

**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**FY 2017 CONGRESSIONAL JUSTIFICATION**

**Office on Violence Against Women**



U.S. Department of Justice

**OVW**

**Office on Violence Against Women**

Working Together to End the Violence

*Congressional Justification*  
*February 4, 2016*

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# **I. Overview for the Office on Violence Against Women**

## **1. Introduction**

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 request for the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) totals \$489,000,000<sup>1</sup>, including 95 positions and 89 FTE. This FY 2017 request is \$9,000,000 above the FY 2016 enacted level, and includes 13 new positions and 7 new FTE. In this budget request, the Department is asking for increased funding to some of OVW's most competitive programs. The request includes the following increases: \$11,250,000 to enhance the Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program (renamed the Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Grant Program to more accurately reflect the program's scope), of which \$4,000,000 is set aside for the new Domestic Violence Firearms Lethality Reduction Program; \$7,500,000 to support Legal Assistance to Victims; \$1,250,000 for Enhanced Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life; \$2,500,000 for the Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Program,; and \$6,000,000 for the Grants to Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking on Campus Program.

### **VAWA Is a Smart Investment: Saving Lives, Saving Money**

VAWA has led to significant improvements in the criminal and civil justice systems.<sup>2</sup> Findings from a nationwide assessment indicate that VAWA grants were associated with reductions in rape and assault.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, between 1994 and 2011, the rate of victimization by serious intimate partner violence declined by 72% for women and 64% for men.<sup>4</sup> Nonetheless, domestic and sexual violence persist as serious threats to community safety and public health, as current estimates show that 19.3% of women and 1.7% of men have been raped, and 22.3% of women and 14% of men have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner at some point in their lives.<sup>5</sup>

VAWA has been successful by funding interventions that research has shown to be effective—such as legal assistance, protection order enforcement, and access to medical forensic examinations—across grant programs. This pays tangible dividends: a 2009 study showed that the state of Kentucky averted \$85 million in costs by reducing violence and improving victims' quality of life through protection orders.<sup>6</sup> Additionally, a recent study found that when domestic violence victims are represented by a Legal Aid attorney, especially when the attorney has expertise in handling domestic violence cases, it has a positive effect on child custody decisions and other outcomes.<sup>7</sup> Across grant programs, VAWA supports coordinated community approaches to addressing domestic and sexual violence, whereby law enforcement, advocates, prosecutors, and others work across systems to achieve justice and safety for victims and accountability for offenders. The Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) model, for instance, can improve the quality of forensic healthcare that a victim receives after a rape, and can improve prosecution rates.<sup>8,9</sup>

Other VAWA-funded interventions, including domestic violence courts, victim services and specialized law enforcement and prosecution units, generate tangible results both for victims and for the systems designed to serve them, such as a heightened sense of safety, enhanced quality of evidence, and increased offender compliance.<sup>10</sup> Advocacy not only enhances safety for victims

and connects them with resources, but it also facilitates their participation in the justice process.<sup>11</sup>

## **OVW Priority Areas**

Four priorities guided the FY 2017 Budget request of the Office: 1) supporting essential services for victims; 2) reducing sexual assault; 3) reaching underserved communities; and 4) ensuring meaningful evaluation of programs and implementation of evidence-based practices.

### ***Supporting essential services for victims***

The first focal point for the Office is supporting core services for victims in communities across the country. While some communities still lack basic victim services, others continue to struggle to rebuild services that were reduced or eliminated during the recession, many as a result of reductions in state, local and private funding. OVW's largest program, the Services-Training-Officers-Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Formula Program, provides formula funds to states to address state-specific needs related to violence against women, including law enforcement, prosecution, courts, and victim services. However, recent focus on sexual assault on college campuses and in prison and detention facilities, and publicity about domestic violence perpetrated by athletes has led to increased awareness about the problem and an increased demand for services that requires additional support in communities across the country.

### ***Reducing sexual assault***

Through research and experience in the field, OVW has identified key areas in prosecution, forensic evidence gathering, policing, and victim services that can reduce the incidence of sexual assault and better respond to these crimes. We know more now about how rapists avoid detection and prosecution, commit serial crimes, and target victims. Holding these perpetrators accountable for their crimes, helping victims rebuild their lives, and preventing future rapes are essential to reducing sexual assault nationwide. And, since studies have shown that one in five women is sexually assaulted while in college,<sup>12</sup> we know that we must dedicate specific prevention and intervention efforts on college campuses.

### ***Reaching underserved communities***

One of the most important efforts OVW can undertake is to ensure that our programs are available to meet the needs of all victims, regardless of demographic or geographic community. OVW has been working with service providers and the states to identify and reach those groups that have traditionally faced barriers to accessing necessary victim services and protections. The underserved populations we have specifically targeted include people of color, individuals with disabilities, the elderly, immigrants and refugees, those in the military, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals, all of whom experience a heightened vulnerability to victimization. OVW also recognizes the unique responsibility of the federal government to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking in tribal communities, and we are committed to working with tribal governments to restore safety for American Indian and Alaska Native women.

### ***Ensuring meaningful evaluation of programs and implementation of evidence-based practices***

OVW is finalizing a plan that it will implement over the next several years to further develop and make maximum use of the evidence base for approaches to combatting domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. By fulfilling this plan, OVW expects that it will be able to

focus its resources on strategies that hold the greatest potential for helping victims and holding offenders accountable. Furthermore, communities that benefit from VAWA funding will be better equipped to align their work with practices that are known to be effective, and they will be more capable of generating knowledge on the efficacy of new and promising ways of doing things. OVW is coordinating with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to ensure that these efforts complement and do not duplicate research and evaluation supported by NIJ.

As a critical part of this plan, OVW will issue a competitive solicitation in the spring of 2016 to fund research and evaluation on VAWA-funded interventions. The focus of the funding opportunity will be on researcher-practitioner partnerships to evaluate the impact of interventions on marginalized and underserved populations.

A recent example of OVW's prioritization of research and evaluation is the Homicide Reduction Initiative. OVW supported 12 sites to examine their current response to domestic violence homicides and near homicides; and four of the 12 sites were provided funding to implement and evaluate the effectiveness of models that have successfully reduced domestic violence homicides in other jurisdictions through identifying and offering targeted services to potential victims of domestic violence-related homicide and monitoring high-risk offenders. The evaluation will provide detailed information regarding effective replication of these homicide reduction models. OVW also just announced the Sexual Assault Justice Initiative (SAJI), which is funding seven sites to implement effective practices for prosecuting sexual assault and corresponding performance measures that look beyond conviction rates to gauge prosecutorial success. An evaluation of the SAJI will assess how well the performance measures capture the quality of sexual assault prosecutions, regardless of case outcomes.

## **2. Background**

The mission of OVW is to provide federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking through the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

Since its inception in 1995, OVW has awarded over \$6 billion in grants and cooperative agreements, and has launched a multifaceted approach to implementing VAWA. By forging state, local, and tribal partnerships among police, prosecutors, judges, victim advocates, health care providers, faith leaders, organizations that serve culturally specific and underserved communities and others, OVW grant programs help provide victims with the protection and services they need to pursue safe and healthy lives, while simultaneously enabling communities to hold offenders accountable for their violence.

Along with OVW's responsibility for the administration of VAWA grants, OVW's authorizing statute outlines several additional duties for the OVW Director. These include:

- 1) Maintaining liaison with the judicial branches of the federal and state governments;
- 2) Providing information on violence against women to the President, Congress, the judiciary, state, local, and tribal governments, and members of the public on matters relating to violence against women;

- 3) Serving as the DOJ representative on domestic task forces, committees, or commissions addressing policy or issues relating to violence against women;
- 4) Representing the United States on matters related to violence against women in international fora;
- 5) Providing technical assistance, coordination, and support to other DOJ components in efforts to develop policy and to enforce federal laws relating to violence against women; and
- 6) Providing technical assistance, coordination, and support to agencies across federal, state, local, and tribal agencies in efforts to develop policy, provide technical assistance, and improve coordination among agencies carrying out efforts to eliminate violence against women.

### **3. Challenges**

OVW's greatest challenges in the next two years will be to: 1) make progress in addressing the high levels of sexual assault in the United States; 2) support core services for victims across the country as programs compete for scarce resources; and 3) build the infrastructure necessary to fulfill OVW's statutorily envisioned role as the nation's leading voice on ending violence against women.

### **4. Environmental Accountability**

OVW is committed to integrating environmental accountability and continues to pursue ways to reduce the Department's impact on the environment by instituting office-wide *Green* practices. OVW is involved in the Department of Justice and the District of Columbia Recycling Programs. These programs provide recycling bins for plastic and paper throughout the Office and require quarterly inspection of recycling plans and efforts. OVW purchases recycled copier paper, reuses packing material, purchases ink and toner cartridges from companies that provide credit for recycling, and shuts down computers and other office equipment before leaving each day. Automatic light controls have been installed in all rooms and the restrooms have low-flow toilets. In 2012, OVW acquired the capacity to access webinars and video conferencing from the office and uses a free conference call service. Management has encouraged the staff to use webinars and video conferencing whenever possible to reduce travel. Teleworking for staff with long commutes has been expanded to reduce vehicle emissions. OVW will continue to develop ways to reduce its carbon footprint and save money in the process.

## II. Summary of Program Changes

Item Name	Description				Page
		Pos.	FTE	Dollars (\$000)	
Management and Administration	OVW requests 13 new positions: 7 Grant Program Specialists, 2 Grant Financial Management Analysts, 2 Grant Administrative Specialists, 1 Records Management Specialist, and 1 Budget and Financial Management Analyst	13	7	+[616]	
Management and Administration, Grants.Net	OVW is requesting additional M&A funding to increase efficiencies, identify and implement best practices in grants management, increase information sharing to avoid potential overlap and duplication among DOJ grant programs, and avoid redundancy in system functions and services across DOJ's three grant-making components: the Office of Justice Programs (OJP); OVW; and Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).	0	0	+[2,212]	
Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Program (Arrest)	OVW is requesting additional funding to expand protection order enforcement, sexual assault investigation training and specialized prosecution and for the new Domestic Violence Firearm Lethality Reduction Initiative.	0	0	+\$11,250	
Legal Assistance for Victims Program	OVW requests a \$7.5 million increase to allow the LAV Program to increase the number of projects to support the critical shortage of legal services for victims.	0	0	+\$7,500	
Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Program	An additional \$2.5 million is requested for a total of \$5.0 Million for a Tribal Jurisdiction program authorized by Congress in VAWA 2013. This program will provide grants to tribal governments which would support tribes that exercise "special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction" (SDVCJ) over both Indians and non-Indians who assault Indian	0	0	+\$2,500	

	spouses, intimate partners, or dating partners, or who violate protection orders, in Indian Country. Additional funding is needed for a range of criminal justice improvements.				
Enhanced Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life	OVW is requesting additional funding to respond to the increasing need for more widespread training and enhanced services to identify and implement systemic improvements to addressing elder abuse, neglect and exploitation.	0	0	+\$1,250	
Grants to Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking on Campus Program (Campus Program)	OVW requests a \$6 million increase in funding to expand victim safety and offender accountability and support implementation of recommendations made by the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault.	0	0	+\$6,000	
Domestic Violence Firearm Lethality Reduction Initiative	This initiative will identify and implement promising practices to improve the response of law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and victim service providers in addressing the safety of victims in cases involving firearms. Demonstration projects will be funded in approximately 5 jurisdictions. Funding for this initiative is through a set-aside in the Arrest program.	0	0	+[4,000]	
Grants to Combat Violence Against Women (STOP)	An offset of \$15,000,000 to the STOP Program is included in the request.	0	0	(15,000,000)	
Research and Evaluation of Violence Against Women (NIJ)	An offset of \$2,000,000 to the Research and Evaluation of Violence Against Women is included in the request.	0	0	(2,000,000)	
Rape Survivor Child Custody Act Program	An offset of \$2,500,000 to the Rape Survivor Child Custody Act Program is included in the request	0	0	(2,500,000)	



### III. Appropriations Language and Analysis of Appropriations Language

#### Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs

##### VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PREVENTION AND PROSECUTION PROGRAMS

For grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance for the prevention and prosecution of violence against women, as authorized by the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) ("the 1968 Act"); the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-322) ("the 1994 Act"); the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-647) ("the 1990 Act"); the Prosecutorial Remedies and Other Tools to end the Exploitation of Children Today Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-21); the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) ("the 1974 Act"); the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-386) ("the 2000 Act"); the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-162) ("the 2005 Act"); and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-4) ("the 2013 Act"); [and the Rape Survivor Child Custody Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-22) ("the 2015 Act");] and for related victims services, [\$480,000,000] \$163,000,000, to remain available until expended [, of which \$379,000,000 shall be derived by transfer from amounts available for obligation in this Act from the Fund established by]: Provided, That, in addition, section 1402(d)(2)(A) of chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98-473 (42 U.S.C. 10601(d)(2)(A))[, notwithstanding section 1402(d) of such Act of 1984, and merged with the amounts otherwise made available under this heading] shall be applied for fiscal year 2017 as if the following were inserted therein after the period: "Thereupon, \$326,000,000 shall be available for necessary expenses for the Office on Violence Against Women, without fiscal year limitation and without regard, otherwise, to the provisions of this Act, for grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other assistance for the prevention and prosecution of violence against women, as authorized by the Department of Justice Appropriations Act for the current fiscal year.": Provided further, That the amount referenced in the first proviso shall be derived from amounts available for obligation in this Act from the Fund established by section 1402 of chapter XIV of title II of Public Law 98-473 (42 U.S.C. 10601): Provided further, That except as otherwise provided by law, not to exceed 5 percent of funds made available under this heading may be used for expenses related to evaluation, training, and technical assistance: Provided further, That [of the amount provided—], in addition to any amounts that are otherwise available (or authorized to be made available) for the research, evaluation and statistical purposes set forth in section 40002(b)(7) of the 1994 Act, up to 3 percent of funds made available under this heading may be used for such purposes, except that this proviso shall not apply to funds provided for grants to combat violence against women, as authorized by part T of the 1968 Act, and grants for sexual assault victims assistance, as authorized by section 41601(b) of the 1994 Act: Provided further, That section 8(e) of Public Law 108-79 (42 U.S.C. 15607(e)) shall not apply to funds appropriated to or administered by the Office on Violence Against Women, including funds appropriated in previous appropriations acts that remain available for obligation: Provided further, That any balances remaining available from prior year appropriations under this heading for tracking violence against Indian women, as authorized by section 905 of the 2005 Act, shall also be available to enhance the ability of tribal government entities to access, enter information into, and obtain information from, federal criminal information databases, as authorized by section 534 of title 28, United States Code: Provided further, That some or all of such balances may be transferred, at the discretion of the Attorney General, to "General Administration, Justice Information Sharing Technology" for the tribal access program for national crime information in furtherance of this purpose: Provided further, That the authority to transfer funds under the previous proviso shall be in addition to any other transfer authority contained in this Act: Provided further, That of the amounts provided to the Office on Violence Against Women under this heading, including amounts referenced in the first proviso—

- (1) [~~\$215,000,000~~] \$200,000,000 is for grants to combat violence against women, as authorized by part T of the 1968 Act[;]: Provided, That funds available for grants under section 2001(d) of the 1968 Act shall be available for the purposes described in section 2015(a);
- (2) \$30,000,000 is for transitional housing assistance grants for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault as authorized by section 40299 of the 1994 Act;
- (3) [~~\$5,000,000~~] \$3,000,000 is for the National Institute of Justice for research and evaluation of violence against women and related issues addressed by grant programs of the Office on Violence Against Women, which shall be transferred to "Research, Evaluation and Statistics" for administration by the Office of Justice Programs;
- (4) \$11,000,000 is for a grant program to provide services to advocate for and respond to youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; assistance to children and youth exposed to such violence; programs to engage men and youth in preventing such violence; and assistance to middle and high school students through education and other services related to such violence: Provided, That unobligated balances available for the programs authorized by sections 41201, 41204, 41303, and 41305 of the 1994 Act, prior to its amendment by the 2013 Act, shall be available for this program: Provided further, That 10 percent of the total amount available for this grant program shall be available for grants under the program authorized by section 2015 of the 1968 Act: Provided further, That the definitions and grant conditions in section 40002 of the 1994 Act shall apply to this program;
- (5) [~~\$51,000,000~~] \$62,250,000 is for grants to encourage arrest policies as authorized by part U of the 1968 Act, of which \$4,000,000 is for a homicide reduction initiative and \$4,000,000 is for a domestic violence firearm lethality reduction initiative: Provided, That funds available for grants under section 2001(d) of the 1968 Act shall be available for the purposes described in section 2015(a);
- (6) \$35,000,000 is for sexual assault victims assistance, as authorized by section 41601 of the 1994 Act;
- (7) \$34,000,000 is for rural domestic violence and child abuse enforcement assistance grants, as authorized by section 40295 of the 1994 Act;
- (8) [~~\$20,000,000~~] \$26,000,000 is for grants to reduce violent crimes against women on campus, as authorized by section 304 of the 2005 Act, of which up to \$8,000,000 is for a demonstration initiative to improve campus responses to sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, which will include the use of campus climate surveys and will not be subject to the restrictions of section 304(a)(2);
- (9) [~~\$45,000,000~~] \$52,500,000 is for legal assistance for victims, as authorized by section 1201 of the 2000 Act;
- (10) [~~\$5,000,000~~] \$6,250,000 is for enhanced training and services to end violence against and abuse of women in later life, as authorized by section 40802 of the 1994 Act;
- (11) \$16,000,000 is for grants to support families in the justice system, as authorized by section 1301 of the 2000 Act: Provided, That unobligated balances available for the programs authorized by section 1301 of the 2000 Act and section 41002 of the 1994 Act, prior to their amendment by the 2013 Act, shall be available for this program;
- (12) \$6,000,000 is for education and training to end violence against and abuse of women with disabilities, as authorized by section 1402 of the 2000 Act;

(13) \$500,000 is for the National Resource Center on Workplace Responses to assist victims of domestic violence, as authorized by section 41501 of the 1994 Act;

(14) \$1,000,000 is for analysis and research on violence against Indian women, including as authorized by section 904 of the 2005 Act: Provided, That such funds may be transferred to "Research, Evaluation and Statistics" for administration by the Office of Justice Programs;

(15) \$500,000 is for a national clearinghouse that provides training and technical assistance on issues relating to sexual assault of American Indian and Alaska Native women; and

(16) [\$2,500,000] \$5,000,000 is for grants to assist tribal governments in exercising special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction, as authorized by section 904 of the 2013 Act: Provided, That the grant conditions in section 40002(b) of the 1994 Act shall apply to this program[; and]

[(17) \$2,500,000 for the purposes authorized under the 2015 Act].

#### (CANCELLATION)

Of the unobligated balances from prior year appropriations available under this heading, \$5,000,000 are hereby permanently cancelled: Provided, That no amounts may be cancelled from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. (Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2016.)

#### Analysis of Appropriations Language

- The FY 2017 request includes \$489,000,000 for programs administered by OVW to prevent and respond to violence against women and related victims. Of this amount, \$163,000,000 is requested as directly appropriated funding and \$326,000,000 is available through the Crime Victims Fund.
- The FY 2017 request includes a research, evaluation and statistical set-aside of up to three percent of OVW discretionary funding.
- The FY 2017 request includes language that would exclude OVW's STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program from a five-percent mandatory reallocation or reduction of funds that may be imposed on states under the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA). Beginning in FY 2014, if states cannot certify compliance with certain PREA standards, they lose five percent of covered DOJ grant funds unless they provide an assurance that they will use five percent of such funds toward achieving full compliance with the standards. Due to a change to the STOP Program statute made by the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, which permits states to fund rape crisis centers to help victims of sexual assault in prison, the bulk of STOP Program funding is subject to this five-percent reallocation/reduction requirement. Imposing the PREA funding requirement on STOP awards, however, creates a significant and unintended hardship for STOP subgrantees, particularly victim service providers.

Detailed PREA Explanation: Under the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), states that receive Department of Justice grant funding for "prison purposes" must certify that they are in compliance with the DOJ National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape, 42 U.S.C. 15607(e), or else be subject to the loss or reallocation of specified funding. Beginning in FY 2014, if states cannot certify compliance, they lose 5% of covered DOJ grant funds unless they provide an assurance that they will

use 5% of such funds toward achieving full compliance with the standards. VAWA 2013 added a new purpose area to the Department's STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program statute to permit states to use STOP funds to address sexual assault in correctional and detention settings. 42 U.S.C. 3796gg (b)(17). While preparing to administer this PREA provision for FY 2014, subsequent to passage of VAWA 2013, the Department determined that this new STOP purpose area is a "prison purpose," and that the PREA reduction/reallocation provision therefore applies to STOP awards. In particular, the reduction/reallocation is assessed on 95% of a state's STOP award, because 5% of the awards must be allocated to courts and these funds cannot be used to achieve compliance with the DOJ PREA standards.

The Department is proposing language that would exclude STOP funding from the PREA reduction/reallocation. We believe that the inclusion of the STOP program was an unintended consequence of the VAWA 2013 amendment, which itself was originally proposed by the Department to encourage states to fund rape crisis centers to help victims of sexual assault in prisons. When Congress enacted the PREA reduction/reallocation in 2003, the STOP program would not have been a "covered" program because, at that time, its purpose areas solely addressed offender accountability and victim safety, without any mention of prisons.

- The FY 2017 request includes language that would authorize the Attorney General to transfer prior year balances available to develop and maintain tribal protection order and sex offender registries, as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 534 note, to be used to enhance the ability of tribes to access federal criminal information databases. The Department seeks this authority because of the strong tribal need for access to comprehensive, national criminal history information and the barriers that many tribes face in obtaining that access. Moreover, the Department concluded that, rather than investing funds in developing new and incomplete tribal-specific registries, the purpose of section 905(b) of VAWA 2005, which is to protect Native American communities from perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence, would be better served by facilitating tribes' ability to enter and obtain information from existing Federal databases. If approved, the funds will be used instead to support the Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP), which the Department launched in August, 2015 to provide tribes access to national crime information databases. TAP is an extension of a pilot program originally funded by the Department's COPS Office, which provides access to approximately 20 tribes through the Department's Justice Telecommunications System (JUST). With this transfer authority, the Department plans to expand TAP, which is now in a preliminary feedback phase involving ten tribes.
- The FY 2017 request includes language under the STOP and Arrest Appropriations that would authorize grantees of OVW's Tribal Coalitions Program to use their grant funds for any of the purposes authorized for grantees of OVW's Tribal Governments Program. VAWA 2013 made two changes to the Tribal Coalitions Program that have increased the amount of funding available to these coalitions: first, the Act created a set-aside from OVW's Arrest Program appropriation to support the Tribal Coalitions, and, second, it mandated that OVW make annual, formula-type awards to existing tribal coalitions. The Department seeks to give these coalitions the flexibility to use their larger annual awards to address the broad range of needs experienced by Native American and Alaska Native victims on tribal lands.
- Paragraph (5) includes language authorizing a new Domestic Violence Firearm Lethality Reduction Initiative. This is not additional funding but would be set-aside from funds made available from the Arrest Program
- In paragraph (8), there is a change to the Campus language. There is a set-aside of \$8 million in the Campus Program appropriation to improve the Campus Violence program to better meet the need on

college campuses and in support of the implementation of the recommendations of the White House Task Force on Protecting Students from Sexual Assault. The statutory limitations of the Campus program would include a tight per award funding cap that would make it difficult for campuses to achieve the goals of the new initiative. Therefore, this language is needed to provide greater flexibility with initiative awards.

#### IV. Decision Unit Justification

##### A. Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program (Referred to as Office on Violence Against Women (OVW))

<b>Office on Violence Against Women - Grants OVW Appropriation</b>	<b>Direct Pos.</b>	<b>Estimate FTE</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2015 Enacted	0	0	430,000,000
2016 Enacted	0	0	480,000,000
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments	0	0	
2017 Current Services	0	0	480,000,000
2017 Program Increases	0	0	28,500,000
2017 Program Offsets	0	0	(19,500,000)
2017 Request	0	0	489,000,000
<b>Total Change 2015-2016</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,000,000</b>
<b>Office on Violence Against Women - Management and Administration</b>			
2015 Enacted	70	57	[18,959,000]
2016 Enacted	82	76	[19,912,000]
Adjustments to Base and Technical Adjustments		6	[846]
2017 Current Services	82	82	[20,758]
2017 Program Increases	13	7	[616]
2017 Program Increases (OVW's Grants.Net)			[2,212]
2017 Program Offsets	0	0	[0]
2017 Request	95	89	[23,586]

<b>Total Change 2016-2017</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>[3,674]</b>
<b>Office on Violence Against Women TOTAL</b>			489,000,000

## 1. Grant Program Descriptions

As a result of VAWA 2013, which made changes to the grant programs authorized by VAWA 1994 and subsequent legislation, OVW will administer four formula and fourteen discretionary grant programs. These grants are designed to develop the nation's capacity to reduce domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking by strengthening services to victims and holding offenders accountable for their crimes.

### a. Formula Grant Programs

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(1) Program Name: Service Training-Officers-Prosecutors Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program (STOP Program)

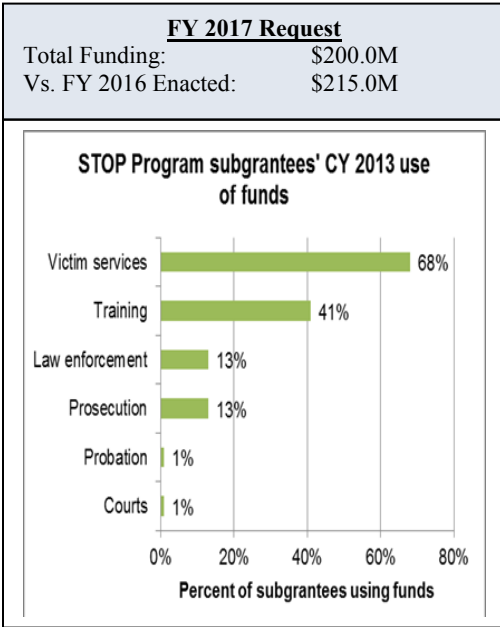
**Program Description**

**Short Title:** STOP Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 USC 3793(a)(18)

**Purpose** The STOP Program was initially authorized by VAWA in 1994 and was reauthorized and amended by the Violence Against Women Acts of 2000, 2005 and 2013 (VAWA 2000, VAWA 2005 and VAWA 2013). The STOP Program promotes a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach to enhancing advocacy and improving the criminal justice system’s response to violent crimes against women. It encourages the development and improvement of effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies as well as victim advocacy and services – including legal services for victims – in cases involving violent crimes against women.

The STOP Program is the cornerstone of VAWA, funding the most essential elements of state and territorial responses to violence against women. The STOP Program has supported significant improvements in the criminal and civil justice systems. One study found that VAWA has “significantly strengthened victims’ involvement with criminal justice authorities such as prosecutors and court officers[,]”<sup>13</sup> while other researchers have concluded that the “STOP program has been critical to law enforcement and prosecution training, and the development of specialized units.”<sup>14</sup>



The recent reauthorization added the following significant new purpose areas: developing and promoting legislation and policies to enhance best practices for responding to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; developing Sexual Assault Response Teams and related coordinated community responses to sexual assault; improving investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases and appropriate treatment of victims; responding to sexual assault against men, women, and youth in correctional settings; responding to backlogs of sexual assault evidence, including developing protocols and policies for notifying and involving victims; improving responses to male and female victims whose ability to access traditional services and responses is affected by their sexual orientation or gender identity; and supporting prevention or educational programming (limited to 5% of the award amount).

By statute, each state receives a base amount of \$600,000. Remaining funds are awarded to states based on population, as determined by United States Census Bureau data, including tribal populations.

**DOJ Strategic Objective:**

2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

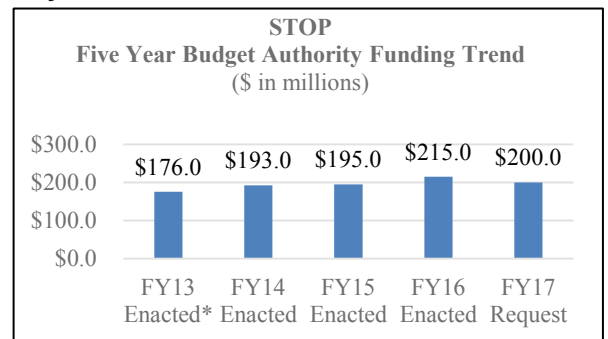
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants are limited to states and territories.

**Allocation Method:** Formula Award.

**Accomplishments**

In 2013, 2,452 subgrantees reported serving a total of 424,424 victims of domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, and/or stalking with services including advocacy, crisis intervention, counseling services and support groups, and legal advocacy. They reported training 240,452 people, a third of which were law enforcement officers. STOP subgrantees funded 2,754



**\*FY2013 included Across-the-Board Rescissions and Sequestration.**

full-time staff positions and answered 368,039 hotline calls. 21,262 victims and 19,893 family members received over 1 million emergency shelter bed nights, and 917 victims and 930 family members received 182,204 transitional housing bed nights. Law enforcement officers funded through STOP responded to 57,044 calls for service, and prosecutors disposed of 95,428 cases.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:**

OVW requests a \$15 million funding offset.

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

**2015 STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN FORMULA GRANTS**

<u>STATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
ALABAMA	2,155,306	NEVADA	1,510,564
ALASKA	836,287	NEW HAMPSHIRE	1,025,539
ARIZONA	2,758,940	NEW JERSEY	3,466,677
ARKANSAS	1,551,382	NEW MEXICO	1,268,890
CALIFORNIA	13,044,846	NEW YORK	6,933,065
COLORADO	2,317,748	NORTH CAROLINA	3,789,256
CONNECTICUT	1,753,536	NORTH DAKOTA	837,169
DELAWARE	900,073	OHIO	4,318,512
DIST OF COLUMBIA	811,322	OKLAHOMA	1,843,779
FLORIDA	6,980,234	OREGON	1,873,346
GEORGIA	3,838,448	PENNSYLVANIA	4,701,149
HAWAII	1,055,286	RHODE ISLAND	938,418
IDAHO	1,124,210	SOUTH CAROLINA	2,149,887
ILLINOIS	4,731,096	SOUTH DAKOTA	873,633
INDIANA	2,715,762	TENNESSEE	2,700,527
IOWA	1,596,526	TEXAS	9,245,711
KANSAS	1,531,386	UTAH	1,543,856
KENTUCKY	2,015,496	VERMONT	800,953
LOUISIANA	2,091,257	VIRGINIA	3,270,431
MAINE	1,026,590	WASHINGTON	2,864,794
MARYLAND	2,516,770	WEST VIRGINIA	1,193,442
MASSACHUSETTS	2,763,406	WISCONSIN	2,446,582
MICHIGAN	3,778,324	WYOMING	787,351
MINNESOTA	2,350,240	PUERTO RICO	1,738,052
MISSISSIPPI	1,560,269	VIRGIN ISLANDS	633,410
MISSOURI	2,544,731	GUAM	651,637
MONTANA	928,285	AM. SAMOA	617,485
NEBRASKA	1,203,441	N. MAR. ISLANDS	616,512
		TOTAL	137,121,824

**Data source for all population figures are from the U.S. Census Bureau website:**

Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2014 (NST-EST2014-01)

2014 Midyear Population and Density for Region Summary (International Database): Virgin Islands, U.S.; Guam, American Samoa and Northern Mariana Islands population region figures



**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(2) Program Name: Sexual Assault Services Program

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding: Approx \$35.0M  
 Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: Approx \$35.0M

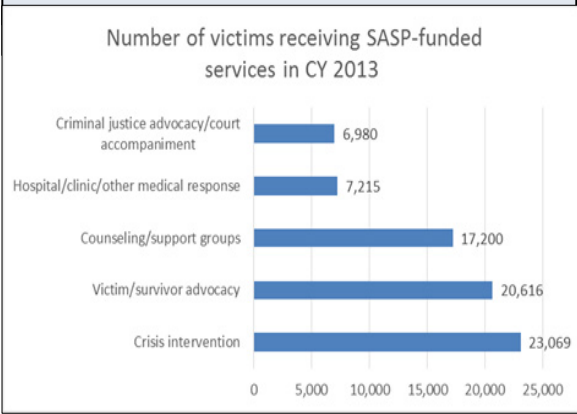
**Program Description**

**Short Name:** SASP Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 USC 14043g(f)(1)

**Purpose:** SASP was authorized by VAWA 2005 and is the first federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault. SASP encompasses five different funding streams for states and territories, tribes, state sexual assault coalitions, tribal coalitions, and culturally specific organizations. Overall, the purpose of SASP is to provide intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services, and related assistance for adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault, family and household members of victims, and those collaterally affected by the sexual assault.

SASP helps survivors heal from sexual assault trauma by funding direct intervention and assistance, including 24-hour sexual assault hotlines, crisis intervention, and medical and criminal justice accompaniment. Victim service organizations such as rape crisis centers provide these interventions.



**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

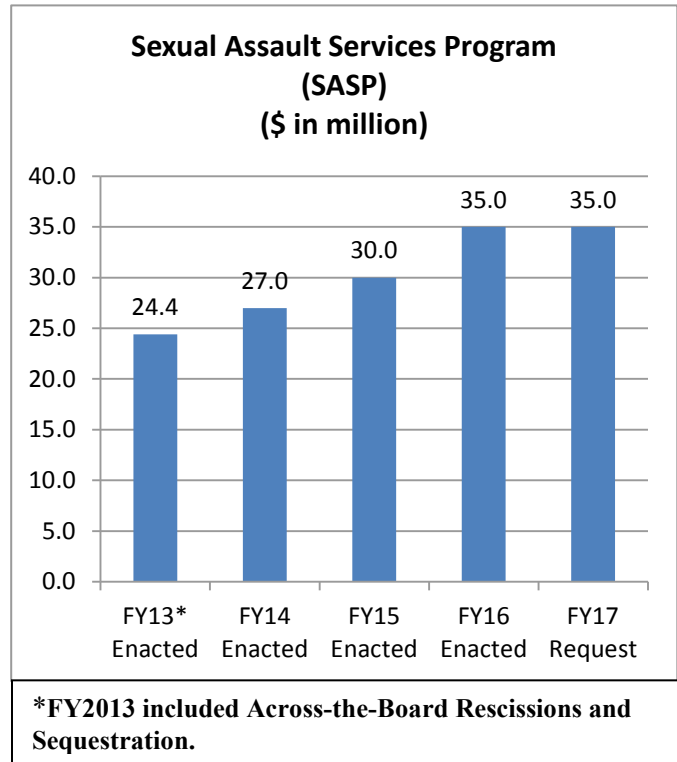
**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants are limited to states and territories.

**Allocation Method:** Sixty-five percent of SASP appropriated funds are awarded to states and territories through a population-based formula. The recent reauthorization adjusted the SASP funding formula to provide the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico with the same share as states and to increase the percentage share for territories. The remaining 35 percent are allocated as follows: 10 percent to Coalitions, 10 percent to Tribal Governments, 10 percent for Culturally Specific Services, 2.5 percent for training and technical assistance, and 2.5 percent for management and administration ...

**Accomplishments:** In 2013, 626 subgrantees reported serving a total of 39,370 victims of sexual assault. The most frequently provided services were crisis intervention, advocacy, counseling and support groups, and hospital/clinic/other medical responses. SASP subgrantees answered 43,700 hotline calls during the year.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**  
 Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** Not Applicable



**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

**2015 SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM (SASP) FORMULA GRANT**

<u>STATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
ALABAMA	\$ 353,383.00	NEVADA	\$ 326,932.00
ALASKA	\$ 299,269.00	NEW HAMPSHIRE	\$ 307,033.00
ARIZONA	\$ 378,148.00	NEW JERSEY	\$ 407,184.00
ARKANSAS	\$ 328,607.00	NEW MEXICO	\$ 317,017.00
CALIFORNIA	\$ 800,139.00	NEW YORK	\$ 549,396.00
COLORADO	\$ 360,048.00	NORTH CAROLINA	\$ 420,418.00
CONNECTICUT	\$ 336,900.00	NORTH DAKOTA	\$ 299,305.00
DELAWARE	\$ 301,886.00	OHIO	\$ 442,131.00
DIST OF COLUMBIA	\$ 298,245.00	OKLAHOMA	\$ 340,602.00
FLORIDA	\$ 551,331.00	OREGON	\$ 341,815.00
GEORGIA	\$ 422,436.00	PENNSYLVANIA	\$ 457,829.00
HAWAII	\$ 308,254.00	RHODE ISLAND	\$ 303,459.00
IDAHO	\$ 311,081.00	SOUTH CAROLINA	\$ 353,161.00
ILLINOIS	\$ 459,058.00	SOUTH DAKOTA	\$ 300,801.00
INDIANA	\$ 376,377.00	TENNESSEE	\$ 375,752.00
IOWA	\$ 330,459.00	TEXAS	\$ 644,275.00
KANSAS	\$ 327,786.00	UTAH	\$ 328,298.00
KENTUCKY	\$ 347,647.00	VERMONT	\$ 297,819.00
LOUISIANA	\$ 350,756.00	VIRGINIA	\$ 399,132.00
MAINE	\$ 307,076.00	WASHINGTON	\$ 382,491.00
MARYLAND	\$ 368,213.00	WEST VIRGINIA	\$ 313,922.00
MASSACHUSETTS	\$ 378,331.00	WISCONSIN	\$ 365,333.00
MICHIGAN	\$ 419,969.00	WYOMING	\$ 297,261.00
MINNESOTA	\$ 361,381.00	PUERTO RICO	\$ 336,265.00
MISSISSIPPI	\$ 328,971.00	VIRGIN ISLANDS	\$ 50,121.00
MISSOURI	\$ 369,360.00	GUAM	\$ 50,868.00
MONTANA	\$ 303,043.00	AM. SAMOA	\$ 49,467.00
NEBRASKA	\$ 314,332.00	N. MAR. ISLANDS	\$ 49,427.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 19,500,000.00</b>

**Data source for all population figures are from the U.S. Census Bureau website:**

Table 1. Annual Estimates of the Resident Population for the United States, Regions, States, and Puerto Rico: April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2014 (NST-EST2014-01)

2014 Midyear Population and Density for Region Summary (International Database) Virgin Islands, U.S.; Guam, American Samoa and Northern Mariana Islands population region figures

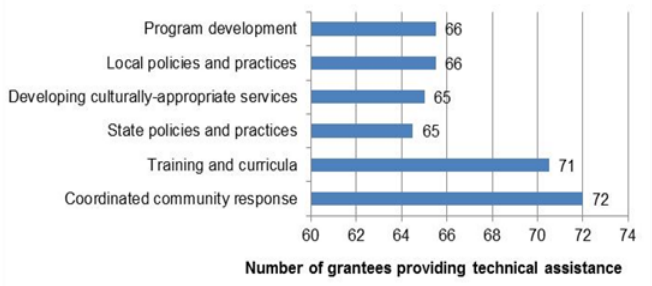
**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

**(3) Program Name: State and Territorial Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Coalitions Programs—funded by set-aside**

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding: Approx \$13.2M\*  
 Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: Approx \$13.9M\*  
 \*Funded by set-asides from larger programs

**Technical assistance topics addressed by State Coalitions grantees in CY 2014**



**Program Description:**

**Short Name:** State Coalitions Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 3796gg-1(b)(2) and (3)

**Purpose:** In VAWA 2000, Congress authorized grants to state sexual assault and domestic violence coalitions. The State Coalitions Program provides federal financial assistance to state coalitions to support the coordination of state victim services activities, and collaboration and coordination with federal, state, and local entities engaged in violence against women activities. The program is funded by a statutory set-aside from the STOP Program. The SASP State Coalitions funding stream also is administered through this Program.

Statewide sexual assault and domestic violence coalitions work across their states to improve systemic responses to victims and

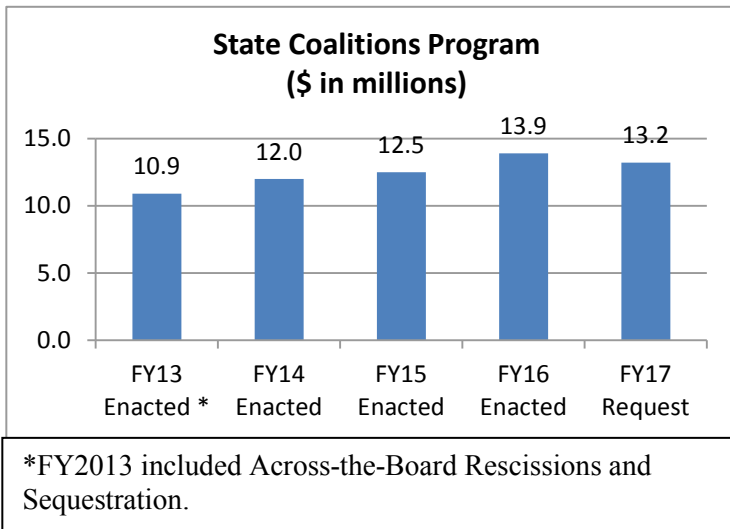
ensure quality services are provided by local rape crisis centers, domestic violence shelters, and other victim service providers. These coalitions support victim service providers in their states through training and technical assistance, public awareness, and advocacy.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** State and territorial sexual assault, domestic violence, and dual coalitions.

**Allocation Method:** Formula Program. Funds are distributed evenly across state domestic violence coalitions, as determined by the Department of Health and Human Services, and sexual assault services coalitions, determined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**Accomplishments:** State Coalitions grantees—including domestic violence coalitions, sexual assault coalitions, and dual coalitions whose member programs serve victims of both types of crimes—reported convening 2,471 training events and providing 69,534 technical assistance activities in 2014. Grantees trained an average of 31,605 advocates, law enforcement officers, and other professionals during each six-month period, on topics including advocacy, confidentiality, outreach to underserved populations, safety planning, law enforcement response, and issues specific to LGBT victims, Hispanic and Latino/a victims, and victims with disabilities.



**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**  
 Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:**  
 An estimated \$0.7 million reduction of available funds at FY17 request level.

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(4) Program Name: Tribal Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions Grant Program – funded by set-asides

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding: Approx \$7.0 M\*  
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: Approx \$6.7 M\*  
\*Funded by set-asides from larger programs

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Tribal Coalitions Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 3796gg-1(b)(4); 42 U.S.C. § 3796hh(f); and 42 U.S.C. § 14043g(d)(1)(B) and (d)(3)

**Purpose:** The Tribal Coalitions Program, first authorized by VAWA 2000 and amended by subsequent legislation, builds the capacity of survivors, advocates, Indian women’s organizations, and victim service providers to form nonprofit, nongovernmental tribal domestic violence and sexual assault coalitions to end violence against American Indian and Alaska Native women. The program is funded by statutory set-asides from the STOP Program, Arrest Program and SASP. VAWA 2013 changed the program from discretionary to a combination of discretionary and formula funding.

Tribal Coalitions Program grants are used to increase awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking committed against American Indian and Alaska Native women; enhance the response to violence against women at the tribal, federal, and state levels; develop and promote legislation, policies and best practices; and identify and provide technical assistance to coalition membership and tribal reservation communities to enhance access to essential services.

**DOJ Strategic Objective:**

**2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**3.8:** Strengthen the government-to-government relationship between tribes and the United States, improve public safety in Indian Country, and honor treaty and trust responsibilities through consistent, coordinated policies, activities, and litigation.

**Allocation Method:** Formula Program. VAWA 2013 established that at least ninety percent of funds be distributed to designated tribal coalitions. Up to ten percent of funds can be distributed in a discretionary manner.

**Accomplishments:** Tribal Coalitions grantees reported convening 103 training events in 2014, training an average of 1,956 people during each six-month period. Grantees reported an overall increase in coalition membership during 2014. The coalitions provided a total 1,271 technical assistance activities during the year on topics including program development, responding to sexual assault and domestic violence victims, and providing culturally-appropriate services.

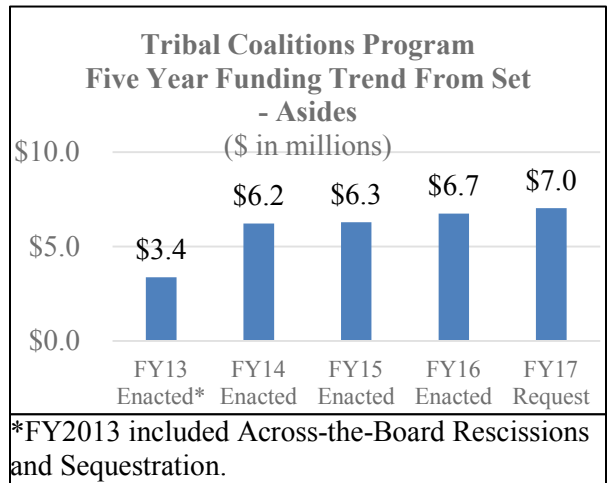
**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

OVW is requesting appropriation language changes to allow tribal coalitions to use these funds for the same purpose as is authorized in the Tribal Governments Program.

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:**

An estimated \$0.3 million increase in available funds at FY17 request level.

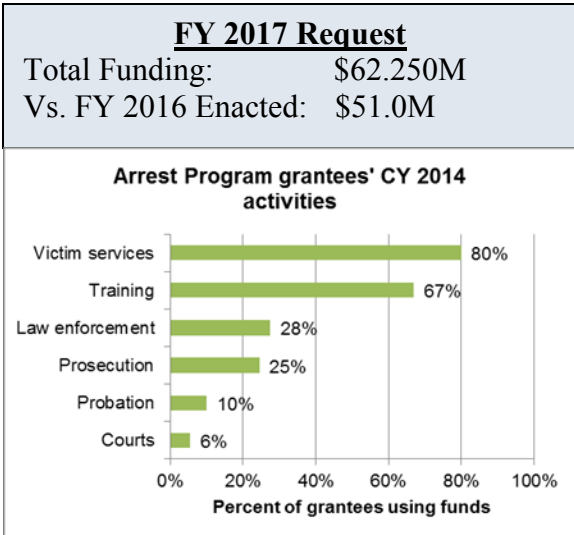
**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>



**b. Discretionary Grant Programs**

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(1) Program Name: Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Program (a.k.a Grants to Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program (Arrest Program))



**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Improving Criminal Justice Responses Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 USC 3793(a)(19)

**Purpose:** The Arrest Program was initially authorized by VAWA 1994 and was reauthorized and amended by VAWA 2000, VAWA 2005, and VAWA 2013. The Arrest Program is designed to encourage state, local, and tribal governments and courts to treat domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking as serious violations of criminal law requiring coordination between victim service providers, staff from population specific organizations, and representatives from the criminal justice system. The program challenges the whole community to communicate, identify problems, and share ideas that will result in new responses and the application of best practices to enhance victim safety and offender accountability.

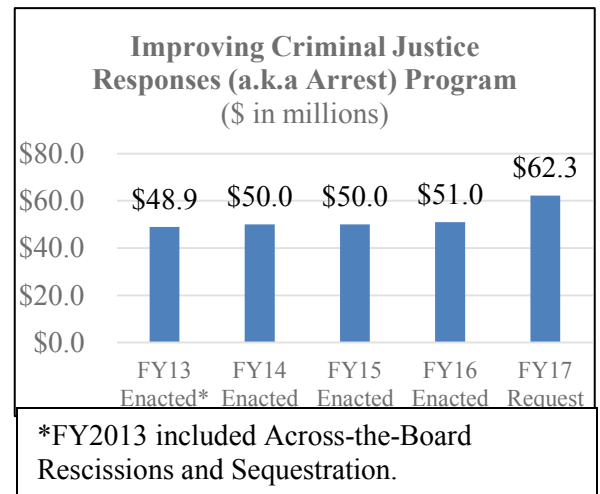
The recent reauthorization added the following significant new purpose areas: training prosecutors; improving the response of the criminal justice system to immigrant victims; developing and promoting legislation and policies to enhance best practices for responding to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; developing Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner programs; developing Sexual Assault Response Teams or similar CCRs to sexual assault; improving investigation and prosecution of sexual assault and treatment of victims; providing HIV testing, counseling, and prophylaxis for victims; addressing sexual assault evidence backlogs including notifying and involving victims; and developing multi-disciplinary high-risk teams for reducing domestic violence and dating violence homicides. In addition, state, tribal, and territorial coalitions and victim

service providers that are in partnerships with states, tribes and units of local governments are now eligible to apply to the Arrest Program. The recent reauthorization also set aside 5% of the Program’s appropriation for Tribal Coalitions Program grants and required that 25% of Program appropriation is available for projects that address sexual assault.

**DOJ Strategic 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** 1. States; 2. Units of local government; 3. Indian tribal governments; 4. State, local, tribal, and territorial courts (including juvenile courts); 5. Sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking victim service providers (either nonprofit or tribal government); 6. State or tribal sexual assault or domestic violence coalitions; and 7. Government rape crisis centers (in a state other than a territory).

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program



**Accomplishments:** In CY 2014, grantees reported serving an average of 48,136 victims during each six-month reporting period. For each period, an average of 29,191 victims received advocacy, 22,030 were assisted with crisis intervention, 14,419 received legal advocacy, and 10,662 participated in counseling and/or support groups. Arrest grantees answered 77,531 hotline calls, law enforcement responded to 125,292 calls for service, and prosecutors disposed of 63,215 cases during the year. Grantees reported training an average of 24,482 people every six months.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

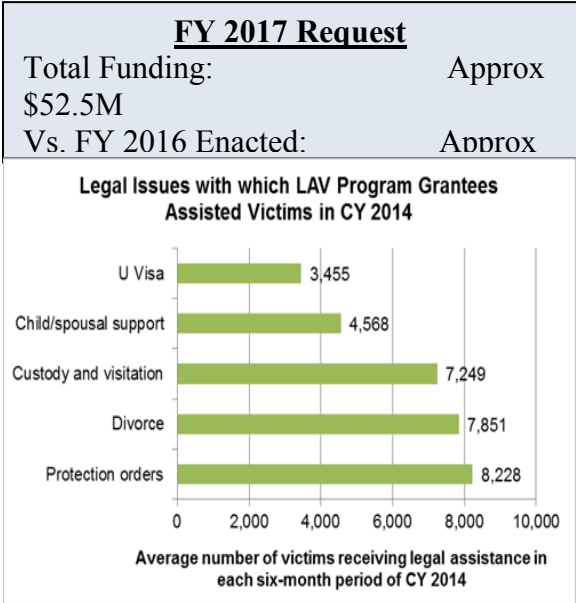
**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** OVW is requesting a program increase of \$11.250 million.

**Grant Application and Award History**

<b>(\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2013 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2014 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2015 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2016 Estimated</b>	<b>FY 2017 Estimated</b>
Amount Available for Grants	\$31.7	\$30.5	\$26.8	\$26.9	\$32.9
Total Funding Awarded	\$31.7	\$30.5	\$26.8	\$26.9	\$32.9
Number of Applications	118	120	102	104	127
Number of Awards	63	54	44	45	55
Percentage of Applications Funded	53%	45%	43%	43%	43%

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**  
(2) Program Name: Legal Assistance for Victims Grant Program



**Program Description**

**Short Name:** LAV Program

**Authorization of Appropriations:** 42 U.S.C. § 3796gg-6(f)(1)

**Purpose:** The LAV Program was funded under a special initiative by Congress in 1998, later authorized by VAWA 2000, and reauthorized by VAWA 2005 and VAWA 2013. The Program funds projects that address the civil and criminal legal needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The LAV program supports legal services to victims seeking relief in legal matters relating to or arising out of their victimization as well as expands pro bono legal assistance for victims. Criminal assistance under the LAV Program does *not* include criminal defense. At least 25% of LAV Program grants support projects focused on providing legal assistance to victims of sexual assault. Three percent of LAV Program funding is set aside for grants to programs that assist victims within the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe.

**DOJ Strategic Objective:**

**2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**3.1** Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants are limited to private nonprofit entities, publicly funded organizations not acting in a governmental capacity; territorial organizations; Indian tribal governments; and tribal organizations.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

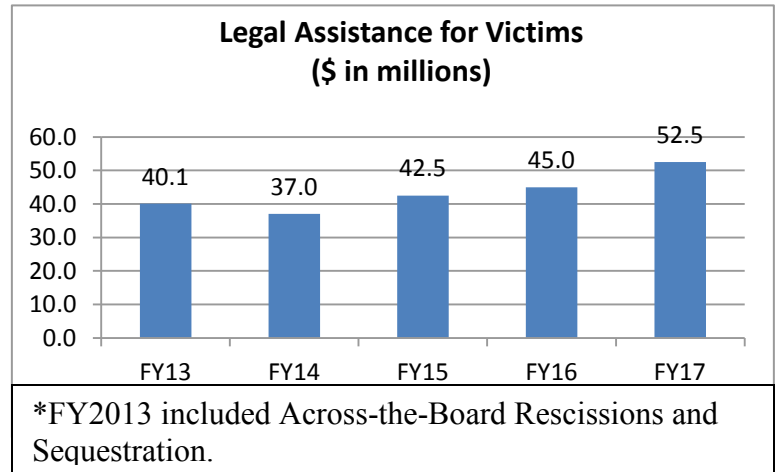
**Accomplishments:** Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) grantees reported serving an average of 26,837 victims during each six-month period in 2014. A total of 1,129 training events were held by LAV grantees during the year mostly for attorneys, advocates, and law students. Grantees reported disposing of 48,622 legal issues on behalf of clients during the year, with the majority of these issues relating to protection orders, divorce, custody, and visitation. Nearly one quarter of the victims assisted by LAV-funded staff received assistance with multiple legal matters.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:**

OVW is requesting a programs increase of \$7.5 million



**Grant Application and Award History**

(\$ in millions)	FY 2013 Actuals	FY 2014 Actuals	FY 2015 Actuals	FY 2016 Estimated	FY 2017 Estimated
Amount Available for Grants	\$29.4	\$28.4	\$31.8	\$33.7	\$39.2
Total Funding Awarded	\$29.4	\$28.4	\$31.8	\$33.7	\$39.2
Number of Applications	250	108	195	206	240
Number of Awards	73	72	60	64	74
Percentage of Applications Funded	29%	67%	31%	31%	26%

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

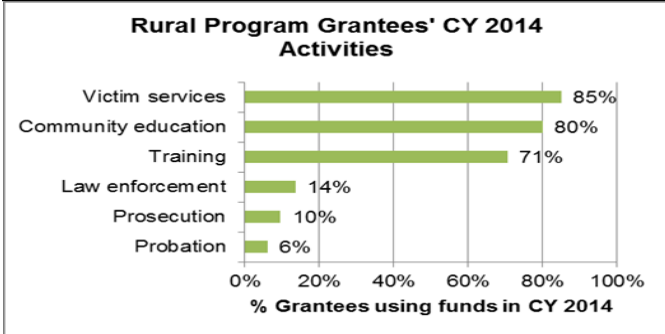
(3) Program Name: Rural Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Assistance Program

<b>FY 2017 Request</b>	
Total Funding:	\$34 M
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted:	\$34 M

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Rural Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 13971(e)(1)



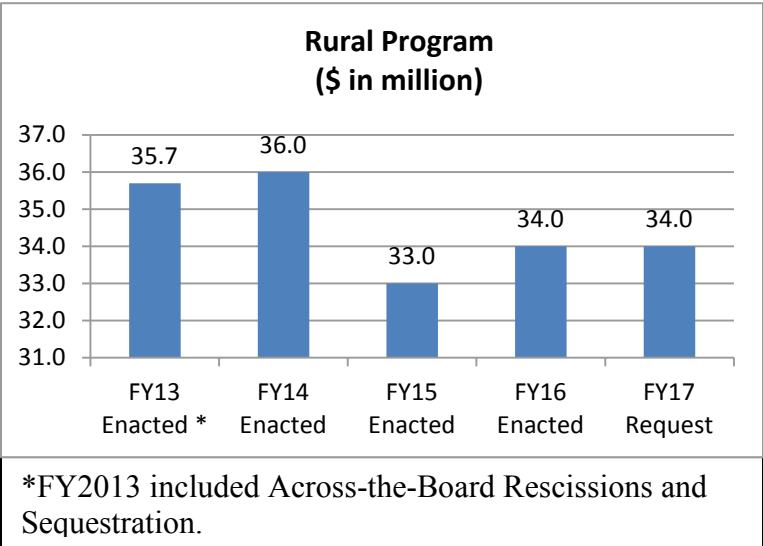
**Purpose:** The Rural Program was established by Congress in VAWA 1994 and reauthorized by VAWA 2000, VAWA 2005, and VAWA 2013. The primary purpose of the Rural Program is to enhance the safety of children, youth, and adults who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking by supporting projects uniquely designed to address and prevent these crimes in rural jurisdictions. The Rural Program encourages collaboration between victim advocates, law enforcement officers, pre-trial service personnel, prosecutors, judges and other court personnel, probation and parole officers, and faith- and/or community-based leaders to reduce violence and ensure that victim safety is paramount in providing services to victims and their children. The program supports services for victims, including legal assistance, as well as strategies to address sexual assault and special needs of victims in remote areas.

judges and other court personnel, probation and parole officers, and faith- and/or community-based leaders to reduce violence and ensure that victim safety is paramount in providing services to victims and their children. The program supports services for victims, including legal assistance, as well as strategies to address sexual assault and special needs of victims in remote areas.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants are limited to states, Indian tribes, territories, local governments and nonprofit, public or private entities, including Tribal nonprofit organizations.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program. The Rural Program is required to award no less than 75% of available funds to projects in rural states. The Rural Program is required to set aside no less than 25% to 40% of funds, depending on annual appropriations, for activities that meaningfully address sexual assault.



**Accomplishments:** Rural Program grantees reported serving an average of 15,031 victims during each six-month period in 2014. For each period, an average of 9,325 victims received advocacy, 8,751 were assisted with crisis intervention, 3,502 received legal advocacy, and 4,562 participated in counseling and/or support groups. Rural grantees answered 43,672 hotline calls, law enforcement responded to 1,421 calls for service, and prosecutors disposed of 987 cases during the year. Rural grantees convened 1,747 trainings in 2014, for which law enforcement officers and advocates were the majority of training participants.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** Not Applicable

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>



### **Grant Application and Award History**

<b>(\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2013 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2014 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2015 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2016 Estimated</b>	<b>FY 2017 Estimated</b>
Amount Available for Grants	\$23.2	\$29.3	\$22.2	\$22.8	\$22.8
Total Funding Awarded	\$23.2	\$29.3	\$22.2	\$22.8	\$22.8
Number of Applications	149	46	135	139	139
Number of Awards	33	41	37	38	38
Percentage of Applications Funded	22%	89%	27%	27%	27%

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(4) Program Name: The Education and Training to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women with Disabilities Grant Program

**FY 2017 Request**

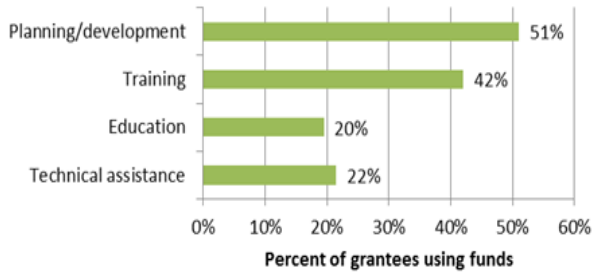
Total Funding: Approx \$6.0M  
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: Approx \$6.0M

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Disabilities Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 3796gg-7(e)

**Disabilities Program grantees' CY 2014 activities**



**Purpose:** The Disabilities Program was first authorized by Congress in VAWA 2000 and expanded to include victim services in VAWA 2005 and reauthorized by VAWA 2013. The goal of the Disabilities Program is to create sustainable, systemic change that will both hold offenders accountable and result in effective services for individuals with disabilities who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The Disabilities Program supports education, cross training, services, capacity building and the establishment of multidisciplinary teams at the local level.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes

against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

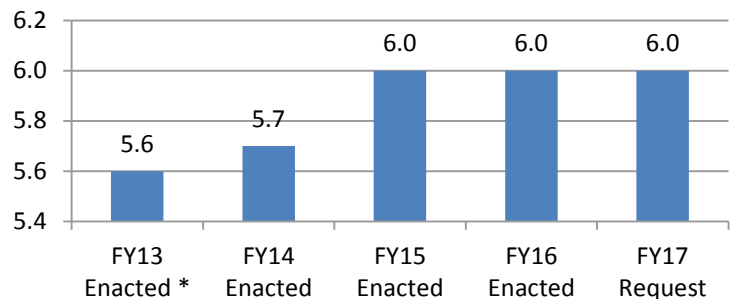
**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants are limited to states, units of local governments; Indian tribal governments or tribal organizations; and victim services providers, such as state or tribal domestic violence or sexual assault coalitions and nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations serving individuals with disabilities.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

**Accomplishments:** In 2014, Disabilities Program grantees held 142 training events, completed 701 technical assistance activities, and participated in 422 technical assistance consultations and other activities provided by the program’s technical assistance provider. The most frequent topics

grantees trained on were accessibility, guardianship issues, safety planning, and recognizing and responding to violence against people with disabilities

**Disabilities Program Victims (\$ in millions)**



\*FY2013 included Across-the-Board Rescissions and Sequestration.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** Not Applicable

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

### Grant Application and Award History

<b>(\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2013 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2014 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2015 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2016 Estimated</b>	<b>FY 2017 Estimated</b>
Amount Available for Grants	\$3.9	\$3.9	\$4.1	\$3.9	\$3.9
Total Funding Awarded	\$3.9	\$3.9	\$4.1	\$4.1	\$4.1
Number of Applications	47	43	34	34	34
Number of Awards	9	10	11	11	11
Percentage of Applications Funded	19%	23%	32%	32%	32%

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

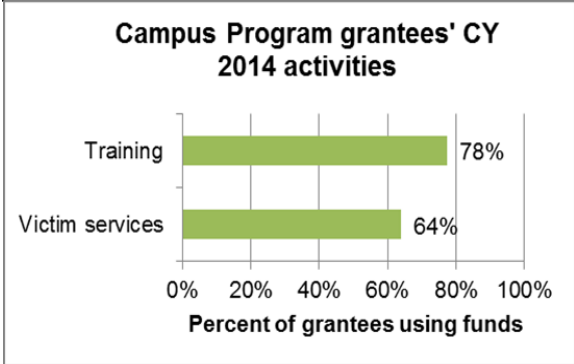
(5) Program Name: Grants to Reduce Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking On Campus Program

<b>FY 2017 Request</b>	
Total Funding:	\$20 M
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted:	\$26 M

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Campus Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 14045b(e)



**Purpose:** The Campus Program, first authorized in the Higher Education Amendments of 1998 and reauthorized by VAWA 2000, 2005 and 2013 is designed to encourage institutions of higher education to adopt comprehensive, coordinated responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The Campus Program strengthens on-campus victim services and advocacy, security, and investigative strategies to prevent and prosecute violent crimes against women on campuses. The recent reauthorization increased focus on underserved populations and mandated that all grantees comply with specified minimum requirements: institutions of higher education receiving Campus Program grants must provide prevention education on violence against women for all incoming students, train campus law enforcement or security staff on appropriate responses to violence against women, train members of campus judicial or disciplinary boards on the unique dynamics of violence against women, and create a coordinated community response to violence against women to enhance victim safety and assistance, and to hold offenders accountable.

train campus law enforcement or security staff on appropriate responses to violence against women, train members of campus judicial or disciplinary boards on the unique dynamics of violence against women, and create a coordinated community response to violence against women to enhance victim safety and assistance, and to hold offenders accountable.

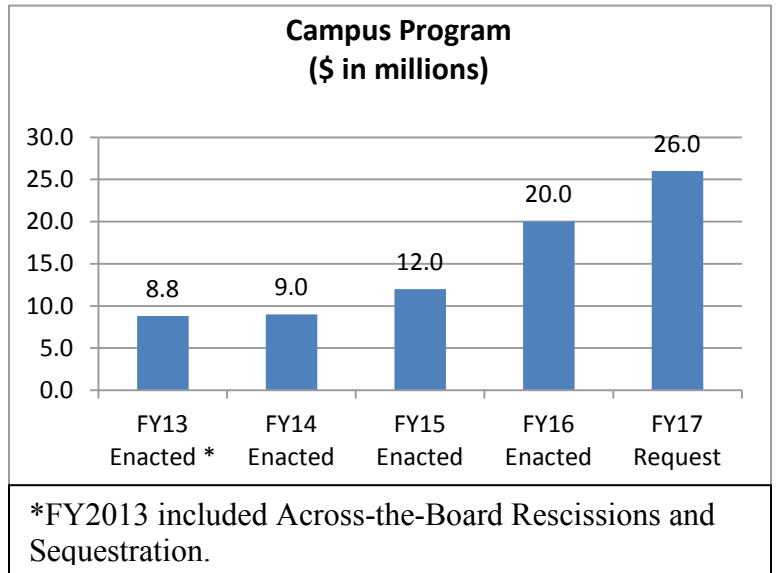
**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants are limited to institutions of higher education as defined under the Higher Education Amendments of 1998.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

**Accomplishments:** Campus Program grantee reported serving an average of 850 victims during each six-month period in 2014. The most frequently provided services were victim advocacy, crisis intervention, counseling and support groups, academic advocacy, and legal advocacy. Grantees reported providing 794 trainings during the year, mostly to student affairs staff, educators, and peer

educators. Additionally, grantees reported convening 1,538 events to educate incoming students about preventing sexual and domestic violence.



**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

OVW is requesting appropriation language changes to allow the Campus Program to initiative a demonstration project to improve campus responses to sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, by excluding designated amounts from the statutory spending cap.

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** OVW is requesting a program increase of \$6 million.

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

### Grant Application and Award History

<b>(\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2013 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2014 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2015 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2016 Estimated</b>	<b>FY 2017 Estimated</b>
Amount Available for Grants	\$7.4	\$6.9	\$8.6	\$14.2	\$18.5
Total Funding Awarded	\$7.3	\$6.2	\$8.6	\$14.2	\$18.5
Number of Applications	127	24	145	242	315
Number of Awards	28	18	27	45	59
Percentage of Applications Funded	22%	75%	19%	19%	19%

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**  
 (6) Program Name: Grants to Support Families in the Justice System

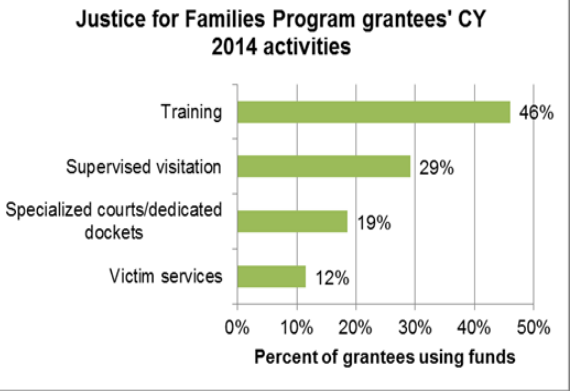
<b>FY 2017 Request</b>	
Total Funding:	\$16M
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted:	\$16M

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Justice for Families Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 10420(e)

**Purpose:** The Justice for Families Program, authorized by VAWA 2013, replaces the Supervised Visitation and Court Training and Improvements Programs with a new grant program to improve civil and criminal justice system responses to families with histories of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, and cases involving allegations of child sexual abuse. The program also provides an opportunity for communities to support supervised visitation and safe exchange of children in situations involving domestic violence, dating violence, child abuse, sexual assault, or stalking. The Justice for Families Program also supports the promotion of legislation and policies that improve court responses to these cases; training court personnel, child protective services workers and others; providing resources in juvenile court matters; providing civil legal assistance to victims and non-offending parents (where the other parent is represented); and collecting data and providing training and



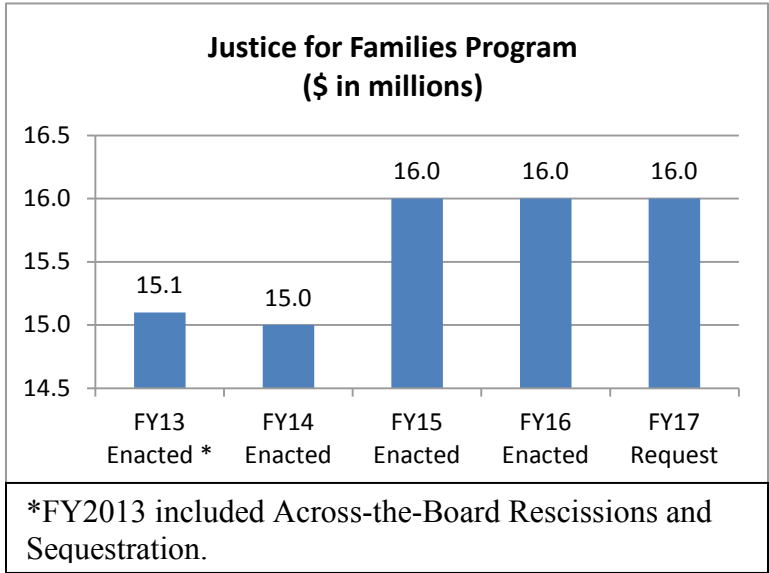
technical assistance to address civil justice needs of victims.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants are limited to states, units of local government, courts (including juvenile courts), Indian tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, legal services providers, and victim service providers.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program

**Accomplishments:** During each six-month period in 2014, Justice for Families grantees reported serving an average of 1,063 victims by providing advocacy, legal assistance, and court accompaniment. They provided supervised visitation and safe exchange services to an average of 816 families each six-month period. They helped victims obtain 952 temporary protection orders and 655 final protection orders during the year.



**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:** Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** Not Applicable

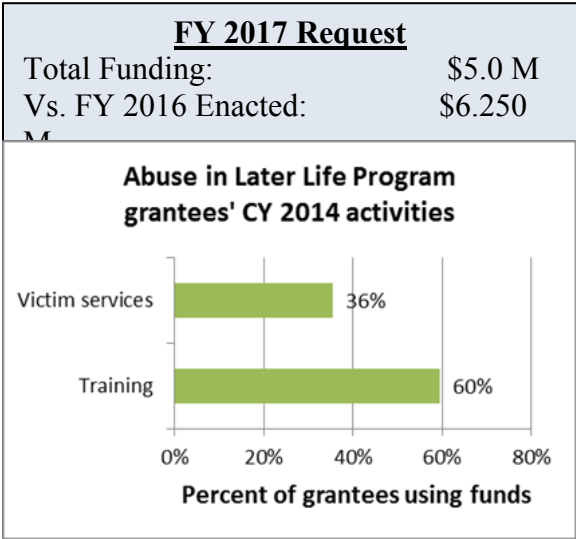
**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

### **Grant Application and Award History**

<b>(\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2013 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2014 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2015 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2016 Estimated</b>	<b>FY 2017 Estimated</b>
Amount Available for Grants	\$12.1	\$11.0	\$11.0	\$11.0	\$11.0
Total Funding Awarded	\$12.0	\$11.0	\$11.0	\$11.0	\$11.0
Number of Applications	76	43	170	170	170
Number of Awards	44	42	23	23	23
Percentage of Applications Funded	58%	98%	14%	14%	14%

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(7) Program Name: Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women in Later Life Program



**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Abuse In Later Life

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 14041(b)(5)

**Purpose:** The Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women in Later Life Program (Abuse in Later Life Program) was created by Congress in VAWA 2000 and expanded by VAWA 2005 and VAWA 2013. Under this grant program, OVW funds projects that create multidisciplinary partnerships with law enforcement agencies, prosecutors’ offices, victim services providers, and organizations that assist older individuals and that provide a comprehensive approach to addressing elder abuse. The recent reauthorization also included a requirement that all grantees provide multidisciplinary training programs, serve victims, establish community coordinated responses to elder abuse, and conduct cross training. Those

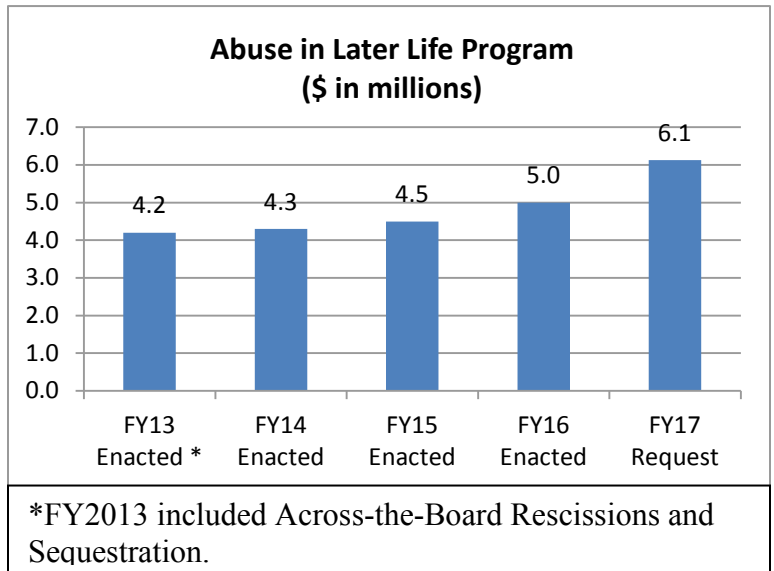
trained under the Abuse in Later Life Program are taught to look for signs of all types of abuse of older victims, including but not limited to physical abuse, neglect, financial exploitation, and sexual assault.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** 1. States; 2. Units of local government; 3. Tribal governments or tribal organizations; 4. Population specific organizations with demonstrated experience in assisting individuals over 50 years of age; 5. Victim service providers with demonstrated experience in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; and 6. State, tribal, territorial domestic violence or sexual assault coalitions.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

**Accomplishments:** In 2014, Abuse in Later Life grantees served an average of 580 victims during each six-month period. The most frequently provided services were advocacy, crisis intervention, counseling and/or support groups, legal advocacy, and financial counseling. Grantees answered 359 hotline calls in 2014 and provided 31 law enforcement trainings.



**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** OVW is requesting program increases of \$1.250 million.



**For additional information, please visit the OVW website: <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>**

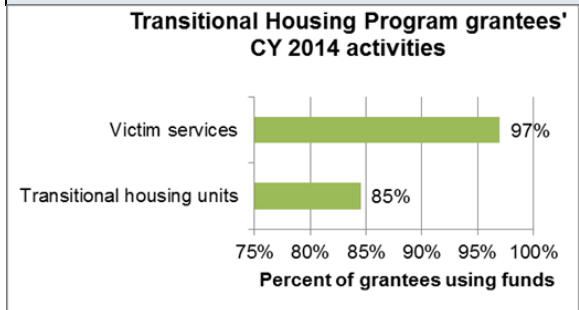
**Grant Application and Award History**

<b>(\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2013 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2014 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2015 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2016 Estimated</b>	<b>FY 2017 Estimated</b>
Amount Available for Grants	\$3.3	\$3.5	\$3.4	\$3.8	\$4.7
Total Funding Awarded	\$3.3	\$3.5	\$3.4	\$3.8	\$4.7
Number of Applications	23	33	15	17	21
Number of Awards	9	9	9	10	13
Percentage of Applications Funded	39%	27%	60%	59%	62%

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(8) Program Name: Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking, or Sexual Assault Program

<b>FY 2017 Request</b>	
Total Funding:	\$30.0M
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted:	\$30.0M



**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Transitional Housing Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 13975(g)(1)

**Purpose:** The Transitional Housing Program, first authorized by the PROTECT Act of 2003 and reauthorized by VAWA 2005 and VAWA 2013, focuses on a holistic, victim-centered approach to transitional housing services that move individuals into permanent housing. Grants support programs that provide assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking who are in need of transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and related support services including those designed to help victims secure employment. In addition to rental assistance or residence in a transitional housing facility, grantees may offer individualized services such as counseling, support groups, safety planning, advocacy, licensed child care, employment

services, transportation vouchers, and referrals to other agencies.

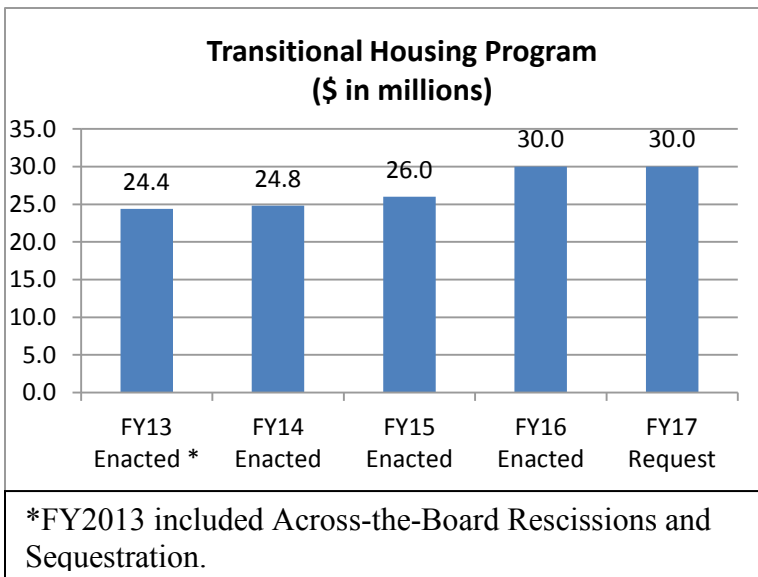
**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants are limited to states, units of local government, Indian tribes, and non-profit and non-governmental organizations, including community-based organizations, that have a documented history of effective work concerning sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

**Accomplishments:** Transitional Housing grantees reported served an average of 3,410 victims and 4,467 children every six months in 2014. In addition to housing, other services that victims received included crisis intervention, case management, housing advocacy, counseling and support groups, financial counseling, transportation, employment counseling, and material assistance. A total of 277,369 transitional housing bed nights were provided during the year,

and upon exiting the program, the vast majority of victims reported facing a lower risk of violence than when they entered the program.



**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** Not Applicable

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

### Grant Application and Award History

(\$ in millions)	FY 2013 Actuals	FY 2014 Actuals	FY 2015 Actuals	FY 2016 Estimated	FY 2017 Estimated
Amount Available for Grant	20.1	19.6	21.7	\$24.9	\$24.9
Total Funding Awarded	20.1	19.6	21.6	\$24.9	\$24.9
Number of Applications	203	60	239	276	276
Number of Awards	68	56	65	75	75
Percentage of Applications Funded	33%	93%	27%	27%	27%

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:  
(9) Program Name: Consolidated Youth Program**

**FY 2017 Request**

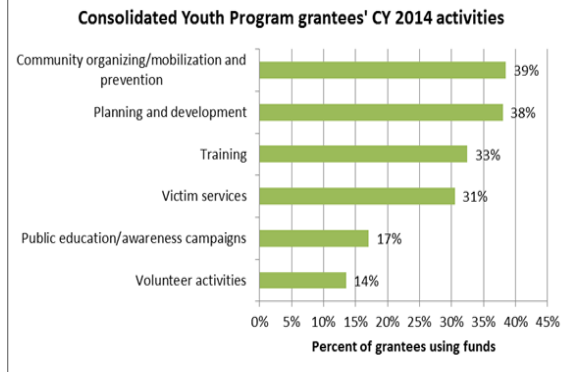
Total Funding: \$11 M  
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: \$11 M

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Consolidated Youth Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** P.L. 112-55; 113-6; 113-76; 113-235; and 114-113.

**Purpose:** The Consolidated Youth Program was enacted in the FY 2012, FY 2013 and FY 2014 Appropriation Acts, which consolidated the purpose areas of four previously funded programs under one comprehensive program. The four programs included in the FY 2012, FY 2013 and FY 2014 consolidations were: Services to Advocate for and Respond to Youth (Youth Services), Grants to Assist Children and Youth Exposed to Violence (CEV), Engaging Men and Youth in Preventing Domestic Violence (EMY), and Supporting Teens through Education and Prevention (STEP). This consolidation allowed OVW to leverage resources for maximum impact in communities by funding comprehensive projects that include both youth



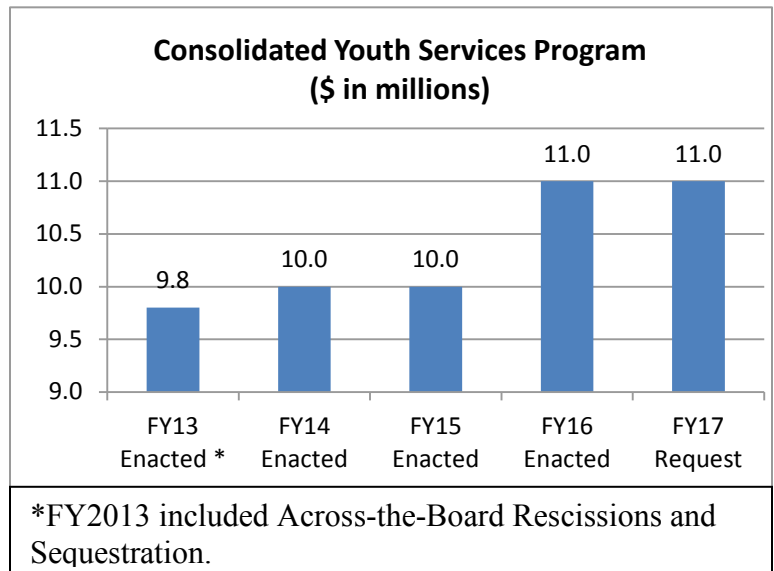
service and prevention components. It also permitted OVW to reduce the number of solicitations required for staff to develop and process, although staff do continue to oversee open grants awarded in previous years under the four consolidated programs.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** A nonprofit, non-governmental, an Indian tribe or tribal government entity with a demonstrated primary goal and/or history of providing services to children or youth, adult victims exposed to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

**Accomplishments:** During the last six months of 2014, Consolidated Youth grantees reported serving 2,492 child victims of violence and 298 children indirectly exposed to domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Advocacy, crisis intervention, and counseling were the most frequently-provided services. Grantees also provided services and support to non-offending parents and caregivers of children receiving services, and convened 107 trainings primarily targeting educators, social services organization staff, and mental health professionals. Grantees reported convening 155 community organizing events and launching 38 public awareness campaigns.



**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** Not Applicable

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

### **Grant Application and Award History**

<b>(\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2013 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2014 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2015 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2016 Estimated</b>	<b>FY 2017 Estimated</b>
Amount Available for Grants	\$14.6	\$7.9	\$7.8	\$8.5	\$8.5
Total Funding Awarded	\$14.5	\$7.9	\$7.8	\$8.5	\$8.5
Number of Applications	210	54	108	119	119
Number of Awards	24	10	14	15	15
Percentage of Applications Funded	11%	19%	13%	13%	13%

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(10) Program Name: Grants to Indian Tribal Governments Program - funded by set-asides

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding: Approx \$39 M\*  
 Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: Approx \$39 M\*  
 \*Funded by set-asides from larger programs

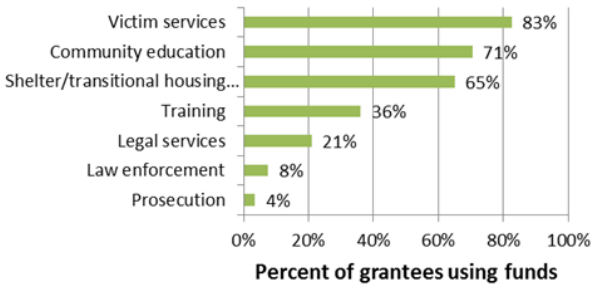
**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Tribal Governments Program

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 10% set aside from STOP, Arrest, Families in the Justice System, Rural, Transitional Housing, and CHOOSE Prevention Programs and 7% set aside from LAV Program

**Purpose:** The Tribal Governments Program is designed to enhance the ability of tribes to respond to violent crimes against American Indian women including domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sex trafficking; enhance victim safety, and develop education and prevention strategies. Congress authorized the program in Title IX of VAWA 2005 to replace OVW’s STOP Violence Against Indian Women Program. The Tribal Governments Program is funded by set-asides from six other OVW grant programs: STOP, Arrest, Rural, LAV, Justice for Families, and Transitional Housing.

**Tribal Governments Program grantees' CY 2014 activities**



The Tribal Government Program awards funds to tribal governments and their designees to develop a comprehensive, multi-faceted response to

violence against Indian women. Funds may be used for a broad spectrum of activities: developing and enhancing tribal governments’ response to violence against Indian women; strengthening tribal criminal justice systems; improving services for Indian women who are victims of violence; creating community education and prevention campaigns; addressing the needs of children who witness domestic violence; providing supervised visitation and safe exchange programs; providing transitional housing assistance; providing legal advice and representation to survivors of violence; developing and promoting legislation, policies and best practices; and addressing teen dating violence.

**DOJ Strategic Objective:**

**2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**3.8:** Strengthen the government-to-government relationship between tribes and the United States, improve public safety in Indian Country, and honor treaty and trust responsibilities through consistent, coordinated policies, activities, and litigation.

**Eligible Applicants:** Only federally recognized Indian Tribal Governments, as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, may apply. This includes Alaska Native villages and tribal consortia consisting of two or more federally recognized Indian tribes.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

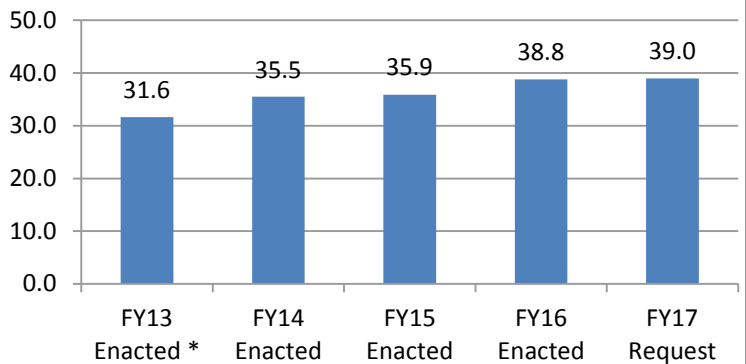
**Accomplishments:** Tribal Governments grantees reported serving an average of 7,151 victims during each six-month period in 2014. The services most often provided to victims were advocacy, crisis intervention, and counseling and support groups. Tribal Governments grantees answered 42,418 hotline calls, law enforcement responded to 1,078 calls for service, and prosecutors disposed of 259 cases during the year. Tribal Governments grantees convened 404 trainings in 2014, for which tribal government and education staff, victim advocates, and law enforcement officers were the majority of training participants.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** Not Applicable

**Tribal Governments Program (\$ in millions)**



\*FY2013 included Across-the-Board Rescissions and Sequestration.

### **Grant Application and Award History**

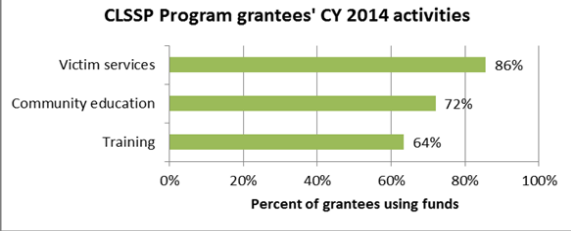
<b>(\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2013 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2014 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2015 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2016 Estimated</b>	<b>FY 2017 Estimated</b>
Amount Available for Grants	28.6	31.5	30.8	33.2	33.4
Total Funding Awarded	28.6	31.5	30.8	33.2	33.4
Number of Applications	93	83	84	91	91
Number of Awards	52	54	52	56	56
Percentage of Applications Funded	56%	65%	62%	62%	62%

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(11) Program Name: Grants to Enhance Culturally Specific Services for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Program

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding: \$8 M\*  
 Vs. FY 2016 Request: \$7 M\*  
 \*Funded by set-asides from larger



**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Culturally Specific Services Program or CSSP

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 14045a(a)

**Purpose:** The Culturally Specific Services Program authorized by VAWA 2005 and amended by VAWA 2013, funds projects that promote the maintenance and replication of existing successful domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking community-based programs providing culturally and linguistically specific services and other resources. The focus of the grant program is directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups including American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, Blacks and Hispanics. The program also supports the development of innovative culturally and linguistically

specific strategies and projects to enhance access to services and resources for victims of violence against women. The Culturally Specific Services Program is funded through statutory set-asides in five other OVW grant programs: the Legal Assistance to Victims, Rural, Abuse in Later Life, Disabilities, and Arrest Programs.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** Non-profit organizations for which the primary purpose of the organization as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, Blacks, or Hispanics.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program

**Accomplishments**

CSSP grantees reported serving an average of 3,185 victims during each six-month reporting period in 2014. Crisis intervention, advocacy, and counseling and support groups were the most frequently-provided services. Grantees answered 9,147 hotline calls in 2014 and reported providing language services to an average of 521 victims every six months.

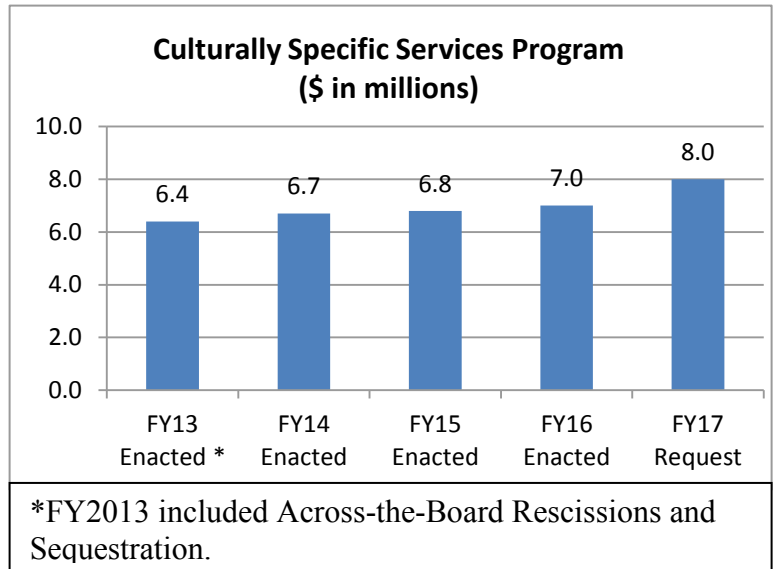
**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>



**Grant Application and Award History**

(\$ in millions)	FY 2013 Actuals	FY 2014 Actuals	FY 2015 Actuals	FY 2016 Estimated	FY 2017 Estimated
Amount Appropriated	\$6.1	\$5.8	\$5.7	\$5.9	\$6.8
Total Funding Awarded	\$6.1	\$5.8	\$5.7	\$5.9	\$6.8
Number of Applications	147	136	127	132	151
Number of Awards	24	19	20	21	24
Percentage of Applications Funded	16%	14%	16%	16%	16%



**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(12) Program Name: Sexual Assault Services Program–funded by set aside Grants to Culturally Specific Programs

<b>FY 2017 Request</b>	
Total Funding:	Approx \$3.5M*
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted:	Approx \$3.5 M*
*Funded by set-asides from larger programs	

Service Category	Number of Victims
Victim/survivor advocacy	1,181
Counseling/support groups	1,009
Crisis intervention	506

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** SASP CSSP

**Authorizing Legislation:** 42 U.S.C. § 14043g(f)(2)

**Purpose:** The SASP Grants to Culturally Specific Program addresses the unique challenges that survivors from culturally specific communities face when seeking assistance, such as linguistic and cultural barriers. The focus of the grant program is directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups including American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, Blacks and Hispanics. Many advocates report that survivors are more inclined to seek services from organizations that are familiar with their culture, language, and background. Culturally specific community-based organizations are more likely to understand the complex obstacles to accessing services for these individuals.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts); Asian Americans; Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders; Blacks; and Hispanics.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

**Accomplishments:**

In 2014, SASP-CS grantees served an average of 947 victims of sexual assault during each six-month reporting period. The most frequently-provided services were advocacy, counseling and support groups, and crisis intervention. SASP-CS grantees answered 1,031 hotline calls during the year.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program: Not Applicable**

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

**Grant Application and Award History**

<b>(\$ in millions)</b>	<b>FY 2013 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2014 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2015 Actuals</b>	<b>FY 2016 Estimated</b>	<b>FY 2017 Estimated</b>
Amount Available for Grants	\$2.3	\$2.7	\$3.0	\$3.5	\$3.5
Total Funding Awarded	\$2.3	\$2.7	\$3.0	\$3.5	\$3.5
Number of Applications	41	26	25	29	29
Number of Awards	8	9	10	12	12
Percentage of Applications Funded	20%	35%	40%	41%	41%

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(13) Program Name: Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP Program) – Tribal Governments Grants Program – funded by set-aside

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding: Approx \$3.5 M\*  
 Vs. FY 2016 Request: Approx \$3.5 M\*  
 \*Funded by set-asides from larger programs

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** SASP Tribal Governments Program

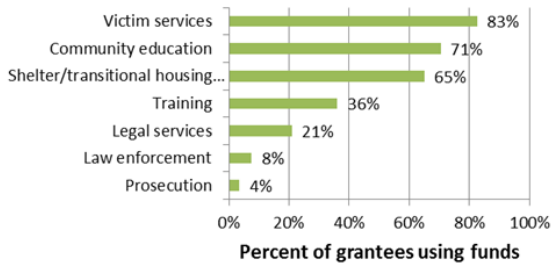
**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 14043g(f)(2)

**Purpose:** The SASP Tribal Governments Program provides funding for the operation of sexual assault programs or projects in Indian country and Alaska Native villages to support the establishment, maintenance, and expansion of programs and projects to assist those victimized by sexual assault.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants are limited to federally recognized tribes, tribal organization, and nonprofit tribal organizations.

**Tribal Governments Program grantees' CY 2014 activities**



**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

**Accomplishments:** In 2014, Tribal SASP grantees served an average of 432 victims each six months. The most frequently provided services were transportation, counseling and support groups, crisis intervention, advocacy, and material assistance.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** TBD

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

**Grant Application and Award History**

(\$ in millions)	FY 2013 Actuals	FY 2014 Actuals	FY 2015 Actuals	FY 2016 Estimated	FY 2017 Estimated
Amount Available for Grants	\$2.3	\$2.4	\$3.0	\$3.5	\$3.5
Total Funding Awarded	\$1.8	\$2.4	\$2.8	\$3.5	\$3.5
Number of Applications	6	11	11	13	13
Number of Awards	6	8	9	11	11
Percentage of Applications Funded	100%	73%	82%	85%	85%

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(14) Program Name: Grants for Outreach and Services to Underserved Populations

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding: Approx \$5.2M\*  
 Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: Approx \$5.3M\*  
 \*Funded by set-asides from larger programs

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Outreach and Services to Underserved Populations

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 U.S.C. § 14045(g) and 42 U.S.C. § 14045(a)(1) and (2)

**Purpose:** Section 108 of VAWA 2013 directed that the Attorney General set aside funding from the Arrest Program and the STOP Program to develop and implement outreach strategies targeted at adult and youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in underserved populations and to provide victim services for these populations.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** Deaf programs; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender organizations; religious minority organizations; nonprofit organizations that received an award under the Abuse Later in Life grant program in FY 2009 - FY 2012; nonprofit organizations that have received two continuation awards under the Training and Services to End Violence Against Women with Disabilities Grant Program; or culturally specific organizations for which the primary purpose of the organization as a whole is to provide culturally specific services to American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts), Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, Blacks, or Hispanics that propose projects focusing solely on sexual assault.

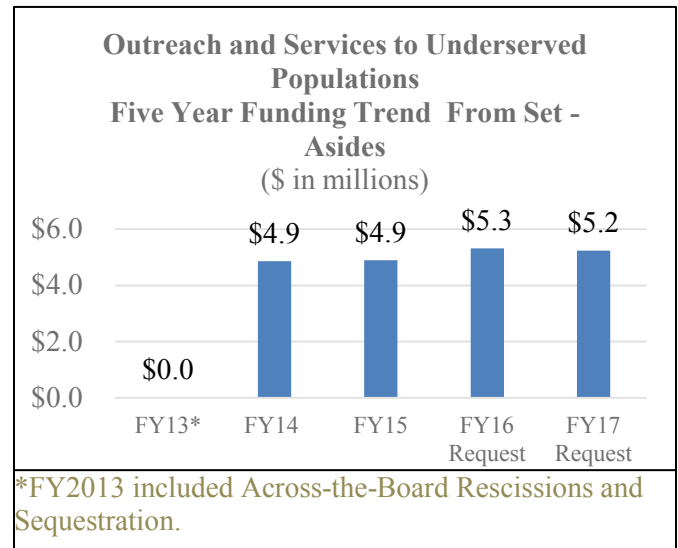
**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

**Accomplishments:** Data on Underserved Program grantees’ accomplishments is forthcoming this year. OVW first administered this program in FY 2014, with projects starting that October. Therefore, grantees did not report on activities until 2015.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:**



**Grant Application and Award History**

(\$ in millions)	FY 2013 Actuals	FY 2014 Actuals	FY 2015 Actuals	FY 2016 Estimated	FY 2017 Estimated
Amount Available for Grants	-	\$4.4	\$3.5	\$3.4	\$3.4
Total Funding Awarded	-	\$3.7	\$3.2	\$3.4	\$3.4
Number of Applications	-	11	9	10	10
Number of Awards	-	9	9	10	10
Percentage of Applications Funded	-	82%	100%	100%	100%

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

### c. Other Funding

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**  
(1) Program Name: Indian Women Research

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding:           Approx \$1.0 M\*  
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted:    Approx \$1.0 M\*  
\*Funded by set-asides from larger programs

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Indian Women Research

**Authorizing Legislation:** Section 108 of VAWA 2013 directed that the Attorney General set aside funding from the Arrest Program and the STOP Program.

**Purpose:** Title IX, Section 904(a) of the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 (VAWA 2005), Pub. Law No. 109-162 (codified at 42 U.S.C. § 3796gg-10 note), as amended by Section 907 of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, Pub. L. No. 113-4, calls for the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to conduct analyses and research on violence against Indian women living in Indian country and in Alaska Native villages. In conducting its analyses and research, NIJ is asked to focus on dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, stalking, and murder, and to evaluate the effectiveness of responses to those violations.

NIJ's program of research on violence against Native women consists of multiple projects that address all of the elements outlined in the mandate. In FY 2014 and FY 2015, NIJ launched the National Baseline Study (NBS)—the first national study conducted in Indian country and Alaska Native villages. The NBS is being conducted in geographically dispersed tribal communities across the U.S. for which the primary aim is to provide an accurate national victimization rate of violence committed against American Indian and Alaska Native women. The NBS is the capstone of NIJ's violence against Indian women program and it is critical to quantifying the magnitude of violence and victimization in tribal communities and understanding service needs. NBS data collection is expected to begin in 2015 and continue into early 2017, with study findings released in the fall of 2017. FY 2016 funds will support this 42-month study. Additionally, FY 2016 funds will support other research and evaluation studies that will examine violence and victimization experienced by Native women and expand the body of criminal justice policy-relevant research. Results from all of these studies are expected to help establish and enhance justice systems that successfully restore victim safety and promote healing.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** Not Applicable

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**  
 (2) Program Name: NIJ Research On Violence Against Women

<b>FY 2017 Request</b>	
Total Funding:	Approx \$3.0M
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted:	Approx \$5.0M

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** NIJ Research On Violence Against Women

**Authorizing Legislation:** Congress authorized the program in Title IX of VAWA 2005 to replace OVW's STOP Violence Against Indian Women Program.

**Purpose:** The NIJ Violence Against Women Research and Evaluation Program promotes the safety of women and their family members, and strives to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. NIJ provides grants to researchers to study the causes and correlations of violence against women. In addition, it creates partnerships with federal agencies to promote collaborative research, conducts field tests to examine new approaches to combating violence against women, and evaluates the effectiveness of those initiatives.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 3.8:** Strengthen the government-to-government relationship between tribes and the United States, improve public safety in Indian Country, and honor treaty and trust responsibilities through consistent, coordinated policies, activities, and litigation.

**Accomplishments:**

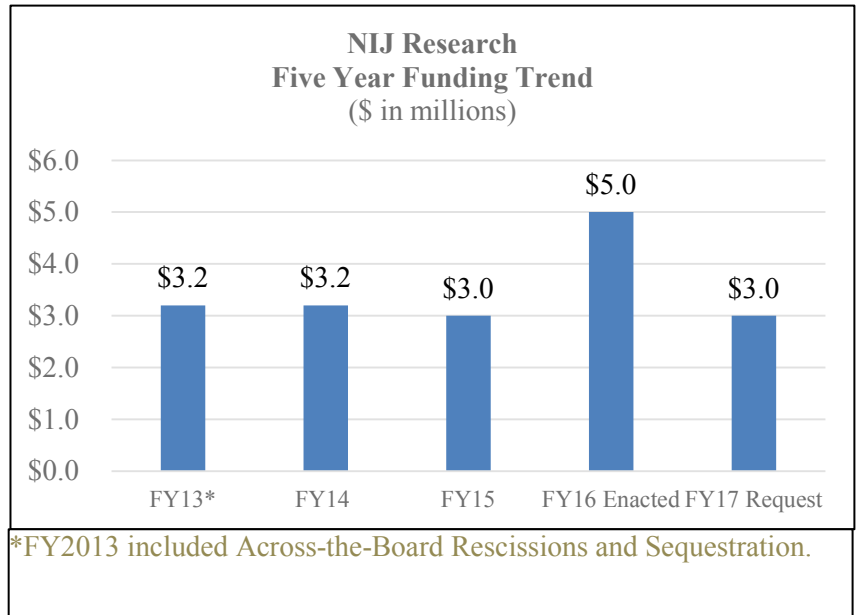
[National Institute of Justice's Crime, Violence and Victimization Research Division's Compendium of Research on Violence Against Women: 1993-2014](#)

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:**

An offset of \$2 million dollars is requested. Additional resources for research are available through existing authorities and the proposed 3% set-aside for research, evaluation, and statistics.



**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(3) Program Name: Homicide Reduction Initiative — funded by set-aside from Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking Program

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding: Approx \$4.0M  
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: Approx \$4.0M  
\*Funded by set-asides from program formerly known as the Arrest Program

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Homicide Reduction Initiative

**Authorization of Appropriation:** P.L. 112-55; 113-6; 113-76; 113-235; and 114-113

**Purpose:** The purpose of the Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Demonstration Initiative (DVHP) is to identify effective replicable programs to prevent and reduce domestic violence homicides in communities. Through this initiative, OVW, in partnership with the National Institute of Justice, supports demonstration sites, provides intense technical assistance to those sites, and conducts a rigorous evaluation to determine the efficacy of these models in different communities and the key components of successful adaptations of the models, including a focus on culturally specific communities and underserved populations.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:**

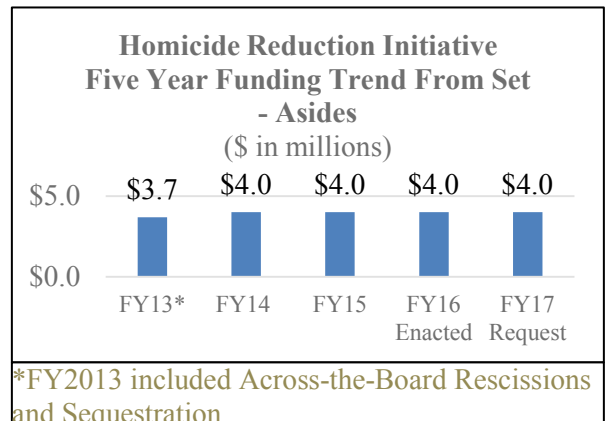
**Not Applicable**

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:**

<http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

In FY2012, OVW determined that the special initiative funds be used to undertake a demonstration initiative evaluating the efficacy of two lethality assessment models that were in use and seemed to be showing promising results: the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) developed by the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) and the Greater Newburyport Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT) model developed by the Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center (JGCC) in Newburyport, Massachusetts. In FY2015, OVW entered into a cooperative agreement with John Jay College to develop a special initiative to formalize and replicate a third model, High Point, from High Point, North Carolina.

A total of twelve sites that were not currently implementing any type of lethality assessment were chosen for training on the models and assessment for evaluability. All twelve sites continue to be provided training and technical assistance on implementation of the models; four of those sites are participating in a more rigorous evaluation of the models.



**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

(5) National Tribal Sex Offender and Protection Order Registry – No New Funding Requested

<b><u>FY 2017 Request</u></b>	
Total Funding:	\$0.0 M
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted:	\$0.0 M

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** National Tribal Sex Offender and Protection Order Registry

**Authorizing Legislation:** Section 108 of VAWA 2013 directed that the Attorney General set aside funding from the Arrest Program and the STOP Program.

**Purpose:** The Violence Against Women Act of 2005 (VAWA 2005, Public Law 109-162), section 905(b), provided for the creation of a tribal-specific registry or registries: a national tribal sex offender registry, and a tribal protection order registry containing civil and criminal orders of protection issued by Indian tribes and participating jurisdictions. In FYs 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011, OVW received appropriations totaling \$3.9 million to fund these registries.

Since the enactment of VAWA 2005, significant legislative changes impacting tribes have altered the importance of developing tribal-specific registries, as authorized by VAWA 2005. Many of these changes, including the VAWA 2013 provision that recognizes the authority of “participating tribes” to exercise “special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction” over non-Indians, have significantly increased the importance of including tribal records in federal records databases like NCIC and permitting tribes greater access to federal criminal databases. Given the difficulty in funding a successful tribal registry project and the tribes’ increased need to access federal databases, the Department supports finding alternative ways to support the tribes. Moreover, the Department has concluded that, rather than investing funds in developing new and incomplete tribal-specific registries, the purpose of section 905(b) of VAWA 2005, which is to protect Native American communities from perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence, would be better served by facilitating tribes’ ability to enter and obtain information from existing Federal databases. To this end OVW is requesting that the Attorney General be given the authority to use funding appropriated for the section 905(b) registries to enhance tribal access to existing federal databases that contain protection order and sex offender information through the expansion of the Tribal Access Program for National Crime Information (TAP), which the Department launched in August, 2015 to provide tribes access to national crime information databases. TAP is an extension of a pilot program originally funded by the Department’s COPS Office, which provides access to approximately 20 tribes through the Department’s Justice Telecommunications System (JUST). With this transfer authority, the Department plans to expand TAP, which is now in a preliminary feedback phase involving ten tribes.. OVW staff consulted with tribes about this proposal at the annual Government-to-Government Violence Against Women Consultation in October 2014.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

The FY 2017 request includes language that would authorize the Attorney General to transfer prior year balances available to develop and maintain tribal protection order and sex offender registries, as authorized by 28 U.S.C. 534 note, to be used to enhance the ability of tribes to access federal criminal information databases.

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** Not Applicable

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>

**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:  
(6) National Resource Center on Workplace Violence**

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding:            Approx \$500K\*  
Vs. FY 2016 Request:    Approx \$500K\*

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** National Resource Center

**Authorization of Appropriation:** 42 USC §14043f(e)

**Purpose:** VAWA 2005 and VAWA 2013 provide for an award to

establish and operate a National Resource Center on Workplace Responses to assist victims of domestic, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. OVW entered into a cooperative agreement with Futures Without Violence, Legal Momentum, and six other partners to develop this Center, which provides information, resources, tools, and technical assistance to employers and labor organizations to better equip them to respond to victims. These efforts address the needs of employees in cases of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking impacting the workplace. The Center includes a website, [www.workplacesrespond.org](http://www.workplacesrespond.org), featuring model policies, training curricula, and information on relevant state and federal laws.

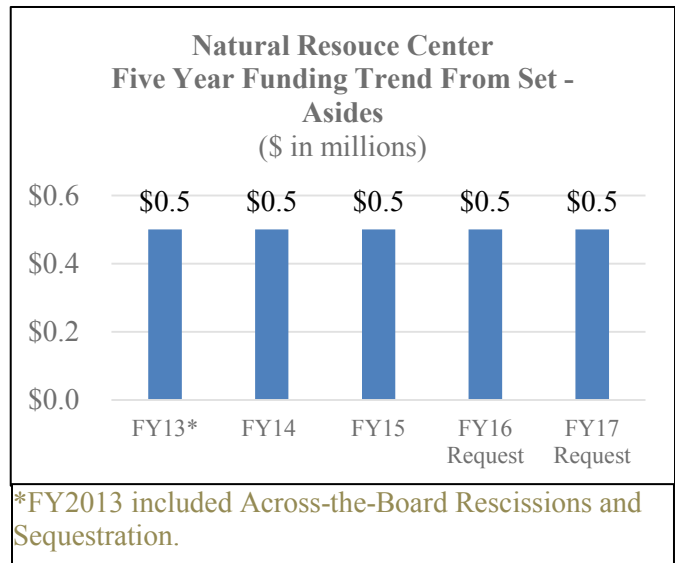
**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** Applicants are limited to nonprofit national, tribal, or statewide organizations and institutions of higher education invited to apply to address a specific issue of limited non-competitive duration. In rare circumstances, OVW will support projects from state, local or tribal governments or government agencies (e.g., police departments, prosecutor’s offices, or probation departments), or local nonprofit organizations.

**Accomplishments:** In FY2015, the National Resource Center trained a total of 190 people, including employers; agricultural workers and unions and spent a total number of 54 training hours. The following training events were held: 1 conference, two workshops/seminars, 1 webcast, one film panel and one pilot site initiation meeting, and one pilot site training of trainers and supervisor trainings.

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**  
Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:** TBD



**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>



**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

**(7) Rape Survivor Child Custody Act –**

**FY 2017 Request**

Total Funding: \$0.0 M  
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted: \$2.5M

**Program Description**

Directs the Attorney General to make grants to states that have in place a law that allows the mother of any child that was conceived through rape to seek court-ordered termination of the parental rights of her rapist with regard to that child, which the court shall grant upon clear and convincing evidence of rape.

**Authorizing Legislation:** Public Law No: 114-74

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

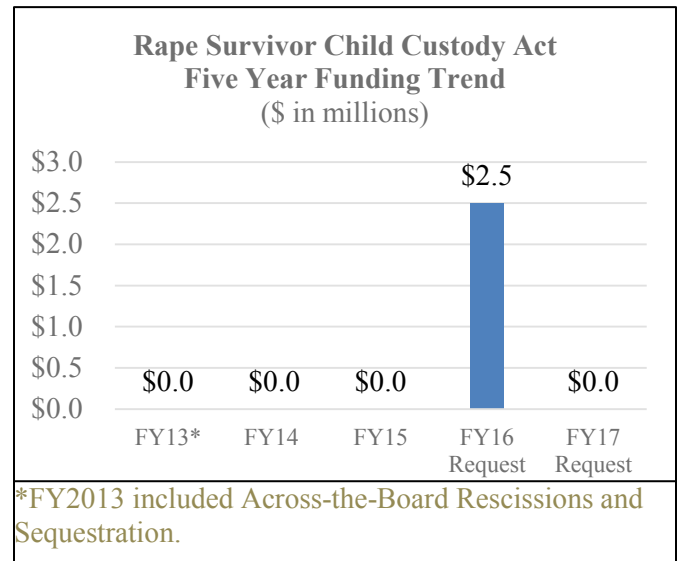
**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:**

an offset of \$2.5 million is being requested for FY 2017. The Sexual Assault Services Program can fund program areas covered by the Rape Survivor Child Custody Act Program.

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:** <http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>



**OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:**

**(8) Tribal Jurisdiction Over Crimes of Domestic Violence – First Enacted in FY 2016**

<b><u>FY 2017 Request</u></b>	
Total Funding:	\$5.0 M
Vs. FY 2016 Enacted:	\$2.5M

**Program Description**

**Short Name:** Tribal Special Domestic Violence Jurisdiction Program.

**Authorization of Appropriation:** P.L. 113-4, Title IX Sec. 904

**Purpose:** Tribes are able to exercise their sovereign power to investigate, prosecute, convict, and sentence both Indians and non-Indians who assault Indian spouses or dating partners or violate a protection order in Indian country. VAWA 2013 also clarifies tribes' sovereign power to issue and enforce civil protection orders against Indians and non-Indians.

These funds may be used to strengthen tribal criminal justice systems to assist Indian tribes in exercising special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction, including; (A) law enforcement (including the capacity of law enforcement or court personnel to enter information into and obtain information from national crime information databases); (B) prosecution; (C) trial and appellate courts; (D) probation systems; (E) detention and correctional facilities; (F) alternative rehabilitation centers; (G) culturally appropriate services and assistance for victims and their families; and (H) criminal codes and rules of criminal procedure, appellate procedure, and evidence. Additionally, funds may be used to provide indigent criminal defendants with the effective assistance of licensed defense counsel, at no cost to the defendant, in criminal proceedings in which a participating tribe prosecutes a crime of domestic violence or dating violence or a criminal violation of a protection order; to ensure that, in criminal proceedings in which a participating tribe exercises special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction, jurors are summoned, selected, and instructed in a manner consistent with all applicable requirements; and to accord victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and violations of protection orders rights that are similar to the rights of a crime victim described in section 3771(a) of title 18, United States Code, consistent with tribal law and custom.

**DOJ Strategic Objective 2.2:** Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims.

**Eligible Applicants:** Governments of Indian tribes (or to authorized designees of those governments)

**Allocation Method:** Discretionary Program.

**Accomplishments:**

**FY 2017 Proposed Policy Changes to the Program:**

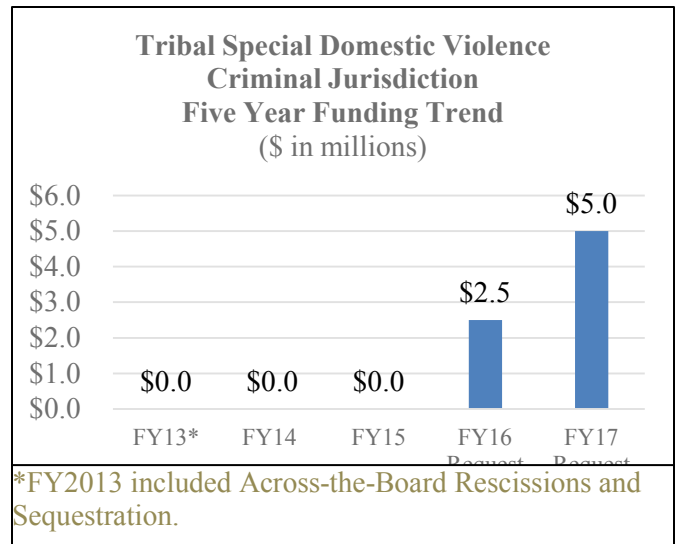
Not Applicable

**FY 2017 Proposed Funding Changes to the Program:**

An increase of \$2.5 million dollars is being requested.

**For additional information, please visit the OVW website:**

<http://www.justice.gov/ovw/grant-programs>



#### **d. Management and Administration Expenses – funded by set-aside [\$23,586,000]**

Since FY 2012, OVW's Management and Administration (M&A) expenses have not been expressly provided for in the Appropriations Act; the joint explanatory statement noted that M&A should be supported with program funding. The FY 2017 request seeks this same structure, which excludes peer review costs and certain program contract costs.

M&A expenses include staff salaries and benefits, travel for site visits, training expenses, space, telecommunications, and other necessary expenses to support the mission of OVW. Reimbursable services provided by OJP for certain grants financial services are also included in these costs.

The Office of the Director comprises the Director (vacant), Chief of Staff (career), Deputy Director for Tribal Affairs (career), and four Schedule C appointments: Principal Deputy Director; Deputy Director for Policy; Confidential Assistant to the Director; and Special Assistant. This team is responsible for Office oversight and coordination of policy development, program development, and the management and administration of OVW.

OVW staff is divided into five divisions: Grant Development and Management; Administration; Budget and Financial Management; Legal Counsel; and Policy, Communication and Evaluation.

**The Grant Development & Management Division** has primary responsibility for the development, oversight, and day-to-day management of all grant programs and approximately 2,300 grant awards administered by OVW. Functions include, but are not limited to: researching and developing newly authorized grant programs; drafting solicitations (requests for proposals); responding to programmatic inquiries; overseeing and conducting peer review and programmatic review, including a past performance assessment, of all applications; analyzing final application scores and recommending a diverse pool of projects for support; drafting and processing all necessary award documents; developing and conducting annual "new grantee" orientation programs; assisting grantees with implementing their projects; ensuring compliance with federal regulations; identifying appropriate technical assistance; monitoring grantee progress in meeting their goals and objectives; developing, implementing, and managing substantive technical assistance for grant recipients; and developing and overseeing national demonstration initiatives to test promising practices.

Incorporated within the Grant Development & Management Division is the Grants Financial Management Unit, established in 2010. This Unit provides a complete array of grants financial management services, including reviewing all program solicitations for financial and administrative completeness and accuracy; negotiating proposed grantee indirect cost rate agreements, reviewing and approving all application budgets; processing grant awards and grant adjustments; reviewing pre-agreement cost requests; providing technical assistance to OVW staff, applicants and recipients on financial matters; providing financial management training; providing assistance with grant award close-outs, and providing liaison services for grantee audit findings.

**The Administration Division** is responsible for providing administrative service and guidance to OVW's executives, managers, and staff in the areas of acquisition services, records management, human resources, voice and data communications, information technology, and facilities coordination.

**The Budget and Financial Management Division** manages OVW's budget and finance functions related to the office and provides audit liaison services for Government Accountability Office reviews, DOJ's internal control reviews, and financial statement audits. The Division is responsible for formulating and executing OVW's budget, establishing performance measures and setting performance targets, providing guidance and advice on policies related to budget and financial management, performing accounting, financial management and fiscal

operations, providing liaison services for organizational and financial audits, and establishing, monitoring and assessing OVW internal controls.

**The Legal Counsel Division** provides legal and policy support for the administration of OVW and its grant programs. Legal Counsel Division responsibilities include providing legal advice and guidance to OVW's management, staff, and award recipients to ensure compliance with applicable laws and regulations; reviewing and developing legislation, regulations, and policies regarding violence against women; reviewing and preparing reports for Congress; drafting speeches and testimony; and administering the Office's ethics and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) programs.

**The Policy, Communication, and Evaluation Division** advances policy priorities established by the Director; coordinates all press and media events for the Office; develops and disseminates resource materials; updates the website; writes speeches and talking points for senior staff; facilitates outreach to leaders in the field to identify and address emerging issues; and manages OVW's evaluation initiatives.

2. Performance and Resources Tables

PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE											
Strategic Goal/Objective: OVW aligns with the Department's Strategic Plan (FY 2015 - FY 2018) Strategic Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and Enforce Federal Law. Objective 2.2: Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims; and Goal 3: Ensure and Support the Fair, Impartial, Efficient, and Transparent Administration of Justice at the Federal, State, Local, Tribal and International Levels. Objectives 3.1: Promote and Strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with law enforcement agencies, organizations, prosecutors, and defenders through innovative leadership and program; and 3.8 Strengthen the government-to-government relationship between tribes and the United States, improve public safety in Indian Country, and honor treaty and trust responsibilities through consistent, coordinated policies, activities, and litigation.											
Decision Unit: Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program											
RESOURCES		Target		Actual		Projected		Changes		Requested (Total)	
		FY 2015		4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter FY 2015		FY 2016 President's Budget		Current Services Adjustments and FY 2017 Program Changes		FY 2017 Request	
Total Costs and FTE (reimbursable FTE are included, but reimbursable costs are bracketed and not included in the total)		FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
		63	430,000	63	430,000	76	480,000	13	9,000	89	489,000
Performance Measure: Workload	Applications received *		1,915		1,809*						
Performance Measure: Workload	Application processing time (days)**		120		80		120				
Performance Measure: Efficiency	Grant adjustment notification (GANS) in GMS- time of submission to time of action (days)		2		5.3		2				
Performance Measure: Efficiency	Percent of conditional budget clearances issued by OVW**		15		99.7		15				
Performance Measure : Workload	No. of grants and cooperative agreements managed by OVW *		2,000		2,496						
Performance Measure: Workload	No. of grants and cooperative agreements managed per OVW grants program specialist.		45		90.5		45				
Performance Measure: Output	Number of people trained		325,000		587,325		500,000				

\* This is the last year for reporting this measure. This is actuals through 30 September 2015

\*\*This is an annual measure, reported in Quarter 4; there are no actuals available for OMB Submission.

iv This measure is reported semi-annually, this is as of 30 September 2015..

2. Performance and Resource Tables – cont.

PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES TABLE											
Strategic Goal/Objective: OVW aligns with the Department's Strategic Plan (FY 2015 - FY 2018) Strategic Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and Enforce Federal Law. Objective 2.2: Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims; and Goal 3: Ensure and Support the Fair, Impartial, Efficient, and Transparent Administration of Justice at the Federal, State, Local, Tribal and International Levels. Objectives 3.1: Promote and Strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with law enforcement agencies, organizations, prosecutors, and defenders through innovative leadership and program; and 3.8 Strengthen the government-to-government relationship between tribes and the United States, improve public safety in Indian Country, and honor treaty and trust responsibilities through consistent, coordinated policies, activities, and litigation.											
Decision Unit: Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program											
RESOURCES		Final Target		Actual		Projected		Changes		Requested (Total)	
		FY 2015		4th Quarter FY 2015		FY 2016 President's Budget		Current Services Adjustments and FY 2017 Program Changes		FY 2017 Request	
Total Costs and FTE (reimbursable FTE are included, but reimbursable costs are bracketed and not included in the total)		FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000	FTE	\$000
		63	430,000	63	430,000	76	480,000	13	9,000	89	489,000
Performance Measure: Output	No. of communities with improved capacity for a coordinated community response (CCR) to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking***		4,275		5,176iv		5,158				
Performance Measure: Output	Number of grant funded training events that have occurred *		13,000		24,809iv						
Performance Measure: Output	Percent of victims requesting services who received them		93		98.4iv		93				
Performance Measure: Output	Number of temporary and final protection orders granted		630,000		762,399iv		700,000				
Performance Measure: Output	Percentage of domestic violence and sexual assault felony convictions out of cases disposed of		75		62iv		75				
Performance Measure: Output	Number of Victims served@ **		500,000		575,658		500,000				

@This is the first year for this measure.

\*This is the last year for reporting this measure.

\*\*This is an annual measure, reported in Quarter 4; there are no actuals available for OMB Submission.

\*\*\*Denotes inclusion in the DOJ Annual Performance Plan.

iv This measure is reported semi-annually, this is as of 30 September..

2. Performance and Resource Table -- cont.

PERFORMANCE MEASURE TABLE									
<b>Strategic Goal/Objective: OVW aligns with the Department's Strategic Plan (FY 2015 - FY 2018) Strategic Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and Enforce Federal Law. Objective 2.2: Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims; and Goal 3: Ensure and Support the Fair, Impartial, Efficient, and Transparent Administration of Justice at the Federal, State, Local, Tribal and International Levels. Objectives 3.1: Promote and Strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with law enforcement agencies, organizations, prosecutors, and defenders through innovative leadership and program; and 3.8 Strengthen the government-to-government relationship between tribes and the United States, improve public safety in Indian Country, and honor treaty and trust responsibilities through consistent, coordinated policies, activities, and litigation.</b>									
<b>Decision Unit: Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program</b>									
Performance Report and Performance Plan Targets		FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015		FY 2016	FY 2017
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actuals as of 4 <sup>th</sup> qtr unless otherwise noted	Target	Target
<b>Workload Measure</b>	Applications received*	1,903	2,649	1,798	1,877	1,915	1,809*	N/A	N/A
<b>Workload Measure</b>	Applications processing time (days)**	117	132	114	127	120	80**	120	
<b>Efficiency Measure</b>	Grant adjustment notification (GANS) in GMS- time of submission to time of action (days)				7.5	2	5.3	2	
<b>Efficiency Measure</b>	Percent of conditional budget clearances issued by OVW**				75	15	99.7	15	
<b>Workload Measure</b>	No. of grants and cooperative agreements managed by OVW*	2,008	2,214	2,324	2,395	2,000	2,496	N/A	N/A
<b>Performance Measure: Workload</b>	No. of grants and cooperative agreements managed per OVW grants program specialist.				71	45	90.5	45	

\*This is the last year for reporting this measure. Actuals through 30 September

\*\*This is an annual measure, reported in Quarter 4; t.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURE TABLE**

**Strategic Goal/Objective: OVW aligns with the Department's Strategic Plan (FY 2015 - FY 2018) Strategic Goal 2: Prevent Crime, Protect the Rights of the American People, and Enforce Federal Law. Objective 2.2: Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations and uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims; and Goal 3: Ensure and Support the Fair, Impartial, Efficient, and Transparent Administration of Justice at the Federal, State, Local, Tribal and International Levels. Objectives 3.1: Promote and Strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with law enforcement agencies, organizations, prosecutors, and defenders through innovative leadership and program; and 3.8 Strengthen the government-to-government relationship between tribes and the United States, improve public safety in Indian Country, and honor treaty and trust responsibilities through consistent, coordinated policies, activities, and litigation.**

**Decision Unit: Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program**

Performance Report and Performance Plan Targets		FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015		FY 2016	FY 2017
		Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Target	Actual as of 4th Quarter	Target	Target
<b>OUTCOME Measure</b>	Number of people trained	236,732	349,325	343,918	340,638	325,000	587,325iv	500,000	
<b>OUTCOME Measure</b>	No. of communities with improved capacity for a coordinated community response (CCR) to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking***	4,281	4,261	4,627	630	4,275	5,176iv	5,158	
<b>Performance Measure: Outcome</b>	Number of grant funded training events that have occurred*	11,330	14,653	13,944	3,534	13,000	24,809iv	N/A	N/A
<b>Performance Measure: Outcome</b>	Percent of victims requesting services who received them	96	97	97	96	93	98.4iv	93	
<b>Performance Measure: Outcome</b>	Number of temporary and final protection orders granted				630,951	630,000	762.399iv	700,000	
<b>Performance Measure: Outcome</b>	Percentage of domestic violence and sexual assault felony convictions out of cases disposed of				75	75	62iv	75	
<b>Performance Measure: Outcome</b>	Number of Victims served@ **					500,000	575,658	500,000	

@This is the first year for this measure.

\*This is the last year for reporting this measure.

\*\*This is an annual measure, reported in Quarter 4

\*\*\*Denotes inclusion in the DOJ Annual Performance Plan

iv This measure is reported semi-annually, this is as of 30 September.



### **3. Performance, Resources and Strategies**

#### **a. Performance Plan and Report for Outcomes**

The VAWA Measuring Effectiveness Initiative (MEI)—housed at the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine—collects, validates, synthesizes, and analyzes grantee-reported data on what is accomplished with VAWA funds. Grantees use program-specific forms to report their grant-funded activities and describe progress towards their project goals. Additionally, grant forms collect uniform information on victims served, demographics of victims served, services provided, and areas of unmet need. In partnership with OVW, MEI provides training and technical assistance to grantees on reporting, aligns reporting forms with the statutorily-authorized activities for each VAWA program, synthesizes data, and reports aggregate data to OVW for use in fulfilling Congressionally-mandated reporting requirements and ad hoc data requests.

In addition to MEI, OVW is embarking on a new effort to further develop and maximize use of the evidence base for approaches to combatting domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. OVW is coordinating with the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to ensure that this effort complements and does not duplicate research and evaluation supported by NIJ. Starting in 2016, OVW will issue a competitive solicitation to fund research and evaluation on VAWA-funded interventions. OVW expects that by funding research and evaluation, communities that benefit from VAWA funding will be better equipped to align their work with practices that are known to be effective, and they will be more capable of generating knowledge on the efficacy of new and promising ways of doing things.

#### Sample Program Data

The data from our grantees show that VAWA funding makes a difference in the way that communities across the country help victims and hold offenders accountable. For example, in the six-month reporting period from January to June 2014 alone, OVW discretionary program grantees reported:

- Over 115,844 victims were served.<sup>15</sup>
- Over 297,797 services were provided to victims.<sup>16</sup>
- More than 242,062 protection orders were granted in jurisdictions that receive funding from OVW's Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders (Arrest) Program.<sup>17</sup>
- 173,127 hotline calls were answered by grantees under the Rural, Arrest, Tribal Governments, Abuse in Later Life, and Culturally-specific Services Programs.
- 277,369 bed nights were provided in 2014 under the Transitional Housing Program, and upon exiting, the vast majority of victims reported facing a lower risk of violence than when they entered the program.

Sub-grantees receiving funding awarded by states through OVW's STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program (STOP Program) and Sexual Assault Services Formula Grant Program (SASP) reported, in calendar year 2013:

- More than 637,551 victims were served.
- Over 229,524 services were provided to victims.<sup>18</sup>
- Law enforcement agencies receiving STOP funding reported that more than 3,080 arrests were made for violations of protection orders.

Funds not only help the victims who receive services, but are also used by OVW grantees to change the way our criminal justice system responds to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking:

- During the three-year period from January 2011 through December 2013, OVW's discretionary grantees reported training over one million individuals, including 124,510 law enforcement officers, 22,957 prosecutors, and 27,127 court personnel.
- For calendar years 2011, 2012, and 2013 combined, STOP sub-grantees reported training nearly 467,274 individuals, including 163,415 law enforcement officers, 22,081 prosecutors, and 24,490 court personnel.
- On average, OVW STOP grantees were able to accept 75% of sexual assault cases for prosecution from 2009-2013, and 79% of those ended in a conviction or deferred adjudication.

## **b. Strategies to Accomplish Outcomes**

OVW has a comprehensive technical assistance initiative that provides training and technical assistance to grantees to foster the use of evidence-based best practices for serving victims and holding offenders accountable. Technical assistance ensures that grantees are equipped with the knowledge and skills they need to make the most effective use of their grant funds. All new grantees are required to attend an orientation to help them understand the requirements of the program under which they are funded, and to explore recommended strategies and available resources in their focus area(s).

OVW also monitors all grantees to ensure statutory and program compliance, including: reviewing semi-annual/annual progress reports submitted via the Grants Management System (GMS); reviewing quarterly financial status reports to monitor expenditures; and conducting an annual risk assessment for each active grant. The risk assessment is completed using the Grant Assessment Tool (GAT) and is used to forecast monitoring activities. OVW developed a Grants Monitoring Manual in 2011 and conducts regular trainings for program division staff on effectively monitoring grants in their portfolio. The manual outlines the policies and procedures for conducting proper oversight of OVW grants and cooperative agreements, and it improves the quality and consistency of OVW monitoring and helps make monitoring practices more uniform across the Office.

In FY 2014, OVW launched an overarching plan to support program evaluation and adoption of evidence-based practices. The plan includes:

- Implementing the recommendations from an assessment done by the Office of Audit, Assessment, and Management (OAAM) to determine if the prioritization of sexual assault victim services across its programs has contributed to an increase the number of awards addressing sexual assault and in the number of victims receiving grant funded services who identify sexual assault as their primary presenting victimization. OAAM reviewed data including memoranda addressing OVW priorities, program plans, grant solicitations, recommendation memos, award documents, and grantee progress reports in connection with the Prioritization of Sexual Assault Assessment, and is in the process of finalizing the Assessment report, which is estimated to be released in the Spring of 2016.
- Utilizing the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA) Mobility Program to temporarily employ an expert in research and evaluation to assist us in determining where there are gaps in research on domestic and sexual violence, and which practices should be prioritized for evaluation. This engagement was completed in January of 2016, and the results have been used by OVW to formulate a comprehensive research and evaluation plan that is slated for release in the spring of 2016.
- Continuously examining current research that might have implications for OVW-funded programs.
- Collaborating with NIJ, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), the Family Violence Prevention and Services Program at the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to identify where our research and evaluation priorities overlap and make maximum use of our respective resources for identifying and promoting evidence-based practices.
- Establishing a funding opportunity in 2016 whereby OVW will competitively solicit applications to conduct evaluations of VAWA-funded interventions and support research projects using a portion of funds available for that purpose.

<sup>i</sup> An additional 1,968 families were served by Safe Havens grantees, 4,518 children and 100 dependents were served by Transitional Housing grantees, and 19 families were served by Tribal Government grantees.

<sup>i</sup> Victims were reported only once in each category of service provided; orders for which assistance was provided to victims by advocates, law enforcement, and prosecution; civil orders granted in courts using VAWA funds for court activities; criminal orders granted in courts using VAWA funds for court activities and orders granted in jurisdictions receiving Arrest Grants. Data is from discretionary grantees from January –June 2014.

<sup>i</sup> This number does not include community measures protection orders granted either temporary (7,858) or final (3,279), through assistance by Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Initiative Arrest grantees.

<sup>i</sup> Because victims were reported only once in each category or service provided, this number represents the minimum number of times services were provided to victims by STOP and SASP sub-grantees in 2013.

## V. Program Increases by Item

### A. Item Name: **OVW Management and Administration**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims.  
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.  
Managing the DOJ Mission-Promoting transparency, performance, and accountability

Organizational Program: Salaries and Expense

Component Ranking of Item: 1 of 7

Program Increase: Positions 13 Agt/Atty \_\_\_\_\_ FTE [616] Dollars

#### **Purpose:**

OVW is requesting \$23,586,000 for FY 2017, an increase of \$3,674,000 (including \$842,000 in adjustments to base and a program increase of \$2,828,000) over the FY 2016 Enacted level. This level includes an additional 13 positions and 7 FTE. This increase to S&E will not increase OVW's budget request, but will increase the S&E assessment against program funding. Of the 13 positions requested, nine will be for OVW's Grants Development and Management Division, two positions for the Grants Financial Management Unit, one positions for the Administration Division, and one position for the Budget and Financial Management Division. Also included in this request is \$2,212,000 for Grants.Net, a shared grants management system, which is further discussed in Item A.1 below.

With Congress' stress on accountability with the 2013 reauthorization of VAWA, it is more critical than ever to ensure that sufficient staff resources are available to provide the level of monitoring required to fully assess compliance with grant obligations. An adequate system to support monitoring and oversight is equally important.

#### **Problem:**

##### **1. Grants Development and Management Division**

OVW requests nine new positions for the Program Unit in its Grant Development & Management Division (GDMD): seven Grant Program Specialists and two Grant Financial Management Analysts. The Program Unit currently has five Associate Directors and 36 FTEs for Grant Program Specialists who manage OVW grants and cooperative agreements. At the present staffing level, the current grant load is 70-80 grants per Program Specialist. This is an overwhelming grant load per staff person and undermines the overall effectiveness of OVW's core function as a grant maker. Adding an additional 7 Specialists will begin to bring the grant load to a more manageable level of approximately 60-65 per staff person.

Effective management of OVW grants is complex and time intensive. Each of our grant programs requires community collaboration and strong partnerships among agencies and organizations that have not historically worked in partnership. Program Specialists often are called on to intervene between partners, make specialized site visits, and provide tailored technical assistance. Several of our programs impose intricate statutory certification requirements. Some of our grantees are new to federal grants and may need assistance developing the full capacity to most effectively manage federal awards and thus require more attention. To effectively manage grant projects, staff need to be able to conduct comprehensive office-based reviews and on-site visits, carefully review progress reports and follow up with grantees about challenges and innovations identified in those reports, and maintain regular communication with grantees.

OVW also places a high premium on treating grants management as something more than a bureaucratic exercise. Instead, we view grant making as an important tool for social change needed to end violence against women. To this end, our Program Specialists have substantive expertise and are an important resource for our grantees. In addition to providing guidance on relevant federal rules and regulations, staff members identify and exchange ideas on promising practices and emerging issues in the violence against women field. OVW's Program Specialists oversee the entire life cycle of OVW's grant programs and grant awards. This involves drafting individually tailored solicitations for each of our grant programs annually, managing the application review process, recommending potential award recipients to OVW leadership, developing detailed award special conditions, designing relevant training and technical assistance and managing the related cooperative agreements, developing project specific award documents, managing and monitoring the individual grant projects once awarded, approving grant modifications as needed, and closing out awards once they have reached the end of their project period. At each step of the process, OVW staff endeavor to ensure that our work reflects the best practices in addressing domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking, as well as rigorous grants administration.

GDMD also seeks to create two new positions to support the administration of grant programs, Grant Administrative Specialists. Currently, Program Specialists and their supervisors make up the entire federal workforce responsible for managing and administering OVW's grant programs. This has resulted in Program Specialists and Associate Directors performing such duties as photocopying and filing hundreds of applications, which is a poor use of their time. Over the past eight years, OVW has relied upon contractors to help program staff. We currently have seven contractors supporting the Program Division in administrative functions. This has proved to be both costly and inefficient. The overhead for contract employees ranges from 30-50% and we pay an average of \$100,000 a year for a contract administrative assistant. In addition, contractors are appropriately limited with respect to the functions they can perform to those that are not inherently governmental. This reduces the impact they have on workload of staff. Ultimately, this undermines our ability to manage grants effectively.

By creating two Grants Administration Specialist positions, OVW will begin to dedicate federal support staff for the grant programs. We estimate that converting contractors to federal staff will save OVW \$90,000 annually in contractor costs. The two positions will assist in supporting all of the grant programs. Grants Administration Specialists can assist with introductory level grant activities that require an understanding of the grant process but do not require the substantive

expertise that OVW seeks in its program specialists. For example, Grants Administration Specialists (unlike contractors) can work in the Grants Management System to track grant adjustments and closeouts, as well as provide programmatic support during the development of recommendation memoranda and notebooks. The Grants Administration Specialists can assist OVW in times when a Grant Program Specialist position is vacant by ensuring that the Office responds to grantee requests in the meantime and that the other Grant Program Specialists do not become overburdened.

## **2. Grants Financial Management Unit (Subsidiary to Grants Development and Management Division GDMD)**

OVW requests two new positions for its Grants Financial Management Unit, which OVW brought in-house in 2010.

In 2008, OVW conducted a cost-benefit analysis of services provided under the existing Reimbursable Agreement with OJP. The analysis showed that OVW could provide faster and better grant financial services for the same amount of money, or less, than it was costing to contract services with OJP. That analysis identified that 10 positions would be required to ensure all functions could be successfully performed by the Unit. Since the initial Budget request in FY 2011 for those ten new positions, five have been filled, and an additional three were authorized in the FY2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act. These two additional positions will finally fully staff the Unit.

The GFMU was created to address many of the grantee challenges OIG has highlighted in the past. The major services provided by OVW's GFMU include (1) pre- and post-award financial grants administration, including conference requests; (2) technical assistance on financial issues and grants administration to OVW recipients, including via a toll-free customer service line; and (3) financial grants management training to OVW grantees and program staff. GFMU's knowledge of OVW programs and grantees and familiarity with the challenges faced in the administration of OVW programs has also enabled OVW to more closely scrutinize budgets and identify other issues before they become problems, often before awards are even made. The GFMU is able to have early and frequent direct contact with grantees experiencing challenges and identify more cross-cutting issues facing all grantees, particularly those that are non-profit programs in small, rural, or underserved communities.

While OVW's GFMU is able to administratively process and issue grant awards by the end of each fiscal year, approval of the grant budgets and subsequent release of funds frequently carries over into the following fiscal year. GFMU plays a critical role in OVW's conference oversight processes and has also taken the lead for OVW's implementation of OMB's new Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. Part 200) for federal grants. GFMU anticipates additional administrative burden for the first few years as a result of the transition to the new guidance.

Adding two financial analysts to the GFMU will improve detection of grantee problems that could be averted through OVW guidance and technical assistance, allow more timely budget clearances and reduce negative grantee audit findings through outreach and training.

## **3. Administration Division**

OVW requests one additional position to provide records management.

The Administration Division provides critical services to OVW in the form of human resource management, procurement and acquisition, records management, personnel and physical security, as well as space, property and other logistical services. The Division is currently staffed with an Executive Officer, one Administrative Management Specialist, a Human Resource Liaison, and an Acquisitions Services Liaison.

It is critically necessary to hire a Records Management Specialist to manage the life-cycle of records in accordance with the National Archives and Records Administration. This position will implement, maintain and monitor an integrated records system for the Office. OVW has never had such a position and, as the workload of the Office increases, records management has become both more important and more unwieldy.

#### **4. Budget and Financial Management Division**

In this request, OVW proposes to hire a Financial Management Specialist to provide additional accounting support to the Finance Unit. Functions will include recording accounting transactions into the Financial Management Information System, executing and analyzing financial reports, performing account reconciliations, liaising with the Department's Finance Staff, and maintaining financial records in hardcopy and electronically.

OVW's Budget and Financial Management Division is responsible for formulating and executing OVW's budget, through the spring development, the OMB process, and ultimately the President's Budget submissions. Division staff prepares briefing materials for and participates in budget hearings and responds to a myriad of data inquiries. The staff also executes the budget ensuring that funds are spent in accordance with the Violence Against Women Act, as well as Appropriations Law and other over-arching authorities. The staff provides fund certification, ensuring that OVW is not over spending its budget authority. This Division is also responsible for financial management and fiscal operations. Staff process non-grant payments, records grant and non-grant financial commitments and obligations, performs periodic account balance reconciliations and act as audit liaison for Government Accountability Office Reviews, Internal Control Reviews, and Internal and External Financial Statement Audits.

Currently the Division is staffed with a Budget Officer, who oversees and manages the Division; a Senior Budget Analyst, performing both formulation and execution functions; an Accounting Officer, who oversees the accounting and fiscal operations and audit liaison functions; one Financial Management Analyst, who performs fiscal operations and reconciliation functions; and a Travel Services Coordinator.

#### **Solution:**

Funding the identified 13 new positions will allow OVW to continue the necessary staffing required to function fully and efficiently as a separate and distinct office, as required by the 21st Century Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2002 and determined by the Attorney General in 2003.

Also, with additional staff, OVW will be able to provide greater support to the field, including increased grant monitoring and oversight, by continuing to bring staff grant loads to a more manageable level.

**Consequences of Not Funding:**

OVW’s mission is to provide national federal leadership to improve the nation’s response to domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. OVW pursues this mission by supporting community efforts through its grant programs, enhancing education and training, disseminating best practices, launching special initiatives, and leading the nation’s efforts to end violence against women. OVW cannot undertake these activities, however, without adequate staffing. Without this funding, OVW would not be able to support the additional staff required to more effectively manage and administer a higher volume of grant activities, better ensure grantee compliance with statutory, programmatic and financial requirements, and provide substantive guidance on promising practices and emerging issues in the field of violence against women.

**Funding**

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	agt/ atty	FTE	\$(000)
70	4	63	18,959	82	4	76	19,912	82	4	82	20,758

Personnel Increase Cost Summary

[Positions must be specified by Type, consistent with Exhibit I.

Type of Position/Series	Modular Cost per Position (\$000)	Number of Positions Requested	FY 2017 Request (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Financial Administration and Programs (0501) -- GS-9	44.77	1	44.8	63.25	0
Clerical and Office Services (0300-0399) -- GS-11	51.97	7	363.8	512.06	0
Clerical and Office Services (0300-0399) -- GS-9	44.77	1	44.8	63.25	0
Clerical and Office Services (0300-0399) – GS-7	36.656	2	73.3	102.54	0
Business & Industry (1100-1199) – GS-9	44.77	2	89.5	126.5	0
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>867.6</b>	<b>0</b>

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non-Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Current Services	82	4	82	8,449	11,463			



						20,758		
Increases	13	0	7	616		616	868	
Grand Total	95	4	89	9,065	12,309	21,374		

**A.1. Item Name: OVW Management and Administration  
DOJ Grants Management Shared Services: Justice  
Grants Services Network (GrantsNet)**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.

3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.

Managing the DOJ Mission-Promoting transparency, performance, and accountability

Organizational Program: Salaries and Expense

Component Ranking of Item: 1(a) of 7

Program Increase: Positions 0 Agt/Atty \_\_\_\_\_ FTE [2,212,000] Dollars

**Purpose:**

To increase efficiencies, identify and implement best practices in grants management, increase information sharing to avoid potential overlap and duplication among DOJ grant programs, and avoid redundancy in system functions and services across DOJ’s three grant-making components: the Office of Justice Programs (OJP); the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW); and Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).

**Problem:**

- Multiple Departmental component systems and tools are used to support the grants management lifecycle in the annual administration of approximately \$3 billion in grants to state and local governments, for-profit and nonprofit organizations, tribal jurisdictions, and educational institutions to help prevent crime, assist victims of crime, and promote innovative law enforcement efforts. There are redundancies in system functions and services, which diminish cost effectiveness.
- In May 2012, OMB designated grants management as a commodity IT area and encouraged agencies to look for opportunities to use shared services and common systems to reduce overall IT costs.

- A July 2012 Government Accountability Office (GAO) study of DOJ grants management activities (GAO-12-517) found that DOJ generally lacks visibility over the extent to which its grant programs may overlap and is not well positioned to minimize the risk of potential unnecessary duplication before making grant awards. The report also provided that use of separate grants management systems limits the ability of the three DOJ grant-making components to share information on the funding they have awarded or are preparing to award to a recipient.

**Solution:**

- OJP, OVW, and COPS will implement the Justice Grants Services Network (GrantsNet) program as a shared solution for the DOJ grants management community, to support both internal and external users.
- In 2012, DOJ began assessing the feasibility of using shared services across the grant making components and identifying potential solutions. It was determined that the use of shared services would allow DOJ to attain efficiencies in managing its grants programs and, over time, to decrease system duplication and increase the information shared among the components. In 2014, DOJ evaluated options for grants shared services through the Federal Grants Management Line of Business. In 2015, DOJ determined that the most appropriate solution to achieve a grants common solution was to implement a DOJ integrated shared services approach, which would leverage existing DOJ systems, tools, and services.
- GrantsNet will support the entire lifecycle management of a grant through a combination of shared modules based on enterprise business processes. Component-specific tools will continue to support the grant lifecycle where there is not a shared solution. Thus far, DOJ has identified eleven modules as being in scope for GrantsNet (with the potential for additional modules to be identified in the future). These modules include:
  1. Conference Cost Reporting;
  2. Grant Assessment Tool (GAT);
  3. Grant Payment Request System (GPRS);
  4. Agency Portal;
  5. Solicitations;
  6. Peer Review;
  7. Monitoring;
  8. Performance and Progress Reports;
  9. Audit;
  10. Reporting and Analysis; and
  11. Electronic Signature.
- These modules cover major grants management activities, including grant assessment pre and post award, auditing, monitoring, programmatic and peer review of applications, conference cost reporting, and grant payments. Additionally, GrantsNet will support a single entry point for applicants and grantees of OJP, OVW, and COPS Office, reducing the administrative burden on external users and providing an improved user experience.

The GrantsNet solution allows for:

- An integrated ‘hybrid’ solution leveraging both the functionality and infrastructure of existing DOJ capabilities;
- Leveraging the significant investments made to the current DOJ grants management’s systems and tools;
- Decreasing the number of grants management modules and tools maintained, through the sharing of modules and elimination of standalone systems and tools;
- Using a shared platform owned and operated by the DOJ Components to permit greater control and efficiencies in delivering end user satisfaction;
- Greater sharing of information to enhance collaboration and minimize potential risk of overlap and duplication at both the program and grant award levels; and
- Development and deployment in incremental releases to minimize risk, maximize return on investment, and business and IT engagement through a shared project management office (PMO).

**Budget Request:** Of the total M&A request, \$2.212 million (*Total Grants.Net Request OVW, OJP & COPS, \$10 million*) will support GrantsNet.

	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
FY 2015 Enacted	0	0	0	0		
FY 2016 President’s Budget	0	0	0	0		
FY 2017 Current Services	0	0	0	0		
<i>Increases:</i>						
Personnel	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Personnel				2,212		
Grand Total	0	0	0	2,212	0	0

**Consequences of Not Funding:** DOJ will not be in a position to address and resolve significant grants management challenges, which include legacy system limitations, new business requirements, and the need to address potential redundancy in system functions and services. Additionally, DOJ must address the identified need to increase the collaboration and coordination between its grants-making components to minimize the likelihood of redundant grant programs and of duplicative grant awards. GrantsNet provides DOJ with the opportunity to resolve redundancy and potential duplication issues repeatedly raised by external oversight entities, while making technology and business process improvements through the implementation of a grants management shared services approach. Without the implementation of GrantsNet as a shared solution among the grant components, it will be challenging to close the GAO finding on duplicate systems.

**B. Item Name:** **Improving Criminal Justice Responses Program (a.k.a Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders Program) (Arrest Program)**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims.  
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.

Organizational Program:

Component Ranking of Item: 2 of 7

Program Increase: Positions 0 Agt/Atty 0 FTE 0 Dollars \$ 11,250,000

**Purpose:**

The OVW Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Program (a.k.a. Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies & Enforcement of Protection Orders) (Arrest) Program was statutorily created by the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 and reauthorized and revised in the Violence Against Women Act of 2013. As a result of the 2013 reauthorization, eligible entities able to apply to the Arrest Program expanded beyond state, local and tribal governments and courts to include sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking victim service providers and state or tribal sexual assault or domestic violence coalitions.

OVW is requesting additional funding to improve arrest, prosecution and offender accountability – key aspects of protecting victims, preventing crime, and saving lives. This request is \$11.250 million above the FY 2016 Enacted level.

**Problem:**

Law enforcement agencies are charged with identifying and arresting perpetrators of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The manner in which officers and agencies carry out these duties profoundly influences their success or failure in responding to violence against women. Specialized law enforcement units with dedicated staff that deal exclusively with sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking often produce better outcomes. These specialized domestic violence police units collect evidence in a much higher percentage of cases than traditional patrol units.<sup>19</sup> The evidence collected by specialized units is more likely to be useful for prosecution,<sup>20</sup> leading to higher rates of prosecution, conviction, and sentencing.<sup>21</sup> However, most communities cannot implement these proven-effective practices because they lack sufficient funding.

A January 2014 White House report noted that “arrest rates [in rape cases] are low and meritorious cases are still being dropped – many times because law enforcement officers and

prosecutors are not fully trained on how best to investigate and prosecute these case. Many new and promising interviewing, investigative and prosecution protocols are being developed, with cutting-edge science about victim trauma informing the enterprise. OVW seeks to further develop these best practices and help get them out to the field.”<sup>22</sup>

Furthermore, as the nation ages, so do the professionals who respond to these crimes. More and more police, probation and parole officers, prosecutors, judges, and advocates are retiring. While this new generation has the benefit of the knowledge their predecessors gained through improved policies and procedures, they need training on appropriate responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. They also face a new set of challenges as technology changes almost daily and offenders become increasingly savvy about its potential uses, particularly in cases involving stalking.

In FY 2015, the Arrest Program supported 44 communities, while in prior years the number of awards exceeded 80.<sup>23</sup> This is due, in part, to additional statutory set-asides<sup>24</sup>. This weakens the response to domestic and sexual violence across the nation as fewer best practices are implemented and fewer promising practices are identified and disseminated. Fewer awards have also meant that grantees report supporting fewer police, prosecutors, and victim advocates with Arrest Program funds.

### **Solution:**

The Arrest Program is OVW’s only discretionary program focused on the criminal justice system. Since it was first appropriated in FY 1997, the program has had a significant impact on the criminal justice system’s response to violence against women. The program has supported OVW’s collaborative work with communities, national experts, and evaluators to develop and identify practices that have since become not just best practices but also expected standard practices. These include judicial monitoring of offenders and co-located services across the justice system. The program has also lead to internationally recognized standards for the issuance and enforcement of protection orders. It is also the foundational program for many law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies seeking to enhance or develop an effective response to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and/or stalking. The requested increase will allow for additional specialized domestic violence police units, protection order enforcement and sexual assault investigation training.

With increased funding, the Arrest Program will be positioned to continue its legacy of supporting the basic criminal justice response while promoting innovative practices that address the justice system’s response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. As a nation, we have made important strides, especially in the area of domestic violence, but recent focus on issues such as sexual assault on college campuses, cyberstalking and dating violence in schools indicates how much more work is needed. In addition, the recent economic downturn resulted in reduced numbers of law enforcement and criminal justice staff in communities across the country. Specialized police and court units were particularly hard hit. Many communities lost or severely reduced these units, which resulted in a loss of criminal justice system responders with specialized training and skill in responding to violence against women crimes.

Increased funding will support more efforts as seen in Shelby County, Tennessee where they used Improving Criminal Justice Responses Program funding to add two new officers to serve protection orders. This led to a 13% increase in the number of protection orders served over the previous reporting period.<sup>25</sup> The City of Cleveland, Ohio used its program funding to create its first-ever domestic violence warrant unit, enabling the police department to serve outstanding domestic violence warrants that otherwise might not have been served due to resource constraints.<sup>26</sup>

Prosecution also greatly benefits from a dedicated approach. Jurisdictions with specialized domestic violence prosecution programs generally have the highest rates of successful prosecution.<sup>27</sup> For example, in two years, a specialized domestic violence prosecution unit in Chicago convicted 71% of defendants compared to 50% of domestic violence defendants convicted by the rest of the Cook County office.<sup>28</sup> Four years after Milwaukee implemented a specialized prosecution unit, felony convictions had increased 5-fold.<sup>29</sup> OVW Arrest Program-funded prosecutors' offices have consistently had high conviction rates and accepted a high percentage of sexual assault cases.<sup>30</sup> This funding request will help ensure continued positive results in convictions and offender accountability.

**Consequences of Not Funding:**

The initial passage of VAWA in 1994 made a national statement regarding our shared national belief that domestic violence and sexual assault are crimes and should be treated as such. Prior to the passage of VAWA, it was not uncommon for the different criminal justice system actors to brush aside these crimes as either private or too difficult to address. With VAWA's passage and the funding behind programs like the Improving Criminal Justice Responses and STOP programs, those communities that had taken steps to improve their criminal justice response were able to disseminate their practices, and jurisdictions interested in making improvements could get the necessary financial support to begin to seed the work before looking for state and local funding. It is through the Arrest Program that we are able to identify communities grappling with cutting-edge technology issues (such as body-worn cameras) and the efficacy of their role in the response to domestic or sexual violence. Without this additional funding, we anticipate that a minimum of 10 additional communities would not receive the necessary support to develop specialized law enforcement and prosecution units, dedicated domestic violence courts, lethality assessment protocols, and the array of other best practices currently used in fighting these crimes, in addition to participating in the identification and dissemination of new innovations that better respond to our nation's changing demographics and the increasing role of technology in our lives.

**Funding**

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	\$(000)
0	0	0	\$50,000	0	0	0	51,000	0	0	0	51,000

Non-Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Not Applicable

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non- Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Current Services	0	0	0	0	51,000	51,000	0	0
Increases	0	0	0	0	11,250	11,250	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	0	0	62,250	62,250	0	0

**C. Item Name: Legal Assistance for Victims**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.  
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.  
Organizational Program:

Component Ranking of Item: 3 of 7

Program Increase: Positions 0 Agt/Atty 0 FTE 0 Dollars \$ 7,500,000

**Purpose:**

OVW is requesting \$52.5 million to allow the Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) Program to increase the number of projects supported and address the critical shortage of legal services for victims. Legal assistance is perhaps the single-most important service for victims of domestic violence and is strongly evidence-based. This request is \$7.5 million above the FY 2016 Enacted level.

**Problem:**

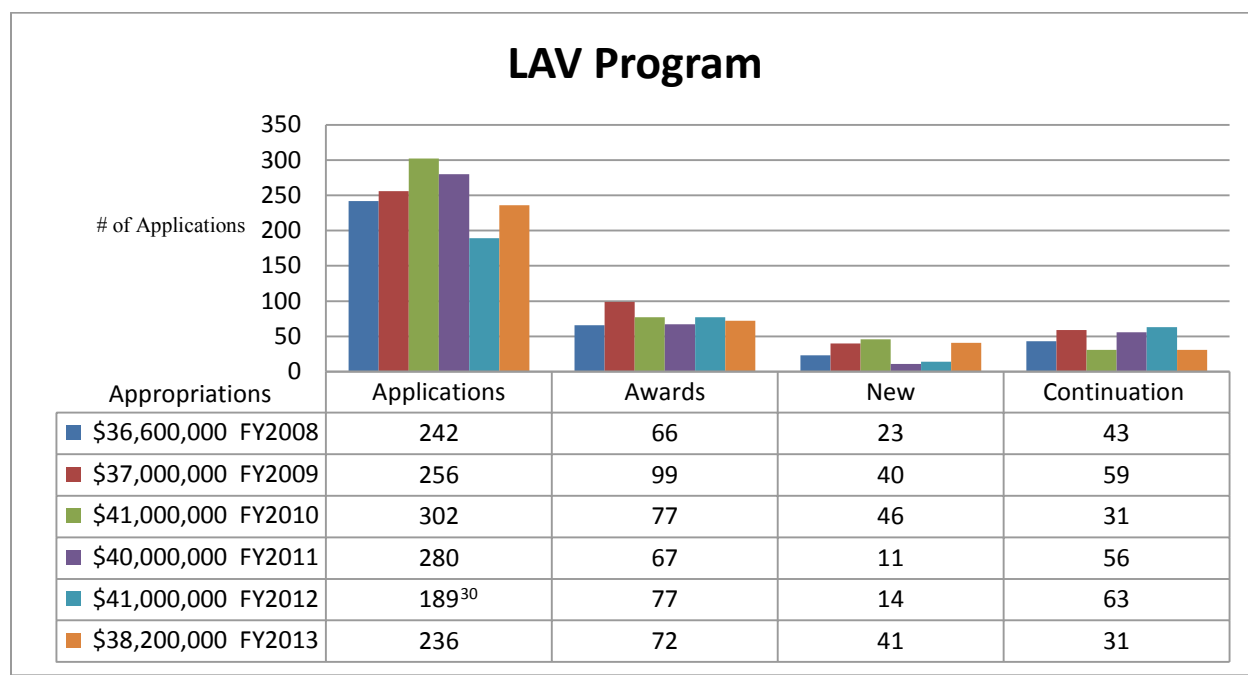
Often, legal services are essential for victims to obtain comprehensive protection orders that will provide for care and custody of children, financial support and housing. Without this crucial assistance, victims may not be able to overcome legal and economic obstacles to achieving safety for themselves and their children. Victims of domestic violence often need highly trained attorneys willing to take on lengthy and complex litigation beyond the protection order hearing.

According to the National Network to End Domestic Violence’s annual census, of the unmet requests throughout the year, the second highest request is for legal representation. “Almost 99% of the survivors we work with need some form of legal assistance, but we have very few

attorneys who will take pro bono cases. Child protective court proceedings are heart wrenching because the victims don't understand the court process or what's happening. Many are unaware that they are at risk of losing their children," reported a New Hampshire victim advocate.<sup>31</sup>

Without LAV Program funds, it may be impossible to find affordable representation. On September 12, 2012, 53% of programs were able to accompany a victim to court, but only 11% were able to assist victims with legal representation.<sup>32</sup> "Obtaining legal services in rural North Dakota is almost impossible," stated an advocate in NNEDV's report. "There are few attorneys in our area who practice family law and those who do require a retainer that victims cannot afford."<sup>33</sup>

There is significant need for legal services for victims. Since 1998, OVW has administered the Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) Program, the primary VAWA-funded vehicle for delivering legal assistance to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. As outlined in the chart below, the LAV Program is one of OVW's most-requested grant programs. Consequently, only a small fraction of applicants receive an LAV award. Below is a chart of the approximate number of LAV grants awarded each year. On average, the LAV Program funds only 25-40% of the applications that it receives.



**Solution:**

VAWA recognizes that access to legal services enhances safety for victims and their dependent children. Increased funding to the LAV Program will assist in reducing the enormous unmet demand for legal services from victims.

Research showing the efficacy of providing legal services to victims is a primary reason that OVW is requesting increased funding for the LAV program. Put simply, providing victims with a lawyer works: victims are safer, social costs are reduced, future violence is prevented.



There is an extensive body of research indicating that the increased availability of legal services has significantly contributed to a decline in domestic violence in the United States.<sup>34</sup> For example, obtaining a protection order has been shown in multiple studies to reduce future assault and improve quality of life.<sup>35</sup> Even when orders were violated, there was a significant reduction in subsequent abuse.<sup>36</sup> A 2015 study found that greater protections were awarded to victims with domestic violence-informed legal aid attorneys than pro se victims or even victims with private attorneys.<sup>37</sup>

Because OVW has only been able to fund a fraction of qualified applicants from previous appropriations, OVW is confident that with funding to the LAV Program at this increased level, it could easily find qualified organizations to provide additional – and much needed legal services – for victims. With this additional funding, we estimate being able to make 10 additional awards.

**Consequences of Not Funding:**

Without increased funding for the LAV Program, more victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence who cannot afford a private attorney will not be able to get much-needed legal assistance in areas such as divorce, custody, housing matters and immigration. Many victims cannot pay legal fees, court costs etc., either because of poverty or because their access to financial resources is controlled by the batterer. Additionally, the LAV Program supports collaboration among legal services organizations and victim service providers that enable victims to receive comprehensive legal and social and support services. Without LAV funding, grantees cannot hire and train sufficient attorneys and personnel to represent and assist the many more victims who need legal services.

**Funding**

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)
0	0	0	\$42,500	0	0	0	45,000	0	0	0	45,000

Non-Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Not Applicable

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non-Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Current Services	0	0	0	0	45,000	45,000	0	0
Increases	0	0	0	0	7,500	7,500	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	0	0	52,500	52,500	0	0

**D. Item Name:** **Enhanced Training and Services to End Abuse in Later Life (Abuse in Later Life Program)**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims.  
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.

Organizational Program:

Component Ranking of Item: 4 of 7

Program Increase: Positions 0 Agt/Atty 0 FTE 0 Dollars \$ 1,250,000

**Purpose:**

OVW is requesting \$6.250 million to respond to the increasing need for more widespread training and enhanced services to address elder abuse, neglect and exploitation. This request is \$1.250 million above the FY 2016 Enacted level.

**Problem:**

Seventy-seven million baby boomers are aging, with approximately 10,000 turning 65 every day.<sup>38</sup> People 85 and older, the fastest growing segment of the population, are disproportionately women.<sup>39</sup> Unfortunately, as the population ages, the opportunity for abuse increases. An estimated 11-14% of those 60 years or older who live at home are victims of elder abuse.<sup>40</sup> Abuse in later life is physical, sexual, or psychological abuse, neglect, financial exploitation, or stalking of an adult age 50 years or older. In most cases, the victim is in an ongoing relationship (such as spouse, partner, family member or caregiver) where society expects there to be a trusting, caring connection. Research indicates that for every incident of abuse reported to authorities, twenty-three incidents remain unreported.<sup>41</sup>

In 2010, the Elder Justice Act was enacted as part of the Affordable Care Act, providing new authority and opportunities for the federal government to address elder abuse. The law established the Elder Justice Coordinating Council, a permanent body comprised of the heads of numerous federal entities, including the Attorney General. Since its first meeting in 2012, the Elder Justice Coordinating Council has engaged with policy leaders, stakeholders, and the public to identify ways to build upon ongoing federal efforts and to further enhance the federal government's response to elder abuse. In 2014, the Council adopted eight recommendations to improve awareness, prevention, and intervention in addressing elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. These recommendations include the need to improve support for the investigation and prosecution of elder abuse cases, enhance services to elder abuse victims, and encourage cross-disciplinary training on elder abuse, among others.

Recently, the White House Council on Women and Girls, in conjunction with the White House Advisor on Violence Against Women and other federal partners, held a roundtable with national domestic and sexual assault organizations to discuss ways to enhance the nation's response to elder abuse. This effort was part of a larger effort of the White House Conference on Aging to include elder abuse as one of the key topics and priorities, as highlighted in the Elder Justice Roadmap.

While there has been a significant increase in the awareness and commitment of federal agencies, stakeholders, and communities to address elder abuse issues, there is a dearth of federal and state resources to implement the recommendations and expand the capacity of systems and service providers to meet these needs. Because elder abuse is a relatively new field, when compared with child abuse and domestic violence, there is a lack of expertise in this area in many communities. Although the Abuse in Later Life program is held up as a model program that has made significant contributions in the field, the very small size of the program limits its current reach.

### **Solution:**

Despite being a small program, funding approximately nine grant recipients annually, the Abuse in Later Life program has made a significant impact in raising awareness of elder abuse issues and highlighting the critical need for cross-training and enhanced services that are responsive to the unique needs of older victims.

The Abuse in Later Life Program works with communities to address challenges around elder abuse by providing training to criminal justice professionals and others working with older individuals to enhance their ability to identify and address these cases. The program also provides technical assistance to communities to assist them in identifying the specific needs of older individuals in their communities and creating or tailoring existing services to enhance the safety of older victims. Since 2006, the Abuse in Later Life Program has administered 77 projects across the country.

These projects have provided training to thousands of law enforcement officers, prosecutors and judges. They have also provided victim services to over 4,000 older individuals. These projects also bring together community stakeholders to develop or enhance a coordinated community response (CCR) focused on creating systemic changes in how their communities address this issue. These collaborations engage numerous professionals and agencies that are not usually participants in local CCR initiatives, such as Adult Protective Services and Area Agencies on Aging, and provide an opportunity for participants to work outside their usual silos to marshal existing resources and create new services for this population.

This funding increase will help fund an estimated three additional projects that support a comprehensive approach to addressing elder abuse, including projects that will: provide training to criminal justice professionals to enhance their ability to address elder abuse, neglect and exploitation; provide cross-training opportunities to professionals working with older victims; establish or support a coordinated community response to elder abuse; and provide or enhance services for older victims.

**Consequences of Not Funding:**

Without increased funding for the Abuse in Later Life Program, enhancements to the federal government’s response to significant demographic changes with the growing elderly population in the United States will not be realized, nor will better implementation of the priorities identified by the Elder Justice Coordinating Council. OVW will not be able to increase its reach by funding additional projects that would enhance safety and services across the lifespan and promulgate best practices across the country. These projects are often statewide and thus reach thousands of victims by training law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and advocates across multiple jurisdictions.

**Funding**

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)
0	0	0	\$4,500	0	0	0	5,000	0	0	0	5,000

Non-Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Not Applicable

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non-Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Current Services	0	0	0	0	5,000	5,000	0	0
Increases	0	0	0	0	1,250	1,250	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	0	0	6,250	6,250	0	0

**E. Item Name:** **Grants to Reduce Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking On Campus Program (Campus Program)**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.  
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.

Organizational Program:

Component Ranking of Item: 5 of 7

Program Increase: Positions 0 Agt/Atty 0 FTE 0 Dollars \$ 6,000,000

**Purpose:**

For FY 2017, OVW requests \$26 million in the Campus Program to address increased demand for funding and technical assistance, to provide schools with additional tools to combat sexual assault on their campuses, and to invest up to \$8 million for a demonstration initiative to improve campus responses to sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, a Congressional and Administration priority. This request is \$6 million above the FY 2016 Enacted level.

**Problem:**

Sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking are serious problems on college and university campuses. Students who are victimized by other students face unique challenges, such as close proximity to perpetrators and difficulty with anonymity.

Nineteen percent of undergraduate women reported experiencing completed or attempted sexual assault since entering college.<sup>42</sup> Most of these assaults were committed by someone the victim knew,<sup>43</sup> and these perpetrators are often serial offenders.<sup>44</sup> Rape frequently devastates victims and derails their education and future.<sup>45</sup> For example, 19% dropped or considered dropping classes, 31% said their academic performance suffered, and 22% considered taking time off from school or dropping out.<sup>46</sup>

Many college rapists target victims who are drugged, drunk, passed out, or otherwise incapacitated – creating a situation in which victims may be less likely to report and where prosecutors may be less likely to prosecute.<sup>47</sup> Only 2% of incapacitated rape victims reported the assault to law enforcement.<sup>48</sup>

Women between 18-24 years of age are at the greatest risk for intimate partner violence. Estimates of dating violence among college students range from 10% to 50%.<sup>49</sup> This violence has serious consequences, including physical injury, depression, low self-esteem, and anxiety disorders.<sup>50</sup>

Demand for Campus Program funding significantly exceeds the amount available for awards. For example, in FY 2015, OVW received 145 applications requesting a total of \$48,521,056, but was only able to support 27 awards totaling \$8,543,377.

**Solution:**

With increased funding to the Campus Program, OVW will be able to support violent crime prevention in many more campus communities nationwide. OVW will dedicate \$8 million of this funding for a special initiative to transform the way colleges and universities respond to sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Not Alone: The First Report of the White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault was released in April 2014. DOJ played a leadership role in the Task Force, and must also lead by taking action on the report recommendations. And because we cannot end sexual assault without also ending the intertwining crimes of dating violence and stalking, we must integrate all three issues into campus responses. This initiative will fund approximately 14 colleges, community colleges, and universities to:

- Conduct campus climate surveys – and take action based on the results.
- Prevent sexual assault and dating violence by implementing and evaluating CDC-recommended bystander and other campus-based sexual assault prevention strategies.
- Investigate and adjudicate sexual assault, dating violence and stalking on campus, including establishing MOUs with law enforcement offices, based on emerging research from NIJ. This will connect with OVW’s Sexual Assault Police and Prosecution Initiative.
- Get victims the support and help they need, through on-campus services and partnerships with local rape crisis centers.

This initiative will ensure that universities and colleges across the country benefit from this work by including evaluation, training, technical assistance, and dissemination. The goal of this program is to increase awareness, prevention, and response efforts regarding sexual assault, dating violence and stalking to increase safety on campuses.

This will be accomplished in part through a DC Campus Leadership Project.

- On May 14, 2014, the Attorney General hosted a summit with DC college campus leaders to discuss the successes and challenges that local campuses face in addressing sexual assault. At that summit, the Attorney General expressed interest in building on DC’s many diverse college campus environments, including a historically black university, a university for the Deaf and hard of hearing, large and small campuses, religious and non-religious institutions, commuter campuses and traditional four-year institutions.
- Top leadership from all eight DC universities will come together to create institutional support and ensure systemic change – and, with OVW’s support, will help their colleagues around the nation do the same.

**Consequences of Not Funding:**

Without increased funding to the Campus Program, OVW will not be able to reach more communities by reducing the demand gap. Additionally, without this increase, OVW would not be able to fund this new Campus initiative, and therefore could not respond to the new best practices, recommendations, and challenges identified by Congress and in recent research.

**Funding**

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>\$12,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>20,000</u>

Non-Personnel Increase Cost Summary

Not Applicable

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non- Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Current Services	0	0	0	0	20,000	20,000	0	0
Increases	0	0	0	0	6,000	6,000	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	0	0	26,000	26,000	0	0

**F. Item Name: Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.  
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.  
3.8 Strengthen the government-to-government relationship between tribes and the United States, improve public safety in Indian Country, and honor treaty and trust responsibilities through consistent, coordinated policies, activities, and litigation.

Organizational Program:

Component Ranking of Item: 6 of 7

Program Increase: Positions 0 Agt/Atty 0 FTE 0 Dollars \$ 2,500,000

**Purpose:**

OVW requests a \$2.5 increase to funding for a new program authorized by Congress in VAWA 2013. This program will provide grants to tribal governments and their designees to support tribal efforts to exercise “special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction” (SDVCJ) over non-Indian offenders who commit violence against Indian spouses, intimate partners or dating partners, or who violate protection orders, in Indian country. This program was first

appropriated in FY2016 for \$2.5 million. For FY 2017, OVW is requesting funding at its authorized level of \$5,000,000.

**Problem:**

Rates of domestic violence against Native women in Indian country are among the highest in the United States: 27.5% of AI/AN women have been raped in their lifetimes; 55% of AI/AN women and 24.5% of AI/AN men experience sexual violence other than rape during their lifetimes; and 51.7% of AI/AN women experience physical violence by an intimate partner during their lifetimes.<sup>51</sup> Since the Supreme Court's 1978 opinion in *Oliphant v. Suquamish Indian Tribe*, however, tribes have been prohibited from exercising criminal jurisdiction over non-Indian defendants. This included domestic violence and dating violence committed by non-Indian abusers against their Indian spouses, intimate partners, and dating partners.

**Solution:**

On March 7, 2013, President Obama signed into law VAWA 2013, which includes an historic provision to address the jurisdictional loophole that has left many Native American women without sufficient protection. The Act recognizes the inherent power of "participating tribes" to exercise "special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction" (SDVCJ) over both Indians and non-Indians who commit violence against Indian spouses, intimate partners, or dating partners, or who violate protection orders, in Indian country. The Act also specifies the rights that a participating tribe must provide to defendants in SDVCJ cases.

Under VAWA 2013, tribes were not able to exercise SDVCJ until at least two years after the date of VAWA 2013's enactment – March 7, 2015. The Act, however, established a "Pilot Project" that authorized the Attorney General to grant a tribe's request to be designated as a "participating tribe" on an accelerated basis. On February 6, 2014, the Department of Justice announced that three Indian tribes – the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, the Tulalip Tribe of Washington, and the Umatilla Tribes of Oregon – had been designated as "participating tribes" under the Pilot Project. These three tribes were the first in the United States to exercise SDVCJ, regardless of a defendant's Indian or non-Indian status. In addition, the Department established an Intertribal Technical-Assistance Working Group on SDVCJ (ITWG) to exchange views, information, and advice about how tribes could best exercise SDVCJ, combat domestic violence, recognize victims' rights and safety needs, and fully protect defendants' rights. Approximately 40 tribes have voluntarily joined the ITWG. With funding from OVW, the Department is supporting the ITWG with training and technical assistance.

Section 904 of VAWA 2013 also authorized the Attorney General to award grants to tribal governments and their authorized designees to assist tribes who choose to exercise SDVCJ. The FY2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act funded this program for the first time at \$2.5 million. The three pilot tribes and additional tribes who choose to exercise SDVCJ will incur substantial new costs in assuming this new responsibility. OVW has heard from ITWG tribes that they need assistance meeting these costs, including the expenses of updating criminal codes, incarcerating prisoners, providing counsel to indigent defendants, changing jury pools to meet the requirements of the Act, and supporting victims.



The \$2,500,000 increase in funding would enable the Department to support an additional 12-20 tribes so that they can successfully implement this new jurisdiction while protecting the rights of defendants, serving victims, and improving the quality of their criminal justice systems. An estimated 25-40 tribes would be supported with \$5 million.

**Consequences of Not Funding:**

Without this additional funding OVW would only be able to support half of the tribes needing assistance in implementing special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction in their communities, and would undermine the effectiveness of the program for those tribes wishing to exercise this special jurisdiction.

**Funding**

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)
0	0	0	\$0	0	0	0	\$2,500	0	0	0	\$2,500

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non-Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Current Services	0	0	0	0	2,500	2,500	0	0
Increases	0	0	0	0	2,500	2,500	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	0	0	5,000	5,000	0	0

**G. Item Name:** **Domestic Violence Firearm Lethality Reduction Initiative**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.  
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.

Organizational Program:

Component Ranking of Item: 7 of 7

Program Increase: Positions 0 Agt/Atty 0 FTE 0 Dollars \$ [4,000,000]

**Purpose:**

OVW requests \$4 million to fund a new Domestic Violence Firearm Lethality Reduction Initiative. This is not additional funding but would be set-aside from funds made available from the Improving Criminal Justice Responses (a.k.a. Arrest Program).

**Problem:**

During the period of 1976 to 2005, a firearm was used to commit more than two-thirds of intimate partner homicides in which a female spouse or ex-spouse was killed. For each of those years, more intimate partner homicides were committed with guns than with all other weapons combined.<sup>52</sup>

In a study that examined the 1,800 homicides of women by men in 2010, it was found that of the 1,669 homicides in which the relationship between the victim and offender could be identified, almost two-thirds (1,017) of the women were killed by an intimate partner (husband, ex-husband, common law husband or boyfriend). The number of females shot and killed by their husbands or intimate partners was “nearly six times higher than the total number (of women) murdered by male strangers using all weapons combined.”<sup>53</sup>

Women whose intimate partners threatened or assaulted them with a gun or other weapon were 20 times more likely than other women to be murdered, and when a gun was in the house, an abused woman was six times more likely than other abused women to be killed.<sup>54</sup>

In recognition of the aggravating role firearms play in domestic violence (DV) incidents, Congress has passed several significant laws that substantially restrict DV offenders’ access to and use of firearms. Federal prohibitions on possession of firearms by those subject to protection orders and persons convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence (18 U.S.C. §§ 922(g)(8) and (g)(9)) can be potent tools to disarm abusers and protect victims, especially where state prohibitions do not exist or are ineffective.

However, successful seizure actions and prosecutions often require close collaboration among officials at the local, state, and federal levels. In many instances, information and evidence indicating a violation of the federal prohibitions may be known only to local or state officials, while their federal counterparts, who may have the exclusive authority to take action under the federal laws, remain unaware of the federal offense. Other issues that stymie the effective enforcement of existing firearms prohibitions in the domestic violence field include: inadequate efforts to ensure compliance with court orders to surrender firearms, poor inter-agency cooperation and communication, and an apparent lack of firearm storage options.

**Solution:**

Set aside \$4 million from the Improving Criminal Justice Responses Program to implement a Domestic Violence Firearms Lethality Reduction Initiative in approximately 5 diverse jurisdictions across the country, infusing the following resources:

- Comprehensive training of law enforcement, prosecutors, judges and victim service providers about relevant local, state and federal firearms prohibitions related to domestic violence;

- Protocol and procedure development to ensure compliance with court orders to surrender firearms;
- Establishment of multidisciplinary inter-agency cooperation and communication protocols; and
- Model procedures and facilities for firearm seizure, storage and return.

By 2024, domestic violence gun deaths will be reduced dramatically, with a goal of a 30% reduction.

Through technical assistance we identified that, in many jurisdictions, local law enforcement, prosecutors, judges and victim advocates are unaware of how to act upon federal firearms violations or even the existence of the federal domestic violence firearms prohibitions. This funding will provide training on these crucial areas. Additionally, the initiative includes policies and procedures for increasing collaboration among officials at the local, state, and federal levels.

Other issues that will be addressed in the initiative are practices, policies and procedures to ensure compliance with court orders to surrender firearms, enhance inter-agency cooperation and communication, and provide firearm storage options for seized firearms. Some jurisdictions have developed successful strategies to address many of these issues and this initiative would disseminate successful strategies across jurisdictions.

**Consequences of Not Funding:**

Without this additional funding OVW will not be able support projects that provide comprehensive training, establish protocols for safe surrender of firearms, or model procedures and facilities for firearm seizure, storage and return. We will not be able to promulgate best practices identified by certain jurisdictions, and thus leaving victims in most communities vulnerable to firearm violence.

**Funding**

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	\$(000)
0	0	0	\$0	0	0	0	\$0	0	0	0	\$0

Total Request for this Item

	Pos	Agt/ Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non- Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Current Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Increases	0	0	0	0	[4,000]	[4,000]	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	0	0	[4,000]	[4,000]	0	0

## VI. Program Decreases by Item

**A. Item Name:** **Service-Training-Officers-Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program (STOP Program)**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims.  
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.

Organizational Program:

Component Ranking of Item: 1 of 3

Program Decrease: Positions 0 Agt/Atty 0 FTE 0 Dollars \$ -15,000,000

### Description of Item

The FY 2016 Enacted level is \$215,000,000 for the STOP Grants Program. In FY 2017 we are requesting \$200,000,000, a decrease of \$15,000,000.

### Justification

Due to competing budget priorities, the Department is reducing the funding level for this Program to support other OVW critical initiatives. To support these priorities, a shift in funding was necessary to support increases to the Improving Criminal Justice Responses, Legal Assistant for Victims, Campus, Abuse in Later Life, and Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Programs.

### Impact on Performance

Reducing funding to the STOP Program is necessary to support needed increases in other programs, which impact Strategic Goal II, Objective 2.2, "Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims," and Strategic Goal III, Objective 3.1, "Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement."

## **Funding**

### Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>\$195,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>\$215,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>\$215,000</u>

Total Decrease for this Item

	P o s	Agt/ Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non- Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Current Services	0	0	0	0	215,000	215,000	0	0
Decreases	0	0	0	0	-15,000	-15,000	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	0	0	\$200,000	\$200,000		

**B. Item Name: National Institute of Justice (NIJ) Research on Violence Against Women**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims.  
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.

Organizational Program:

Component Ranking of Item: 2 of 3

Program Decrease: Positions 0 Agt/Atty 0 FTE 0 Dollars \$ -2,000,000

Description of Item

The FY 2016 Enacted level funds NIJ Research on Violence Against Women at \$5 million. In FY 2017 we are requesting \$3 million, a decrease of \$2 million.

Justification

Due to competing budget priorities, the Department is reducing the funding level for this Program to support other OVW critical initiatives. To support these priorities, a shift in funding was necessary to support increases to the Improving Criminal Justice Responses, Legal Assistant for Victims, Campus, Abuse In Later Life, and Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Programs. Additional resources for research are available through existing authorities and the proposed 3% set-aside for research, evaluation, and statistics.

Impact on Performance

Reducing NIJ Research on Violence Against Women is necessary to support needed increases in other programs, which impact Strategic Goal II, Objective 2.2, “Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims,” and Strategic Goal III, Objective 3.1, “Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.”

## Funding

### Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)
0	0	0	\$3,000	0	0	0	\$5,000	0	0	0	\$5,000

### Total Decrease for this Item

	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non-Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Current Services	0	0	0	0	5,000	5,000	0	0
Decreases	0	0	0	0	-2,000	-2,000	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	0	0	3,000	\$3,000		

**C. Item Name:** **Rape Survivor Child Custody Act**

Budget Decision Unit(s): Prevention and Prosecution of Violence Against Women and Related Victim Services Program

Strategic Goal(s) & Objective(s): 2.2 Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America's crime victims.  
3.1 Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.

Organizational Program:

Component Ranking of Item: 3 of 3

Program Decrease: Positions 0 Agt/Atty 0 FTE 0 Dollars \$ -2,500,000

### Description of Item

The FY 2016 Enacted level is \$2.5 million to implement the Rape Survivor Child Custody Act. This Act authorizes enhancements to STOP and Sexual Assault Services formula awards to states whose laws allow the mother of a child conceived through rape to seek court-ordered termination of the parental rights of the rapist with regard to that child, which the court is authorized to grant upon clear and convincing evidence of rape. Funds for this purpose were first appropriated in the FY 2016 Consolidated Appropriations Act at \$2.5 million. In FY 2017, we are requesting not to fund these enhancements.

### Justification

Due to competing budget priorities, the Department is not requesting funding for this Program to support other OVW critical initiatives. To support these priorities, a shift in funding was necessary to support increases to the Improving Criminal Justice Responses, Legal Assistant for Victims, Campus, Abuse In Later Life, and Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction Programs.

Impact on Performance

Zeroing out the Rape Survivor Custody Act funding is necessary to support needed increases in other programs, which impact Strategic Goal II, Objective 2.2, “Prevent and intervene in crimes against vulnerable populations; uphold the rights of, and improve services to, America’s crime victims,” and Strategic Goal III, Objective 3.1, “Promote and strengthen relationships and strategies for the administration of justice with state, local, tribal, and international law enforcement.”

**Funding**

Base Funding

FY 2015 Enacted				FY 2016 Enacted				FY 2017 Current Services			
Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	\$(000)
0	0	0	\$0	0	0	0	\$2,500	0	0	0	\$2,500

Total Decrease for this Item

	Pos	Agt/Atty	FTE	Personnel (\$000)	Non-Personnel (\$000)	Total (\$000)	FY 2018 Net Annualization (change from 2017) (\$000)	FY 2019 Net Annualization (change from 2018) (\$000)
Current Services	0	0	0	0	2,500	2,500	0	0
Decreases	0	0	0	0	-2,500	-2,500	0	0
Grand Total	0	0	0	0	0	0		

**VII. EXHIBITS**

Grant Exhibits

Management and Administration Exhibits

Endnotes

<sup>1</sup> Of the \$489 million, \$326 million is funded from the Crime Victims Fund, and \$163 million is from OVW direct appropriation.

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<sup>6</sup> Logan, T., Walker, R., Hoyt, W., & Faragher, T. (2009). *The Kentucky civil protective order study: A rural and urban multiple perspective study of protective order violation consequences, responses, and costs* (No. NCJRS 228350). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.

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<sup>13</sup> Cho, H., & Wilke, D. J. (2005). How has the Violence Against Women Act affected the response of the criminal justice system to domestic violence? *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*, 22, 125-139.

<sup>14</sup> Uekert, B., Miller, N., Dupree, C., Spence, D., & Archer, C. (2001). *The evaluation of the STOP Violence Against Women Grant Program, Law enforcement and prosecution components* (Publication No. NCJRS 189163). Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.

<sup>15</sup> An additional 1,968 families were served by Safe Havens grantees, 4,518 children and 100 dependents were served by Transitional Housing grantees, and 19 families were served by Tribal Government grantees.

<sup>16</sup> Victims were reported only once in each category of service provided; orders for which assistance was provided to victims by advocates, law enforcement, and prosecution; civil orders granted in courts using VAWA funds for court activities; criminal orders granted in courts using VAWA funds for court activities and orders granted in jurisdictions receiving Arrest Grants. Data is from discretionary grantees from January –June 2014.

<sup>17</sup> This number does not include community measures protection orders granted either temporary (7,858) or final (3,279), through assistance by Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Initiative Arrest grantees.

<sup>18</sup> Because victims were reported only once in each category or service provided, this number represents the minimum number of times services were provided to victims by STOP and SASP sub-grantees in 2013.

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<sup>23</sup> 56 in FY 2013; and 71 in FY 2012; 78 in FY 2011; 86 in FY 2010.

<sup>24</sup> Annual set-asides: \$5,000,000 for Tribal Governments Program; \$4,000,000 for Homicide Reduction Initiative, \$2,500,000 for Culturally Specific Services Program; \$1,000,000 for Outreach to Underserved Populations; \$2,500,000 for Tribal Coalitions Program. None of these set-asides were imposed on the Arrest appropriations prior to FY 2007.

<sup>25</sup> OVW progress reports by grant program can be found at <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/vawamei/summaryreports.htm>.

<sup>26</sup> OVW progress reports by grant program can be found at <http://muskie.usm.maine.edu/vawamei/summaryreports.htm>.

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- <sup>39</sup> U.S. Census Bureau. (2011, November). The Older Population: 2010 (Report No. C2010BR-09). <http://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2011/dec/2010br-09.pdf>
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<sup>53</sup>Violence Policy Center, “When Men Murder Women: An Analysis of 2010 Homicide Data,” 2012 (available at <http://www.vpc.org/studies/wmmw2012.pdf>)

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