



OVW

OVW FY 2006 Education and Technical Assistance Grants to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities

Call for Papers

LETTER OF INTENT DEADLINE:
January 3, 2006

NEW-GRANTS.GOV REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:
January 3, 2006

CONCEPT PAPER DEADLINE:
January 25, 2006

Please note: If your program was impacted by the recent hurricanes in a way that hinders your ability to submit your application for this grant program, you may be eligible for an extension of the application deadline. If you wish to apply for such an extension, please contact the Office on Violence Against Women at 202-307-6026.

U.S. Department of Justice
Office on Violence Against Women
800 K Street, NW, Suite 920
Washington, DC 20530

Alberto Gonzales
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice

Diane M. Stuart
Director
Office on Violence Against Women

Department of Justice Response Center
1-800-421-6770

TTY
202-307-2277

Office on Violence Against Women
www.usdoj.gov/ovw

Education and Technical Assistance Grants to End Violence Against
Women with Disabilities
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fundopps.htm

Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline
1-800-518-4726

The Education and Technical Assistance Grants to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities

Call for Concept Papers Fiscal Year 2006

About the Office on Violence Against Women

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is a component of the U.S. Department of Justice. Created in 1995, OVW implements the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and subsequent legislation and provides national leadership against domestic 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 Education and Technical Assistance Grants to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities Grant Program

The Education and Technical Assistance Grants to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities Grant Program (Disability Grant Program) was created by the Violence Against Women Act of 2000 (VAWA 2000). Congress, OVW, and victim advocates recognized the need to focus on violence against women with disabilities due to the proliferation of such violence and the gaps in service provision for this population.

Disability Grant Program recipients provide education and technical assistance for the purpose of providing training, consultation, and information on domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault against women who are individuals with disabilities (as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.12102)).

The scope of the Disability Grant Program is defined by the following four statutory purpose areas. Please note that Disability Grant Program funds may not be used for direct service delivery. Rather, proposed projects must focus on providing education and technical assistance on one or more of the following areas:

- The nature, definition and characteristics of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking experienced by women with disabilities;
- Outreach activities to ensure that women with disabilities who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking receive appropriate assistance;
- Federal anti-discrimination laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and

- Cost-effective ways that shelters and victim service organizations may accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Through education and technical assistance, program goals include:

- The increase of efficient and appropriate services;
- Organizational capacity building; and
- Cross-discipline collaboration.

Each recipient of a grant under this section shall provide information and training to organizations and programs that provide services to individuals with disabilities, including independent living centers, disability-related service organizations, and domestic violence program providing shelter or related assistance.

Examples of organizations that may receive education and technical assistance include:

- Disability related service organizations, including Independent Living Centers;
- Domestic violence programs;
- Sexual assault programs; and
- Faith and community-based organizations (which include organizations that are used by individuals with disabilities, but are not disability specific service providers, such as libraries, and job training programs).

Availability of Funds

This call is the first step in the process of selecting six to ten multi-disciplinary teams (teams) that will be funded to engage in this intensive initiative. Awards will be made for up to \$750,000 for a three year period. Award recipients will be required to set aside \$200,000 to support the first year planning phase. The remaining \$550,000 will be used to support the implementation phase of the project during years two and three. A special condition will be included on all awards that restricts access to only \$200,000. Remaining funds will be released upon successful completion of first year requirements. 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.

Letter of Intent

All applicants who intend to apply for FY 2006 funding under this program are encouraged to **submit a non-binding letter of intent**, (please see Appendix B), to OVW by **January 3, 2006**. You may send the letter by facsimile to OVW at (202) 514-5818.

Application Due Date-Read carefully: new information.

Please note that final concept papers are due **by 5:30 pm (EST) January 25, 2006**, and will be accepted through **Grants.gov**, an e-Government initiative that is included in the President's Management Agenda and through submission of a

hard copy original. Please note that Grants.gov is not the Grants Management System (GMS) through which OVW applicants have submitted applications in previous years. Applicants should register with Grants.gov by **January 3, 2006. First-time registering can take several weeks.**

You will be unable to submit your concept paper if you do not first register.

In addition, applicants must send via overnight delivery a complete hard-copy original of the application, postmarked by January 25, 2006 to: OVW c/o Aspen Systems Corporation.

We strongly recommend that you use a trackable shipping method that will allow you to confirm the delivery of your concept paper. Applicants should retain proof of timely submission.

Please refer to the "How to Apply" section on page 16 of this solicitation for further instructions.

Background

Since its inception, 36 programs have been funded under the Disability Grant Program. The majority of projects have largely concentrated on two activities: 1) developing curricula to cross-train project partners, member organizations, and social service agencies; and 2) creating and administering accessibility audits, which include evaluation of physical, programmatic, and attitudinal accessibility. Historically, the issue of violence against women with disabilities has not been an area of major focus for service providers. Projects funded in Fiscal Years 2002 & 2004 were instrumental in bringing attention to this issue and in assisting to fill in many of the gaps that existed.

Upon completion of the first grant cycle in FY 2004, OVW believed it was necessary to examine the Disability Grant Program. This examination was to ensure that the Program was being administered as effectively as possible. Through this process, OVW identified strengths, as well as areas in need of improvement. Areas for improvement included fostering multi-disciplinary collaboration and cross-discipline training. OVW determined that a restructuring of the program was necessary. Two principles were used to guide this process:

- Individuals with disabilities and disability organizations must play a major role in the development of the program; and
- A neutral, third-party should facilitate this process.

The examination process consisted of a series of telephone and in-person interviews. In addition a focus group comprised of disability experts, violence against women practitioners, and other relevant disciplines was held. These forums proved to be critical in identifying needs in the area of violence against women with disabilities, devising a framework for technical assistance that would be effective and appropriate, and identifying additional experts to assist with this examination process.

Furthermore, the unique and varied backgrounds of participants in the focus group allowed for a rich level of conversation and problem solving. The group was able to discuss areas of difference that existed between the various disciplines and begin the process of identifying issues for further discussion, devising solutions and creating common ground. Areas identified for further discussion are as follows:

- Safety needs for women with disabilities;
- Strategic planning;
- Collaboration;
- Service accessibility;
- Marginalization of the disability and grassroots communities;
- Tokenism for people with disabilities;
- Fragmentation within the disability community; and
- Competing frameworks.

Program Eligibility

By statute, eligible applicants are:

- States;
- Units of local governments;
- Indian tribal governments; and
- Nongovernmental private entities, including faith and community-based organizations.

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 that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians. Tribes that are receiving services provided by a tribal consortium are eligible to apply for funding through this program. Any organized community of Indians, or a consortium representing several Indian tribal governments, that requests funding must submit a tribal resolution from each constituent tribal government that would participate in the activities outlined in 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 OVW policy that faith-based and community organizations that statutorily qualify as eligible applicants under OVW 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 OVW assistance awards retain their independence and do not lose or have to modify

