## **IL Annual State Performance Report**

## Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

Reporting Period: [Oct 1, 2021 to Sept 30, 2022]

This aggregated data is self-reported by the grantees and subgrantees in each state/territory.

OVC VOCA Assistance Funds					
	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00624-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00740-ASSI
Federal Award Amount	\$128,771,417.00	\$86,235,200.00	\$63,167,824.00	\$38,824,602.00	\$53,660,957.00
Total Amount of Subawards	\$115,613,447.00	\$76,522,362.00	\$56,153,391.00	\$9,702,013.00	\$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	129	101	29	23	0
Administrative Funds Amount	\$6,438,570.00	\$4,311,760.00	\$3,158,391.00	\$1,941,230.00	\$2,683,047.00
Training Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance Remaining	\$6,719,400.00	\$5,401,078.00	\$3,856,042.00	\$27,181,359.00	\$50,977,910.00

Type of Organization	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00624-ASSI	
Government Agencies Only	42	23	5	14	
Corrections	0	0	0	0	(
Courts	4	1	1	0	(
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0	(
Law Enforcement	3	4	0	5	
Prosecutor	14	11	1	9	
Other	21	7	3	0	
Nonprofit Organization Only	85	77	24	9	
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	16	12	9	2	(
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	3	2	2	0	
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	12	19	2	1	
Faith-based Organization	3	3	1	0	
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	7	5	1	0	
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	2	3	2	0	
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0	(
Multiservice agency	19	14	3	4	
Other	23	19	4	2	
Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only	1	0	0	0	
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0	
Court	0	0	0	0	
Domestic and Family Violence organization	1	0	0	0	
Faith-based organization	0	0	0	0	
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0	
Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0	
Organization provides domestic and family violence and sexual assault services	0	0	0	0	
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0	
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0	

Page 1 of 8 Last Modified Date: 05/08/2023

Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	0	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	0	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Campus Organizations Only	1	1	0	0	0
Campus-based victims services	0	0	0	0	0
Law enforcement	0	0	0	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	0	0	0
Other	1	1	0	0	0
Total Number of Subawards	129	101	29	23	0

<sup>\*</sup>This number is not unique across fiscal years as there are subgrantee organizations that are funded from multiple federal awards

Subaward Purpose A single SAR can select multiple purposes. Numbers are not unique								
	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00624-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00740-ASSI			
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	96	65	29	23	0			
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	14	22	4	3	0			
C. Start up a new victim services project	24	22	0	0	0			
D. Start up a new Native American victim services project	0	0	0	0	0			
E. Expand or enhance an existing <b>Native American</b> project	0	0	0	0	0			

VOCA and Match Funds A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are to	not unique				
	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00624-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00740-ASSI
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	91	91	28	23	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	85	86	25	23	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	79	87	22	22	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	58	52	14	12	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	85	77	20	20	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	104	101	29	23	0

Priority and Underserved Re	equirements				
Priority Area	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00624-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00740-ASSI
Child Abuse					
Total Amount	\$20,677,074.00	\$11,033,625.00	\$4,170,429.00	\$2,202,166.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	16.00 %	13.00 %	7.00 %	6.00 %	
Domestic and Family Violence	ee				
Total Amount	\$49,206,930.00	\$35,602,935.00	\$25,399,329.00	\$1,535,995.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	38.00 %	41.00 %	40.00 %	4.00 %	
Sexual Assault					
Total Amount	\$23,006,378.00	\$15,573,679.00	\$18,184,475.00	\$513,483.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	18.00 %	18.00 %	29.00 %	1.00 %	
Underserved					
Total Amount	\$22,684,403.00	\$14,181,649.00	\$8,399,158.00	\$5,450,066.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	18.00 %	16.00 %	13.00 %	14.00 %	

Budget and Staffing					
Staffing Information	2018-V2-GX-0070	2019-V2-GX-0024	2020-V2-GX-0017	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00624-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00740-ASSI

Page 2 of 8 Last Modified Date: 05/08/2023

Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	2687	2446	930	390	
Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	2948133	2314425	859164	538723	
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	5044	2064	2506	153	
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	358184	260788	157134	18199	

### AGGREGATED SUBGRANTEE PERFORMANCE MEASURE DATA

Victimization Type							
No. of the Control of	Number of Subgrantees Indicating Intent	Number of Individuals Who Actually Received Services Based on a Presenting Victimization					
Victimization Type	to Serve This Victim Type	Quarter 1 Total	Quarter 2 Total	Quarter 3 Total	Quarter 4 Total	Per Quarter Average	
Adult Physical Assault (includes Aggravated and Simple Assault)	72	3858	3751	4164	4354	4031	
Adult Sexual Assault	86	4307	4164	4280	4450	4300	
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	54	1509	1469	1680	1610	1567	
Arson	38	56	36	75	117	71	
Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	57	877	756	1516	732	970	
Burglary	44	630	625	712	697	666	
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	92	6660	6319	7239	4914	6283	
Child Pornography	49	163	157	174	72	141	
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	84	10590	11463	9829	5104	9246	
Domestic and/or Family Violence	134	27657	27495	29389	33047	29397	
DUI/DWI Incidents	45	767	807	1671	810	1013	
Elder Abuse or Neglect	47	268	289	255	201	253	
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	52	132	138	133	179	145	
Human Trafficking: Labor	49	26	22	49	38	33	
Human Trafficking: Sex	66	138	99	247	109	148	
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	40	278	390	435	507	402	
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	43	87	84	71	142	96	
Kidnapping (custodial)	43	39	31	40	36	36	
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	28	28	60	87	130	76	
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	36	355	615	663	598	557	
Robbery	51	761	903	963	1031	914	
Stalking/Harassment	71	5837	5572	6266	6319	5998	
Survivors of Homicide Victims	66	2299	3330	3297	4897	3455	
Teen Dating Victimization	48	79	104	124	81	97	
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	23	2	4	45	15	16	
Other	30	6857	6425	8891	4657	6707	

Special Classifications of Individuals								
Special Classifications of Individuals		Number of Individuals Self Reporting a Special Classification						
Special Classifications of Harviduals	Quarter 1 Total	Quarter 2 Total	Quarter 3 Total	Quarter 4 Total	Per Quarter Average			
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	208	197	240	223	1073			
Homeless	685	582	721	604	3202			
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	1351	1290	1661	1460	6121			
LGBTQ	1452	1507	1618	1499	6217			
Veterans	260	283	224	271	1381			
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	2235	2054	2486	1990	11547			
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	4339	4393	4863	4299	22901			

Page 3 of 8 Last Modified Date: 05/08/2023

Other | 60 | 229 | 287 | 427 | 1396 |

General Award Information		
Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	248020	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	26728	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	124173	50.07 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	53929	21.74 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	43092	

Demographics		
Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
Race/Ethinicity		
American Indian or Alaska Native	386	0.31 %
Asian	1766	1.42 %
Black or African American	33292	26.81 %
Hispanic or Latino	22316	17.97 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	177	0.14 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	43774	35.25 %
Some Other Race	628	0.51 %
Multiple Races	2339	1.88 %
Not Reported	18394	14.81 %
Not Tracked	1101	0.89 %
Race/Ethnicity Total	124173	
Gender Identity		
Male	23521	18.94 %
Female	86602	69.74 %
Other	2162	1.74 %
Not Reported	11016	8.87 %
Not Tracked	872	0.70 %
Gender Total	124173	
Age		
Age 0-12	17426	14.03 %
Age 13- 17	11241	9.05 %
Age 18- 24	12365	9.96 %
Age 25- 59	57830	46.57 %
Age 60 and Older	5036	4.06 %
Not Reported	17974	14.47 %
Not Tracked	2301	1.85 %
Age Total	124173	

Direct Services								
Service Area	# of Subgrantees That Provided Services in This Category	# of Individuals/Contacts Receiving Services	Specific Service	Frequency of Service				
A. Information & Referral	140	123519	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0				
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	115957				
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	100312				
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	39618				
			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	39223				
			Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0				
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	6226				
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	1274				
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	3181				
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	197774				

B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	132	87839	B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	6231
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	1740
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	30053
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	6093
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	18915
			B10. Interpreter services	6872
			Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	70760
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	136170
C. Emotional Support or			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	3719
Safety Services	133	138535	C4. Individual counseling	215255
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	18403
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	23961
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	2735
	88	5275	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
D. Shelter/ Housing Services			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	2153
			D2. Transitional housing	29182
			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	3798
	110	127344	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	90011
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	3083
			E3. Assistance with restitution	2408
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	17262
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	21388
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	58900
			E7. Immigration assistance	4683
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	9870
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	1966
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	86902
			E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel	8055

### ANNUAL QUESTIONS

Grantee Annually Reported Questions					
Question/Option	Count				
Were any administrative and training funds used during the reporting period?					
Yes	1				
No	0				
Did the administrative funds support any education activities during the reporting period?					
Yes	0				
No	1				
Number of requests received for education activities during the reporting period.					
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.					
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.					
Did the grant support any coordination activities (e.g., with other service providers, law enforcement agencies) during the reporting period?					
Yes	0				
No	1				
Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.					
N/A					
Describe any planning or training events held during the reporting period.					

Page 5 of 8 Last Modified Date: 05/08/2023

ICJIA began developing the 2022-2025 Victim Service Plan in January 2022 by convening a Victim Services Ad Hoc Committee (VSAHC) and presenting them with research and data that informed them of ICJIA s efforts to address the 2017-2021 plan s funding priority areas. Members also received information on emerging areas of need. The VSAHC was comprised of 28 state and community stakeholders, including state agency representatives, community agency representatives for victim services, and individuals representing courts, law enforcement, prosecution, and related disciplines. The committee provided input and feedback to inform development and/or improvement of priority areas. In March 2022, ICJIA reconvened the VSAHC to present a summarization of member feedback collected during the January breakout sessions. Committee members then considered and voted on recommended new funding priority areas. The recommended priority areas approved by the VSAHC will be presented to the ICJIA Board for consideration and approval on December 15, 2022. Using these priorities, staff drafted a set of program recommendations and funding amounts based on anticipated awards for the next three years.

Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.

N/A

Describe any earned media coverage events/episodes during the reporting period.

N/A

Describe any coordinated responses/services for assisting crime victims during the reporting period.

N/A

#### Please discuss the major issues in your state that either assist or prevent victims from receiving assistance during the reporting period.

Several major issues prevented victims from receiving assistance in Illinois: Service Issues Lengthy waitlists for mental health service, sometimes as long as 10 months, with 380 children waiting for services. Little access to long-term mental health facilities and medication management for treatment (PTSD, anxiety disorders). The mass shooting event in Highland Park stretched county, state, and community resources. This event highlighted the need for services to survivors and gaps in resources. One of the most significant challenges has been the sheer volume of children in protective care, which has grown by more than 50% in the last three years. This has been difficult on the staff to try to manage the caseload and provide appropriate services for all the children. The pandemic put strain on community services used by survivors seeking assistance at rape crisis centers. Transportation closures created a service barrier. Rape crisis centers used increased internal resources to meet survivors emergency transportation needs. Technology Issues Technology needs have increased. Many are in need of Wi-Fi or hotspots to access information and Zoom for court and counseling. Legal / Law Enforcement Issues A lack of consistent protective order enforcement by local law enforcement has left survivors vulnerable. Service providers assist victims in filing motions to enforce protective order violations, but their ability to do so is contingent on staff resources. Law enforcement s failure to enforce protective orders places many victims at risk of further abuse. A lack of consistent prosecutorial practices for sexual assault and prosecuting sexual assault in a timely and efficient manner are barriers to justice for many survivors. A number of victims of sex-based crimes are regularly faced with disbelief by law enforcement or even an outright denial of the seriousness of the crime. When a victim reports a crime that may count as a felony, the review process becomes exhausting and re-traumatizing for the victim. Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE), detectives and prosecutors all ask the same questions that were first asked by the responding police officer. This review of the victim's experience (repeatedly being asked the same questions), causes the victim to continuously relive the trauma. Victims have told their advocates, This is why I never called the police before, and, If I knew this was the process, I wouldn't have done this. Lengthy virtual court processes in some counties discourage survivors from proceeding with emergency orders of protection and/or returning for subsequent court hearings. Survivors of sexual assault continue to meet barriers to accessing greatly needed legal services. Lack of participation in criminal investigations by victims, which rolls over to the lack of engagement in victim services. More clients are seeking legal citizenship status. Without legal citizenship, victims do not possess health insurance; which limits their access to services

#### Please describe ways that your agency promoted the coordination of public and private efforts within the community to help crime victims during the reporting period.

Services School districts have provided school supplies and transportation to families who are in shelters and/or transitional housing to allow children to remain at their home schools. School districts have provided office space to social service agencies within school buildings to help children who have been victimized. This eliminates the need for transportation to/from counseling. High schoolers receiving services from the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program who have a GPA of 2.0 or higher are eligible for full scholarships to junior colleges and trade schools. Children in the CASA program receive quarterly educational bundles (consisting of school supplies and books) that help foster literacy and STEM skills. In addition, families were given a free annual membership to the Brookfield Zoo, Shedd Aquarium, and Museum of Science and Industry. One Child Advocacy Center (CAC) founded Providing Access Toward Hope and Healing Collaboration, which consists of 29 nonprofit agencies and private practitioners that serve children who are victims of sexual abuse and other severe traumas and their families. Staff from many different nonprofit agencies participate in many committees; such as, the Domestic Violence Enhanced Community Response, Legal advocacy meetings, and Partner Abuse Intervention. Grantees partnering with the largest parish has created new service opportunities for its congregation members, including the parish s youth support groups. A total of 85% of the congregation s 7,000 members are Hispanic. Technology Podcasts and other social media helped to raise awareness for child abuse and available resources for their respective communities. Legal/Law Enforcement The managing attorney remains active in the implementation of the Pre-Trial Fairness Act in Cook County courts. The attorney also participates in an order of protection subcommittee, and the Family Court Enhancement Project. One grantee coordinated to have police cars with Purple Ribbons to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month

#### Please describe any notable activities at the grantee level during the reporting period that improved delivery of victim services.

Services One CASA volunteer accepted an invitation to serve on the National Volunteer Council for a two-year term. The National Volunteer Council is a working group that advises and partners with national CASAs to address strategic issues impacting volunteers. It has been shown that group art therapy for victims is more beneficial, in contrast to one-on-one art therapy. The development of privately funded programs to offer clients paid internships and structured work experience to improve their chances of landing a permanent job upon the completion of the program. Moving to larger and more accessible office spaces has provided many clients with the ability to receive much needed services. Trainings on stalking, vicarious trauma, HIPAA, cultural humility, students with disabilities – equip for equality, state s attorneys office training on body cameras, homicide response plan and survivor housing rights and protection, mental health signs and symptoms, and technology and confidentiality best practices. Workshops included: The Impact of Trauma on the Academic Experience, Coping During the Holidays, Navigating College Through Trauma-Informed Lens, and Understanding Our Own Secondary Trauma as We Support Adult Learners. Getting licensed psychologist s privileges at the neighboring hospitals in their community, in order to meet the needs of more hospitalized victims. 71% of pet-owning women entering shelters reported that their batterers had injured, maimed, killed, or threatened family pets (https://redrover.org/domestic-violence-and-pets/). Grantees are working with agencies, such as Safe Haven Network, to temporarily house pets. PetSmart used grant funding to provide survivors fleeing dangerous situations with stays at a pet-friendly hotel for up to 21 days. CASAs are partnering with local governments and health departments to bring trauma-informed practices to the community. Technology Staff utilized technology (Zoom and other remote platforms) to enhance access to services. Agencies created publicly available e

# Please discuss each priority (i.e., child abuse, domestic assault, sexual assault, and underserved) in which VOCA funds have been used to assist crime victims during the reporting period

Child Abuse MB was 12 when she was raped by her mother s paramour. She gave birth to her first son at age 13 and her second son at 15. Her mother kept her out of school until, due to truancies, she was placed in the custody/guardianship of DCFS at 16. MB s two sons were also placed into care, due to witnessing DV in the home of their grandmother. A CASA advocate was assigned to MB when she was 17 and MB was placed in a foster home with her sons. During high school, MB juggled her school work, part-time parenting, trauma therapy appointments, parenting classes, and other demands placed on her by DCFS. During the second half of her senior year, MB met a boy online and began running away to be with him. This started a series of poor decisions that put her transition plans in jeopardy. With the demands to be self-motivated, she moved in with her boyfriend, but MB's boyfriend found a new girlfriend and kicked MB out, which resulted in MB living out of a car. MB was charged with felony battery after an altercation between MB and the new girlfriend. MB had a high cash bond that she could not pay. After seven months in jail, MB was released and placed in a Temporary Living Program (TLP). Her CASA never wavered in her support and advocacy, connecting her with a mental health professional to treat her trauma and anxiety, helping her explore employment and educational opportunities, and advocating for supervised visits with her children. MB turned 20 while living at the TLP. The court granted MB her independence when she was 20 and she immediately turned focus on what she needed to do to gain custody of her two sons. She found subsidized housing and was able to disengage herself from negative triggers. Within nine months, MB was able to prove to the juvenile court that she was a good, caring mother to her two boys. She understood the needs of her children and how to provide them a safe and healthy environment. MB now has the chance to live the life that she dreamed of with her sons. Thus, one of the constants in MB s life was her CASA. Domestic Violence While navigating the process of claiming her veterans benefits, one veteran hit obstacle after obstacle because of a system that is...not streamlined to effectively transition veterans. The process took over four years. After fleeing a life-threatening domestic abuse situation with her child, she endured a downward struggle of denied veterans benefits, PTSD, identity theft, and homelessness before finding peace and security at the grantee s transitional housing location. The grantee taught her to prioritize stress management in civilian life. The grantee allowed her to deal with her invisible wounds of hopelessness, fear, depression, homelessness, and postpartum depression. As her socioeconomic and psychological conditions stabilized, so did her family. The veteran was placed in the grantee s transitional housing location and stayed there for four months. The grantee and the Illinois Department of Veteran Affairs later helped her to find a place to live and now she is volunteering in the community, especially for veterans. Sexual Assault One of the most successful things accomplished was the resiliency to advocate for survivor s Sexual Assault Survivors Emergency Treatment Act

Page 6 of 8 Last Modified Date: 05/08/2023

(SASETA) rights in the emergency room. Throughout the year, an agency faced resistance with hospital staff. Victims were being sent to other hospitals (as far as an hour away) in order to be treated for sexually transmitted diseases, emergency contraception, or a medical exam. This resulted in survivors feeling unheard and that they didn t matter. One advocate worked tirelessly to make calls to the Illinois Attorney General s Office, Illinois Department of Health, and the Chief of Nursing. The grantee wanted to show survivors that they have rights and empower them to use their voices. Survivors started to speak up about the way they are treated, which gained media attention. This led to new protocols being enacted at hospitals. With the grantee advocacy, survivors may now receive medical attention at a local treatment hospital instead of being transferred an hour away. Underserved A grantee responded to the needs of a young mother when her 9-year-old daughter was shot in the head. As a result of her brain injury, she was in a coma for a week. After regaining consciousness, she needed the help of a ventilator. With physical therapy, she was able to breathe freely. Her mother received multiple case management services, including trauma-informed counseling and individual advocacy. The case manager helped the mother through the victim s compensation application completion, which covered her daughter s medical bills, a wheelchair, and reimbursement for clothing and groceries. The grant also funded transportation and emergency groceries after the victim s compensation funds were depleted. Her daughter is now talking and walking on her own and recently celebrated her 10th birthday.

#### Please briefly describe efforts taken to serve Victims of Federal crime during the reporting period.

\* Agencies have seen an increase in human trafficking victims. \* Rape crisis centers are responding to trafficking victims with advocacy and counseling services. In some cases, trafficking victims have been taken across state lines by their perpetrators. Centers located near military bases work with survivors who are military or military family members.

#### Please identify any emerging issues or notable trends affecting crime victim services in your state during the reporting period.

As families and individuals begin to get back to normal life post-pandemic, the consequences are beginning to surface. Many victims endured stay-at-home orders with their abusers. As a result, mental health service needs have significantly increased. Prior to the pandemic, children were able to attend school during the day and away from violence in the home. During the pandemic, children observed many acts of violence, while other children became victims themselves. For many abusers, an increase in domestic violence and/or sexual assault became their outlet for COVID-related stress. Unfortunately, some victims have turned to drugs and alcohol to cope with the abuse. In some cases, children were trafficked in order to pay the bills. Other emerging trends affecting crime victim service provision include: The lack of a coordinated system of support for shooting victims and survivors of homicide victims. Victims are often ashamed of their living conditions and suffer in silence due to a lack of basic needs (food, shelter, and clothing). Victims lacking proper identification because their abusers keep and/or hide their documentation. Fear for safety and an increase in the lack of emergency relocation services. Many victims do not have access to the technology needed to apply for services and attend virtual court and remote counseling. Perpetrator engagement with their victim before, during, and after the assault on social media. Prosecutors report a large amount of time and resources are needed to capture these interactions as evidence. Advocates report that judges have started focusing more on the duration between the last reported abusive incident and the day the victim seeks an emergency order of protection. Some judges base their decisions on this artificial number of days requirement. Judicial turnover. New judges and law enforcement personnel often are not familiar with domestic violence protocols or the Illinois Domestic Violence Act. The pandemic has created a lack of appropriate care, protection and support provided by DCFS and their contracted agencies that oversee child and neglect cases. Adoption is a lengthy and tedious process and many agencies no longer use adoption specialists. Case managers are taking on this responsibility. Advocates continue to observe disrespect, skepticism and hostility from law enforcement personnel and prosecutors as they work with victims. More child abuse cases are resulting in charges, but most are pled to lesser charges, especially in cases of sexual assault. Cases are more complex and involve many moving parts. Children are frequently abused by other children and teens and these populations do not receive counseling to address their sexualized behaviors. In addition, many young abusers are not prosecuted because they are underage. With no court order for treatment, the responsibility of seeking help for the child falls upon parents/guardians. Additional resources are needed to address the carjacking problem in Chicago. With resources being allocated to work the carjacking problem, it added to the shortage of the resources to attend to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Chicago has received an influx of migrants bussed to the city from other states. Agencies have been asked to provide mental health and other services to the displaced immigrant population. In smaller communities, domestic violence makes up to 30-40% of reported crime. Service providers have noted a significant increase in the severity of trauma experienced by individuals. Many victims do not understand the new sentencing laws for driving under the influence (DUI). Some counties still sentence DUI offenders and repeat offenders with probation. Mistrust by victims with the legal system has increased. This is primarily due to the way victims are treated by some judges in their courtroom. Many judges will not issue an emergency order of protection, or even blame the victim for what has happened to them. Gun and gang violence is on the rise in Illinois.

#### Please briefly outline any staffing retention issues that your victim assistance program has and why these issues may occur during the reporting period.

Many agencies throughout Illinois have been challenged with staffing issues, including a lack of qualified candidates, workload increases, and an increase in the cost of benefits (i.e. medical insurance). Many staffers leave their high-stress service provider positions to work for the same salary or more in retail establishments and restaurants. Vicarious trauma has become increasingly more common among service providers. The risk for vicarious trauma is heightened post-pandemic as more traumatized victims start to seek services. To retain staff, agencies have incorporated permanent hybrid schedules and the use of technology to conduct counseling via Zoom. While counselors are trained to apply compassion and empathy in therapeutic settings, they are particularly vulnerable to emotional stress and compassion fatigue. For counselors, compassion fatigue can have ethical and legal implications if left untreated, especially if they are providing counseling services that are not benefiting those under their care. This commonly leads to staff turnover. Allowing employees to work a permanent hybrid schedule, along with a 1% pay increase, has helped to retain staff members. Staff are mandated to counseling on a regular basis to deal with vicarious trauma and workload pressures.

#### Please explain your state process to publicize its victim assistance funding for services to victims of crime during the reporting period.

The Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) provides for a centralized and systematized grant application process. All VOCA funds have been designated through a competitive process as per GATA. Funding opportunities are be announced through a GATA Notice of Funding Opportunity, made public on the ICJIA website and announced via email to more than 6,000 subscribers and on four social media channels. Funded programs are listed on the website. As of October 1, 2022, 12 VOCA programs were administered via the GATA process and nearly 180 new grant programs were implemented throughout Illinois with VOCA funds.

#### Please explain how your state is able to direct funding to new/underserved populations during the reporting period.

The ICIIA Victim Services Ad Hoc Committee, comprised of criminal justice and victim services professionals and members of the community, met in Spring 2022 to review crime and victimization trend data, information on current service efforts, and data on funded programs. Participants included the executive directors of major statewide victim service associations, including the state coalitions against domestic violence and sexual assault, the Child Advocacy Center Association of Illinois, and individual agencies representing underserved communities. The committee approved the following recommendations for the 2022-2025 Victim Service Plan: Priority #1: Fund initiatives that raise the public s awareness of victim services, including eligibility criteria, service options, and program efficacy. Priority # 2: Increase funding for programs that improve victims' timely access to services, such as through co-located services and remote service options. Priority #3: Fund initiatives that advance victims equitable service access and engagement in services, with a focus on underserved victim populations. Priority #4: Fund efforts to prevent (re)victimization through programming that increases victims protective factors and decreases vulnerabilities. Priority #5: Increase funding to address fundamental needs of crime victims, or those needs, that if left unmet, inhibit victims engagement in services needed for healing. Priority# 6: Fund direct core direct services to victims of all crime types, including community violence. Priority #7: Fund services that address victims long-term mental health, legal, and housing needs. Priority #8: Support programs that address the impact of multiple victimization experiences, such as the intersection of gender-based violence and community violence. Priority #9: Promote community-driven multidisciplinary responses to victimization, including coalition building efforts and expanded use of technology to facilitate collaboration. Priority #10: Expand trauma-informed and trauma-focused service availability and support efforts to mitigate staff vicarious trauma. Priority #11: Promote the use of evidence-informed (or promising) and evidence-based practices and programming that have been successfully implemented with diverse victim populations. Priority #12: Fund activities that support program evaluation efforts through data collection and reporting and increase providers capacity to document meaningful outcomes. With these priorities as guidance, program funding opportunities were developed and published. Targeted populations served by these funding opportunities have included populations in underserved geographical areas of the state (both urban and rural), as well as vulnerable young men of color and victims with mental health or substance abuse issues. ICJIA will develop and implement funding opportunities for new programs to address the 12 funding priorities. This process will begin in Fall 2022 and continue through 2023.

#### Please explain how your program is able to respond to gaps in services during the reporting period.

Fund planning continues throughout the year in meetings of the ICJIA Victim Services Ad Hoc and Budget committees and meetings with individual subgrantees. At the last ICJIA Victim Services Ad Hoc Committee meeting, participants were presented with information and data concerning gaps in service. The two priorities recommended concerning gaps in services included: Priority #7: Fund services that address victims long-term mental health, legal, and housing needs. Funding should be made available for agencies to provide services beyond those that address the immediate crisis needs of victims. Continued support is needed for longer term mental health and conseling services. One of the most notable themes identified was the lack of individual and family counseling and mental health services for crime victims in the state. This gap in services cut across every crime type examined. Research indicates that evidence-based clinical care can significantly improve long-term well-being of child, adolescent, and adult victims. Recent planning efforts also highlighted gaps in longer term legal services needed by survivors. Cases involving immigration, divorce, and child custody can often take years, particularly for domestic violence survivors. Longer term housing is another service that most providers have limited to no capacity to provide. Priority #8: Support programs that address the impact of multiple victimization experiences, such as the intersection of gender-based violence and community violence. Funding should support programming that attends to the impact of multiple victimization experiences. Some individuals may experience different forms of victimization throughout their lifetimes or the same type of victimization multiple times. Multiple victimization experiences one s risk for future victimization and unaddressed trauma from previous victimization experiences can be further exacerbated by new ones, decreasing the long-term well-being of individuals, families, and communities. Research supporting this planning

Page 7 of 8 Last Modified Date: 05/08/2023

 $Committee \ recommendations \ are \ be \ applied \ in \ funding \ recommendations \ made \ by \ staff \ to \ the \ ICJIA \ Budget \ Committee.$ 

Please list and explain any outcome measure(s) that are reported to the governor, legislature, or other state entity during the reporting period.

N/A

Page 8 of 8 Last Modified Date: 05/08/2023