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**Executive Summary for the ARPA Steering Committee**  
**State Fiscal Recovery Funds**

Name of Applicant: **Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

Proposal Title: **Addressing the Public Health Crisis of Domestic Violence in Arkansas**

Total Amount of Request: **\$12,000,000**

Applicant Presenter: **Beth Goodrich, Executive Director**

Location of Applicant: **Little Rock**

Number of Locations Serving the Public: **29 Domestic Violence Shelters**

Type of Service to be rendered:

**Increase training for domestic violence shelters to receive critical resources and technical assistance, especially in areas of accessibility, racial equity, and trauma-informed services;**

**Increase capacity for program monitoring and compliance;**

**Promote victim-centered response;**

**Enhance capacity for shelters to identify, expand, and increase awareness for underserved and marginalized communities;**

**Utilize medical partnerships to identify potential victims who may go undetected;**

**Increase the capacity of domestic violence programs to screen victims for unmet medical needs.**

Program Delivery Dates: **Three Year Period**

Budget Amounts:

| Description  | Year 1         | Year 2         | Year 3         | Project Total   |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Bookkeeping  | \$30,000       | \$30,000       | \$30,000       | \$90,000        |
| Staff Salaries (project carry out and supervision)           | \$70,000       | \$70,000       | \$70,000       | \$210,000       |
| FICA (100% of project carryout and 1% of supervisor)         | \$5,355        | \$5,355        | \$5,355        | \$16,065        |
| Workers Comp (100% of project carryout and 1% of supervisor) | \$441          | \$441          | \$441          | \$1,323         |
| SUTA (only project personnel)                                | \$30           | \$30           | \$30           | \$90            |
| Health Insurance (only project personnel)                    | \$509          | \$509          | \$509          | \$1,527         |
| Dental Ins (only project personnel)                          | \$32.60        | \$32.60        | \$32.60        | \$97.80         |
| Life Insurance   | \$8.50         | \$8.50         | \$8.50         | \$25.50         |
| Retirement   | \$2,000        | \$2,000        | \$2,000        | \$6,000         |
|  |                |                |                |                 |
| DISTRIBUTION TO SHELTER PROGRAMS:                            | \$3,891,623.90 | \$3,891,623.90 | \$3,891,623.90 | \$11,674,871.70 |
|  |                |                |                |                 |
| TOTAL  | \$4,000,000    | \$4,000,000    | \$4,000,000    | \$12,000,000    |

Program Description provided by the Applicant (from Executive Summary on Proposal Template):

**In addition to the devastating public health impact of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, individuals and families experiencing domestic violence were faced with mandatory isolation with their abusers, and a strained victim services infrastructure.**

**The Arkansas Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ACADV) will utilize this funding to ensure essential victim services for domestic violence, human trafficking, and stalking are maintained for the project period of 3 years.**

**Funding will go towards maintaining operations, programs, and outreach services to individuals and families experiencing violence at home. Records from our 29 programs across the state indicated that even though the calls to our hotlines dropped, the severity of the violence of victims who were able to escape increased.**

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As phase one of the pandemic passed, calls began to increase indicating that the ongoing impact of the pandemic will create a strain on the existing infrastructure. Despite this pressure, accredited domestic violence programs continued serving victims throughout the pandemic.

Eligible Per CTEH/Hagerty Review:

This proposal to increase functional capacity and to provide training in support of domestic violence shelters is **eligible**.

The Interim Final Rule (IFR) identifies a list of eligible uses for Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) that respond to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic. In reference to non-profits, the IFR includes the following relevant eligibility language:

- “Loans or grants to mitigate financial hardship such as declines in revenues or impacts of periods of business closure, for example by supporting payroll and benefits costs, costs to retain employees, mortgage, rent, or utilities costs, and other operating costs”<sup>1</sup>
- “Loans, grants, or in-kind assistance to implement COVID-19 prevention or mitigation tactics, such as physical plant changes to enable social distancing, enhanced cleaning efforts, barriers or partitions, or COVID-19 vaccination, testing, or contact tracing programs”<sup>2</sup>

Loss of funds due to increased operating costs has clearly been a consequence of the pandemic for the ACADV and would qualify under this category.

The IFR also addresses the public health effects of COVID-19 and lists eligible uses of the FRF in this category. That list of eligible uses includes a section on behavioral health care that has been exacerbated by the pandemic, which states:

“These services include mental health treatment, substance misuse treatment, other behavioral health services, hotlines or warm lines, crisis intervention, overdose prevention, infectious disease prevention, and services or outreach to promote access to physical or behavioral health primary care and preventative medicine.”<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of the Treasury, Reg. 35 CFR 31, page 34, <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/FRF-Interim-Final-Rule.pdf>

<sup>2</sup>U.S. Department of the Treasury, Reg. 35 CFR 31, page 35, <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/FRF-Interim-Final-Rule.pdf>

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Department of the Treasury, Reg. 35 CFR 31, page 19-20, <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/FRF-Interim-Final-Rule.pdf>

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The IFR also describes the eligibility of assistance to “Disproportionately impacted communities and populations” and describes “Community violence intervention programs” as on an eligible activity within this category.

According to the proposal and the IFR, the pandemic has reduced the ability of individuals experiencing domestic violence to access services.

**DFA Proposal Status: DFA can support the approval of this program based upon the review completed by CTEH Hagerty.**