U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs Office for Victims of Crime



OVC FY 2022 Project Beacon: Increasing Access to Services for Urban American Indian and Alaska Native Victims of Human Trafficking Program

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#### Overview

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Office for Victims of Crime</u> (OVC) seeks applications for funding for the FY 2022 Project Beacon: Increasing Access to Services for Urban American Indian and Alaska Native Victims of Human Trafficking Program. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by increasing access to services for victims of crime and addressing inequities in access.

This solicitation incorporates the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.

This solicitation expressly modifies the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by not incorporating the "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" provisions in the "Application Attachments" section.

## **Solicitation Categories**

Competition ID	Category *	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-OVC-2022-00005-PROD	Purpose Area 1: Direct Services	8	\$475,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	36
C-OVC-2022-00006-PROD	Purpose Area 2: Training and Technical Assistance	1	\$550,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	36

## **Eligible Applicants:**

Other

## Other

Purpose Area 1: Limited to nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations (including tribal nonprofit

organizations) whose primary mission is specifically to provide services that meet the health, safety, and general welfare needs of American Indian and Alaska Native individuals who reside in urban areas.

Purpose Area 2: Limited to states, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, as determined by
the Secretary of the Interior, units of local government, nonprofit and for-profit organizations
(including tribal nonprofit and for-profit organizations), national organizations, and institutions of
higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education).

For purposes of this solicitation, "state" means any state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

OVC may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2022 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and on the availability of appropriations.

#### **Contact Information**

For technical assistance with submitting the Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL) in Grants.gov, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, Grants.gov Customer Support, or <a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a>. The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

For technical assistance with submitting the full application in DOJ's Justice Grants System (JustGrants), contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or <u>JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov</u>. The JustGrants Service Desk operates 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. eastern time Monday-Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and Federal holidays.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the OJP Response Center by telephone at 800-851-3420 or TTY: 301-240-6310 (hearing impaired only), or by email at <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a>. The OJP Response Center hours of operation are 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., eastern time Monday–Friday, and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on the solicitation closing date.

#### **Submission Information**

Applications will be submitted to DOJ in two steps:

<u>Step 1:</u> The applicant must submit by the Grants.gov deadline the required Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and a Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) form when they register in Grants.gov at <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</a>. To register in Grants.gov, the applicant will need to ensure that its System for Award Management (SAM) registration is current.

<u>Step 2</u>: The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants at <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u>. To be considered timely, the full application must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline. OJP encourages applicants to review the "How to Apply" section in the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> and the <u>JustGrants website</u> for more information, resources, and training.

## **Pre-Application Webinar**

OVC will conduct one pre-application webinar during which OVC staff will review the solicitation requirements and conduct a question and answer session with interested potential applicants. Participation is optional. The preapplication webinar will be held on **April 20, 2022 at 1pm, EDT**, further details and registration information will be available at https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/funding-webinars.

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## **Program Description**

#### Overview

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Office for Victims of Crime</u> (OVC) seeks applications for funding for the FY 2022 Project Beacon: Increasing Access to Services for Urban American Indian and Alaska Native Victims of Human Trafficking Program. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by increasing access to services for victims of crime and addressing inequities in access.

This solicitation incorporates the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants to prepare and submit applications to OJP for funding. If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.

This solicitation expressly modifies the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by not incorporating the "Disclosure of Process Related to Executive Compensation" provisions in the "Application Attachments" section.

#### **Statutory Authority**

Any awards under this solicitation will be made under statutory authority provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022.

#### **Specific Information**

Recent research on the incidence of sex trafficking among American Indian and Alaska Native populations has focused on the plight of Al/AN women and girls who are involved in sex trafficking in urban areas.[i] It is well documented that Al/AN women suffer crimes of violence against women at disproportionately higher rates than women of other racial groups.[ii] Al/AN women and girls are also more likely to have experienced high rates of poverty, involvement in the foster care system, prior sexual victimization (e.g., childhood sexual abuse, sexual assault as an adolescent or young adult), prior involvement in the juvenile or adult criminal justice systems, and substance use problems, all of which may put them at greater risk of being trafficked across their lifespan.[iii] Al/AN victims of sex trafficking may also be overrepresented as victims in human trafficking cases compared to their proportion of the general population in urban areas. For example, though only 2 percent of the population of Minneapolis, Minnesota, is Al/AN, the Minneapolis police department reported that there were Al/AN victims in more than 80 percent of the cases of human trafficking that they investigated between 2014 and 2016, and more than 85 percent of the victims in their human trafficking cases identified as Al/AN.[iv] Recent evidence also suggests that children and youth who have been trafficked before age 18 may be at greater risk for being victimized repeatedly (through trafficking and other sexual violence) in adulthood.[v]

Forced labor is a part of the history of treatment of Al/AN people in the Americas. It is estimated that between 2.5 to 5 million Native Americans were enslaved between 1492 and the start of the 20th century. [vi] While some Native people were trafficked by other Native Americans, European colonists in the Carolinas, for example, enslaved Native people and profited from their forced labor, while other colonists captured Native Americans and trafficked them to the Caribbean. [vii] Settlers in California relied on the forced labor of Indigenous people into the 19th century, and with the passage of the Indian Act of 1850, the state legislature authorized local authorities to arrest Native people for "vagrancy," and permitted their labor to be sold at auction for purposes of indentured servitude. The same law also allowed non-Native people to petition a justice of the peace to obtain the labor of Native children as indentured servants. [viii] While there is not much research available about the impact of labor trafficking on contemporary Al/AN populations, there is little reason to doubt that Al/AN people are likely to be victims of modern-day labor trafficking.

Labor trafficking, including debt bondage, forced labor, and involuntary child labor, can be found in a variety of industries including domestic work and janitorial services, agricultural and manufacturing jobs, food services, and other service-related industries. Labor trafficking can also take the form of forcing trafficked persons to beg or panhandle, or engage in illicit activities such as drug dealing. It can also intersect with sex trafficking. [ix] OVC is particularly interested in having recipients of FY 2022 Project Beacon grant awards assist in promoting awareness of labor trafficking among urban AI/AN communities and tribes, and in identifying and providing

services to AI/AN victims of labor trafficking.

OVC launched Project Beacon in FY 2016. In its inaugural year, the program provided funding to three organizations with expertise in meeting the health, safety, and welfare needs of urban Native communities to develop the capacity of these organizations to provide direct services to urban Al/AN victims of sex trafficking. In FY 2019, OVC expanded the program to include five direct services grantees and a comprehensive training and technical assistance (TTA) provider. While victims of labor trafficking have always been eligible for services under Project Beacon, OVC has changed the name of the program for FY 2022 to emphasize the need for Project Beacon grantees to be more proactive in raising awareness about labor trafficking and in helping to identify and serve victims of labor trafficking. This fiscal year, OVC will again make awards under two program purpose areas:

## **Program Purpose Area 1: Direct Services**

Eligible applicants may apply to this purpose area to request funding to develop or enhance their organizational capacity to provide services to urban Al/AN victims of human trafficking; develop and sustain collaborative partnerships; conduct community outreach and awareness activities; and provide training to other stakeholders on how to meet the needs of urban Al/AN victims of human trafficking. Applicants for this purpose area must demonstrate that they will provide services to the target population of Al/AN victims of human trafficking in an urban community.

## **Program Purpose Area 2: Training and Technical Assistance**

Eligible applicants may request funding to provide capacity-building training and technical assistance (TTA) to successful Purpose Area 1 grantees.

## **Comprehensive Services Model**

Purpose Area 1 applicants are not expected to have the capacity to fulfill all of the needs of Al/AN victims of human trafficking. Rather, OVC will provide recipients of Purpose Area 1 grant awards with the training and technical assistance necessary to develop a plan to meet the comprehensive needs of the victims they will serve through a coordinated, community-wide response that relies on collaborative partnerships and cross-referrals for services.

Purpose Area 2 applicants should familiarize themselves with the required services and collaborative partners for the Comprehensive Services Model (below), and be able to provide training and technical assistance to the Purpose Area 1 grantees. However, **Purpose Area 2 grantees are prohibited from providing direct services to victims with these funds**.

The Comprehensive Services Model includes four components: (1) collaborative partnerships, (2) a victim-centered approach to service delivery, (3) intensive case management services, and (4) specific required categories of victim services.

## (1) Collaborative Partnerships

A strong coordinated response to human trafficking requires collaborative partnerships with key community stakeholders. It should include, but is not limited to, the following potential community stakeholders.

- Federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and victim-witness coordinators.
- · Civil legal assistance providers.
- State and tribal child welfare and child protection services professionals.
- Tribal and nontribal domestic violence, homeless, and youth shelter programs and transitional housing programs.
- Tribal and nontribal mental health services providers, including drug- and alcohol-treatment programs.
- Federal, state, and local adult and youth detention facilities, halfway houses, and group homes.
- Educational services and job-training programs for adults and youth.

Purpose Area 1 award recipients who do not submit executed MOUs with key stakeholders as a part of their application for funding will be required to develop MOUs within 18 months post-award. OVC will provide these award recipients with technical assistance to develop and execute MOUs that outline the roles and responsibilities of each collaborative partner.

## (2) Victim-Centered Approach to Service Delivery

Additionally, under the Comprehensive Services Model, all Purpose Area 1 grantees will be required to develop programs that are holistic and victim centered. The following are key features of a victim-centered approach to providing direct services to victims of human trafficking:

- Adopting a trauma-informed approach to providing services.
- Creating individualized service plans to meet the needs of each victim.
- Educating victims about their options so they may make informed decisions about the support they need to overcome their victimization; address socioeconomic, psychological, and other issues that may have contributed to their victimization; and formulate and achieve personal goals.

## (3) Intensive Case Management Services

Intensive case management is a key component of the Comprehensive Services Model. The careful and consistent coordination of the delivery of services to victims across multiple systems ensures that the victim's holistic needs are met. Intensive case management also ensures that victims have the support necessary to make decisions about their lives, while they also work to address the impact of ongoing traumatic stress related to their victimization, as well as the investigation and prosecution of their trafficker(s).

Purpose Area 1 award recipients must develop a service delivery plan that provides access to case management services for all victims, regardless of where the victim resides (e.g., minor victims who reside in a group home, foster care placement, or with family; adults living on their own, in a residential substance abuse program, or an emergency shelter).

## (4) Required Comprehensive Victim Services

With training and technical assistance provided by the Purpose Area 2 award recipient, each Purpose Area 1 grantee will be required to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to deliver services to urban AI/AN victims of human trafficking, which includes, at a minimum, a plan to provide or refer victims to the following services:

- Intake and assessment of eligibility for services.
- Intensive case management, including assessment of client needs; development of individualized service plans; assessment of eligibility for other public or community-based services; assistance in accessing publicly funded programs; help with safety planning; assistance with completing crime victim compensation claims; information and referral services; documentation of services provided; and routine follow-up to ensure that the victim's needs are being met.
- Emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing (including group and independent living options), and food/sustenance resources.
- · Medical and dental care.
- Mental health counseling, including emergency or crisis services, clinical evaluation and assessments, substance abuse treatment, and individual or group counseling, as appropriate.
- Victim advocacy, including assisting victims with accessing information about crime victims' rights and services; communicating or coordinating with victim-witness professionals at federal agencies (e.g., Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States Attorneys' offices) and victim-witness professionals at state, local, or tribal law enforcement and prosecution agencies; communicating and coordinating services with victim advocates and other staff employed by tribal and nontribal domestic violence shelter programs and rape/sexual assault response centers and programs; communicating and coordinating services with local and tribal Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) programs and Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART). Specific tasks associated with advocating on behalf of victims of labor trafficking in these settings may include keeping the victim informed of the status of an investigation or prosecution; assisting a victim with completing an application for state crime victim compensation benefits; educating victims about the availability of sexual assault medical forensic exams; accompanying victims to court proceedings; and assisting victims with exercising their rights as crime victims under federal or state law.

- Literacy education, job training, and education and GED assistance that is culturally appropriate.
- Life skills training, including managing personal finances, self-care, parenting classes, and programs that help victims achieve self-sufficiency.
- Employment and transportation assistance.
- Assistance with accessing culturally specific services, including, but not limited to, traditional healing ceremonies.
- Access to a 24-hour crisis response to emergency calls from clients and law enforcement, including
  evenings and weekends (e.g., crisis hotline, rotating cell phone coverage, call-forwarding or
  answering service, or a protocol for responding to after-hours victim emergencies and emergency
  referrals).
- Civil legal assistance, to include assistance with screening clients to determine eligibility for services; legal information; explanation of legal rights/protections, including assistance in obtaining restitution and enforcing compliance with federal and state victims' rights laws; assistance with family law matters related to the trafficking victimization, including, but not limited to, protection orders, representation in family court proceedings, and petitions for the emancipation of minors; assistance with family reunification; referrals to pro bono attorneys; and counseling related to vacating or expunging a victim's nonviolent criminal conviction where allowed by law for victims of trafficking when the conviction was a direct result of being a trafficking victim.

Note: OVC funding may not be used for criminal defense services.

Successful Program Purpose Area 1 applicants will be required to create a post-award plan for the delivering comprehensive services to human trafficking victims.

## **Eligibility for Services**

Under this program, Purpose Area 1 grantees will serve Al/AN victims of human trafficking. These funds are not intended to be used to meet the needs of victims of other forms of violence (e.g., sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking), unless a victim experiences human trafficking victimization in addition to, or in the context of, another violent crime.

### **Activities That Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery**

The following activities have been found to jeopardize victim safety or deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, and may not be supported with funds from this program.

- The development and implementation of policies or procedures that: exclude victims from receiving safe shelter, advocacy services, counseling, and other assistance based on factors not related to victim safety; compromise the confidentiality of information and privacy of persons receiving OVCfunded services; impose requirements on victims in order to receive services (e.g., must receive counseling, must seek civil or criminal remedies); and/orfail to conduct safety planning with victims.
- The implementation of project designs and/or budget allocations that fail to account for the
  accessibility needs of individuals with disabilities and individuals who have limited English proficiency
  or are Deaf or hard of hearing.
- The establishment or enhancement of a multidisciplinary collaborative community response lacking
  the appropriate policies and procedures about victim confidentiality and information sharing for the
  partnering agencies.

Applications for funding that propose any of the policies, procedures, or practices identified above may be negatively evaluated during the OVC application review process, or may be removed from funding consideration. If the application is selected for funding, the applicant will be required to remove any of the policies, procedures, and practices that may compromise victim safety from its program narrative and/or budget worksheet and budget narrative before receiving access to its funding award.

## **Training and Public Awareness Activities**

Training and public awareness activities are integral to a community's response to human trafficking. Purpose

Area 1 applicants are required to conduct local trainings for project partners on how to meet the needs of Al/AN victims of human trafficking; conduct outreach and awareness activities and events that educate urban American Indians and Alaska Natives and other members of the local community, as well as tribes, about human trafficking and the services available through the grant-funded project; and provide project staff with professional development opportunities (including travel to attend local and national victim assistance or regional or national trafficking conferences). Purpose Area 1 grantees will be required to create a post-award public awareness and training plan.

Under this program, Purpose Area 1 applicants must allocate a minimum of 2 percent and no more than 5 percent of the total award amount requested to deliver training for collaborative partners and other professionals, conduct public awareness activities, and provide project staff with professional development opportunities.

## **Program Evaluation Activities**

Ongoing program evaluation is an important part of defining the success of a project. Purpose Area 1 applicants are required to develop a logic model to help them establish an iterative process to assess the effectiveness of their projects in meeting the specific goals and objectives identified in the approved proposal narrative. The logic model may be submitted as an attachment to the application for funding, or as a post-award deliverable. Additionally, Purpose Area 1 grantees will be required to develop and implement a post-award program evaluation plan outlining how the grantee will evaluate the effectiveness of the activities carried out with Project Beacon funds as part of the grant-funded project.

Purpose Area 1 applicants must budget a minimum of 2 percent, but no more than 5 percent, of the total award amount to support individual program evaluation activities.

## Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

#### Goals

The overarching goal of this program is to increase the quantity and quality of victim-centered services available to assist Al/AN victims of human trafficking in urban areas. This will be accomplished by developing the capacity of urban Indian centers to meet victims' needs by providing a comprehensive range of services either in-house or through referrals to a network of collaborative partners.

## **Objectives for Program Purpose Area 1: Direct Services**

By developing the capacity of urban Indian centers to provide services to AI/AN victims of human trafficking in urban areas, Project Beacon will increase the quantity and quality of services available to AI/AN victims of human trafficking. Purpose Area 1 award recipients will work toward achieving the following objectives:

- 1. Develop and implement a plan or strategy to provide the services described in the Comprehensive Services Model section, through (a) the recipient's provision of direct services to victims; (b) the formation of strategic collaborative partnerships with other community-based organizations and agencies that can meet the victims' needs; or (c) a combination of (a) and (b).
- 2. Work collaboratively with federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement; victim service providers; and community- and faith-based organizations and agencies to facilitate the identification and referral to services of Al/AN victims of human trafficking.
- 3. Participate in OVC-sponsored training and technical assistance to (a) build the recipient's organizational capacity to provide direct services to Al/AN victims of human trafficking through professional development training and education for organizational staff; (b) craft an effective public awareness and training plan; (c) develop and implement an effective awareness and training plan; and (d) develop and implement a plan to evaluate activities for the grantee's individual project.
- 4. Participate in data collection and program evaluation activities to assess whether the funded project is meeting its stated goals and objectives.

## Objectives for Purpose Area 2: Training and Technical Assistance

To develop Purpose Area 1 grantees' capacity to increase the quality and quantity of services available to Al/AN victims of human trafficking, the successful Purpose Area 2 applicant will work toward achieving the following objectives:

- 1. Provide guidance, training, technical assistance, and resources to Purpose Area 1 grantees that (a) educate grantees about the nature, dynamics, and unique needs of urban Al/AN victims of human trafficking; (b) help grantees develop and finalize required products; (c) develop the grantees' capacity to provide services to victims using OVC's Comprehensive Services Model; (d) aid grantees in implementing a plan to collect data required for the award program's performance measures, and to define their own program evaluation measurements to implement their program evaluation plan; (e) assist grantees in developing training curricula and resources sufficient to train other professionals on the needs of Al/AN victims of human trafficking; (f) advise grantees on how to develop and implement effective outreach strategies for victims of human trafficking; (g) support grantees in developing collaborative partnerships sufficient to satisfy the solicitation's requirements to provide victims with access to comprehensive services; and (h) help grantees in developing and finalizing all project deliverables, including a plan for comprehensive services, MOUs, and a logic model.
- 2. Provide onsite and remote TTA to grantees to support the activities outlined in 1 (a) to (h) above, including an annual 2-day meeting for Purpose Area 1 grantees.
- 3. Identify and link grantees with national, state, local, and tribal resources that can enhance their efforts to develop and deliver direct services to victims, training to collaborative partners and other service providers, and community outreach and awareness events to the target audience of urban Al/AN individuals.

The Purpose Area 2 award recipient of this solicitation will be expected to work closely in collaboration with OVC and other OVC human trafficking TTA providers and staff, as necessary and appropriate to achieve the goals and objectives of the Project Beacon Program.

#### **Deliverables**

## **Purpose Area 1: Direct Services Deliverables**

If a Purpose Area 1 applicant does not submit the deliverables below as attachments to their application for funding, they must send them to OVC for review and approval within 18 months following the grantee's receipt of an award:

- A plan for comprehensive services that illustrates how the grantee will provide each of the services listed in the Comprehensive Services Model section, either through the efforts of the proposed project staff, other grantee employees, consultants, or contractors, and/or through referrals to a network of collaborative partners.
- MOU(s) with the list of key collaborative partners identified in the solicitation. The MOU(s) must have an effective date that extends to, or after, September 30, 2024.
- A logic model that graphically illustrates how the project's goals, objectives, and activities are interrelated to address the problem stated in the "Description of the Issue" section of the proposal narrative.
- A plan for developing and delivering training and public awareness activities.
- A plan for developing and implementing a plan to evaluate program activities.

For up to the first 18 months of the award period, Purpose Area 1 grantees who did not submit the required deliverables as part of their application for funding, will have access only to one-third of the funding available under an award made under this program. Within this first 18 months, grantees must focus their program activities on developing and finalizing a

Comprehensive Services Model plan, a logic model, and MOUs with the grantee's collaborative partners. Once grantees have received OVC approval on the list of deliverables outlined above, OVC will release the remaining two-thirds of the award funds.

Purpose Area 1 grant recipients who are waiting for post-award approval for their required program deliverables cannot support direct services to victims with funding from their OVC award until after OVC has released the remaining two-thirds of the award funds. OVC recognizes that there may be emergency situations where no other resource is available to assist victims; in those instances, grantees may seek emergency authorization from OVC to provide direct services to a victim of human trafficking prior to receiving final approval from OVC on its required deliverables. OVC will evaluate such requests on a case-by-case basis.

## Purpose Area 2: Training and Technical Assistance Deliverables

The successful Purpose Area 2 applicant must submit the following deliverables to OVC for review and approval during the award period:

- Within 120 days of receipt of the award, an initial, written, individualized grantee TTA needs
  assessment and plan for the delivery of TTA for each Purpose Area 1 grantee. The needs
  assessment and service delivery plan must be updated and submitted to OVC within 90 days
  following the start of Federal Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024.
- Three annual 2-day grantee training meetings.
- One annual 2-day onsite individualized TTA visit with each Purpose Area 1 grantee.
- A minimum of six annual remote training opportunities (e.g., webinars, conference calls) for all Purpose Area 1 grantees.
- Quarterly conference calls with OVC staff and all TTA project staff, consultants, and contractors to discuss the status of the programs being developed and implemented by the Purpose Area 1 grantees throughout the award period.

The Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables are directly related to the performance measures that show the completed work's results as discussed in the Application and Submission Information section.

#### **Resource Coordination**

Proposals submitted under Purpose Area 1 should fill gaps in existing services. All applicants should determine if there is an existing federally funded trafficking victim service provider within their jurisdiction, and work to ensure that the new application does not duplicate services currently funded by OVC, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Office on Violence Against Women, or another federal office or agency.

If there is currently a federally funded trafficking victim service grantee within the same jurisdiction as the applicant's proposal, applicants must document (1) how the new proposal either supports different services than those already funded or provide strong justification for why additional funding is needed to fill gaps in services and (2) how these services will be coordinated within the geographic area.

Applicants must also include information about any other open award of federal and state funds (including programs supported by Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) state victim assistance funds) that are being or will be used, in whole or in part, for one or more of the identical cost items outlined in this application. Applicants with current OVC funding for services for victims of human trafficking must demonstrate how the new proposal fills gaps in services not previously addressed by the existing OVC grant.

The list of OVC-funded trafficking victim services grantees and the geographic regions they serve are listed on the OVC website at <a href="https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/humantrafficking/traffickingmatrix.html">https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/humantrafficking/traffickingmatrix.html</a>, and a list of some HHS-funded grantees is available at <a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/grants">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/grants</a>. Purpose Area 1 applications that fail to address resource coordination with other OVC and federally and state-funded similar grant programs in their proposal will be negatively scored and may receive a deduction in points during the review process.

With regard to services provided to individual clients, applicants must ensure that eligible victims served under this program are not concurrently served by other federally funded grants, contracts, or subawards issued to the applicant agency specifically for services for victims of human trafficking, such as awards funded by HHS or other federal sources. Services can be provided to a victim in the aftermath of victim identification: service providers should facilitate victims' access to other federal, state, or local programs for which they may be eligible, including

#### HHS-funded services.

The HHS Trafficking Victim Assistance Program (TVAP) funds case management services on a per capita basis for foreign national victims and those potentially seeking HHS certification. It is a valuable resource in communities where there are funding gaps due to the lack of federally funded victim service providers or significant spikes in caseloads. Applicants should plan on using OVC funds to provide services to foreign national trafficking clients regardless of HHS certification, and should not anticipate leveraging TVAP funds as a matter of course unless extraordinary circumstances arise. Grantees funded under this solicitation desiring to access TVAP funding due to such circumstances must contact their grant manager to discuss the need.

#### **Evidence-Based Programs or Practices**

OJP strongly encourages the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development for criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

## Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities

OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the programs and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide section entitled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

#### **Federal Award Information**

#### **Solicitation Categories**

Competition ID	Category *	Number of Awards	Dollar Amount for Award	Performance Start Date	Performance Duration (Months)
C-OVC-2022-00005-PROD	Purpose Area 1: Direct Services	8	\$475,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	36
C-OVC-2022-00006-PROD	Purpose Area 2: Training and Technical Assistance	1	\$550,000.00	10/1/22 12:00 AM	36

#### **Awards, Amounts and Durations**

Period of Performance Start Date 10/1/22 12:00 AM

Period of Performance Duration (Months)

Anticipated Total Amount to be Awarded Under Solicitation

\$4,350,000.00

## **Continuation Funding Intent**

OVC may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this solicitation through continuation awards. OJP will consider, among other factors, OJP's strategic priorities, a recipient's overall management of the award, and the award-funded work's progress, when making continuation award decisions.

## **Availability of Funds**

This solicitation, and awards (if any are made) under this solicitation, are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by the agency or by law. In addition, nothing in this solicitation is intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

#### **Types of Awards**

OVC expects to make awards under this solicitation as cooperative agreements, which provide for OJP to have substantial involvement in carrying out award activities. See the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

#### **Financial Management and System of Internal Controls**

Award recipients and subrecipients (including recipients or subrecipients that are pass-through entities) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

#### **Budget Information**

Funds awarded under this solicitation may be used only for purposes and activities consistent with the goals and objectives of this solicitation described for each Purpose Area and to provide, or facilitate, victim access to the list of comprehensive services identified in the "Specific Information" section.

#### Purpose Area 1

Purpose Area 1 applicants must include the following costs associated with the following activities in their budget worksheet and budget narrative:

<u>Travel</u>: Applicants must budget sufficient funds to pay for airfare, lodging, and per diem costs to send no more than two program staff members to Washington, D.C., for a 2-day Project Beacon grantee meeting in each year of the award period.

<u>Training and Public Awareness</u>: Applicants must budget a minimum of 2 percent and no more than 5 percent of the total award amount for costs associated with training collaborative partners and other professionals, conducting public awareness activities, and providing project staff with professional development opportunities.

<u>Program Evaluation</u>: Applicants are required to budget a minimum of 2 percent and no more than 5 percent of the total award amount for costs associated with program evaluation activities.

#### Purpose Area 2

Purpose Area 2 applicants must include the following costs associated with the following activities in their budget worksheet and budget narrative:

<u>Travel</u>: Applicants must budget sufficient funds to pay for airfare, lodging, and per diem costs to send at least two project staff and/or consultants to provide 2 days of onsite TTA to up to eight Purpose Area 1 grantees for each year of the award period.

<u>Meeting Costs</u>: Applicants must budget sufficient funds to pay for staff and consultant airfare, lodging, and per diem costs associated with planning and conducting an annual 2-day meeting (rental fees for meeting space, AV costs, meeting supplies, etc.) using Washington, D.C., as the destination, for Purpose Area 1 grantees in each year of the award period.

#### **Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement**

This solicitation does not require a match.

## Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award Costs)

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide information on Pre-agreement Costs (also known as Pre-award

Costs).

#### Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation: Waiver

See the <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u> information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

## Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs.

## Costs Associated with Language Assistance (if applicable)

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on Costs Associated with Language Assistance.

## **Eligibility Information**

For additional eligibility information, see the solicitation cover page.

To advance Executive Order 13929 Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Attorney General determined that all state, local, and university or college law enforcement agencies must be certified by an approved independent credentialing body or have started the certification process, to be eligible for FY 2022 DOJ discretionary grant funding. To become certified, the law enforcement agency must meet two mandatory conditions: (1) the agency's use-of-force policies adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and (2) the agency's use-of-force policies prohibit chokeholds except in situations where use of deadly force is allowed by law. The certification requirement also applies to law enforcement agencies receiving DOJ discretionary grant funding through a subaward. For detailed information on this certification requirement, please visit https://cops.usdoj.gov/SafePolicingEO to access the Standards for Certification on Safe Policing for Safe Communities, the Implementation Fact Sheet, and the List of Designated Independent Credentialing Bodies.

All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee.

For information on cost sharing or match requirements, see the "Federal Award Information" section.

### **Application and Submission Information**

The following application elements **must** be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- · Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative
- An organizational mission statement (Purpose Area 1 applicants only)

See the "Application Elements and Formatting Instructions" section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on what happens to an application that does not contain all the specified elements or is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation.

## Information to Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)

The SF-424 must be submitted in Grants.gov. It is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of pre-applications, applications, and related information. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information on completing the SF-424.

In Section 8F of the SF-424, please include the name and contact information of the individual **who will complete the application in JustGrants**. JustGrants will use this information *(email address)* to assign the application to this user in JustGrants.

**Intergovernmental Review:** This solicitation ("funding opportunity") **is not** subject to <u>Executive Order 12372</u>. (In completing the SF-424, an applicant is to answer question 19 by selecting the response that the "Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.")

#### Standard Applicant Information (JustGrants 424 and General Agency Information)

The Standard Applicant Information section of the JustGrants application is pre-populated with the SF-424 data submitted in Grants.gov. The applicant will need to review the Standard Applicant Information in JustGrants and make edits as needed. Within this section, the applicant will need to: add zip codes for areas affected by the project; confirm its Authorized Representative; and verify and confirm the organization's unique entity identifier, legal name, and address.

#### **Proposal Abstract**

A proposal abstract (no more than 400 words) summarizing the proposed project, including the purpose of the project, primary activities, expected outcomes, the service area, intended beneficiaries and subrecipients (if known), will be completed in the JustGrants web-based form. This abstract should be written in the third person and will be made publicly available on the OJP website if the project is awarded.

#### **Proposal Narrative**

The proposal narrative should be submitted as an attachment in JustGrants. The attached document should be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font; have no less than 1-inch margins; and should not exceed 25 pages. Pages should be numbered and submitted as an attachment. If the proposal narrative fails to comply with these length restrictions. OVC may consider such noncompliance in peer review and in final award decisions.

The following sections must be included as part of the proposal narrative:

## a. Description of the Issue

<u>Purpose Area 1</u>: Purpose Area 1 applicants must include the following as part of a detailed, written narrative description of the issue to be addressed by the proposed project:

- A description of the applicant's organizational history, mission, and current menu of services offered
  to American Indians and Alaska Natives. The applicant must submit a copy of its organizational
  mission statement as an attachment to the application and is encouraged to attach the biographies
  of the members of its board of directors to the application too.
- A description of other organizations and agencies in the proposed community to be served that are specifically dedicated to addressing the health, welfare, and safety needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives who reside in the area.
- A description of existing services for victims of human trafficking in the community to be served, including the identification of the unmet needs and gaps in services for Al/AN victims of human trafficking.
- An explanation of how the applicant will use funding from this program to address the current unmet needs of Al/AN victims of human trafficking in the community to be served, using a trauma-informed, victim-sensitive approach.

<u>Purpose Area 2</u>: Purpose Area 2 applicants must include the following as part of a detailed, written narrative description of the issue to be addressed:

- A general description of the health, safety, and general welfare needs of Al/ANs who reside in urban communities, and a description of the types of services, organizations, and agencies that are generally available to meet their needs.
- A description of the applicant organization's experience in providing TTA to organizations that serve urban American Indians and Alaska Natives.
  - A statement explaining the applicant's experience in providing TTA on how to identify and meet the

- needs of AI/AN victims of human trafficking.
- A description of the unmet TTA needs of organizations and agencies who are seeking to provide services to AI/AN victims of human trafficking.

#### b. Project Design and Implementation

Applicants for both purpose areas must include a coherent, concise, and comprehensive plan to develop and implement the proposed project in this section of their program narrative.

#### Purpose Area 1

- A detailed statement of the goals and objectives the applicant will complete during the 36-month award period. These goals and objectives must align with the overarching goal for Project Beacon, and objectives specific to the applicant's proposed purpose area as described in the solicitation.
- A description of the applicant's current capacity to provide the services required as part of the Comprehensive Services Model section.
- Identification of current or potential collaborative partners who have the organizational capacity to assist the applicant in providing the other services required as part of the Comprehensive Services Model section.
- A detailed, 36-month project timeline which details how the applicant will accomplish its stated goals and objectives (including the development of the post-award public awareness and training plan and program evaluation plan), and the name, title, and organization of the individual responsible for carrying-out the identified activities. The timeline should be submitted as a separate attachment. If the applicant has not attached the required Purpose Area 1 deliverables (MOUs, logic model, and plan for comprehensive services delivery) to the application, the development of these deliverables should be included in the proposed project timeline.

### Purpose Area 2

- Applicants should clearly articulate goals and objectives that illustrate how the proposed project will mirror the goals, objectives, and activities detailed for Purpose Area 2 in the solicitation.
- Applicants must submit a detailed, 36-month project timeline which details how the applicant will
  accomplish its stated goals and objectives during the award period and complete each of the
  required deliverables for this purpose area outlined in the solicitation; include the name, title, and
  organization of the individuals responsible for carrying out the identified activities. The timeline
  should be submitted as a separate attachment.
- Applicants should explain how the proposed project will increase the capacity of Purpose Area 1
  grantees to provide comprehensive, culturally appropriate, trauma-informed, victim-sensitive,
  services to urban AI/AN victims of human trafficking.

## c. Capabilities and Competencies

Applicants must successfully demonstrate their knowledge of and expertise in meeting the health, safety, and general welfare needs of members of urban AI/AN populations.

Purpose Area 1 applicants should provide the following information in this section:

A detailed description of the experience of key personnel (employees, independent consultants, and/or staff of subcontractors or subrecipients) in providing services to meet the health, safety, and general welfare needs of members of urban Al/AN populations, including any relevant experience in providing services to victims of human trafficking (if applicable). Applicants should attach resumes and position for key personnel as attachments. If the applicant is proposing to create a new position (s) to staff the proposed project, the applicant should attach a proposed job description for the new position that would be created with grant funds.

- If the applicant has no prior experience in providing services to victims of human trafficking, the applicant should describe a prior experience in using grant funding to increase its organizational capacity to address an unmet need of its service population.
- A description of the roles/responsibilities assigned to key personnel who will be responsible for developing and implementing the proposed project.
- A description of the organizational structure of the applicant, including who will supervise the work of key personnel.
- A description of the organization's current/prior experience with managing federal grant awards, including a description of the organization's administrative capacity to comply with federal award requirements and successfully account for federal award funds.

Purpose Area 2 applicants should describe the following information in this section:

- Their previous work providing capacity-building TTA to organizations that provide services to urban AI/ANs, including the purpose and goals of the TTA and the outcomes of the efforts.
- The experience of its proposed key personnel (employees, independent consultants, and/or staff of subcontractors or subrecipients) in providing direct services, and/or providing TTA to individuals and organizations on how to meet the needs of Al/AN victims of human trafficking, including vulnerable sub-populations of LGBTQIA/Two-Spirit individuals, and youth victims.
- Key personnel who will be responsible for developing and implementing the proposed project (attach
  resumes and position descriptions for these individuals). Applicants should attach a position
  description for any new position(s) that will be created to develop and implement the proposed
  project.
- The relevant education, training, and experience its proposed key personnel have with designing program evaluation activities and analyzing program evaluation data; designing and executing a media strategy and community awareness and outreach plan; understanding and explaining federal confidentiality and privacy laws, regulations, and rules; and developing collaborative partnerships and fostering cooperation among members of a multidisciplinary team.
- Their organizational capacity to comply with the administrative requirements of federal grant awards and successfully account for federal award funds.
- d. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures

OVC will use the performance measurement data collected and reported by Project Beacon grantees to assess the overall effectiveness of the program. Applicants for both purpose areas should use this section to:

- Identify by name/position title who will be responsible for collecting and reporting the required performance measurements for their purpose area, as outlined in this solicitation.
- Explain how the data will be stored (digitally, software application, information database, or hard copy files) and who will have access to it.
- Explain whether the data collected to satisfy this solicitation's reporting requirements will be used for some other purpose (e.g., program planning, individual project evaluation activities, to satisfy the performance measurement reporting requirements for another funding source).

**Note**: Applicants are **not** required to submit performance data with the application. Rather, performance measure information is included as an alert that successful applicants will be required to submit performance data as part of each award's reporting requirements.

OJP will require each successful applicant to submit regular performance data that show the completed work's results. The performance data must directly relate to the goals, objectives, and deliverables identified in the "Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables" section.

Applicants can visit OJP's performance measurement page at <a href="www.ojp.gov/performance">www.ojp.gov/performance</a> for an overview of performance measurement activities at OJP.

OVC will require award recipients to submit performance measure data and a semiannual performance report in JustGrants. Examples of the performance measures questionnaires and resources can be found at <a href="https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures">https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures</a>. OVC will provide further guidance on the post-award submission process, if selected for award.

## **Note on Project Evaluations**

An applicant that proposes to use award funds through this solicitation to conduct project evaluations must follow the guidance in the "Note on Project Evaluations" section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide

#### Goals, Objectives, Deliverables, and Timeline

The applicant will submit its project's goals, objectives, deliverables, and timelines in the JustGrants web-based form.

#### **Budget and Associated Documentation**

#### **Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (attachment)**

Applicants will attach a budget worksheet and budget narrative in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

## Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)

The applicant will submit its indirect cost rate agreement by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

#### **Employee Compensation Waiver**

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on the Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver.

## Financial Management Questionnaire (including applicant disclosure of high-risk status)

The applicant will download the questionnaire, complete it, and submit it by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for the link to the questionnaire and additional information.

## **Additional Application Components**

## Purpose Area 1 Only: Organizational Mission Statement (Mandatory)

Purpose Area 1 applicants are required to submit a copy of their organizational mission statement to illustrate that their primary mission is to meet the health, safety, and general welfare needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives.

## Purpose Area 1 Only: Biographies of Board Members (Optional)

In addition to attaching a mandatory organizational mission statement, Purpose Area 1 applicants are strongly encouraged to attach a narrative biographical sketch of the members of their board of directors.

## Purpose Area 1 Only: MOUs, Logic Model, Plan for Comprehensive Services (Optional)

Purpose Area 1 applicants who have already executed MOUs with collaborative partners, created a logic model, and created a plan to deliver each of the comprehensive services identified in the Comprehensive Services Model section, should attach these documents to the application for funding. Applicants who have not yet developed these deliverables will have 18 months to develop them post-award.

## Purpose Areas 1 and 2: Position Descriptions and Resumes (Optional)

Applicants to both purpose areas are strongly encouraged to submit resumes and position descriptions for key personnel (employees, independent consultants, and staff from subcontractor or subrecipient organizations).

#### Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity Statement

If an application proposes research (including research and development) and/or evaluation, the applicant must demonstrate research/evaluation independence and integrity, including appropriate safeguards, before it may receive award funds. The applicant will submit documentation of its research and evaluation independence and integrity by uploading it as an attachment in JustGrants. For additional information, see the <a href="OJP Grant">OJP Grant</a> Application Resource Guide.

#### **Disclosures and Assurances**

The applicant will address the following disclosures and assurances.

#### **Disclosure of Lobbying Activities**

Complete and submit the SF-LLL in Grants.gov. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

#### **DOJ Certified Standard Assurances**

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Standard Assurances in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

#### **Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items**

Complete the JustGrants web-based Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items form. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

# DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements

Review and accept the DOJ Certified Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Law Enforcement and Community Policing in JustGrants. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

## Applicant Disclosure and Justification - DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable)

If applicable, submit the DOJ High Risk Disclosure and Justification as an attachment in JustGrants. A DOJ High Risk Grantee is an award recipient that has received a DOJ High Risk designation based on a documented history of unsatisfactory performance, financial instability, management system or other internal control deficiencies, or noncompliance with award terms and conditions on prior awards, or that is otherwise not responsible. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

## **How to Apply**

Step 1: The applicant must submit the **SF-424** and **SF-LLL** in Grants.gov at https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html.

Step 2: The applicant must then submit the **full application**, including attachments, in JustGrants in <u>JustGrants.usdoj.gov</u>.

For additional information, see the "How to Apply" section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide and the DOJ Application Submission Checklist.

#### **Submission Dates and Time**

The SF-424 and the SF-LLL must be submitted in Grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. eastern time on May 31, 2022.

The **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by 8:59 p.m. eastern time on June 6, 2022.

OJP urges applicants to submit their Grants.gov and JustGrants submissions prior to the due dates to allow sufficient time to correct errors and resubmit by the submission deadlines if a rejection notification is received. To be considered timely, the **full application** must be submitted in JustGrants by the JustGrants application deadline.

## **Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues**

An applicant that experiences unforeseen SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants technical issues beyond its control that prevent application submission by the deadline, must demonstrate all efforts in requesting technical support in order to submit an application by the deadline. Technical support is available via phone and email to the applicable SAM.gov, Grants.gov, or JustGrants support centers or service desks in which an applicant received a ticket number for resolution. If an applicant misses a deadline due to unforeseen technical difficulties, the applicant may request a waiver to submit an application after the deadline. *Note: If an applicant does not submit all the required Grants.gov forms by the Grants.gov deadline, the applicant will not be able to proceed to the JustGrants portion of the application process.* 

An applicant experiencing technical difficulties with the following systems must contact the associated support desk indicated below to report the technical issue and receive a tracking number:

- Grants.gov contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline
- SAM.gov contact the SAM Help Desk (Federal Service Desk)
- JustGrants contact the JustGrants Support Desk at JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov or 833–872–5175

An applicant requesting a waiver to submit a late application must document their request for technical assistance in an email to the OJP Response Center at <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a>] within 24 hours after the application deadline to request approval to submit its application after the deadline. If an applicant has technical issues with Grants.gov, the applicant must contact the OJP Response Center within 24 hours of the Grants.gov deadline to request approval to submit after the deadline. However, waiver requests will not be reviewed until after the JustGrants deadline to allow time for all waivers to be submitted. Waiver requests to submit after the submission deadline must:

- Describe the technical difficulties experienced;
- Include a timeline of the applicant's submission efforts (e.g., what date and time did the error occur, what
  date and time was action taken to resolve the issue and resubmit; and what date and time did support
  representatives respond)
- Include an attachment(s) of the complete grant application and all required documentation and material; and
- Include the applicant's Unique Entity Identifier, any applicable SAM.gov tracking number(s), and Grants.gov Help Desk and JustGrants Support Desk Ticket Numbers.

OJP will review each request for late submission and required supporting documentation and notify the applicant whether the request has been approved or denied. For more details on the waiver process, OJP encourages applicants to review the "Experiencing Unforeseen Technical Issues" section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

## **Application Review Information**

## **Review Criteria**

#### a. Merit Review Criteria

Applications that meet the basic minimum requirements for both purpose areas will be evaluated by peer reviewers on how the proposed project/program addresses the following criteria:

- 1. Description of the Issue (15%) evaluate the applicant's understanding of the program/issue to be addressed.
- 2. Project Design and Implementation (35%) evaluate the adequacy of the proposal, including the goals, objectives, timelines, milestones, and deliverables.
- 3. Capabilities and Competencies (30%) evaluate the administrative and technical capacity of the applicant to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives.
- 4. Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation's Performance Measures (5%) evaluate the applicant's understanding of the performance data reporting requirements and the plan for collecting the required data.
- 5. Budget (15%) evaluate for completeness, cost effectiveness, and allowability (e.g., reasonable, allocable, and necessary for project activities).

#### b. Other Review Criteria/Factors

Other important considerations for OVC include geographic diversity, strategic priorities available funding, past performance, and the extent to which the Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative (web-based form) accurately explain project costs that are reasonable, necessary, and otherwise allowable under federal law and applicable federal cost principles.

#### **Review Process**

Applications submitted under this solicitation that meet the basic minimum requirements, will be evaluated for technical merit by a peer review panel(s) in accordance with OJP peer review policy and procedures using the review criteria listed above.

OJP screens applications to ensure they meet the basic minimum requirements prior to conducting the peer review. Although specific requirements may vary, the following are common requirements applicable to all OJP solicitations:

- The application must be submitted by an eligible type of applicant.
- The application must request funding within programmatic funding constraints (if applicable).
- The application must be responsive to the scope of the solicitation.
- The application must include all items necessary to meet the basic minimum requirements.

Pursuant to the Part 200 Uniform Requirements, before award decisions are made, OJP also reviews information related to the degree of risk posed by the applicant. Among other things to help assess whether an applicant with one or more prior federal awards has a satisfactory record with respect to performance, integrity, and business ethics, OJP checks whether the applicant is listed in SAM as excluded from receiving a federal award.

In addition, if OJP anticipates that an award will exceed \$250,000 in federal funds, OJP also must review and consider any information about the applicant that appears in the non-public segment of the integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently, the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System, FAPIIS).

**Important note on FAPIIS:** An applicant, may review and comment on any information about itself that currently appears in FAPIIS and was entered by a federal awarding agency. OJP will consider such comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in FAPIIS, in its assessment of the risk posed by the applicant.

Absent explicit statutory authorization or written delegation of authority to the contrary, all final award decisions will be made by the Assistant Attorney General, who may consider not only peer review ratings and OVC recommendations, but also other factors as indicated in this section.

## **Federal Award Administration Information**

**Federal Award Notices** 

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on award notifications and instructions.

## Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations, including the applicable requirements referred to in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance. For additional information on these legal requirements, see the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

## Information Technology (IT) Security Clauses

An application in response to this solicitation may require inclusion of information related to information technology security. See the <a href="OJP Grant Application Resource Guide">OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</a> for information on information technology security.

## **General Information about Post-Federal Award Reporting Requirements**

In addition to the deliverables described in the "Program Description" section, all award recipients under this solicitation will be required to submit certain reports and data.

<u>Required reports</u>. Award recipients typically must submit quarterly financial reports, semiannual performance reports, final financial and performance reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the Part 200 Uniform Requirements or specific award conditions. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent. (In appropriate cases, OJP may require additional reports.)

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information on specific post-award reporting requirements, including performance measure data.

### Federal Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For OJP contact(s), see the solicitation cover page.

For contact information for Grants.gov, see the solicitation cover page.

For contact information for JustGrants, see the solicitation cover page.

#### Other Information

## Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a)

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552 and 5 U.S.C. 552a).

#### Provide Feedback to OJP

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on how to provide feedback to OJP.

#### **Performance Measures**

Award recipients will be required to submit performance measure data and performance reports in JustGrants. Examples of the performance measures questionnaires and resources can be found at <a href="https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures">https://ovc.ojp.gov/funding/performance-measures</a>.

### **Application Checklist**

OVC FY 2022 Project Beacon: Increasing Access to Services for

## Urban American Indian and Alaska Native Victims of Human Trafficking

This application checklist has been created as an aid in developing an application. The <u>DOJ Application</u> Submission Checklist is another resource.

## What an Applicant Must Do:

Prior to registering in Grants.gov:

Confirm your Entity's <u>System Award Management (SAM)</u> Registration Information (see <u>OJP Grant Application Resource Guide</u>)

## To register in Grants.gov:

- Acquire an AOR and a Grants.gov username and password (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Acquire AOR confirmation from the E-Business Point of Contact (E-Biz POC) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

## To find the funding opportunity:

- Search for the funding opportunity in Grants.gov using the opportunity number, Assistance Listing or keyword(s)
- Select the correct Competition ID
- Access the funding opportunity and application package (see Step 7 in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Sign up for Grants.gov email notifications (optional) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Read <u>Important Notice</u>: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov
- Read OJP policy and guidance on conference approval, planning, and reporting available at ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/PostawardRequirements/chapter3.10a.htm (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide

## **Overview of Post-Award Legal Requirements:**

 Review the "Overview of Legal Requirements Generally Applicable to OJP Grants and Cooperative Agreements - FY 2022 Awards" in the OJP Funding Resource Center.

## **Review Scope Requirement:**

 The federal amount requested is within the allowable limit(s) of Purpose Area 1: \$475,000; Purpose Area 2: \$550,000

## **Review Eligibility Requirement:**

Purpose Area 1: Limited to nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations (including tribal nonprofit organizations) whose primary mission is specifically to provide services that meet the health, safety, and general welfare needs of American Indian and Alaska Native individuals who reside in urban areas.

Purpose Area 2: Limited to states, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, units of local government, nonprofit and for-profit organizations (including tribal nonprofit and for-profit organizations), national organizations, and institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education.

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## Prepare to submit the Application for Federal Assistance standard form (SF)-424 and Disclosure of Lobbying Activities form (SF-LLL)

- Review Information to complete the Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) in Grants.gov
- Complete Standard Applicant Information (SF-424 information from Grants.gov)
- Submit the SF-424 and SF-LLL in Grants.gov

After the SF-424 and SF-LLL submission in Grants.gov, receive Grants.gov email notifications that:

- Submission has been received in Grants.gov
- Submission has either been successfully validated or rejected with errors (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

If no Grants.gov receipt and validation, or error notifications are received:

 Contact Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800-518-4726, 606-545-5035, Grants.gov customer support, or support@grants.gov regarding technical difficulties (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

Receive email notification to complete application in JustGrants:

Proceed to complete application in JustGrants

## **Content of Application Submission: Critical Application Elements**

The following items are critical application elements required to pass the basic minimum requirements review. If OJP determines that an application does not include the following elements, it will neither proceed to peer review, nor receive further consideration.

- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Worksheet and Budget Narrative
- Purpose Area 1 Only: Organizational Mission Statement

## **Budget and Associated Documentation:**

- Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Financial Management and System of Internal Controls Questionnaire (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide

## **Additional Application Components:**

- Purpose Area 1 Only: Organizational Mission Statement (Mandatory)
- Biographies of members of board of directors (Optional)
- MOUs, Logic Model, and Plan for Comprehensive Services (Optional)
- Both Purpose Areas: Resumes and position descriptions (Optional)
  - Research and Evaluation Independence and Integrity (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
  - Request and Justification for Employee Compensation; Waiver (if applicable) (see OJP Grant **Application Resource Guide)**

## **Disclosures and Assurances:**

- Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
   Applicant Disclosure of Duplication in Cost Items (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certified Standard Assurances (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- DOJ Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)
- Applicant Disclosure and Justification DOJ High Risk Grantees (if applicable) (see OJP Grant Application Resource Guide)

## Submit application in JustGrants:

Application has been successfully submitted in JustGrants

If no JustGrants application submission, validation, or error notifications are received:

 Contact the JustGrants Service Desk at 833-872-5175 or JustGrants.Support@usdoj.gov regarding technical difficulties.

#### **Endnotes**

[i] For purposes of this solicitation, "American Indian and Alaska Native" refers to an individual who is an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe (25 U.S.C. § 479), "human trafficking" refers to both sex trafficking "... in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age," and labor trafficking involving, "the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery (22 U.S.C. §7102(11)(A)-(B)), and the definition of "urban area" is consistent with the U.S. Census Bureau's definition of "urbanized area," which refers to an area with a total population of "50,000 or more people" (https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/geography/guidance/geo-areas/urban-rural.html).

[ii] Rosay, André B. (2016). Violence Against American Indian and Alaska Native Women and Men: 2010 Findings From the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice. NCJ 249736. Available at: <a href="https://scholarworks.alaska.edu/handle/11122/7025">https://scholarworks.alaska.edu/handle/11122/7025</a>.

[iii] Shanley, E., & Jordan, R. (2017). Sex trafficking in Indian country. In *Human trafficking is a public health issue* (pp. 123-140). Springer, Cham.

[iv] United States Government Accountability Office. (July 2017). Human Trafficking: Information on Cases in Indian Country or that Involved Native Americans. GAO-17-624. Available at: https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-17-624.

v In a 2018 study, researchers collected data and conducted semi-structured interviews with women and girls who had been trafficked on the islands of Oahu and Hawaii, and found that 82 percent of respondents reported having been trafficked before the age of 18

[vi] Andrés Reséndez. (2021). *Perspective: The Other Slavery*. Smithsonian Institution. Available at: <a href="https://americanindian.si.edu/sites/1/files/pdf/seminars-symposia/the-other-slavery-perspective.pdf">https://americanindian.si.edu/sites/1/files/pdf/seminars-symposia/the-other-slavery-perspective.pdf</a>.

[vii] Ibid.

[viii] Ibid.

[ix] Office on Trafficking in Persons, "Fact Sheet: Labor Trafficking." Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Child and Family Services. Available at: <a href="https://www.acf.hhs.gov/archive/otip/fact-sheet/fact-sheet-labor-trafficking-english">https://www.acf.hhs.gov/archive/otip/fact-sheet/fact-sheet-labor-trafficking-english</a>.