

2023

Oklahoma Office of Attorney General

Underserved Populations Grant Application

FVPSA Funds

Services to underserved populations means programs and protocols that make services available to domestic violence victims who are members of underserved populations. Underserved populations means populations who face barriers in accessing victim services and includes populations underserved because of geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, underserved racial and ethnic populations (with emphasis toward minority groups as defined in 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act 42 USC 300 (u-6)(g)), and populations underserved because of special needs including language barriers, disabilities, immigration status, and age. Individuals with criminal histories due to victimization and individuals with substance abuse disorders and mental health issues are also included in this definition. *(45 CFR Part 1370)*





Office of Attorney General

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Grant Application Issuing Agency:
Oklahoma Office of Attorney General (OAG)
Victim Services Unit
313 NE 21st Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Attention: Stephanie Lowery

GRANT APPLICATION #: FVPSA 2023
Issue Date: Pending
Title: FVPSA Domestic Violence Services for Underserved Populations Grant
Location: Oklahoma Statewide
Funding Period: October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024
Application Due Date and Time: September 1, 2023, no later than 5:00pm
Award Posted Date: No later than September 15, 2023, on the OAG Website

The purpose of this grant application is to fund sub-grantees in the State of Oklahoma who will establish, maintain and/or expand programs and projects to prevent incidents of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence, to provide immediate shelter, supportive services, and access to community-based and culturally specific programs for victims of family violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and their dependents and to provide specialized services for children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, specifically targeted toward **underserved populations** and **victims who are members of racial and ethnic minority populations**.

A maximum of fifteen (15) percent of the annually awarded Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) funding administered by the OAG will be distributed through this grant application. Each recipient of a sub-grant award will receive funding for the period from **October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024**. It is understood and agreed between the parties herein that OAG shall be bound hereunder only to the extent of the funds available, or which may hereafter become available for the purpose of these sub-grants.

Please Note: The total amount available for this distribution is not yet known, however last year's award amount was \$245,106.71 and it is expected the 2023 total will be similar.

Services to Underserved Populations means programs and protocols that make services available to domestic violence victims who are members of underserved populations. Populations may be underserved due to ethnic, racial, cultural, sexual orientation, language diversity, or geographic isolation. An expanded definition is on the cover page.

Sealed grant applications for providing domestic violence services described herein will be received subject to the conditions cited until the application due date and time shown above. **Applications received after that time will not be considered.** All applications must be submitted by email to Stephanie Lowery at Stephanie.Lowery@oag.ok.gov.

Community-based organizations that primarily serve underserved populations, with emphasis on culturally and linguistically specific populations, are strongly encouraged to apply and are the designated funding priority for this grant opportunity.

Applications will be evaluated by panel of six (6) individuals who have expertise in areas of domestic violence, family violence, program development, and other related fields of experience as chosen by the Director of the Victim Services and Advocacy Unit. The evaluation panel will make programmatic and budgetary recommendations for sub-awards. To be considered for funding, proposals must first meet the stated objectives, as well as general and specific requirements outlined in this grant application.

All inquiries for information should be directed to: **Stephanie Lowery: (405) 522-2617** or Stephanie.Lowery@oag.ok.gov.

Purpose

The intent and purpose of this grant application, being issued by the Oklahoma Office of Attorney General is to: 1) assist in efforts to increase public awareness about, and primary and secondary prevention of, family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence; and 2) assist in efforts to provide immediate shelter and supportive services for victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their dependents (42 U.S.C. § 10401(b)(1)-(2)). The grant funds have been designated for use by community-based organizations that primarily serve underserved populations, including culturally and linguistically specific populations, and organizations that provide programs and protocols that make services available to domestic violence victims who are members of underserved populations.

Description

This FVPSA funding opportunity, administered through the OAG, is designed to assist eligible entities in their efforts to support the establishment, maintenance, and expansion of programs and projects to:

- 1) Prevent incidents of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence;
- 2) Provide immediate shelter, supportive services, and access to community-based programs for victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their dependents; and
- 3) Provide specialized services for children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence including victims who are members of underserved populations (45 CF §1370.10(a)).

The FVPSA grant funds shall be used for programs and projects that are designed to prevent incidents of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence by providing immediate shelter and supportive services; and that may include paying for the operating and administrative expenses of the facilities for a shelter, for adult and youth victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their dependents; and that may be used to provide prevention services to prevent future incidents of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence (42 U.S.C. § 10408(a) and 42 U.S.C. § 10408(b)(1)(A)).

FVPSA funds shall be used for but are not limited to:

- Provision, on a regular basis, of immediate shelter and related supportive services to adult and youth victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their dependents, including paying for the operating and administrative expenses of the facilities for such shelter (42 U.S.C. § 10408(b)(1)(A));
- Assistance in developing safety plans and supporting efforts of victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence to make decisions related to their ongoing safety and well-being (42 U.S.C. § 10408(b)(1)(B));
- Provision of individual and group counseling, peer support groups, and referral to community-based services to assist family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence victims, and their dependents, in recovering from the effects of the violence (42 U.S.C. § 10408(b)(1)(C));
- Provision of services, training, technical assistance, and outreach to increase awareness of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence, and increase the accessibility of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence services (42 U.S.C. § 10408(b)(1)(D));
- Provision of culturally and linguistically appropriate services (42 U.S.C. § 10408(b)(1)(E));
- Provision of services for children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, including age-appropriate counseling, supportive services, and services for the non-abusing parent that support that parent's role as a caregiver, which may, as appropriate, include services that work with the non-abusing parent and child together (42 U.S.C. § 10408(b)(1)(F));
- Provision of advocacy, case management services, and information and referral services concerning issues related to family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence intervention and prevention, including: 1) assistance in accessing related federal and state financial assistance programs; 2) legal advocacy to assist victims and their dependents; 3) medical advocacy, including provision of referrals for appropriate health care services (including mental health, alcohol, and drug abuse treatment), which does not include reimbursement for any health care services; 4) assistance locating and securing safe and affordable permanent housing and homelessness prevention services; 5) provision of transportation, child care, respite care, job training and employment services, financial literacy services and education, financial planning, and related economic empowerment services; and 6) parenting and other educational services for victims and their dependents (42 U.S.C. § 10408(b)(1)(G)); and
- Provision of prevention services, including outreach to underserved populations (42 U.S.C. § 10408(b)(1)(H)).

Trauma-Informed Practices and Interventions

In support of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF)/Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) priorities, awards governed by this grant opportunity are designed to ensure that effective interventions and trauma-informed practice are in place to build skills and capacities that contribute to the healthy, positive, and productive functioning of individuals and families. An important component of promoting social and emotional well-being includes addressing the impact of trauma, which can have a profound effect on the overall functioning of victims of family violence, domestic violence, dating violence and their dependents.

Sub-grantees have a critical role in promoting FYSB priorities by incorporating trauma-informed practices and interventions in all of their services funded by FVPSA. In particular, services must be provided on a voluntary basis and no condition may be applied for the receipt of emergency shelter (42 U.S.C. § 10408(d)(2)). Further, sub-grantees cannot impose conditions for admission to shelter by applying inappropriate screening methods (45 CFR § 1370.10(b)(10)).

Sub-grantees are strongly encouraged to leverage the expertise of the FVPSA-funded resource centers that comprise the Domestic Violence Resource Network (<http://www.learnaboutfvpsa.com/dvrn>) to infuse programs with best and promising practices on trauma-informed interventions. In particular, the National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma, and Mental Health can be a valuable resource on accessible, culturally relevant, and trauma-informed response to domestic violence and other lifetime trauma.

Client Confidentiality

In order to ensure the safety of adult, youth, and child victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their families, FVPSA-funded programs must establish and implement policies and protocols for maintaining the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided services family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence.

FVPSA-funded programs cannot disclose any personally identifying information (PII) collected in connection with services; reveal PII without informed, written, reasonably time-limited consent; or require a victim to provide consent as a condition of eligibility for services (45 CFR §1370.4(a)(1) – (3)). Additionally, consent to release PII shall be given by an un-emancipated minor and the minor's parent or guardian, or in the case of an individual with a guardian, it shall be given by the individual's guardian (45 CFR §1370.4(b)).

In the annual Performance Progress Report (PPR), grantees must collect unduplicated data and may only share non-personally identifying information, in the aggregate, regarding services to their clients in order to comply with federal, state, or tribal reporting, evaluation or data collection requirements (42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(5)(D)). Client-level data shall not be shared with a third party, regardless of encryption, hashing, or other data security measures, without a written, time-limited release as described in 42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(5). The relationship of the victim/survivor with the domestic violence program is the basis for determining who has access to client information; therefore, any other person or organization outside of the program that is providing the services is considered a third party (e.g., Tribal Council).

The address or location of any FVPSA-supported shelter facility shall not be made public except with written authorization of the person or persons responsible for the operation of such shelter (42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(5)(H)), and the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided domestic violence services by a FVPSA-supported program will be strictly maintained. Tribal governments, while exercising due diligence to comply with statutory and regulatory provisions, may determine how best to maintain the safety and confidentiality of shelter locations (45 CFR § 1370.4(g)(2)).

Coordinated and Accessible Services

The impacts of intimate partner violence may include physical injury and death of primary or secondary victims, psychological trauma, isolation from family and friends, harm to children living with a parent or caretaker who is either experiencing or perpetrating intimate partner violence, increased fear, reduced mobility, damaged credit, employment and financial instability, homelessness, substance abuse, chronic illnesses, and a host of other health and related mental health consequences. In tribal communities, these dynamics may be compounded by barriers including the isolation of vast rural and remote areas, the concern for safety in isolated settings, lack of housing and shelter options, and the transportation requirements over long distances. These factors heighten the need for the coordination of the services. To help bring about a more effective response to the problems of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, ACYF/FYSB urges tribes and tribal

organizations receiving funds under this funding opportunity to coordinate activities and/or services with relevant responders, communities and/or individuals that may enhance the program's provision of support and outreach to victims/survivors and their dependents. Tribes or tribal organizations with limited resources may want to consider joining a consortium of tribes to coordinate service delivery and/or project management where appropriate.

States are required to involve community-based organizations that primarily serve underserved populations, including culturally and linguistically specific populations, to determine how such populations can assist the states in serving unmet needs. States must also consult with and provide for the participation of State Domestic Violence Coalitions and Tribal Coalitions in state planning and with needs assessments to identify service gaps or problems and to develop appropriate response plans and programs (45 CFR § 1370.10(a)).

States should engage in an intentional process to involve tribes and tribal organizations to work with states and State Domestic Violence Coalitions to support collaboration and to help ensure tribal members are served appropriately in non-Native domestic violence programs. Pursuant to FVPSA, Tribes and Tribal Organizations are also eligible entities to receive FVPSA State funds. Where appropriate and in deference to tribal sovereignty, Tribes are also encouraged to apply for sub-grants under the FVPSA State funding and become involved in state planning and State Domestic Violence Coalition needs assessments.

It is essential that community service providers are involved in the design and improvement of intervention and prevention activities. Coordination and collaboration among victim services providers; community-based, culturally specific, and faith-based services providers; housing and homeless services providers; and tribal, federal, state, and local public officials and agencies are needed to provide more responsive and effective services to victims of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence, and their families. States are required to consult with and provide for the participation of state domestic violence coalitions and tribal coalitions in state planning and with needs assessments to identify service gaps or problems and to develop appropriate response plans, and tribes should be involved in these processes where appropriate and in deference to tribal sovereignty (45 CFR §1370.10(a)). ACYF/FYSB urges tribes and tribal organizations to work with states and state domestic violence coalitions to support collaboration and to help ensure tribal members are served appropriately in non-native domestic violence programs. Pursuant to FVPSA, tribes and tribal organizations are also eligible entities to receive FVPSA state formula funds.

The grantee acknowledges its obligation to comply with 45 CFR Part 87 "Equal Treatment For Faith-Based Organizations," including the requirement that all faith-based or religious organizations are eligible, on the same basis as any other organization, to participate in this and any program for which they are otherwise eligible. Thus, the grantee agrees that when selecting service providers or sub-grantees it will not discriminate for or against any organization on the basis of the organization's religious character or affiliation as indicated in 45 CFR 87.3(a).

To comply with federal law, services must be widely accessible to all victims of family violence, domestic violence and dating violence, and their dependents. Grantees must not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, disability, race, color, national origin, or religion (42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(2)). No person shall, on the ground of actual or perceived sex, including gender identity, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under, any program or activity funded in whole or in part through FVPSA (45 CFR § 1370.5(a)). FVPSA grantees and sub-grantees must provide comparable services to victims regardless of actual or perceived sex, including gender identity. This includes providing access to services for all victims, including male victims of family, domestic, and dating violence and not limiting services for victims with

adolescent children (under the age of 18). Victims and their minor children must be sheltered or housed together unless requested otherwise by the victim (45 CFR § 1370.5(a)(1)).

However, no program or activity is required to include an individual in such program or activity without taking into consideration that individual's sex in those certain instances where sex is a bona fide occupational qualification or programmatic factor reasonably necessary to the essential operation of that particular program or activity. If sex segregation or sex-specific programming is essential to the normal or safe operation of the program, grantees and sub-grantees must provide comparable services to individuals who cannot be provided with the sex-segregated or sex-specific programming, including access to a comparable length of stay, supportive services, and transportation as needed to access services. In making this determination, grantees and sub-grantees should assess the facts and circumstances surrounding the specific program, including an analysis of factors that take into account established field-based best practices and the literature on the efficacy of such services, as applicable. The justification cannot rely on unsupported assumptions or overly-broad sex-based generalizations. Justifications are subject to review by ACYF/FYSB upon request. An individual must be treated consistent with their gender identity (45 CFR §1370.5(a)(2)), and as with all individuals served, transgender and gender nonconforming individuals must have equal access to FVPSA-funded shelter and nonresidential programs (45 CFR § 1370.5(a)(4)).

No person shall on the ground of actual or perceived sexual orientation be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under, any program or activity funded in whole or in part through FVPSA (45 CFR § 1370.5 (c)). Additionally, tribes must assist all individuals seeking services and may not restrict services to tribal members.

The HHS Office for Civil Rights provides guidance to assist grantees in complying with civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination. Please see: <https://www.hhs.gov/civil-rights/for-individuals/index.html>. Grantees and sub-grantees are required to take reasonable steps to provide services to persons with limited English proficiency (i.e., individuals who do not speak English as their primary language and who have a limited ability to read, write, speak, or understand English, including deaf and hard of hearing persons). HHS also provides guidance to recipients of federal financial assistance on meeting the legal obligation to take reasonable steps to provide meaningful access to federally assisted programs by persons with limited English proficiency. Please see <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/resources/specialtopics/lep/index.html>.

As per 45 CFR § 1370.5 (d), all FVPSA-funded services must be provided without requiring documentation of immigration status since FVPSA-funded services do not fall within the definition of federal public benefit that would require verification of immigration status. HHS provides guidance regarding services to HHS-funded services for immigrant survivors of domestic violence. Please see www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/resources/specialtopics/origin/domesticviolencefactsheet.html.

Given the unique needs of victims of trafficking, FVPSA-funded programs are strongly encouraged to safely screen for and identify victims of human trafficking who are also victims or survivors of domestic violence or dating violence and provide services that support their unique needs (45 CFR § 1370.10(d)). Please see <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/blog/2021/01/building-capacity-among-fysb-programs-address-human-trafficking>.

Definitions

For the purpose of this grant application, applicants are required to use the following definitions in carrying out FVPSA-funded programs and activities. Definitions include those expanded or clarified through language found in 45 CFR § 1370.2.

Dating Violence: Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim and where the existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on a consideration of the following factors: The length of the relationship, the type of relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. This part of the definition reflects the definition also found in Section 40002(a)(10) of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)(as amended), 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a), as required by FVPSA. Dating violence also includes but is not limited to the physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional violence within a dating relationship, including stalking. It can happen in person or electronically, and may involve financial abuse or other forms of manipulation which may occur between a current or former dating partner regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.

Domestic Violence: Felony or misdemeanor crimes of violence committed by a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim, by a person with whom the victim shares a child in common, by a person who is cohabitating with or has cohabitated with the victim as a spouse or intimate partner, by a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction receiving grant monies, or by any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction. This definition also reflects the statutory definition of “domestic violence” found in 42 U.S.C. Section 40002(a)(8) of VAWA (as amended), 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a). This definition also includes but is not limited to criminal or non-criminal acts constituting intimidation, control, coercion and coercive control, emotional and psychological abuse and behavior, expressive and psychological aggression, financial abuse, harassment, tormenting behavior, disturbing or alarming behavior, and additional acts recognized in other federal, tribal state, and local laws as well as acts in other federal regulatory or sub-regulatory guidance. This definition is not intended to be interpreted more restrictively than FVPSA and VAWA but rather to be inclusive of other, more expansive definitions. The definition applies to individuals and relationships regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity

Family Violence: Any act or threatened act of violence, including any forceful detention of an individual, that results or threatens to result in physical injury and is committed by a person against another individual, to or with whom such person is related by blood or marriage, or is or was otherwise legally related, or is or was lawfully residing.

In 1984, when FVPSA was first named and authorized, the term “family violence” was commonly used as synonymous with “domestic violence” (violence between intimate partners). However, currently “family violence” is often used more broadly to encompass the diverse forms of violence that occur within families, including child maltreatment, domestic violence, and elder abuse. For clarity and in keeping with the historical FVPSA “family violence” interpretation, the term will continue to be used more narrowly and as interchangeable with “domestic violence.”

Federally Recognized Tribe: An American Indian or Alaska Native tribal entity that is recognized as having a government-to-government relationship with the United States, with the responsibilities, powers, limitations, and obligations attached to that designation. These tribes are eligible for funding and services from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) or are eligible to enter into agreements with HHS or BIA under Pub. L. 93-638, Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975. Furthermore, federally recognized tribes are recognized as possessing certain inherent rights of self-government (i.e., tribal sovereignty) and are entitled to receive certain federal benefits, services, and protections because of their special relationship with the United States.

Indian Tribe/Tribe/Native American Tribe: Any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, 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 (25 U.S.C. § 5304).

Intimate Partner Violence: A term used interchangeably with *domestic violence* or *dating violence*.

Personally identifying information or personal information: Individually identifying information for or about an individual, including information likely to disclose the location of a victim of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, regardless of whether the information is encoded, encrypted, hashed, or otherwise protected, including a first and last name; a home or other physical address; contact information (including a postal, e-mail or Internet protocol address, or telephone or facsimile number); a social security number, driver's license number, passport number, or student identification number; and any other information, including date of birth, racial or ethnic background, or religious affiliation, that would serve to identify any individual.

Primary Prevention: Strategies, policies, and programs to stop both first-time perpetration and first-time victimization. Primary prevention is stopping domestic and dating violence before they occur. Primary prevention includes but is not limited to: School-based violence prevention curricula, programs aimed at mitigating the effects on children of witnessing domestic or dating violence, community campaigns designed to alter norms and values conducive to domestic or dating violence, worksite prevention programs, and training and education in parenting skills and self-esteem enhancement.

Secondary Prevention: Identifying risk factors or problems that may lead to future family, domestic, or dating violence, and taking the necessary actions to eliminate the risk factors and the potential problem, and may include, but are not limited to, healing services for children and youth who have been exposed to domestic or dating violence, home visiting programs for high-risk families, and screening programs in health care settings.

Shelter: The provision of temporary refuge in conjunction with supportive services in compliance with applicable state or tribal law or regulations governing the provision, on a regular basis, of shelter, safe homes, meals, and supportive services to victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their dependents. State and tribal law governing the provision of shelter and supportive services on a regular basis is interpreted by ACF to mean, for example, the laws and regulations applicable to zoning, fire safety, and other regular safety, and operational requirements, including state, tribal, or local regulatory standards for certifying domestic violence advocates who work in shelter. This definition also includes emergency shelter and immediate shelter, which may include housing provision, rental subsidies, temporary refuge, or lodging in properties that could be individual units for families and individuals (such as apartments) in multiple locations around a local jurisdiction, tribe/reservation, or state; such properties are not required to be owned, operated, or leased by the program. Temporary refuge includes a residential service, including shelter and off-site services such as hotel or motel vouchers or individual dwellings, which is not transitional or permanent housing, but must also provide comprehensive supportive services. The mere act of making a referral to shelter or housing shall not itself be considered provision of shelter. Should other jurisdictional laws conflict with this definition of temporary refuge, the definition which provides more expansive housing accessibility governs.

State means each of the several states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and, except as otherwise provided, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

State Domestic Violence Coalition means a statewide, nongovernmental, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose membership includes a majority of the primary-purpose domestic violence service providers in the state; whose board membership is representative of these primary-purpose domestic violence service providers and which may include representatives of the communities in which the services are being provided in the state; that

has as its purpose to provide education, support, and technical assistance to such service providers to enable the providers to establish and maintain supportive services and to provide shelter to victims of domestic violence and their children; and that serves as an information clearinghouse, primary point of contact, and resource center on domestic violence for the State and supports the development of policies, protocols and procedures to enhance domestic violence intervention and prevention in the state/territory.

Sub-award: An award provided by a pass-through entity to a sub-recipient for the sub-recipient to carry out part of a federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a federal program. A sub-award may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract (45 CFR § 75.2).

Sub-grant: Has the same meaning as sub-award.

Supportive Services: Services for adult and youth victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their dependents that are designed to meet the needs of such victims and their dependents for short-term, transitional, or long-term safety and recovery. Supportive services include, but are not limited to: direct and/or referral-based advocacy on behalf of victims and their dependents, counseling, case management, employment services, referrals, transportation services, legal advocacy or assistance, childcare services, health, behavioral health and preventive health services, culturally and linguistically appropriate services, and other services that assist victims or their dependents in recovering from the effects of the violence. To the extent not already described in this definition, supportive services also include but are not limited to other services identified in FVPSA at 42 U.S.C. § 10408(b)(1)(A – H). Supportive services may be directly provided by grantees and/or by providing advocacy or referrals to assist victims in accessing such services.

Tribal Consortium: A partnership between one or more tribes (including qualifying Alaska Native villages and entities) that authorizes a single tribal organization or nonprofit to submit an application and administer the FVPSA grant funds on their behalf.

Tribally Designated Official: An individual designated by an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or nonprofit private organization authorized by an Indian Tribe to administer a grant awarded under 42 U.S.C. § 10409.

Tribal Organization: The recognized governing body of any Indian tribe; any legally established organization of Indians that is controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by such governing body or is democratically elected by the adult members of the Indian community to be served by such organization and that includes the maximum participation of Indians in all phases of its activities; or any tribal nonprofit organization; provided that, in any case where a contract is let or grant made to an organization to perform services benefiting more than one Indian tribe, the approval of each such Indian tribe shall be a prerequisite to the letting or making of such contract or grant (25 U.S.C. § 5304).

Underserved populations: Populations who face barriers in accessing and using victim services, and includes populations underserved because of geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, underserved racial and ethnic populations, and populations underserved because of special needs including language barriers, disabilities, immigration status, and age. Individuals with criminal histories due to victimization and individuals with substance use disorders and mental health issues are also included in this definition. The reference to racial and ethnic populations is primarily directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups (as defined in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 300(u–6)(g)), which means American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts); Asian American; Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders; Blacks and Hispanics. The term “Hispanic” or “Latino” means individuals whose origin is Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or any other Spanish-speaking country. This underserved populations definition also includes other population categories determined by the Secretary or the Secretary’s designee to be underserved.

Match Requirement

Grants funded by the states will meet the matching requirements in 42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(4). No grant shall be made to any entity other than a State or Tribe unless the entity agrees that, with respect to the cost to be incurred by the entity in carrying out the program or project for which the grant is awarded, the entity will make available (directly or through donations from public or private entities) non-federal contributions in an amount that is not less than \$1 for every \$5 of federal funds provided under the grant. The non-federal contributions required may be in cash or in kind.

Tribes are not required to provide match under this grant announcement (see 42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(4)).

Length of Project Period

The project period for awards made under this announcement is 12 months, running from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.

Eligibility Information

Tribes (federally recognized), tribal organizations, and nonprofit private organizations authorized by a federally-recognized tribe, as defined in *Definitions* of this announcement, are eligible for funding under this program. Federally recognized tribes as defined in *Definitions* of this announcement have the option to authorize a tribal organization or a nonprofit private organization to submit an application and administer the grant funds awarded under this grant (42 U.S.C. § 10409(b)). However, only federally recognized tribes receive an allocation of the funds. Tribes may apply singularly or as part of a Tribal Consortium.

To be eligible to receive a sub-grant from a state, an entity shall be:

- (1) a local public agency, or a nonprofit private organization (including faith-based and charitable organizations, community-based organizations, tribal organizations, and voluntary associations) that assists victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their dependents, and has a documented history of effective work concerning family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence; or
- (2) a partnership of two or more agencies or organizations that includes:
 - i. an agency or organization described in paragraph (1); and
 - ii. an agency or organization that has a demonstrated history of serving populations in their communities, including providing culturally appropriate services.

***All non-tribal applicants must be certified by the Office of the Attorney General or must have submitted an application for certification prior to August 1, 2023.**

UEI and System for Award Management (SAM.gov)

All applicants must have a Unique Entity ID (UEI). This 12-digit ID must be obtained from the System for Award Management (SAM) website at <https://sam.gov/content/home>.

All applicants are required to maintain an active SAM registration. If a grant is awarded, registration at SAM.gov must be active throughout the life of the award.

Plan ahead. Registration in Sam.gov takes time!

The AG’s Office cannot provide technical assistance for Sam.gov issues – please contact the Sam.gov Helpdesk if you have any issues.

Applications that do not have an UEI will not be considered.

Forms, Assurances and Certifications

Forms/Certifications

Description

Certification Regarding Lobbying
See Appendix A

Required of all applicants at the time of their application. If not available the application, it must be submitted prior to the award of the grant.

SF-LLL - Disclosure of Lobbying Activities
See Appendix B

Required of all applicants at time of their application. If no lobbying activities are being performed, please put N/A in boxes 10a and 10b.

Assurance of Compliance with Grant Requirements
See Appendix C

Required of all applicants at time of their application.

Application and Submission Information

The application, including all required forms, assurances, and certifications, must be submitted and signed by the Chief Executive Officer/ Executive Director or the Tribal Designated Official.

Applications may be submitted:

- 1) Hand-delivered to the OAG's Oklahoma City office by 5pm on September 1, 2023.
- 2) Via mail to OAG's Oklahoma City office, postmarked by September 1, 2023 (please email and let it be known a mailed version is arriving).
- 3) Via email, by 11:59pm on September 1, 2023. **EMAIL IS THE PREFERRED METHOD.**
Email applications to: Stephanie.Lowery@oag.ok.gov

No faxes or jump drives will be accepted.

Application Preparation:

- a. All information requested should be submitted. Failure to submit all information requested may result in OAG requiring prompt submission of missing information and/or giving a lowered evaluation of the proposal. Applications which are substantially incomplete or lack key information may be rejected by the OAG.
- b. Applications should be prepared simply and economically, providing a straightforward, concise description of capabilities to satisfy the requirements of the grant announcement. Emphasis should be placed on completeness and clarity of content that addresses every component of the instructions.
- c. Applications should be organized in the order in which the requirements are presented in the grant announcement. All pages of the application shall be numbered. No other attachments should be submitted.
- d. Oral Presentation: Applicants **may be contacted**. If scheduled, it is an explanation session only and does not include negotiation. The OAG will schedule the time and location of these presentations. Oral presentations are an option of the OAG and may or may not be conducted.

REQUIRED APPLICATION INFORMATION. Please label each section accordingly.

A. Cover Letter

A cover letter addressed to OAG Victim Advocacy and Services Unit, on the applicant's **letterhead** with the following information:

- (1) The name and complete address of the agency or tribe.
- (2) The name, phone number and email address of the Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director or Tribal Designated Official responsible for the administration of FVPSA funds and the coordination of related programs. This person should have the authority to sign the application, assurances, and certifications.

- (3) If applicable, the name and contact information for a person designated to administer and coordinate programming on a day-to-day basis. Include their telephone number and email address.
- (4) Employer Identification Number (EIN) of the entity submitting the application.
- (5) A 12-digit Unique Entity ID (UEI) of the entity submitting the application.
- (6) Confirmation that the Tribe is federally recognized (e.g., name of Tribe is in Federal Register <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-01-17/pdf/2017-00912.pdf> or has contracted with HHS or BIA through the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 through another grant program).
- (7) A statement acknowledging that this is a reimbursement grant and that the agency/program has sufficient funds available to cover three months of expenses prior to reimbursement. If the agency/program does not have funds to cover three months of expenses, please submit a plan of action explaining how the agency/program will ensure upcoming expenditures are funded within the three months.
- (8) The cover letter must be signed and dated by the Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director or Tribal Designated Official.

Attachments that must accompany the cover letter:

- (1) Proof of 501 (c)(3) status, if applicable
- (2) Certificate of Good Standing from the Oklahoma Secretary of State, if applicable
- (3) Copy of most recent audit
- (4) Certification regarding lobbying (see Appendix A)
- (5) SF-LLL- Disclosure of lobbying activities (see Appendix B)
- (6) Assurance of compliance with grant requirements (see Appendix C)

B. Statement of Need (2 pages maximum)

A narrative of the need for services including:

- (1) Describe the purpose of the agency/program, the mission statement, year of establishment, types of services currently being offered, and service area(s) to be served.
- (2) Provide the number of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and their dependents that the applicant served in the last year and estimate the number of victims it will serve during the project period cited in this application through shelter and supportive services.
- (3) Describe the barriers that victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and their dependents are experiencing in the applicant's service area(s) and the challenges that the applicant is experiencing in providing services.

C. Capacity (2 pages maximum)

- (1) A description of the applicant's operation or ability to operate and/or capacity to provide services under the FVPSA program, including, but not limited to the following:
 - a) The current operation of a shelter, safe home, or the current operation of a domestic violence prevention program.
 - b) Establishment of joint or collaborative service agreements with other entities such as a local public agency or a private nonprofit agency for shelter and/or supportive services.
 - c) The operation of social services programs through receipt of grants or contracts under Indian Child Welfare grants from the Bureau of Indian Affairs; Child Welfare Services or Family Support grants under Title IV-B of the Social Security Act ((45 CFR § 1370.10(c)(5)(i-iii)).
- (2) A description of staff involved in carrying out the FVPSA program:

- a) Expertise, skills, and knowledge of staff.
 - b) Commitment to increasing staff's expertise, skills and knowledge through continuing education and training.
- (3) A description of the methods to involve knowledgeable individuals and other interested organizations in providing services. Individuals and organizations may include: other social services programs operated by the applicant that assist victims of domestic and dating violence and their dependents such as social services staff, tribal officials, tribal law enforcement, state domestic violence coalition(s) or tribal coalition(s), other domestic violence shelters or supportive service providers, etc. (45 CFR § 1370.10(c)(4)).

D. Services to be Provided (3 pages maximum)

(1) A description of the measurable objectives and activities that will be provided (45 CFR § 1370.10(c)(6)) in whole or in part with FVPSA underserved populations funds, how the underserved population was identified, and include:

- a) How the applicant will provide shelter (*see Definitions*) to adult and youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and their dependents. Please note that victims of sexual assault and human trafficking may be included when the sexual assault or trafficking relates specifically to a victim of domestic or dating violence. The description must include how shelter will be provided to all victims regardless of sex, sexual orientation, gender, or gender identity. If the applicant does not have its own shelter, then describe how it will use FVPSA funds to provide shelter in alternative ways such as hotels, safe houses, or referrals with shelter programs in the area, or other expenses associated with placing a victim in another entity's shelter (e.g., transportation to that facility or the personnel costs for an advocate responsible for coordinating shelter).
- b) Supportive services (*see Definitions*) that will be provided to adult and youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and their dependents which may include:
 - Individual and group counseling, peer support groups, and referral to community-based services.
 - Assistance in developing safety plans, and supporting efforts of victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence to make decisions related to their ongoing safety and well-being.
 - Services, training, technical assistance, and outreach to increase awareness of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence, and increase the accessibility of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence services.
 - Culturally and linguistically appropriate services.
 - Services for children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, including age-appropriate counseling, supportive services, and services for the non-abusing parent that support that parent's role as a caregiver, which may, as appropriate, include services that work with the non-abusing parent and child together.
 - Advocacy, case management services, and information and referral services, concerning issues related to family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence intervention and prevention.
 - Prevention services, including outreach to underserved populations.

(2) A description of all other services that will be provided to victims of family violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and their dependents that will be supported by other funding sources outside

of FVPSA. The purpose of this element is to ensure that the OAG has a good understanding of the applicant's total program for serving victims of domestic and dating violence and their dependents.

E. Evaluation (1 page maximum)

Present a plan for determining the degree to which the program objectives are/will be met. Additionally, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), a program of the US Department of Health and Human Services, requires each state to collect data from the local domestic violence programs regarding the outcomes of services. Sub-grantees are required to collect and report data on the below outcome measures in addition to any other measurements:

1. As a result of contact with the domestic violence program, survivors know more ways to plan for safety.
2. As a result of contact with the domestic violence program, survivors know more about community resources.

F. Budget and Budget Narrative (2 page maximum)

(1) Provide a line-item budget and budget narrative to describe how you will use FVPSA funds to support planned objectives and activities as described in Section D (1) above that may include for example:

- a) Staff positions and titles along with the responsibilities and duties for each including an estimated percentage of effort funded by FVPSA.
- b) Training and technical assistance activities that may include travel to conferences, meetings, and other associated costs.
- c) Development of public awareness and prevention materials.
- d) Shelter facility rent, utilities, maintenance, etc.
- e) Client support costs such as transportation, food, clothing, etc.
- f) Outreach program costs

The project period for awards made under this announcement is 12 months.

G. Policies and Procedures

(1) Describe how the applicant will document and track the data elements (outputs) required for annual performance reporting, such as number of people served (race/ethnicity and age); shelter services (bed nights and unmet requests for shelter); supportive services for adults; supportive services for children; and community education and public awareness activities.

(2) Provide as an attachment, the section in the applicant's policies and procedures that addresses the protection of **confidentiality and privacy** of victims of domestic and dating violence and their dependents.

This must include the following elements:

- a) Non-disclosure of PII to a third party including any federal, state, or tribal funder for purposes of data collection, reporting, monitoring or evaluation.

- b) Prohibition on sharing client information without an informed, written, reasonably time-limited client release to any third-party including child welfare, tribal police, and/or tribal officials.
- c) When and how a client may consent to a release of information.
- d) When the applicant may need to share PII without the consent of the client.
- e) Confidentiality of location of shelter, if applicable.

Current and Signed Tribal Resolution

Each tribe that wishes to receive funding under this grant program must be a federally recognized tribe and must submit a copy of a tribal resolution or an equivalent document (i.e. meeting minutes from the governing body, and/or letters from the authorizing official reflecting approval of the application's submittal, depending on what is appropriate for the applicant's governance structure) signed by the Tribal Designated Official(s) (45 CFR § 1370.10(c)(1)).

The resolution or equivalent document must:

- (1) State that the tribe, tribal organization, or nonprofit private organization has the authority to submit an application on behalf of the individuals in the tribe(s) and to administer programs and activities funded.
- (2) Specify the name(s) of the tribe(s) on whose behalf the application is submitted and the service areas for the intended grant services.
- (3) Be signed or have an effective issue date of no more than 5 years before the due date of this funding opportunity announcement.
- (4) There is no requirement that the resolution have an expiration date; however, if one is included, the expiration date must be after the end of the grant's project period.

Receipt of the tribal resolution or equivalent document may come after the application deadline if the tribe needs extra time to have the document drafted, approved, and signed. If all other application requirements are completed and satisfactory, the OAG will proceed with the issuance of grant award notices; however, such documentation must be received before funds can be released.

Funding Restrictions

Award funds issued under this announcement may not be used to pay the salary, or any percentage of salary, to an individual at a rate in excess of Executive Level II. The Executive Level II salary of the "Rates of Pay for the Executive Schedule" is \$212,100.00 as of January 1, 2023.

Reporting Requirements

Recipients are required to submit post award performance progress reports and financial reports as requested by the OAG. Performance Progress Reports are due quarterly on the worksheet provided by the OAG and emailed to Stephanie.Lowery@oag.ok.gov by the due date. The OAG may suspend funding for an approved application if any applicant fails to submit a required report or if the funds are expended for purposes other than those set forth under this grant announcement.

Other Requirements and Unallowable Services/Expenses

Recipients must ensure that services to victims and their children are:

- Provided free of charge and regardless of income;
- Provided on a voluntary basis;
- Culturally and linguistically appropriate;
- Accessible and offered to underserved populations; and
- Trauma informed.

Unallowable Services/Expenses Include:

1. Services to perpetrators;
 2. Juvenile justice activities;
 3. Fundraising;
 4. Inpatient treatment services;
 5. Contract services without prior permission;
 6. Real property;
 7. Direct payment to victims or victim family members;
 8. Lobbying/administrative advocacy; and
 9. Research.
- Administration, prevention and/or community collaboration time and costs must be limited to no more than 25% of any grant funded staff time.

Fiscal Administration and Method of Payment

These funds are not intended to supplant established resources or duplicate established funds.

A grant award and/or contract will be signed between the OAG and the local administrator of the applying agency/program upon granting of a sub-award. Upon approval of the grant award and/or contract, the sub-grantee will be reimbursed for expenses on a monthly reimbursement basis according to the terms of the grant award and/or contract. Therefore, the applicant must be prepared to pay expenses as they are incurred and bill the OAG for reimbursement with the approved OAG form. The sub-grantee should allow 45 days from the time expenditure statements are received by OAG.

The grant payment period is monthly. The sub-grantee shall bill the OAG each month on forms supplied by the OAG. Forms shall be submitted by the 10th of each month for expenditures from the previous month.

The sub-grantee agrees to comply with the audit and reporting requirements defined by 45 CFR Part 75. A sub-grantee that exceeds \$750,000 or more in combined federal funding is required at its expense to have an independent grant audit performed annually in accordance with 2 CFR Part 200. A copy of the audit shall be submitted to OAG within the earlier of thirty days after receipt of the audit report.

Appendix A- CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

- (1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.
- (2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.
- (3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Signature

Title

Organization

Appendix B

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Click on the following link to download the form:

https://apply07.grants.gov/apply/forms/sample/SFLLL_1_2_P-V1.2.pdf

Be sure to click "SubAwardee" under # 4.

Appendix C- Assurance of Compliance with Grant Requirements

By signing and submitting this document, the applicant agrees to comply with all requirements of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) including but not limited to the following conditions imposed by the FVPSA, 42 U.S.C. § 10401 et seq. and 45 CFR part 1370.

- (1) Grant funds will be used to provide shelter, supportive services, and prevention services to adult and youth victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their dependents (42 U.S.C. § 10408(a)).
- (2) Grant funds will not be used as direct payment to any victim of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, or to any dependent of such victim (42 U.S.C. § 10408(d)(1)).
- (3) No income eligibility standard will be imposed on individuals with respect to eligibility for assistance or services supported with funds appropriated to carry out the FVPSA (42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(3)).
- (4) No fees will be levied for assistance or services provided with funds appropriated to carry out the FVPSA (42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(3)).
- (5) The applicant has established policies, procedures, and protocols to ensure compliance, including by sub-grantees, with the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(5) regarding non-disclosure of confidential or private information (42 U.S.C. § 10407(a)(2)(A)).
- (6) Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(5), the applicant will comply with requirements to ensure the non-disclosure of confidential or private information, which include, but are not limited to: a) grantees will not disclose any personally identifying information (PII) collected in connection with services requested (including services used or denied), through grantee's funded activities or reveal PII without informed, written, reasonably time-limited consent by the person about whom information is sought, whether for the FVPSA-funded activities or any other federal or state program and in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(5)(B)(ii); b) grantees will not release information compelled by statutory or court order unless adhering to the requirements of 42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(5)(C); and c) grantees may share non-personally identifying information in the aggregate for the purposes enunciated in 42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(5)(D)(i) as well as for other purposes found in 42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(5)(D)(ii) and (iii).
- (7) The address or location of any shelter or facility assisted under the FVPSA that otherwise maintains a confidential location will, except with written authorization of the person or persons responsible for the operation of such shelter, not be made public (42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(5)(H)). Shelters which choose to remain confidential must develop and maintain systems and protocols to remain secure, which must include policies to respond to disruptive or dangerous contact from abusers. Tribal governments, while exercising due diligence to comply with statutory law and regulations regarding the confidentiality of the shelter location, may determine how best to maintain the safety and confidentiality of shelter locations (45 CFR § 1370.4(g)(1) and (g)(2)).
- (8) The applicant will ensure that it and its sub-grantees will not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, disability, race, color, national origin, or religion (42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(2)). No person shall on the ground of actual or perceived sex, including gender identity, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under, any program or activity funded in whole or in part through FVPSA (45 CFR § 1370.5(a)). No person shall on the ground of actual or perceived sexual orientation be excluded from

participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under, any program or activity funded in whole or in part through FVPSA (45 CFR § 1370.5(c)).

(9) The applicant shall use FVPSA funds to supplement and not supplant other federal, state, tribal and local public funds expended to provide services and activities that promote the objectives of the FVPSA (42 U.S.C. § 10406(c)(6)).

(10) Receipt of supportive services under the FVPSA will be voluntary. No condition will be applied for the receipt of emergency shelter (42 U.S.C. § 10408(d)(2)) and 45 CFR § 1370.10(b)(10).

(11) The tribe has a law or procedure to bar an abuser from a shared household or a household of the abused person, which may include eviction laws or procedures, where appropriate (42 U.S.C. § 10407(a)(2)(H)).

Printed Name and Title of Designated Official

Signature of Designated Official

Date Signed

Name of Eligible Organization