Office for Victims of Crime **Victim Compensation Formula Grant Program Annual Performance Measures Report** October 01, 2022 - September 30, 2023

GRANTEE INFORMATION

ORGANIZATION NAME: ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WYOMING

POC NAME: Cara Chambers

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POPULATION DEMOGRAPHICS

1. Number of people for whom an application was made for victim compensation benefits during the reporting period.

Q1: Oct-Dec 2022: 217 Q2: Jan-Mar 2023: 207 Q3: Apr-Jun 2023: 259 Q4: Jul-Sep 2023: 188 Annual: 871

2. Number of victims whose victimization is the basis for the application.

Q1: Oct-Dec 2022:	181
Q2: Jan-Mar 2023:	174
Q3: Apr-Jun 2023:	218
Q4: Jul-Sep 2023:	183
Annual:	756

3. Victim Demographics					
Population A. RACE/ETHNICITY	Q1	Nui Q2	mber o	of Viction Q4	ms Annual
American Indian or Alaska Native	18	17	16	20	71
Asian	0	0	0	0	0
Black or African American	2	3	1	3	9
Hispanic or Latino	13	20	33	14	80
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1	0	1	1	3
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	119	110	125	107	461
Some Other Race	0	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	9	7	11	10	37
Not Reported	19	17	31	28	95
Not Tracked	0	0	0	0	0
Race/Ethnicity Total	181	174	218	183	756
B. GENDER					
Male	51	56	70	57	234
Female	130	118	148	126	522
Not Reported	0	0	0	0	0
Not Tracked	0	0	0	0	0
Gender Total	181	174	218	183	756
C. AGE					
Age 0- 12	37	35	33	32	137
Age 13- 17	30	20	32	28	110
Age 18- 24	22	30	44	22	118
Age 25- 59	79	83	104	87	353
Age 60 and Older	11	6	5	12	34
Not Reported	2	0	0	2	4
Not Tracked	0	0	0	0	0
Age Total	181	174	218	183	756

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PERFORMANCE MEASURES

4.	Based on your	program's	general	procedure,
	indicate if			

Q1: Oct-Dec 2022:

Victims and indirect victims generally count as separate applications

Q2: Jan-Mar 2023:

Victims and indirect victims generally count as separate applications

Q3: Apr-Jun 2023:

Victims and indirect victims generally count as separate applications

Q4: Jul-Sep 2023:

Victims and indirect victims generally count as separate applications

Number of new applications received during the reporting period

Q1: Oct-Dec 2022:	215
Q2: Jan-Mar 2023:	204
Q3: Apr-Jun 2023:	259
Q4: Jul-Sep 2023:	188
Annual:	866

Number of applications approved during the reporting period.

Q1: Oct-Dec 2022:	177
Q2: Jan-Mar 2023:	196
Q3: Apr-Jun 2023:	199
Q4: Jul-Sep 2023:	189
Annual:	761

7. Number of applications **denied/closed**. (i.e., applications that were not approved) during the reporting period.

Q1: Oct-Dec 2022:	20
Q2: Jan-Mar 2023:	12
Q3: Apr-Jun 2023:	17
Q4: Jul-Sep 2023:	11
Annual:	60

Reason(s) for denial or close status applicable for the reporting period:

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Population	01	Num Q2			tims Annual
A. Application not filed within time limit	0	0	1	2	3
B. Failure to report to police	0	0	0	0	0
C. Failure to cooperate with law enforcement, victim/witness coordinator, and/or other official required by program	2	0	1	0	3
D. Incomplete information	2	2	1	0	5
E. Contributory misconduct	1	0	1	2	4
F. Ineligible crime	10	6	10	3	29
G. Ineligible application	5	4	3	3	15
Other	0	0	0	1	1
Denial evaluation:					

Denial explanation: Qtr 4: 1 claim is still

8. Number of applications received for Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations during the reporting period

Q1: Oct-Dec 2022:	28
Q2: Jan-Mar 2023:	26
Q3: Apr-Jun 2023:	36
Q4: Jul-Sep 2023:	12
Annual:	102

					EXP	ENSE TYPES P	AID (in dollar	s)								CTIMIZATIONS A CRIME TYPE		
TYPES OF CRIME	Total Number of Applications Paid During the Reporting Period	Crime Scene Clean Up	Dependent Care	Economic Support	Funeral Burial	Medical/Dental (except mental health)	Mental Health	Relocation	Replacement Services	Sexual Assault Forensic Exams	Travel	Other (please explain)	Total Paid for this Crime Type	Number of Applications Related to Bullying that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Domestic and Family Violence that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Elder Busselveglect that were Paid During the Reportion Period	Number of Applications Related to Hate Crimes that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Mass Violence that were Paid During the Reporting Period
Arson																		
Assault	93	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,878	\$ 0	\$ 94,471	\$ 23,441	\$ 0	\$ 333		\$ 291	\$ 0	\$ 124,414	0	69	0	0	
Burglary																		
Child Physical Abuse/Neglect	10	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,725	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0		\$ 3,725	0	10		0	
Child Pornography																		
Child Sexual Abuse	100	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 723	\$ 40,759	\$ 0	\$ 380	\$ 1,127	\$ 1,892		\$ 44,882	0	34		0	
DUI/DWI	7	\$0	\$0	\$ 1,083	\$ 1,271	\$ 26,112	\$ 32	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 933		\$ 29,430	0	1	0	0	
Fraud/Financial Crimes																		
Homicide	14	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 27,841	\$ 39,465	\$ 2,795	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 600		\$ 70,701	0	6	0	0	
Human Trafficking																		
Kidnapping	6	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 870	\$0	\$ 210	\$ 2,250	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	$\overline{}$	\$ 3,330	0	4	0	0	
Other Vehicular Crimes																		
Robbery												$\overline{}$						
Sexual Assault	22	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 1,174	\$ 7,458	\$ 0	\$ 100	\$ 4,807	\$ 0		\$ 13,539	0	2	0	0	
Stalking	8	\$0	\$0	\$ 0	\$0	\$0	\$ 3,063	\$ 0	\$0		\$0		\$ 3,063	0	7	0	0	
Terrorism	7																	
Total	260	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 7,831	\$ 29,112	\$ 162,155	\$ 83,524	\$ 0	\$ 813	\$ 5,934	\$ 3,715	\$ 0	\$ 293,083	0	133	0	0	

					EX	PENSE TYPES	PAID (in dollar	s)								CTIMIZATIONS A CRIME TYPE		
TYPES OF CRIME	Total Number of Applications Paid During the Reporting Period	Crime Scene Clean Up	Dependent Care	Economic Support	Funeral Burial	Medical/Dental (except mental health)	Mental Health	Relocation	Replacement Services	Sexual Assault Forensic Exams	Travel	Other (please explain)	Total Paid for this Crime Type	Number of Applications Related to Bullying that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Domestic and Family Violence that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Elder Abuse/Neglect that were Paid During the Renorting Parior	Number of Applications Related to Hate Crimes that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Mass Violence that were Paid During the Reporting Period
Arson																		
Assault	103	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,332	\$ 0	\$ 177,712	\$ 24,491	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 1,505	\$ 0	\$ 210,040	0	80	0	0	
Burglary																		
Child Physical Abuse/Neglect	8	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 206	\$ 5,636	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 883		\$ 6,725	0	8		0	
Child Pornography																		
Child Sexual Abuse	91	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,200	\$ 61,374	\$ 0	\$ 165	\$ 3,861	\$ 2,436	\$ 0	\$ 70,035	0	30		0	
DUI/DWI	6	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,856	\$ 2,443	\$ 8,701	\$ 659	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 13,659	0	0	0	0	
Fraud/Financial Crimes																		
Homicide	18	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 580	\$ 34,577	\$ 0	\$ 2,210	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0		\$ 37,367	0	9	0	0	
Human Trafficking																		
Kidnapping	5	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 696	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,785	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,481	0	3	0	0	
Other Vehicular Crimes																		
Robbery																		
Sexual Assault	22	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 14,314	\$ 7,342	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,630	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 25,286	0	4	0	0	
Stalking	9	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 140	\$ 5,125	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0		\$ 5,265	0	8	0	0	
Terrorism																		
Гotal	262	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 9,464	\$ 37,019	\$ 203,273	\$ 108,622	\$ 0	\$ 165	\$ 7,491	\$ 4,823	\$ 0	\$ 370,858	0	142	0	0	

					EXPE	NSE TYPES P	AID (in dollar	s)								CTIMIZATIONS A CRIME TYPE		
TYPES OF CRIME	Total Number of Applications Paid During the Reporting Period	Crime Scene Clean Up	Dependent Care	Economic Support	Funeral Burial	Medical/Dental (except mental health)	Mental Health	Relocation	Replacement Services	Sexual Assault Forensic Exams	Travel	Other (please explain)	Total Paid for this Crime Type	Number of Applications Related to Bullying that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Domestic and Family Violence that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Elder Abuse/Neglect that were Paid During the	Number of Applications Related to Hate Crimes that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Mass Violence that were Paid During the Reporting Period
Arson																		
Assault	96	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 11,194	\$ 0	\$ 123,721	\$ 26,723	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 3,486	\$ 0	\$ 165,123	0	63	0	0	
Burglary																		
Child Physical Abuse/Neglect	15	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,804	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,804	0	14		0	
Child Pornography	1	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 283	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$0	\$ 283	0	0		0	
Child Sexual Abuse	88	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,088	\$ 40,342	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 6,194	\$ 1,904	\$ 0	\$ 54,527	0	29		0	
DUI/DWI	9	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,886	\$ 0	\$ 25,960	\$ 107	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 3,148	\$0	\$ 31,100	0	0	0	0	
Fraud/Financial Crimes																		
Homicide	22	\$ 4,255	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 41,090	\$ 20,943	\$ 3,436	\$ 0	\$ 500		\$ 4,305	\$0	\$ 74,529	0	7	0	0	
Human Trafficking																		
Kidnapping	5	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,183	\$ 0	\$ 2,888	\$ 2,703	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$0	\$ 6,774	0	2	0	0	
Other Vehicular Crimes																		
Robbery																		
Sexual Assault	17	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 4,171	\$ 6,976	\$ 0	\$ 110	\$ 4,989	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 16,246	0	3	0	0	
Stalking	11	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 5,048	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 348	\$ 0	\$ 5,396	0	9	0	0	
Terrorism	7											\Box						
Total	264	\$ 4,255	\$ 0	\$ 14,263	\$ 41,090	\$ 183,770	\$ 91,421	\$ 0	\$ 610	\$ 11,183	\$ 13,191	\$ 0	\$ 359,782	0	127	0	0	

					E	EXPENSE TYP	ES PAID (in d	ollars)								CTIMIZATIONS A CRIME TYPE		
TYPES OF CRIME	Total Number of Applications Paid During the Reporting Period	Crime Scene Clean Up	Dependent Care	Economic Support	Funeral Burial	Medical/Dental (except mental health)	Mental Health	Relocation	Replacement Services	Sexual Assault Forensic Exams	Travel	Other (please explain)	Type	Number of Applications Related to Bullying that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Domestic and Family Violence that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Elder Abuse/Neglect that were Paid During the	Number of Applications Related to Hate Crimes that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Mass Violence that were Paid During the Reporting Period
Arson																		
Assault	101	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,825	\$ 0	\$ 107,422	\$ 23,202	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 1,845	\$ 0	\$ 136,294	0	61	0	0	
Burglary																		
Child Physical Abuse/Neglect	4	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 85	\$ 1,549	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,634	0	4		0	
Child Pornography	1	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 21	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0		\$ 21	0	0		0	
Child Sexual Abuse	69	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 900	\$ 26,924	\$ 0	\$ 500	\$ 0	\$ 1,716	\$ 0	\$ 30,041	0	26		0	
DUI/DWI	6	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 1,740	\$ 0	\$ 13,654	\$ 776	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$0	\$ 16,169	0	0	0	0	
Fraud/Financial Crimes																		
Homicide	15	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,088	\$ 28,354	\$ 0	\$ 1,605	\$ 0	\$ 0		2522.040.00	\$ 0	\$ 33,569	0	1	0	0	
Human Trafficking			$\overline{}$															
Kidnapping	4	\$0	\$ 0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$ 2,295	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$0	\$0	\$ 2,295	0	2	0	0	
Other Vehicular Crimes	3	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 22,561	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$ 22,561	0	0	0	0	
Robbery	1																	
Sexual Assault	36	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 1,892	\$ 0	\$ 15,384	\$ 17,007	\$ 0	\$ 150	\$ 13,608	\$0	\$0	\$ 48,041	0	9	0	0	
Stalking	11	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 5,508	\$ 0	\$0		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 5,508	0	7	0	0	
Terrorism	1											\equiv						
Total	250	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 8,545	\$ 28,354	\$ 160,005	\$ 78,887	\$ 0	\$ 650	\$ 13,608	\$ 3,562	\$0	\$ 296,133	0	110	0	0	

PAYMENT STATISTICS BY CRIME TYPE - Aggregated																			
EXPENSE TYPES PAID (in dollars)													TYPES OF VICTIMIZATIONS RELATED TO A CRIME TYPE						
TYPES OF CRIME	Total Number of Applications Paid During the Reporting Period	Crime Scene Clean Up	Dependent Care	Economic Support	Funeral Burial	Medical/Dental (except mental health)	Mental Health	Relocation	Replacement Services	Sexual Assault Forensic Exams	Travel	Other (please explain)	Total Paid for this Crime Type	Number of Applications Related to Bullying that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Domestic and Family Violence that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Elder Abuse/Neglect that were Paid During the Renortion Period	Number of Applications Related to Hate Crimes that were Paid During the Reporting Period	Number of Applications Related to Mass Violence that were Paid During the Reporting Period	
Arson																			
Assault	393	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 27,229	\$ 0	\$ 503,325	\$ 97,857	\$ 0	\$ 333		\$ 7,127	\$ 0	\$ 635,872	0	273	0	0	0	
Burglary																			
Child Physical Abuse/Neglect	37	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 291	\$ 16,713	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 883	\$ 0	\$ 17,887	0	36		0	4	
Child Pornography	2	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 304	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 304	0	0		0	0	
Child Sexual Abuse	348	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 9,911	\$ 169,399	\$ 0	\$ 1,045	\$ 11,181	\$ 7,948	\$ 0	\$ 199,484	0	119		0	0	
DUI/DWI	28	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 6,564	\$ 3,713	\$ 74,426	\$ 1,573	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 4,081	\$ 0	\$ 90,358	0	1	0	0	0	
Fraud/Financial Crimes																			
Homicide	69	\$ 4,255	\$0	\$ 1,668	\$ 131,862	\$ 60,408	\$ 10,047	\$ 0	\$ 500		\$ 4,905	\$ 0	\$ 216,166	0	23	0	0	0	
Human Trafficking																			
Kidnapping	20	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 2,749	\$0	\$ 3,098	\$ 9,033	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 14,880	0	11	0	0	0	
Other Vehicular Crimes	3	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 22,561	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 22,561	0	0	0	0	0	
Robbery			\equiv																
Sexual Assault	97	\$0	\$ 0	\$ 1,892	\$ 0	\$ 35,042	\$ 38,784	\$ 0	\$ 360	\$ 27,034	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 103,112	0	18	0	0	0	
Stalking	39	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 140	\$ 18,744	\$ 0	\$ 0		\$ 348	\$ 0	\$ 19,232	0	31	0	0	0	
Terrorism													,===						
Total	1,036	\$ 4,255	\$ 0	\$ 40,103	\$ 135,575	\$ 709,203	\$ 362,454	\$ 0	\$ 2,238	\$ 38,215	\$ 25,291	\$ 0	\$ 1,319,857	0	512	0	0	4	

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. Please explain any significant change in the number of applications received during the reporting period.

In Wyoming we haven't really seen a statistically significant change in our Compensation data year over year. What we do see changing over time is the amount of money we are paying out increasing for the same number and types of claims. Average claim numbers, year over year, have not changed dramatically in the past decade; but the cost of the same services are increasing. While some market adjustments over time is not completely unexpected, we do feel that record inflation rates have caused a more significant jump in our payout amounts. Further, we have, in the past 4 years seen a 30% drop off in the amount of criminal fines and fees our office collects. That is the more concerning trend for our office. These criminal fines and fees make up the "special revenue" that is the Surcharge Account in Wyoming. The Surcharge is used to pay the state portion of compensation.

2. The average length of time to process an application for claim eligibility for compensation

Count days from time of receipt of application to decision. 10

Please explain your state's procedure for processing an application for claim eligibility, from time of receipt of application to decision. Wyoming's procedure for processing CVC claims begins when our office receives the (paper) application. The application is date stamped and the received date is entered into the CCVC database utilized by our state. The date the claim is received is referred to as the "new date." The claim is then presented to the Claims Analyst who will review the claim for completeness and, if the claim is complete and able to be processed, the Analyst will make a decision on the eligibility of the claim. The date that eligibility is determined is referred to as the resolution date" and a corresponding "resolution code" is entered to reflect the status of the claim (ie: Approved; Denied; or Unable to Process). If a claim is "unable to process" the claim will undergo follow up to see if there is missing information that must be obtained before the claim can be resolved as approved or denied. The Resolution Date of a claim previously identified as "unable to process" will be changed to reflect the date the claim was finally resolved as "approved" or "denied." The calculation of "processing time" measures the time between when the claim is received (New Date) and when a decision has been made on the claim (Resolution Date). The actual calculation for this reporting period was 9.69 which is down from last year's 11.55 days; and much closer to 2021's average of 7.62 days. We believe the "improvement" in our numbers is related to the change in leadership at the Laramie County-1st Judicial District Attorney's Office. There has been a new DA installed as of January 2023, and they are slowly but surely improving their Victim/Witness Unit and we are getter far better response times from that office. Since that office is the state's largest county their applications have the ability to statistically alter our statewide average. Therefore, the narrative from last year explained the dramatic drop in efficiency (from our state's standpoint) due to the turmoil in that office. We believe the improvement in this one office has attributed to the more "normal" average processing time for our office in this year's data.

3. Does your state have a victim satisfaction survey?

No

4. Please describe any emerging/major issues or notable trends that were encountered in your state that had an impact on your program's ability to meet the needs of crime victims during the reporting period.

I do not believe there any truly "notable trends" that are causing problems for our office's ability to timely and accurately assist victims through the compensation program, but we are concerned with a greater trend we see in high rates of staff turnover in our allied victim service programs statewide. Wyoming employment has seen a significant shift in the "post-COVIC" years and while unemployment rates are coming back down, we've seen a change in employment sectors. Specifically, Wyoming state government has undertaken studies to address record high staff turnover. The Attorney General's Office, which the Division of Victim Services is housed within, has averaged between 8% - 20% vacancy rates in just the past 2 years. While that turnover has only moderately impacted the Crime Victims Compensation program in our own office, we do believe it has impacted other segments of local government like law enforcement agencies, prosecutors offices, and the courts. High turnover rates in these offices where victim's are first engaging the criminal justice system (and where they should be learning about the compensation program) can affect how quickly victims are informed about the program. If it takes reaching a secondary contact, say in a prosecutor's office, before a victim learns about the program, we've lost time in getting services to victims. Ideally we want the law enforcement based victim/witness units connecting with victims within the first 48 hours of a crime, if not on scene that same day. Any delays in receiving services can/may ultimately impact a victim's outcome.

5. Please describe in detail efforts taken to serve Victims of Federal Crime during the reporting period.

In 2019 Wyoming created a statewide Missing & Murdered Indigenous Parsons Task Force. This task force is specifically addressing violence against indigenous people in our state. Wyoming has a large land mass reservation, the Wind River Indian Reservation (WRIR) and our data suggest that indigenous people are victimized at rates higher than their representation in our states population, and at rates higher than their white counterparts. In an effort to address this, our office conducted Crime Victims Compensation training on the WRIR in January 2023. Any crime that occurred on the WRIR is a federal crime, and our office works with both the FBI and the BIA to serve these victims.

6. Please describe any notable activities during the reporting period that improved the process of victim compensation services.

In October 2023 our office was able to hire a Restitution Recovery Program Manager. This position works directly with prosecutor's offices and the courts to request restitution on behalf of crime victims and the crime victims compensation program itself. By providing the courts with timely and accurate claim payout information, we hope to see an improved rate of restitution recovery to help offset the declining revenue in our state surcharge account. Additionally this position is able to assist our compensation claims analyst track down provider payment information and improve the customer service between claimants and our office by proving payment information and advice.

Please describe in detail ways in which your state used VOCA Administrative funds and the impact of these funds on the state's ability to improve victim compensation services during the reporting period.

Administrative funds are used to support travel costs for our Compensation Analyst to conduct compensation training for programs upon request. This reporting period alone there were 6 in person training events and 8 virtual training events given by our office to local victim service providers in our state. Additionally, Wyoming uses administrative funds to ensure both the SAA (Division Director) and the Compensation Analyst attend national and regional compensation training conducted by NACVCB, OVC, or other federal agencies. This year, administrative fund were used to send the Director and the Sr. Claims Analyst to Chicago for the National VOCA Conference, where they co-presented a compensation breakout session for rural compensation programs. These funds are used to pay annual dues to NACVCB, which is a wonderful resource for state programs. Administrative funds were also used to send staff to a VOCA Center Compensation Training in Tampa, FL. Finally, administrative funds are the primary source of support for our Compensation Claims Database administered by Genoa Group/CCVC.

8. Were there any laws, initiatives, or policy changes in your state regarding victim compensation during the reporting period? If yes, please briefly describe them and their impact.

There have not been any statutory changes to the compensation program since 2018. However, federal policy initiatives aimed at criminal fines and fees may negatively impact our program's Surcharge Account in year to come. In Wyoming, criminal fines and fees are entered into the special revenue Surcharge Account created by Wyo. Stat. Ann. 1-40-114. Any reduction in this account directly impact our program's ability to pay crime victims compensation, as the Surcharge account represents 100% of the state's contribution to crime victims compensation. In the 3 years since COIVD, the Surcharge account has seen a 30% decline in revenue collected. This trend is troubling to the program, and may eventually bankrupt the fund. Unless and until the state elects to fund the program with general fund dollars, crime victims compensation may have to implement austerity measures to protect the fund.

9. Please describe system-coordination efforts with prosecutors, law enforcement, courts, U.S. attorneys' offices, tribal systems, State VOCA Victim Assistance Coordinator, or other key personnel within the criminal justice system in your state to reduce barriers to victims who may apply to receive victim compensation.

Every May our office conducts a Mandatory Meeting for all of our sub-recipient programs. At this meeting, programs are apprised of any innovations in victim services, or changes within our office that would affect service delivery to victims. As a component of that meeting, programs are given compensation training and guidance on eligibility and the compensation application process. We have relied on programs to identify new staff who need the required Compensation Training to fulfill their obligation under our grant award as a condition to receiving VOCA Assistance funding. Additionally, with the use of VOCA-Assistance administrative funds, our office holds an annual conference (Joint Symposium on Children and Youth-WyJSCY) where all allied professionals are given extensive training on best practices for victims. As part of the curriculum at the conference, there is an emphasis upon and updates to crime victims compensation. Finally, every Peace Office Basic candidate in our state receives one hour of victims compensation training delivered to them as part of their core curriculum at the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy. Compensation training is part of the larger "Victim Issues" training at the Academy.

10. Please explain any public outreach efforts to improve awareness of your program.

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As addressed above, MMIP has been a big focus for our state. Through the Task Force, and as part of the Task Force Meetings, crime victims compensation is often discussed. In January 2023 our office trained 20 allied professionals working with indigenous victims on the WRIR. At that training, we were shocked to learn that many indigenous victims assumed they were not eligible for crime victims compensation by virtue of living on the WRIR. Our office was quick to correct that assumption, and even further explained that crime victims compensation would pay before Indian Health Services. Since that January meeting our office has met with indigenous victims on the WRIR in May and again in July to further address barriers to native victims applying for crime victims compensation.

Please list any other outcome measure(s) that are reported to the governor, legislature, or other state entity that have not been reported in this submission. Provide the actual measure(s). The data may be reported separately in your progress report.

The Division of Victim Services does use the data we collect from all of our programs via all of our federal grants to compile a "state of the state" each year for our Governor. We track where (by county and program) our compensation applications come from, and thus can measure which programs are serving what victims. If we see particular counties or programs that don't seem to be submitting compensation applications, we target our training and technical assistance toward addressing any barriers that victims or the programs may be facing in filing for compensation.

Please provide any additional comments that are helpful to improving the Victim Compensation state and/or federal program.

Wyoming is very troubled by press regarding denial rates amongst crime victim compensation programs nationwide. While our office has done a lot to correct this assumption by sharing data (less than 1% of our claims are denied for "behavioral/contribution factors"), we do worry about the inadvertent chilling effect this national narrative may have on victims applying for compensation. If there is a widespread assumption that victims are routinely denied for "contributory conduct: many eligible victims ay be discouraged from even attempting to seek assistances. I would like to see the administration help to correct this narrative and focus on highlighting success stories of victims and survivors aided by crime victims compensation.