



Crime Victim Services

VOCA Victim Assistance and VAWA STOP
2023 Funding Priorities

Crime Victims Services Committee

The mission of the Crime Victims' Services (CVS) Committee is to advocate for victims by promoting the development of effective programs that improve the response of human service professionals and the criminal justice system to crime victims.

CVS Funding Priority Development

- ▶ **Staff Input**
 - Information to estimate the upcoming federal award amounts
 - Review of prior priorities, applications and amounts
 - Historical information about prior projects/agencies
 - Research from the field and other states
- ▶ **CVS Advisory Group**
 - Input from across the state
 - Innovations in the field
- ▶ **CVS Committee**
 - Reviews all information
 - Makes final recommendations to the Commission
- ▶ **An important factor for 2022 funds was the amount of federal funds estimated to be available.**
 - VAWA STOP – estimate is it will be similar to 2021
 - VOCA Victim Assistance – estimated is it will be the similar to 2021; however, there have been significant reductions between 2018 and 2021

Significant Changes for 2023

- ▶ All projects are no longer allowed to roll Year 1 surplus (unspent) funds from Year 1 to Year 2.
- ▶ Certain attachments will now be uploaded to the agency's Organization Documents section in GEMS rather than uploaded to the project.
 - **Organization Documents** section in GEMS allows for upload of certain documents at the subrecipient level that can then be used for multiple applications
 - Other attachments in the project will now only be those that are specific to the application project.
- ▶ Several attachments have been eliminated!!!!!
- ▶ Please review the application closely as several other small changes may be implemented by November 1st.





VOCA Funding Priorities

Victims of Crime Act of 1984

Victims of Crime Act, 1984

- ▶ Services under this grant program are defined as those efforts that:
 - Respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims;
 - Assist primary and secondary victims of crime to stabilize their lives after victimization;
 - Assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system;
 - Provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security as appropriate to their victimization

Impact of Funding Fluctuations

Noncompetitive and Competitive Funding Priorities

VOCA

Noncompetitive (Basic)

Based on formulas (DV, SA, CACs)

- Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Victims' Services - designated agencies only
- Child Advocacy Centers - designated agencies only
- Automated Victim Notification Services – designated agency (odd years only)

Competitive

only 1 application in a priority
limited to 2 applications total

- Underserved Crime Victim Services
- Legal Services for Victims of Crime
- Specialized Services and Models
- Victim Focused Violence Intervention

Mandatory Allocations

- ▶ The GCC is federally mandated to allocate VOCA funding, at a minimum, to the following categories:

Minimum Allocations	Allocation Category	Definition/Clarification
10%	Sexual Assault	No specific definition provided, due to varying definitions in jurisdictions.
10%	Domestic (Spousal) Abuse	Encompasses domestic and intimate partner violence; includes all victims of domestic and intimate partner violence regardless of sexual orientation. This definition does not require legal recognition of any particular relationship, nor does it implicate State laws concerning marriage rights.
10%	Child Abuse	Victims of child abuse may include, but are not limited to, child victims of: physical, sexual, or emotional abuse; child pornography related offenses; neglect; commercial sexual exploitation; bullying; and/or exposure to violence.
10%	Previously Underserved	The type of crime victim considered underserved can be identified by the type of crime they have experienced or the demographic characteristics of the crime victim, or both.

VOCA Requirements

- ▶ Agencies must demonstrate a record of effective services by having a history of providing direct services
- ▶ Agencies must provide documentation of substantial financial support from sources other than the Crime Victims Fund
- ▶ New victim services organizations must show financial capacity with at least 25% of the agency's funding comes from other sources
 - May include other federal funds
 - May include state funding
 - Non-federal funding support may be used towards the match requirement

VOCA Application Limitations

- ▶ **Application Submission Limits:** Agencies may submit no more than **TWO** (2) total competitive applications with only one application per program priority
 - Additional applications will not be considered for funding
 - This total is not inclusive of any DV/SA or CAC Basic Services projects
- ▶ **Growth:** There are now caps in place for each priority. You must either apply for the cap amount or no more than what you applied for in 2021, whichever is less.
- ▶ Awards under the VOCA program will be made for a funding period not to exceed two years per funded project

Noncompetitive Priorities

- ▶ The following priority categories are funded to designated agencies only:
 - Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Victims Services
 - Child Advocacy Centers
 - Automated Victim Notification
- ▶ If you do not receive notification from GCC establishing that you should receive a basic services funding allocation, you are not eligible to apply for funding in these priority categories

VOCA Funding Priority

1. Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Victims' Services

- ▶ Proposals submitted should address the needs of victims of sexual assault or domestic/intimate partner violence by providing direct services to victims of crime
- ▶ Proposals should include a plan of action to provide core crisis intervention services to victims

VOCA Funding Priority

1. Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Victims' Services

- ▶ Examples include:
 - Client Outreach Services
 - Crisis Line Operations
 - Evidence-based Mental Health Services
 - Counseling and Support Services
 - Information and Referral Services
 - Language Crisis Line Services
 - Legal Assistance
 - Relocation Expenses
 - Shelter and Transitional Housing Services
 - Hospital Accompaniment

VOCA Funding Priority

2. Child Advocacy Centers

- ▶ Proposals should describe services provided by a **fully** or **provisionally accredited** Child Advocacy Center (CAC)
- ▶ Each organization must upload a verification letter from Children's Advocacy Centers of North Carolina (CACNC) that states their accreditation status.

VOCA Funding Priority

2. Child Advocacy Centers

- ▶ Proposals may include costs to cover direct services personnel for the following services:
 - Advocacy
 - Evidence-based Mental Health Services
 - Child Medical Evaluation
 - Forensic Interviews
 - Forensic Medical Evidence Collection Exams

Competitive Priorities

- ▶ The following priority categories are competitive, and voted on by the members of the Governor's Crime Commission:
 1. Underserved Crime Victims – **UPDATED**
 2. Legal Services for Victims of Crime
 3. Medical Services and Models – **UPDATED**
 4. Victim Focused Violence Intervention – **NEW**

VOCA Funding Priority

1. Underserved Crime Victims Services - **UPDATED**

1. **Underserved: Only one application in the Underserved Priority is allowed. For example, an agency cannot apply for an Underserved 1.a. and 1.b project.**

VOCA requires funding be allocated to projects serving “previously underserved populations of victims of violent crime”. Underserved populations may be distinguished by crime type or by demographic characterizations. These populations may require special consideration/services due to possibly being overlooked in the past or not having access to adequate services. Under this funding priority, programs should look to develop and/or continue implementing programs that address underserved crime victim groups by providing an array of direct services. Programs that can be replicated are of special interest. Proposals should describe services to a population that is defined by your community to be an underserved community.

- ▶ Local: 1-4 counties – \$250,000
- ▶ Regional: 5-50 counties – \$500,000
- ▶ Statewide: 51+ counties – \$750,000

▶ **Underserved - Crime Type (check one)**

- a. Human Trafficking Victims
- b. Child Abuse (accredited or provisionally accredited CACs only, start-up CACs cannot apply)
- c. SA
- d. DV
- e. Survivors of Homicide Victims
- f. Services for Victims of Financial Fraud and/or Identity Theft
- g. Drunk driving

VOCA Funding Priority

1. Underserved Crime Victims Services

- ▶ If your project is targeting specific populations within a crime type above, then further select the Underserved – Demographic and/or Special Population (check all that apply, please note there are no extra points for selecting a population or multiple populations).

- ❖ African/African American
- ❖ American Indian/Tribal Communities
- ❖ Latinx Communities
- ❖ Asian/Pacific Islander
- ❖ Middle Eastern
- ❖ Immigrant (Undocumented and Documented)
- ❖ LGBTQ+
- ❖ Males
- ❖ Elderly
- ❖ Rural
- ❖ Disabled
- ❖ Veterans/Military Personnel

VOCA Funding Priority

2. Legal Services for Victims of Crime

- ▶ Proposals will be accepted for state, regional or local legal services non-profit agencies to provide legal services to victims of crime including domestic or intimate partner violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, human trafficking and/or child abuse. This includes emergency legal assistance by an attorney, and allowable civil legal assistance provided to victims of crime.

- ▶ Legal assistance services that are necessary as a direct result of victimization:
 - Filing motions, protective orders, and immigration filings based on victimization
 - Criminal defense and civil tort actions are not allowable with VOCA funding

- ▶ Local: 1-4 counties – \$600,000
- ▶ Regional: 5-50 counties – \$1,300,000
- ▶ Statewide: 51+ counties – \$2,000,000

VOCA Funding Priority

3. Medical Services and Models - **UPDATED**

Medical Services and Models

- ▶ Proposals will be considered for the development of enhanced services for victims of crime that are allowable under VOCA Victim Assistance regulations. Proposals should include a plan of action and a statement of collaboration to provide enhanced services to victims, which may include:
 - ▶ **Local: 1-4 counties – \$250,000**
 - ▶ **Regional: 5-50 counties – \$500,000**
 - ▶ **Statewide: 51+ counties – \$750,000**

- a. Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Services
- b. Forensic medical examinations and forensic interviews (not associated with sexual assault basic services)
- c. Emergency medical assistance not covered by victim compensation funds
- d. Mental health and other alternative therapies and substance use disorder services

VOCA Funding Priority

4. Victim Focused Violence Intervention - **NEW**

Victim Focused Violence Intervention (provide specific metrics for evaluation)

- ▶ Local: 1-4 counties – \$250,000
 - ▶ Regional: 5-50 counties – \$500,000
 - ▶ Statewide: 51+ counties – \$750,000
-
- a. Community violence intervention programs - Victims of Gang-related Crimes, Gun Violence, Community violence
 - b. Hospital-based violence intervention programs
 - c. Restorative justice programs

Prevention activities under VOCA: Projects must be centered on direct victim services, and can have secondary and tertiary prevention aspects. Primary prevention is NOT allowable under VOCA.

- The definitions of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention can be useful to categorize services that may be allowable under VOCA Victim Assistance funding. The examples below serve to illustrate how VOCA Victim Assistance funds may be used to support prevention-related activities. The examples are by no means exhaustive. OVC encourages you to contact your grant manager with any questions.
- Primary prevention is intervention before a crime occurs. For example, primary prevention could be funding police officers to patrol streets to protect high violence areas. Primary prevention is not an allowable use of VOCA Victim Assistance funding.
- Secondary prevention is intervention early in health and other impacts from violence and injury, with the objective of preventing ongoing issues and working toward healing for survivors. For example, secondary prevention could be a hospital-based intervention program that offers trauma-informed services to victims of violence to prevent ongoing violence while supporting survivors and communities in the aftermath of a crime. Secondary prevention would be an allowable use of VOCA Victim assistance funding.
- Tertiary prevention is working with people already impacted and effected by violence, and bringing in services and healing to assist survivors. For example, tertiary prevention could be the creation of a safety plan or the provision of therapy to a survivor after a crime has been committed. Tertiary prevention would be an allowable use of VOCA Victim Assistance funding.

Community Violence Intervention

- NCSJ Link to CVI Factsheet - [An Overview: Community Violence Intervention Strategies](#).pdf
- [FACT SHEET: More Details on the Biden-Harris Administration's Investments in Community Violence Interventions | The White House](#)
- Part 1 of 3 Part Series by BJA (Bureau of Justice Assistance) - [Community Violence Intervention \(CVI\) Webinar Series: Evidence-based Theory and Research on CVI - YouTube](#)

Hospital-Based Violence Intervention

- ▶ HVIPs are multidisciplinary programs - medical staff and community-based partners collaborate to provide safety planning, services, and trauma-informed care
- ▶ Victims are provided links to community-based services, mentoring, home visits, follow-up assistance, and long-term case management during these interventions
- ▶ Learn more at The Health Alliance for Violence Intervention - [The HAVI](#)

Restorative Justice

- ▶ Activities in support of opportunities for crime victims to meet with perpetrators, examples:
 - tribal community-led meetings
 - peace-keeping activities
 - victim-offender dialogue
 - alternatives to traditional criminal justice system pathways for victims
- ▶ Requested or voluntarily agreed to by the victim (who may, at any point, withdraw)
- ▶ 28 CFR 94.120(g) – Criteria for review

Allowable Activities

- ▶ Proposals may include costs for direct service personnel, volunteers and services and goods needed to support direct services prorated to the portion of the project.
- ▶ Allowable direct services include:
 - Client outreach services
 - Crisis line operations
 - Evidence-based mental health services
 - Counseling and support services
 - Information and referral services
 - Language crisis line services
 - Legal assistance
 - Relocation expenses
 - Shelter and transitional housing Services
 - Hospital accompaniment
 - Child medical evaluations
 - Forensic interviews
 - Forensic medical evidence collection exams
 - Training for project and agency personnel and volunteers

Unallowable Activities

- ▶ Lobbying/advocacy with respect to legislation or administrative changes to regulations or administrative policy;
- ▶ Research and studies, except for project evaluation within the limits established by GCC;
- ▶ Active investigation and prosecution of criminal activities, except for the provision of victim assistance services to crime victims;
- ▶ Fundraising activities;
- ▶ Capital expenses, including capital improvements; property losses and expenses; real estate purchases; mortgage payments; and construction;

Unallowable Activities

- ▶ Reimbursement of crime victims for expenses incurred because of a crime, except as otherwise allowed by other provisions herein;
- ▶ Medical care, except as otherwise allowed by other provisions herein;
- ▶ Salaries and expenses of management, board members, and other administrators, except as specifically allowed elsewhere herein;
- ▶ Trinkets (items such as hats, mugs, portfolios, t-shirts, coins, gift bags, etc., regardless of whether they include the conference name or OJP/DOJ logo) must not be purchased with DOJ funds as giveaways for conferences. Basic supplies that are necessary for use during the conference (e.g., folders, name tags) may be purchased.

VAWA STOP Funding

- The STOP (Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program (STOP Program) promotes a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to improving the criminal justice system's response to violent crimes against women.
- STOP encourages the development and strengthening of effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to address violent crimes against women and the development and strengthening of victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women.
- STOP funding is restricted to services specific to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Human trafficking victims who have been sexually assaulted or battered by an intimate partner can be served with STOP funds.

STOP Funding Allocations & Funding Projections

By statute, the GCC is federally mandated to meet minimum allocation requirements.

State Allocation	Priority	Focus Areas	
35%	Victims Services	Of the Victim Services priority, 10% must support programs that provide <u>culturally specific and culturally competent services</u> designed to meet the needs of specific racial and ethnic minority groups in the victim services priority.	At least 20 % of the total award must be set aside for projects that solely and meaningfully address sexual assault in at least two of these funding allocation categories.
25%	Law Enforcement		
25%	Prosecution		
5%	State and Local Courts		
10%	Discretionary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention • Batterer's Intervention Programs 	No more than 5% allowed for prevention.	

STOP Funding Priorities

The Office on Violence Against Women is interested in supporting the priority areas identified below. The GCC encourages applicants to develop projects that:

- Reduce violent crime against women and promote victim safety through investing in law enforcement, increasing prosecution, and promoting effective prevention.
- Empower victims to become survivors by growing them past their vulnerabilities to a place of self-sufficiency.
- Increase efforts to combat stalking.
- Address the specific challenges that rural communities face in responding to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

STOP Priority Service Areas

You will need to identify in your application ONE priority for your proposed project:

- 1) Victim Services
 - 2) Law Enforcement
 - 3) Prosecutors
 - 4) State and Local Courts
 - 5) Discretionary
- The courts allocation must be awarded “to” state and local courts. The courts will be notified of their amount.
 - Decisions for law enforcement, prosecution, and victim services should be made based on the beneficiary of the funded activities.

Discretionary

Court Sanctioned Batterer's Intervention Programs

- As per the North Carolina Administrative Code, programs must be certified by the N.C. Council for Women and Youth Involvement.

Primary and Secondary Prevention: No more than 5% of the State's total STOP award may be used for this purpose.

- Primary prevention means strategies, programming, and activities to stop both first-time perpetration and first-time victimization. Primary prevention is stopping domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking before they occur.
- Secondary prevention is identifying risk factors or problems that may lead to future domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and taking the necessary actions to eliminate the risk factors and the potential problem.

STOP Focus Areas

Culturally Specific and Sexual Assault

STOP Focus Area: Sexual Assault

- Projects assigned to the Victims Services, Law Enforcement, Prosecution and/or Courts Priority Service Areas are eligible to choose this focus area.
- Projects must have a sole and legitimate focus on sexual assault and personnel funded under the projects must have sufficient expertise and experience with sexual assault.

STOP Focus Area: Culturally Specific

Only projects assigned to the Victim Services Priority Service Area are eligible to choose this Focus Area.

In order to be eligible, projects must be focused on working with racial and ethnic minorities as defined in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act, which means:

- American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts);
- Asian Americans;
- Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders;
- Blacks; and
- Hispanic

STOP Focus Area: Culturally Specific

The organization **must** be a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization or tribal organization that serves a specific geographic community that:

- focuses primarily on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- has established a specialized culturally specific program that addresses domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- has a primary focus on underserved populations (and includes representatives of these populations) and domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; or
- obtains expertise, or shows demonstrated capacity to work effectively, on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking through collaboration;
- is primarily directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups; **AND**
- is providing services tailored to the unique needs of that population.

STOP Purpose Areas

- Any projects funded utilizing STOP funds must meet one or more of OVW's statutory purpose areas.
- The GCC has identified thirteen (13) purpose areas that align with the State of North Carolina's Implementation Plan and fill in funding/service gaps for the State.
- See RFA for the 13 identified purpose areas.

Focus and Purpose Area Selection



PROJ010731
2016 - Governor's Crime
Commission - Grant
Writing Workshop

Project Overview

Project Setup

Implementing Agency

General Information

Abstract & Narrative

Qualifying Information

Compliance Statement

Goals
<https://gems.ncdps.gov/Profile/Info>

Focus & Purpose Areas

Is your focus area 'sexual assault'? *
 Yes No

Is your focus area 'culturally specific'? *
 Yes No

Choose one or more purpose areas.

- Training law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, including the appropriate use of nonimmigrant status under subparagraphs (T) and (U) of section 101(a)(15) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. § 1101(a)).
- Developing, training, or expanding units of law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors specifically targeting violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
- Developing and implementing more effective police, court, and prosecution policies, protocols, orders, and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, as well as the appropriate treatment of victims.
- Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services and legal assistance programs, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking programs, developing or improving delivery of victim services to underserved populations, providing

STOP Application Limitations

- **Application Submission Limits:** Agencies may only submit **ONE** application under each GCC Funding Priority Service Area for the STOP program. **NOTE:** A prosecutorial district is a single subrecipient. Additional applications **will not** be considered for funding.
- **Growth: Growth:** There are now caps in place for each priority. You must either apply for the cap amount or no more than what you applied for in 2022, whichever is less.

STOP Application Funding Caps

Projects must take into consideration the Growth Limitation (above) when reviewing the Funding Caps outlined below.

Priority	Maximum Federal Share
State and Local Courts	Non-Competitive
Victim Services	Up to \$200,000
Law Enforcement	<p>Direct Services Up to \$100,000 for projects with <u>less than 2 FTE equivalent staff member(s)</u> Up to \$150,000 for projects with <u>2 or more FTE equivalent staff members.</u></p> <p>Training of Frontline Staff Up to \$55,000 for <u>regional training grants</u> of Sworn Officers Up to \$200,000 for <u>statewide training grants</u> of Sworn Officers</p>
Prosecutors	<p>Direct Services Up to \$100,000 for projects with <u>less than 2 FTE equivalent staff member(s)</u> Up to \$150,000 for projects with <u>2 or more FTE equivalent staff members</u></p> <p>Training of Frontline Staff Up to \$55,000 for <u>regional training grants</u> of Prosecutors Up to \$200,000 for <u>statewide training grants</u> of Prosecutors</p>
Discretionary	<p>Batterer's Intervention Programs Up to \$55,000 for <u>individual regions</u> and Up to \$100,000* for programs that propose to <u>expand and serve multiple regions</u></p> <p>Prevention Programs Up to \$55,000</p>

Required Documentation

Read the RFA – there has been a significant reduction in documentation that is required at the time of submission.

- The items listed in the RFA must be included in the application at the time of submission, named and numbered as instructed.
- Samples of most attachments can be found on the GCC website: www.ncdps.gov/gccforms

VOCA Match Requirements

MATCH HAS BEEN WAIVED BECAUSE OF THE NATIONAL PANDEMIC UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!!!

Normally, all VOCA grant applications are required to include 20% cash or in-kind match funding for the total cost of the project. Exceptions are:

- ▶ Federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native tribes, or projects that operate on tribal lands
- ▶ Subrecipients that are territories or possessions of the United States (such as the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or the Territory of Guam)

STOP Match Requirements

- ▶ There is a 25% cash or inkind match requirement imposed on grant funds under this program.
- ▶ The applicant must identify the source of the 25 percent non-federal portion of the budget and how match funds will be used. Applicants may satisfy the required match with either cash or in-kind services.
- ▶ Grants to non-profit victim service providers for victim services can be excluded from the match requirement.
- ▶ Grants to tribes can also be excluded from the match requirement.

Application Review

For competitive grant applications, members of the Crime Victim Services Committee review submitted proposals and score each organization's overall project based on the following:

Community Collaboration (CVS)	20
Data/Evidence of Problem (CVS)	20
Evaluation (CVS)	10
Implementation Schedule/Timeline of Activities (CVS)	10
Logic/Clarity of Proposal (CVS)	10
Potential for Positive Impact (CVS)	10
Program Goals and Objectives (CVS)	20

Crime Victim Services Team

Call us at **(919) 733-4564**

Sandy Dixon, Lead Planner

Sandy.Dixon@ncdps.gov

Daun Brown, VAWA Planner

Daun.Brown@ncdps.gov

Lindsay Bohan, VOCA Planner

Lindsay.bohan@ncdps.gov

Bria Wortham, VOCA Planner

Bria.wortham@ncdps.gov

Grace Clougherty, CVS Program Assistant

Grace.clougherty@ncdps.gov



Welcome to Bria
Wortham, the newest
VOCA Planner
&
Grace Clougherty, the
CVS Program Assistant
!!!



Questions?