

Illinois' Recovery Act – OVW FY09 STOP VAWA Formula Grant Program

Application #2009-X2070-IL-EF

Program Narrative

a) A brief description on how the State or territory plans to make its Recovery Act subgrant wards.

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority uses two methods in making subgrant awards: Request for Proposals (RFP) or needs-based analysis, although most VAWA designations have been made in the recent past through needs-based analysis. In partnership with our Research and Analysis unit, and in consultation with the Victim Service Ad Hoc Committee, service needs and gaps in service areas are identified. If the needs-based-analysis method is determined to suit the situation best, staff then works with selected agencies within those geographical areas to provide the identified services. If an RFP would work best, staff will develop and distribute the RFP to all potential agencies for submittal.

At the March 11, 2009 Victim Service Ad Hoc Committee meeting it was recommended that a competitive bid process, or RFP, would best suit the spirit of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and the guidelines provided by the Office on Violence Against Women. Some areas of discussion at the meeting included: to the extent possible use the ARRA funds to maintain or reinstate personnel, expand existing and proven programs, provide cross discipline training programs, multidisciplinary team programs, expanded sexual assault and domestic violence advocacy programs, and specialized prosecution and law enforcement programs.

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority will follow all Federal guidelines in the subgrant application process for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.

b) A description of how the State or territory will consider creation and preservation of jobs as factors in making its subgrant wards.

All applications for the use of these funds will include the objective and performance measures relevant to the creation and preservation of jobs, as listed on page 18 of the solicitation, and any subapplicant will be required to indicate the number of jobs created and/or preserved through the use of grant funds. If the performance indicators only show the preservation of jobs a detailed explanation of how the jobs are in jeopardy, including budget numbers, will need to be included. If the application is approved and the program is funded these performance measures will be collected and reported to OVW on a quarterly basis.

c) The process for which the state or territory will maximize competition among applicants.

At the March 11, 2009 Victim Service Ad Hoc Committee meeting it was decided that a competitive bid process, or RFP, would best suited to the spirit of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the guidelines provided by the Office on Violence Against Women. The Committee members thought it best, considering the time sensitivity of the STOP VAWA Recovery Act funds, to implement certain standards to be required for all RFP applicants, these included, but not limited to: using existing structures to disseminate training funds whenever possible, require internal procedures, timelines, and explanations of the means to expend the funds, to target all age groups, and that applicants must show ability and/or willingness to collaborate with the statewide service delivery systems as well as professional peers and allies, and that applications must explain ability to sustain the program after grant funds end. The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority will follow all Federal guidelines in the application process for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.

d) A description of how the State of territory will monitor the use of grant funds to ensure compliance with the goals and requirements of the Recovery Act.

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority will utilize existing Data and Fiscal reporting instruments already in place for our current STOP VAWA funded programs for the STOP VAWA Recovery Act funded programs, with the addition of an appendix to collect the Recovery Act specific performance measures as listed on page 18 of the solicitation. These

performance measures will be built into the subgrantee applications for all STOP VAWA Recovery Act funds administered through the Illinois Criminal Information Authority, and a database system will be built for the collection of the performance measures and reporting to Office on Violence Against Women. The data will be submitted along with other fiscal and data information collected from the grantees on a quarterly basis to OVW no later than 10 days following the end of the quarter. If a standard form and/or reporting mechanism is made available by the Office on Violence Against Women, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority will utilize that mechanism for its reporting process for these performance measures, but continue to utilize our current reporting instruments for other fiscal and data information.

e) A brief summary (not a detailed budget) of how administrative funds will be used to achieve the specific goals of this funding.

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority will use the STOP VAWA Recovery Act administrative funds to strengthen and enhance Illinois' funded programs and improve victim services across the state. Currently, the VAWA administration funds support a total of 6 full time equivalent positions with a variety of time allocations.

The STOP VAWA Recovery Act administrative funds will be used to partially support the salaries of 16 additional personnel positions in the agency, including grant monitors, administrative assistants, accounts and research positions. The grant specialists conducted on-site visits with program staff, provided technical assistance to grantees and monitored project performance. Funds will also be used for rent, office supplies, equipment maintenance, and postage.