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# **OVW Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women Later in Life Program (CFDA 16.528)**

## **Overview**

### **About the Office on Violence Against Women**

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is a component of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ or the Department). Created in 1995, OVW implements the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and subsequent legislation and provides national leadership against domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Since its inception, OVW has launched a multifaceted approach to responding to these crimes. By forging state, local and tribal partnerships among police, prosecutors, the judiciary, victim advocates, health care providers, faith leaders, and others, OVW grants help provide victims with the protection and services they need to pursue safe and healthy lives and enable communities to hold offenders accountable.

### **About the Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women Later in Life Program**

Recognizing that individuals who are 50 years of age or older who are victims of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, face unique barriers to receiving assistance, Congress created the Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women Later in Life Program (Training Grants Program.) In Federal Fiscal Year 2008, OVW plans to fund projects that will provide a comprehensive approach to addressing elder abuse in their communities. This comprehensive approach will encompass providing training to criminal justice professionals, governmental agencies and victim assistants to enhance their ability to address elder abuse, neglect and exploitation in their communities; providing cross training opportunities to professionals working with older victims; developing or enhancing a community coordinated responses to elder abuse; and providing or enhancing services for victims who are 50 years of age or older (hereinafter "older victims" or "elder victims").

### Elder Abuse

The term "elder abuse" means any action against a person who is 50 years of age or older that constitutes the willful infliction of injury, unreasonable confinement, intimidation, or cruel punishment with resulting physical harm, pain, or mental anguish or deprivation by a person, including a caregiver, of goods or services with the intent to cause physical harm, mental anguish, or mental illness. Elder abuse victims face unique obstacles.

Age or disability may increase the isolation of older individuals. Victims may refrain from seeking help or calling the police due to shame or embarrassment because the abuse was committed by a family member, friend or caregiver. Victims may also be intimidated by threats of being placed in a nursing home. Abuse may be explained away or dismissed by claims that the older person is confused or diminished as an expression of stress associated with caring for an aging individual. Professionals may perceive a victim's injuries as arising from aging, illness, or disability instead of recognizing that the injuries may be attributed to violence in the home. A



Eligible entities for this program are:

- States<sup>1</sup>;
- Units of local government;
- Indian tribal governments or tribal organizations; and
- Nonprofit, nongovernmental victim services organizations with demonstrated experience in assisting elderly women or demonstrated experience in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including faith- and community-based organizations.

### **Unit of Local Government**

For the purposes of this program, a **unit of local government** is any city, county, township, town, borough, parish, village, or other general-purpose political subdivision of a State<sup>2</sup>; an Indian tribe that performs law enforcement functions as determined by the Secretary of the Interior; or, for the purpose of assistance eligibility, any agency of the District of Columbia government or the United States Government performing law enforcement functions in and for the District of Columbia or any Trust Territory of the United States. Local courts, police departments, pre-trial service agencies, district or city attorneys' offices, sheriffs' departments, probation and parole departments, shelters, nonprofit, nongovernmental victim services agencies, and universities are **not** considered units of local government for the purposes of this grant program unless they meet the "unit of local government" definition under 42 U.S.C. § 3791 (see footnote 2 below). These agencies or organizations may administer grant funds and assume responsibility for the development and implementation of the project, but they may not apply directly to OVW for funding support. Applications from typically "non-eligible" entities that want to assert "unit of local government" under 42 U.S.C. § 3791 must include proof of such status.

### **Indian Tribal Government**

For the purposes of this program, **Tribal government** is defined as the governing body of an Indian tribe; or a tribe, band, pueblo, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians, including any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation (as defined in, or established pursuant to, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.)), that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians (42 U.S.C. 13925 (a) 30.)) **Indian tribe** is defined as any tribe, band, pueblo, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians, including any Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation (as defined in or established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, 43 U.S.C. §1601 et seq.), that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians (25 U.S.C. § 450b (e)).

### **Tribal Organization**

For the purposes of this program, **Tribal organization** is defined as the governing body of any Indian Tribe; any legally established organization of Indians which is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body of a tribe or tribes to be served, or which is democratically

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this grant program, a state is defined to include all states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

<sup>2</sup> As defined in 42 U.S.C. § 3791, "unit of local government" also includes any law enforcement district or judicial enforcement district that is established under applicable State law and has the authority to, in a manner independent of other State entities, establish a budget and impose taxes.

elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and which includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities; or any tribal nonprofit organization. (42 U.S.C. 13925 (a) (32.))<sup>3</sup> Any applicant representing a consortium of tribal governments and/or organizations must submit a resolution from the constituent tribal governments and/or organizations supporting the application.

### **Funding to Faith-Based and Community Organizations**

Consistent with President George W. Bush's Executive Order 13279, dated December 12, 2002, and 28 C.F.R. Part 38, it is DOJ policy that faith-based and community organizations that statutorily qualify as eligible applicants under DOJ programs are invited and encouraged to apply for assistance awards to fund eligible grant activities. Faith-based and community organizations will be considered for awards on the same basis as any other eligible applicants and, if they receive assistance awards, will be treated on an equal basis with all other grantees in the administration of such awards. No eligible applicant or grantee will be discriminated for or against on the basis of its religious character or affiliation, religious name, or the religious composition of its board of directors or persons working in the organization.

Faith-based organizations receiving DOJ assistance awards retain their independence and do not lose or have to modify their religious identity (e.g., removing religious symbols) to receive assistance awards. DOJ grant funds, however, may not be used to fund any inherently religious activity, such as prayer or worship. Inherently religious activity is permissible, although it cannot occur during an activity funded with DOJ grant funds; rather, such religious activity must be separate in time or place from the DOJ-funded program. Further, participation in such activity by individuals receiving services must be voluntary. Programs funded by DOJ are not permitted to discriminate in the provision of services on the basis of a beneficiary's religion.

Applicants are encouraged to review the Civil Rights Compliance section under "Additional Requirements" in this announcement.

## **OVW Training Grants Program – Specific Information**

### **Types of Applicants**

In Federal Fiscal Year 2008, OVW will accept applications for the Training Grants Program from both current grantees and new applicants. Recipients of Federal Fiscal Year 2006 Training Grants Program funding may not apply to continue or enhance training of criminal justice professionals. Federal Fiscal Year 2006 grantees are **only** eligible to apply for continuation funding to provide cross training opportunities; develop or enhance community coordinated responses to elder abuse; and provide or enhance services for older victims. Recipients of Federal Fiscal Year 2007 Training Grants Program funding are **not** eligible to apply.

**New applicants** are those not currently receiving funding through the Training Grants Program.

**Current grantees** are those with an open Training Grants Program award.

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<sup>3</sup> As defined in 42 U.S.C. 13925 (a) (31), a "tribal nonprofit organization" is a victim services provider that has as its primary purpose to assist Native victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; and the staff and leadership of the organization must include persons with a demonstrated history of assisting American Indian or Alaska Native victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

### **Availability of Funds**

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

### **Award Period**

Applicants should be aware that awards will be made as Cooperative Agreements, and OVW will play a substantial role in shaping and monitoring the project. The award period for new cooperative agreements will be 36 months. **Budget must reflect 36 months of project activity, and the total “estimated funding” (block 15) on the SF-424 must reflect 36 months.** The award period for continuation cooperative agreements will be 24 months. **Budget must reflect 24 months of project activity, and the total “estimated funding” (block 15) on the SF-424 must reflect 24 months.**

### **Award Amounts**

Applicants should carefully consider the resources needed to successfully implement the project proposed and present a realistic budget that accurately reflects project costs. Training Grants Program funds for Federal Fiscal Year 2008 will be awarded based on the following guidelines:

**Request for new funding may not exceed \$500,000. Request for continuation funding may not exceed \$150,000.**

Cooperative agreements may be made for greater or lesser amounts than requested. In addition, OVW may negotiate the scope of work and the budget with applicants prior to granting an award.

### **Program Scope**

The Training Grants Program provides or enhances training and services to address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, involving victims who are 50 years of age or older. The scope of the Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women Later in Life program is outlined by the statutory language and the required program activities.

### **Statutory Program Purposes**

By statute, funds under the Training Grants Program may be used for the following purposes:

- Training programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, governmental agencies, victim assistants, and relevant officers of Federal, State, tribal, territorial, and local courts in recognizing, addressing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against victims who are 50 years of age or older;
- Providing or enhancing services for victims of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, who are 50 years of age or older;
- Creating or supporting multidisciplinary collaborative community responses to victims of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, who are 50 years of age or older; and

- Conducting cross-training for victim service organizations, governmental agencies, courts, law enforcement, and nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations serving victims of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, who are 50 years of age or older.

### Required Program Activities

Successful applicants for new cooperative agreements will be required to implement the following activities:

- 1) Partnership: Each applicant must develop a partnership consisting of the following four types of organizations/agencies:
  - a) a law enforcement agency;
  - b) a prosecutor's office;
  - c) a nonprofit, nongovernmental domestic violence victim services program or nonprofit, nongovernmental sexual assault victim services program; and
  - d) a nonprofit program that serves elder victims; governmental agencies (for example Adult Protective Services, state or city departments on aging) may serve as the project partner that works with elder victims.

Partnerships may also include additional relevant organizations/agencies including faith-based and community-based organizations.

- 2) Mandatory "Training of Trainers" Component: Each grantee must send a multi-disciplinary training team to a mandatory 4 day training of trainers component. Each partner organization must send representatives as follows: a law enforcement officer, a prosecutor, a representative from the victim service program and a representative from the organization that serves elder victims. It is highly recommended that grantees send two additional persons to the training as back-up trainers. A maximum of seven individuals may attend this event: six team members who will actively participate in the training and the project coordinator who may attend this event as an observer. This training event will enhance participants subject matter expertise and develop or enhance the skills necessary to redeliver training to law enforcement on the local level using the curriculum provided by OVW.

- 3) Mandatory Law Enforcement Training: Each applicant must commit to having its multi-disciplinary training team provide training to law enforcement in its community. To demonstrate this commitment, each applicant must submit the required letters of commitment from those law enforcement agencies that have agreed to have their personnel attend local law enforcement trainings. The training uses an OVW approved curriculum, designed to be delivered on the local level. This training is 16 hours in length and may be taught in 2 days or broken into four ½ day modules. Please see Appendix A, page 23 for a sample agenda.

- 4) Advanced Law Enforcement Training: Applicants must include funds in their budget to bring national expert(s) to their communities to provide advanced training for detectives and investigators. Each applicant must demonstrate a commitment to have detectives and/or investigators in its jurisdiction attend this training. This commitment must be shown in the required letters of commitment from those law enforcement agencies agreeing to have their personnel attend these trainings.

- 5) Prosecutors Workshop: Each applicant must commit to sending prosecutors in its jurisdiction to attend a 2 ½ day national prosecutors workshop on elder abuse. Attendance at this workshop will require participants to travel to this OVW sponsored training event. This

commitment must be shown in the required letters of commitment from the prosecutors' office(s) agreeing to have their personnel attend these trainings. This workshop will focus on prosecution of cases involving elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

6) Judicial Institute: Each applicant must commit to encouraging judges in its jurisdiction to attend a 4 day national judicial institute on elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The faculty for this judicial education event will consist of judges and national experts and is open solely to judges. Attendance at this institute will require participants to travel to this OVW sponsored education event.

7) Victim Assistants and Governmental Agencies Training: Each applicant must commit to providing direct training for victim assistants and those working in governmental agencies in their community. This commitment must be detailed in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). OVW is working with national experts to develop direct training on elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, for victim assistants and government personnel who work with older victims. Federal Fiscal Year 2008 grantees will pilot this training. Applicants must commit to sending representatives from two project partners (one from the victim service program and one from the organization that serves elder victims) to a 1 ½ day training to enhance the participants' subject matter expertise and assist them in conducting training for their peers on the local level.

8) Cross-Training: Each applicant and its project partners must commit to conducting cross training for victim service organizations, governmental agencies, courts, law enforcement, and nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations working with older victims. This commitment must be detailed in the MOU. Federal Fiscal Year 2008 grantees will pilot tools to assist with cross training at the local level. This cross training will focus on helping each discipline develop a better understanding of the role each plays in addressing elder abuse in their community.

9) Collaborative Community Responses: Each partner must commit to creating or enhancing a multidisciplinary collaborative community response to elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. This commitment must be detailed in the MOU. OVW will provide intensive and comprehensive technical assistance to successful applicants to assist them in this effort. Each project partner will engage in a review of its own policies and protocols to determine the extent to which they are designed to aid in improving the identification, investigation, prosecution and adjudication of cases of elder abuse, exploitation and neglect, including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

10) Providing or Enhancing Services for Older Victims: Each applicant must commit to engaging in a two phase effort to provide services to older victims.

a) Planning Phase: Grantees will work with OVW and Training Grants Technical Assistance providers to establish the groundwork for developing or enhancing outreach and services to older victims. The planning phase will be for 12 months. The planning phase may include, but is not limited to, the following activities:

- Conducting a community needs assessment;
- Developing a strategic plan for outreach and service delivery which will be submitted to OVW for review and approval prior to release of funds for the implementation phase;
- Providing training to staff; and

- Reviewing agency policies and protocols to ensure that they are inclusive of older victims.

b) **Implementation Phase:** Upon successfully completing the planning phase, grantees will begin implementing outreach and the delivery of services to older victims. Funds included in the budget for the implementation phase will be placed on hold through a special condition to the award. These funds will not be released for access by grantees until they have been determined by OVW to have successfully completed the planning phase and have an acceptable implementation plan in place. During the implementation phase, grantees will continue working with OVW and OVW Technical Assistance providers to successfully execute their implementation plan.

11) **Evaluation:** Each applicant must commit to fully participate in evaluation of the program.

12) **Progress Reports:** Applicants will report on performance measures and grant-funded activities through the timely submission of complete semi-annual progress reports.

Successful applicants for continuation cooperative agreements will be required to implement activities 7 through 12.

#### Activities That May Compromise Victim Safety

Ensuring victim safety is the guiding principle underlying this Program. Experience has shown that certain practices may compromise victim safety rather than enhance it. Certain responses by the authorities may have the effect of minimizing or trivializing the offender's criminal behavior. Accordingly, consistent with the goals of ensuring victim safety and holding perpetrators accountable for their criminal conduct, applicants are strongly discouraged from proposing projects that include any activities that may compromise victim safety (or trainings that advocate for those activities), such as the following:

- Family counseling as a systemic response to elder abuse;
- Mediation or counseling for couples as a systemic response to domestic violence;
- Batterer intervention programs that do not meet state standards or do not hold batterers accountable for their criminal behavior; and
- Procedures that would force victims of elder abuse or domestic violence to testify against their abusers or impose other sanctions on the victims.

#### Unallowable Activities

Grant funds under the Training Grants Program may not be used for any unauthorized purposes, including but not limited to the following activities:

- Lobbying or lobbying-related activities
- Fundraising
- Research projects
- Curriculum development
- Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations

## **Performance Measures**

To assist in fulfilling the Department's responsibilities under the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), P.L.103-62, applicants who receive funding under this solicitation must





- The law enforcement agency partnering on this project.
- The prosecutor's office partnering on this project.
- The nonprofit, nongovernmental victim services" program partnering on this project.
- The nonprofit program that serves older victims partnering on this project. Governmental agencies (for example Adult Protective Services, State or city departments on aging) may serve as the project partner working with older victims.
- The regional area(s) (city, town, county, or unincorporated area) where this project will be implemented.
- The population and square mileage of the region to be served.
- Estimated project cost.

B. Abstract/Proposal Summary (one page)

The proposal abstract, when read separately from the rest of the application, is meant to serve as a succinct and accurate description of the proposed project and should concisely describe proposed project goals and objectives. Summaries of past accomplishments should be avoided in the abstract.

Abstract will be reviewed by the peer review panel according to the following criteria:

- Conciseness; and
- Accuracy in summarizing the Project Narrative.

C. Status of the Current Project (five pages)

**Only applicants for continuation funding need to complete this section. This section will be used for internal review only. Applications that do not meet the criteria below may receive a deduction in points.** This section should be provided on a separate page as it is a separate section from the program narrative and does not count toward the page limits of the narrative. State what has been accomplished with previous funding under the Training Grants Program, including the following:

- A description of the goals and objectives from the prior grant period and a brief discussion of the status of the existing project:
- The status of any project products;
- Any unanticipated obstacles to project implementation;
- The approximate unobligated amount of award funds remaining as of February 7, 2008, the anticipated time line for expenditure of any remaining funds within the grant award period, whether the grantee anticipates requesting a no-cost extension of the award, and the likely timeline for such a request.
- A description of the grantee's efforts to sustain part or all of the current project without Federal funds; and
- A list of all OVW-sponsored technical assistance events attended during the life of the current award, including the title, location and date(s) of each.

This section should be as clear and succinct as possible.

**Additionally, current projects will be rated by OVW using the following criteria:**

- Whether progress reports submitted by the applicant, in conjunction with monitoring conducted by OVW, demonstrate the effectiveness of the current project, indicating progress toward meeting project goals and objectives, and demonstrate that the

current project has progressed in a timely manner as outlined in the original proposal;

- Whether the grantee has demonstrated that past activities supported with Training Grants Program funds have been limited to program Purpose Areas;
- Whether the grantee has complied with all special conditions of its existing grant award from the DOJ;
- Whether the grantee has adhered to programmatic and financial reporting requirements;
- Whether the grantee has demonstrated a commitment to sustaining the project after federal funds are no longer available;
- Whether the grantee has closed out prior awards in a timely manner;
- Whether the grantee appropriately utilized and actively participated in OVW-sponsored workshops and other technical assistance events as required by a special condition of the current award;
- Whether the grantee has received financial clearances on all current grants from DOJ;
- Whether the grantee has complied with the Office of Management and Budget audit requirement;
- Whether grant funds have been spent in a timely manner.

Please note that applicants with an OVW grant history that failed to meet grant deadlines, did not comply with Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) financial requirements, or did not comply with special conditions from previous grants will not be considered for funding.

D. Purpose of Application (10 points)

This section should briefly:

- Describe the problem to be addressed and how funding would alleviate it;
- Identify the target population and state how the target population would benefit from the proposed project (please use current demographic information of the service area in order to be as specific and detailed as possible when describing the population to be served);
- Describe current services and gaps in service;
- Describe the community's service area in which the project would be implemented, including location, population, and demographic information; and
- Describe how the proposed project complements the State's STOP Violence Against Women Implementation Plan;
- Identify the particular population to be served by the project (example: law enforcement officers, prosecutors, court officers, older victims) including the estimated number of individuals who would be trained and the estimated number of individuals who would receive services;
- Describe how the intended audience would benefit from the proposed training and services;
- Explain why existing training and/or educational programs, services, or materials do not meet current needs; and
- Note whether the proposed training enhances current domestic violence and/or sexual assault training programs.

E. What Will Be Done (20 points)

This section should briefly:

- Detail how the proposed project would assist in addressing the need for training and services. Applicants should also outline the specific tasks to be performed and the timeline for their completion.
- Describe how members of the multi-disciplinary training team will be chosen;
- Identify law enforcement partner(s): name of agency/ies or department/s that will send sworn officers to receive the mandatory trainings, size of department (sworn), number of sworn personnel that will receive training, number of hours that agency/ies or department/s will commit to having officers receive training and in what setting (in service, academy);
- Identify prosecution partner(s): name of office/s that will be sending prosecutors to receive the mandatory training, size of office (number of prosecutors), number of prosecutors that will be sent to receive training;
- Identify judicial partner(s): number and types of courts in the project area, number of judges that will attend training and the type of court over which the judges preside;
- Identify victim assistants and governmental agencies: name of organizations or agency/ies that will send personnel to receive the mandatory trainings; number of personnel that will be sent to receive training;
- State the number of victims over 50 currently receiving services from the victim service program and the organization that serves elder victims; and
- Describe the outreach and services the project proposes to provide to older victims during the second and third years of the project.

F. Who Will Implement the Project (20 points)

All applicants must identify the agency/ies or office/s responsible for carrying out the project. The narrative should identify the MOU partners and the ways the partnership would function throughout project. This section should clearly identify all of the project partners, specifying their respective roles and responsibilities. Applications must demonstrate a strong commitment to real, meaningful collaboration, both in the development and the implementation of the project. The application should demonstrate that the partnership is engaged in a working collaboration, or is in the process of developing such a relationship. Applications should include a description of the expertise or experience of all key staff. Available position descriptions and resumes should be appended to the application.

Victim services organizations should meet all of the following criteria:

- Provide services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, or stalking as one of their primary purposes, and have a demonstrated history of effective work concerning such issues;
- Address a demonstrated need in their communities by providing services that promote the dignity and self-sufficiency of victims, improve their access to resources, and create options for victims seeking safety from perpetrator violence; and
- Do not engage in activities that compromise victim safety.

Nonprofit programs that serve older victims should meet all of the following criteria:

- Provide services to older victims as one of their primary purposes;
- Demonstrate an understanding of the unique obstacles faced by older individuals in seeking the services they need to obtain safety and participate fully in the criminal justice system;

















