

# UT Annual State Performance Report

## Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program

Reporting Period: [Oct 1, 2023 to Sept 30, 2024]

*This aggregated data is self-reported by the grantees and subgrantees in each state/territory.*

OVC VOCA Assistance Funds				
	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00601-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00810-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00470-ASSI	2024-15POVC-24-GG-00730-ASSI
Federal Award Amount	\$10,394,739.00	\$14,503,897.00	\$13,778,276.00	\$8,094,149.00
Total Amount of Subawards	\$9,880,054.00	\$14,247,924.00	\$1,120,754.00	\$0.00
Total Number of Subawards	94	101	2	0
Administrative Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Training Funds Amount	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Balance Remaining	\$514,685.00	\$255,973.00	\$12,657,522.00	\$8,094,149.00

Subgrantee Organization Type				
The total number of subgrantees represents all subgrantees funded across all federal awards active during the reporting period. The number is not unique as there are subgrantee organizations that are continuously funded from each federal award.				
Type of Organization	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00601-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00810-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00470-ASSI	2024-15POVC-24-GG-00730-ASSI
<b>Government Agencies Only</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Corrections	0	0	0	0
Courts	0	0	0	0
Juvenile Justice	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	22	26	0	0
Prosecutor	11	13	0	0
Other	14	13	0	0
<b>Nonprofit Organization Only</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0
Coalition (e.g., state domestic violence or sexual assault coalition)	1	1	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence Organization	5	8	1	0
Faith-based Organization	0	0	0	0
Organization Provides Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services	25	20	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	2	2	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	4	5	0	0
Multiservice agency	0	0	0	0
Other	7	10	1	0
<b>Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, Agencies, and Organizations Only</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Child Abuse Service organization (e.g., child advocacy center)	0	0	0	0
Court	0	0	0	0
Domestic and Family Violence organization	0	0	0	0
Faith-based organization	0	0	0	0
Juvenile justice	0	0	0	0
Law Enforcement	0	0	0	0
Organization provides domestic and family violence and sexual assault services	0	0	0	0
Prosecutor	0	0	0	0
Sexual Assault Services organization (e.g., rape crisis center)	0	0	0	0
Other justice-based agency	0	0	0	0
Other agency that is NOT justice-based (e.g., human services, health, education)	0	0	0	0
Organization by and/or for a specific traditionally underserved community	1	1	0	0
Organization by and/or for underserved victims of crime (e.g., drunk driving, homicide, elder abuse)	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Campus Organizations Only</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Campus-based victims services	1	1	0	0

# Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool ( PMT )

Law enforcement	1	1	0	0
Physical or mental health service program	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Number of Subawards</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

\*This number is not unique across fiscal years as there are subgrantee organizations that are funded from multiple federal awards.

Subaward Purpose				
A single SAR can select multiple purposes. Numbers are not unique				
	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00601-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00810-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00470-ASSI	2024-15POVC-24-GG-00730-ASSI
A. Continue a VOCA-funded victim project funded in a previous year	92	100	2	0
B. Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by VOCA in the previous year	0	0	0	0
C. Start up a new victim services project	1	1	0	0
D. Start up a new <b>Native American</b> victim services project	0	0	0	0
E. Expand or enhance an existing <b>Native American</b> project	1	0	0	0

VOCA and Match Funds				
A single SAR can select multiple service types. Numbers are not unique				
	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00601-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00810-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00470-ASSI	2024-15POVC-24-GG-00730-ASSI
A.INFORMATION & REFERRAL	87	96	2	0
B.PERSONAL ADVOCACY/ACCOMPANIMENT	79	89	2	0
C.EMOTIONAL SUPPORT OR SAFETY SERVICES	84	90	1	0
D.SHELTER/HOUSING SERVICES	43	38	1	0
E.CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE SYSTEM ASSISTANCE	77	83	2	0
F. ASSISTANCE IN FILING COMPENSATION CLAIMS	90	101	2	0

Priority and Underserved Requirements				
Priority Area	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00601-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00810-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00470-ASSI	2024-15POVC-24-GG-00730-ASSI
<b>Child Abuse</b>				
Total Amount	\$1,583,502.00	\$2,354,546.00	\$101,163.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	15.00 %	16.00 %	1.00 %	
<b>Domestic and Family Violence</b>				
Total Amount	\$4,615,517.00	\$6,769,263.00	\$632,205.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	44.00 %	47.00 %	5.00 %	
<b>Sexual Assault</b>				
Total Amount	\$1,950,815.00	\$2,657,121.00	\$34,530.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	19.00 %	18.00 %	0.00 %	
<b>Underserved</b>				
Total Amount	\$1,730,211.00	\$2,443,862.00	\$352,856.00	\$0.00
% of Total Federal Award	17.00 %	17.00 %	3.00 %	

Budget and Staffing				
Staffing Information	2021-15POVC-21-GG-00601-ASSI	2022-15POVC-22-GG-00810-ASSI	2023-15POVC-23-GG-00470-ASSI	2024-15POVC-24-GG-00730-ASSI
Total number of paid staff for all subgrantee victimization program and/or services	1345	1329	32	
Number of staff hours funded through this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	504753	567889	21648	
Total number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	5283	817	181	
Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this VOCA award (plus match) for subgrantee's victimization programs and/or services	73965	33550	1422	

## AGGREGATED SUBGRANTEE PERFORMANCE MEASURE DATA

Victimization Type						
Victimization Type	Number of Subgrantees Indicating Intent to Serve This Victim Type	Number of Individuals Who Actually Received Services Based on a Presenting Victimization				
		Quarter 1 Total	Quarter 2 Total	Quarter 3 Total	Quarter 4 Total	Per Quarter Average
Adult Physical Assault (includes Aggravated and Simple Assault)	112	2264	2279	2336	2544	2355
Adult Sexual Assault	139	1618	1799	1753	2048	1804
Adults Sexually Abused/Assaulted as Children	114	432	398	361	654	461
Arson	58	4	12	23	14	13

# Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool ( PMT )

Bullying (Verbal, Cyber or Physical)	74	191	189	200	189	192
Burglary	70	81	92	85	108	91
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	122	1201	1241	1356	1393	1297
Child Pornography	90	122	229	81	70	125
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	142	2336	2011	2205	2556	2277
Domestic and/or Family Violence	154	9813	8596	8331	7892	8658
DUI/DWI Incidents	69	82	66	151	67	91
Elder Abuse or Neglect	97	118	97	52	104	92
Hate Crime: Racial/Religious/Gender/ Sexual Orientation/Other (Explanation Required)	59	16	59	90	59	56
Human Trafficking: Labor	68	194	214	232	246	221
Human Trafficking: Sex	100	122	128	125	154	132
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	75	168	96	118	127	127
Kidnapping (non-custodial)	72	47	77	83	93	75
Kidnapping (custodial)	76	21	18	35	29	25
Mass Violence (Domestic/International)	46	3	6	7	8	6
Other Vehicular Victimization (e.g., Hit and Run)	64	63	82	91	94	82
Robbery	71	60	87	97	75	79
Stalking/Harassment	126	961	990	1058	924	983
Survivors of Homicide Victims	87	80	143	163	153	134
Teen Dating Victimization	117	86	70	67	66	72
Terrorism (Domestic/International)	42	10	21	1	3	8
Other	56	553	633	685	670	635

## Special Classifications of Individuals

Special Classifications of Individuals	Number of Individuals Self Reporting a Special Classification				
	Quarter 1 Total	Quarter 2 Total	Quarter 3 Total	Quarter 4 Total	Per Quarter Average
Deaf/Hard of Hearing	64	72	67	70	760
Homeless	818	529	571	570	7558
Immigrants/Refugees/Asylum Seekers	617	608	563	612	5209
LGBTQ	312	253	245	249	2690
Veterans	107	92	83	85	750
Victims with Disabilities: Cognitive/ Physical /Mental	746	869	869	724	9734
Victims with Limited English Proficiency	1344	1188	1302	1229	10521
Other	0	42	2	1	8081

## General Award Information

Activities Conducted at the Subgrantee Level	Number	Percent
Total number of individuals who received services during the Fiscal Year.	66249	
Total number of anonymous contacts who received services during the Fiscal Year	2857	
Number of new individuals who received services from your state for the first time during the Fiscal Year.	54288	81.95 %
Of the clients who received services, how many presented with more than one type of victimization during the Fiscal Year?	10466	15.80 %
Number of individuals assisted with a victim compensation application during the Fiscal Year.	18025	

## Demographics

Demographic Characteristic of New Individuals Served	Number	Percent
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>		
American Indian or Alaska Native	849	1.56 %
Asian	722	1.33 %
Black or African American	1378	2.54 %
Hispanic or Latino	11568	21.31 %
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1002	1.85 %
White Non-Latino or Caucasian	29934	55.14 %
Some Other Race	667	1.23 %
Multiple Races	1131	2.08 %
Not Reported	5395	9.94 %
Not Tracked	1642	3.02 %
<b>Race/Ethnicity Total</b>	<b>54288</b>	
<b>Gender Identity</b>		
Male	15939	29.36 %
Female	36767	67.73 %

# Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool ( PMT )

Other	242	0.45 %
Not Reported	1167	2.15 %
Not Tracked	173	0.32 %
<b>Gender Total</b>	<b>54288</b>	
<b>Age</b>		
Age 0- 12	9811	18.07 %
Age 13- 17	4830	8.90 %
Age 18- 24	6059	11.16 %
Age 25- 59	28229	52.00 %
Age 60 and Older	2422	4.46 %
Not Reported	1936	3.57 %
Not Tracked	1001	1.84 %
<b>Age Total</b>	<b>54288</b>	

Direct Services				
Service Area	# of Subgrantees That Provided Services in This Category	# of Individuals/Contacts Receiving Services	Specific Service	Frequency of Service
A. Information & Referral	75	43838	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			A1. Information about the criminal justice process	34239
			A2. Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.	27806
			A3. Referral to other victim service programs	38072
			A4. Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address confidentiality programs, etc.)	45862
B. Personal Advocacy/ Accompaniment	68	25938	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			B1. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care	475
			B2. Victim advocacy/accompaniment to medical forensic exam	1238
			B3. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	1150
			B4. Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects)	51271
			B5. Performance of medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview or medical evidence collection	443
			B6. Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)	501
			B7. Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution	1335
			B8. Child or dependent care assistance (includes coordination of services)	18588
			B9. Transportation assistance (includes coordination of services)	2492
			B10. Interpreter services	4208
C. Emotional Support or Safety Services	73	21262	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			C1. Crisis intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)	21998
			C2. Hotline/crisis line counseling	11558
			C3. On-scene crisis response (e.g., community crisis response)	1277
			C4. Individual counseling	11911
			C5. Support groups (facilitated or peer)	17173
			C6. Other Therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.)	701
			C7. Emergency financial assistance	2630
D. Shelter/ Housing Services	23	2934	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			D1. Emergency shelter or safe house	15978
			D2. Transitional housing	1581
			D3. Relocation assistance (includes assistance with obtaining housing)	2654
E. Criminal/ Civil Justice System Assistance	70	35953	Enter the number of times services were provided in each subcategory.	0
			E1. Notification of criminal justice events	27879
			E2. Victim impact statement assistance	3481
			E3. Assistance with restitution	2912
			E4. Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order	9713
			E5. Civil legal assistance with family law issues	7222
			E6. Other emergency justice-related assistance	889
			E7. Immigration assistance	1788
			E8. Prosecution interview advocacy/accompaniment	6026
			E9. Law enforcement interview advocacy/accompaniment	3500
			E10. Criminal advocacy/accompaniment	15398

# Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool (PMT)

E11. Other legal advice and/or counsel

1754

## ANNUAL QUESTIONS

### Grantee Annually Reported Questions

Question/Option	Count
<b>Were any administrative and training funds used during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	1
No	0
<b>Did the administrative funds support any education activities during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	1
No	0
Number of requests received for education activities during the reporting period.	2
Number of people trained or attending education events during the reporting period.	42
Number of events conducted during the reporting period.	2
<b>Did the grant support any coordination activities (e.g., with other service providers, law enforcement agencies) during the reporting period?</b>	
Yes	1
No	0
<b>Describe any program or educational materials developed during the reporting period.</b>	
Training, grant management, and resources created during this reporting period by UOVC staff include updated video modules with accompanying materials for subrecipients. All training sessions are available on our website and Youtube channel. We also continue to make training events available in a hybrid format so that they could easily be viewed statewide. All of the resources and materials shared with attendees were compiled in resource folders online and also emailed to the participants to increase ease of access.	
<b>Describe any planning or training events held during the reporting period.</b>	
During the 2023-2024 funding period, the Sexual Assault category at the Utah Office for Victims of Crime (UOVC) saw significant advancements in educational outreach under the leadership of the Sexual Assault Services Funding Coordinator. Through collaboration with the Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault (UCASA), UOVC strengthened relationships with existing programs and established new partnerships across the state. Key educational events included a presentation at the UCASA Conference on September 12, 2024, titled Funding Forward: Innovative Strategies for Sexual Assault Services. This workshop used peer discussions and insights from grant administrators to explore creative funding strategies, offering practical resources for enhancing sexual assault programs. Additionally, on April 4, 2024, UOVC staff presented at the UCASA SANE Retreat, providing guidance on federal funding for SANE programs, budget development, and fair compensation for on-call forensic services. A total of 42 individuals attended these educational sessions. The development of these presentations included comprehensive training materials, regulatory guidance, and handouts with discussion prompts, resources, and research articles to support ongoing program improvement within participant organizations.	
<b>Describe any program policies changed during the reporting period.</b>	
Over the past year, while the Utah Office for Victims of Crime (UOVC) did not undergo any major policy changes, our management team completed a comprehensive review and enhancement of our policy manual. This extensive process involved referencing multiple policy manuals, aligning with state and federal funding guidelines, and obtaining necessary approvals. As a result, we revised the policy manual to focus on overarching policies and procedures, while developing a separate Operating Instructions manual to capture the detailed instructions for daily tasks. This structured approach aims to improve clarity and operational efficiency across all levels of our organization.	
<b>Describe any earned media coverage events/episodes during the reporting period.</b>	
There was no earned media coverage events/episodes during the reporting period.	
<b>Describe any coordinated responses/services for assisting crime victims during the reporting period.</b>	
UOVC encourages subgrantees to coordinate with other agencies within their regions to ensure victims within their areas are receiving the highest prioritized victim services based on their needs and barriers. Coordination between agencies in rural areas of the State of Utah is critical for a victim as they process through not only the trauma, the justice system but also locating services close to where they reside. By encouraging subgrantees to coordinate with other organizations within their region they are bridging gaps in services by working together. We also encourage coordination between service providers and coalitions across the state who work on targeted concerns trending with victims of crime on both local and State levels.	
<b>Please discuss the major issues in your state that either assist or prevent victims from receiving assistance during the reporting period.</b>	
The major barriers to victim assistance in Utah during this reporting period included high staff turnover, housing instability, and funding cuts. Funding reductions have forced programs to cut positions or offer non-competitive wages, making it challenging to retain qualified staff. This turnover has reduced capacity, creating long waitlists for services like therapy and limiting legal support, including protective orders and stalking cases. Housing needs remain critical. Affordable housing is increasingly scarce, and even when programs provide short-term rental support, victims often cannot maintain housing long-term. Utah's lethality assessment protocol has further emphasized the need for secure, stable housing as an essential support for victim safety.	
<b>Please describe ways that your agency promoted the coordination of public and private efforts within the community to help crime victims during the reporting period.</b>	
During this reporting period, UOVC continued to promote public-private coordination through the Coordination and Consultation requirement outlined in each agency's initial application. As this was the second year of a two-year award, agencies continued to hold regular meetings with local public and private partners to implement their established plans for victim referrals, handoffs, and accountability. This ongoing collaboration helped address service gaps identified during the application process, ensuring seamless support for victims. Agencies reported that maintaining these partnerships throughout year two strengthened interagency communication and enhanced the overall coordination of services.	
<b>Please describe any notable activities at the grantee level during the reporting period that improved delivery of victim services.</b>	
In the past reporting period we formed a partnership with the Justice Information Resource Network (JIRN) and IMPROVE to provide victim assistance programs with an opportunity to measure program outcomes. 18 programs have participated in the project including domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, and criminal justice system based programs. All programs have received necessary training and are in various stages of the implementation process. We look forward to seeing the results of this initiative.	
<b>Please discuss each priority (i.e., child abuse, domestic assault, sexual assault, and underserved) in which VOCA funds have been used to assist crime victims during the reporting period</b>	
To support each priority category—child abuse, domestic assault, sexual assault, and underserved populations—UOVC allocated funding this reporting period to 16 domestic violence programs, 12 sexual assault programs, 6 programs serving underserved populations, and 12 child abuse-focused programs, ensuring that essential services reached victims across these critical areas. Sixteen Domestic Violence nonprofit organizations across Utah received funding in FY24, with coverage extending to both urban and rural communities to ensure all survivors have access to essential, confidential support. These organizations provide a vital array of 24/7 services, including community case management, criminal justice support, safety planning, and emergency shelter—resources that collectively bring hope and healing to individuals experiencing family violence. Despite budget cuts and increased service demand due to the mandatory implementation of the Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) for law enforcement, which has led to more survivors being referred for support, these nonprofits have innovated to meet the growing needs. Many have developed partnerships with local businesses, streamlined services, and leveraged community volunteers to maintain and expand their reach, allowing Utah's domestic violence response network to remain strong even in challenging times. In FY24, the Utah Office for Victims of Crime (UOVC) Child Abuse grants funded 10 Children's Justice Centers (CJCs) and 2 Family Support Centers to provide critical resources for child abuse intervention across the state. Although this funding level is lower than in previous grant cycles due to VOCA funding reductions, supplemented by more accessible state funds, the commitment to quality services remains unwavering. The core focus of child abuse funding is on mental health services and therapeutic support for children who have experienced abuse, ensuring that youth receive compassionate and effective care. Grants also cover essential services such as case management, advocacy, and forensic interviewing. Each CJC in Utah holds accreditation through the National Children's Alliance, maintaining top-tier service quality and adhering to best practices in child-centered therapeutic care. Utah's CJCs use the Pediatric Integrated Post-trauma Services (PIPS) assessment tool, which enables them to assess trauma levels and mental health needs effectively, ensuring that children and their families are connected to appropriate treatment pathways. This focus on best practices and comprehensive care supports children's healing journeys and strengthens Utah's network of child abuse response services. Underserved agencies across Utah offer vital services to victims statewide, including those affected by human trafficking, members of the Navajo Nation, the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, and individuals from polygamous communities. These agencies provide a range of support, including case management, legal services, and court accompaniment. They also offer specialized mental health therapy and support during critical medical visits related to crime. Many agencies provide emergency assistance, such as funds for shelter, food, and transportation, ensuring that victims have the resources they need to rebuild their lives. Additionally, services are available in multiple languages to meet the diverse needs of those they serve. The Sexual Assault category has strengthened and expanded upon the foundation laid in the previous funding cycle. The establishment of the Sexual Assault Team at the Utah Office for Victims of Crime (UOVC) has continued collaboration with the Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault (UCASA), the state's sexual assault coalition. This has led to the development of partnerships with new programs across the state and the enhancement of partnerships with existing SA programs. These efforts have increased awareness of available funding opportunities, provided grant managers with the knowledge to effectively utilize their resources, and supported the expansion of critical services, including Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) programs, Rape Crisis Centers, and tribal and underserved communities.	

# Office for Victims of Crime - Performance Measurement Tool ( PMT )

<b>Please briefly describe efforts taken to serve Victims of Federal crime during the reporting period.</b>
UOVC supports and implements policies that subgrantees serve victims of federal crime with the same consideration they provide to both state and local crimes. UOVC also makes efforts to ensure funding to organizations that are likely to interact with Federal crime victims during their grant year. Multiple agencies and nonprofits provide services to federal crime victims within the state throughout the grant year. Also, the State of Utah is home to six federally recognized tribes and large amounts of tribal land. Support for crime victims within the tribal communities is a priority to UOVC as crimes that happen within their communities fall under federal jurisdiction and funds are used to assist programs including Utah Navajo Health Systems, where VOCA funded advocates are vital to providing culturally responsive services and advocacy in those communities.
<b>Please identify any emerging issues or notable trends affecting crime victim services in your state during the reporting period.</b>
Emerging issues and notable trends affecting crime victim services in our state are largely driven by a combination of funding constraints, staffing challenges, and growing demand for services. Reduced federal funding, has significantly impacted the capacity of victim assistance programs. These cuts have not only limited the amount of emergency financial assistance available for victims, particularly those dealing with housing and utilities, but also curtailed opportunities for staff training and professional development. As a result, programs are struggling to meet the increasing demand for services, leading to more victims being turned away and reduced ability to expand or improve services. The shortage of available resources, especially for housing support, continues to be a significant barrier, exacerbated by rising rental costs and low vacancy rates, particularly in rural areas. Staffing issues, notably high turnover and challenges in recruiting qualified personnel, are another emerging trend. Many victim service programs are finding it difficult to compete with state and county-funded positions that offer higher wages and more benefits, which has resulted in the loss of key staff members such as attorneys and advocates. This turnover has led to increased workloads for remaining staff, who often have to take on additional responsibilities or longer shifts to maintain service delivery. The understaffing issue has been particularly acute in rural areas, where access to services is already limited, further increasing the strain on organizations trying to serve vulnerable populations. A notable trend is the growing need for services for Spanish-speaking clients, with a shortage of bilingual staff to effectively meet this demand. Programs are facing challenges in providing adequate support to Hispanic survivors, particularly in communities with a significant immigrant population. Additionally, childcare and transportation barriers are emerging as significant issues for many survivors, particularly those in rural areas, where transportation options are scarce and childcare services are often inaccessible or unaffordable. Lastly, legal and legislative challenges are also affecting victim services. Efforts to reduce victim rights through legislative changes, such as requiring survivors to testify at preliminary hearings even when they've already submitted sworn statements, are creating additional stress for both victims and service providers. At the same time, programs are facing ongoing challenges in dealing with aggressive defense tactics in criminal cases, further complicating efforts to ensure that victims have a voice in the judicial process. Together, these issues reflect a broader trend of increasing demand for services that far exceeds available resources, requiring victim service programs to be more creative and resourceful in finding solutions, often through collaboration with other agencies and community partners. However, without a sustained investment in funding and staffing, these trends are likely to worsen, leaving victims increasingly vulnerable and underserved.
<b>Please briefly outline any staffing retention issues that your victim assistance program has and why these issues may occur during the reporting period.</b>
While there has been some movement, and promotions within our department, there have been no staffing retention issues in UOVC's victim assistance program during the past reporting period. UOVC is fortunate to employ very talented and experienced professionals on our grants team.
<b>Please explain your state process to publicize its victim assistance funding for services to victims of crime during the reporting period.</b>
During this reporting period, UOVC was in the second year of a two-year award cycle, so no new RFP was issued. However, our standard process for publicizing victim assistance funding opportunities begins in January/February and involves multiple outreach strategies. UOVC uses a master emailing list, which includes over 1,200 agencies statewide, and this list continues to grow annually as new organizations become aware of our funding opportunities. Additionally, we distribute announcements through key state listservs, including the Statewide Advocates for Victims Organization (SWAVO), Utah Domestic Violence Coalition (UDVC), Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault (UCASA), Utah Nonprofits Association, Utah Prosecution Council, Utah Law Enforcement and Chiefs Association, and the Utah Bar Association. Further, our Outreach Coordinator works year-round to connect with underserved communities and tribal entities, ensuring broad awareness of funding opportunities and offering technical assistance as needed. During the reporting period, we also conducted surveys to gather feedback from subgrantees to enhance our publicizing efforts for the upcoming RFP in 2025.
<b>Please explain how your state is able to direct funding to new/underserved populations during the reporting period.</b>
Over the past year, our office has connected with several organizations across the state dedicated to serving specific cultural communities and underserved populations. This effort, initially aimed at expanding sexual assault services to these groups, also revealed a vibrant network of grassroots organizations providing vital services to crime victims. Recognizing the importance of strengthening these smaller programs, our office has launched a special Request for Proposal (RFP) for state-secured funding to support their growth. The Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault (UCASA) has partnered with Mujeres Unidas, an organization offering advocacy services to Latina women, using VOCA funding to mentor this group in preparing to apply for funding independently in the next cycle. Additionally, our Native American dual coalition is actively encouraging Tribes across the state to seek victim service funding. Through these efforts and continued mentorship, we are hopeful that culturally specific and underserved programs will grow and thrive statewide.
<b>Please explain how your program is able to respond to gaps in services during the reporting period.</b>
UOVC recognizes the need to respond promptly to emerging issues and service gaps within funded programs. Although our office has established guidelines on budget adjustments and requests for additional funding, we are prepared to consider fund reallocations when programs demonstrate an urgent need to address service gaps. To remain proactive and responsive to program needs, UOVC grant analysts have implemented a new protocol, scheduling quarterly meetings with subgrantees either through set times or flexible calendar options for technical assistance. These meetings provide a space for subgrantees to discuss grant-related questions, funding usage, and any challenges they face in victim services or internal operations. Grant analysts also use this time to remind subgrantees of upcoming deadlines, track budget expenditures, and review progress on SART, tracking, and reporting requirements. This collaborative approach ensures that UOVC remains closely connected with subgrantees, supporting effective program management and service delivery.
<b>Please list and explain any outcome measure(s) that are reported to the governor, legislature, or other state entity during the reporting period.</b>
We currently have no outcome measures that are reported to the governor, legislature, or other state entity.