

**NOTICE OF FUNDING
FY 2013-2014 VOCA CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE GRANTS**

TO: **INTERESTED CRIME VICTIM SERVICE AGENCIES**

FROM: Leslie O'Reilly, Program Specialist

DATE: Monday, January 7, 2013

In accordance with the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA), and under the authority of PA 223 of 1976, the Crime Victim Services Commission announces that funding is available from the Federal Crime Victims Fund for the FY 2013 - 2014 grant program and will be approximately \$13 Million for Crime Victim Assistance grant funds. The VOCA Victim Assistance grant application will be activated on 1/7/2013 and is available on the Crime Victim Services Commission's Grant website at URL: <https://sigma2web.mdch.state.mi.us/sigma2/>

Applicants are encouraged to completely review the Application and Guideline package before contacting this office with questions. Please review the FY 2013-2014 VOCA Grant Application Guidance posted under the Application's Printouts Section for important updates. Given the recent uncertainty in federal funding, all existing projects will be reviewed and allocations given first priority over new projects. In the unlikely event that funds remain available, new projects may be considered. Potential applicants are urged to develop proposals that are concise, clearly written and contain the required activities which are outlined in the Application and Guideline Package. To assist applicants with the grant application, the CVSC will conduct three in-person Grant Application Workshops. Workshop attendance is highly recommended but not mandatory to apply for this grant. However, registration is required to attend the Grant Application Workshops. The Registration link is found in the application's MY ADMINISTRATION tab. Registered webinar and workshop participants will receive directions and instructions via email message.

The Act gives preference to existing direct service programs operated by public agencies or nonprofit organizations providing or with plans to provide direct service to crime victims. Agencies must show financial support from other non-federal sources, utilize volunteers, promote coordinated community efforts for victim services, assist injured victims in filing for crime victim compensation, comply with Federal and State rules regulating grants, provide services at no cost to crime victims, and provide assistance to federal crime victims. The purpose of the VOCA Victim Assistance grant is for direct service staff, at the applicant agency, to serve crime victims regardless of their ability to pay for services rendered or availability of insurance or other third-party payment resources. Services are defined as those that (1) respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims; (2) assist victims of crime to stabilize their lives after victimization; (3) assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; and (4) provide victims of crime with a measure of safety. Special emphasis should be placed on priority services such as early crisis intervention, counseling, and legal advocacy. Projects must provide services to one or more of the following types of crime victims: child physical or child sexual abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence, or underserved victims such as Native Americans, survivors of homicide victims, survivors of drunk driving crashes, hate crimes, and elder abuse.

Organizations whose sole purpose is to serve victims of crime will be given funding preference. A public agency whose sole or principal purpose is the investigation, prosecution or adjudication of cases, or general criminal justice services, or which provides health and other services to the public at large, must demonstrate that the proposed project will provide a substantial increase in cost-effective services to crime victims in its community beyond the scope of their mandated functions. A private non-profit organization whose sole purpose is to provide advocacy to the legislature for victims of crime or general community awareness of victim issues will not be eligible for a VOCA Crime Victim Assistance grant. Occasional counseling or victim assistance would not qualify for eligibility.

Included in these funding priorities are direct services which support victims of sexual assault, agencies fully accredited to serve children using the National Children's Alliance Children's Advocacy Center model, and services supporting underserved victims of crime such as survivors of homicide victims, drunk driving victims, elder abuse, and Native American Tribal victim assistance projects. While there are many other beneficial services and models that benefit crime victims, including sheriff volunteer programs, court appointed special advocate programs, domestic violence shelter operations and other examples, funds are unavailable to support these efforts. We encourage all interested applicants to apply with the advance knowledge that resources are limited. We strongly encourage all current projects wishing to renew to examine their proposal and to apply fiscal discipline consistent with the funding priorities described above.

Only written questions which arise as a result of this grant application are to be submitted in writing to Leslie O'Reilly, VOCA Program Specialist, by mail, email at the general mailbox only (MDCH-CVSC-VOCA-Grants@michigan.gov), or fax for receipt by Wednesday, February 6, 2013 at 5:00 P.M. Final Application Guidance will be posted on Wednesday, February 13, 2013. This Notice of Funding is issued by the Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission, Michigan Department of Community Health. The contact person is Leslie O'Reilly, VOCA Program Specialist, 201 Townsend Street,

Lansing, MI 48933; telephone number (517) 241-5249; fax number (517) 373-2439; email address: oreillyL@michigan.gov

If special accommodations for disabilities are needed to complete the grant application or to participate in the in-person training please contact Randy Parker at MDCH-CVSC-VOCA-Grants@michigan.gov or (517) 241-5265 at least one week in advance of the application due date or in-person training. Persons with hearing disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation should contact the Michigan Relay Center at 711 or 1-800-649-3777 in advance to request assistance.

FY 2013-2014 VOCA CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING SCHEDULE

Monday, January 7, 2013 8:00 A.M.	VOCA Grant FY 13-14 Notice of Funding issued and grant website activated at URL: https://sigma2web.mdch.state.mi.us/sigma2/ VOCA Grant Application and Guideline Package become available. In order to participate in Application Workshops, Applicants are required to <u>create</u> their Application first, then register for Application Workshops.
Wednesday, January 30, 2013 8:30 A.M. – 12:00 Noon 12:00 Noon – 4:00 P.M.	Capitol View Conference Center, Rooms B & C VOCA Grant Application Workshop VOCA Grant Reporting Workshop (Current contractors only)
Wednesday, February 6, 2013 8:30 A.M. – 12:00 Noon 12:00 Noon – 4:00 P.M.	Capitol View Conference Center, Rooms B & C VOCA Grant Application Workshop VOCA Grant Reporting Workshop (Current contractors only)
Friday, February 8, 2013 8:30 A.M. – 12:00 Noon 12:00 Noon – 4:00 P.M.	Capitol View Conference Center, Rooms B & C VOCA Grant Application Workshop VOCA Grant Reporting Workshop (Current contractors only)
Friday, March 1, 2013 5:00 P.M.	Application Due Date Final Submission Required
Friday, May 17, 2013 5:00 P.M.	Due Date for CVSC required Application Modifications
Tuesday, May 21, 2013 5:00 P.M.	Denial Notice sent to unsuccessful VOCA applicant(s).
Friday, May 31, 2013 5:00 P.M.	Due Date for written appeal of denial.
Friday, August 23, 2013	VOCA agreements sent to grantee for signature.
10/1/2013-9/30/2014	VOCA agreement fiscal year 10/1/2013 – 9/30/2014.