



## Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)

### FY 2011 Budget Request At A Glance

FY 2010 Enacted:	\$434.2 million* (65 positions)
Current Services Adjustments:	\$0.5 million
Program Changes:	+\$26 million
FY 2011 Budget Request:	\$460.7 million* (105 positions)
Change from FY 2010 Enacted:	+\$26.5 million (+6.1%) (+40 positions)

\* Includes funding from the Office of Justice Programs, Salaries and Expenses appropriation.

### Mission:

The mission of the OVW is to provide federal leadership to reduce violence against women, and to support the administration of justice for and strengthen services to all victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This is accomplished by developing and supporting the capacity of state, local, tribal, and non-profit entities involved in responding to violence against women.

### Resources:

The budget request for FY 2011 totals \$460.7 million, which is a 6.1 percent increase from the FY 2010 Enacted.

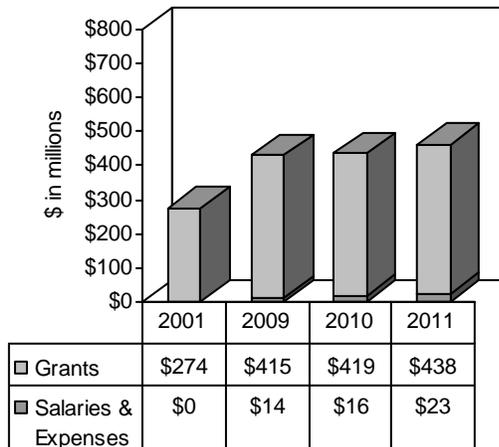
### Organization:

OVW is headed by a Director, who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The Director oversees a Criminal Justice Division, Community Division, Policy Analysis Division and Administration Division.

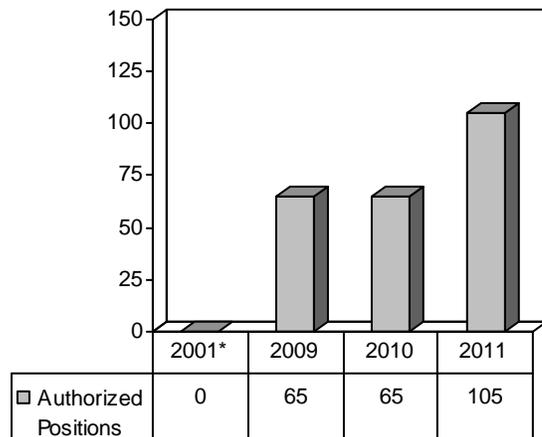
### Personnel:

The OVW's direct authorized positions for FY 2011 total 105 positions, which is an increase of 40 positions from the FY 2010 enacted. The additional positions are for OVW to create it's own Grants Financial Management Unit and increase personnel levels within their divisions in order to properly administer the increasing grants funding and overall workload.

**Funding (FY 2001 - 2011)**



**Personnel (FY 2001 - 2011)**



\*In FY 01 OVW was included in the Office of Justice Programs.

## **FY 2011 Strategy:**

The OVW was created specifically to implement the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and subsequent legislation. OVW administers financial and technical assistance to communities around the country to facilitate the creation of programs, policies, and practices aimed at ending domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

In recognition of the severity of the crimes associated with domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, Congress passed the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (VAWA 1994) as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. VAWA is a comprehensive legislative package designed to end violence against women and was reauthorized in both 2000 and 2005. The legislative history of VAWA indicates that Congress seeks to remedy the legacy of laws and social norms that serve to justify violence against women. Since the passage of VAWA, there has been a paradigm shift in how the issue of violence against women is addressed.

VAWA was designed to improve criminal justice responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and to increase the availability of services for victims of these crimes. VAWA requires a coordinated community response to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, encouraging jurisdictions to bring together players from diverse backgrounds to share information and to use their distinct roles to improve community responses to violence against women. These players include, but are not limited to: victim advocates, police officers, prosecutors, judges, probation and corrections officials, health care professionals, leaders within faith communities, and survivors of violence against women. The federal law takes a comprehensive approach to violence against women by combining tough new penalties to prosecute offenders while implementing programs to aid the victims of such violence. By working together, a system can be created to keep victims safe and hold offenders accountable. OVW has instituted this philosophy at all levels of its work.

## **FY 2011 Program Changes:**

**OVW Management and Administration (M&A):** \$7.5 million and 40 positions for management and administration costs, and increased OVW staffing levels in order to properly administer the increasing grants funding and the overall workload. This funding request includes 10 personnel for OVW to create a Grants Financial Management Unit for pre-and post-award grant processing and providing technical assistance to OVW grantees. Funding is also requested to increase OVW's personnel in several areas including the program division, legal counsel division and administration division, including adequate funding for peer review. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are \$15.2 million and 65 positions.

**Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP):** \$15.0 million for a total of \$30.0 million to provide intervention, advocacy, and support services for victims of sexual assault and those collaterally affected. The SASP supports efforts to help survivors heal from sexual assault trauma through direct intervention and related assistance from social service organizations such as rape crisis centers through 24-hour sexual assault hotlines, crisis intervention, and medical and criminal justice accompaniment. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are \$15.0 million.

**Legal Assistance for Victims Grant (LAV) Program:** \$9.0 million for a total of \$50.0 million for legal services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. OVW-funded projects provide civil and criminal legal assistance to victims, encourage cooperative efforts between domestic violence and sexual assault service organizations and legal assistance providers, and provide technical assistance to LAV Program grantees. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are \$41.0 million.

**Transitional Housing Grant Program:** \$25.0 million to enhance the safety and well-being of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking by supporting projects that provide transitional housing services and move individuals into permanent housing. Transitional Housing is funded at \$18.0 million as a set-aside under Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors (STOP) Violence Against Women program in the FY 2010 enacted appropriation. The FY 2011 budget moves Transitional Housing to its own separate line-item.

**Court Training and Improvements Program:** \$1.0 million for a total of \$4.0 million to provide courts and court-based programs with the necessary resources to improve responses to adult and youth victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. At the current funding level, OVW can only provide support to six or seven jurisdictions seeking to implement new court improvement models.

Additional funding will allow more jurisdictions to receive grants. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are \$3 million.

**Research and Evaluation of Violence Against Women:** \$3.0 million to fund research projects on violence against women. Additional funding would allow further and more varied research to be undertaken through this program including research on: child custody issues in cases involving domestic violence and economic issues related to domestic violence. Research and Evaluation of Violence Against Women was funded at \$3.0 million as a set-aside under STOP in the FY 2010 enacted appropriation. The FY 2011 budget moves Research and Evaluation of Violence Against Women to its own separate line-item.

**Research on Violence Against Indian Women:** \$2.0 million for a total of \$3.0 million to conduct statutorily mandated research on the specific issue of violence against Indian Women, which will be conducted by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). The focus will be on a tribally representative study; secondary data analysis on federal, state, local and tribal crime and health data systems and sources, and an evaluation of promising programs. FY 2011 current services for this initiative are \$1.0 million.

**Indian Country – Sexual Assault Clearinghouse:** \$500,000 to create a clearinghouse to offer a one-stop shop where tribes could request free on-site training and technical assistance enabling the community to respond to events, treat victims, and promote awareness. The clearinghouse would eventually be capable of tracking emerging trends in the field, and assist OVW develop a global perspective on sexual assault in Indian country. There are no FY 2011 current services for this item.

**Indian Country – Regional Summits:** \$500,000 for regional summits to provide training on prosecuting federal cases involving sexual and domestic violence and stalking in Indian Country and enhance collaboration among federal and tribal entities charged with enhancing the safety of Indian women. There are no FY 2011 current services for this item.

**Savings:**

Offsetting decreases from the STOP Program (\$22.5 million), Arrest Program (\$12.5 million), and Supporting Teens through Education Program (\$2.5 million) are included in the budget. While the STOP Program decrease shows as \$22.5 million from 2010 to 2011, when one factors in that in the 2010 enacted Transitional Housing and NIJ Research were funded from within STOP and in 2011 they are requested on separate line items, the net decrease for STOP from 2010 enacted to the 2011 President's Budget is only \$1.5 million.

**Financial Snapshot 2009**

Clean Opinion on Financial Statements	Yes
Timely Financial Reporting	Yes
Material Weaknesses	None