

North Carolina Governor's Crime Commission Crime Victim Services Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

The Crime Victims Services (CVS) Committee focuses on providing resources and programs to serve victims across the state through two Federal funding sources: The Victims of Crime Act ([VOCA](#)) and the Violence Against Women Act, herein referred to as [STOP/VAWA](#). This document is designed to address frequently asked questions submitted by subrecipients and includes information on both funding sources. We encourage you to refer to this document for any questions you may have about the application process and the respective funding sources.

The staff at the Governor's Crime Commission is committed to providing high quality, efficient, and effective customer service through guidance, support services, collaboration, compliance and technical expertise during the life of the grant. Our success relies on the success of our grantees in providing services to communities across the state, and in complying with all Federal, State, and GCC guidelines.

For any additional guidance not addressed by the FAQs, please contact a member of the CVS Planning Team at (919) 733-4564, or at:

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Application Process and GEMS

What is SAM.gov, and how do I register my organization?

The System for Award Management (SAM) is an official website of the U.S. government. You must register online in order to do business with the Federal Government. To register, you will need the following:

1. Your DUNS Number, Legal Business Name, and Physical Address from your Dun & Bradstreet (D&B) record.
2. Your Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and Taxpayer Name associated with your TIN. Review your tax documents from the IRS to find your Taxpayer Name.
3. Your bank's routing number, your bank account number, and your bank account type.

You must have a SAM.gov registration in order to receive Federal grant funding.

How do I obtain a DUNS number?

The Dun & Bradstreet D-U-N-S Number is a unique, nine-digit identifier for businesses, whose abbreviation stands for "data universal numbering system". The DUNS numbers are often used to identify and access information on businesses.

You may request a DUNS Number for free by going to: <http://fedgov.dnb.com/>

Who requires an NCID?

To access the GEMS system, applicants and subrecipients must have an NCID. At a minimum, this includes Project Director, Financial Officer, and Authorizing Official. Users should not share their NCID credentials with others.

You may register for your NCID by going to: <https://ncid.nc.gov/>

All users must adhere to the NCID Acceptable Use Policy. Violation of the policy could result in disciplinary action, termination, loss of information resources, and criminal prosecution.

Does our Board Chair have to be listed as the Authorizing Official in our project?

The Board Chair must be listed as the Authorizing Official for all non-profit/non-governmental organizations.

How do we update the organizational roles (Authorizing Official, Financial Officer, Project Director) in our project application?

The request for organizational roles must come from the NCID of the individual requesting the role. The project director or editor cannot login under his/her NCID and make a request on behalf of another user. New contacts can request an NCID at <https://ncid.nc.gov>. For any technical issues with the NCID, contact the ITS Service Desk (24 hours) at 919-754-6000 or toll free at 1-800-722-3946.

Once completed:

- Log into GEMS at <http://gems.ncdps.gov> using the NCID and password provided.
- The individual will set up a profile in GEMS and request an organizational or project role under the "My Profile" tab. Information requested includes name, job title, and contact information.

- Once project access is approved by the GEMS Organization Administrator, the individual should select “Request Organization Roles”. Once there, the individual may select one or more of the following roles: “Organization Administrator”, “Financial Officer”, and/or “Authorizing Official.” A written justification for needing this role is required in the narrative box.
- Finally, by clicking “Request Project Access”, the individual will select a project from the drop-down list, write a justification, and click submit. Once approved by the GEMS Organization Administrator, the individual will be able to edit the project application, create or edit reimbursements, budget adjustments, reports, etc.

Financial and Budgetary Questions

Can indirect cost-related expenses be used as match?

A subrecipient may count only *unrecovered* indirect costs as project match and may do so only with the approval of the state administering agency.

Unrecovered indirect costs are the difference between the amount of indirect costs charged to an award and the amount that *could* have been charged to the award under the subrecipient’s indirect cost rate. This includes indirect costs associated with matching funds. For example, a subrecipient that budgets the salary of a full-time employee as match may also include in that match amount the indirect costs associated with that employee’s salary, provided that those indirect costs are not recovered elsewhere.

I am using the De Minimis Indirect Cost rate. Does this have to be used in my other projects?

Some subrecipients have the option of using a *de minimis* indirect cost rate set by law. The de minimis rate is 10% of "modified total direct costs" (MTDC).

- The MTDC base includes: salary and wages, fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and the first \$25,000 of each contract.
- Excluded from the MTDC calculation is: equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, tuition remission, rental costs, scholarships, and the portion of any contracts in excess of \$25,000.

This *de minimis* rate is available without the need to negotiate with the cognizant federal agency for indirect costs. However, the *de minimis* rate is an option only for subrecipients that have never received an approved federally-negotiated indirect cost rate.

Any award recipient or subrecipient with a prior approved federally-negotiated indirect cost rate — even if it expired long ago — may not use the *de minimis* rate. When the *de minimis* rate is used, costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs. Double-charging is not permitted.

If you elect to use *de minimis*, it must be applied consistently across all your agency’s Federally funded projects until your agency receives a Federally Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate.

If you elect to use de minimis in your projects, you must submit and upload a certification to each of your project applications.

The De Minimis Certification Form can be found: <https://www.ncdps.gov/gccforms>

Can I submit reimbursement requests after my period of performance ends?

Yes. You may submit reimbursement requests for expenses occurring during your period of performance up to 45 days after your project ends.

Our program is in a shared office building with donated space. What documentation is required for use of donated space as in-kind match?

The Governor's Crime Commission requires that grant applications of this sort provide a written valuation of the space, as well as a floor plan detailing the space used as an upload to their attached documents. If there is a lease or rental agreement associated with this entity donating this space, it should also be attached as an upload to your grant application.

What may be used to meet the match requirement for my project?

Match requirements are typically stated as a percentage of the total project costs for an award. There are two kinds of match:

- *Cash Match*: includes cash spent for project-related costs.
- *In-kind Match*: includes, but is not limited to, the valuation of non-cash contributions provided by third parties. This type of match may be used in the form of services, supplies, real property, and equipment.

Documentation supporting the value of in-kind match must be maintained in the subrecipient's records.

Can volunteers be used as match?

Yes, volunteers can be used as match. Volunteer time and activity must be directly related to the project and their percentage of time and effort will need to be reported in order to count towards the project's match. Reported volunteer time will be held to the same standards of 2 CFR 200 as paid staff of the project. Job descriptions and time and activity sheets are required for volunteers used as match.

What recordkeeping requirements apply to project match?

Subrecipients must maintain records which clearly show the source, amount, and timing for all matched contributions. Supporting documentation must be maintained and made available in the event of an audit or site visit.

What is the difference between sub-awarding and contracting?

All recipients of GCC funding are subrecipients of the Federal funding awarded to the GCC. This funding constitutes as a *subaward*, which is designed for the subrecipients to carry out activities under the Federal award. Subrecipients cannot pass funds to another entity to fulfill the responsibilities of the project; subawards cannot be transferred or redistributed by subrecipients.

A contractor provides goods or services to the subrecipient related to the project. Subrecipients of the GCC may contract for the purpose of obtaining goods and services to support the activities of the project, and to access services or training for purposes of the project. All contracts must be submitted to the grant manager assigned to the project for approval before obligations for the contract can be made. Subrecipients must confirm that all contractors and vendors are eligible to receive federal funds.

Please note that approval of the grant award does not constitute specific approval of a contract.

General Questions

Can you use volunteers in a project but not use them as in-kind match?

Yes.

If my agency is faith-based, can funds be used specifically for the religious activities offered?

28 CFR 38.2 allows faith-based and religious organizations to retain their independence and carry out their mission, including the definition, development, practice, and expression of their religious beliefs, provided that they do not use direct federal financial assistance, whether received through a prime award or a subaward, to support or engage in any explicitly religious activities, including activities that involve overt religious content, such as worship, religious instruction, or proselytization.

If a victim resides in a county outside of where my agency is established, is my agency responsible for providing services?

All funding provided to subrecipients are public monies intended to serve citizens throughout the state. Agencies cannot decline to serve victims seeking resources based on their physical address or where their home is based.

What is supplanting? How do I avoid it?

Supplanting, consistent with the DOJ Grants Financial Guide, is the deliberate reduction of State, local, or tribal government funds otherwise available, specifically because federal funds are available (or expected to be available) to fund the same activity.

Federal funds may be used to supplement existing State and local funds for program activities and must not supplant (replace) funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose. To avoid potential supplanting issues, the below guidelines should be followed:

- Federal funds cannot be used to pay for existing employees unless the existing position is “back-filled” with a new hire.
- Federal funds cannot be used to pay for items or costs that the award recipient is already obligated to pay with State, local, or tribal funds.
- State, local, or tribal funds previously appropriated, allocated, or budgeted for award purposes cannot be reduced or reallocated to other purposes because of the receipt of federal funds.
- Maintain documentation demonstrating that any reductions in non-Federal resources budgeted for award purposes is unrelated to the receipt or expected receipt of federal funds.

I am an Executive Director funded through GCC-administered grants. Can my position be 100% funded through our projects?

Executive Directors cannot be 100% funded through subawards. Personnel costs that are directly related to providing direct services and supporting activities are allowable costs. Executive Directors have responsibilities that do not include or directly support the allowable activities (for example, fundraising, donor retention, board meetings, and executive administrative functions).

Does immigration status impact whether a victim is eligible for services?

Under the VOCA and STOP/VAWA programs, victim eligibility for direct services is not dependent on the victim's immigration status.

Can my grant be used to purchase food?

Yes, in some instances.

Food provision within the context of victim services is permissible if the food is necessary or integral to providing services to victims of crime for their safety (for example, providing food to victims at a shelter).

Food for training and other events (not direct services) is generally unallowable but may be permitted with pre-approval from the US Department of Justice. DOJ only approves requests when it deems food and beverage costs to be necessary.

What documentation do I need to support my agency's use of gas cards or bus cards?

Funded projects that use gift cards to support services must have written policies and internal controls regarding the purchase and use of such cards, and ensure that they are used only as reasonably necessary. Policies should address:

- What approvals are required to purchase the cards;
- How the cards are stored and accounted for;
- What items may be purchased with the cards; and
- What supporting documentation is required for purchases.

Can grants supporting law enforcement be used to purchase standard issued law enforcement items, such as uniforms, vests, shields, weapons, bullets, and armory?

Under the VOCA and STOP/VAWA programs, these items are expressly unallowable.

I am a faith-based organization. Am I eligible for funding?

Yes. Any such programs must comply with all applicable federal law. Services must not be contingent upon participation in any religious activity. Religious activities should be separate from project activities funded through your award.

What research and evaluation costs can be supported with my grant?

VOCA victim assistance funds cannot be used to support research. Research and studies are expressly unallowable expenses. Activities related to monitoring compliance and assessment of program activities are allowable.

VOCA-Specific Questions

The primary purpose for the VOCA Grant Program is to fund direct services to crime victims and their families. Services under this grant program are defined as those efforts that respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims; assist primary and secondary victims of crime to stabilize their lives after victimization; assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; and provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security as appropriate to their victimization

Who does VOCA consider a crime victim?

A crime victim means a person who has suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm as a result of the commission of a crime.

Who does VOCA consider a victim of child abuse?

A victim of crime, where such crime involved an act or omission considered to be child abuse under the law of North Carolina. In addition, victims of child abuse may include, but are not limited to, child victims of: physical, sexual, or emotional abuse; child pornography-related offenses; neglect; commercial sexual exploitation; bullying; and/or exposure to violence.

Are VOCA-funded programs required to use volunteers?

VOCA requires programs to use volunteers in order to be eligible to receive VOCA funds. The GCC may waive this requirement provided that the program submits written documentation with their application of its efforts to recruit and maintain volunteers, or otherwise demonstrates why circumstances prohibit the use of volunteers, to the satisfaction of GCC.

How do I request to waive the 20% match requirement for my project?

Waiver of the 20% match share may be requested by agencies unable to meet the requirement. Agencies must submit their written requests on agency letterhead at the time of application. If you are applying for multiple VOCA-funded projects, please include your request for match waiver as an upload to each project application.

Requests for match waiver must answer the following questions, as applicable:

1. What practical and/or logistical obstacles does the organization face that impacts your ability to provide match? (*e.g.*, public agencies that do not engage in private fundraising and may have limitations on soliciting contributing funds);
2. What local resource constraints does the organization face that impact your ability to provide match? (*e.g.*, rural community with limited local funding availability or volunteer capacity);
3. How have increases to VOCA funding where local funding availability has not increased to the same degree impacted the organization's ability to provide match? If this is the primary rationale for the match waiver, further explain the community's need(s) that led to a request for additional funding;
4. What constraints does the agency face that have impacted their current ability to provide match at the same levels as previously provided?

NOTE: The GCC and OVC generally expects subrecipients to provide at least the same dollar amount of match it provided during the grant year immediately preceding the year of the waiver request unless a change in circumstances justifies a lower amount

5. What steps has the organization taken to meet match requirements and/or to identify additional resources that might be used to provide match?
6. How would the denial of a match waiver impact the VOCA-funded project? Would the organization not be able to accept the grant without a match waiver?

Please include a completed table in your request with the following information for each project:

Current Application Match Waiver Request

Project Number	Federal Share	Match Share (\$) (Current Budget)	Match Waiver Request (\$)	
			Cash Match Waiver Amt (\$)	In-Kind Match Waiver Amt (\$)
Example: PROJ12345	100,000	20,000	5,000	15,000

Additionally, please state whether your organization has previously received a waiver of match for VOCA-funded projects in the last two years, and provide a table with the following information:

Prior Years Match Waivers Granted

Project Number	Start Date	End Date	Federal Share	Match Share – pre waiver budget (\$)	Match Waived (\$)

Please note that if your agency is approved for a waiver of match funding, the Federal share of funding that your agency receives will not increase.

I would like to provide services for victims of human trafficking. Is this allowed through VOCA?

All applicants and recipients of funding through our Human Trafficking priority must have the support of our Human Trafficking Commission and must illustrate so by providing a letter and MOU as an upload to their project applications. The Human Trafficking Commission leads the state’s efforts on anti-human trafficking efforts. Information on the Commission can be found here:

<https://www.nccourts.gov/commissions/human-trafficking-commission>

What is a subrecipient’s responsibility regarding collecting a rental deposit for a victim as part of the provision of transitional housing?

Transitional housing expenses, including rental and security deposits, are allowable, subject to any restriction on the amount, length of time, and eligible crimes set by the state administering agency. OVC encourages subrecipients to have an agreement in place with the landlord that the full/remaining deposit will be returned to the organization and not the victim at the end of the lease. In the event that a subgrantee has not made an agreement with the landlord, the subrecipient should make a good faith effort to collect the security or rental deposit from the victim and document such efforts.

Can VOCA funds be used for prevention?

While your agency may provide prevention-based activities, these activities cannot be supported with VOCA funding. Public awareness and outreach are allowable activities and include presentations, brochures, and PSAs that inform crime victims of specific rights and services and to provide them with services and assistance.

What tools can be used for project evaluations?

The OVC Training and Technical Assistance Center can help identify tools that states and subgrantees can use for project evaluations. For assistance, please visit: <https://www.ovcttac.gov/>

Do I qualify for an award in the "underserved" priority?

VOCA requires funding be allocated to projects serving “previously underserved populations of victims of violent crime”. Underserved populations may be distinguished by crime type, demographic characterizations, or both. These populations may require special consideration/services due to possibly being overlooked in the past or not having access to adequate services.

When are my OVC-PMT reports due?

All VOCA-funded projects are required to provide a report reflecting programmatic performance on a quarterly basis. The reported data allows us to demonstrate the value and specific benefits of your program to government agencies, the victim services field, the general public, and other stakeholders.

Data is to be reported to the GCC on the following dates:

REPORT WINDOW	DUE DATE
OCTOBER – DECEMBER	January 30 th
JANUARY – MARCH	April 30 th
APRIL – JUNE	July 30 th
JULY – SEPTEMBER	October 30 th

It is important to recognize that reminder emails from the OVC-PMT system may indicate a different date; this date is the deadline for GCC to provide a full report to the Office for Victims of Crime. You must adhere to the deadlines (above) provided to you by GCC.

Please be aware that providing an upload of this information in GEMS is not sufficient for reporting purposes, and all of the performance measurement data requested should be entered into the OVC-PMT website: <https://ovcpmt.ojp.gov/>

Failure to report your programmatic performance will result in a hold of your grant funds.

I am having issues submitting my PMT report. Who do I contact?

If you are having problems with the website or system, it is highly recommended that you contact the OVC-PMT Help Desk at ovcpmt@usdoj.gov or 1-844-884-2503. The staff at the Governor’s Crime Commission cannot address any technical issues with the website. As a reminder, the OVC-PMT website works best when using the Google Chrome browser.

What are allowable training costs?

Training exclusively for developing the skills of direct service providers, including paid staff and volunteers (both VOCA-funded and not), so that they are better able to offer quality direct services, including, but not limited to, manuals, books, videoconferencing, electronic training resources, and other materials and resources related to such training.

Training-related costs such as travel, meals, lodging, and registration fees for paid direct-service staff (both VOCA-funded and not) are also allowed. The GCC reserves the right to limit out-of-state conferences. In general, out-of-state travel is limited to one conference per employee per year. Even if

approved in your application, prior approval from your assigned Grants Manager will be required for out-of-state travel.

Can law enforcement agencies apply for VOCA funding?

Law enforcement agencies may be eligible for VOCA funding for activities that specifically support victim services, such as emotional support, legal services, and law enforcement advocate positions. However, it is important to note that VOCA cannot fund the active investigation and prosecution of criminal activity, except for the provision of victim assistance services to crime victims.

Can VOCA provide services to offenders or those perpetuating abuse?

VOCA funds cannot be used for perpetrators related to the victimization that they have been found to perpetrate. However, if the service is for an offender based on any type of victimization that they have experienced (and been found not to have perpetrated), VOCA funds may be used to support and provide direct victim services.

Can VOCA funds be used for adaptations and repairs to an existing facility, other than for ADA compliance?

VOCA may be able to fund facility modifications incidental and necessary for the project where the modifications are minor (i.e., not capital expenses):

- Ordinary repairs and maintenance are typically minor.
- Modifications that do not materially increase the value or useful life of a building are minor.
- Modifications that do not change the basic prior use of a facility or its size (i.e., footprint), are more likely to be minor.
- Modification costs that are below the organization's capitalization threshold for real property assets are more likely to be minor.

What types of medications and medical expenses are allowable under VOCA?

VOCA funds can be used to fund a very limited number of medical expenses. These costs are often approved on an emergency basis and under certain circumstances. Costs may include prescription and non-prescription medications, prophylactic or other treatment to prevent HIV/AIDS infection or other infectious disease, durable medical equipment, and other healthcare items.

Must VOCA-funded services be free of charge?

Yes. Subrecipients must provide VOCA-funded direct services at no charge.

Can VOCA funds be used to pay for a grant-funded employee's maternity leave? If so, how would agencies report on activities in OVC-PMT during this time?

Family leave is explicitly listed in the VOCA rule as an allowable expense. Leave is a fringe benefit that must be allocated equitably to federal and non-federal funding sources and consistently across time periods based on the organization's account basis (cash or accrual).

In the PMT you may report on the activity of the position, such that work being done by someone else (even non-VOCA funded) filling in for the employee is counted while the employee is on family leave. If you decide to count these non-VOCA funded activities in the PMT, you must provide a written response

detailing the period of absence within the reporting period and the number of victims served by the non-VOCA funded employee in the “Additional Comments” text box at the end of the reporting form.

I am a dual-service agency who receives the formula allocation for domestic violence and sexual assault. How much of my agency's services should be devoted to sexual assault response and advocacy?

Unless otherwise determined by GCC, allocation-based projects for DV/SA service providers is based on the expectation that 50% of the basic services allocation provides services for victims of domestic violence, and 50% provides meaningful services to victims of sexual assault.

STOP/VAWA-Specific Questions

STOP promotes a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to improving the criminal justice system’s response to violent crimes against women. STOP encourages the development and strengthening of effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to address violent crimes against women and the development and strengthening of victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women.

How much funding will be available for each federally mandated allocation category?

GCC does not know the amount of our the federal allocation for the following year at the time applications are accepted. To give perspective, the GCC received \$4,369,208 in federal funds for Federal FY 2019. We cannot guarantee the same or increased funding for 2020.

Are there funding caps for STOP/VAWA priorities?

No, but applicants are strongly encouraged to be realistic with their project requests and keep in mind the federally required funding allocations that are outlined on page 6 of the RFA. In addition, the GCC seeks to fund projects with diverse geographical representation to ensure that support and services are available throughout the State. The GCC has the ability to request a budget adjustment prior to the approval of project if the cost of the project does not align with their funding strategy.

Can STOP/VAWA funds be used to support supervised visitation and exchange programs?

Yes, supervised visitation and exchange by and between parents in cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and or stalking allowable with STOP funds. Supervised visitation and exchange are considered victims services and protect victims of domestic violence from further abuse.

What entities are covered by the match exemption through STOP/VAWA?

No matching funds are required for tribe, territory, or victim service provider, regardless of funding allocation category. Victim service providers as defined in VAWA must have 501(c)(3) status unless they are a tribal governmental organization or government rape crisis center. For purposes of STOP/VAWA funding, tribal communities include both State and Federally recognized tribes.

Can STOP/VAWA be used to fund Batterer's Intervention Programs?

Yes. Batterers’ intervention programs may be supported provided that the programs use court monitoring to hold offenders accountable for their behavior. However, couples counseling or any intervention that requires participation by a victim or that is not designed to hold offenders accountable for their violent behavior cannot be supported with STOP dollars.

The North Carolina Council for Women and Youth Involvement maintains the authority to approve the abuser treatment programs utilized by the North Carolina court system. An interactive directory of approved programs can be found here:

<https://ncadmin.nc.gov/advocacy/women/interactive-programs-directory>

Can STOP/VAWA funds be used for a healthcare provider's time conducting forensic examinations?

Yes, if two requirements are met: 1) the examinations are performed by specially trained examiners for victims of sexual assault (such as Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) or Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners (SAFEs)); and 2) the jurisdiction does not require victims of sexual assault to seek reimbursement from their insurance carriers.

The grant's reimbursable amount for forensic medical evidence collection examinations for victims are allowable to the extent that other funding sources, such as state appropriations, are insufficient; therefore, grant funds can only be used to cover costs exceeding the amount available from state appropriations for this service.

Can STOP funds be used to support human trafficking programs?

Yes. Programs that meaningfully address human trafficking are fundable through STOP. Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their proposals with the Human Trafficking Commission and obtain a letter of support for the project. The Human Trafficking Commission leads the state's efforts on anti-human trafficking efforts.

Does my program qualify to provide 'culturally specific' services under VAWA?

An organization will qualify for funding if its primary mission is to address the needs of racial and ethnic minority groups or if it has developed a special expertise regarding a particular racial and ethnic minority group. The organization must do more than merely provide services to the targeted group; rather, the organization must provide culturally competent services designed to meet the specific needs of the target population.

An organization is eligible under the culturally-specific set aside if the organization is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization or tribal organization that serves a specific geographic community that:

- Focuses primarily on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- Has established a specialized culturally specific program that addresses domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- Has a primary focus on underserved populations (and includes representatives of these populations) and domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; or
- Obtains expertise, or shows demonstrated capacity to work effectively, on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking through collaboration;
- Is primarily directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups; **and**
- Is providing services tailored to the unique needs of that population

Can other underserved populations, such as Deaf victims, LGBT victims, and religious minorities be considered culturally specific under STOP/VAWA?

No. The set aside is only for racial and ethnic minorities; however, the Stop Implementation Plan is designed to determine how our state will recognize and meaningfully respond to the needs of underserved populations. STOP/VAWA defines ‘underserved populations’ as “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 underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, alienage status, or age), and any other population determined to be underserved by the Attorney General.”

Can STOP funds be used to provide services to children?

In limited circumstances. STOP funds should be used for projects that serve or focus on adult and youth (age 11-24) women and girls who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking. In general, victims served with STOP funds must be adults or youth.

Can STOP funds be used to support prevention programs and media campaigns about violence against women?

Only 5% of the State’s total VAWA award may be used for “developing, enhancing, or strengthening prevention and educational programming to address domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.”

What is the difference between prevention/education (which is limited to 5% of the State’s award) and "outreach"?

The goal of prevention is to stop or reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. By contrast, an outreach initiative is linked to a specific set of services and the goal is to increase awareness about the services, so that victims know where to go for the services. “Prevention” is distinguished from “outreach,” which has the goal of informing victims and potential victims about available services.

Prevention means strategies, programming, and activities to stop both first-time perpetration and first-time victimization. Other forms of prevention include identifying risk factors or problems that may lead to future domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and taking the necessary actions to eliminate the risk factors and the potential problem.

Can STOP funds be used for vehicle purchases?

No, STOP funds cannot be used to purchase vehicles.

Can STOP funds be used for minor renovations or construction?

No, STOP funds cannot be used for any physical renovations to buildings including minor renovations (such as painting or carpeting) or construction.

Who can receive STOP funding under the courts priority?

The “courts” allocation is “to” courts, rather than “for” courts, so the money must be awarded to a court entity. This includes state, local, tribal, and juvenile courts.

Who can serve on the State’s STOP Implementation Plan Advisory Group?

Individuals who participate in this group should be direct service staff who can provide insight to into domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and/or stalking in their communities. Participation is not limited to GCC-funded programs. The STOP Implementation Plan Advisory Group provides the opportunity for key stakeholders from a variety of disciplines to consider together how to best serve victims and hold offenders accountable.

While not an exhaustive list, we are seeking on-going participation from:

- The State Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions
- Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Service Providers
- Survivors of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking
- State and Local Law Enforcement Organizations
- District Attorneys and Prosecution Support Staff
- State and Local Court Personnel
- Probation and Parole Personnel
- Representatives from Tribes, Tribal Organizations, or Tribal Coalitions
- Population Specific Organizations -representing NC’s most significantly underserved populations and culturally specific populations - such as: the elderly, individuals with disabilities, military families, African/African Americans, Latinx, LGBTQ+ , and Asian Pacific Islanders

If interested, please contact Karen Lombri, VAWA Administrator at 919-733-4564.

Why does my project have two STOP Annual Reports due for one funding year?

The data for this specific report is shared on a calendar year, and so you will have a report reflecting three months (10/01/19 - 12/31/19) due in January, and another that will reflect your performance on the 2020 calendar year (1/1/20 – 9/30/20).