OVERVIEW

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS PROGRAM

The Violence Against Women Tribal Governments Program enhances the ability of Tribes to respond to violent crimes against Indian women, enhance victim safety, and develop education and prevention strategies. Eligible applicants are federally-recognized Tribes or an organization that is acting as the authorized designee of a federally-recognized Indian Tribe. Applications for the Tribal Governments Program are submitted through the DOJ Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS).

The goals and objectives of the Tribal Governments Program, (CTAS Purpose Area 5):

- To develop and enhance effective plans for the Tribal Government to reduce violent crimes against Indian women and increase safety for Native women.
- To increase the ability of the Tribal Government to respond to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and stalking committed against Indian women.
- To strengthen the Tribal criminal justice system’s ability to get involved with stopping violence against Indian women.
- To improve services that are available to help victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and stalking.
- To work with the community to create education and prevention campaigns that are designed to inform members of the community about domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and stalking programs, and that also increase the community’s awareness about the needs of children who have witnessed domestic violence.
- To provide supervised visitation and safe exchange programs (e.g., visitation centers) that allow children to visit with their non-custodial parent in cases where one parent has committed an act of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking against the other.
- To provide transitional housing assistance for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, or stalking.
- To provide legal advice and representation to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, or stalking who need assistance with legal issues that are caused by the abuse they have suffered.
- To provide services to address the needs of youth who are victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, or stalking and the needs of children and youth exposed to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, including support for the non-abusing parent or caretaker of the youth or child.
- To develop and promote legislation and policies that enhance best practices for responding to violent crimes against Indian women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and stalking.

For additional information on the Violence Against Women Tribal Governments Program, please contact:

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COORDINATED TRIBAL ASSISTANCE SOLICITATION

The Department of Justice (DOJ) launched its Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) in Fiscal Year 2010 in direct response to concerns raised by Tribal leaders about the Department’s grant process that did not provide the flexibility Tribes needed to address their criminal justice and public safety needs.

Through CTAS, federally recognized Tribes and Tribal consortia were able, for the first time ever, to submit a single application for most of DOJ’s Tribal grant programs. DOJ designed this comprehensive approach to save time and resources and allow Tribes and DOJ to gain a better understanding of the Tribes’ overall public safety needs. CTAS is not a program but is the overarching structure, under which ten separate grant program applications are collected. CTAS is currently operated through collaborative efforts across many department components, bureaus, and offices, including:

- Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
- Executive Office for United States Attorney’s (EOUSA)
- Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)
- Office of Justice Programs (OJP)
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
- Office of Tribal Justice (OTJ)
- Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)
- Office on Violence Against Women (OVW)
ongoing support

There are a wide range of resources and supports available to grantees to assist them with successful project implementation. The below list of the Tribal Governments Technical Assistance Providers and other resources are available to grantees:

National Institute of Justice
- www.nij.gov/topics/tribal-justice/vaw-research/welcome.htm
- www.vaw.sagepub.com/content/19/6/771

National Criminal Justice Resource Center
- www.ncjrs.gov/justiceinindiancountry/index.html

National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center
- www.niwrc.org

Alaska Native Women’s Resource Center
- www.aknwrc.org

Red Wind Consulting
- www.red-wind.net

Mending the Sacred Hoop
- www.msh-ta.org

Southwest Center for Law and Policy
- www.swclap.org
- The National Indian Country Clearinghouse on Sexual Assault at www.niccsa.org

Tribal Law and Policy Institute
- www.tribal-institute.org

funding & eligibility

Title IX of VAWA 2005 establishes who is eligible to receive funding under the Tribal Governments Program (CTAS Purpose Area #5). OVW will accept applications from a federally recognized Indian Tribe; authorized Designee of a federally recognized Indian Tribe; or a Tribal consortium.

The Tribal Governments Program statute requires that each Tribe or organization that is eligible to apply for Tribal Governments Program funding consult with a specific type of organization or group to implement the project. There are three ways to satisfy this requirement: 1) partner with a nonprofit Indian victim services program from the Tribal or local community; 2) partner with a nonprofit Tribal domestic violence or sexual assault coalition or 3) partner with an advisory committee of women from the community that will be served by the project. For more information see the OVW Tribal Governments Grantee Guide Book at https://www.justice.gov/tribal/open-solicitations.

The award period for Tribal Governments Program (CTAS Purpose Area #5) is 36 months. New applicants may apply for grant awards of up to $450,000 and continuation grantees can apply for up to $900,000.

additional information

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The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, supports law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, victim services, technology, and prevention initiatives that strengthen the nation’s criminal justice system. BJA provides leadership, services, and funding to America’s communities by emphasizing local control; building relationships in the field; developing collaborations and partnerships; promoting capacity building through planning; streamlining the administration of grants; increasing training and technical assistance; creating project accountability; encouraging innovation; and ultimately communicating the value of justice efforts to decision makers at every level.

BJA works with the Office of Tribal Justice, the Office of Justice Program’s American Indian and Alaska Native Affairs Desk, and other federal agencies, in addition to many culturally appropriate organizations, to maintain focus with the field and to ensure the program’s goals and objectives are achieved.

Established in 1988 through an amendment to the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) is charged by Congress with administering the Crime Victims Fund (the Fund). Through OVC, the Fund supports a broad array of programs and services that focus on helping victims in the immediate aftermath of crime and continuing to support them as they rebuild their lives. Millions of dollars are invested annually in victim compensation and assistance in every U.S. state and territory, as well as for training, technical assistance, and other capacity-building programs designed to enhance service providers’ ability to support victims of crime in communities across the Nation.

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) is a component of the United States Department of Justice. In recognition of the severity of the crimes associated with domestic violence, dating 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 nationwide.

OVW was created specifically to implement 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.

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) was created through the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994. The COPS Office is the component of the U.S. Department of Justice responsible for advancing the practice of community policing by the nation’s state, local, territory, and Tribal law enforcement agencies through information and grant resources.

Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques, to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime. The COPS Office has also produced and compiled a broad range of information resources that can help law enforcement better address specific crime and operational issues, and help community leaders better understand how to work cooperatively with their law enforcement agency to reduce crime.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act established OJJDP, a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice, to support local and state efforts to prevent delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system. OJJDP collaborates with professionals from diverse disciplines to improve juvenile justice policies and practices by supporting states, local communities, and Tribal jurisdictions in their efforts to develop and implement effective programs for juveniles. The Office strives to strengthen the juvenile justice system’s efforts to protect public safety, hold offenders accountable, and provide services that address the needs of youth and their families.

OJJDP sponsors research, program, and training initiatives; develops priorities and goals and sets policies to guide federal juvenile justice issues; disseminates information about juvenile justice issues; and awards funds to states to support local programming.