

- **Doris Smith, Administrator**
- **Debbie Bousquet, VJA Grants Coordinator**

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL SERVICE
VICTIM JUSTICE AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

- TO DISCUSS CURRENT VJA PROJECTS:
 - Mobile Hotline APP for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault victims
 - 2013 Application Review Process/Board Review and Approval
- TO DISCUSS ROLE OF THE BOARD NOW AND FUTURE
 - 2014 STOP Implementation Plan/VAWA Re-Authorization

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- **MOBILE HOTLINE APP**

DFA/IGS will issue an RFP for the development of an Mobile Hotline APP within the next sixty (60) days. The APP should include at a minimum the following:

- Access to Domestic Violence Hotline
- Access to Sexual Assault Hotline
- Website listing of same information contained in the APP
- Incorporate language for non-English speaking victims
- Other proposed elements may be considered as part of the APP

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- **2013 APPLICATION REVIEW/APPROVAL PROCESS BY BOARD**
 - A committee selected by Board will receive Recommendation Summaries & Application Review forms of each **eligible** application submitted.
 - IGS recommends that Council appoints Grants Review Committee at the close of this meeting

NOTE: Full applications will be available for review upon request.

- Committee will notify Victim Justice and Assistance Grants Coordinator and full Council of their determinations. (June 7th)
- VJA Grants Coordinator will forward information to IGS Administrator for final approval.

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2013 APPLICATION REVIEW/APPROVAL PROCESS BY BOARD Cont'd.

- Applicants notified of decisions (June 13th – June 27th)

- Appeal Process: (July 5th – August 2nd)
VJA Grants Coordinator will notify Committee of appealed applications
 - Notification of Request for an Appeal
 - Committee Review of Requests for Appeal
 - Committee decision to VJA Grants Coordinator and full Council
 - VJA Grants Coordinator informs IGS Administrator
 - IGS Administrator makes final decision

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SUMMARY OVERVIEW			
Applicant Name	Proposed Funding Source:	Authorized Official Name	
Amount Requested	Federal Funds	Match Funds	Total
			-
Amount Recommended	Federal Funds	Match Funds	Total
			-
Budget Categories			
Personnel: Staff			\$ -
Mandated Benefits (FICA/SUI/WC)			\$ -
Employer Benefits (Health Insurance, etc)			\$ -
Maintenance and Operations			\$ -
Professional Services Contracts			\$ -
Staff/Volunteer Travel			\$ -
Staff Training			
TOTAL			\$ -
Comments and Recommendations			
Rating Criteria	Possible Points	Points Awarded	
TOTAL	0	0	
TO AVOID ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST, WE ASK THAT YOU IDENTIFY AND RECUSE YOURSELF FROM REVIEWING THE APPLICATION OF ANY APPLICANT YOU ARE AFFILIATED WITH.			
SIGNATURE			

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2014 STOP IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

With the passing of the new VAWA legislation during this congressional session, there are several changes that impact every state. The changes include but are not limited to:

- ***Universal Definitions and Grant Conditions***
- Adds definition of “rape crisis center” that, among other things, includes governmental entities in States (but not territories) as long as they are not part of the criminal justice system and offer a level of confidentiality comparable to that offered by a nonprofit entity that provides similar services
- Revises definition of “victim service provider” to mean a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization, tribal organization, or rape crisis center, including a State and tribal coalition, domestic violence shelter, faith-based organization, and other organization that assists or advocates for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking
- Revises definition of “culturally specific” and “culturally specific services” to focus on specific racial and ethnic minority groups
- Amends definition of “domestic violence” to explicitly include “intimate partners” as well as “spouses”

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- Adds definitions for “population specific organization” and “population specific services,” both of which are targeted to a specific underserved population
- Revises definition of “Rural State” to include more densely populated States
- Expands definition of “underserved populations” to include populations underserved because of sexual orientation, gender identify and religion
- Defines “youth” to mean a person who is 11 to 24 years old
- Improves confidentiality provision, including allowing minors who are permitted to receive services without parent or guardian consent to authorize release of information without parent or guardian consent; requires grantees and subgrantees to document compliance with confidentiality and privacy provisions

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- Specifies that grantees and subgrantees may collaborate with or provide information to Federal, State, local, or territorial public officials and agencies to develop and implement policies and develop and promote legislation or model codes designed to reduce or eliminate domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking
- Requires any grantee or subgrantee providing legal assistance to comply with LAV eligibility certifications
- Adds civil rights provision applicable to all OVW grantees that prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability in OVW-funded programs or activities; includes specific exception for sex segregation or sex-specific programming that is “necessary to the essential operation of a program”

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- Clarifies that victim services and legal assistance include services and assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who are also victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons
- Requires OVW to have biennial conferrals with State and tribal coalitions and technical assistance providers on administration of grants, unmet needs, promising practices in the field, and emerging trends; first conferral must be initiated not later than six months after VAWA 2013's enactment
- Adds new accountability provisions to all Department of Justice grants funded under VAWA, including mandatory exclusions for grantees with Office of Inspector General audit findings that are not closed or resolved within 12 months, and approval requirements for conferences funded through cooperative agreements that cost more than \$20,000

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CHANGES SPECIFIC TO STOP

- Reauthorizes STOP Program at \$222 million annually through FY 2018 (rather than \$225 million)
- Adds seven new purpose areas: developing and promoting legislation and policies to enhance best practices for responding to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; developing Sexual Assault Response Teams and related coordinated community responses (CCRs) to sexual assault; improving investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and appropriate treatment of victims; responding to sexual assault against men, women, and youth in correctional settings; responding to backlogs of sexual assault evidence including developing protocols and policies for notifying and involving victims; improving responses to male and female victims whose ability to access traditional services and responses is affected by their sexual orientation or gender identity; and supporting prevention or educational programming (limited to five percent of the award amount)
- Ensures that domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking are included in all the purpose areas
- Adds legal assistance in purpose area for “victim assistance”

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CHANGES SPECIFIC TO STOP PROGRAMS:

- Adds legal assistance in purpose area for “victim assistance”
- Includes population of tribes in total population for each State for purposes of funding formula
- Authorizes Department to impose reasonable conditions on grant awards to ensure States meet statutory, regulatory, and other program requirements
- Changes to State STOP implementation plans include:
- Makes State plan due with STOP application
- Mandates that State consult and coordinate with enumerated entities within the State, including coalitions, victim services, law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, representatives from underserved populations, and others
- Requires documentation from each member of the planning committee as to the participation in the planning process.

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CHANGES CONT:

- Directs that State coordinate STOP plan with Victims of Crime Act assistance and Family Violence Prevention and Services Act and Public Health Service Act funding streams
- Requires documentation from prosecution, law enforcement, court and victim services programs to be assisted
- Requires description of how State will ensure that subgrantees will consult with victim service providers
- Requires demographic data on distribution of underserved populations within State and description of how State will meet needs of underserved populations
- Requires description of how State will give priority to areas of varying geographic size, determine subgrants based on population, equitably distribute subgrants on a geographic basis, and recognize and meaningfully respond to the needs of underserved populations
- Mandates State include goals and objectives for reducing domestic violence related homicide

- Board's Assistance with 2014 STOP Implementation Plan
 - As we prepare to develop the Plan for 2014, we ask that Council appoint a Committee to serve as a Focus Group to review where we are currently and how we implement the new changes of VAWA.