

Crime Victim Funding for Unmet Needs Frequently Asked Questions

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Q: Since this funding is not for shelter related activities, if we apply for funding to hire additional domestic violence advocates, can these advocates only provide services to victims we are serving “in the community” who are not staying at the shelter?

A: With regard to domestic violence, this funding is intended to address unmet needs in community advocacy programming, not shelter-based programming. The answer to this question is “yes.”

Q: Is funding for interpreter services eligible as a unmet need to an underserved population?

A: The RFP gives applicants an opportunity to make their case for what they determine are unmet needs, (with data and documentation that supports those needs as unmet, and an explanation of why they picked those unmet needs over others). The RFP does not identify or designate ineligible needs, thus applicants get to choose based on the direct service needs for crime victims in their community.

Q: Can funds be used to make shelter repairs?

A: No, this would not be an eligible expense under this RFP.

Q: If we lost our abused children funding in the FY13 funding process, can we apply for it through this RFP?

A: Under this RFP, funding for services addressing the needs of abused children is available in two categories: Parenting Time Center and Child Advocacy Center. Eligible applicants for these types of programs must be currently providing services that meet the *Parenting Time Center Program Standards* or *Child Advocacy Center Program Standards*. See page 3 of the RFP for a list of crime type programs eligible for funding under this RFP.

Q: Would we be eligible to apply for our restorative justice work?

A: Any restorative justice programming must adhere to the *General Crime Victim Program Standards* to be eligible. See page 3 of the RFP for a list of crime type programs eligible for funding under this RFP.

Q: Can a Legal Aid office apply for these funds, or are the advocacy services intended to be provided by programs like domestic violence programs?

A: Eligible applicants for domestic violence funding must be currently providing services that adhere to the *Domestic Violence Community Advocacy Program Standards*. See page 3 of the RFP for a list of crime type programs eligible for funding under this RFP.

Q: Would we be eligible to apply for funding for a youth program serving middle and high school students under the Community Advocacy Program umbrella, as an underserved population because of age?

A: The *Program Standards* do not specify age guidelines. The RFP gives applicants an opportunity to make their case for crime victim services addressing unmet needs of victims of violence.

Q: Is this opportunity for the same grant we have or a different one?

A: This is new funding and different from the grant you currently receive.

Q: What does “unmet needs” mean?

A: See page 3 of the RFP.

Q: Is this for general crime victims?

A: Yes, along with domestic violence, sexual assault, and abused children. Refer to page 3 of the RFP.

Q: Our school district would like to submit an application to provide services for students in two of our elementary schools with great need for trauma-informed care. Would we be eligible (for a PTC, CAC or other type of program) given the framework of the grant?

A: Eligible applicants must be currently providing services that meet the *Program Standards* of the specific crime type for which they are applying. These funds are not intended for new start-up programs within organizations not currently providing crime victim services. Links to the *Program Standards* can be found within the application in E-grants. Please know that PTC and CAC standards are highly specific.

Q: Can a grantee apply for this funding to assist with a SART that continuously works closely with the victim from the time of the assault to prosecution?

A: Eligible applicants must provide the activities as detailed in the applicable Program Standards **in full**, for the type of programming for which they are applying. In other words, to be funded for sexual assault program services, all activities on the sexual assault Program Standards must be provided to victims seeking sexual assault services. The Program Standards detail the minimum activities required.

Q: Under the Domestic Violence “crime type” on page 3, the RFP indicates that Community Advocacy Programs are eligible for funding. Apart from meeting the requirements outlined in the Domestic Violence Community Advocacy Program Standards document, is there a process for being approved as an official “Community Advocacy Program?”

A: No, there is no approval process for official designation. Applicants should use section 1a of their narrative to detail the services currently being provided by their organization.

Q: Our agency will be completing an application for the Unmet Needs grant. We are potentially going to submit a group application with another agency. If we are submitting a group application, does the Narrative portion need to include information on both groups for each heading and subheading?

A: If both agencies would receive a portion of the funding (if awarded during the grant review process), then both should be discussed in the application, to give reviewers the full picture and to strengthen the case you are making for funding.

Q: The Allocation Guide says we need to get advance approval for contracts over \$2,000. What is the process for that? Our contractors would not exceed \$450/day. Can we do that?

A: There is no advance process for pre-approval in an application period. You should submit the budget you wish to submit. Sometimes budget negotiations or revisions are required after an application has been approved for award, before a contract is issued. If your application is approved for an award, sub-contracts over \$2,000 would be reviewed at that time.

Q: We are thinking about purchasing an RV with this grant to go out into the community and have a mobile office. Would the cost of a vehicle fit into the guidelines of this grant? If so, does the expenditure need to be in the first year of the grant or could it possibly be spread through a number of years?

A: Your application would need to make a strong case for the need and reasonableness of this expense. This is an unusual request that would require clear data and justification for the cost, as your application would be competing with applications for funds to increase direct service staff time with victims. The cost could be spread through a number of years.

Q: I have been asked about going in on a collaborative grant. I am questioning if I can apply by myself as well or is it one or the other.

A: This competitive process is expected to be highly competitive, thus it's rather unlikely that an applicant would be funded under two applications. We encourage you to apply with an application that will make the strongest case for funding of unmet needs.

Q: Can an applicant apply for funding under more than one crime type within the same grant application?

A: Yes, as long as applicants are currently meeting the *Program Standards* in full, for each of the types of programming for which they are applying.