs this year and will continue to do so well into the future. Our focus has been on our closest programs including several area tribal programs: Stockbridge Munsee Family Services, Menominee Tribal Crime Victims/Oskeh-Waepqah DV/SA Shelter and Waking Women Healing Institute. We work together in tandem often and serve many of the same people. Many survivors in our area work with multiple agencies for various services. Safe Haven is the only agency which provides shelter for DV/SA survivors in Shawano County. We often take referrals from these agencies for shelter and work together to co-advocate while survivors stay here. We also have focused on sharing available resources. Safe Haven has helped provide transportation vouchers, hygiene bags, clothing, and other resource needs, in addition to advocacy, to survivors served by all the agencies above. We share these items through the other agencies, and this helps us serve survivors in especially rural areas that are hard to reach within our area. This year, our agency partnered with several area tribal sister programs to create a collaborative information packet for law enforcement to carry in their vehicles. This was a project developed through our local CCR/SART Group. We put together small pocket-size brochures, along with full information packets that law enforcement may utilize to provide information to survivors. The small brochure with combined information is helpful for officers to provide to survivors in a discreet manner. The survivors can choose which programs they wish to work with, and we all work in tandem to ensure that needs are met. We also participated in joint awareness activities this year. During April's sexual assault awareness campaign, we collaborated with nearby organizations for our "Turn the Town Teal" initiative. Teal ribbons adorned trees throughout our town, effectively raising awareness about this critical issue. We also organized a yoga event as part of our "Ladies Day" event in the local Business District, wherein local businesses supported awareness campaigns by offering incentives to those who wore the color teal. The response was overwhelming, with many people showing their support for survivors by wearing teal. We are also currently working on a campaign for domestic violence awareness in October known as "Paint the Park Purple." These campaigns have significantly increased our awareness in our area, especially to rural and under-represented populations. Working together with agencies in different areas really helps us to gain more traction in awareness. We are stronger together!

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

Agencies report the following notable activities specific to the agency and their communities: Collaboration and cooperation with local private and public entities. Agencies developing relationships with sister organizations in their region to maximize resources and continue service delivery. More in-person meetings and communication with victims and their families, as Zoom appearances for court hearings continue to present challenges. Hiring of bilingual advocate staff to better provide culturally- and linguistically-appropriate services. Expansion of mobile-advocacy services to meet victims where they are at.

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: A 9-year-old girl disclosed to a teacher that she was touched inappropriately by her 62-year-old male neighbor. The neighbor had gained her mom's trust over a period of time and would often spend time with the child and pay her to do chores around the home. Children's Protective Services and Law Enforcement were contacted following the disclosure and a forensic interview was scheduled. In the interview, our Forensic Interview Program Manager determined that it would be in the child's best interest to employ the Extended Interview Model. A plan was made for the child to return in one week to complete the forensic interview process. During the child's interview, a Family Advocate met with the child's mother to provide resources and support, identify the multiple team members that were involved, and explain the process. The family was able to get connected with our on-site therapist and she continues to provide therapy for them currently. While the family was at Safe Harbor, they were able to meet with the victim witness advocate from the district attorney's office. They were provided with information on how the court process would proceed and the advocate's contact information as she would be working with the family throughout the court case. The family was also given a referral to the UW Child Protection Team for a medical exam. Multiple instances of sexual abuse were disclosed, which allowed police to make an arrest and get a warrant for his electronics. The neighbor was arrested on 1st degree sexual abuse of a child the day after the 2nd forensic interview. Domestic Assault: UU entered the shelter with her children. Her abuser took out credit in her name and never paid the bills. She also had multiple evictions as the abuser had control of the finances and didn't rent on time. During the most recent violent incident, a neighbor called the police which allowed UU to flee. UU had no vehicle but was able to find part-time work. Every morning she got the kids up and ready, walked them to the bus stop and got them all to school and then to her job. UU was able to grow so much as a person and a mother while she was in a supportive and healthy environment. She decided to relocate out of state to be closer to family as she realized it takes a village to raise a family. QUOTE: I'm truly grateful for the staff that had my back to the fullest. I appreciate all of you. You never lost any hope or faith in me and truly brought out a certified 100% strong black woman that has evolved into a queen. Sexual Assault: AF was connected with our agency immediately after the sexual assault and came in at the start of the year to receive help writing her victim impact statement. Her perpetrator was set to be sentenced, and she felt that it would be empowering to share her story. In August, AF called to state that she finally received justice. Her perpetrator was sentenced, and she read the statement in court. She said that she felt empowered and like she finally had the opportunity to speak the truth. She started a new job and even began a leadership program at her work. Underserved: We assisted a mother and a daughter who were fired from their jobs after disclosing sexual harassment and discrimination in the workplace. They both disclosed that their paychecks were retained by their supervisor on multiple occasions and referred to them as my b****es. This term was only used with Latina women. UNIDOS Advocates provided emotional support assistance in completing unemployment and emergency financial support.

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

As specifically stated in grantee performance reports, efforts are underway to serve federal crime victims. These include: VRC staff continued to provide services to the victims of a large-scale child pornography case in which a former teacher was convicted of taking videos and photos under students' clothing. Due to a plea agreement, the state's case against the defendant was dismissed but restitution was ordered in the federal case. The VRC VSS providing Victim Witness on the state's case needed to contact all the victims in the case to notify them of the final outcome of the case. The VSS continued to receive restitution requests from some victims so coordinated communications with the federal Victim Witness Coordinator. In addition, she provided additional information on the Crime Victim Compensation program.

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

Notable issues or trends that have been reported by subgrantees include: Limited access to childcare to allow clients to work: There are long waitlists and minimal resources for childcare which is a huge barrier on our clients being able to obtain employment. Lack of Court-Certified Interpreters in Hmong. Lack of culturally-specific and/or bilingual legal representation. Recent Medicaid reviews have altered insurance coverage for many survivors that result in changing providers or not attending at all. Some victims have lost medical transportation which was essential to attending medical appointments.

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

While Wisconsin had previously seen some stabilization of staff, due to VOCA decreases and instability of VOCA funding, and continuing impact of the COVID pandemic (along with record inflation) on staff and clients, agencies are experiencing increased retention issues and struggle with enough funding to pay a livable wage. Agencies have identified the following issues with retention: The two largest challenges we faced were due to staff turnover/staff shortages. Due to not having enough crisis advocates to staff our shelter and crisis line, we had to pivot shelter services to short-term emergency hotel stays beginning June 1st and ending August 21st. During that time, our crisis line was transferred to Great Rivers 211 during the hours of 12 am - 8 am on weekdays and 24 hours over weekends. We have also had difficulty filling an open outreach advocate position, which has resulted in our Lead Outreach/Youth and Family Advocate taking on an additional caseload as we work to recruit a person to hire for that role. Staff turnover: The Zhawenindig Program Manager was terminated during the fiscal year. This position was responsible for direct oversight and implementation of the grant. Accounting Challenges: The staff turnover created a domino effect on the spending of funds. Purchases were delayed. Another challenge our program has faced this year is an increasing amount of turnover. This includes our outreach case manager, director, shelter case manager, programming and development coordinator, and advocates. This has resulted in small disruptions to client services, particularly in the training period, as well as disruptions in data collection. Staffing Shortage has been a major burden and barrier to providing services this year! Although our program has been fully staffed since August of 2022, based on the number of trials taking place in a given time frame and continuously growing caseloads, the victim witness staff has been spread thin and pulled in many different directions. My only concern regarding the grant funded staff at the moment is the pressure they have to keep up with documentation regarding the direct services they provide amidst having regularly hectic day to day work schedules. Quite frankly, I believe that the services provided in the previous quarter are underrepresented in what has been documented. I plan on touching base with the grant funded staff to remind and/or ensure they understand what services can be tracked, and what category a given service may fall under. The staff within our program are regularly helping one another when one of us is double booked, in trial, out of the office unexpectedly, etc. This lends to my concern of grant staff attempting to balance providing quality services to crime victims while also attempting to document every single interaction with a victim. I am proud of the work of all my staff, and I am very fortunate to have had the program fully staffed during this incredibly busy time. We saw an increase in requests for shelter, as well as an increase in requests for accompaniment to law enforcement interviews, forensic interviews, and forensic exams. This, coupled with the challenges of finding leadership/program coordinator staff and shelter coverage staff, makes it challenging to serve victims fully and how we want to serve victims. The challenge really is that we barely have enough money to staff the services we have. When staff are sick, out for maternity leave or extended sick leave, or when we're short-staffed, it's even more challenging and staff get burned out as a result.

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

At the Grantee level, OCVS continues to list all funding announcements on the Wisconsin Department of Justice website as well as in Egrants. All registered users in Egrants can see all potential funding opportunities through Egrants. OCVS also works with our statewide coalitions on advertising available funding as well as through participation in statewide committees and workgroups. At the subgrantee level, OCVS works with subgrantees to include VOCA funding information on their program brochures and in the program outreach. The following are subgrantee level modes of outreach and communication: Examples from final program reports. During intake we listen for potential financial needs and offer assistance at that point. Unidos participates in panels and provides presentations to different audiences in the community. Another way we publicize our victim assistance funding is through our monthly program in the local Spanish speaking radio which is also streamed live on Facebook where we get hundreds of views. Unidos continues to use the website and social media consistently. As a dual organization Unidos usually has a stronger presence on social media in April for Sexual Assault Awareness Month and October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month where we create awareness about these issues as well as promote our 24/7 helpline and services.

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

The following are examples from subrecipients final reports on how agencies were able to provide services to new/underserved populations: During the grant period, staffing resources were again allocated toward providing direct victim services and support for the Clergy and Faith Leader Abuse Initiative. Victims of clergy and faith leader abuse have historically been underserved by mainstream victim service programs and providing this venue for reporting and trauma-informed support had created a safe space for these victims of sexual and spiritual abuse. The Hmong victims we saw from this first six-month period was 129 compared to 97 in the last six-month period, with only 101 more services offered. Specific services that we saw increases in were safety plans and shelter. Our safety plans doubled from the previous period, and we saw increases in both relocation and shelter services both offered and provided. As domestic violence homicide rates go up and threats to life occur within the Hmong community, we are seeing an increase in fear and more people talking about their situation and seeking help and support. Hmong victims continue to stay in relationships where they are experiencing DV, DV and SA in the Hmong community continues behind closed doors and most Hmong victims choose not to disclose the abuse as victim blaming continues to be prevalent. We are an agency that continues to grow staff, clients, and brick-and-mortar, through partnership and community wise. As We All Rise continues to grow, the challenges in the surrounding community unfortunately continue to grow as well. The funding that we receive helps us to continue to support our agency, the community, and the people in our community. The caseloads that our advocates carry is very high. More staff would allow our agency to provide more comprehensive and holistic support to more survivors in community. In addition, we receive many requests for emergency funding and emergency support for shelter. There is still a significant discrimination within our community. Although it has not prevented victims from receiving assistance it has made it difficult for individuals to feel comfortable utilizing services outside of Safe Harbor.

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

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

The following are specific examples from agencies that were able to use VOCA funds to respond to gaps in services that they identified during the reporting period: Interpreter services have been a challenge in getting cases heard in court in a timely manner. We have had cases rescheduled multiple times due to the unavailability of court interpreters. We have communicated this concern with the courts, and they are working with the state to address the issue. We are fortunate to have been able to hire several VW advocates who are bilingual, and our office has Language Line for staff to utilize when assisting limited English proficient victims and community members. One of our greatest external challenges this period has been the economy. With many things unknown about the state of our world, people are not donating as much and less frequently. This forces us to rely upon our own sources and being very cautious about how funds are spent. Additionally, when faced with the very real potential of VOCA funding cuts, this is a concern for all programs. We are working to find other funding sources and taking on more collaborative multi-agency approaches to working with survivors to pool resources and decrease expenses.

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

OCVS has no determined set of statewide victim services (VOCA) outcomes to report to the governor, legislature, or other state entity. The following outlines the extent of data and outcome measurement done for Wisconsin VOCA funds: As a part of the application, subgrantees provide project goals and objectives. Each goal is specific to that agency and the outlined VOCA project. As a result, there is little standardization for the goals, objectives, and measures. OCVS measures individual progress on the goals through semi-annual program reports. A final disposition of their goals and objectives is relayed with the agency's final program report. The Office for Victims of Crime – Performance Measurement Tool (OVC PMT) website collects subgrantees performance data. The OVC PMT website also collects intended and actual expenditures by the following Federal performance categories: Sexual Assault, Domestic and Family Violence, Child Abuse, and Underserved. OCVS Grants Team is working through our strategic action plan which includes improving reporting process and collection of data. The goal is to work with other state funders and the State Analytical Center (SAC) to develop and implement a statewide system for victim service data collection, reporting set outcome measures, and coordinate reports across OCVS funding sources. Additionally, this year OCVS worked with our SAC to implement a new standardized process and methodology for providing VOCA allocations at the end of the grant period. OCVS utilized a small group of subgrantees as part of pilot this new process to gather feedback and ensure clear and understandable instructions were provided to subgrantees. We will discuss the implementation of this new process in next year's annual report as some activities fell outside of the grant period.