

# VAWA STOP: Victim Services Competitive 2018

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# Grant Announcement Summary

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**Grant Title:** VAWA STOP: Victim Services Competitive 2018

**Important Dates:**

Application Due Date: September 18, 2017

Project Start Date: January 1, 2018

Project End Date: December 31, 2018

# Eligibility:

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Organizations with a demonstrated history of providing victim assistance, social services, shelter, or mental health services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking are eligible to apply, including:

- Federally recognized tribal governments
- Nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations (including tribal, culturally specific, and population specific programs)
- Public, governmental agencies that provide direct victim services

# Match:

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- The 25% match requirement for this grant is waived for non-governmental, not-for-profit victim services providers.

# Funding Information:

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- Funds are available for a one-year period with the possibility of two additional years of continuation funding. Continued funding is contingent upon federal funds available, subgrant compliance with federal and state guidelines, and compliance with grant award conditions.
- A total of \$600,000 has been allocated to the STOP Victim Services Program Area for the first year.

# Program Description

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Funding under this program area will support new, innovative services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.

- The STOP Grant Program continues to emphasize the implementation of comprehensive strategies addressing violence against women that are both sensitive to the immediate and long-term needs and safety of victims, and hold offenders accountable for their behavior.
- Subgrantees should seek to carry out these strategies by forging lasting partnerships between victim service providers and the criminal justice system, and by encouraging communities to look beyond traditional resources.
- Subgrantees should look to new partners, including culturally- and population-specific organizations, to respond to those communities most impacted by or least resourced to address sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

## OVW: Funds under the STOP Grant Program may be used for the following purposes:

- Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services, developing or improving delivery of victim services to underserved populations, providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted, and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women.

- Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing the needs and circumstances of Indian tribes in dealing with violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.
- Providing assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in immigration matters.
- Maintaining core victim services while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families.

- ① Developing, enlarging or strengthening programs addressing sexual assault against men, women, and youth in correctional or detention settings.
- ① Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs and projects to provide services and responses to male and female victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, whose ability to access traditional services and responses is affected by their sexual orientation or gender identity.

- Developing, enhancing, or strengthening prevention and educational programming to address sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking, with not more than 5 percent of the amount allocated to a state to be used for this purpose.

# OCVS: STOP Victim Services

## Priority Areas:

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- Special emphasis is placed on services to culturally specific and population specific communities.
- Programs should include addressing critical issues such as access, capacity, and systemic barriers.
- Funding will also support efforts to increase the capacity of communities to respond to victims through the development of interagency partnerships and collaboration.
- Specific prevention initiatives will be considered. Wisconsin is able to spend up to 5% of the total federal STOP award on prevention.

# Essential Program Activities:

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Successful applicants funded through this program will engage in the following activities in order to meet the program goals and objectives:

1. Identify service needs in the community by consulting with survivors and other victim service providers and community based organizations.
2. Services provided will meet victims where they are and ensure that victims have support to access a variety of services that are coordinated across multiple systems.
3. Collaborations that yield culturally and linguistically appropriate services.

4. Recognize that victim needs may differ depending on age, gender, citizenship, culture, language skills, religion, type of victimization experienced, history of victimization, as well as other factors. Response must be trauma-informed and culturally, linguistically, and developmentally appropriate.
5. Work in collaboration with multi-disciplinary teams to ensure victims are identified and referred for appropriate services.

6. A program representative must participate in a Coordinated Community Response (CCR), Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), or other appropriate multi-disciplinary team, when one exists in their county.
7. Develop and conduct a thorough evaluation of the project.

8. Proposals to address sex trafficking of minors and the commercial sexual exploitation of youth must be familiar with and incorporate the Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force Core Competencies. The Core Competencies were developed to ensure that service providers are serving sex trafficking minors in a trauma-informed, victim-centered, and culturally competent manner.
  
9. Programs must ensure that all victims, regardless of actual or perceived race, immigration status, gender, gender identification, sexual orientation, language, age\*, religion, or disability receive support and access to the services they need to heal. (\*STOP is unable to fund services for anyone 10 years old and younger.)

# Eligible Expenses:

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- All expenses must be new and cannot replace existing state or local government funding. Substitution of existing funds with federal grants (supplanting) will be the subject of monitoring and audit.
- If you have any questions on what expenses are allowable, please see the DOJ Office on Violence Against Women FAQs About STOP Formula Grants:  
<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/file/827531/download>

# Frequently Asked Questions

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Can we apply for STOP if we already have SASP?

Yes. Other OCVS funding – SASP, VOCA, SAVS – does not prohibit you from applying for STOP victim services funding.

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Can staff be moved from current SASP grant to STOP grant so that they can work on more than just sexual assault services?

If you have a current SASP funded program and would like to move/shift that program to STOP, there is nothing to stop you from including that in your application. There is no guarantee however that it will be funded through STOP.

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## Are joint applications allowed?

For each subgrant there must be one agency that takes fiscal responsibility for the grant; fiscal and reporting responsibility cannot be shared between two agencies. Programs can develop and work on a program together by the primary program subcontracting with another agency.

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Can an application include a contract with another program to provide specific services, even if that program is submitting their own STOP application for a different project?

Yes.

## Can the STOP Victim Services program fund batterer's treatment?

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Yes. Batterers' intervention programs may be supported provided that the programs are part of a range of sanctions that use the criminal justice system to hold abusers accountable for their criminal actions and for changing their behavior. Couples counseling or any intervention that requires participation by a victim or that is not designed to hold offenders accountable cannot be supported with STOP dollars.

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## Can the STOP Victim Services program fund DV Court?

Technically, STOP can be used for certain aspects of domestic violence court, but not through the Victim Services Program Area.

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If we write SAVS and the decision is made that we asked for too much money, will DOJ suggest changes or will we just not get the grant?

We will suggest changes and work with you to modify the budget. Applications are not rejected because the budget is too high.

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Can VAWA STOP funds be used for adolescents coming out of detention facilities that have some type of offender charges but are still victims of prior or current abuse?

STOP can be used to provide sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, trafficking, and stalking services to adolescents regardless of their incarceration status or criminal justice history.

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Can STOP funds support an advocate position that works with parents, caregivers, and kin who are caring for kids at risk for being trafficked or running away, so that the youth can stay in a home environment?

No. This is out of scope for this program. You might look at funding from OJJDP and see if they have something that would cover this.

**Additional Questions?**

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