

FY23 OVW LAV EXPANDING LEGAL SERVICES INITIATIVE

LAV Information Presentation, October 6, 2022

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

WHAT WE WILL COVER TODAY

**Introduction to
Legal Assistance
for Victims
Program**

**Expanding Legal
Services Initiative**

LAV Process

Helpful Hints

INTRO TO LAV

The LAV Grant Program (CFDA 16.524) is intended to increase the availability of civil and criminal legal assistance needed to effectively aid adult and youth (ages 11 and older) victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking by providing funds for comprehensive direct legal services to victims in legal matters relating to or arising out of that abuse or violence.

INTRO TO LAV

- Provide survivors access to appropriately trained legal representation.
- Supports comprehensive legal representation services; funded projects may include advocates.
- Funded projects must include legal representation by a licensed attorney.
- Does not support criminal defense legal representation or services.

WHO DO WE FUND?

Eligible applicants:

- Private nonprofit entities;
- Publicly funded organizations not acting in a governmental capacity;
- Territorial organizations;
- Indian tribal governments; and
- Tribal organizations in the United States or U.S. territories.

EXAMPLES OF FUNDED ENTITIES

- Non-profits
- Law schools
- Statewide Coalitions
- Tribal organizations, tribal governments.

WHAT LEGAL AREAS DO WE FUND?

- Comprehensive legal services provided by lawyers & advocates working together..
- Diverse legal practice includes assistance to victims in areas of law that impact a survivor's safety and privacy. Examples include:
 - Abuse Prevention, Protection Orders
 - Family Law: Divorce, Custody, Support
 - Immigration
 - Housing Rights, Eviction
 - Employment Rights
 - Consumer Protection
 - Language Access
 - Victims Rights, Safety, Privacy in Criminal Justice Investigations

ELSI: PURPOSE

- Recognition of challenges that some community-based organizations face when competing for LAV awards.
- Increase successful applications from community-based organizations, tribal organizations and tribal governments to provide legal representation and assistance to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- Assisting organizations that do not have in-house, comprehensive legal representation programs to establish one from the ground up.

LAV AWARD PROCESS

- Solicitation estimated to be released in November/December 2022; check OVW website.
- Deadlines for LAV applications are usually between 6–8 weeks after solicitation is released.
- Basic Minimum Review
- Peer Review
- Internal Review & Final Selection
- Most grants start October 1 (but can change)

ELSI: WHO MAY APPLY?

- Non-profit organizations, tribal organizations, tribal governments.
- Domestic violence/sexual assault organizations, community-based organizations, multi-service organizations.
- For entities who are receiving LAV funds under a current award, you are eligible if you are:
 - A Lead grantee with an LAV award that is ending Sept 30, 2023 but who do not have an in-house division or unit that provides legal representation services.
 - An MOU partner/subrecipient who does not have an in-house division or unit that provides legal representation services.

PRIORITY CONSIDERATIONS

- LAV Priority Areas
 - 1) Advancing Racial Equity
 - 2) Improving Services to Survivors from Underserved Populations.
- To be considered as a priority applicant, the lead applicant must be either:
 - Advancing Racial Equity: Culturally Specific Organization
 - Black, Latin@, Asian American, South Asian, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, tribal or urban natives
 - Improving Services to Underserved Populations: Population Specific Organization serving underserved populations, particularly LGBTQ, Immigrants

5 THINGS TO DO

Review Past Solicitations

**Review Successful
Projects**

Explore OVW Website

**Sign up for Email
Announcements**

Become a Peer Reviewer!

BECOME AN OVW PEER REVIEWER!

To learn more about this process, please visit
<https://www.justice.gov/ovw//peer-review>.

If you have general questions about becoming a peer reviewer, please
email: ovw.lav@usdoj.gov

LINKS

- OVW Events Page: [Events | OVW | Department of Justice](#)
- OVW Email Sign up for Solicitation Announcements: [Open Solicitations \(justice.gov\)](#)
- Examples of Successful Projects in OVW's most recent report to Congress: [Reports to Congress \(justice.gov\)](#)
- Become a Peer Reviewer for OVW! <https://www.justice.gov/ovw//peer-review>

Any Questions?

**THANK YOU FOR
JOINING US!**