

PUBLIC NOTICE

Law and Public Safety

Division of Criminal Justice

Notice of Anticipated Availability of Funds

New Jersey Human Trafficking Victim Services Program

Take notice that, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-34.4, the Division of Criminal Justice (DCJ) announces the availability of the following grant program funds:

a. Name of the program: New Jersey Human Trafficking Victim Services Program. This program is supported by the Federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) fund.

b. Purpose: Funding under this program will support Statewide comprehensive services for all victims of human trafficking and/or specialized services for victims of human trafficking. Funding also will support efforts to increase the capacity of the State and local communities to respond to victims through the development of interagency partnerships. Services are defined as those efforts that respond to the emotional and physical needs of human trafficking crime victims; assist human trafficking victims to stabilize their lives; assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; provide human trafficking victims with a measure of safety and security; and provide specialized services to victims of human trafficking. Under this program, a victim of trafficking is defined as a person who has been subjected to a “severe forms of trafficking in persons,” which, as defined in 22 U.S.C. 7102(8), means:

a. Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such an act has not attained 18 years of age; or

b. 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.

The primary goal of this solicitation is to provide timely, high-quality services to victims of human trafficking and to enhance interagency collaboration and coordination in the provision of services to such victims. Funding will support a comprehensive array of services for trafficking victims statewide. Funds are not intended to provide long-term financial assistance to trafficking victims. Reliance on grant funding to provide long-term assistance to a single victim may weaken the overall integrity of the program.

Successful applicants will complete the following tasks:

1. Identify and assist victims of sex trafficking and labor trafficking, in New Jersey and offer comprehensive/specialized services to meet each victim's individualized needs.
2. Collaborate, as appropriate, with local, state, and federal law enforcement, local public agencies, victim service providers, and nonprofit and faith-based organizations to enhance or expand service delivery to victims of human trafficking.
3. Conduct a program evaluation to ensure the project meets intended goals related to service provision and impact on victims of human trafficking. Interim and final evaluation reports must be submitted to the State Office of Victim Witness Advocacy.

Types of projects that may be considered for funding should include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Crisis intervention, emergency shelter, transportation, food and clothing or other services that respond to the immediate emotional and physical needs of human trafficking crime victims.
2. Emergency legal assistance that pertains to the health and safety of human trafficking victims.

3. Information and community referral programs.

4. Services and activities that assist human trafficking victims of crime in understanding the dynamics of victimization and in stabilizing their lives such as support groups, individual and group counseling and therapy by a qualified professional mental health provider.

5. Criminal justice system assistance, such as court accompaniment, transportation to court and child care during court attendance.

c. Available funding: Only one award for up to \$350,000 will be available to support this initiative. Funds for this program are derived from the Federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Grant Program. Funding will be awarded on a competitive basis. Continuation funding may be available for an additional year, contingent upon the availability of Federal funding and the subgrantee's compliance with grant conditions and performance of goals and objectives. The project performance period commences on April 1, 2014 and must operate for a minimum of twelve months. A 20 percent match, cash or in-kind, is required. For example, a \$350,000 award requires an \$87,500 match for a total grant award of \$437,500.

d. Organizations which may apply for funding under this program: Private, nonprofit organizations which provide victim services and are organized under Title 15A of the New Jersey Revised Statutes or otherwise qualified for nonprofit tax exemption under the Internal Revenue Code 26 U.S.C. Section 501(c)(3) and public agencies which provide services to crime victims and are not part of a law enforcement agency or prosecutor's office are eligible to apply.

e. Qualifications needed by an applicant to be considered for funding: Applicants must be in good standing with all State and Federal agencies with which they have had an existing grant or contractual relationship. Where appropriate, all applicants must hold current State licenses and certifications.

Charitable organizations based, operating or soliciting within New Jersey must register with the Division of Consumer Affairs Charities Registration Section unless specifically exempted under the provisions of the Charitable Registration and Investigation Act, N.J.S.A. 45:17A-18 et seq. Proof of charity registration compliance or proof of exemption shall be submitted to the State Office of Victim Witness Advocacy with the organization's application.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) of 2006 requires the use of the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and Central Contractor Registration (CCR) as unique identifiers for each entity receiving a Federal award or subaward. Applications without a completed FFATA Form, including current DUNS number(s) and CCR registration, will be incomplete.

To be considered for funding, an eligible applicant must file a completed application, in accordance with the requirements of the program, by the submission deadline. The following scored components must be included in the application:

1. Agency background, mission, experience and capability. 10 points

Describe in detail the agency's mission, background and experience as it relates to the purpose and objectives of the proposed project. Explain the agency's understanding and capability to carry out the project based on demonstrated experience in providing victim services to the target population. Public agencies must cite their statutory and/or local governing authority.

2. Problem Statement/Needs Assessment. 15 points

Identify the specific problem(s), target population and geographic area that the proposed project will address. Describe the needs and characteristics of the target population; local needs and conditions; describe existing services and identify gaps and/or barriers in services. Include statistics and relevant facts to substantiate the need and selection of the proposed project.

3. Goals, Objectives and Work Plan (Action Strategy). 30 points

Specify clear, realistic goals for the proposed project. Identify objectives that are concise, measurable and clearly relate to the goals, problem statement/needs assessment and target population. Measurable objectives shall include, but not be limited to, the level of service to be provided. Describe in detail the project's approach or strategy for attaining each objective. Complete a project work plan which includes each objective along with the major activities, responsible staff and feasible time frames for each objective and activity.

4. Partnership, Collaboration or Coordination of Services. 10 points

Partnerships, collaboration and/or coordination of services are strongly encouraged for all projects. Describe the agency's partnership and/or coalition building strategy and use of volunteers. Applications for projects which require coordination of services among two or more agencies must contain a signed affiliation agreement. An affiliation agreement must define roles, responsibilities, referral mechanisms, collaboration and coordination efforts necessary for successful implementation of the project and must be signed by all affiliating agencies. At least three letters of support for the specific project must be included with the application.

5. Project Management and Staff. 10 points

Identify project management and staff. Describe how personnel are uniquely qualified to manage and implement the project. Provide current resumes along with job descriptions that describe the title, responsibilities, education and experience for each position for whom the grant or matching funds are requested. State if the position is full-time or part-time, the number of hours and percentage of time devoted to the project. Indicate if you will use existing staff or if you will recruit new staff for each position requested in the budget. The applicant should indicate their use of volunteers in this project as per the program guidelines. Public agencies cannot use grant

funds to supplant State and Federal funds otherwise available for crime victim services.

6. Data Collection/Performance Measures/Evaluation. 10 points

List data that will be collected. Describe the methods that will be used to measure the progress and assess the impact of the project. (Subgrantees will be required to collect and report specific data relating to their project to DCJ). Client feedback is strongly encouraged; if measurement does not include client feedback, an explanation must be provided.

7. Budget and Budget Narrative. 15 points

Provide detailed narrative justification for the funds requested and match funds identified by Budget Category itemized on the Budget Detail Forms. Costs must be specific and tied to the project objectives. Applicants should refer to the Program Guidebook for a description of budget categories, allowable expenses and match requirements. A 20 percent match, either cash or in-kind contribution, is required by all applicants.

f. Procedures for eligible organizations to apply: Application packages are available by contacting the Division of Criminal Justice, State Office of Victim Witness Advocacy at (609) 292-6766 or on the website at www.njvw.org. Applicants must complete and submit one original and two copies of the application by the submission deadline. Applications that do not comply with the requirements of this Notice of Availability of Funds or the Program Administration and Funding Guidelines will not be considered. The Division of Criminal Justice reserves the right to decline any and all applications for funding and to award grants in amounts that may be other than requested.

g. Address of the State agency receiving the application:

Alyson M. Gush, Chief

State Office of Victim Witness Advocacy

Division of Criminal Justice

Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex

25 Market Street, 4th Floor, West Wing

P.O. Box 085

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0085

h. Deadline by which applications must be submitted: Applications must be completed and received before 4:00 P.M. Friday, January 3, 2014. Facsimiles or electronic mail will not be accepted.

i. Date by which notices shall be mailed of approval or disapproval of applications: All applicants will be notified in writing on or about the first week of February, as to whether or not the agency's proposed project will be funded.