



UNITING THREE FIRES AGAINST VIOLENCE

Training | Resources | Support

May 19, 2023

Michigan (DVS) Grantee Updates

State (Division of Victim Services) Grant Related Information/Updates (includes VOCA, CSU)

1. *May VOCA Funding Update (sent May 19, 2023)**

“Happy Friday,

See the link below for the latest update regarding VOCA funding. Please don't hesitate to reach out to the DVS mailbox at MDHHS-DVS@michigan.gov if you have any questions.

DVS Website: <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/safety-injury-prev/publicsafety/crimevictims/grants-and-funding/current-grantees/voca-update-for-grantees>

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iTDnwg3IU_o

Have a great weekend!”

2. *Budget Revision Request Due Date is May 26, 2023 (sent May 17, 2023)**

“Greetings! The deadline for grant amendments for FY 2023 is May 26, 2023. Please submit budget revision requests to MDHHS-DVS@michigan.gov.

Egrams Amendment - The following changes require an Amendment on Egrams. Please use the tab along the bottom called "Egrams Amendments" to request an Amendment.

1. Changes of more than \$10,000 and/or 15%, whichever is greater.
2. Adding a line item for which funding was not previously allocated.
3. Significant changes to the project purpose or staff charged to the grant.

REMINDER: Line-item transfer requests for changes that do not meet the threshold to require an Egrams amendment are no longer needed.”

2023 Budget Revision Form REVISED March, can be found [here](#).”

3. Letter from DVS to Tribal Leadership: Regarding Talking Circle (sent March 20, 2023)

“Dear Tribal Leadership:

In February of 2022 the Division of Victim Services coordinated a virtual Talking Circle with Tribal Leaders, Tribal Advocates and MDHHS Division of Victim Services (DVS) staff. As you may know, DVS administers nearly 600 contracts that fund more than 200 community-based programs, Tribes, and government partners across Michigan that provide vital services to victims, such as counseling, legal and medical advocacy, emergency housing, and crime victims' rights advocacy. The Division also provides reimbursement for sexual assault medical forensic examinations, direct compensation to victims through Michigan's Crime Victim Compensation program as well as supports the statewide victim notification system (MI-VINE). Nine Tribes in Michigan currently have contracts with the Division of Victim Services to provide services to victims of crime.

We deeply appreciated the thoughts and feedback you provided us during our 2022 Talking Circle about the needs of crime victims in your communities and our partnership with your Tribe. During that event the Division of Victim Services committed to hosting regular Talking Circles with Tribal Leadership. Since then, we have been working with Rachel Carr-Shunk and Sandra Pilgrim Lewis at Uniting Three Fires Against Violence to identify a date and time for a virtual Talking Circle this spring. As our conversations with them unfolded we decided to work toward an in person Talking Circle rather than one via Zoom. We are grateful for their guidance on this and agree that it is a great idea! For convenience of everyone's travel and time, it is our hope to be able to host an in person Talking Circle in conjunction with the Tribal Leadership Summit this fall. Please look for an invitation as UTFAV's Tribal Leadership Summit scheduling plans solidify.

We are committed to supporting Tribal Nations and communities whenever possible in their efforts to provide culturally honoring services to crime victims including victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and human trafficking among others. You are key stakeholders in this critical work. We honor and are grateful for the commitment you have made to survivors in your Nations and communities. Your expertise in culturally-rooted service provision and prevention efforts for the members of your communities is well-known and respected in our office. Your willingness to share your knowledge and experience of the unique gaps and needs of your Nation is extremely valuable in building and sustaining meaningful partnerships and we are committed to the continued cultivation of our relationships and very much look forward to meeting you in person at the next Talking Circle.

Sincerely,

Gail Krieger
Director of Operations

CC: Lorna Elliot-Egan, MDHHS Constituent & Tribal Services Manager
Elizabeth Nagel, Senior Deputy Director"

4. Surveillance Security Cameras inside shelter and non shelter service provider areas (from April 7, 2023)

"Good morning,

I hope this finds you doing well and hopefully welcoming in spring weather.

Over the last few years many grantees have called DVS seeking direction and guidance on the use of surveillance cameras. There have also been significant discussions at the state and national level among the victim service provider community. As a result of these inquiries and discussions, DVS has developed a [paper which is intended to help Michigan organizations make thoughtful decisions about the use of surveillance cameras in client spaces](#). This paper provides an overview of relevant state and federal law/regulation and a review of considerations for organizations as you navigate determinations about the use of surveillance cameras and any policies and practices.

Additionally, the National Network to End Domestic Violence has issued guidance and consideration on the use of Video Cameras and Surveillance at Programs

[Video Cameras Tipsheet — Safety Net Project \(techsafety.org\)](#)

[Interior Video Surveillance — Safety Net Project \(techsafety.org\)](#)

[Exterior Video Surveillance — Safety Net Project \(techsafety.org\)](https://techsafety.org)

We will also be looking to create some opportunities for discussion surrounding the use of video cameras and surveillance in the near future.

Please feel free to reach out if you would like to process the information shared.

Sincerely, Tonya

Tonya Avery (she/her)
Director of Quality Assurance
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Victim Services
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P.O. Box 30037
Lansing, MI 48933-7537
Phone: 517-231-3827
Email: AveryT2@Michigan.gov
website: <http://www.michigan.gov/domesticviolence>

5. Budget Revision Requests/Line Item Transfers (from March 17, 2023)

“Happy Friday! We have exciting news regarding budget revision requests.

Effective today Line Item Transfers for changes that do not meet the threshold to require an Egrams Amendment are no longer required.

When are Egrams Amendments required?

The following changes require an Amendment on Egrams.

1. Line item increases of more than \$10,000 and/or 15%, whichever is greater.
2. Adding a line item for which funding was not previously allocated.
3. Significant changes to the project purpose or staff charged to the grant.
4. Adding a staff position that was not previously budgeted.

Is there a new Budget Revision Request Form?

Yes (find it [here](#)). Although the old form may be used.

Where should Budget Revision Requests be sent?

MDHHS-DVS@michigan.gov

When are Budget Revision Requests due for FY 2022?

Final amendment requests will be due in late May, 2023. A notice will be distributed as we get closer to that deadline.

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to the DVS inbox at MDHHS-DVS@michigan.gov. Thank you for all you do and have a wonderful weekend!

-The DVS Team”

6. Michigan Victim Advocacy Network (MiVAN) Trainings and Workshops (from March 17, 2023)

“Dear DV/SA Grantee Leadership,

The [Michigan Victim Advocacy Network](#) (MiVAN) is a valuable clearinghouse of crime victim advocacy trainings and resources. Be sure to encourage your staff to check out MiVAN’s upcoming trainings and workshops:

Advocacy Tools for Healing Trauma Workshops

(March 22, May 17, May 24, September 13, September 20, 2023)

Encourage your team to join MiVAN's free, live, virtual workshops. On March 22, Dr. Apryl Pooley will host *Engaging the Mind-Body Connection*, a 2-hour interactive session, which will provide opportunities to recognize trauma reactions and practice responding with various mind-body tools. The workshop will be offered again on May 24, 2023 and September 20, 2023. [Learn more about the upcoming March workshop.](#)

Dr. Pooley will host another workshop, *Building Trauma-Informed Advocacy Skills*, on May 17, 2023 and September 13, 2023. Also free, live, and virtual, this 2-hour interactive session will help advocates know how, and when, to talk about trauma with survivors. Registration will open in April.

(Each workshop offers 2 CE clock hours. Advocates may register for one or both workshops, however, **the online course [Trauma Across the Lifespan](#) is a mandatory prerequisite for these workshops.** These are the same workshops that have been offered in years past.)

Stay tuned: NEW Understanding the Confidentiality Requirements of VOCA, FVPSA, and VAWA (Spring 2023)

A new 'Understanding Confidentiality' course will be available this Spring! The updated and redesigned course is interactive and better engages advocates in meaningful skill-building around various nuanced confidentiality scenarios. The course will offer 2 CE clock hours. All VOCA-funded employees in Michigan are mandated to view this series.

Michigan Advocate Survey (May 2023)

MiVAN will be collecting advocate feedback on the state of crime victim advocacy in Michigan via the biennial Michigan Advocate Survey in May 2023. In 2020, over 500 advocates responded to the survey, providing invaluable insight into their experiences, needs, and trends across the field. We encourage you to have your staff participate by offering designated time during the workday for your staff to complete the survey. [Explore the results from the 2020 survey.](#)

Other ways to stay in-the-know

All DVS-funded advocates are welcome to create a free account on MiVAN.org and access [trainings](#), [resources](#), and evidence-based advocacy videos on [Paper to Practice](#). Join MiVAN's private [Facebook group](#) to receive real-time updates about training launches and other statewide advocacy information. Finally, MiVAN compiles specific resource roundups based on your requests. Let them know what information you and your staff are looking for!

Carri Phillips
Division of Victim Services
235 S. Grand, Suite 1108
P.O. Box 30037
Lansing, MI 48909-7537"

7. Computer Cap Increase and SASRV/SACS/SANE Webinar Links and Questions and Answers (2/27/2023)

Happy Monday! Great news to start the week. On Friday we were given permission to increase allowable cap for individual computers (including software) from \$1,200 to \$2,200! Thank you to everyone that provided feedback and information. This change is effective immediately. If you need to do a budget amendment to accommodate this change, please let us know by email MDHHS-DVS@michigan.gov.

Additionally, four webinars were held last week regarding some changes to the SASRV/SACS and SANE. Click below for:

[FY23 webinar recording links](#) (also includes webinars from the fall)
[Questions and Answers](#) from SASRV/SACS and SANE webinars

Thanks!
Julie Giddings
MDHHS/Division of Victim Services"

8. DVS January 2023 Tribal Talking Circle Follow-Up (February 21, 2023)

“Good morning,

I was honored to participate in a Tribal Advocacy Listening session in January of 2023 at the invitation of Uniting Three Fires Against Violence. I again want to thank everyone who participated in that event for sharing your experiences, needs and insights. We have a few updates and appreciate your patience as we have been working to set up an infrastructure of support based on your feedback.

First, to track tribal issues and concerns in an ongoing way, we have implemented a tracking sheet that we intend to keep updated, which is attached [HERE](#). We hope this is a helpful and productive tool.

Next, going forward we are pleased to share the following:

- **Julie Giddings** will serve as the contract teams tribal advocate/grantee liaison – giddingsj@michigan.gov. Questions about contracts can be directed to Julie. In addition, Julie or an alternative member of the contracts team will work to attend the MTVAC (Michigan Tribal Victim Advocate Consortium Meeting) quarterly meetings as schedules allow.
- **Nora Williams** will serve as the DVS QA tribal advocate/grantee liaison – williamsn17@michigan.gov. Nora will engage in an ongoing way with grantees with a focus on relationship building and ongoing participation.

Cathy Brown, brownc89@michigan.gov, will continue on in her critical role of leading the Division’s larger Culturally Specific and Underserved (CSU) grant strategy and work closely with Julie and Nora. The Division of Victim Services recognizes the importance and value of the much needed services and supports that the tribal advocates provide to native survivors who too often are invisible and unheard. We look forward to working with you to support the amazingly culturally centered work in assisting survivors with securing safety, removing barriers on their journey to healing.

We are also pleased to be hosting our next DV/SA Grantee Leadership Meeting (formerly the Agency Director’s Meeting) in Grand Rapids on May 4th and 5th in anticipation of having the honor of walking alongside Tribal Advocates and other community members to Honor, Remember, and Recognize May 5th as National Missing Murdered Indigenous Peoples Awareness Day. I am planning to attend both events and am looking forward to connecting with you all in-person.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me directly with any concerns.

Sincerely,

Beth Nagel

Senior Deputy Director,

Policy, Planning & Operational Support

Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

nagelb@michigan.gov”

9. Email from Nora Williams, DVS Quality Assurance Tribal Advocate Grantee Liaison (February 22, 2023)

“Bozho,

Nora ndezhnekas Sault Ste. Marie ndotthbya Wigwas zibik nde da Ktthe gnewesh shna ngi da zhi wigwas zibik Nnetthiwenmo e wabenem

Hello,

My name is Nora. I come from Sault Ste Marie. I live in Birch Bark River. I lived in Birch Bark River for a long time. I am happy to see you all.

I'm really excited to have been asked to be the QA tribal advocate grantee liaison. I'm thrilled to get to see familiar faces and excited to meet new partners. I will be reaching out to each tribe individually to set up some time for us to meet and have conversation.

I am available for Technical Assistance, and support. If you have immediate needs now, please reach out to me. Otherwise please expect a call from me within the next 2 weeks. I look forward to having conversations with you all soon.

bama pi

Nora Williams (she/her)
Quality Assurance Project Manager / Tribal Advocate Grantee Liaison
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Victim Services
235 S. Grand Ave. - Suite 1108
P.O. Box 30037
Lansing, MI 48933-7537
Phone:
Email: williamsn17@Michigan.gov
website: <http://www.michigan.gov/domesticviolence>"

10. Tribal Advocate/Grantee Liaison Introduction: Email from Julie Giddings (February 22, 2023)

"Greetings:

I'm sending this email to let you know that I have been chosen to be your tribal advocate/grantee liaison. I'm happy and excited to get to know and to work with you.

I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Julie Giddings, and I have worked for the Division of Victim Services for 26 years. I am married, have three stepchildren, three grandchildren, thirteen nieces and nephews, two great nieces and one great nephew, two dogs and a cat. I enjoy spending time with family, taking walks with my dogs, and getting lost in a good book. Many, if not all of you, worked with Diana Bartlett who is no longer working for the Division. I am taking her place and hope that I will do as good of job as she did. I know I have big shoes to fill.

Please feel free to reach out to me directly whenever you need help. You no longer need to email the MDHHS-DVS@michigan.gov email box. I will cc the MDHHS-DVS@michigan.gov email box on all emails so that the grants team is kept apprised of your questions and my responses.

I look forward to working with you all.

Take care,

Julie Giddings (she/her)
MDHHS/Division of Victim Services
235 S. Grand, Suite 1108
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 488-9436 work cell"

11. VOCA Update (February 17, 2023)

"VOCA Funding Update: We are pleased to be able to provide an additional update on VOCA funding update <https://youtu.be/Mn24XVhG-zE>
We hope this provides helpful information and look forward to coming back to you with additional updates."

12. Sexual Assault Email Updates (February 17, 2023)

“Subject: Sexual Assault Email Update

Good afternoon and happy Friday! Meeting invitations were sent today to SASRV, SANE and SACS grantees for meetings next week. The goal of these meetings is to discuss and gather feedback about proposed changes to the FY 2024 grants.

Each meeting has a different registration link. You are welcome to attend any/all of the meetings however, the meeting invite(s) you received directly from DVS is/are most relevant to your organization. **Depending on the grants your organization has been awarded, you may have received an invitation to more than one meeting.** We encourage you to attend if you are available, however recordings will be distributed.

Intended audience	Date/Time	Registration Link
SASRV Grantees that bid for grants in FY 2019	Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3863903092023312217
Grantees that received an SASRV grant between FY 2021 and FY 2022	Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 11:00 a.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6040274209020066398
SANE grantees	Wednesday, February 22, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6547582277006188374
Grantees that do not have an SASRV Grant	Friday, February 24, 2023, at 12:00 p.m.	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4591589574114610006

Please let us know if you have any questions!

Patsy Baker

Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

Division of Victim Services

Email: Bakerp2@michigan.gov

Grant Questions Email: MDHHS-DVS@michigan.gov”

13. 2023 Division of Victim Services DV/SA Grantee Leadership Meetings (Formerly known as Agency Directors Meeting) (February 16, 2023)

Here is a [“revised schedule](#) of the 2023 dates for the DV/SA Grantee Leadership Meetings (formerly Agency Director Meetings)Please note there has been a change in the May meeting location, and we will now be in Grand Rapids at the Sheraton Hotel.

DVS would like to invite you to join us on May 4th & 5th in Grand Rapids at the Sheraton Hotel, for our DV/SA Grantee Leadership Meeting, in anticipation of having the honor of walking alongside Tribal Advocates and other community members to Honor, Remember, and Recognize May 5th as National Missing and Murdered Indigenous Person’s Awareness Day.

While one day is not enough to honor and raise awareness concerning the impact that has affected Native Communities across the Nation. Native peoples are afforded one day to Honor, Remember and Recognize the thousands of lives that have been affected to not only those that have passed, those that are missing but, also the thousands of families that have lost loved ones.

Please replace the meeting schedule you received last month with this revised version.”

14. Travel policy change! (February 1, 2023)

Effective immediately grantees may bill for travel costs up to individual grantees approved travel policies/rates. Where a policy does not exist, the State travel rates must be followed. Please contact us at MDHHS-DVS@michigan.gov if you have any questions.

Question/Concern

It is difficult to find a hotel at State rates.

Do we have any flexibility to increase the amount we can be reimbursed for the cost of hotels?

Actions Taken/Proposed

Effective Immediately - Travel Costs

Effective immediately Grantees may bill for travel costs up to individual grantees approved travel policies/rates.

Where a policy does not exist, the State travel rates must be followed.

1. Be reimbursed for travel costs (including mileage, meals and lodging) budgeted and incurred related to activities provided under this Agreement.
 - a. If the Grantee has a documented policy related to travel reimbursement for employees and if the Grantee follows that documented policy, the Department will reimburse the Grantee for travel costs at the Grantee’s documented reimbursement rate for employees. Otherwise, the state of Michigan travel reimbursement rate applies.
 - b. State of Michigan travel rates may be found at the following website: https://www.michigan.gov/dtmb/0,5552,7-358-82548_13132---,00.html
 - c. International travel must be preapproved by the Department and itemized in the budget.

15. Grantee Concerns and Recommendations (January 27 2023)

The DVS has been working on many fronts to address and respond to the questions and concerns that have been raised by grantees over the past few months. The attached is a working document that the DVS uses tracks requests/concerns that have been identified and progress toward addressing the concern. We will be distributing this document to grantees periodically as a mechanism for keeping you updated. Following are three significant changes that have been addressed as a result of your feedback:

Grant Program Impacted: DVCS – VOCA

Concern: The time to administer the split in funding between DV and SA is excessive and is not beneficial to serving clients

Action Taken: Effective Immediately - The DVS will expand client eligibility under the Domestic Violence Comprehensive Services - VOCA (DVCSV) grant to allow programs to serve survivors who experienced sexual assault in the context of intimate partner violence as well as survivors of non-intimate partner sexual assault/abuse. This fix is not intended to support entire sexual assault programs or fund sexual assault staff, but rather to provide additional administrative flexibility and allow DV programs to effectively serve the occasional non-IPV sexual assault survivor.

Grant Program Impacted: All Grants

Concern: The DHHS audit requirement that vendor cards cannot be billed on FSRs until they are dispersed to clients is burdensome and causes grantees to either spend staff time purchasing vendor cards one at a time, or fronting expenses for a period of time.

Action Taken: DVS requested reconsideration due to the hardship to grantees. DHHS audit has reversed the directive and has indicated that vendor cards may be included on FSRs as soon as the grantee incurred the cost

Grant Program Impacted: TSH/TSHV

Concern: The TSH/TSHV programs do not allow the purchase of vendor cards. This makes supporting and empowering clients very challenging.

Action Taken: Effective immediately - vendor cards will be allowable in both the TSH and TSHV grants.

Additional information to follow about how to use current grant funds for vendor cards.

Please continue to let us know your ideas and recommendations. Your feedback is essential.

Thank you for your continued efforts to advocate on behalf of survivors. You are the front line and safety net for survivors, thank you for the work you do every day.

16. VOCA and DVS Funding Update (January 26, 2023)

We recognize that grantees are anxious for an update on VOCA funding for budget development and planning purposes. While we do not have all of the answers, we wanted to give you an update of where we are right now. Please take a moment to watch the following funding video <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/safety-injury-prev/publicsafety/crimevictims/grants-and-funding/current-grantees/voca-update-for-grantees>

Updates will go out as we get more information. In the meantime, we hope this helps you understand how funding has been allocated over time and some of the factors we are trying to balance going forward.

In addition, we have attached a document entitled Major DVS Grant Programs. This chart is intended to provide an overview of DVS funding. DVS will be doing webinars regarding DVS funding in the near future.

View the chart [here](#).

17. Division of Victim Services – Cross Walk of Duties Presented to MDSVPTB (Treatment Board)

To view an explanation of specific duties of staff of the Division of Victim Services (and how those duties fulfil legislative requirements of enabling legislation of the MDSVPTB) please [click here](#).

18. VOCA FY23 Grant Information

Staff Contact Info:

- Please direct all VOCA grant questions to the VOCA Group email: MDHHS-CVSC-VOCA-Grant@michigan.gov.
- Technical issues or problems accessing your EGrAMS account should be reported to the EGrAMS Helpdesk at: 517-335-3359 or MDHHS-EGRAMS-HELP@michigan.gov

Information/Document Title	What is it?	What do you need to do with the information?
FY 2023 VOCA Requirements	Overview of requirements/reports for 2023 VOCA Grants	Save as reference
Grantee Guidelines & Policy Manual	Comprehensive guidelines for all DVS grantees	Save as reference
Health & Safety Certification Form	Form used to certify that Health and Safety Inspections have been completed.	Complete and upload to your organization's IGX Profile page

Annual Certification Link: https://www.research.net/r/AC2023	Link to certify understanding and compliance with a variety of State and Federal grant requirements.	Complete the link no later than October 1, 2022
<u>Allowable & Unallowable Chart</u>	Comprehensive lists of allowable expenses for the primary DVS grant programs	Save as reference

If you have questions, please contact mdhhs-mdsvptb@michigan.gov or mdhhs-cvsc-voca-grants@michigan.gov

19. Division of Victim Services – All Recorded Webinars Available

Thank you to everyone that has attended/watched the DVS fall grants webinar series. We will post the materials (Q&A, PowerPoint, Grantee Guidelines, Allowable Chart) to DVSGMS/IGX. As soon as those are posted we will send out communication to notify you. Thank you for joining us and all you do!!!

Below please find all recorded webinars:

Webinar Topic	Date/Time	Webinar Registration Link	Webinar Recording Link
Health & Safety, Annual Certification requirements, Allowable/Unallowable Chart Overview	Date: September 27, 2022	-	https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/1655700010878978050
	Time: 10:00 – 12:00		
ARPA Requirements (SFMI/SFSA/DVCA-F)	05-Oct-22		https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/2921321457374771970
	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	-	
Using DVS GMS (aka IGX) for Reporting and Communication	12-Oct-22		https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/6871607251384555523
	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.		
Grantee Guidelines	19-Oct-22		https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/3891593190196809734
	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.		
Desk Review Information (what are they, who must do them, etc.)	October 26, 2022		https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/2267860806731083791
	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.		
	09-Nov-22		

Allowable and Unallowable Chart - Deep Dive, follow up and discussion	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.		https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/2260350043112299533
Grant boilerplate highlights, Attachment Es	16-Nov-22		https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/8698378751500207883
	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.		

Consultation/Listening Session Opportunities

1. USAO Western District of Michigan – Consultation with 11 Tribes in District

The USAOWDMI is seeking to schedule Consultations with 11 of the 12 Tribes (Saginaw Chippewa Tribal advocates/staff you can disregard this portion of the email)... Per his email, this letter was sent February 28, 2023, so it's very likely that your Tribal Leaders have yet to officially see it. I am thankful he forwarded to UTFAV, so that we can try to stay on track with this effort, in addition to keeping you all updated as well. **It looks like the Consultations won't be held until at least April.**

We will be doing additional outreach with Tribal leaders regarding this Consultation, especially encouraging that their testimony includes information/input from tribal advocates/programs. In addition, we will continue to raise issue regarding the MMIP Coordinator position as well (Saginaw Chippewa Tribal advocates/staff – this may still be relevant for you). While that position is set to expire before these Consultations, we still feel it's important that Tribal Leaders continue to raise it as an issue, especially because Mr. Totten did not include any reference to comments shared by Tribal Leaders at the United Tribes Meeting regarding the MMIP Coordinator position.

Dear Tribal Leader Letter is copied and pasted below, in addition to being linked below

“Re: Request for Consultation re. regionally appropriate MMIP guidelines; adoption of a Consultation procedure; and revisions to my office’s prosecution guidelines

Dear Tribal Leader

During the February 9, 2023 United Tribes of Michigan meeting, I mentioned my intent to request a Consultation regarding the regionally appropriate MMIP guidelines; my office’s adoption of a formal Consultation procedure; and revisions to my office’s prosecution guidelines. Through this letter, I would like to begin the Consultation process.

I will not repeat my January 18, 2023 letter about the regionally appropriate MMIP guidelines but will briefly comment on the proposed Consultation procedure and revisions to the prosecution guidelines. The Consultation procedure aims to ensure meaningful discussions between my office and the [Tribe Name] before my office adopts or amends any policies or procedures that have a significant impact on the tribe, my office’s relationship with the tribe, or the distribution of power between the federal government and the tribe.

The revisions to the prosecutorial guidelines maintain my office’s commitment to prosecute those crimes my office has traditionally prosecuted. In addition, the revised guidelines include specific guidance on when my office will initiate a narcotics case arising on tribal land. The guidance largely mirrors the factors my office said it would consider in a 2013 letter sent to tribal leaders, which I now seek to formally incorporate into the prosecutorial guidelines.

Though I have already circulated an initial version of our regionally appropriate MMIP guidelines, I do so again here, along with a copy of my office’s proposed Consultation procedure, which would be incorporated into my office’s operational plan, and revised prosecutorial guidelines for Indian Country. My hope is that you and other tribal leaders will review these documents so that you can make an informed decision about who should be present at the Consultation. As required by Savanna’s Act, the following groups will be invited to the Consultation:

1. The Department of Justice

2. The Federal Bureau of Investigation
3. The Department of Interior
4. The Bureau of Indian Affairs
5. Tribal, state, and local law enforcement agencies
6. Medical examiners
7. Coroners
8. Tribal, state, and local organizations that provide victim services
9. National, regional, or urban Indian organizations with relevant expertise

However, as to other participants, you and the other tribal leaders are in a better position to decide who should be part of this process from the tribe's perspective. I will suggest we begin the Consultation discussing the regionally appropriate MMIP guidelines, so that these additional attendees can leave the Consultation before we discuss the other two items.

We will also need to coordinate when and how to conduct this Consultation. Though I am not opposed to conducting the Consultation in person, scheduling an in-person Consultation will likely delay the meeting substantially. Further, in-person meetings will probably limit who can attend. For that reason, I suggest we conduct the Consultation via video conference. To ensure adequate time to review the materials, and to follow the 30-day advance notice provision in the proposed Consultation procedure, I would suggest we aim to schedule the Consultation sometime the week of April 3, 2023 or thereafter.

To begin scheduling the Consultation, please have someone contact my Executive Assistant, Sydney Jaenicke. She can be reached at (616) XXX-XXXX or at sydney.jaenicke@usdoj.gov. Sydney can then work to schedule the Consultation so that it is accessible and convenient for all parties involved. Please let her know the names and email addresses of anyone you would like to receive the invitation. In addition, if you have any written comments you would like to provide in advance of the Consultation, you can e-mail the comments to Sydney, who will make sure all the participants receive a copy.

Many thanks,
Mark A. Totten
United States Attorney
CC: Prosecutor [FName/LName]; Chief [Police Chief FName/LName]"

Supporting Documents from Mr. Totten's Communications found below:

- [Official Tribal Leader Letter](#)
- [Draft Prosecutorial Guidelines on Indian Country Offenses](#)
- [Indian Country Operational Plan – Draft Consultation Procedure](#)
- [Letter Regarding Savannas Act](#)
- [Western District of Michigan Regionally Appropriate Guidelines](#)

Funding Opportunities

Department of Justice Grants Program Plan

Fiscal Year 2023 DOJ Program Plan

The Department of Justice offers funding opportunities to support law enforcement and public safety activities in state, local, and tribal jurisdictions; to assist victims of crime; to provide training and technical assistance; to conduct research and collect national statistics; and to implement programs that improve the criminal, civil, and juvenile justice systems. The DOJ Program Plan is a tool to help find potential funding opportunities (solicitations) from DOJ's grant-making Components, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), and Office on Violence Against Women (OVW). The Program Plan provides summary details of the funding opportunities each DOJ grant-making Component is expecting to release or has released in a particular fiscal year.

To Search, click Use Search Filters, enter the search criteria and then click Show. Click on any solicitation title for more information. From there click Results to return to your Search results or click Use Search Filters to enter new or refined search criteria. You can filter by the grant-making component or office (i.e., COPS, OJP program offices, and OVW), keywords, eligible applicant categories, and expected release date.

On the solicitation details page, the Opportunity ID will say "TBD" for any program that has not yet been published. For those that have been published, if you are interested in applying for funding, you can copy the Opportunity ID into the Search box on <https://www.grants.gov/>.

You can also find more details on open opportunities as they become available on these pages:

- [Office of Justice Programs Current Funding Opportunities](#)
- [Office on Violence Against Women Open Solicitations](#) (also see below)

- [Office on Community Oriented Policing Services Grants](#)

The FY23 DOJ Program Plan is under review and is anticipated to be available in the coming weeks.

Search for OVV Funding Opportunities

The OVV website includes an anticipated [FY 2023 Solicitation Release Plan](#) with information about each OVV grant program, expected solicitation opening and closing dates, and expected dates for peer review. View all open OVV solicitations at <http://www.justice.gov/ovv/open-solicitations>.

OVV is looking for peer reviewers who can objectively review, evaluate, and score applications for our grant programs. Peer reviewers consist of active or recently retired practitioners with on-the-ground experience responding to the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. We prioritize recruiting peer reviewers from diverse communities and geographical regions. **Prior experience as a peer reviewer is not required and you cannot peer review for grants you are currently applying for.** For more information or to apply, email a copy of your current resume or curriculum vitae and a completed [Peer Reviewer Recruitment Form](#) to OVV.peerreview@usdoj.gov.

1. NIJ FY23 Research and Evaluation on Trafficking in Persons

In collaboration with the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), NIJ seeks to build upon its research and evaluation efforts to better understand, prevent, and respond to trafficking in persons in the United States. Applicants should propose research and evaluation projects that have clear implications for criminal justice policy and practice in the United States. NIJ seeks proposals for research and evaluation projects addressing the following topical areas:

- Research and evaluation on human trafficking victim assistance and service provision.
- Research on forced criminality.
- Human trafficking prevalence estimation.

Applications proposing projects that are outside of these three areas will not be considered.

Applications will be submitted in a two-step process, each with its own deadline:

Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](#) and [JustGrants](#) prior to submitting an application.

This solicitation is competitive; therefore, NIJ staff cannot have individual conversations with prospective applicants. Any questions concerning the solicitation should be submitted to the OJP Response Center: 800-851-3420; TTY at 301-240-6310 (for hearing impaired only); or email grants@ncjrs.gov. See also NIJ's [solicitation FAQ webpage](#).

The following application elements must be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Narrative.
- Budget Web-Based Form. (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)
- Curriculum Vitae/Resumes for Key Personnel. (For purposes of this solicitation, "key personnel" means the principal investigator, and any and all co-principal investigators.)

Grants.gov deadline: April 24, 2023 8:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 11, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

2. NIJ FY23 National Study Examining Interpersonal Violence Experienced By Young Adults

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks applications to advance knowledge regarding the interpersonal violence experiences of young adults.

Proposals should be for nationally representative, longitudinal studies examining long-term trajectories of risk for, experiences with, and recovery after experiencing interpersonal violence among young adults who do and do not attend college. NIJ is interested in proposals that address interpersonal violence committed by partners, family members, acquaintances, and strangers, including nonconsensual sexual contact, intimate partner violence, and stalking.

Applications will be submitted in a two-step process, each step with its own deadline:

Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](#) and [JustGrants](#) prior to submitting an application.

This solicitation is competitive; therefore, NIJ staff cannot have individual conversations with prospective applicants. Any questions concerning the solicitation should be submitted to the OJP Response Center: 800-851-3420; TTY at 301-240-6310 (for hearing impaired only); or email grants@ncjrs.gov. See also NIJ's [solicitation FAQ webpage](#).

The following application elements must be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Web-Based Form (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)
- Budget for the full multiyear study as an appendix, using the required [budget template](#)
- Curricula Vitae/Resumes for Key Personnel (For purposes of this solicitation, “key personnel” means the principal investigator and all co-principal investigators.)

Grants.gov deadline: April 28, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 12, 2023 9:00 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

3. OVC FY 2023 Services for Victims of Human Trafficking –

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. OVC leads the Nation in supporting victim-centered and trauma-informed programs, policies, and resources that promote justice, access, and empowerment to enhance capacity to identify, assist, and provide services to all victims of human trafficking. With this solicitation, OVC seeks to provide funding for services to victims of severe forms of human trafficking, as defined by 22 U.S.C. § 7102(11).

Grants.gov deadline: May 4, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 11, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

4. FY23 COPS Hiring Program

The goal of the COPS Hiring Program (CHP) is to provide funding directly to law enforcement agencies to hire and/or rehire additional career law enforcement officers in an effort to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts. Anticipated outcomes of CHP awards include engagement in planned community partnerships, implementation of projects to analyze and assess problems, implementation of changes to personnel and agency management in support of community policing, and increased capacity of agency to engage in community policing activities. Applicants will be expected to describe their community policing strategy and request the number of newly hired and/or rehired full-time sworn career law enforcement officer positions necessary to support that strategy. COPS Office funding must be used to reorient the mission and activities of law enforcement agencies toward the community or enhance their involvement in community policing.

Grants.gov deadline: May 4, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 11, 2023 9:00 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

5. OJJDP FY 2023 Mentoring for Youth Affected by Opioid and Other Substance Misuse –

OJJDP envisions a juvenile justice system centered on the strengths, needs, and voices of youth and families. Young people and family members with lived experience are vital resources for understanding and reaching persons involved or at risk of involvement with youth-serving systems. OJJDP asks stakeholders to join us in sustainably integrating bold, transformative youth and family partnership strategies into our daily work. OJJDP believes in achieving positive outcomes for youth, families, and communities through meaningful engagement and active partnerships, ensuring they play a central role in collaboratively developing solutions.

Grants.gov deadline: May 4, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 18, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

6. Research and Evaluation on Jails

With this solicitation, NIJ requests proposals for rigorous research to examine all aspects of jail systems, including those that address the basic operations of jails and their impact on staff, incarcerated individuals, and their communities. Key priorities include supporting research that informs:

- Improving reentry outcomes for people confined to jails, as well as minimizing the negative impact of jail incarceration on the families of justice-involved individuals and their communities.
- Optimizing workforce development for jail personnel.
- Enhancing jail operations and practices.

Grants.gov deadline: May 4, 2023 4:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 18, 2023 4:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

7. New Solicitation: Research and Evaluation on School Safety

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for rigorous research and evaluation projects to fill knowledge gaps in two topical areas: 1) studies on the root causes and consequences of school violence and 2) examinations of the impact and effectiveness of school safety approaches implemented for purposes authorized under the STOP School Violence Act.

Grants.gov deadline: May 8, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 22, 2023 9:00 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

8. OWW Fiscal Year 2023 Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction Grant Program – Solicitation

This program is authorized by the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 (codified as amended at 25 U.S.C. § 1304(h)(2)). The OWW Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction Grant Program (Tribal Jurisdiction Program) (CFDA# 16.025) supports tribes in their efforts exercise special Tribal criminal jurisdiction (STCJ) over non-Indians who commit “covered crimes” within the Tribe’s jurisdictional boundaries and provides technical assistance for planning and implementing changes in their criminal justice systems necessary to exercise the jurisdiction. “Covered crimes” are limited to assault of Tribal justice personnel; child violence; dating violence; domestic violence; obstruction of justice; sexual violence; sex trafficking; stalking; and violation of a protection order. Grant recipients are committed to exercising the jurisdiction to ensure that victims find safety and justice and that non-Indians who commit covered crimes within their jurisdiction are held accountable.

New This Year

In the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 (VAWA 2022), Congress recognized the inherent authority of Tribes to exercise STCJ over non-Indians who commit an expanded set of “covered crimes.” In addition to domestic violence, dating violence, and violation of certain protection orders, these “covered crimes” now include: assault of tribal justice personnel (without requirement that victim be Indian), child violence, obstruction of justice (without requirement that victim be Indian or connection to covered

crime), sexual violence, sex trafficking, and stalking. VAWA 2022 amended the statutory provisions governing the Tribal Jurisdiction Program to enable grantees to address all covered crimes.

Important Dates and Information

- Letter of Intent: April 20, 2023
- Pre-application call: April 4, 2023

To submit an application, all applicants must register online with the System for Award Management (SAM) and with Grants.gov. To ensure sufficient time to complete the registration process, applicants should register online with SAM and with Grants.gov immediately, but no later than April 20, 2023.

Contact: OVW.TribalJurisdiction@usdoj.gov or 202-307-6026

Grants.gov deadline: May 9, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 11, 2023 9:00 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

9. OJJDP FY 2023 Juvenile Drug Treatment Court Program –

OJJDP envisions a juvenile justice system centered on the strengths, needs, and voices of youth and families. Young people and family members with lived experience are vital resources for understanding and reaching persons involved or at risk of involvement with youth-serving systems. OJJDP asks stakeholders to join us in sustainably integrating bold, transformative youth and family partnership strategies into our daily work. OJJDP believes in achieving positive outcomes for youth, families, and communities through meaningful engagement and active partnerships, ensuring they play a central role in collaboratively developing solutions

Grants.gov deadline: May 9, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 23, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

10. OJJDP FY 2023 Supporting Effective Interventions for Youth With Problematic or Illegal Sexual Behavior –

With this solicitation, OJJDP seeks to provide funding to communities to develop intervention and supervision services for youth with problematic or illegal sexual behavior, and to provide treatment services for their victims and families/caregivers. Under this initiative, successful applicants are expected to have an established multidisciplinary team that (1) supports a comprehensive holistic approach to treating youth with problematic or illegal sexual behavior and (2) provides support services to victims and families/caregivers.

Grants.gov deadline: May 11, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 25, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

11. OVC FY 2023 Advancing the Use of Technology to Assist Victims of Crime –

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. With this solicitation, OVC seeks to provide funding to organizations that demonstrate innovative and effective strategies to create, expand, or enhance the use of technology to increase access to and quality of services for victims of crime and improve the accessibility and responsiveness of victim service organizations.

Grants.gov deadline: May 15, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 22, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

12. FY23 COPS Tribal Resources Grant Program—Technical Assistance (TRGP–TA)

Tribal Resources Grant Program—Technical Assistance (TRGP–TA) funds are used to support tribal law enforcement agencies through training and technical assistance efforts around community policing topics. The 2023 TRGP–TA program will fund projects that develop knowledge, increase awareness of effective community policing strategies, increase the skills and abilities of law enforcement and community partners, increase the number of law enforcement agencies and relevant stakeholders using proven community policing practices, and institutionalize community policing practice in routine business.

This year's program has one open solicitation: “Improving Public Safety and Criminal Justice for Native Americans and Addressing the Crisis of Missing Indigenous People”

The COPS Office will provide funding to an organization that demonstrates well-established experience in developing and delivering direct technical assistance to law enforcement personnel and criminal justice professionals to develop Tribal Community Response Plans (TCRPs) for missing person cases that establish a collaborative response from Tribal Governments, law enforcement, and other partners through culturally appropriate guidelines.

Grants.gov deadline: May 15, 2023 4:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 24, 2023 4:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

13. FY23 Law Enforcement Agency De-Escalation Grants -Community Policing Development Solicitation –

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as violent crime, nonviolent crime, and fear of crime. Community Policing Development (CPD) funds are used to develop the capacity of law enforcement to implement community policing strategies by providing guidance on promising practices through the development and testing of innovative strategies; building knowledge about effective practices and outcomes; and supporting new, creative approaches to preventing crime and promoting safe communities. The COPS Office is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and build trust between law enforcement and the community.

Grants.gov deadline: May 15, 2023 4:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 24, 2023 4:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

14. OVC FY 2023 Preventing Trafficking of Girls Program Sites and Training and Technical Assistance

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. To enhance capacity to identify, assist, and provide services to all victims of human trafficking, OVC leads the Nation in supporting victim-centered and trauma-informed programs, policies, and resources that promote justice, access, and empowerment. With this solicitation, OVC seeks to provide funding for the prevention and early intervention of human trafficking, as defined by 22 U.S.C. § 7102(11).

Grants.gov deadline: May 16, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 23, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

15. OJJDP FY 2023 Opioid Affected Youth Initiative –

OJJDP's guiding philosophy is to enhance the welfare of America's youth and broaden their opportunities for a better future. To bring these goals to fruition, OJJDP is leading efforts to transform the juvenile justice system into one that will Treat Children as Children; Serve Children at Home, With Their Families, in their Communities; and Open Up Opportunities for System-Involved Youth. OJJDP encourages all proposed applications that work with youth to highlight how the proposed program aligns with these priorities. OJJDP envisions a juvenile justice system centered on the strengths, needs, and voices of youth and families. Young people and family members with lived experience are vital resources for understanding and reaching persons involved or at risk of involvement with youth-serving systems. OJJDP asks stakeholders to join us in sustainably integrating bold, transformative youth and family partnership strategies into our daily work. OJJDP believes in achieving positive outcomes for youth, families, and communities through meaningful engagement and active partnerships, ensuring they play a central role in collaboratively developing solutions.

Grants.gov deadline: May 16, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 30, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

16. NIJ FY23 Research and Evaluation on Hate Crimes

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for rigorous research and evaluation projects that inform efforts to prevent and combat hate crimes and their effects. Specifically, this solicitation seeks proposals to advance knowledge and understanding in two categories: preventing and addressing hate crimes, and school-based hate crimes.

Within the first category, preventing and addressing hate crimes, NIJ is particularly interested in funding research and evaluations to improve hate crime prevention efforts; improve reporting of hate crimes and hate incidents; and understand and address the needs of victims and their communities.

Within the second category, school-based hate crimes, NIJ is interested in funding a study on hate crimes in the K-12 education system to understand the scope, characteristics, and outcomes of these incidents.

Applications will be submitted in a two-step process, each step with its own deadline:

Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](#) and [JustGrants](#) prior to submitting an application.

This solicitation is competitive; therefore, NIJ staff cannot have individual conversations with prospective applicants. Any questions concerning the solicitation should be submitted to the OJP Response Center: 800-851-3420; TTY at 301-240-6310 (for hearing impaired only); or email grants@ncjrs.gov. See also NIJ's [solicitation FAQ webpage](#).

The following application elements must be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Web-Based Form (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)
- Curricula Vitae/Resumes for Key Personnel (For purposes of this solicitation, "key personnel" means the principal investigator and all co-principal investigators.)

Grants.gov deadline: May 16, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 30, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

17. NIJ FY23 Research and Evaluation on Sentencing and Resentencing

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for rigorous research and evaluation projects that will inform our understanding of the impact of sentencing and resentencing policies and prison release frameworks on individuals, communities, and public safety.

Applications will be submitted in a two-step process, each step with its own deadline:

Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](#) and [JustGrants](#) prior to submitting an application.

This solicitation is competitive; therefore, NIJ staff cannot have individual conversations with prospective applicants. Any questions concerning the solicitation should be submitted to the OJP Response Center: 800-

851-3420; TTY at 301-240-6310 (for hearing impaired only); or email grants@ncjrs.gov. See also NIJ's [solicitation FAQ webpage](#).

The following application elements must be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Web-Based Form (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)
- Curricula Vitae/Resumes for Key Personnel (For purposes of this solicitation, "key personnel" means the principal investigator and all co-principal investigators.)

Grants.gov deadline: May 16, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 30, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

18. BJA FY 23 Emmett Till Cold Case Investigations and Prosecution Program –

With this solicitation, BJA seeks to support state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecution agencies, working with their partners, to investigate and prosecute unsolved cold case homicides suspected to have been racially motivated or otherwise associated with civil rights violations. This includes support for victims' families and stakeholder communities impacted by these cases. Funds are limited to address incidents that resulted in death that occurred no later than December 31, 1979. Samples of previous, successful projects can be found at: <https://bja.ojp.gov/funding/opportunities/o-bja-2022-171088>.

Grants.gov deadline: May 17, 2023 8:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 24, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

19. OJJDP FY 2023 Post-Secondary Education Opportunities for Child Protection Professionals –

OJJDP envisions a juvenile justice system centered on the strengths, needs, and voices of youth and families. Young people and family members with lived experience are vital resources for understanding and reaching persons involved or at risk of involvement with youth-serving systems. OJJDP asks stakeholders to join us in sustainably integrating bold, transformative youth and family partnership strategies into our daily work. OJJDP believes in achieving positive outcomes for youth, families, and communities through meaningful engagement and active partnerships, ensuring they play a central role in collaboratively developing solutions.

Grants.gov deadline: May 17, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 31, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

20. BJA FY 23 Office of Justice Programs Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative –

OJP's Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI) seeks to prevent and reduce violent crime in communities by supporting comprehensive, evidence-based violence intervention and prevention programs. These programs include efforts to address gang and gun violence, based on partnerships among community residents, local government agencies, victim service providers, community-based organizations, law enforcement, hospitals, researchers, and other community stakeholders.

Grants.gov deadline: May 18, 2023 8:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: May 25, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

21. NIJ FY23 Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI) Research, Evaluation, and Associated Training & Technical Assistance Support

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks applications for funding under OJP Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI). CVIPI provides resources to support evidence-informed violence intervention and prevention programs in communities across the United States. This solicitation includes four funding categories: 1) Training and Technical Assistance to Support CVIPI Evaluation Capacity Building and Researcher and Practitioner Partnerships; 2) Training and Technical Assistance to Support Violent Crime Problem Analyses of Jurisdictions not Funded under the OJP FY22 and FY23 CVIPI Solicitations; 3) Site-Based Evaluations of Programs Funded under the OJP FY22 and FY23 CVIPI Solicitations, and 4) Other Community-Violence Research and Evaluations.

Grants.gov deadline: May 22, 2023 11:59 PM ET
JustGrants deadline: June 5, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

22. OJJDP FY 2023 Second Chance Act Youth Reentry Program –

OJJDP's Second Chance Act Youth Reentry Program encourages collaboration between state agencies, local government, and community- and faith-based organizations to address the challenges that reentry and recidivism reduction pose for moderate- to high-risk youth returning to their communities from juvenile residential or correctional facilities. OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community.

Grants.gov deadline: May 23, 2023 11:59 PM ET
JustGrants deadline: June 5, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

23. BJA FY 23 Community Courts Initiative –

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. With this solicitation, BJA seeks to support efforts by state, local, and federally recognized American Indian tribal governments to establish and enhance community courts in their jurisdictions. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by providing resources to communities to enhance public safety and build trust between law enforcement and the community.

Grants.gov deadline: May 24, 2023 8:59 PM ET
JustGrants deadline: May 31, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

24. BJA FY 23 Second Chance Act Community-Based Reentry Program –

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. Second Chance Act (SCA) grant funding is designed to help communities develop and implement comprehensive and collaborative strategies that address the challenges posed by reentry and recidivism reduction. "Reentry" is not a specific program but rather a process that starts from the moment an individual is incarcerated and continues throughout that individual's transition from incarceration and reintegration into the community.

Grants.gov deadline: May 24, 2023 8:59 PM ET
JustGrants deadline: May 31, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

25. OVC FY 2023 Transforming America’s Response to Elder Abuse: Enhanced Multidisciplinary Teams (E-MDTs) for Older Victims of Abuse and Financial Exploitation and T&TA

With this solicitation, OVC seeks to support the development or enhancement of multidisciplinary teams to better identify and respond to cases of abuse of older adults and more comprehensively serve and support older victims of financial exploitation and other forms of elder abuse. The program will also support a National Elder Abuse Training and Technical Assistance Center. Through these efforts OVC hopes to improve case outcomes, while minimizing additional trauma and restoring safety and security to older adult victims of crime, and hold more offenders accountable.

Grants.gov deadline: May 24, 2023 11:59 PM ET
JustGrants deadline: May 31, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

26. BJA FY 23 Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Program –

The Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Program supports efforts by state, local, and tribal law enforcement and prosecution agencies and their partners in conducting outreach, educating practitioners and the public, enhancing victim reporting tools, and investigating and prosecuting hate crimes committed on the basis of a victim’s perceived or actual race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability.

Grants.gov deadline: May 25, 2023 8:59 PM ET
JustGrants deadline: May 30, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

27. American Indian and Alaska Native Behavioral Health Center of Excellence –

The purpose of the American Indian and Alaska Native Behavioral Health Center of Excellence program is to establish a Center of Excellence to advance the behavioral health equity of American Indians and Alaska Natives. It is expected that the recipient will (1) develop and disseminate culturally-informed, evidence-based behavioral health information and (2) provide technical assistance and training on issues related to addressing behavioral health disparities in AIAN communities. AIANs have consistently experienced disparities in access to healthcare services, funding, and resources; quality and quantity of services; treatment outcomes; and health education and prevention services.

Grants.gov deadline: May 26, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

28. NIJ FY23 Research on Juvenile Justice Topics

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for rigorous research and evaluation projects that inform policy and practice in the field of juvenile justice in three. Specifically, this solicitation seeks proposals for studies that advance knowledge and understanding in the following three categories:

1. Research and evaluation of legislative and administrative policy changes affecting youth involved in the justice system. Applicants must address one or more of the following addressing one of three specified juvenile justice issues:

- Providing community-based alternatives to youth incarceration, with a focus on very high- need/risk youth who have traditionally been held securely
- Sealing and expunging juvenile justice records
- Reducing racial and ethnic disparities in the juvenile justice system

2. Research to assess data capacity and service delivery for dual system youth across the juvenile justice and child welfare systems

3. Analysis on the use of the valid court order exception

Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) and [JustGrants](https://www.justgrants.gov) prior to submitting an application.

This solicitation is competitive; therefore, NIJ staff cannot have individual conversations with prospective applicants. Any questions concerning the solicitation should be submitted to the OJP Response Center: 800-851-3420; TTY at 301-240-6310 (for hearing impaired only); or email grants@ncjrs.gov. See also NIJ's [solicitation FAQ webpage](#).

The following application elements must be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Web-Based Form (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)
Curricula Vitae/Resumes for Key Personnel (For purposes of this solicitation, "key personnel" means the principal investigator and all co-principal investigators.)

Grants.gov deadline: May 29, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 12, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

29. OVC FY 2023 Anti-Trafficking Housing Assistance Program (Services and Training and Technical Assistance) –

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. To enhance capacity to identify, assist, and provide services to all victims of human trafficking, OVC leads the Nation in supporting victim-centered and trauma-informed programs, policies, and resources that promote justice, access, and empowerment. With this solicitation, OVC seeks to provide funding for housing services for victims of human trafficking, as defined by 22 U.S.C. § 7102(11).

Grants.gov deadline: May 30, 2023 8:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 5, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

30. OJJDP FY 2023 Second Chance Act Addressing the Needs of Incarcerated Parents and Their Minor Children –

OJJDP's guiding philosophy is to enhance the welfare of America's youth and broaden their opportunities for a better future. To bring these goals to fruition, OJJDP is leading efforts to transform the juvenile justice system into one that will Treat Children as Children; Serve Children at Home, With Their Families, in Their Communities; and Open Up Opportunities for System-Involved Youth. OJJDP encourages all proposed applications that work with youth to highlight how the proposed program aligns with these priorities. OJJDP envisions a juvenile justice system centered on the strengths, needs, and voices of youth and families. Young people and family members with lived experience are vital resources for understanding and reaching persons involved or at risk of involvement with youth-serving systems. OJJDP asks stakeholders to join us in sustainably integrating bold, transformative youth and family partnership strategies into our daily work. OJJDP believes in achieving positive outcomes for youth, families, and communities through meaningful partnership and active partnerships, ensuring they play a central role in collaboratively developing solutions.

Grants.gov deadline: May 30, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 12, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

31. NIJ Youth Mentoring Research and Evaluation

Mentoring is a prominent delinquency prevention and victimization recovery strategy for at-risk youth. With this solicitation NIJ seeks applications for rigorous youth mentoring research and independent evaluation projects that address one or both of the following two topical areas:

- Barriers to accessing mentoring services for youth involved in the justice system
- Mentoring programs that serve youth involved in the justice system

Applications will be submitted in a two-step process, each step with its own deadline:

Applicants must register with [Grants.gov](#) and [JustGrants](#) prior to submitting an application.

This solicitation is competitive; therefore, NIJ staff cannot have individual conversations with prospective applicants. Any questions concerning the solicitation should be submitted to the OJP Response Center: 800-851-3420; TTY at 301-240-6310 (for hearing impaired only); or email grants@ncjrs.gov. See also NIJ's [solicitation FAQ webpage](#).

The following application elements must be included in the application to meet the basic minimum requirements to advance to peer review and receive consideration for funding:

- Proposal Narrative
- Budget Web-Based Form (The web-based form includes the budget details and the budget narrative.)
Curricula Vitae/Resumes for Key Personnel (For purposes of this solicitation, "key personnel" means the principal investigator and all co-principal investigators.)

Grants.gov deadline: May 30, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 13, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

32. BJA FY 23 The National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative: Training and Technical Assistance Program

The overall goal of the National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative TTA Program is to build state and local capacities to address violent crime associated with unsubmitted SAKs, sexually motivated homicides, and corresponding crime scene evidence by supporting the needs of SAKI sites and, as resources allow, other jurisdictions engaged in community-based sexual assault reform. Purpose Area 2: Eligible applicants are states (including territories), units of local government (including federally recognized Indian tribal governments as determined by the Secretary of the Interior), nonprofit and for-profit organizations (including tribal nonprofit or for-profit organizations), and institutions of higher education (including tribal institutions of higher education).

Grants.gov deadline: June 5, 2023 8:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 12, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

33. BJA FY 23 Smart Reentry: Expanding Jail Programs and Services –

With this solicitation, BJA seeks to fund units of local government and federally recognized Indian tribal governments to plan, implement, or expand effective reentry practices and service delivery systems within local correctional facility (nonprison) settings, including jails, and for incarcerated persons transitioning from these facilities to the community. This funding is available to support the development and provision of innovative evidence-based reentry programming and services that address individuals' needs of individuals returning to the community from jail and that reduce recidivism for the local population. Services can be provided in a wide range of local correctional settings, including jails, halfway house, and in the community.

Grants.gov deadline: June 5, 2023 8:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 12, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

34. OVC FY 2023 Field-Generated Solicitation: Increasing Options and Expanding Access for Victims of Crime –

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and

protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. With this solicitation, OVC seeks field-generated proposals that offer innovative solutions that will increase the service options available to crime victims, expand access for underheard and underrepresented communities, or improve the way information is delivered to crime victims. Applicants will be asked to state the problem they are aiming to solve and present an innovative solution that will generate new or promising practices for the field. Each applicant must propose a research partner to conduct project evaluation. Further information can be found under “Note on Project Evaluations” in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

Grants.gov deadline: June 5, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 12, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

35. OVC FY 2023 Integrated Services for Minor Victims of Human Trafficking –

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. To enhance capacity to identify, assist, and provide services to all victims of human trafficking, OVC leads the Nation in supporting victim-centered and trauma-informed programs, policies, and resources that promote justice, access, and empowerment. With this solicitation, OVC will fund programs to enhance the quality and quantity of services available to assist minor victims of human trafficking, as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA), as amended, by providing services that are developmentally appropriate and tailored to the individual needs of young trafficking victims.

Grants.gov deadline: June 6, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 13, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

36. State-Tribal Partnerships to Implement Best Practices in Indian Child Welfare –

The purpose of this notice of funding opportunity is to create and implement intergovernmental partnership models to improve implementation of child welfare best practices that are culturally appropriate for federally recognized AI/AN children to prevent maltreatment, removal from families and communities, and improve safety, permanency, and well-being. Recipients will serve as demonstration sites to design and implement projects to effectively implement culturally appropriate best practices in Indian child welfare, including research and evaluation of improvements in child welfare practice, Indian child welfare codes, legal and judicial processes, case monitoring, case planning, data collection, in-home family preservation services, infrastructure, and systems change. Partnerships must include the state Court Improvement Program, the state child welfare agency, and one or more tribal governments or tribal consortia including corresponding tribal court(s). The “Tribal government” partner(s) may be tribal child welfare agencies where appropriate under tribal law or custom.

Deadline: June 13, 2023

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

37. OJJDP FY 2023 Youth Violence Prevention Program –

OJJDP envisions a juvenile justice system centered on the strengths, needs, and voices of youth and families. Young people and family members with lived experience are vital resources for understanding and reaching persons involved or at risk of involvement with youth-serving systems. OJJDP asks stakeholders to join us in sustainably integrating bold, transformative youth and family partnership strategies into our daily work. OJJDP believes in achieving positive outcomes for youth, families, and communities through meaningful engagement and active partnerships, ensuring they play a central role in collaboratively developing solutions.

Grants.gov deadline: June 12, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 26, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

38. OVC FY 2023 Developing Future Victim Specialists to Serve American Indian/Alaska Native Victims of Crime

With this solicitation, OVC seeks to develop a workforce of victim service providers to serve American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) victims of crime in isolated locations. By identifying and training prospective victim service professionals in, or from, the communities to be served, Tribal and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) victim service programs will be better able to fill these positions in remote Indian Country and Alaska Native locations, and in turn ensure that victims in these locations get the services they need.

Grants.gov deadline: June 12, 2023 11:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 20, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

39. BJA FY 23 Rural and Small Department Violent Crime Reduction Program –

OJP is committed to advancing work that promotes civil rights and racial equity, increases access to justice, supports crime victims and individuals impacted by the justice system, strengthens community safety and protects the public from crime and evolving threats, and builds trust between law enforcement and the community. With this solicitation, BJA seeks to support small and rural agencies in their efforts to combat violent crime.

Grants.gov deadline: June 13, 2023 8:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 20, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

40. BJA FY 23 Reimagining Justice: Testing a New Model of Community Safety –

With this solicitation, BJA seeks to fill a gap within OJP's current funding plan by seeding the development, implementation, and testing of new or innovative approaches to achieving community safety that are alternatives to a traditional enforcement model for communities experiencing a precipitous increase in less serious and lower-level crimes. This solicitation will fund applications proposing an innovative strategy or model to improve community safety, build trust, limit unnecessary involvement in the criminal justice system, and improve residents' perceptions of law enforcement and procedural fairness and legitimacy.

Grants.gov deadline: June 20, 2023 8:59 PM ET

JustGrants deadline: June 27, 2023 8:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

41. Victims of Human Trafficking in Native Communities (VHT-NC) Demonstration Program

The VHT-NC Demonstration Program funds organizations to build, expand, and sustain organizational and community capacity to deliver comprehensive services to Native American adults and children who have experienced human trafficking. The VHT-NC Demonstration Program is informed by a whole family approach that focuses equally and intentionally on services and opportunities for clients and their immediate family members living within their households.

Grants.gov deadline: June 30, 2023, 11:59 p.m. ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

42. Domestic Victims of Human Trafficking Services and Outreach (DVHT-SO) Program –

The Office on Trafficking in Persons (OTIP) within the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) is announcing funding for the Domestic Victims of Human Trafficking Services and Outreach (DVHT- SO) Program. The goal of the DVHT-SO Program is to fund organizations that will build, expand, and sustain organizational and local capacity to deliver services to domestic victims of severe forms of human trafficking as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended through victim outreach, identification, case management, direct services, assistance, and referrals. Under the DVHT-SO Program, the following activities are required: 1) comprehensive case management and services to adults and children who have experienced

human trafficking; and 2) outreach to increase identification of adults and children who have experienced sex and labor trafficking. The DVHT-SO Program is informed by a whole-family approach that focuses equally and intentionally on services and opportunities for individuals who have experienced human trafficking and their immediate family members living within their households. OTIP encourages community partnerships, meaningful engagement of individuals who have experienced human trafficking, and hiring qualified professionals from the communities being served under the DVHT-SO Program. Recipients will undergo a 12-month project implementation period to establish partnerships, on-board new staff, and develop a victim service protocol and a sustainability plan.

Grants.gov deadline: June 30, 2023 11:59 PM ET

To view the solicitation, visit [here](#).

Upcoming Training/Networking/Meeting Opportunities

1. Address Confidentiality Program (ACP) – Certified ACP Application Assistant and Victim Advocate Virtual Training

The Department of Attorney General is offering free virtual training to individuals interested in becoming certified ACP application assistants or victim advocates. ACP was created to protect victims of stalking, domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking by concealing their actual physical address. ACP operates to shield a program participant's actual physical address by providing an official designated (substitute) address and mail forwarding service. ACP is expected to be available to the public on May 23, 2023.

Certified application assistants/victim advocates play a critical role in this initiative by providing program information and enrollment assistance to applicants. To enroll in the ACP, an applicant must use a certified application assistant/victim advocate.

The training will cover the program overview, the role of the application assistant/victim advocate, how to enroll applicants, and how to access the ACP portal for online application submissions.

Requirements:

This training is open to employees and volunteers:

at agencies or organizations that serve victims of domestic violence, stalking, human trafficking, or sexual assault; and employees of the Department of the Attorney General or employees of a county prosecutor's office.

Register for only one date:

[May 4 10:00am-12:00pm](#)

[May 11 10:00am-12:00pm](#)

[May 16 1:00pm-3:00pm](#)

For more information, contact Karen Hall 313-456-0190 or email ag-acp@mi.gov

2. 2023 Child & Adolescent Mental Health ECHO for Native American Youth

The 2023 Child and Adolescent Mental Health ECHO for Native American Youth will consist of 14 sessions, taking place on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, except during the summer, from 12:00PM - 1:30PM PST, until September 21, 2023.

The Child & Adolescent Mental Health ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) for Native American Children and Youth program is a collaboration between the California Area Indian Health Service, Stanford Center for Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing, Two Feathers Native American Family Services, Southern Indian Health Council, Yurok Tribe Health and Human Services, and the Native American Health

Center to improve the treatment of pediatric mental health disorders. This ECHO aims to build the capacity of comprehensive, integrated and responsive mental health services in community-based settings for early recognition and evidence-based management of mental health challenges for children and adolescents and to enhance the knowledge of culturally responsive treatment modalities according to practice-based and evidence-based guidelines for Native American and Alaska Native youth.

Sessions will be held on:

February 23, 2023 12:00 PM
March 9, 2023 12:00 PM
March 23, 2023 12:00 PM
April 13, 2023 12:00 PM
April 27, 2023 12:00 PM
May 11, 2023 12:00 PM
May 25, 2023 12:00 PM
June 8, 2023 12:00 PM
June 22, 2023 12:00 PM
July 13, 2023 12:00 PM
August 10, 2023 12:00 PM
September 7, 2023 12:00 PM
September 21, 2023 12:00 PM

For more information on topics and speakers, visit the program website:

<https://med.stanford.edu/cme/echos/echo mental health.html>

Registration

Registration is open. This national ECHO is free for all attendees.

Note - Our target audience includes healthcare professionals and school mental health workers based in the United States, who are responsible for the care and treatment of Native American Youth. International learners are encouraged to seek out ECHO opportunities in their native countries. More information on global ECHO programs can be found here: <https://hsc.unm.edu/echo/>

At the conclusion of this activity, learners should be able to:

- Provide comprehensive, integrated and responsive mental health services in community-based settings for early recognition and evidence-based management of mental health challenges for children, adolescents and transition-aged youth.
- Formulate and implement culturally responsive treatment modalities according to practice-based and evidence-based guidelines.
- Acquire new skills, competencies, and best practices in child and adolescent mental healthcare for American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

Register [here](#).

3. National Indian Country Training Initiative Online Training Announcement Title: Culture as Prevention Webinar Series: Tribal Notification when Native Youth are Involved in State or Local Juvenile Justice Systems

Date: May 11, 2023, 2:00 - 3:30 pm EDT

Register Here: <https://usao.webex.com/weblink/register/r3ae5f7fd30cd194d4b09c627f4540dd6>

Given that the majority of Tribal youth reside outside of Indian country, any juvenile delinquency proceedings or criminal charges will likely involve state or local juvenile justice systems. The Indian Child Welfare Act does not require Tribal notification when a Tribal youth is involved in a state or local juvenile justice system. Thus, Tribes may be unaware of Tribal youth involvement in a state or local juvenile justice system. However, several states have adopted systems requiring notification to a Tribe when a Native American youth is involved in juvenile justice proceedings. These notification systems work to connect Tribal youth with their culture and to services available through the Tribe while the youth is involved in the state or local juvenile justice system. In this webinar, participants will learn more about the legal authority for and implementation of state Tribal

notification systems. Faculty will include State and Tribal representatives who have implemented a notification system in their jurisdiction.

This webinar is the first in a series titled Culture as Prevention. The training series is the result of a partnership between DOJ's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and the National Indian Country Training Initiative. This webinar is available to all federal, state, local and Tribal juvenile justice and social service professionals, as well as those interested in exploring a Tribal notification system in their state. The training is free.

This media and materials are for Department of Justice use and subject to protection from release under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. section 552.

Training Date: May 11, 2023
Training Time: 2:00 - 3:30 pm EDT

Registration deadline: May 9, 2023
Applicants will receive notification of their application status by May 10, 2023

Note: This webinar is listed in Eastern Daylight Savings Time. To determine the start time in your local time zone, please refer to the chart below. For additional time zone information, you can search the time zone converter at <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html>.

To register, follow these steps:

1. Click on the link to register:
<https://usao.webex.com/webex/register/r3ae5f7fd30cd194d4b09c627f4540dd6>
2. Complete the registration form. Avoid using acronyms or abbreviations. Be sure to confirm that your email address is correct before submitting.
3. Click the "Submit" button to complete your registration.

If you have any questions, please contact Heather Cumper at heather.cumper@usdoj.gov or Leslie A. Hagen at leslie.hagen3@usdoj.gov.

4. OWW Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction Reimbursement Program Webinar (from TLPI)

May 15th, 2023 2:30pm ET

Please join representatives from the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) for a webinar on the Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction Reimbursement Program.

The Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022 authorized a new program to reimburse Tribal governments for expenses incurred in exercising "special Tribal criminal jurisdiction" over non-Indians who commit certain covered crimes in Indian country. On April 11, 2023 the Department of Justice published an interim final rule to implement this new Tribal Reimbursement Program. The rule provides details about how the program will be administered, including eligibility, frequency of reimbursement, costs that can be reimbursed, the annual maximum allowable reimbursement per Tribe, and conditions for waiver of the annual maximum.

Register [here](#).

5. Dorothy Roberts: "How the Family Policing System Endangers Survivors and Their Children"

May 16, 2023
2:00-3:30pm ET

Description

"Children are taken on grounds of neglect where there isn't any evidence of severe abuse," said Roberts, the author of *Torn Apart: How the Child Welfare System Destroys Black Families – and How Abolition Can Build a Safer World*. "We could imagine a better way of dealing with the families' and the children's needs without resorting to this traumatic intervention of seizing children. We shouldn't think of them as aberrant cases."

How are adult and child survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence, especially BIPOC survivors, impacted by what we call the child welfare system? How is the [family policing system](#) connected to sexual violence and the trauma to prison pipeline?

Many survivors become entangled into the child welfare/family policing system in the course of their daily lives - when accessing education, housing, health care, services for survivors of SA/DV and so much more. What is our role as anti-violence survivor-centered advocates in this? How can we continue to support survivors and their families when state agencies become barriers, tools of surveillance, and sites of increased oppression and risk of experiencing violence?

Join us for a virtual talk with Professor Dorothy E Roberts who will explore these tensions and provide insight in how we can continue to support survivors and their families.

ASL & CART will be provided. Please request any other accommodation needs in your registration. This session will be recorded; HOWEVER, it will only be accessible with a protected link for a year."

Register [here](#).

6. Foundation and Key Principles: Strengthening the Role of Advocacy in Indian Country Workshop (from NIWRC)

May 16 - May 18, 2023
Aurora, CO & Virtually

About the Workshop

The foundation of advocates' role in Indian Country is built upon our Indigenous understanding of our relationships and roles as Relatives in the context of historical and ongoing dynamics of colonization. The key principles of advocacy come from indigenous cultural beliefs and values and encompass concepts of resilience, trauma-informed approaches, and sovereignty. These are the themes of this workshop, with a focus on the dynamics and impact of battering/ intimate partner violence, particularly on Native women. Key topics include basic advocacy skills, confidentiality, and elements of shelter and other safe spaces. Advocates' role in social change initiatives outside of shelter doors is also addressed. A special session on COVID-19 mitigation best practices and indoor air mitigation tools have been added to the agenda this year, given the ongoing pandemic. Discussion and interactive exercises are planned throughout this workshop.

Please note that you may register to attend this 3-day workshop in person or virtually.

For those attending in person, given the resurgence of COVID-19 cases and to safeguard our health and that of our relatives, we are encouraging those who have not been vaccinated to get the vaccination. If vaccinated, please provide proof at workshop check-in. In an effort to provide an equitable and accessible space, we are requesting participants to get tested 72 hours prior to the first day of this workshop. We will be providing masks and hand sanitizer during sessions. We strongly request participants test each morning before the session begins. The maximum number of participants has also been lowered to allow for social distancing within the workshop. Health and safety are our priorities. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated as we move together through these challenging times.

We look forward to meeting you!

Facilitators

- Brenda Hill, Director of Technical Assistance & Training, NIWRC
- Kim Zahne, Technical Assistance and Training Specialist, NIWRC

Registration Fees

- Early Bird \$300 (*Must register by COB April 18, 2023*)
- Standard \$350

Register [here](#).

Workshop Agenda can be found [here](#).

7. Making Victims' Rights A Reality — A national perspective on emerging victims' rights issues

May 17, 2:00pm ET

This is the first installment of NCVIC Presents: Countdown to Boston, a FREE webinar series leading up to the 2023 National Training Institute in Boston.

Across the nation, victims' legal rights have been passed in most state constitutions. However, many victims are still unaware of these rights or how to exercise their rights. Many system-based and community-based service providers are unfamiliar with the nuances of these rights, how they can assist victims with victims' rights issues, and the role of a victims' rights attorney.

Join us as we discuss the current state of victims' rights across the country, why victims' rights are important to the proper functioning of our criminal justice system, and how you can help victims navigate their rights.

Register [here](#).

8. Building Trauma-Informed Advocacy Skills (from MiVAN)

May 17, 10:00am-12:00pm ET

Building trauma-informed advocacy skills

Many advocates already know a lot about trauma and use their knowledge and training to help survivors recover every day, but it can also be healing in and of itself to share information about trauma directly with survivors. Being prepared with evidence-based responses to challenges, confusion, or myths you may hear is one way to help survivors begin their healing journey. Interactive breakout sessions, facilitated by experienced trainers, will offer an opportunity to practice different communication approaches and reflect as a group.

In this workshop, we will discuss:

- Tips for how and when to talk about the trauma response
- Key trauma facts to share with survivors and myths to dispel
- How to use a strengths-based advocacy approach to validate and normalize survivor experiences while providing resources and information about trauma.

This 2-hour interactive practice session builds on the information presented in MiVAN's Trauma Across the Lifespan webinar series and provides a facilitated space to practice advocacy skills and exercises. Completion of the webinar series is a pre-requisite for workshop registration.

For more information, visit [here](#).

9. Conference on Crimes Against Women (CCAW) – Tribal Grantees Can Send 3 Without a Grant Adjustment Modification

CCAW is an annual in-person conference that convenes the leading experts from across the country to educate and train first responders and community stakeholders on best practices regarding the identification, investigation and prosecution of crimes against women. Offering more than 200 workshops, case studies and hands-on computer labs, CCAW creates an interactive learning experience for professionals to help them best serve women in need of their support.

Join us in Dallas, Texas May 22-25, 2023 for the 18th Annual CCAW.

For more information, visit [here](#).

10. National Indian Country Training Initiative Online Training Announcement

Title: Justice Systems from the Kid's Perspective: Supporting Native Child Victims and Witnesses

Dates: May 22, 2023 2:00 – 4:00 pm EDT

Register Here: <https://usao.webex.com/weblink/register/r495c6e5ff2c24dd8315235cd506e67bb>

Children are amongst the most vulnerable members of our society and are widely recognized as requiring care and protection, yet they are often victims of or witnesses to violence, abuse and other crimes. As a result, children may have to navigate child welfare and criminal legal systems that are intimidating, confusing and overwhelming for adults, let alone for children, whose systems involvement may exacerbate their trauma and

distress. In addition, Native American child victims and witnesses have unique historical, community and cultural contexts, and often face the added challenge of navigating complicated jurisdictional issues between tribal, state and federal justice systems.

The Center for Justice Innovation's Child Witness Materials Project, an initiative funded by the U.S. Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), addresses these systemic gaps through a package of materials for children aged 2-18 that empower and inform them as they interact with the child welfare and criminal legal systems. These materials utilize illustrated narratives featuring child and adolescent characters that explain how the child welfare and criminal legal systems work in a developmentally-appropriate way. Recognizing the unique needs of Native child victims and witnesses, the Office for Victims of Crime provided additional funding to the Center to create specialized materials for this population.

In this presentation, participants will learn more about how Native children experience the child welfare and criminal legal systems, and how to best meet their informational and emotional support needs in a trauma-informed, child-friendly way, including through the use of the Center's child witness materials.

This webinar is available to all federal, state and tribal criminal justice and social service professionals working with tribal communities. There is no tuition charge for this training.

Date: May 22, 2023
Time: 2:00 - 4:00 pm EDT

Non-DOJ Registration Deadline: May 18, 2023
OLE Notification Deadline: May 19, 2023

Note: This webinar is listed in Eastern Daylight Savings Time. To determine the start time in your local time zone, please refer to the chart below. For additional time zone information, you can search the time zone converter at <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html>.

Eastern Daylight Savings Time 2:00 - 4:00 pm EDT
Central Daylight Savings Time 1:00 - 3:00 pm CDT
Mountain Daylight Savings Time 12:00 - 2:00 pm MDT
Pacific Daylight Savings Time 11:00 - 1:00 pm PDT
Alaskan Daylight Savings Time 10:00 - 12:00 pm AKDT
Hawaiian Standard Time 8:00 - 10:00 am HAST

This media and materials are for Department of Justice use and subject to protection from release under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. section 552.

To register, follow these steps:

- Click on the link to registration:
<https://usao.webex.com/webex/register/r495c6e5ff2c24dd8315235cd506e67bb>
- Select each day of this 3-day webinar. You are encouraged to attend all three days.
- Complete the registration form. Avoid using acronyms or abbreviations. Be sure to confirm that your email address is correct before submitting.
- Click the "Submit" button to complete your registration.

If you have any questions, please contact Heather Cumper at heather.cumper@usdoj.gov or Leslie A. Hagen at leslie.hagen3@usdoj.gov.

11. Engaging The Mind-Body Connection (From MiVAN)

May 24 from 1:00PM EST – 3:00PM EST

Recognizing when someone may be experiencing a trauma response such as getting triggered is an important advocacy skill that will help prevent re-traumatizing survivors and promote recovery and healing. Responding to triggers with simple, evidence-based mind-body tools like breathing and grounding exercises can be an empowering way for survivors to move forward through their healing. Interactive breakout sessions and group practice, facilitated by experienced trainers, will offer an opportunity to check skills in recognizing trauma reactions and practice responding with various mind-body tools.

In this workshop, we will discuss:

- Identifying different types of triggered responses.

- Recognizing when it is appropriate to introduce mind-body tools.
- Responding to specific triggered reactions with mind-body exercises.
- Using a strengths-based approach to help survivors become more aware of their own internal state and develop healthy coping skills for hyperarousal and dissociation using mind-body tools.

This 2-hour interactive practice session builds on the information presented in MiVAN's Trauma Across the Lifespan webinar series and provides a facilitated space to practice advocacy skills and exercises. Completion of the webinar series is a pre-requisite for workshop registration.

For more information, visit [here](#).

12. National Indian Country Training Initiative Online Training Announcement

Title: Investigating and Prosecuting Federal Sexual Assault Cases: Boats, Planes, Prisons, Parks, and Indian Country

Dates: May 30, 2023 12:00 - 5:00 pm EDT

May 31, 2023 12:00 - 5:30 pm EDT

June 1, 2023 12:30 - 5:00 pm EDT

Non-DOJ Registration Deadline: May 26, 2023

OLE Notification Deadline: May 30, 2023

Register Here:

<https://usao.webex.com/webappng/sites/usao/webinar/webinarSeries/register/84ead29ef0d94f6886385aeafd73e25b>

Sexual assault is one of the most frequently committed crimes in our society. The Federal sexual assault statutes found in Chapter 109A of the Federal criminal code are used in a wide variety of cases. The Federal government has responsibility for investigating and prosecuting sexual assault crimes occurring in Indian country, National Parks, Federal detention facilities, commercial aircraft, and cruise ships. The Department of Justice is committed to the development of a trauma-informed response to victims, which includes training on the neurobiology of trauma for all multidisciplinary partners responsible for the response to sexual assault cases. The training will provide instruction from nationally recognized subject matter experts on how to conduct trauma-informed investigations, the importance of victim advocacy, forensic medical examinations, effective use of the Federal Rules of Evidence in sexual assault cases, toxicology for prosecutors and investigators, and federal jurisdiction over sexual misconduct by government actors. The Office of the Deputy Attorney General will also address the Report and Recommendations Concerning the Department of Justice's Response to Sexual Misconduct by Employees of the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

This training is for all advocates, prosecutors, investigators and law enforcement personnel who work on sexual assault cases with a potential Federal nexus. CLE is being requested for this training. The training is free.

Note: This webinar is listed in Eastern Daylight Savings Time. To determine the start time in your local time zone, please refer to the chart below. For additional time zone information, you can search the time zone converter at <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html>.

Day 1: May 30, 2023
12:00 - 5:00 pm EDT

Day 2: May 31, 2023
12:00 - 5:30 pm EDT

Day 3: June 1, 2023
12:30 - 5:00 pm EDT

There will be an opportunity to seek CLE credit for watching this live Webex webinar session or watching designated individual webinar sessions. To seek CLE credit, you must do the following:

- Individually access the webinar using the meeting link that was sent to you after you registered. You may use a computer, smart phone, or mobile device. If using your phone, you may use the link on your calendar, email, or Webex App to access the meeting (view and hear the meeting). Please note that calling into the webinar using the Webex phone number listed at the bottom of your calendar meeting invitation is for audio only and will not qualify for CLE credit since it will not allow you to view the meeting. Again, you must access this webinar using your meeting link on a government or personal device (e.g., computer, phone) so you can hear and view the meeting.
- Watch the webinar in its entirety.
- Write down the code words that will be provided during the webinar at regular intervals.

- There is no partial CLE credit for any individual webinar sessions. You must have ALL code words for an individual webinar session in order to seek CLE credit for that individual webinar session.
- Log in to the webinar 15-20 minutes before the start time, as the first code word will be given at the beginning of the webinar. Once a code word is given, OLE is not authorized to repeat the code word again or provide a reconciled list of code words at the end of the webinar.
- After the webinar concludes, OLE will send out a CLE link the following business day. Using the CLE link, you will need to list the code words in the order broadcast.
- You may access the presentation material and agenda on OLE's SharePoint site approximately 90 minutes before the webinar begins.
- You may access the presentation material and the agenda immediately before joining the Webex webinar at the login page under "Event Material." An event password may be required (Webex will provide the event password in your calendar invitation that contains the meeting link).

PLEASE NOTE: If you are seeking CLE credit for any CLE-eligible training that OLE provides, please ensure that you have consulted your own bar rules to make certain that you are adhering to all bar rules/regulations, including such restrictions as not seeking CLE credit twice in the same compliance period for the same training.

This media and materials are for Department of Justice use and subject to protection from release under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. section 552.

To register, follow these steps:

- Click on the link to register:
<https://usao.webex.com/webappng/sites/usao/webinar/webinarSeries/register/84ead29ef0d94f6886385aeafd73e25b>
- Scroll down to select each day of this 3-day webinar. You are encouraged to attend all three days.
- Complete the registration form. Avoid using acronyms or abbreviations. Be sure to confirm that your email address is correct before submitting.
- Click the "Submit" button to complete your registration.

If you have any questions, please contact Heather Cumper at heather.cumper@usdoj.gov or Leslie A. Hagen at leslie.hagen3@usdoj.gov.

13. Free Expert Witness Training (from Michigan State University - Safe Place)

Registration for the free, statewide domestic violence and sexual assault expert witness training is now open! General Expert Testimony for: Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Criminal Cases and DV Family Law Cases

Training dates and times:

- Two mandatory educational trainings, 4 hours each:
 - o June 1, 9am-12pm
 - o June 2, 9am-12pm
- Must attend at least one of the mock hearing sessions, 4 hours each:
 - o June 5, 9am-12pm
 - o June 12, 1-4pm

Steps to follow:

- 1) Register for the training (the registration link is found on the attached flier) by May 19th.
- 2) Follow instructions when the training committee responds to your registration request.

Register [here](#).

14. National Crime Victim Law Institute's Crime Victim Law Conference

NCVLI's Crime Victim Law Conference is the premiere national conference on rights enforcement in the country. Professionals serving victims gather to learn, share best practices, and plan the future of victims' rights.

SAVE THE DATE:

The Crime Victim Law Conference will be held on June 5-7, 2023 in Portland, Oregon!
To receive information about the Crime Victim Law Conference [subscribe to NCVLI's mailing list](#)

15. National Indian Country Training Initiative Training Announcement Course: Getting Away with Murder: The Challenges of Staged Crime Scenes

When: June 6-9, 2023

Where: National Advocacy Center, Columbia, SC

Click Here to Register: <https://survey.ole.justice.gov/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=167822558537>

Join the leading experts in the country from the Training Institute in Strangulation Prevention, a program of Alliance for HOPE International, and the Department of Justice's National Indian Country Training Initiative in a dynamic, hands-on 3.5-day course on strangulation and suffocation murders.

Crime scene staging research has found that most offenders who stage crime scenes are male, most victims are female, and the most common victim-offender relationship involving staging is intimate partner relationships. Therefore, this course focuses on detecting staged crime scenes in intimate partner-related deaths.

Seasoned investigators, medical examiners, and prosecutors can be misdirected by killers and can close highly suspicious cases as accidents, suicides, or undetermined cause of death cases. This course will identify the primary mistakes made in staged crime scene cases and walk attendees through the pathway to build prosecutable homicide cases. Attendees will work on actual cases and meet the surviving family members of the victims. Registration is limited. Priority will be given to multidisciplinary federal and tribal teams working in tribal communities. Prosecutors, law enforcement, advocates and medical personnel are encouraged to register as a team.

There is no tuition cost and travel related expenses will be covered by the U.S. Department of Justice for those selected to attend the training.

To be considered for this training, please ensure that you complete the application here. Avoid using acronyms or abbreviations. Be sure to confirm that your email address is correct before submitting. Please note, a separate application must be submitted for each candidate seeking to attend this training.

Registration deadline: April 14, 2023.

Applicants will receive notification of their application status by April 21, 2023.

The Executive Office for United States Attorneys will provide reasonable accommodations to people with disabilities. Requests should be made to Heather Cumper as early as possible, preferably at least two weeks in advance of the seminar. No nominee will be excluded from a course on the basis of a disability-related accommodations request.

This training is authorized under the Government Employees Training Act.

If you have any questions regarding this training, please feel free to contact Heather Cumper at Heather.Cumper@usdoj.gov or Leslie A. Hagen at Leslie.Hagen3@usdoj.gov

16. Registration OPEN: Convening to Address Elder Abuse Outside the Legal System

General registration opens March 15, 2023

Futures Without Violence is hosting a convening to address emerging strategies for preventing and responding to elder abuse outside the legal system, including restorative justice, economic justice, legal system off-ramps, and community partnerships

Convening topic tracks: 1.) restorative justice or legal system off-ramps; 2.) economic justice, 3.) community partnerships

Earlybird registration for the convening is open NOW for \$100 through March 14, 2023. General registration opens March 15th for \$150.

Location: Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C.

Dates: June 7-9, 2023

Register [here](#).

17. 20th Intertribal Working Group (ITWG) Meeting In Person

Scottsdale, AZ at the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
Tuesday, June 13, 2023 – Full Day
Wednesday, June 14, 2023 – Full Day

Please register for the ITWG meeting here: [Registration application to attend the 20th Intertribal Working Group \(ITWG\) Meeting: June 13 - 14, 2023 | Scottsdale, AZ on the Salt River-Pima Maricopa Indian Community](#).

Draft agenda can be found [here](#).

18. Registration now live - 2023 Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Summit

June 21 and 22, 2023
East Lansing

Innovation in Multidisciplinary Responses to Sexual Assault:
Education to Application

This two-day statewide conference brings together the full multidisciplinary team of professionals to learn, re-energize and re-imagine our response to sexual assault in our communities. Generously sponsored by the Michigan Department of Attorney General Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Grant to the Ingham Jackson Regional Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Task Force. Eligible for MCOLES credit.

This is a free two day event.

[Save the Date Flyer](#)

[Event Website](#)

[Registration](#) is now LIVE

19. *(registration open) Women Are Sacred Conference (WAS) – National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center**

The Women Are Sacred (WAS) Conference is one of the oldest and largest gatherings of advocates, survivors, Tribal domestic and sexual violence programs, Tribal community members, Tribal leadership, law enforcement, and Tribal court personnel dedicated to ending violence against Native American women and children. WAS offers state-of-the-art training and networking opportunities designed to increase the capacity of Tribal nations, Tribal domestic violence, and community-based programs to address violence in Tribal communities.

Conference presenters include emerging Indigenous leaders, advocates, and other experts in the movement to end violence against Indigenous women and other relatives.

The next conference will be held June 26–28, 2023 in Albuquerque, New Mexico at the Isleta Resort and Casino.

**Per Sherriann Moore, OVV Deputy Director for Tribal Affairs, Tribal Governments Program, Tribal Jurisdictions Program, Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program, and Tribal Coalitions Program grantees are authorized to support registration and travel costs for up to three (3) tribal leaders or tribal representatives to attend the 2023 Women Are Sacred Conference, utilizing grant funds, without seeking additional specific authorization from their OVV grant managers through submission of a Grant Award Modification (GAM) in JustGrants. If a tribal grantee requests to cover costs for more than 3 tribal attendees, please contact your OVV Tribal Grant Management Specialist for approval. Grantees should ensure sufficient travel funds are available in their approved grant award budget to cover these costs, including funds available for other grantee required annual travel.”

To register, visit [here](#).

20. Great Lakes Area Opioid Conference: Journeying Toward Wellness

June 27 - 30, 2023 | Green Bay, WI

GLITEC is excited to host the 2nd Annual Great Lakes Area Opioid Conference: Journeying Toward Wellness in Green Bay, WI.

This conference is focused on addressing the continuum of care around opioids and other substances and how these factors intersect with other health concerns, such as suicide. The goal of the conference is to increase knowledge of opioids, other substance use, and mental health and support collaborative response efforts promoting regional health and wellness.

We will be hosting excellent speakers from across Indian Country with diverse knowledge and experiences. Additionally, we are offering several pre-conference trainings to support the amazing work occurring across our region. We hope to see you there!

For more information, visit [here](#).

21. DVS DV/SA Grantee Leadership Meeting (Formerly known as Agency Directors Meeting)

Save the Date!

July 13-14, 2023

Location: Mount Pleasant, MI

More information will be shared as the date gets closer.

22. (registration now open) Safety Net's 2023 Technology Summit!

Monday, July 17 – Wednesday, July 19, 2023 – Main Conference

Thursday, July 20 – State, Territory, and Tribal Coalition Day

San Francisco, CA

The annual Tech Summit brings together critical and timely information to increase the knowledge and skills of those working with survivors to enhance our work to respond to technology abuse, support survivors in their use of tech, and harness tech to improve services. Content will focus on an array of relevant and emerging issues at the intersection of technology, privacy, confidentiality, and innovation, as it relates to safety and abuse.

Call for Proposals

We are now accepting presentation proposals for the 2023 Technology Summit. Proposals are due Monday, October 24h. We're seeking proposals for workshops that provide tools and information to respond to technology abuse, help survivors of abuse use technology safely, enhance services for survivors, and hold offenders accountable. Proposals should be survivor-centered, trauma-informed, and include thoughtful, culturally competent approaches. The session content should include innovative strategies and support best practices. All workshops will be 60-90 minutes long. Follow this link to submit your proposal for the 2023 Safety Net Technology Summit.

[Registration](#) is now open!

23. Advocating for Your Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court (from Tribal Youth Resource Center)

Date: Thursday, July 20, 2023

Time: 10am AKT/ 11am PT/ 12pm MT/ 1pm CT/ 2pm ET

Session Description: During this session, the [Tribal Youth Resource Center \(TYRC\)](#) will explore different strategies for staff to advocate on behalf of youth participants and Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court (JHWC) programming efforts. Our guests will discuss JHWC staff involvement in hiring processes, connecting with cultural programming in the planning process, networking with state and county justice systems, positive marketing within the community, and training that can emphasize staff's willingness to expand efforts to solidify the JHWC's position within the community. We'll also explore making connections with higher education as well as employment services to assist participants after graduation from the JHWC.

Register [here](#).

24. FBI CJIS Information Sharing: Connecting Indian Country (SAVE THE DATE)

August 1-2, 2023 – Location: TBA

25. OWW Tribal Consultation (SAVE THE DATE)

August 8-10, 2023 in Tulsa, Oklahoma
More information will be shared closer to the date.

26. Save The Date : Mino-bimose'idiwag Two Day Training

August 16-17, 2023
Women Are Sacred two day training
Harris, MI

Cost: Professionals - \$120 (or \$60/day) Community members, students, AND/OR virtual attendees - \$30 (or \$15/day)

Scholarships available

Light Breakfast & Lunch provided

email sayres@nmu.edu or call (906)227-3222 for more info.

27. Strengthening Community and Organizational Responses: Serving Immigrant Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking (from Praxis International)

August 28-29, 2023 or August 30-21, 2023 Boston, MA

[Link to Proposed Agenda](#)

This two-day in-person interactive training focuses on providing attorneys, law enforcement, prosecutors, and advocates strategies for strengthening their understanding of legal and victim services options for and best practices when working with immigrant survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This training offers diverse learning experiences delivered by a faculty of multi-disciplinary subject matter experts from a wide range of legal and victim service backgrounds including judges, law enforcement, prosecutors, advocates, and attorneys. Immigrant victim related training topics will include: stalking; immigration, public benefits, and family law case options, case strategies, and advanced issues; prosecution best practices; primary aggressor determinations; VAWA confidentiality and discovery; police officers as witnesses; multi-disciplinary collaboration; effective outreach; and improving language access. Participants will learn and share practices and strategies to improve immigrant victim safety, increase participation in the justice system, and enhance community safety.

Participants: Each training session is open to attorneys, advocates, law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim witness staff from agencies with funding from OVW including STOP subgrantees, Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV), Campus, Culturally Specific Services Program (CSSP), Rural, and Improving Criminal Justice Response (ICJR). All other grantees and grant funded partner agencies must receive prior approval from their OVW Program Specialist to attend. Law enforcement (federal, state, local, and campus), prosecutors, and their agency's victim witness specialists are invited to attend regardless of funding sources.

Each session is limited to 83 people and to two attendees per organization. Registration is on a first come-first served basis. Once capacity has been reached, a waitlist will be created. The training is free but participants are responsible for covering the costs of travel, meals, and accommodations. A limited number of travel scholarships are available only to STOP subgrantees who do not have travel funding in their grant budgets

For more information, and to register, visit [here](#).

28. 2023 National Training Institute & The National Crime Victim Bar Association 2023 National Conference

The 2023 National Training Institute & The National Crime Victim Bar Association 2023 National Conference will be held from September 6th – September 8th in Boston, Massachusetts.

The National Training Institute (NTI) emphasizes a multidisciplinary approach to sharing promising practices, current research, and effective programs and policies that are victim-centered, practice-based, and research-informed. Our National Training Institute is a forum for law enforcement, victim service professionals, allied practitioners, policymakers, and researchers to share current developments and build new collaborations.

For more information, visit [here](#).

29. Save The Date – 2023 Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement Training

The Tribal Law and Policy Institute (TLPI) looks forward to welcoming back new and returning attendees in-person for the 2023 Tribal Healing to Wellness Court Enhancement Training. The Enhancement Training will be held September 12-14, 2023 in Palm Springs, California.

The Enhancement Training will be oriented around the Tribal Ten Key Components and the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) National Drug Court Standards. The Enhancement Training is a unique opportunity to receive information on current drug court best practices, learn innovative approaches to substance abuse and treatment, and engage with other Healing to Wellness Courts practitioners from across the country.

This training focuses upon tribal issues, including jurisdictional and legal issues unique to Indian country; the incorporation of custom and tradition into the phases, case management, treatment curriculums, and tangential services; and the peer-to-peer sharing of successful Healing to Wellness Courts models in operation. Training topics will cover adult criminal, juvenile delinquency, family dependency, DWI/DUI, and veterans models.

Agenda and prior training materials may be found at: www.enhancementtraining.org/training-materials

30. Tribal Government Summit (OWW Sponsored)

September 26-28

Jacksonville, FL

More information will be shared closer to the date.

31. DVS DV/SA Grantee Leadership Meeting (Formerly known as Agency Directors Meeting)

Save the Date!

November 16-17, 2023

Location: Lansing, MI

More information will be shared as the date gets closer.

Recorded/On Demand Trainings/Meetings/Webinars/Podcasts

1. Listen Now: American Genocide Podcast Launches Today! (from Illuminative)

“A PODCAST ABOUT THE CRIMES OF NATIVE AMERICAN BOARDING SCHOOLS

Amidst an unprecedented federal investigation into hundreds of Native Boarding Schools and the 100,000+ children these institutions forcibly removed, one school has become the epicenter of controversy in America’s attempt to reckon with its dark history: Red Cloud Indian School. While today some see the school as a positive presence in the Pine Ridge Reservation, home to the Oglala Lakota Tribe, others cite it as a perpetrator of generational trauma. While the U.S. government is starting to admit its culpability in a church-facilitated campaign of genocide, the quest for justice is exposing tension throughout the Native community. In this new podcast from IllumiNative, series hosts Crystal Echo Hawk (Pawnee) and Lashay Wesley (Choctaw) hit the ground in Pine Ridge, South Dakota to chronicle the actively-developing situation for themselves, covering every twist and turn in this true crime story about the compounding intergenerational pain of Native American boarding schools and whether it’s possible for a community, Native peoples, and the United States to achieve truth, healing, and reconciliation.”

Listen [here](#).

2. Sexual Assault Advocate and Service Provider Training (from OVCTTAC)

Welcome to the [Office for Victims of Crime \(OVC\) TTAC's download center for Sexual Assault Advocate and Service Provider Training \(SAASPT\)](#), a course designed to teach advocates how to provide competent,

effective crisis intervention services to victims and survivors of sexual assault. Use this download center to gather all the materials you'll need to conduct the training.

But where to start?

Prepare for the training by reading [About This Curriculum](#), where you'll learn about SAASPT, your target audience, and trainer requirements. You'll also learn how to navigate the download center and find tips on getting ready. This section is a must for newcomers to the SAASPT site.

Jump to [Training Modules](#) to review and download each module's offerings. This section is especially helpful to those who want to tailor the training to their advocates' needs.

Download the full SAASPT curriculum by visiting the [Presenter's Toolbox](#). You'll also be able to pick up helpful tools, such as a customizable agenda, feedback form, attendance certificate, and a link to victims' rights legislation

3. Tech Talk: The Myths and Realities of Stalkerware (new resource from NNEDV)

“Greetings everyone!

We are excited to share our fourth [Tech Talk: The Myths and Realities of Stalkerware](#) featuring Tech expert, Martijn Grooten. In this talk, we'll define stalkerware, how survivors can identify it on their devices, and what advocates can do to support survivors.

The Myths and Realities of Stalkerware: Stalkerware refers to tools- software programs, apps and devices that are often used by abusers to stealthily monitor and control survivors. Many stalkerware companies market their product as a tool that can help parents who are looking to keep their child [ren] “safe” online or as a tool for adult children that may want to monitor their aging parents. While it may be marketed as a safety measure, many of these apps function covertly and operate in an intrusive way. This can impact survivors’ safety and privacy and place them at risk. Stalkerware can be dangerous for survivors because it can keep track of activities on their device, such as pictures and videos they take, websites they visit, texts, calls, and their location. This talk will provide information that survivors and advocates can use if they suspect stalkerware has been added to their device.

This session is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

For additional safety planning resources, please check out our [Survivor Toolkit](#). Stay tuned for more resources being launched in the future.

We welcome your feedback and questions.

Thank you,

The Safety Net team”

4. (new episode) The Podcast on Crimes Against Women is back for Season 4, episode 16!

Technology-Facilitated Child Abuse

Children are often the overlooked and underserved victims of domestic violence, especially post-separation from an abusive partner. It is during post-separation that technology is often weaponized to target children further abusing and controlling them and their mothers. This episode explores recent studies that expose the extensive levels of abuse children experience in homes where domestic violence occurs with an emphasis on technology-facilitated methods of abuse. Our guest, criminologist and domestic violence researcher Molly Dragiewicz, reveals the stunning findings of the eSafety Research report “Children and technology-facilitated abuse in domestic and family violence situations” and other studies, as well as strategies to safeguard privacy and enhance personal safety.

Molly Dragiewicz is an Associate Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University in Australia. Ms. Dragiewicz is an internationally award-winning criminologist who studies

violence, gender, technology, and cybercrime. She completed the world-first study of women's experiences of technology-facilitated coercive control and the world-first study on the ways children are involved in technology abuse. Ms. Dragiewicz is highly involved in interdisciplinary, collaborative research with community organizations working to end violence against women. She is a frequently invited speaker and trainer for judicial officers, lawyers, first responders, domestic violence advocates, and universities. She founded Australia's first interdisciplinary graduate certificate in domestic violence and is the founder and convener of the Brisbane Domestic Violence Research Student Network (BDVRSN). Ms. Dragiewicz also serves on the Board of Queensland's Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and the Gold Coast Family Law Pathways Network.

Click [here](#) to listen to the full episode on any streaming platform.

Tune in each Monday for new episodes!

5. **Start by Believing: A Tool for Prevention (from End Violence Against Women International)**

In April 2021, we are celebrating ten years since EVAWI first launched the Start by Believing campaign. Over the past decade, 554 US communities have launched campaigns, seeking to improve the way we respond to sexual and domestic violence, and thousands of people have made the pledge to Start by Believing. Campaigns have been launched in 23 other countries that we know of. During this session, we will discuss the ways in which Start by Believing can be viewed through the lens of prevention and reduce violence across the lifespan. Using stories from survivors, the presenter will share ways that Start by Believing can change justice and healing outcomes. We will also discuss how a positive response, such as believing the survivor, can prevent long-term health and healing consequences such as post traumatic stress disorder, suicide ideation, and autoimmune disease. We will also review preliminary evidence suggesting Start by Believing may have a positive impact on whether victims report or seek help.

OBJECTIVES

As a result of this webinar, participants will be better able to:

- Identify at least 3 ways Start by Believing can be used as a tool to prevent future sexual assaults.
- Examine the research on positive and negative responses to disclosures of sexual assault.
- Recognize the long-term health consequences of sexual assault, and how Start by Believing can be used as a tool for the prevention of those consequences.
- Explain the potential impact of Start by Believing on victim's reporting and help seeking behaviors.
-

To register, visit [here](#).

6. **National Child Abuse Prevention Month Video: Trauma and Its Impact on Youth (from National Criminal Justice Training Center)**

Watch our Critical 3 Video
Trauma and Its Impact on Youth

[Watch it Now](#)

Protecting our youth is a fundamental goal for those who work in the criminal justice system or in social services. What steps can you take to help limit the trauma our youth potentially face? Consider three ways to help improve your role as a trauma-informed provider.

7. **Self-Paced Courses**

NCJTC is sharing some training opportunities and resources to promote swift and effective responses to missing and abducted children cases.

[Telecommunications Best Practices for Missing and Abducted Children](#)

Provides law enforcement telecommunications personnel with information and resources to promote swift and effective response to incidents of endangered missing and abducted children. Learn about the scope, scale and nature of the problem, best practice policy, and protocols for telecommunications response. Review important NCIC record entry and data management considerations and resources for the communications center.

[Register](#)

Investigative Checklist Training for Patrol First Responders

Gain an overview of the Patrol First Response investigative checklist resource. This training provides a guided case-scenario review of important checklist elements and considerations for effective use. Patrol officers can use this information to support accurate and effective response to reports of endangered missing or abducted children, and assist with steps essential to communicate information to arriving investigators.

[Register](#)

8. Accessible, Culturally Responsive, and Trauma-Informed (ACRTI) Advocacy Across the Lifespan

2023 Webinar Series

This webinar series is devoted to discussing how NCDVTMH's signature ACRTI philosophy applies to and can inform advocacy with survivors across all ages and life stages.

Accessibility

Each session will be delivered live with Spanish and American Sign Language interpretation and recordings will be available through our webinar library.

Click the webinar titles below to jump to their descriptions.

- [Session 1: Young Children and Trauma: Responses, Impacts, and Family Support](#)
- [Session 2: Centering Youth Voices: Youth Leadership in Domestic Violence Organizations](#)
- [Session 3: Prioritizing Physical and Emotional Safety with Young Adults: What We All Need](#)
- [Session 4: Grounding our Advocacy in Equity Through Holistic Perspectives on Positive and Adverse Childhood Experiences \(PACEs\)](#)

All live webinars are closed captioned. For more information, please contact [Karla Alegria via email](#) or by phone at 312-726-7020 x 2012.

Legislation

1. Michigan House and Senate FY24 Budget

An update will be coming separately regarding the Michigan Senate and House FY24 Budget and its impact on funding for victim service providers across Michigan.

2. NIWRC's 118th Congress Legislative Update: April 2021

NON-FEDERAL MOMENT

[Family Violence Prevention and Services Act \(FVPSA\)](#)

On April 13, 2023, Representatives Rep. Lucy McBath (D-GA-7), Gwen Moore (D-WI-4), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-1), and Young Kim (R-CA-40) reintroduced the Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act of 2023 (H.R. 2604). FVPSA provides critical funding for shelter and supportive services for victims of domestic violence, including those in Indian Country.

The FVPSA reauthorization bill provides critical support for shelters, coalitions, training, and technical assistance centers, children’s services, emergency response hotlines, and prevention initiatives. The FVPSA is also the only federal grant program solely dedicated to domestic violence shelter and supportive services and is the primary source of funding for these services for Indian Tribes.

The FVPSA would expand grant programs and make many needed improvements so that more survivors have access to support and safety, including:

- Adjustment of the funding distribution formula to increase the amount that Tribes receive from 10% to 12.5%;
- Dedicated funding for Tribal coalitions to provide culturally-appropriate technical assistance to Tribes;
- Permanent funding for the national Indian domestic violence hotline;
- Permanent funding for the Alaska Tribal Resource Center on Domestic Violence to reduce disparities facing Native victims; and
- Permanent funding for the Native Hawaiian Resource Center on Domestic Violence.

Bridging Agency Data Gaps and Ensuring Safety (BADGES) for Native Communities Act

On February 16, Senators Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV) and John Hoeven (R-ND) introduced the bipartisan BADGES for Native Communities Act ([S. 465](#)) in the Senate. On March 1, Representatives Ruben Gallego (D-AZ-3), Dan Newhouse (R-WA-4), and Sharice Davids (D-KS-3) introduced the BADGES Act in the House ([H.R. 1292](#)).

The bill would promote recruitment and retention of federal law enforcement, address inefficiencies in federal missing persons data systems, increase Tribal access to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs), and establish a grant program to improve coordination efforts between states, Tribes, and Tribal organizations on cases of missing and murdered persons.

Strengthening Protections for Domestic Violence and Stalking Survivors Act of 2023

On February 9, Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Representatives Debbie Dingell (D-MI-6), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-1), and Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX-18) introduced the bipartisan, bicameral Strengthening Protections for Domestic Violence and Stalking Survivors Act of 2023 ([S. 321/H.R. 905](#)).

The bill would close what is known as the “dating loophole” or “boyfriend loophole” by preventing convicted stalkers and former dating partners convicted of domestic violence from purchasing or owning firearms. Current law prohibits spouses, former spouses, those cohabitating together, and those who have a child in common from owning a firearm if there is a protective order against them. The Strengthening Protections for Domestic Violence and Stalking Survivors Act would add convicted stalkers and dating partners convicted of domestic violence to this list in an effort to close those gaps that embolden abusers and put women in danger.

Resources/Other Information

1. Start by Believing FAQ’s (from End Violence Against Women International)

“This month, we are dedicating our frequently asked questions to Start by Believing.

Q: How Does Start by Believing Help Ensure a Thorough Investigation?

A victim’s disclosure is usually the first step in a sexual assault investigation, and the more information a victim can provide, the more avenues for investigation are opened up. When victims are met with respect and compassion, they are more likely to develop rapport with the investigator and share detailed information.

When victims feel dismissed or disregarded, they may not believe it is safe to provide information, or their level of anxiety may be increased to the point where it impairs their ability to communicate what happened. Even a “neutral” stance will often be insufficient to establish the trust and rapport victims need to share memories that are confusing, painful, or humiliating.

Victim interviews are more likely to be successful when they are conducted with an expression of genuine empathy and an awareness that memories may not “make sense” at first. The process of piecing together a coherent recollection of sexual assault takes a great deal of time, patience, compassion, and support.

Q: Does Start by Believing Mean “Always Believe” Victims?

No. Unfortunately, the Start by Believing philosophy is sometimes mischaracterized in this way. For criminal justice professionals, participation in Start by Believing does not mean that they cast aside their responsibility to conduct a full and thorough investigation, or to ignore evidence that contradicts a victim’s report or statements made by witnesses and suspects. It does not require believing everything a victim says. It simply offers a starting place for a thorough, evidence-based investigation.

Start by Believing is designed to encourage professionals to start from an orientation of believing when someone discloses sexual assault victimization, as opposed to starting with the assumption that the victim is lying. Clearly, law enforcement professionals must conduct a thorough investigation, and make all case determinations based on the evidence. After beginning from the orientation of Start by Believing, criminal justice professionals then follow the evidence through the course of a fair and impartial investigation.

Q: Do I Need to Say the Exact Words, “I Believe You?”

Depending on your role and the circumstances, you may not feel comfortable saying “I believe you.” There are many other things you can say to help a victim feel supported and comfortable in talking to you. For example, you could use phrases like, “I’m sorry this happened to you,” or “What can I do to help?”

The Start by Believing website [offers specific examples of what to say to victims](#). The important issue is not the exact words that are used, but the fact that victims are treated with compassion and respect, instead of hearing the message that they are not believed, and their disclosure is not being taken seriously. For criminal justice professionals, this message is also communicated by conducting a thorough, evidence-based investigation with compassion and professionalism. Please see [Start by Believing: Participation of Criminal Justice Professionals](#).

For more frequently asked questions, please see the Start by Believing [website](#).”

2. Meeting The Legal Aid Needs Of Human Trafficking Survivors (article from Law360)

“By Sarah Dohoney Byrne and Renata Parras | April 21, 2023, 5:55 PM EDT · [Listen to article](#) View article [here](#)

The recently released Legal Deserts Report 2.0, or LDR2, which we co-authored with the National Survivor Law Collective and the Avery Center, highlights the continued gaps in access to justice for victims of human trafficking.

While national efforts to increase awareness about both sex trafficking and forced labor have been successful, many survivors of this crime continue to have a wide range of unmet legal needs. The LDR2 is the successor to a 2021 report that identified geographic and subject matter gaps in legal support for survivors. LDR2 takes the next step by proposing ways firms, bar associations, academia, clinics, companies and funders can better fill these gaps.

Following are some suggestions for how law firms and attorneys can heed the call, informed by our own anti-human-trafficking legal practice and reinforced by the conclusions of the LDR2 report.

Understand Trauma-Informed Practices

First and foremost, as LDR2 points out, “it is imperative that attorneys who work with trafficking survivors are trauma informed and understand best trauma-informed practices.”

A trauma-informed approach includes understanding the power differential between survivors and their legal representatives, and acknowledging the former lack of agency many clients experienced in the context of their exploitation. Training in this regard ought to be imbedded in any law firm pro bono program and in any law school clinic or curriculum endeavoring to address human trafficking.

With a trauma-informed foundation, law firm programs setting out to provide pro bono legal representation to trafficking survivors must acknowledge the need for a comprehensive and holistic approach to address the full spectrum of legal needs for this distinct category of crime victim. Where a firm does not have the expertise to handle one portion of a survivor's case, partnering with other legal service providers is key to success.

Address Civil Law Needs

In addition to often needing representation to expunge or vacate criminal records incurred while being trafficked, or with immigration applications, most survivors present with a variety of other civil law needs.

Family Law

Upon distilling feedback from stakeholders, including survivors, lawyers and service providers, LDR2 found that "assistance with family law matters surfaced as the number one unmet legal need of survivors." If the original firm doesn't have that competency in-house, partnering with family law attorneys may be key to building a successful relationship with the survivor.

In addition, innovative charitable or philanthropic funding programs from other stakeholders, including corporate clients, could provide the financial resources to train lawyers to become proficient in family law matters. They could also fund limited-scope representations for family law attorneys for survivors who would otherwise have no support in advocating for their rights to their children.

Consumer Law and Credit Repair

The consequences of financial fraud committed by traffickers, which can include identity theft, coerced debt or tax filings, leaves many survivors in need of consumer law and credit repair assistance. This niche area is ripe for pro bono assistance by attorneys in various practice areas.

In the last year, Regulation V of the Fair Credit Reporting Act became effective specifically providing relief from bad credit status for trafficking victims. At this time, though, there remains no central provider to assist survivors with their filings under this federal regulation. Yet pro bono support has already proven to enhance survivor access to the relief they deserve.

This is also a particularly ripe area for pro bono partnerships between law firms and their business clients, who frequently express a desire to support survivors, but are oftentimes uncertain about how they can offer the most value in light of their business expertise.

Train Legal Navigators as Survivor Liasons

If firms are looking for an innovative way to support human trafficking survivors, LDR2 suggests developing "legal navigator" roles for legal professionals. A legal navigator serves as the point of contact for a survivor who has various legal needs in various geographic areas that are being met by various providers.

The legal navigator liaises between the survivor and their lawyers to provide information and receive updates. This helps the survivor avoid repeatedly relaying information that may be traumatizing. It also lets them receive updates from a trusted and comfortable central source who can help explain an otherwise confusing processes. This is most helpful for survivors who are seeking criminal records relief in multiple jurisdictions.

Pursue Federal Criminal Records Relief

It bears reminding that there remains one gaping hole in access to justice for human trafficking survivors: criminal records relief on the federal level.

By its very definition, the crime of human trafficking involves being forced, coerced or tricked into activities that a person would not otherwise engage in – such as selling sexual services or performing work without pay. Human traffickers often force or coerce victims to engage in criminal activity involving weapons, drugs, identity theft and other financial fraud, or even facilitating the trafficking scheme.

Most states have a statutory mechanism to provide relief in the form of affirmative defenses or expunction and vacatur for criminal records that resulted from the survivor's being trafficked. However, there remains no federal statutory relief for survivors who are arrested, charged or convicted of federal offenses that resulted from trafficking.

The Trafficking Survivors Relief Act, proposed in the U.S. House of Representatives in 2022, would provide a framework for a federal affirmative defense and expunction relief under certain circumstances. Advocacy for this important piece of federal legislation, enhancements to current state records relief statutes and increased pro bono representation to access this relief, are much needed.

All that said, criminal records relief and affirmative defense statutes still require survivors to bear the burden of demonstrating a nexus between the crime they are accused or convicted of and their victimization. For this reason, it is also necessary to increase awareness throughout the criminal justice system about the relationship between trafficking, trauma and coercion. Preemptive awareness about the realities of this crime of exploitation would mitigate the harms caused by criminalizing victims and decrease the need for post-conviction relief processes.

Looking Forward

These suggestions just scratch the surface of worthy efforts to increase access to justice for human trafficking survivors. As LDR2 concludes, "With care, coordination, and collaboration among all stakeholders we can close the gaps and increase support of trafficking survivors on their journeys to freedom."

Law firms, and attorneys, should consider joining the fight against human trafficking and working toward restorative justice for survivors."

3. A Proclamation on National Crime Victims' Week, 2023

April 21, 2023

HOME

BRIEFING ROOM

PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

Every person deserves to feel safe in their home, school, workplace, and community. Yet each year, millions of Americans fall victim to acts of violence, theft, fraud, and other crimes. Often, the pain and trauma can have long-term impacts. During National Crime Victims' Rights Week, we recommit to the work of preventing crime, supporting victims as they heal, and holding offenders accountable.

Beyond the physical, psychological, and emotional scars, victims and their families too often bear the economic burden of the crimes they suffered — such as lost income, medical bills, or expenses for temporary housing. As a United States Senator, I was proud to support the Victims of Crime Act in 1984, which created a Crime Victims Fund using fines from Federal prosecutions to directly compensate victims and finance victim assistance services. In recent years, the fund's balance declined significantly, so I signed a bill in 2021 to rebuild it and ensure that victims can access these critical resources.

Last year, I also reauthorized and strengthened the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which I first wrote as a United States Senator more than 30 years ago to change the laws and culture around the scourge of domestic and sexual violence in America. For decades, this law has supported shelters and rape crisis centers; funded housing and legal assistance for survivors of abusive relationships, sexual assault, and stalking; and helped train law enforcement agencies and courts to make the justice system more responsive to survivors' needs.

As President, I increased funding for VAWA to its highest level so that we can hold more offenders accountable and allow more victims to access trauma-informed care — especially victims from underserved communities, including those from the LGBTQI+ community and rural areas. Tribal courts will now be able to exercise jurisdiction over non-Native perpetrators of sexual assault, child abuse, and sex trafficking. The law also enables victims to take people who disseminate their intimate images without consent to court, and it provides training for law enforcement, prosecutors, and victim service providers in addressing online abuse and cyberstalking.

I signed into law the COVID-19 Hate Crimes and Khalid Jabara-Heather Heyer NO HATE Acts, which help State, local, and Tribal law enforcement agencies better track and prosecute hate-fueled acts of violence against people from marginalized groups, including by establishing state-run reporting hotlines for victims of hate crimes. We also made lynching a Federal hate crime for the first time in American history with the Emmett Till Antilynching Act, giving prosecutors more power to pursue perpetrators of these vile acts. I also hosted the United We Stand Summit, convening civic, faith, philanthropic, and business leaders to prevent and respond to hate crimes, and to help survivors of hate crimes and their communities heal from these tragic events.

While my Administration continues to take historic action to reduce gun crime, we are also taking action to help survivors of gun violence and families that have lost loved ones to this public health epidemic. Last June, I was proud to sign the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, the most sweeping gun safety law in nearly three decades. Among other steps, this law helps keep guns out of the hands of dating partners convicted of violent crimes and provides over a billion dollars to address the youth mental health crisis in America, especially trauma experienced by survivors of gun violence. In March 2023, I signed an Executive Order directing key members of my Cabinet to submit a proposal for improving Federal support for communities and individuals impacted by gun violence.

Supporting crime victims also requires building trust between the public and law enforcement. When someone falls victim to a crime, first responders should have the resources they need to ensure victims feel heard, valued, and supported. We have provided States with over \$10 billion to improve law enforcement training, fund community violence interventions, purchase necessary equipment like body-worn cameras, clear court backlogs, and support crime victims. My Safer America Plan calls for an additional \$37 billion to prevent crime, reduce gun violence, and create a fairer justice system — including by hiring 100,000 more officers for safe, effective, and accountable community policing, consistent with the standards of my policing Executive Order, which will also help strengthen public trust in law enforcement.

This week and every week, let us all commit to doing our part to help prevent crimes and to provide survivors with the resources they need to heal, pursue justice, and emerge stronger. If you or a loved one are a victim of crime, I encourage you to visit www.Crimevictims.gov.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 23 through April 29, 2023, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week. I call upon all Americans to observe this week by participating in events that raise awareness of victims' rights and services and by volunteering to serve and support victims in their time of need.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-first day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-seventh.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.”

4. NCVRW Message from OVC Director Kristina Rose

“Dear Colleagues,

It is my honor to officially kick off National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW). This year's theme—*Survivor Voices: Elevate. Engage. Effect Change.*—calls upon each of us to amplify the voices of survivors and commit to creating an environment where survivors have the confidence that they will be heard, believed, and supported. Their voices matter in determining what justice means to them; in how and when they engage with victim services; in choosing to give a victim impact statement; and in participating in criminal justice system reform conversations.

We know people with lived experiences have so much to offer as they navigate adversity. They inspire and lead innovative programs and illuminate the barriers that prevent survivors from accessing services or pursuing justice. NCVRW commences today with launching one of those innovative programs in Albuquerque, New Mexico—the Youth Advocacy Corps and I am so proud to be a part of it!

The Youth Advocacy Corps is a pilot program led by the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) with OVC funding, which aims to uplift and celebrate the voices of marginalized youth in victim advocacy by providing student fellows with training, mentorship, and a paid field-placement in a local victim service organization. These young people represent the future of victim services and victim advocacy – I am excited to see how they inspire and shape the field of practice.

Of course, I'll be back in DC in time for the 2023 NCVRW Candlelight Vigil on Wednesday, April 26. There is still time to [register for the vigil](#), so, if you live in the DC metro area or will be visiting, I welcome you to join us. We'll hear from innovators—Anna Nasset, Jerome Brown, and Roberta Roper—singer/songwriter Kelly Jackson, and the American Pops Orchestra. It's sure to be a moving event and a reminder of why we do this important work! There will be other NCVRW activities held around the Nation, too, and I encourage you to visit our [Events](#) page to find one near you.

OVC will end the week by hearing from survivors on important criminal justice reform issues where their voices are too often left out of the conversation. We intend to release a summary of the discussions to share take-aways with victim service providers and criminal justice professionals that inform policy and practice. It is paramount that crime survivors have a voice everywhere decisions are made that could impact them.

Finally, our Resource Guide offers many ideas to develop awareness campaigns, from posting social media content throughout the week to sharing our [theme videos](#) with colleagues and friends. Just be sure to use #NCVRW2023 in your social media content, so we can follow along! Each year, we share content from around the Nation every day of NCVRW and it's a highlight of our week to be able share in your commemorations.

On behalf of the Office for Victims of Crime, thank you for helping to lift up the voices of survivors everywhere.

Sincerely,

Kristina Rose
Director"



Upcoming Events

Advocate Check In Calls – Every Second Thursday of the Month - 10:00am EST
Tribal Trafficking/MMIP Work Group – Every Other Third Thursday of the Month – 1:00pm EST

For more information about any upcoming events, reach out to UTFAV Training Coordinator at vpatzwald@utfav.org