

WEST VIRGINIA
STOP VAWA and VICTIM SERVICES
Four Year Implementation Plan
2017-2020



Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
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West Virginians Against Violence Committee
West Virginia STOP Violence Against Women Collaborative Committee

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services is pleased to provide criminal justice professionals and advocates throughout the state with a four-year plan to assist in combating violent crime but especially aiding domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking victims with STOP VAWA funds in their communities. This plan could not have been completed without the collaboration and efforts of many dedicated agencies and individuals.

The STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Collaborative Committee members (See Appendix A for a list of members) were instrumental in the planning and the development of this four-year plan; as well as the continuation of reviewing and revising the state's STOP VAWA and Victim Services Implementation Plan. The VAWA Collaborative Committee meets three to four times a year to discuss issues and improve services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence.

The West Virginians Against Violence Committee has demonstrated continuing commitment to stopping violence against women and working to provide services to all victims of crime including victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence in West Virginia. Their leadership role in this area has contributed significantly to this four-year plan. A list of the Committee membership can be found in the Appendix C.

Appreciation is offered to the non-profit agencies, the criminal justice system agencies and individuals who participated in the Focus Group meetings and surveys. The focus groups consisted of, but were not limited to individuals from non-profit, non-governmental domestic violence programs, rape crisis centers, cultural specific programs, counseling and victim services in dating violence, stalking, and faith-based agencies, the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services and the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence. A list of focus group participants can be found in Appendix A.

Recognition should be given to the project directors and VOCA and STOP-funded staff of the local sub-grantee programs for their continued cooperation, collaboration, and diligent work related to responding to victims of crime, but especially those victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking crimes in West Virginia.

Introduction:

The West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services (WVDJCS) is the State administering agency for the Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors Violence Against Women Act Formula Grant (S.T.O.P. VAWA) Program, the Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program and the Sexual Assault Service Program (SASP) Formula Grant. From the collaborative effort of the West Virginians Against Violence Committee, the VAWA Collaboration Group, sub-grantees and community agencies the following plan has been

developed. West Virginia's four-year Implementation Plan strives to build upon previous years' projects and accomplishments and provide effective approaches for increasing safety and services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking crimes. In addition to building on the past STOP VAWA Implementation Plan, the 2017-2020 plan will incorporate VOCA and SASP in priorities and goals and objectives of this plan with the knowledge that these funding sources have different funding guidelines and that these guidelines will be strictly followed. In addition, this plan will coordinate and collaborate with the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Program (FVSPA) and the Public Health Service Act (Rape Prevention Education) administering agencies in providing services without duplication and help to improve coordination of services and collaboration throughout West Virginia. WVDJCS recognizes that the Plan for the most part addresses the VAWA crimes, but as domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking are crimes also addressed under VOCA and SASP, it is relevant in part to those grants as well.

In order to provide quality services, training, and to effect change in West Virginia, WVDJCS in coordination with the WV Foundation for Rape and Information Services (WVFRIS) whose board members include all nine Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis Center's directors in the state, and the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV), whose board members include the fourteen-licensed domestic violence shelter directors throughout the state. Other partners include, but are not limited to, the West Virginians Against Violence Committee, the United States Attorneys' Offices (Southern and Northern Districts), Faith-based agencies, Cultural-Specific Organizations, the West Virginia State Police, the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, and the West Virginia Crime Victim Compensation Office.

The Implementation Plan was approved by the State on April 21, 2017. The 2017-2020 Implementation Plan will be implemented with the start of funding of Federal Fiscal Year 2017 STOP Violence Against Women Act Formula Grant funds, which WVDJCS receives in October 2017 and will be reviewed annually and updated if needed until October 2020.

Description of Planning Process:

The process for development of this plan began with the first meeting of the STOP VAWA Collaboration Committee. This group was comprised of individuals from the West Virginia Domestic Violence Coalition, the West Virginia Sexual Assault Coalition, the WV Department of Health and Human Resources, the Family Protection Services Board, and the West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services. The STOP VAWA Collaboration Committee met on August 29, 2016 and again on November 7, 2016. The purpose of the meetings was to review the current plan and provide the foundation for the planning process by identifying who should be invited to attend the focus meeting planned for January 12, 2017, develop questions for a survey and questions for the implementation plan focus group meeting, and begin discussing issues concerning the criminal justice system's response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, stalking crimes, and how to incorporate VOCA and SASP as part of this plan.

An Implementation Plan Focus group meeting was held on January 12, 2017 to develop the new STOP Violence Against Women and Victim Services Implementation Plan. In addition to gathering information from the participants relevant to the Implementation Plan, focus questions

were discussed at the meeting and mailed to all STOP VAWA and VOCA sub-grantees who could not attend the focus group meeting to complete and return to WVDJCS staff. All STOP Team Members and sub-grantees were also requested to participate and complete an on-line survey (For a list of questions, refer to Appendix E).

Participation: Assessment Survey:

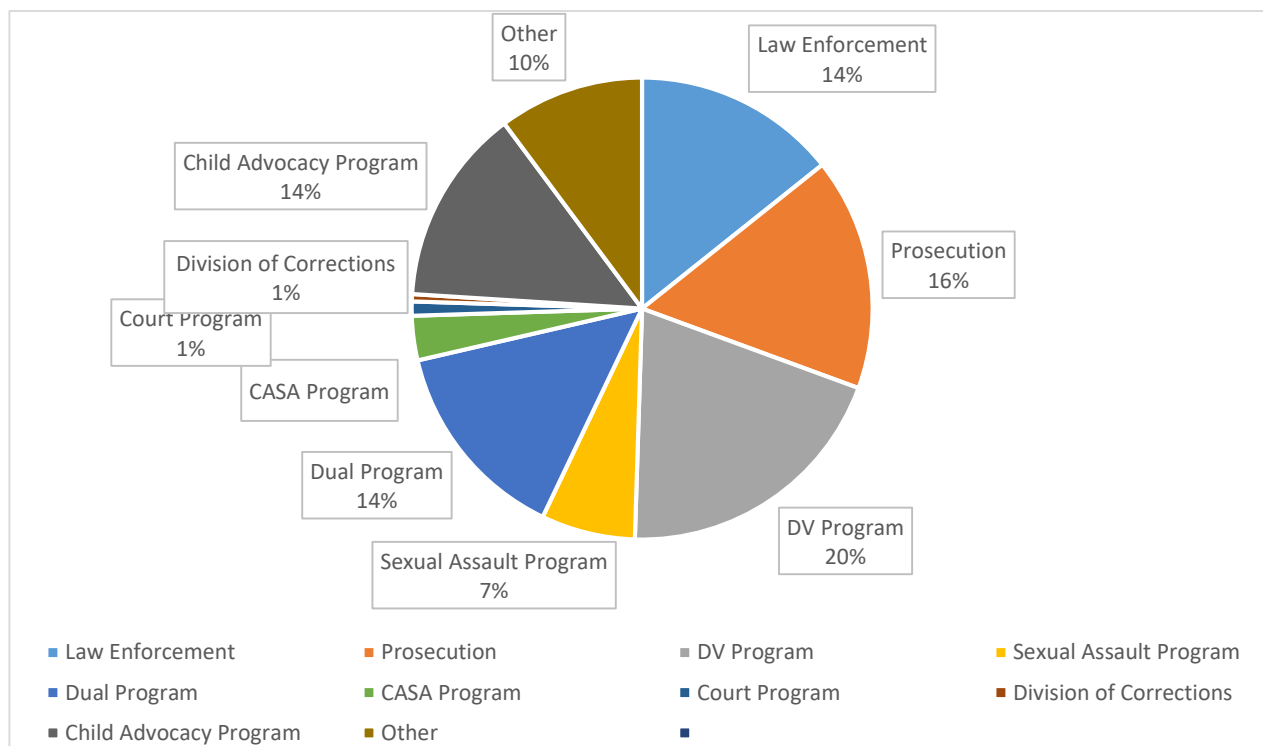
An assessment survey was developed and sent to all STOP VAWA, VOCA, and SASP sub-grantees. It was also sent to all fifty-five county prosecutors and sheriff departments, the WV Child Advocacy Network (WVCAN), all child advocacy centers, and the Advisory Committees that work in coordination with the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV). The two advisory boards which the WVCADV work with are:

- Advocacy of Color Network
- The Rainbow Justice League (LGBTQ)

The WVCADV staff also met with the Advocacy of Color Network and received feedback on what is working; what is not working, and is needed to improve delivery of services. Below are those responses:

What is Working	What is NOT Working	What Do We Need to Do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WVCADV support-ACN/initiatives & cultural specific projects (i.e. WOCN) • DV Shelters/Programs availability • DV Advocates –Civil Legal Assistance • DV Court • Education of Advocates-Cultural Awareness • VAWA-financial Empowerment <p>Reflection of answering this question – the Advocacy of Color Network had a problem with identifying what is working.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness –We are not aware of any “By and For” programs in WV • Finances toward culturally specific-minimal to none • Implementation-grant language is not reflective of what is actually happening. • Lack of cultural awareness. • Diversity of advocates does not reflect victims. • Apathy- refusal to acknowledge cultural dynamics • Cultural assumptions – assuming (1) person of color is the spokes-person-know everything about that group-tokenism • Decision makers need to be more diverse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network • Fundraise • Community Mobilizing-local level – community members need to determine the need • Decision makers need to be more diverse (People of Color) • Support for marginalized communities to develop specific groups (licensing process) • Support in developing grant writing skills? • Programs to empower and teach (leadership series) • Financial Resources • Housing • Employment • Education/Training Programs • Communities of Faith

The agencies which participated in the assessment survey are:



(See Appendix D for survey questions)

Focus Group Meeting:

The following are the agencies that were invited to participate in the focus meeting (See Appendix A for full list of participants and invitees):

1. State sexual assault coalition:
West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information & Services
2. State domestic violence coalition:
West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence
3. Dual domestic violence and sexual assault program:
Shenandoah Women's Center
Family Refuge Center
4. Law enforcement entities:
West Virginia State Police
Morgantown Police Department
Lewisburg Police Department
Logan County Sheriff's Department
5. Prosecution entities:
West Virginia Prosecuting Attorney's Institute
Monongalia County Prosecuting Attorney

Ohio County Prosecuting Attorney

6. State and local courts:

West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals

7. Tribal governments (in states with state or federally recognized tribes) **N/A**

8. Representatives from underserved populations, including culturally specific populations:

Greenbrier County Community on Aging

Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living

9. Victim service providers:

CONTACT of Huntington- Rape Crisis Center

Branches Domestic Violence Shelter– Domestic Violence Program

CHANGE Inc. – Domestic Violence Program

REACH –Rape Crisis Program

Shenandoah Women’s Center – Dual Program

Upshur County Prosecution-based Advocate

Putnam County Law Enforcement-based Advocate

YWCA Cultural Diversity Program

B.M.E.E.K – Cultural Diversity Advocate

Mineral County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program

K.I.S.R.A – cultural specific agency

10. Population specific organizations: **N/A**

11. Other:

West Virginians Against Violence Committee Members

West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (FVPSA)

West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services Staff

West Virginia Legal Aid

West Virginia Child Advocacy Network

Representative from the Family Protection Service Board (FPSB)

West Virginia Senior Legal Aid

Fairness WV

Representative from LGBT workgroup (Rainbow Justice League)

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, who administer the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) grant, a member who is part of the Public Health Service Act; the Rape Prevention Education Board (the Rape Prevention Education Coordinator position is currently not filled), and the Victim of Crime Act Administrator, are members of the STOP VAWA Collaborative Committee as well as participants in the Focus Group Meeting to assist in developing and implementation of West Virginia’s state plan. They have been a part of the VAWA Collaborative since 2005.

Programs and participants emphasized that core services need to be maintained and if possible expanded to ensure all victims receive quality direct services.

Needs and Context:

West Virginia Demographics:

West Virginia is located in the Appalachian Region of the United States and is 24,230 square miles with an average of 76.5 persons per square mile. According to the 2010 US Census, West Virginia has a population of 1,852,994 residents, of which males account for 49.3% and females 50.7%. Of this total population, 53.9% live in rural areas. The median age in West Virginia is 41.3 with the elderly population that makes up 38.2% of the population (50 years old – 85 years old or older) (US Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey). The Population Reference Bureau ranks West Virginia third in the nation with 15.6% of its population being sixty-five or older. The US Census estimates that in July 2015 the population will be 1,884,128, of which 50.6% are female and 49.4% are male. These numbers may decrease in 2016 and 2017 due to the loss of jobs in the coal industry and people leaving the state for other jobs.

In looking at the racial and ethnic composition of the state, there is currently a disparity between races in West Virginia with the majority of residents identifying as white. The United States Census Bureau shows that 93.2% of the population in West Virginia is White, 3.4% Black or African American, 1.3% Hispanic or Latino, 0.7% Asian, and 0.2% Native American Indian (US Census Bureau, 2010). The US Census estimates that in 2015 the percent of the population that is White will be 93.9%; Black or African American will be 3.4%; American Indian will be 0.2%; Asian 0.7 %; and Hispanic or Latino 1.2%.

Currently five counties in West Virginia have 11% or more of their population who are people of color, two counties in West Virginia have 9-10% of their population who are people of color, and three counties have 7-8% of their population who are people of color. The counties which have 7%-11% or more people of color are as follows: Cabell, Summers, Mercer, McDowell, Monongalia, Berkeley, Jefferson, Gilmer, Kanawha, and Raleigh Counties. The results from the US Census 2015 survey indicate that there may be a small decrease in the diversity of the state's population, due to people moving away from West Virginia, thereby decreasing the diversity of those communities (US Census, 2015 American Fact Finder).

There are outreach offices or local programs in all the above referenced counties; however, because West Virginia is a very rural state, there are limited resources. Public transportation does not exist in some of these areas, and it is difficult for victims to receive the services they need. It is the goal of this Implementation Plan to continue to extend outreach and services to marginalized populations in the State.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 17.9% of the population in West Virginia has an income below the poverty level; of this population 9.4% of people 65 years or older are living below the poverty level; persons under the age of 18 who are below the poverty level is 25.4% of the population; 19.6% of females are living below the poverty level compared to 16.6% of males. The median household income is \$41,576 and the mean household income is \$53,889 (US Census Bureau, American Fact Finder). The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that as of January 2017, West Virginia has an unemployment rate of 5.6%.

Of the total population in West Virginia, 85% who are twenty-five years or older have a high school diploma. Of West Virginia's total population, 19.2% of the population who are twenty-

five years old or older have a bachelor's degree or higher; 7.3% of the population who are 25 or older have a Graduate or professional degree (US Census Bureau 2015).

Grandparents who are responsible for their grandchildren make up 1.8% of the total population in West Virginia. Of the households in West Virginia, 11.4% are households who do not have a husband present and of these households 5.7% of these households have children who are under the age of eighteen (US Census Bureau, 2012 American Community Survey).

Of the total, non-institutionalized population of West Virginia, 19% reported having a disability, of which 5.6% are under the age of eighteen and 43.4% who are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey). More than half (51.1%) of the residents are female; 15.4% are 65 years old or older and 23.5% have a disability. In West Virginia, close to one in every ten people aged 18 to 64 receive disability insurance from the Social Security Administration, more than three times the rate in states like Utah and Alaska. West Virginia has the highest rate in the nation (4.2%) of people who identify with hearing difficulties (Disability Statistics Annual Report, Institute on Disability/UCED, 2015).

Problem Statement:

The Cost of Crime to Society: New Crime-Specific Estimates for Policy and Program Evaluation states that, "Crime generates substantial costs to society at individual, community and national levels." Victim costs in the United States include medical care costs, lost earnings, and property loss or damage. Indirect cost to victims include physical pain and emotional suffering, a decrease in quality of life and long term psychological issues as a result of the trauma of the victimization. Predatory crimes produced the highest per offense cost to society with \$1.28 million per murder, \$41,247 per rape/sexual assault, \$21,398 per robbery and \$19,537 per aggravated assault (The Cost of Crime to Society: New Crime-Specific Estimates for Policy and Program Evaluation). While the cost of crime is substantial, the traumatic effect it has on individuals is even more dramatic and have longer effects on their well-being, sense of safety, and quality of life.

According the Disaster Center, which is based on the Uniform Crime Reporting program, crime reports for West Virginia are as follows for 2013-2015:

Year	Violent	Property	Murder	Forcible rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Burglary
2013	5,657	39,929	62	367	653	4,242	9,908
2014	5,850	38,282	84	417	655	4,517	9,368
2015	6,231	37,251	70	420	760	4,729	9,170

The VOCA annual report (reporting period October 1, 2015-September 30, 2016) shows the following activities were conducted at the sub-grantee level:

Activities conducted	Number
Total number of individuals who received services during the year	50,171
Number of new individuals who received services for the 1 st time	34,270
Number who received services, which presented with more than one type of victimization	7,025

The top five victimization types of individuals that received services under VOCA are:

Victimization Type	Number of individuals receiving services
Domestic and/or Family Violence	19, 807
Child Physical Abuse or Neglect	7,165
Adult Physical Assault (includes aggravated and simple assault)	6,475
Identity Theft/Fraud/Financial Crime	3,590
Child Sexual Abuse/Assault	3,050

Violence Against Women crimes which include dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking are crimes that affect families, individuals, and cross socioeconomic lines and systems. Intimate partner and family violence (domestic and dating violence) includes physical, sexual, and financial abuse, elder abuse, and neglect and maltreatment of children, which occurs throughout the country every day (National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey).

The 2015 STOP VAWA Annual Report (Reporting Period January 1, 2015- December 31, 2015), shows the following services were provided by 20 victim services programs:

Type of Victimization	Number of victims receiving services
Domestic Violence/Dating Violence	6,339
Sexual Assault	307
Stalking	87
Secondary Victims Served	Number
Domestic Violence/Dating Violence	395
Sexual Assault	57
Stalking	4

West Virginia code §48-27-101 states, “every person has a right to be safe and secure in his or her home and family and to be free from domestic violence.” Domestic violence or abuse in West Virginia is defined by §48-27-202 as the occurrence of one or more of the following acts between family or household members:

- “Attempting to cause or intentionally knowingly or recklessly causing physical harm to another with or without dangerous or deadly weapons;
- Placing another in reasonable apprehension of physical harm;
- Creating fear of physical harm by harassment; psychological abuse or threatening acts;
- Committing either sexual assault or sexual abuse...;
- Holding, confining, detaining or abducting another person against that person’s will.”

Sexual violence is defined as “any sexual act that is perpetrated against someone's will.” Sexual violence encompasses a range of offenses, including a completed nonconsensual sex act (i.e., rape), an attempted nonconsensual sex act, abusive sexual contact (i.e., unwanted touching), and

non-contact sexual abuse (e.g., threatened sexual violence, exhibitionism, verbal sexual harassment).” All types of sexual violence include victims who do not consent, who are unable to consent, or who refuse to allow the act (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). The Rape Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN) reports that sixty percent of sexual assaults are not reported to law enforcement and approximately two-thirds of sexual assaults are committed by someone known to the victim. Seventy percent of sexual violence/offenses occurred at a residence or home (WVFRIS).

Although the occurrence of rape and sexual assault is high, many offenders are not arrested or prosecuted. One factor that may contribute to low arrest rates is that some law enforcement officers believe victims falsely report rape and are not telling the truth. This may account for their unwillingness to make an arrest. The trauma that often occurs as a result of the sexual violence can affect a victim’s memory and verbal skills, and cause behaviors that seem counter-intuitive to how people believe a victim should be responding to such trauma. These memory lapses and counter-intuitive behaviors are often interpreted by law enforcement and prosecution as lying. Prosecutors may also be reluctant to prosecute a rape or sexual assault case due to various other reasons, including the backlog of processing rape kits, alcohol and/or drug use by the victim during the commission of the crime, and the difficulty of proving a lack of consent. (Rape and Sexual Assault: A Renewed Call to Action. The White House Council on Women and Girls Report).

Stalking is defined as “a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person fear” by the National Center for Victims of Crime’s Stalking Resource Center. It is suggested that stalking is a pattern of behavior and not a single isolated incident. West Virginia’s law on stalking (WVSC §61-2-9a), addresses stalking as a separate act from harassment. To be charged with the crime of stalking, someone must repeatedly (on two or more occasions) follow another person, “knowingly or having reason to know that the conduct causes the person followed to reasonably fear for his or her safety or suffer significant emotional distress.” To be charged with the crime of harassment, someone must repeatedly (two or more times) harass or make credible threats against another person.

In West Virginia, domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking crimes remain issues for victims of all ages, sex, gender, and cross social and economic boundaries. This plan will continue to address these issues and strengthen the criminal justice system’s strategies to combat the violent crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking, and to support, enhance and expand services available to these victims and their families. It will also address other crimes such as property crimes, child abuse and neglect, murder, assault, and other crimes that will be addressed through Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funding.

Dating Violence:

According to national statistics, close to 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse in a year; one in three adolescents in the United States are victims of physical, sexual, emotional or other types of teen violence. Specifically, one in ten high school students have been intentionally hit, slapped, or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend; while one quarter of high school girls have been victims of physical or sexual abuse. Only 33% of teens

who were in a violent relationship told anyone about the abuse; 81% of parents believe teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they didn't know if it is an issue. A teen's confusion about the law and their desire for confidentiality are two of the most significant barriers stopping them from seeking help or reporting the abuse. Dating violence is even more prevalent in universities and colleges with approximately 70% of college students say they have been sexually coerced. (loveisrespect.org).

West Virginia is one of the states that allows victims of dating violence to file for a protective order regardless of the nature of the relationship. However, while the law does allow the minor to file on their own, the practice in the court system is that the minor must currently have a guardian or a parent present when filing. West Virginia law at this time does not provide for a specific school response to dating violence (Break the Cycle, 2013 State Law Report Card). However, through the work of the Dating Violence Committee the *West Virginia Guideline for Schools: Responding to Dating Violence* has been developed and has been presented to some schools and we continue to work on having it as a guideline for all schools to use as a resource. There is an increased need for more dating violence prevention and information provided in the schools, and to have school officials' assistance in developing a healthy response to protect victims of dating violence. Many teen victims do not report violence to their parents or guardian because they are afraid; as a result, many remain in dangerous violent relationships (National Center for Injury Prevention and Control). The Youth Risk Behavior Survey done through the WV Department of Education is conducted annually in selected schools in West Virginia reports for the 2015 school year the following for high school students surveyed:

Dating Violence:

- 10.1% experienced physical dating violence in the past year

Sexual Violence:

- 10.0% had been physically forced to have sexual intercourse when they did not want to
- 9.0% experienced sexual dating violence in the past year

The 2015 WV STOP VAWA Annual Report numbers show that out of 3,469 domestic violence/dating violence victims served, 1,346 had a dating relationship with their offender. In addition, out of the 307 sexual assault victims served, 27 had a dating relationship with their offender; and out of the 87 stalking victims served, 11 had a dating relationship with their offender.

Domestic Violence:

Unlike most other crimes, intimate partner or domestic violence is usually not a sudden, isolated, and unexpected incident. Domestic violence can involve years of emotional and psychological trauma as well as, physical injuries that may become increasingly more severe and increase in frequency over time. Exposure to such violence has a devastating impact on all involved, including children living with and experiencing domestic violence as witnesses. Domestic violence has significant effects on the health and well-being of primary and secondary victims. They may suffer injuries such as broken bones, bruises, disfigurement, miscarriages and death.

In addition to the physical injuries the victims also experience emotional and psychological abuse such as anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, and suicidal thoughts. Domestic violence victims are also at risk for alcohol and substance abuse as a way to self-medicate or by a means of control utilized by the offender to control their victim(s) (Ann D. Carden, October 1994). Due to being subjected to serious repeated trauma, domestic violence victims may develop post-traumatic stress disorder (Dr. Leanne Walker).

West Virginia's geography and culture create unique difficulties in providing services to victims of domestic violence. With 53.95% of the state being rural, victims of domestic violence face unique problems, which include: (1) law enforcement officers who are reluctant to intervene, (2) lack of support to victims from churches, (3) physical isolation, including the absences of cell phone service and public transportation; (4) the resistance of local communities to acknowledge and confront the problem of domestic violence and (5) the lack of funding for services or resources in rural communities. Another issue is the lack of good investigation techniques, the failure of law enforcement in determining the predominate aggressor, and the collection of evidence which allows for prosecution without the victim or victim's cooperation (National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey).

The fourteen licensed domestic violence shelters and their outreach offices provide shelter services, advocacy, outreach services, and community education to all fifty-five counties. Between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014, an unduplicated total of 13,557 adults and 2,575 children received shelter and non-shelter services. Of those, a total of 1,193 victims received shelter services and 14,294 victims received non-shelter services. The fourteen licensed domestic violence shelters and their outreach offices assisted victims with filing 6,103 domestic violence petitions (Family Protection Services Board Annual Report FY 2015). On September 16, 2015, all fourteen licensed programs participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services and the information was reported as follows:

- ❖ 350 victims served in one day
 - 162 domestic violence victims (81 children and 81 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by the programs
 - 18 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups
 - 102 Hotline calls answered
- ❖ Unmet Requests for Services
 - 56% were for housing- many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services. Cash assistance/financial assistance and rental assistance/utilities services were most in demand.
- ❖ Cause of Unmet Request for Help
 - 21% of programs reported government funding cuts
 - 21% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions
 - 14% of programs reported reductions in private funding
 - 7% of programs reported fewer individual donations

- ➔ Across West Virginia 9 staff were eliminated in the past year and most (67%) of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

The West Virginia Supreme Court reported that a total of 26,002 domestic violence cases were filed in either Magistrate or Family Court.

Lethality:

In the United States in 2014, there were 1,613 females murdered by males in single victim/single offender incidents that were reported to the FBI for their Homicide Report. According to the Violence Policy Center “When Men Murder Women”, West Virginia ranked 28th in the United States for females murdered by males in single victim/single offender homicides (Violence Policy Center When Men Murder Women, An Analysis of 2014 Homicide Data). The results of the Violence Policy Center research indicated the following:

- Homicides in which the victim to offender relationship could be identified, 93% of female victims were murdered by a male they knew
- 13 times as many females were murdered by a male they knew
- Homicides in which a weapon could be determined, more female homicides were committed with firearms (54%) than any other weapon, of these homicides committed with firearms, 69 % were committed with handguns

The WV State Police 2014 Uniform Crime Report states that 8,203 domestic violence investigations were reported. Of those investigations, there were 21 murders/non-negligent manslaughters, 1,393 aggravated assaults, 73 forcible rapes, 39 sexual assaults with an object, 5,166 simple assaults and 12 statutory rapes. The WV Supreme Court Fatality Review team has reviewed domestic violence related deaths. The case reviews reveal evidenced based indicators for lethal behavior (i.e. strangulation, threats with weapons, etc.), but professionals were not recognizing the indicators or heightening responses to provide increased safety for victims and accountability measures to decrease dangerousness of offenders. To address these issues, the Risk Assessment in Civil and Criminal Systems Committee (RACCS) developed a model four step process for 1) understanding the nature and context of domestic violence, 2) identifying evidenced based indicators for highly dangerous/potentially lethal behaviors of offenders, 3) when indicators are present, providing a heightened response to increase safety of victims and decrease dangerousness of offenders, and 4) coordinate heightened response across disciplines. The draft model statewide high risk assessment process, the “Dangerousness-Lethality Assessment Guide” (D-LAG) was presented to law enforcement, advocates, prosecutors, Magistrates, Family Court Judges, Circuit Court Judges, and Guardians ad Litem in a series of regional trainings. While the model was well received, the trainings revealed potential barriers to implementing the West Virginia model. Barriers include: 1) culture of blaming other disciplines when victims “fall through the cracks,” 2) law enforcement officers are less likely to conduct evidenced based lethality indicator victim interviews without a mandate; 3) legal procedural barriers for law enforcement to communicate lethality indicators to magistrates in a way that could impact bond and bond conditions; 4) information on evidence based indicators are often not communicated to judges and a legal procedure is needed to assist judges in making informed

decisions without compromising victim safety, autonomy and confidentiality; 5) no legal procedure to communicate bond conditions to law enforcement and victims; and 6) no formal high risk teams or statewide coordination for development and assessment of high risk teams (WVCADV).

From 2003-2005, 103 domestic violence related deaths were identified and reviewed by the West Virginia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team; of which 72 were homicides and 31 suicides; 27 (87.1%) of the suicides occurred following the commission of a homicide. The West Virginia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team also found the following:

- 51 female and 52 male fatalities, with women more likely to be homicide victims and men more likely to be suicide victims. Forty-nine (68.1%) of the 72 homicide victims were women; 23 (31.9%) were men. Twenty-nine (93%) of the suicide victims were men; 2 (6.5%) were women.
- All of the adult homicide victims who were part of a homicide/suicide were women.
- 62 of the 71 perpetrators of domestic violence homicides were men; 9 were women. Two of the female perpetrators had a known prior history of domestic violence; in contrast 39 of the 62 male perpetrators had a documented domestic violence history.
- 83 of the 103 deaths were classified as intimate partner related fatalities, such as involving a spouse, ex-spouse, current or former girlfriend/boyfriend/same sex partner or someone else who is involved as victim or perpetrator as the result of an intimate partner relationship. Twenty of the deaths were classified as family violence (involving a family member who is not an intimate partner).
- 78 of the 103 fatalities were due to firearms, 9 to knives or other related weapons, 8 to violent assault by strangulation, striking or kicking; 3 to a blunt weapon; 2 each to fire and motor vehicles and 1 to neglect. All 8 victims of strangulation, striking or kicking were women.
- Most of the Domestic Violence homicides occurred at either the victim's or perpetrator's residence.
- Minor children were present at the scene of 32.8% of intimate partner homicides; and 41.2% of the family violence homicides.

(Domestic Violence Fatalities Among Adults in West Virginia 2003-2005. A Report of the West Virginia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team).

In 2014, the West Virginia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Panel identified thirty-five homicides that took place under domestic violence circumstances, which can include intimate partners, relatives and roommates. The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence reports that one-third of homicides in West Virginia are related to domestic violence; and over two-thirds of women murdered are killed by a family or household member.

Sexual Violence/Sexual Assault:

Sexual violence is a public health issue across the United States. Many survivors of sexual violence experience physical injury, as well as mental health issues such as anxiety, depression, low self-esteem, trauma, and suicide; and other health issues such as sexually transmitted diseases and un-wanted pregnancy. Nearly 1 in 5, or almost 23 million women, and one in 71, or 1.9 million men in the United States have been raped at some time in their lives (National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey).

At the state and local level, most of the data concerning rape or sexual assault is from police reports or from agencies that provide services to sexual assault victims. The data provided does not accurately reflect the total number of sexual assault victims because most victims never report the crime or do not seek services from programs. The data provided by law enforcement is conservative because it does not include victims who have never been forcibly sexually assaulted. According to the West Virginia State Police Crime in West Virginia 2014 Report, “Sexual offenses in Incident Based Reporting are Forcible (forcible rape, forcible sodomy, and sexual assault with an object and forcible fondling) and non-forcible (Statutory Rape and Incest). The victims may be of either sex and of any age. The offense of Forcible Rape requires that the victim and offender to be of opposite sexes, while the other offenses may have been both the victim and offender of the same sex” (West Virginia State Police Crime in West Virginia, 2014).

After the rape, the victim is often faced with a society that is filled with misconceptions about sexual violence causing them to blame the victim, believe she/he is lying, not understand the serious nature of the crime, and/or just not capable of providing support. Additionally, our criminal justice process causes further stress, anxiety, and trauma on the victim as they, too, often do not provide an environment in which the victim feels respected, safe, supported, acknowledged, or appreciated for her/his efforts to hold a dangerous offender accountable. This is often referred to as the “*secondary rape*.” Rebecca Campbell, Ph.D. cites research in her article, “Rape Survivors’ Experiences with the Legal and Medical Systems: Do Rape Victim Advocates Make a Difference?” that “...rape survivors report that they are asked about their prior sexual histories, questioned about how they were dressed or behaving at the time of the assault, and are encouraged not to report or prosecute the assault.” Additionally, she states that “victims consistently report that these kinds of behaviors are highly distressing and re-victimizing.” She also states “prior research has found that most survivors of rape report feeling guilty, depressed, anxious, distrustful of others, and reluctant to seek further help after their interactions with legal system personnel.”

In general, studies have found that sexual violence is under-reported. This makes it difficult to have a clear picture of the full impact and extent of sexual violence crimes. Non-reporting in rural areas is more complicated because of the high rate of non-stranger sexual assault because they are close knit communities and the likelihood of knowing your assailant is high. According to Hunter, Burns-Smith, Walsh, “the closer the relationship between the victim and assailant, the less likely the woman is to report the crime.” As with domestic violence, geography and Appalachian culture create unique difficulties in providing services to victims of sexual assault. Rural and urban victims of sexual assault face additional barriers, which include: (1) law enforcement officers who are reluctant to investigate or believe the victim; (2) lack of support to victims from churches and families; (3) physical isolation, including the absence of cell phone

service and public transportation; (4) the resistance of local communities to acknowledge and confront the problem of sexual assault; (5) the lack of funding for services in rural communities, (6) lack of support or services available; and (7) victim blaming for behavior, dress, drinking, etc. (National Sexual Violence Resource Center: Unspoken Crimes: Sexual Assault in Rural America).

The White House Report on Rape and Sexual Assault: A Renewed Call to Action; states “people with disabilities, the LGBT community, prison inmates (of both genders), and the homeless are at a higher risk of being raped or sexually assaulted. Also, undocumented immigrants have different challenges because their abusers often threaten them with deportation if they try to get help. The survivors of rape and sexual assault often suffer from a wide range of physical and mental symptoms that may continue throughout their lifetime. These can include depression, chronic pain, diabetes, anxiety, eating disorders and post-traumatic stress disorder. They are also more likely to attempt or consider suicide. Although hard to quantify, studies have calculated the economic cost of sexual violence crimes to be significant; ranging from \$87,000 to \$240,776 per rape. These costs can include medical, victim services, loss of productivity, decreased quality of life, and law enforcement resources (Rape and Sexual Assault: A Renewed Call to Action. The White House Council on Women and Girls Report).

According to the 2013 West Virginia Behavioral Epidemiological Profile, there were 1,163 sexual assault offenses reported to law enforcement in West Virginia in 2011. The leading sexual assault offenses were forcible fondling (37.2%) and forcible rape (32.7%) (Gwilliam, M. 2013. West Virginia Behavioral Health Epidemiological Profile. Charleston, WV: West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities, Division on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse).

Rape Crisis Centers reported they provided services to 1,531 new victims in 2004-2005. Each victim may have suffered more than one sexual assault incident and not all victims seek assistance from WVFRIS and their member programs, therefore the actual number of incidents is likely to be much greater (West Virginia Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center, 2000).

West Virginia Sexual Assault statistics (WVFRIS stats):

- 82% of victims were related to or known to the offender
 - 46.6% were acquainted
- Most offenses were reported to have occurred at a residence (70%)
- Personal weapons, such as the offender’s fists or hands, were used during the offense and reported more frequently than other weapons
- 64.8% of victims were juveniles under the age of 18
 - The most frequently reported age was 15
- The majority of the offenders were male (93%) and adult (70.6%)

According to the West Virginia State Police 2014 Annual Report, the following characteristics were reported in sexual assaults in West Virginia:

Victims	Offenders
Gender: 82.1% were female 17.9% were male	8.2% were female 90.8% were male
Race: 90.7% were white 6.1% were black 3.4% were other or unknown	83.5% were white 11.7 were black 4.7 were other or unknown
Age: Average age was 16 Most common age was 14 67.2% were juveniles	Average age was 22 Most common age was 18 28.0% were juveniles

Stalking:

Stalking is defined as “a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person fear” by the National Center for Victims of Crime’s Stalking Resource Center. It is suggested that stalking is a pattern of behavior and not a single isolated incident. West Virginia’s law on stalking (WVSC §61-2-9a), addresses stalking as a separate act from harassment. To be charged with the crime of stalking, someone must repeatedly (on two or more occasions) follow another person “knowingly or having reason to know that the conduct causes the person followed to reasonably fear for his or her safety or suffer significant emotional distress.” To be charged with the crime of harassment, someone must repeatedly (two or more times) harass or make credible threats against another person.

Only recently have the justice system and the public recognized stalking as a distinct and serious crime. Stalking was first defined in West Virginia Code in 1992, W.Va. Code §61-2-9a as “any person who knowingly, willfully, and repeatedly follows, and harasses, or knowingly, willfully, and repeatedly follows and makes a credible threat, or knowingly, willfully and repeatedly harass and makes a credible threat against a person with whom he or she has, or in the past has had or with whom he or she seeks to establish a personal or social relationship, whether or not such intention is reciprocated, or against a member of that person’s immediate family, with intent to place that person in reasonable apprehension that he or she or a member of his or her immediate family will suffer death, bodily injury, sexual assault, battery, or kidnapping....”. The Stalking code was amended on March 8, 2008 relating to the criminal offense of stalking, including penalties. Essentially this bill completely rewrites the bulk of the Stalking statute.

The Stalking Resource Center states, “7.5 million people are stalked in one year in the United States; 61% of female victims and 44% of men victims of stalking are stalked by a current or former intimate partner; 11% of stalking victims have been stalked for five years or more; 46% of stalking victims experience at least one unwanted contact per week.”

The extent of stalking incidents in West Virginia is unknown at this time. According to the Fiscal Year 2014 WV STOP VAWA Annual Performance Reports, 99 stalking victims were provided services by STOP Violence Against Women funded staff. Please note this report only

records unduplicated victims served by STOP funded staff, not the entire staff of victim service programs. It does not reflect statewide statistics.

According to the Fiscal Year 2014 Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Annual Performance Report (in which the reporting period is from October 1, 2015- September 30, 2016), 1,918 stalking victims received services. Please note this report only records non-duplicated victims served by VOCA funded staff in West Virginia.

A growing concern is internet technology which assists the perpetrator in stalking and harassing victims. There are very little sanctions or oversight over the internet, and it is constantly evolving, so it is impossible for the criminal justice system to keep up with crimes committed via the internet (National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey). The full extent of stalking in West Virginia is currently unknown because the data collected is not specific enough to give accurate statistics.

Marginalized Communities:

Other barriers are providing services to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating victims who are considered marginalized communities. Identified marginalized communities by the West Virginians Against Violence Committee include but are not limited to: people of color, disabled, elderly, and LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, and Transgender) victims.

Of the total, non-institutionalized population of West Virginia, 19% reported having a disability of which 5.6 % are under the age of eighteen and 43.4 % are 65 years or older (US Census Bureau, 2015 American Community Survey). More than half (51.1%) of the residents are female; 15.4% are 65 years old or older; and 23.5% have a disability. In West Virginia, close to one in every 10 people aged 18 to 64 receive disability insurance from the Social Security Administration, more than three times the rate in states like Utah and Alaska and has the highest rate in the nation (4.2%) of people who identify with hearing difficulties (Disability Statistics Annual Report, Institute on Disability/UCED, 2015).

Victims in later life or with disabilities face challenges because their care-taker and/or family member who is their care-taker may be their abuser. As a result, they often have no other resources and must depend on their abuser to take care of them. Often, the abuser has control over the victim's finances and home (legally or not), and the victims have no other support system to fall back on.

Research indicates that domestic violence occurs at similar rates among same sex couples as it does among straight couples (Center for American Progress). LGBT victims are often not taken seriously when reporting domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence or stalking; they fear they will be exposed to bias and non-acceptance from their family members and friends if they report. Most abusers use this as another way to control their victims which is amplified due to the extreme isolation among gay and lesbian victims. In addition, these victims have fewer civil rights protections and lack access to the legal system in some states. Most LGBT Victims do not report to law enforcement because to do so would force them to reveal their sexual orientation or gender identity (Center for American Progress).

The Women of Color Network reports the following:

- African American females experience intimate partner violence at a rate 35% higher than that of white females, and about 2.5 times the rate of women of other races. However, they are less likely than white women to use social services, battered women's programs, or go to the hospital because of domestic violence.
- In an Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Institute on Domestic Violence survey, 41-60% of API respondents reported experiencing DV (physical and/or sexual) during their lifetimes.
- According to the National Violence Against Women Survey (NVAWS), 23.4% Hispanic/Latino females are victimized by intimate partner violence (IPV) in a lifetime, defined by rape, physical assault or stalking.
- NVAWS states that 37.5% of Native American/Alaskan women are victimized by Intimate Partner Violence in a lifetime, defined by rape, physical assault, or stalking

(Women of Color Network Facts & Stats: Domestic Violence in Communities of Color – June 2006)

Human Trafficking:

The International Labor Organization estimates that there are 20.9 million victims of human trafficking globally. They report the following statistics:

- ❖ 68% of victims are trapped in forced labor
- ❖ 26% of victims are children
- ❖ 55% are women and girls

The United States Department of Labor has identified 139 goods from 75 countries are made by forced and child labor (Polaris Project Human Trafficking: <https://polarisproject.org/facts>).

The National Human Trafficking Hotline reported the following statistic since 2007 for West Virginia:

- ❖ 232 total calls to the hotline
- ❖ total cases were 68

2016 Statistics:

- ❖ 41 calls
- ❖ 19 human trafficking cases reported
- ❖ There were 46 high indicators and 16 moderate indicators
- ❖ 12 calls from victims & survivors
- ❖ 14 Sex Trafficking
- ❖ 3 Labor Trafficking
- ❖ 2 not specified
- ❖ 16 female
- ❖ 4 male
- ❖ 6 US Citizen – 2 Foreign National

Limited English Proficiency:

All sub-grantees under STOP VAWA, VOCA, SASP and other victim services grants are required as part of their application to have a limited English proficiency plan; this includes providing language services, but also who they contract or work with to provide these services. Sub-grantees also are required to include services for the deaf, hard of hearing, and for those who cannot read.

Because West Virginia has one of the lowest (less than 1%) percentages in the nation of people who speak a language other than English at home and/or speak English less than very well, domestic and sexual violence advocates, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors have few or no bilingual staff. Identified barriers in obtaining interpretation and/or translation services in West Virginia include: (1) lack of interpreters in rural areas; (2) cannot locate skilled or certified interpreters; (3) lack knowledge of how to access interpreter services; (4) limited access to volunteer interpreters; and (5) lack of confidentiality in small communities. In order to address the language barriers, The WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV) coordinates a statewide interpreter service program currently with the use of STOP VAWA funds and in the past with Grants to Encourage Arrests and the Enforcement of Protection Orders grant funds. Last year, interpreter services were accessed 219 times for 5 different languages. Coordinated by WVCADV, the current language line service provides free **telephonic interpreter** services to advocates, law enforcement and prosecutors, and free **in-person interpreter** services, including ASL, for advocates working with victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Court services also provides interpretation services at all court proceedings (WVCADV).

Priorities and Approaches to Address the Problem:

Priorities:

The following are priorities set forth for STOP Violence Against Women Act (STOP VAWA) which are all dependent on maintaining or increasing current funding levels:

1. Support and retain core services for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking, particularly support for rape crisis and domestic violence shelter staff.
2. Trauma Informed Training -especially for criminal justice system
3. Collaboration – strengthen coordinated community responses to improve the system’s response to VAWA crimes
4. Increase support for sexual assault response, including services, prosecution, law enforcement and SANE training.
5. Public awareness of services and outreach to identified unserved, underserved and inadequately served populations
6. Identify and increased services to marginalized victims; with emphasis on LGBTQ, people of color, human trafficking victims, disabled and elderly victims.
7. Continued development of the WV model and implement evidence-based risk assessment to identify and prioritize victims who are in relationships with a high risk of lethality.
8. Identify and increase services to human trafficking VAWA victims

The following are priorities set forth for Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) which are all dependent on maintaining or increasing current funding levels:

1. Support and retain core direct services for victims of sexual assault
2. Public awareness of services and outreach to identified unserved, underserved and inadequately served populations

The following are priorities set forth for Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) which are all dependent on maintaining or increasing current funding levels:

1. Support and retain core direct services for all victims of crime (this is dependent on maintaining current funding levels)
2. Public awareness of services and outreach to identified unserved, underserved and inadequately served populations
3. Expand if funds are available to other areas of the State for programs which provide direct services to crime victims and have identified a gap in service, but especially for elder abuse, financial exploitation, human trafficking, child abuse, sexual assault and domestic violence victims.
4. Support interagency agreements which address referrals and services provided by trained, qualified staff without duplicating services. For example, a Domestic Violence Advocate must receive training and be certified, so they should be utilized to provide services to domestic violence victims, etc.

Goals and Objectives:

The following goals and objectives are set forth as the specific priorities of West Virginia's STOP Violence Against Women Act, VOCA and SASP grant programs. Other grant programs such as OVW Discretionary program funds may be used to assist in addressing the following:

Goal 1: Continue to improve the criminal and civil justice systems response to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking crimes.

Objective A: Sustain the number of, and increase the training available to, dedicated assistant prosecuting attorneys, law enforcement officers, and victim advocates committed to the effective and appropriate responses of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases.

Objective B: Support the use of victim-centered local protocols in each STOP funded county to:

- Support the on-going team approach to prosecution of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, and dating violence crimes among prosecutors, law enforcement officers, judges, and victim service advocates;
- Support evidence-based prosecutions;

- Collect data regarding the arrests and dispositions of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases;
- Enforce and implement state and federal statutes regarding domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking crimes;
- Include response to LGBTQ, People of Color, Human Trafficking Victims, Elder Abuse and Disabled victims for domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking crimes;
- Ensure all victims of crime are notified of their rights as a victim and all agencies are required to respect and uphold these rights;
- Ensure the protocols are reviewed on a yearly basis and updated as needed;
- Ensure all plans address cultural competency responses;
- Address victim notification in sexual assault cold cases;
- Address lethality and utilize the WV Dangerousness Lethality Assessment Guide (D-LAG); and
- Ensure all plans discuss the removal and storage; which includes third party transfers of all firearms and ammunition as per WV code.

Objective C: Continue to expand, train and implement a Lethality Risk Assessment and Process which addresses multiple disciplinary agencies response to help reduce domestic violence related homicides.

Goal 2: Coordinate and structure cross training to maximize attendance of all professionals and paraprofessionals that impact victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking crimes, to provide a better trauma-informed response to victims.

Objective A: Utilize developed curricula or training modules (for example curriculum developed by WV Foundation for Rape Information and Services or the WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence) which will include at a minimum: dynamics of victimization, trauma informed care and the effects of trauma on the victim; dynamics and legal issues of stalking; dynamics and legal issues of domestic violence; and collaborative and multidisciplinary response to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence crimes. Special emphasis shall be placed on criminal and civil justice system personnel training (judicial, administrative law judges, prosecutors, law enforcement, legal aid, state bar, etc.)

Objective B: Continue coordinated community response training to law enforcement officers from the entire state using approved content and training teams composed of a multidiscipline approach which will include law enforcement officers, victim advocates, other community advocates and prosecutors/attorneys.

Objective C: Support annual training to improve coordinated community response for Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART). Require funded STOP Teams to include existing Sexual Assault Services Representative as part of their STOP Teams.

Objective D: Use STOP VAWA funding, along with other funding, to increase training on the appropriate authorization and use of sex crime kits and increase available SANE Training

Objective E: Support and increase the efforts of the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services to train statewide multidisciplinary groups (advocates, law enforcement, prosecutors, medical professionals, etc.) on sexual assault and stalking issues. Regional trainings shall be offered when possible.

Objective F: Provide training and resources to train victim advocates, law enforcement, prosecution, and court staff on human trafficking and the use of T and U Visas.

Objective G: Continue the implementation and training of a school guideline for responding to dating violence.

Objective H: Continued training for Sexual Assault Advocates on the basics of sexual assault and providing services.

Objective I: Continued training for Domestic Violence Advocates on the basics of domestic violence and providing services.

Goal 3: Develop and/or increase effective responses to the needs of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking in marginalized communities and cultural and linguistic populations.

Objective A: Expand services and resources for marginalized populations, including people with disabilities; people in later life; racial and ethnic minorities; victims who live in isolated, rural areas; victims with language and cultural barriers; prostitutes, the homeless victims, victims in correctional facilities, human trafficking victims, and victims who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ).

Objective B: Build the capacity of domestic violence and sexual assault service agencies to provide awareness of services and direct victim services to victims on college and university campuses.

Objective C: Encourage community-based programs and service providers, faith-based communities, and colleges and universities to coordinate and integrate their services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Objective D: Encourage local service providers and criminal justice agencies to identify and collaborate with community based organizations that provide

community and/or victim services to linguistic and culturally specific communities/populations.

Objective E: Continue to support telephonic interpretation or language lines to provide better services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Objective F: Use STOP VAWA funding or other funding to provide for resources on immigration issues which are translated in languages other than English.

Objective G: Continue training on cultural diversity and oppression to all STOP Teams.

Objective H: Train and implement sub-grantees on identifying unserved, underserved and inadequately served victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Goal 4: Increase public awareness of services available for domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking victims.

Objective A: Maintain and update, on a yearly basis, a service directory of available service providers for victims of violence available on-line.

Objective B: Increase public awareness through community forums, educational programs, public advertisements, and distribution of materials. Ensure resources and materials are updated on a bi-yearly basis, if needed.

Objective C: Develop and distribute domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking public awareness materials to address the needs of marginalized populations.

Objective D: Provide public awareness of dating violence; which may include domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking issues at the college and high school levels.

Objective E: Expand awareness of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking issues statewide throughout the criminal justice system.

Goal 5: Increase collaboration and communication among systems, agencies and organizations in their coordinated response to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Objective A: Continue the work of the West Virginians Against Violence Committee to oversee the Violence Against Women Act Program and the Victims of Crime Act Program; update the Committee on issues and changes in the victim

services field, to foster increased collaboration and communication among systems, agencies, and organizations in their coordinated response to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Objective B: Continue the work of the STOP VAWA Collaborative Committee to review the STOP VAWA and Victim Services Implementation Plan and other issues which address domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence crimes, and to foster increased collaboration and communication among systems, agencies, and organizations in their coordinated response to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

Objective C: Sustain and support the central work of the existing STOP teams and STOP funded statewide projects that meet or exceed their projected goals; ensure they are in compliance; that they provide a true victim centered approach and are providing quality and effective services; and are truly collaborating as a team to improve the system's response to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence crimes.

Objective D: Increase the participation of non-traditional service providers in coordination with current STOP Teams, to provide a more varied and encompassing community response with a victim centered coordinated approach and additional resources being made available on a statewide and local level beyond the traditional criminal justice, court and victim service participants (i.e. defense attorneys, child protective services, disability service providers, emergency medical services, faith-based community, substance abuse, immigration services, state legislature, legal services, adult protective services, mental health providers, community corrections, education professionals, health professionals, etc.).

Objective E: Support increased collaboration between rural health clinics and licensed medical facilities that will conduct sexual assault examinations utilizing their own staff or the assistance of a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner. Encourage the screening for domestic violence and sexual assault crimes among licensed medical facilities.

Objective F: Promote victim service provider's collaboration with community corrections programs across the state to promote victim issues, including victim safety and offender accountability.

Objective G: Support the Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Commission's requirement of the development of county plans that address the minimum level standards of care and response related to sexual assault victims and ensure that the Criminal Justice System, Victim Services, and Medical Facilities adhere to these plans.

Goal 6: Continue and expand if funds are available to provide direct services to victims of crime.

Objective A: Support and retain core direct services for all victims of crime.

Objective B: Support public awareness of services and outreach to identified unserved, underserved and inadequately served populations.

Objective C: Expand if funds are available to other areas of the State for programs which provide direct services to crime victims and have identified a gap in service and is not duplicative of other grant program services, but especially for elder abuse, financial exploitation, human trafficking, child abuse, and sexual assault and domestic violence victims.

Objective D: Programs serving specific identified marginalized populations will be required to have specific training and qualifications to serve those populations.

Objective E: Increase referrals and interagency agreements to provide a holistic approach to serving victims without duplication of services.

Major Shifts in Direction

Compared with the former STOP Implementation Plan, this plan reflects many of the same areas of need such as: coordinated responses, training, expanded victim services, public awareness, and expansion of outreach and services to marginalized populations.

However, major shifts in direction will take place in the next four years. The major shifts include the following:

- Including VOCA and SASP as part of the plan;
- Expanded lethality assessment and training;
- Increased SANE Trainings;
- Support the SAFE Commissions efforts for improving evidence collection and county plans to improve standard of care for sexual assault victims;
- Improve outreach and awareness of services for unserved, underserved and inadequately served populations; and
- Increased training and services for human trafficking victims.

Crystal Judson Purpose Area: At this time, West Virginia does not intend to utilize funds for this purpose area.

Emerging Issues

On January 12, 2017, the STOP Implementation Plan Focus group met and attendees brainstormed about issues, areas of need, strengths and weaknesses as they pertain to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking crimes in West Virginia. Many of these ideas were incorporated into the goals, objectives, and areas of greatest need sections of this

plan. Other ideas are discussed here because they may not fall within the scope of the West Virginia's current funding plan; however, WV STOP Teams and funded agencies are encouraged to coordinate with other entities, which may be interested in pursuing the following recommendations/issues. Also, the Plan includes SASP and VOCA grants and may be funded if they fit the grant guidelines and funding priorities set by the state. The emerging issues are as follows:

- Substance Abuse issues –
 - more victims experiencing substance abuse issues
 - crime rate/victimization increasing due to substance abuse issues
- Affordable housing
- Transportation
- More requests for legal aid
- Development or need for Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART)
- Need for more counselors/therapists
- More human trafficking victims needing services
- More unemployment/budget crunches – results in less staff for law enforcement etc.
- More reports in Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Child Abuse and neglect crimes
- Not enough space in shelters
- Trained SANE nurses needed
- Increased children witnessing violence
- LGBTQ community is growing with little to no resources
- BIPPS needed
- Magistrates need more training on victims and services
- Need more training on how to provide outreach

Description of Current Projects:

STOP VAWA:

STOP VAWA Act funds (Grant Period July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017) were allocated as follows:

- At least five percent are allocated to state and local courts to provide training, development of bench books and a portion to fund staff for Pilot Domestic Violence Court in Kanawha County.
- At least 25 percent of funds are allocated for law enforcement to provide for overtime and/or a portion of the salary for a dedicated VAWA Law Enforcement Officer.
- At least 25 percent of funds are allocated for prosecutors to provide for a portion of the salary for a dedicated VAWA prosecutor.
- At least 30 percent of funds are allocated for nonprofit, non-governmental victim services, of which at least 10 percent are distributed to culturally specific community-based organizations to provide for direct services to victims.

- It is recommended that at least 20% of the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2016 STOP VAWA Formula funds go to fund (this crosses categories in Victim Services, Law Enforcement, Court, and possibly Prosecution) the following:
 - Training and awareness
 - More advocates to provide services needed
 - SANE Training
 - Dedicated Sexual Assault Law Enforcement Officers are needed
 - Trainings for Judges and Court Personnel on Sexual Assault

Note: All agencies requesting at least 20% funding for sexual assault for all categories must meet the specifications listed under the Sexual Assault Set Aside Section in this Plan.

The FFY 2015 STOP VAWA Grant funds allowed West Virginia to fund twenty-eight projects of which five are statewide projects, that provide training across the state to victim service providers, law enforcement, prosecutors, and court personnel, address prison rape elimination act issues, support databases, and updated bench books.

The statewide projects are as follows:

1. WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV)
2. WV Foundation for Rape Information and Services Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) (WVFRIS)
3. WV Foundation for Rape Information and Services (WVFRIS)
4. WV Supreme Court of Appeals (WVSCA)
5. WV Prosecuting Attorney's Institute (WVPAI)

The other STOP Team County funded projects include the following:

1. Branches DV Shelter (Cabell County STOP Team)
2. Family Crisis Center (Mineral County STOP Team)
3. Family Crisis Center (Grant County STOP Team)
4. Family Crisis Intervention Center (Roane County STOP Team)
5. Family Crisis Intervention Center (Calhoun County STOP Team)
6. Family Refuge Center (Greenbrier County)
7. Family Refuge Center (Monroe County)
8. Family Refuge Center (Pocahontas County)
9. Kanawha County Commission (Kanawha County STOP Team)
10. Marshall County Commission (Marshall County STOP Team)
11. Ohio County Commission (Ohio County STOP Team)
12. Putnam County Commission (Putnam County STOP Team)
13. RDVIC (Monongalia County STOP Team)
14. RDVIC (Preston County STOP Team)
15. Task Force on Domestic Violence, HOPE, Inc. (Harrison Co. STOP Team)
16. Task Force on Domestic Violence, HOPE, Inc. (Marion Co. STOP Team)
17. Tug Valley Recovery Shelter (Logan County STOP Team)

18. Tug Valley Recovery Shelter (Mingo County STOP Team)
19. Upshur County Commission (Upshur County STOP Team)
20. Women's Aid in Crisis (Randolph County STOP Team)
21. Women's Resource Center (Raleigh County STOP Team)
22. Women's Resource Center (Fayette County STOP Team)
23. Women's Resource Center (Nicholas County STOP Team)

Administrative funds are utilized for (but not limited to) the following purposes:

- Salary/benefits to administer the STOP VAWA funds
- Travel/Training
- Rent
- Supplies

Grant Making Strategy:

All sub-grantees are required to identify the areas to be served by the sub-grant, including the geographical area, population, and marginalized populations in the area to be served by the sub-grant. Geographical area, population and marginalized populations, previous performance and compliance with all grant guidelines, and meeting one or more of the statutory purpose areas under STOP VAWA are major factors in determining funding. Other factors include: coordination with other local jurisdictions, justification of need, and demonstrated community awareness and support. The West Virginians Against Violence Committee and the West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services also consider other services available in the area to prevent duplication of services and to provide funded services in areas of the state with limited resources.

Application Process:

The application process consists of the following steps:

1. Applications will be promptly acknowledged upon receipt and reviewed for completeness. Applicants will be contacted if omissions appear.
2. Staff will assess the merit and overall need of the project as well as evaluate how the specific project will satisfy state goals and objectives. Comments and recommendations will be attached and the application will be forwarded to the West Virginians Against Violence Committee for consideration after staff has evaluated the merits of the application which might include, but will not necessarily be limited to:
 - a. Compliance of the proposed project application with the priority programs described in the state plan.
 - b. The eventual assumption of costs by the applicant agency.
 - c. Probability that the grant will achieve its objective(s).
 - d. Adequate fiscal responsibility.

- e. Certification that federal funds will not be used to supplant or replace state or local funds.
 - f. Coordination of efforts with other local jurisdictions and federal grant programs.
 - g. Need for the project.
 - h. Geographic area(s) to be served.
 - i. Ability to identify and address the needs of underserved populations.
3. Members of the applying team who are familiar with the proposed project are requested to attend the West Virginians Against Violence Committee Meeting to make a brief presentation or participate by conference call and/or answer any questions regarding the proposal.
 4. Based primarily upon the West Virginians Against Violence Committee, staff will make one of the following recommendations to the Governor:
 - a. Approve the application.
 - b. Approve with conditions, budget adjustments, or amendments to the application.
 - c. Return for revision. The required revision will be appended to the application.
 - d. Denial.

Timeline:

The project period for VAWA projects is July 1 - June 30; grant funds are awarded on a competitive basis and there is no guarantee of funding from year to year. The timeline for the goals and objectives for this plan begins with the funding of the fiscal year 2017 STOP VAWA funds. This plan is effective May 1, 2017 - April 30, 2020.

Consultation:

All STOP Teams are required to have a core membership which consists of victim service providers (domestic violence and sexual assault programs), a law enforcement officer, and a prosecutor. They are required to work as a team on the development and implementation of their application in order to ensure their application/project promote the safety, confidentiality, and economic independence of victims. They must document they met to fulfill this requirement. All state agencies are required to consult with victim service providers on the development and implementation of their application in order to ensure their application/project promote the safety, confidentiality, and economic independence of victims. (See Appendix F for consultation documentation)

Technical Assistance:

The West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services staff and members of the West Virginians Against Violence Committee provide technical assistance in a variety of methods, which include but are not limited to:

- All applicants are encouraged to remain in contact with WVDJCS staff throughout the application process to assist with the application.
- Participation in Directors meetings of the local domestic violence and sexual assault programs to provide workshops and or presentations regarding the STOP VAWA grant and other related issues
- Focus groups are held, which includes information on updating the implementation plan, revisions to the State program application, reporting requirements, etc.
- DJCS staff continually provides project directors of the funded programs with information of the STOP VAWA grant, the Office on Violence Against Women, other funding opportunities, training opportunities, etc.
- DJCS staff and the West Virginians Against Violence Committee members are available to attend meetings of locally funded programs and other programs that have interest in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking issues.
- When guidelines, special conditions, certification requirements, etc. change, technical assistance is provided to the local programs.
- The DJCS website is maintained to provide additional information regarding the STOP VAWA grant and provide contact information.
- Monthly desk monitoring and on-site reviews are made to local programs with the purpose of providing technical assistance.

Underserved, Unserved, and Inadequately Served Populations:

Programs which serve marginalized populations were included in the planning process for this implementation plan. The WVDJCS VAWA Administrator maintains a contact list of identified organizations which work with or in the marginalized population throughout the state. Some examples of these programs include: The YWCA of Wheeling Cultural Diversity and Community Outreach Program, the Kanawha Institute for Social Research and Action, Inc. (KISRA), the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence Advocacy of Color Network and the Rainbow Justice League (LGBTQ) Committee. Additionally, faith-based organizations, rural programs and people with disabilities were also included as part of this group.

The West Virginians Against Violence Committee is the Advisory Committee which is responsible for the oversight of the STOP Violence Against Women and the VOCA Assistance Grant Programs in the state. Members of this group include a faith-based representative, a sexual assault representative, a domestic violence representative and an underserved population's representative (See Appendix C for a full list of members). All committee members are strong leaders for social change regarding all victims of crime as well as emphasizing the importance of providing services to marginalized populations in the State of West Virginia.

The STOP Implementation Focus Group and Survey identified several unserved, underserved, and inadequately served populations in various areas. Included in these marginalized populations which are as follows:

1. Lesbian/Gay/Bi-sexual/Transgender victims (LGBT);
2. all racial and ethnic minorities victims;
3. victims in later life;
4. victims with disabilities;
5. rural and isolated victims;
6. immigrant and migrant workers;
7. human trafficking victims;
8. incarcerated victims;
9. victims with drug abuse issues

Grant funds have been dispersed to the two agencies which applied for funding. An example would be the YWCA Wheeling Cultural Diversity and Community Outreach Program, and Beginning My Empowerment Thru Emmanuel's Kingdom (BEMEEK) Outreach Program can provide services to the minority populations. It is the intention of the West Virginians Against Violence Committee, the WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence and their member programs, the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services and their member programs, and the West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services to seek funding to continue to increase services and outreach to these populations. The WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the WV Foundation for Rape Information and Services work with their member programs to review their current services, shelters, brochures, etc. to reflect diversity, and to be inclusive to serve marginalized victims.

West Virginia is considered a rural state by OVW. There are limited services of any kind for victims in some of these rural areas of the state (2000 U.S. Census Bureau Survey). With continued funding in the VOCA, STOP VAWA and Sexual Assault Services Program, we will be able to provide more outreach to rural victims in the State.

All sub-grantee applicants are currently required to identify the underserved population in their service area(s) and to provide statistics to substantiate the need for services. Starting in 2017, as a condition of receiving funding all sub-grantees will be required to identify underserved, unserved and inadequately served victims in their service areas. They are also required to address how they will provide outreach and services to these identified marginalized populations. STOP VAWA sub-grantees will be required to address how they will provide outreach, awareness and services as a STOP Team. Some of these services are provided statewide by the statewide sub-grantees utilizing VAWA and other funds. Some examples include:

- The WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence provides a language line for all victims' services programs and law enforcement agencies in the state, which provides for telephonic interpretation services for victims.
- The WV Supreme Court of Appeals provides interpreters for victims during court proceedings, public awareness and training of court judges and staff.

- The WV Foundation for Rape Information and Services will provide outreach, services and training to sexual assault victims throughout the state as well as address college campus violence against women crimes.
- Training on Human Trafficking and T and U Visas

All programs will provide outreach and some or all may provide the following services to marginalized populations:

- 24-hour hotline services providing crisis intervention services and referrals.
- Accompaniment and advocacy through medical, criminal justice and social support systems, including medical facilities, police and court proceedings.
- Crisis Intervention, short-term individual and group support services, and comprehensive service coordination and supervision to assist sexual assault victims and family or household members.
- Information and referral to assist violence against women victims and family or household members.
- Providing public awareness of services available and where victims can receive these services. These may include: brochures, information tables at community events, public presentations, TV, social media, radio and newspaper articles. Brochures and information will be distributed to rural areas as well as urban areas.
- Inform and assist with filing Victim Compensation Fund requests
- Interagency agreements in order to provide services without duplication of services

The VAWA Collaborative is dedicated to work with marginalized community leaders to determine a better plan to address the issues brought forth from the survey and focus group.

Indian Tribes:

West Virginia does not have any registered or Federally Recognized Tribes. According to the West Virginia Division of Culture and History, the contemporary Native American population can best be described as a statewide network of individuals who claim Native American ancestry, and related organizations. It is estimated there are approximately 5,000 Native Americans in West Virginia, including individuals from at least 80 different bloodlines and tribal associations. These include descendants from regional Native Americans, including Cherokee and Shawnee Tribes, and individuals who recently relocated to West Virginia from throughout North America. Other people in West Virginia have Native American blood, but do not have a historical tribal association, others have mixed blood, that is, ancestry from different tribes as well as different races in addition to Native American. Tracing family history and conducting accurate genealogical research is especially challenging for individuals of Native American ancestral descent (West Virginia Division of Culture and History).

Cultural Specific Populations/Agencies:

In looking at the racial and ethnic composition of the state, there is currently a low disparity between races in West Virginia. West Virginia citizens are predominately Caucasian (93.2%),

3.4% Black or African American, 1.3% Hispanic or Latino, 0.7% Asian, and 0.2% Native American Indian (US Census Bureau, 2010). The US Census estimates that in 2010 the percent of the population that is White will be 93.9%; Black or African American will be 3.4%; American Indian will be 0.2%; Asian 0.7 %; and Hispanic or Latino 1.2%.

Currently five counties in West Virginia have 11% or more of their population who are people of color, two counties in West Virginia have 9-10% of their population who are people of color, and three counties have 7-8% of their population who are people of color. The counties which have 7%-11% or more people of color are as follows:

Cabell, Summers, Mercer, McDowell, Monongalia, Berkeley, Jefferson, Gilmer, Kanawha, and Raleigh Counties. (US Census, 2015 American Fact Finder).

The West Virginians Against Violence Committee and WV DJCS staff makes every attempt to identify areas of greatest need, including geographical needs and marginalized populations and encourage these organizations in these areas to apply for funds. However, many non-profit agencies choose not to apply (particularly faith-based and cultural specific agencies) due to the restrictions on Federal grant funds, the program's inability to work on a reimbursement process, and their ability to provide needed services. The West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence has utilized a portion of their STOP VAWA funding in the past to provide Cultural Diversity and Anti-Oppression Trainings to STOP Teams.

Currently STOP VAWA Grant Funds are distributed to two cultural specific agencies in the state. These programs are:

- The YWCA Cultural Diversity and Community Outreach Program in Wheeling, WV, who provides outreach and services to people of color in Ohio County;
- The B.M.E.E.K. Community Outreach Program in Charleston, WV provides the following services to people of color in Kanawha County: Counseling, Criminal Justice Advocacy, Outreach Services which includes awareness of services, Emergency services to Domestic Violence Victims in the emergency room and in the hospital.

Cultural specific services are very limited in the state. The need to develop, expand, enhance and support existing cultural competent services is imperative. The northern and eastern panhandles of the state are unique because of their proximity to other states and larger cities. These regions, as well as Charleston and Huntington, also tend to have a greater cultural specific population. The staff of WVDJCS and the West Virginians Against Violence Committee are committed to identifying culturally specific programs in these areas (as well as other parts of the state) and encourage them to apply for funds, and for existing sub-grantees to reach out to these programs, include as a part of their STOP Teams and Advisory Boards, and provide services to all victims and their families of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking crimes.

Cultural Specific Set Aside:

An organization is eligible to receive the culturally-specific set aside funds if the organization is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that serves a specific geographic community that:

- (A) focuses primarily on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- (B) Has established a specialized culturally specific program that addresses domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- (C) has a primary focus on underserved populations (and includes representatives of these populations) and domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking; *or*
- (D) Obtains expertise, or shows demonstrated capacity to work effectively, on domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking through collaboration;

And:

- (E) Is primarily directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups; *and*
- (F) Is providing services tailored to the unique needs of that population.

An organization will qualify for funding if its primary mission is to address the needs of racial and ethnic minority groups or if it has developed a special expertise regarding a particular racial and ethnic minority group. The organization must do more than merely provide services to the targeted group; rather, the organization must provide culturally competent services designed to meet the specific needs of the target population.

In reviewing sub-grantee applications, the Committee and DJCS will look not only at the numbers of victims that will be served, but also at how the services will be provided; whether the community to be served has been involved in planning for the delivery of the services and whether there will be outreach to that community regarding the availability of the services. For example, if an applicant proposes to provide services to Mexican immigrant victims, the state should consider such things as: line items in the budget for certified interpreters; a demonstration that the applicant has knowledge of and collaborative relationships with other organizations relevant to the community; established outreach activities to the community; and on-going staff training on Mexican culture. A community-based organization that accepts funding to provide services to a racial and ethnic population cannot exclude others from participating in its programs and activities based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or age.

Sexual Assault Set Aside:

Another priority is meaningfully addressing sexual violence. All new and existing STOP Team programs will identify how they meaningfully address sexual violence. As needed and appropriate, sexual assault set aside funds will be utilized to both provide quality and responsive services to victims of sexual assault and build the state's capacity to do so. Any capacity-building efforts will be made in conjunction with the state sexual assault coalition, the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services. Sexual assault set aside funds will be used in the following categories:

- Victim Services
- Law Enforcement, and
- Prosecution

In recognition that not all applicants or sub-grantees have as their mission to serve all types of victims of crime, or that all have the capacity to do so, a targeted effort will be made utilize the sexual assault set aside to support only entities that demonstrate the provision of meaningful services to victims of sexual violence. Core meaningful services will include, but not be limited to sexual violence services as part of the services currently provided and/or that are part of the entity's mission or mission statement; specific initial training on sexual violence for staff (with documentation of the training); ongoing training on sexual violence for staff (with a demonstrated method for documenting the training); the inclusion of sexual violence services in the agency's publications/media materials (if the agency is a private, non-profit entity); and demonstrated participation in a community sexual assault response with 24/7 comprehensive service provision. Sexual assault services must be provided outside of the context of domestic violence. The following are a list of priority activities for funding sexual assault initiatives to qualified entities:

- Training and awareness provided by an approved funded State agency
- More advocates to provide services are needed (advocates must meet the qualifications set forth by WVDJCS in coordination with the SAFE Commission and the West Virginians Against Violence Committee)
- Dedicated Sexual Assault Law Enforcement Officers and/or overtime to investigate and serve protection orders (Law Enforcement Officers and/or overtime must meet the qualifications set forth by WVDJCS in coordination with the SAFE Commission and the West Virginians Against Violence Committee)
- Direct Service related travel
- SANE Training

The sexual assault set aside funds may be used to fund advocates which fit the following requirements:

- Victim Service Provider which fits the definition under VAWA 2013, which means they must be a non-profit, non-governmental organization or rape crisis center that assists and provides meaningful services to sexual assault victims. Sexual assault service programs are organizations that have as their mission to provide advocacy and support to sexual violence survivors and work towards the elimination of sexual violence. Some are single-purpose agencies, while others are merged with domestic violence or other social services. These dual/multi-service agencies provide a wide array of services for a variety of concerns and needs. Sexual assault service programs provide a range of services, from the basic collection of services that define advocacy organizations for sexual violence survivors to a broad and diverse offering of intervention, prevention, and systems change programming. These services can be conceptualized in two categories: *core services* that meet basic needs and *comprehensive services* that provide

additional opportunities for healing and empowerment. All services available to survivors of sexual assault should be rooted in an understanding of the complex effects that trauma and other forms of oppression may have in a survivor's life.

A non-profit organization is eligible to receive monies from the sexual-assault set aside if the organization:

- (A) Has 24/7 services that have a primary focus on sexual assault;
- (B) Is providing services that are tailored to the unique needs of sexual assault victims and are provided by staff that is extensively trained to address those unique needs;
- (C) Is proposing to utilize the funds solely for the purpose of serving sexual assault victims;
- And*
- (D) Can demonstrate the need for any staff requested to provide the services.
Funding cannot be requested solely for "on call" pay; the need for the actual provision of services to victims must be evident.

If the need can be demonstrated, sexual assault funds may also be used to fund a portion of a dedicated sexual assault law enforcement officer or overtime for law enforcement to investigate sexual assault crimes and serve protection orders, or sexual assault dedicated prosecutor; or to fund training dedicated specifically to train law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and court staff on the following issues:

- Trauma-informed services to sexual assault victims
- Forensic Medical Exam requirements
- Personal Safety Order
- Investigating, responding to and prosecuting sexual assault
- Legislative changes specific to sexual assault
- Victim's rights
- The counter-intuitive response to sexual violence and how it impacts investigation and prosecution

Evaluation of Plan:

All STOP Violence Against Women Act sub-grantees are required to develop and implement client evaluations of their programs and services provided. These evaluations must ensure client confidentiality and may be reviewed or submitted to WVDJCS staff or the West Virginians Against Violence Committee. In addition to client evaluations, programs are encouraged to develop and implement evaluations or reviews from their peers, other service providers and criminal justice professionals such as prosecutors, judges and other staff. All sub-grantees who conduct training must conduct and submit training evaluations.

All STOP Teams are required to develop and implement protocols for each discipline's response (law enforcement, victim services, prosecution, court, etc.) to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking crimes. Within this protocol there should be an explanation of how they will evaluate this process. It is also a recommendation for the grant that during their STOP Team meetings, the team evaluates the program, goals and objectives and their protocol, and make revisions as needed. The STOP Teams are also required to review a case which has identifying information redacted and explore how each system could improve their response to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence crimes and to cross train members on the team. The STOP Teams are required to develop applications as a team. In addition, the teams will also remain in contact with their STOP VAWA State Administrator concerning issues or needed services or funding through monthly reports, phone contact, e-mail, and monitoring visits

WV Division of Justice and Community Services staff will monitor all STOP VAWA Act Programs by completing a desk review of reports and sub-grantee files and will visit the program office in the STOP Team county to monitor the program. The purpose of on-site monitoring visits is to:

1. Determine progress made toward achieving project objectives;
2. Determine compliance with terms, conditions, and purpose of grant;
3. Identify technical assistance needs; and
4. Provide guidance of future design or funding of similar projects.

The STOP Violence Against Women Collaboration Committee will meet quarterly to discuss and review the Implementation Plan. At that time, the Committee will determine the status of the Goals and Objectives and make revisions as needed with input provided by the programs and key members from the criminal justice system.

Also, the West Virginians Against Violence Committee in coordination with the WV Division of Justice and Community Services, will continue to review grant applications, funding decisions, program compliance, and the development, application, and assessment of the State's Implementation Plan. The West Virginians Against Violence Committee consists of representatives from the following entities: domestic violence coalition, sexual assault coalition, prosecution, law enforcement, faith-based community, criminal justice based victim assistance program, underserved population community, child abuse protection, a violent crime victim, and court personnel.

Conclusion:

West Virginia's four-year STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and Victim Services Implementation plan is three-fold. First, it is designed to provide all professionals who make up the STOP VAWA Teams and the state-wide projects with the tools necessary to develop and strengthen the criminal justice's strategies to combat the violent crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Second, it will aid in supporting, enhancing, and expanding services available to these victims and their families. Third, it includes priority of funding for VOCA and SASP grant programs.

The West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services (WVDJCS) will continue to work closely to provide services, training, and to effect change in West Virginia, with the WV Foundation for Rape Information and Services (WVFRIS) and the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV). They will continue to work with other partners who include, but are not limited to, the United States District Attorneys' Offices, Faith-based agencies, Cultural-Specific Organizations, the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, West Virginia Prosecuting Attorney's Institute, and the West Virginia Crime Victim Compensation Office.

The STOP Violence Against Women Collaboration Committee, the West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services staff, the West Virginia Crime Victims Compensation Office, the West Virginians Against Violence Committee and individuals and agencies dedicated to holding offenders accountable for their crimes while respectfully supporting and assisting the victims throughout our state, will continue to meet throughout the year. These groups will meet to ensure that all domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking crime victims have an agency they can go to for assistance. Through client surveys and continued collaboration, the STOP Committee will be able to evaluate and continue to identify the needs of these victims.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

List of STOP VAWA Focus Group

List of STOP VAWA Collaboration Committee Members:

1. Marla Willcox-Eddy - Family Counseling Connection - REACH- Rape Crisis Center
2. Nancy Hoffman- West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services
3. Joyce Yedlosky- West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV)
4. Tonia Thomas- West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence
5. Michelle Dean- West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources - FVPSA
6. Nikki Erwin/Patricia Bailey- Family Protection Service Board
7. Sarah Brown - West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services- STOP VAWA Program Specialist
8. Sara Pennington- West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services – VOCA Program Specialist
9. Kenyatta Grant – Community Coordinator - WVCADV

List of Invited Focus Group Members:

1. Nancy Hoffman – WVFRIS (Sexual Assault Coalition)
2. Marla Willcox-Eddy- REACH (Rape Crisis Center)
3. Sharon Pressman – CONTACT of Huntington (Rape Crisis Center)
4. Debbie Lopez-Bonasso – WVFRIS (SANE Coordinator)
5. Shallon Oglesby - WV State Police
6. Sherry Eling - WV Prosecuting Attorney's Institute
7. Kenyatta Grant (WVCADV – Underserved Pop)
8. Joyce Yedlosky (WVCADV)
9. Tonia Thomas (WVCADV)
10. Marissa Collett – CHANGE, Inc. (DV Program)
11. Amanda McComas – Branches DV Shelter (DV Program)
12. Kenosha Davenport – Family Refuge Center (Dual Program)
13. Pippa McCullough – Shenandoah Women's Center (Dual Program)
14. Laura Queen Upshur County Prosecution-based Advocate
15. Lesli Forbis – Putnam County Law Enforcement-based Advocate
16. Sheriff Sonya Porter – Logan County Sheriff's Department
17. Jeff Vance – Lewisburg Police Department
18. Sam Leizear (LGBT)
19. Perri DeChristopher – Monongalia County Prosecutor
20. Gail Kahle – Ohio County VAWA Assistant Prosecutor
21. Stephanie Milliron – Upshur County VAWA Assistant Prosecutor
22. Andrew Schneider -Fairness WV (LGBT)
23. Jan Derry – Northern WV Center for Independent Living (Disability)

24. Mike Jones – KISRA- Faith-based/Cultural Specific
25. Sandra Calloway (BEMEER) – Cultural Specific Advocate
26. Rita Gupta - YWCA Wheeling Diversity Program Advocate
27. Angie Saunders WV Supreme Court of Appeals (WVSCA)
28. Sarah Brown (WVDJCS – STOP VAWA Administrator)
29. Sara Pennington (WVDJCS – VOCA Administrator)
30. Cammie Chapman – WV Supreme Court of Appeals
31. Tracy Chapman- Advocate (US Attorney's Office Southern District)
32. Patricia Bailey – Family Protection Service Board
33. Michelle Dean – WVDHHR -FVPSA
34. Gerri Mason – Mineral County CASA Director
35. Kat McConnell – WV Senior Legal Aid
36. Adrienne Worthy – Legal Aide of WV
37. Nikki Erwin – Family Protection Service Board
38. Emily Chittenden Laird – WV Child Advocacy Network
39. Troy Ball – Morgantown Police Department

List of Focus Group Participants:

1. Sarah Brown- WV Division of Justice and Community Services- STOP VAWA Program Specialist
2. Sara Pennington - WV Division of Justice and Community Services- VOCA Program Specialist II
3. Leslie Roberts- WV Division of Justice and Community Services – VOCA Program Specialist I
4. Nancy Hoffman – WVFRIS (Sexual Assault Coalition)
5. Marla Willcox-Eddy- REACH (Rape Crisis Center)
6. Sharon Pressman – CONTACT of Huntington (Rape Crisis Center)
7. Debbie Lopez-Bonasso – WVFRIS (SANE Coordinator)
8. Shallon Oglesby - WV State Police
9. Sherry Eling - WV Prosecuting Attorney's Institute
10. Kenyatta Grant (WVCADV – Underserved Pop)
11. Joyce Yedlosky (WVCADV)
12. Amanda McComas – Branches DV Shelter (DV Program)
13. Kenosha Davenport – Family Refuge Center (Dual Program)
14. Pippa McCullough – Shenandoah Women's Center (Dual Program)
15. Lesli Forbis – Putnam County Law Enforcement-based Advocate
16. Sheriff Sonya Porter – Logan County Sheriff's Department
17. Detective Jeff Vance – Lewisburg Police Department
18. Jan Derry – Northern WV Center for Independent Living (Disability)
19. Mike Jones – KISRA- Faith-based/Cultural Specific

20. Angie Saunders (WVSCA)
21. Cammie Chapman – WV Supreme Court of Appeals
22. Tracy Chapman- Advocate (US Attorney's Office Southern District)
23. Gerri Mason – Mineral County CASA Director
24. Adrienne Worthy – Legal Aide of WV
25. Emily Chittenden Laird – WV Child Advocacy Network
26. Troy Ball – Morgantown Police Department
27. Dayla Harvey – Mineral County CASA – Volunteer Coordinator
28. Nikki Erwin – Family Protection Service Board
29. Liz Deal- CONTACT of Huntington – Assistant Director
30. Eric Powell – Morgantown Police Department
31. Shannon Petree – Branches DV Shelter - Advocate

STOP VAWA Sub-grantees:

1. WV Foundation for Rape and Information Services (WVFRIS)
2. WV Foundation for Rape and Information Services (WVFRIS – PREA)
3. WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV)
4. West Virginia Prosecuting Attorney's Institute (WVPAI)
5. WV Supreme Court of Appeals (WVSCA)
6. Branches DV Shelter (Cabell County STOP Team)
7. Comprehensive Women's Service Council (Raleigh County STOP Team)
8. Comprehensive Women's Service Council (Fayette County STOP Team)
9. Comprehensive Women's Service Council (Nicholas County STOP Team)
10. Family Crisis Center (Mineral County STOP Team)
11. Family Crisis Center (Grant County STOP Team)
12. Family Crisis Intervention Center (Roane County STOP Team)
13. Family Crisis Intervention Center (Calhoun County STOP Team)
14. Family Refuge Center (Greenbrier County STOP Team)
15. Family Refuge Center (Monroe County STOP Team)
16. Family Refuge Center (Pocahontas County STOP Team)
17. Kanawha County Commission (Kanawha County STOP Team)
18. Marshall County Commission (Marshall County STOP Team)
19. Ohio County Commission (Ohio County STOP Team)
20. Putnam County Commission (Putnam County STOP Team)
21. RDVIC (Monongalia County STOP Team)
22. RDVIC (Preston County STOP Team)
23. Task Force on Domestic Violence, HOPE, Inc. (Harrison Co. STOP Team)
24. Task Force on Domestic Violence, HOPE, Inc. (Marion Co. STOP Team)
25. Tug Valley Recovery Shelter (Logan County STOP Team)
26. Tug Valley Recovery Shelter (Mingo County STOP Team)
27. Upshur County Commission (Upshur County STOP Team)
28. Women's Aid in Crisis (Randolph County STOP Team)

Surveys were also sent to all fifty-five Prosecutors and Sheriffs in West Virginia

APPENDIX B

West Virginia Demographics:

- **Total Population:** 1,852,994
**Information from the US Census Bureau –2010*
- **Total Estimate for 2015-** 1,884,128
**Information from <http://quickfact.census.gov>*
- **Population by Gender:** Male (49.3%) - Female (50.7%)
**Information from the US Census Bureau –2010*
- **Population by Gender:** Male (49.4%) - Female (50.6%)
Information from <http://quickfact.census.gov>
- **Urban vs. Rural:** 46.05% Urban and 53.95% Rural
- **Median Age:** (years) 42.6
**Information from the US Census Bureau –2010*
- **Median Age:** (years) 41.3
**Information from <http://quickfact.census.gov>*
- **Location & Area:** Appalachia Region; 24,229.76 square miles = 76.5 persons per square mile

Poverty Level and Rank:

**Information from US Census Bureau/American Fact Finder Survey 2015 American Community Survey*

- Persons below poverty level: 17.9%
- Under 18 years of age below poverty level: 24.5%
- 65 years and older living below the poverty level: 9.4%
- 19.6% of females are living below the poverty level compared to 16.6% of males
- Median Household Income: \$41,576
- Mean Household Income: \$53,889

**Information from Bureau of Labor Statistics*

- Unemployment rate as of January 2017, WV has an unemployment rate of 5.6%

Education Level and rank:

**Information from the US Census Bureau –American Fact Finder 2015 Community Survey*

- 84.5% of WV Population who are 25 or older have a high school diploma
- 18.3% of the population who are 25 or older have a Bachelor's Degree
- 7.3% of the population 25+ years have a Graduate or professional degree

Family Structure Info:

**Information from the US Census Bureau – 2015 American Community Survey*

- Married Couple Family: 48.8%
- Female households, no husband present: 11.4%
- 1.8% of total population of grandparents who are responsible for their grandchildren
- 37 births are to teen mothers (15-19 yrs.) *Information from WV Kids Count*
- 42.4% of births are to unwed mothers

Disability Information:

**Information from the US Census Bureau - 2015 American Community Survey*

- 19.2% of noninstitutionalized population have a disability
- 23.5% of females have a disability
- 43.4% Population 65 years of age who have a disability
- 4.2% of people who identify with hearing difficulties (Disability Statistics Annual Report, Institute on Disability/UCED, 2015)

Minorities:

- White = 93.2%
- Black or African American = 3.2%
- American Indian and Alaska Native = 0.2%
- Asian = 0.7%
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander = 0.0%
- Hispanic or Latino = 1.3%

**Information from <http://quickfact.census.gov>*

- White = 93.8%
- Black or African American = 3.4%
- American Indian and Alaska Native = 0.2%
- Asian = 0.7%
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander = 0.7%
- Hispanic or Latino = 1.3%

**Information from the US Census Bureau – 2010*

Other Languages:

**Information from the US Census Bureau – 2010*

- Population 5 years + who speak a language other than English = 2.3%
- Population 5 years + who speak only English = 97.3%
- WV has the lowest percentage of residents that speak a language other than English in the home (2.7%)

Elderly:

**Information from the US Census Bureau - 2015 American Community Survey*

- 50 - 54 years old – 7.3% of population
- 55 -59 years old -7.5% of population
- 60 – 64 years old – 7.2% of population

- 65 – 69 years old – 5.7% of population
- 70 - 74 years old – 4.1% of population
- 75 – 79 years old – 3.1% of population
- 80 – 84 years old – 2.2% of population
- 85 years and older – 2.1% of population

Faith Community Information:

**Information from 2017 Sperling's BestPlaces:*

http://www.bestplaces.net/religion/state/west_virginia

Percent Religious	35.76%
Baptist	8.11%
Catholic	5.36%
Methodist	7.64%
Lutheran	0.72%
Latter Day Saints	0.95%
Episcopalian	0.46%
Methodist	7.64%
Presbyterian	1.20%
Other Christian	8.39%
Jewish	0.08%
Eastern	0.11%
Islam	0.10%

Domestic Violence Information:

**Information from the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence-WV Facts*

- 12,661 reported cases of domestic violence to law enforcement in 2010.
- 1/3 of homicides in West Virginia are related to domestic violence
- A call is placed to a WV domestic violence hotline every nine minutes
- Over 2/3 of women murdered in WV are killed by a family or household member

**Information from the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence -May 2012*

- On any given day, licensed domestic violence programs provide services to over 600 victims.
- Every 9 minutes, a call is made to a domestic violence hotline in West Virginia.
- Over 1/3 of homicides in WV are related to domestic violence.
- 14,880 domestic violence cases were filed in West Virginia Family Court in 2010.
- Nearly half of all assaults in WV are between family or household members.
- Arrests in domestic violence incidents account for 62% of the total arrests from crimes against person in WV.
- Over 2/3 of women murdered in WV are killed by a family or household member.
- 12,661 domestic offenses were reported to law enforcement in West Virginia in 2010.

**Information from the Domestic Violence Fatalities Among Adults in West Virginia 2003-2005. A Report of the West Virginia Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team*

- From 2003-2005, 103 domestic violence related deaths were identified and reviewed by the WV DV Fatality Review Team; 72 homicides and 31 suicides. Twenty-seven (87.1%) of the suicides occurred following the commission of a homicide.
 - 51 female and 52 male fatalities, with women more likely to be homicide victims and men more likely to be suicide victims. Forty-nine (68.1%) of the 72 homicide victims were women; 23 (31.9%) were men. Twenty-nine (93.%%) of the suicide victims were men; 2 (6.5%) were women.
 - All of the adult homicide victims who were part of a homicide/suicide were women.
 - Sixty-two of the 71 perpetrators of domestic violence homicides were men; 9 were women. Two of the female perpetrators had a known prior history of domestic violence; in contrast 39 of the 62 male perpetrators had a documented domestic violence history.
 - 83 of the 103 deaths were classified as intimate partner related fatalities, I.e. involving a spouse, ex-spouse, current or former girlfriend/boyfriend/same sex partner or someone else who is involved as victim or perpetrator as the result of an intimate partner relationship. Twenty of the deaths were classified as family violence (involving a family member who is not an intimate partner).
 - 78 of the 103 fatalities were due to firearms, 9 to knives or other related weapons, 8 to violent assault by strangulation, striking or kicking; 3 to a blunt weapon; 2 each to fire and motor vehicles and 1 to neglect. All 8 victims of strangulation, striking or kicking were women.
 - Most of the DV homicides occurred at either the victim's or perpetrator's residence.
 - Minor children were present at the scene of 32.8% of intimate partner homicides; and 41.2% of the family violence homicides.

**Information from the WV State Police Crime in West Virginia 2014 Report- Domestic Violence - the following crimes was reported among Victim to Offender relationships:*

- 1,940 aggravated assaults
- 167 forcible fondling
- 93 forcible rapes
- 23 forcible sodomy cases
- 25 incest
- 857 reports of intimidation
- 90 kidnapping
- 31 murders and nonnegligent manslaughter
- 54 sexual assaults with an object
- 6,250 simple assaults
- 17 statutory rapes

Sexual Assault Information:

**Information from the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services*

- Nearly 82% of all sexual assaults were committed by someone known to the victim.
- 46.6% of assaults were committed by an acquaintance
- 7.4% by an intimate partner
- 27.6% by 'other' family (e.g., in-law, sibling)
- Most (70%) sex offenses were reported to have occurred at a residence or home.
- Personal weapons, such as the offender's hands or fists were used during sex offenses, more than other weapons.
- 64.8% of victims were juveniles under the age of 18.
- The most frequently reported age was 15.
- The majority of the offenders were males (93%) and adult (70.6%).
- 70% of sex offenses occurred at a residence or in a home.

Information from the WV State Police Crime in West Virginia 2014 Report- Sexual Assault: Sexual offenses are forcible (forcible rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault with and object and forcible fondling) and non-forcible (statutory rape and incest).

<u>Victims</u>	<u>Offenders</u>
Gender: 82.1% were female 17.9% were male	8.2% were female 90.8% were male
Race: 90.7 were white 6.1% were black 3.4% were other or unknown	83.5% were white 11.7 were black 4.7 were other or unknown

Age: Average age was 16
Most common age was 14
67.2% were juveniles

Average age was 22
Most common age was 18
28.0% were juveniles

Offense Reported	Adult Offenders	Juvenile Offenders
Forcible Rape	30%	23%
Forcible Sodomy	6%	9%
Sexual Assault w/Object	18%	15%
Forcible Fondling	37%	46%
Statutory Rape	6%	6%
Incest	3%	1%

Offender was	Adult Victims	Juvenile Victims
Not related to Victim	88%	67%
Related to Victim	12%	32%

- 1,049 Offenders reported to police
- 761 offenders not arrested
- 288 offenders arrested; 267 adults and 21 juveniles

Dating Violence:

**Information from Break the Cycle, 2011 State Law Report Card*

- West Virginia is one of the states that allow victims of dating violence to file for a protective order regardless of the nature of the relationship. However, the law does not specify if minors can petition on their own behalf and it does not specify if the parent or guardian of the minor will be notified about the protective order. West Virginia law at this time does not provide for a specific school response to dating violence.

Note: Dating Violence information/stats are collected with Domestic Violence information/stats so we don't have separate information.

Stalking:

There are currently no statewide statistics collected other than the VOCA and STOP VAWA reports.

APPENDIX C

WEST VIRGINIANS AGAINST VIOLENCE COMMITTEE

1st Lt. Shallon Oglesby (*Chair*)

West Virginia State Police
Law Enforcement Representative

Lisa Tackett

West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals
Court Representative

Joyce Yedlosky

West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Domestic Violence Representative

Tracy Dorsey Chapman

U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District
Federal Victim Assistance Representative

Christina Mehler Frizzell

U.S. Attorney's Office, Northern District
Federal Victim Assistance Representative

Ed Kornish

McDowell County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
Prosecution Representative

Cheryl Chandler

Mercer County Resident
Crime Victim Representative

Andrea Darr

WV Prosecuting Attorney's Institute –Drug Endangered Children Coordinator
Child Abuse Representative

Felicia Bush

Underserved Populations Advocate
Underserved Populations Representative

Marla Willcox Eddy

West Virginia Foundation on Rape Information and Services
Sexual Assault Representative

Reverend Kay Albright

Bridges of Grace United Church of Christ
Faith-Based Organization Representative

APPENDIX D

Focus Group Questions

STOP VAWA Implementation Plan Focus Group Meeting Sign in Sheet

January 12, 2017

Name	Agency	Title	Phone Number	E-mail	Date	Signature
Sarah Brown	WV Division of Justice and Community Services	STOP VAWA Administrator	304-558-8814 Ext. 53337	Sarah.J.Brown@wv.gov	01/12/17	<i>Sarah J. Brown</i>
Sara Pennington	WV Division of Justice and Community Services	VOCA Administrator	304-558-8814 Ext. 53336	Sara.E.Pennington@wv.gov	01/12/17	<i>Sara E. Pennington</i>
Leslie Roberts	WV Division of Justice and Community Services	VOCA CJSI	304-558-8814 ext. 53314	Leslie.R.Roberts@wv.gov	01/12/17	<i>Leslie R. Roberts</i>
Gail Kahle	Ohio County Prosecuting Attorney's Office	VAWA Prosecutor	304-234-3631	gkahle@wvocpa.org	01/12/17	
Nancy Hoffman	WV Foundation for Rape Information & Services (WVFRIS)	State Coordinator	304-366-9500	wvfris@frontier.com	01/12/17	<i>Nancy Hoffman</i>
Tonia Thomas	WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Team Coordinator	304-965-3552	tthomas@wvcadv.org	01/12/17	
1 st Lt. Shallon Oglesby	WV State Police	Director of Planning & Research	304-766-5807	shallon.roglesby@wvsp.gov <i>Shallon.roglesby@wvsp.gov</i>	01/12/17	<i>1st Lt. Shallon Oglesby</i>
Gerri Mason	Mineral County CASA Program	Director	304-788-0068		01/12/17	<i>Gerri Mason</i>









Savilla Harvey

" Vol Coordinator "








" VC4 minocasa@gmail.com 1/12/17 "



Savilla Harvey

Name	Agency	Title	Phone Number	E-mail	Date	Signature
Debra Lopez-Bonasso	WVFRIS	Education Coordinator	304-366-9508	Dlb.wvfris@gmail.com	01/12/17	
Sherry Eling	West Virginia Prosecuting Attorney's Institute	VAWA Resource Prosecutor	304-558-3348	Sherry.S.Eling@wv.gov	01/12/17	
Angela Saunders	WV Supreme Court of Appeals		304-	Angela.Saunders@courts.wv.gov	01/12/17	
Jan Derry	Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living	Executive Director	304-296-6091	jderry@nwvcil.org	01/12/17	
Tracy Dorsey Chapman	U.S. Attorney's Office Southern District	WV Against Violence Committee Member - Victim/Witness Coordinator	304-345-2200	tracy.chapman@usdoj.gov	01/12/17	
Kenyatta Grant	West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Community Organizer	304-965-3552	kgrant@wvcadv.org	01/12/17	
Lesli Forbis	Putnam County Sheriff's Department	Victim Advocate	304-586-0256	lesli.forbis@putnamwv.org	01/12/17	
Michelle Dean	WV DHHR - BCF Policy	Program Manager - FVPSA	304-356-4556	Michelle.C.Dean@wv.gov	01/12/17	

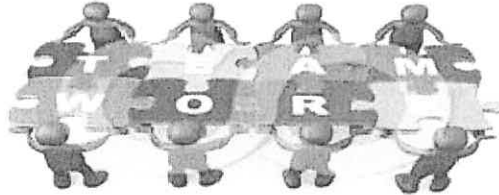
Name	Agency	Title	Phone Number	E-mail	Date	Signature
Pippa McCullough	Shenandoah Women's Center - Dual Shelter/Program	Executive Director	304-263-8522	executivedirector@swc-wc.org	01/12/17	
Nikki Erwin	Family Protection Services Board	Coordinator	859-948-3063	nikki.fpsb@gmail.com	01/12/17	
Marla Wilcox-Eddy	Family Counseling Connection - REACH Rape Crisis Center	REACH Director - WVAV Committee Member	304-543-2299	meddy@familycounselingconnection.org	01/12/17	
Joyce Yedlosky	West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence	Team Coordinator	304-965-3552	joyce@wvcadv.org	01/12/17	
Sheriff Sonya Dingess Porter	Logan County Sheriff's Department	Sheriff	304-792-8599		01/12/17	
Cammie Chapman	WV Supreme Court of Appeals		304-340-345	Smporter@ksaw.us	01/12/17	
Kenosha Davenport	Family Refuge Center	Executive Director	304-645-6334	Cammie.Chapman@courts.wv.gov	01/12/17	
Sharon Pressman	CONTACT of Huntington	Executive Director	304-523-3447	Kenosha@familyrefugecenter.org	01/12/17	
				EXECUTIVE CONTACT HUNTINGTON.COM		

L12 Doc 1
 11
 Asst. Director 304-523-3447
 Asst. Dir. Contact Huntington.com

Name	Agency	Title	Phone Number	E-mail	Date	Signature
Emily Chittenden-Laird	WV Child Advocacy Network	Director	304-444-4444	elaird@cnvcan.org	01/12/17	
Amanda McComas	Branched Domestic Violence Shelter	Executive Director	304-529-2382	mcomas@branchedsos.org	01/12/17	
Elizabeth Wehner	Legal Aid of West Virginia	Managing Attorney	304-343-3013 extension 2134	eweigner@lawid.net	01/12/17	
Katie Spriggs	Shenandoah Women's Center	Program Manager	304-263-8522	kspriggs@swcinc.org	01/12/17	
Michael Jones	KISRA	Program Manager	304-395-6858	michaelj@kisra.org	01/12/17	
Sgt. Jeff Vance	Lewisburg Police Department	Detective	304-645-1626	jvance@lewisburg.wv.com	01/12/17	
Andrew Schneider	Fairness WV				01/12/17	
Marissa Collett	Change Inc.				01/12/17	

Name	Agency	Title	Phone Number	E-mail	Date	Signature
Troy Ball	Morgantown Police Department			tb652@aol.com	01/12/17	
Perri DeChristopher	Monongalia County Prosecuting Attorney	Prosecuting Attorney			01/12/17	
Lisa Tackett	WV Supreme Court of Appeals				01/12/17	
Sandra Calloway	B.M.E.E.K.	Director			01/12/17	
Patricia Bailey	Comprehensive Women's Services Council	Executive Director - FPSB President			01/12/17	
Kat McConnell	WV Senior Legal Aid				01/12/17	
Eric Powell	Morgantown Police Dept.	F/Sgt.	304-284-7447	epowell@morgantownwv.gov	01/12/17	

[illegible]



STOP VAWA FOCUS GROUP MEETING
January 12, 2017
WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence Office

MEETING AGENDA

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 10:30 | Welcome & Introductions (Sarah Brown) |
| | Purpose of Meeting and STOP VAWA (Sarah Brown) |
| 11:00 | Sexual Assault & Services (Sarah Brown & Nancy Hoffman) |
| 12:00 | Lunch On Your Own |
| 1:15 | Marginalized Communities (Sarah Brown & Kenyatta Grant) |
| 2:45 | Break |
| 3:00 | Shifts/Trends/Challenges in Providing Services |
| 3:30 | What is working? How can we improve Services and collaboration in the CJ System? |
| 4:00 | Final Thoughts, Comments & Questions |



Sexual Assault Services

Type of Agency	Type of Services	Provide Services	Refer services	Not Provided
	Court accompaniment			
	Counseling Services			
	Support Groups			
	Criminal Justice Advocacy			
	Crisis Intervention			
	Hospital/medical response 24/7 services			
	Language Services			
	Transportation			
	Victim/Survivor Advocacy			
	Emergency Shelter			
	Transitional Housing			
	Hotline			
	Victim notification			
	Outreach			
	Investigation			
	Other			



1. Do sexual assault victims have a seamless delivery system in your county?

If not what are the gaps?

2. Are services provided to sexual assault victims by trained service providers at every point of entry in the system (advocacy, medical, law enforcement, prosecution, campuses, etc.)?

If not, where are the gaps and what training topics are needed?

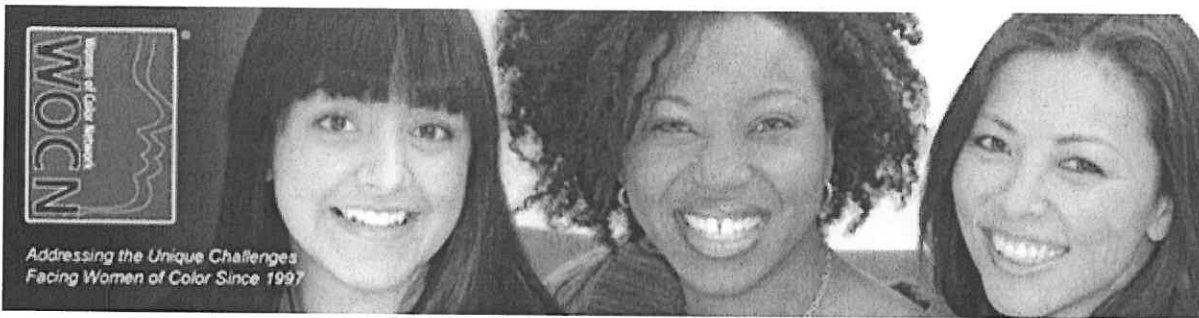
3. Is collaboration among all of the key first responders to sexual assault victims in your community?

If so, does it need strengthened/who is missing?

If not where are the gaps?

For all three questions: Is your county/service area the norm for other counties in the state?

If you had to prioritize the top three needs in serving sexual assault victims, what would they be?



Women of Color Network (WOCN)

3-Tier System Overview and Exercises

VAWA 2005 Definition of Underserved

"The term 'underserved populations' includes populations underserved because of geographic location, underserved racial and ethnic populations, populations underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, alienage status, or age), and any other population determined to be underserved by the Attorney General or by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, as appropriate." VAWA 42 U.S.C.A. § 13925(a)(33)

Defining Underserved, Un-served, and Inadequately Served

Underserved, un-served, and inadequately served "populations" or communities share an identity and a state of "being" and face service challenges due to historical or ongoing systemic and societal or community-based barriers based on factors such as:

Race	Ethnicity	Immigration Status and/or National Origin	Sovereignty/Indigenous Status
Sexual orientation/Gender Identity	Cultural, language, and/or literacy barriers	Geographic location	Faith, spirituality, or religious identity
Age: Youth and children	Age: Adults in later life	Mental disabilities or other mental health needs	Physical, cognitive, or sensory disability

Expanding and enhancing our understanding and approach to include this three-tier definition of underserved, un-served & inadequately served will enable us to include a *spectrum of needs*.

- **Un-served**
 - No services available
 - Severe isolation
- **Underserved**
 - Limited access
 - Moderate isolation
- **Inadequately served**
 - Over-represented
 - Access but limited quality

Applying the Three-Tier definitions to the populations

State, district or territory _____

(Please check one definition – and only one – for each population)

POPULATION	Un-served	Underserved	Inadequately Served
API			
Black			
Disabilities			
Immigrant / Refugee			
Later life			
Latino/ Hispanic			
LEP			
LGBTQI			
Multi-ethnic			
Native			

This project was supported by Grant No. 2013-TA-AX-K032 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

Emerging Issues/ Shifts or Trends relating to crime victims in your service area?

Type of Victimization	Emerging Issue/Shift or Trend



What is your STOP funds allowing you to do that's working well?

How Can We Improve Services and Collaboration in the System?

Survey Questions:

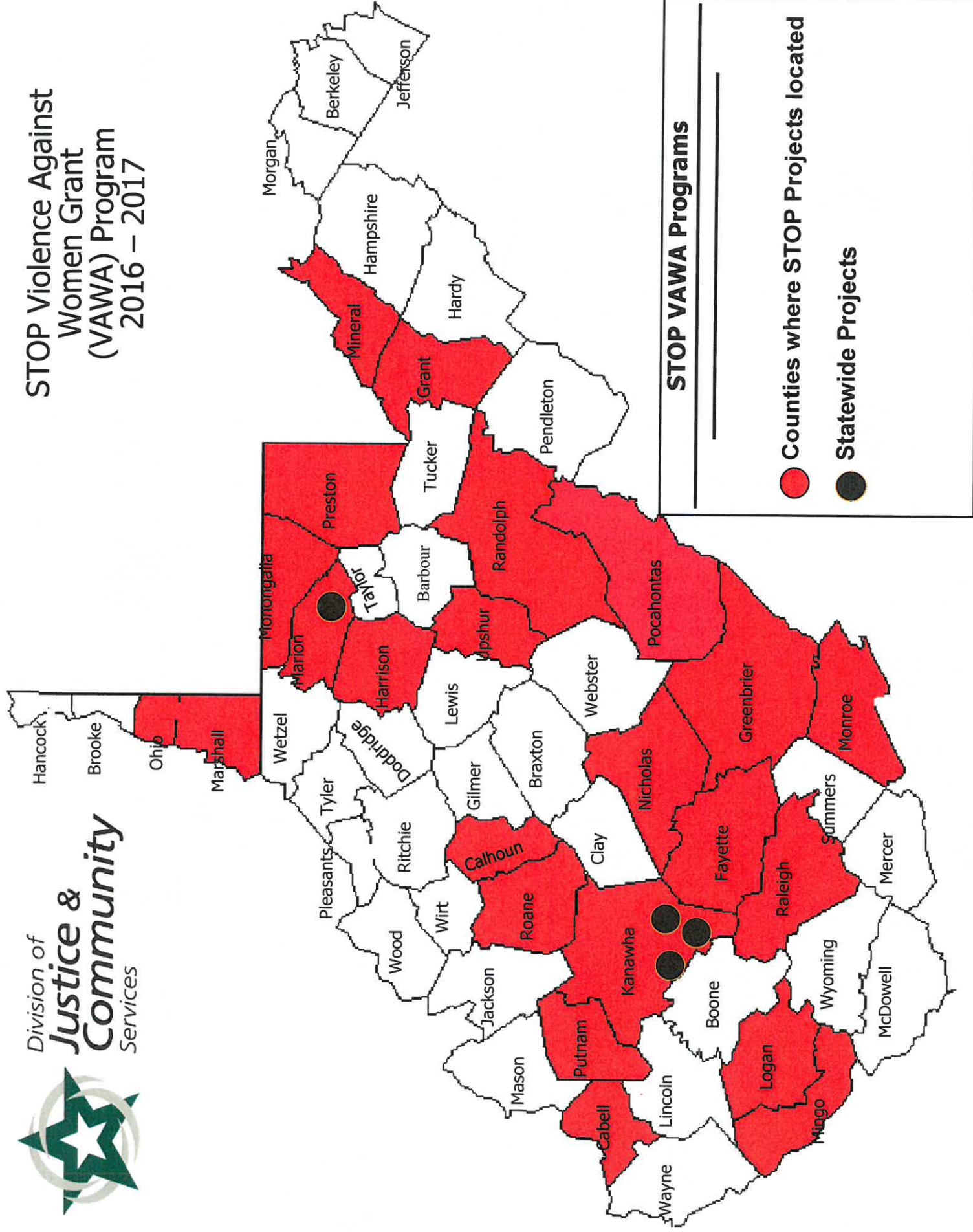
1. What type of agency do you represent?
2. What services are provided by your agency to sexual assault victims? List all that apply
3. What shifts in requested services relating to crime victims is happening in your community?
4. What are the emerging issues in your service area?
5. What are the gaps in services in your service area?
6. What cultural specific organizations are in your county or service area?
7. How would you rate collaboration in your service area in improving the response and providing services to victims?
8. What can your community do to improve the criminal justice system's response to crime victims?
9. What are the training needs for victim service providers?
10. What are the barriers to providing comprehensive trauma-informed services?

Appendix E



Division of
**Justice &
Community**
Services

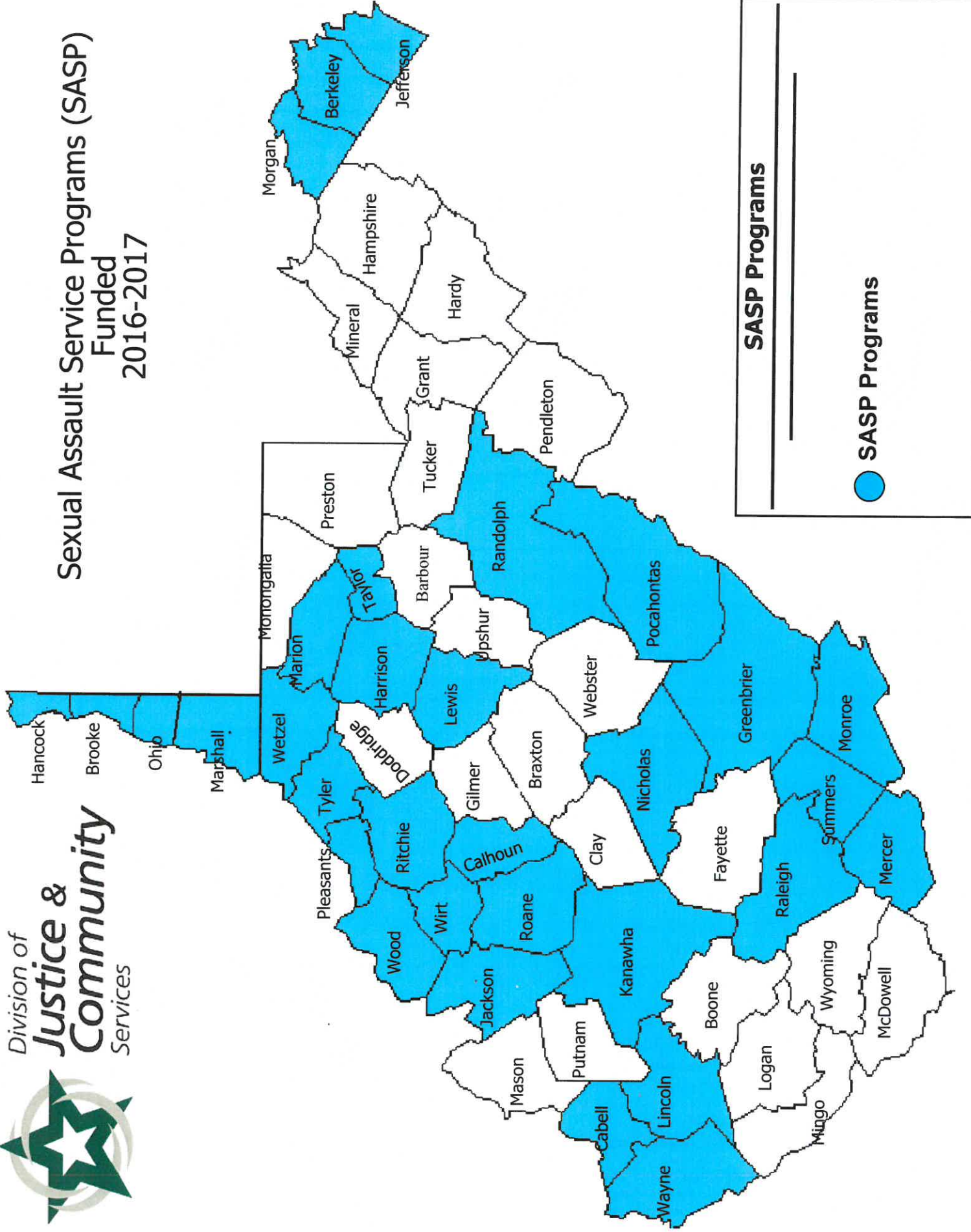
STOP Violence Against Women Grant (VAWA) Program 2016 – 2017





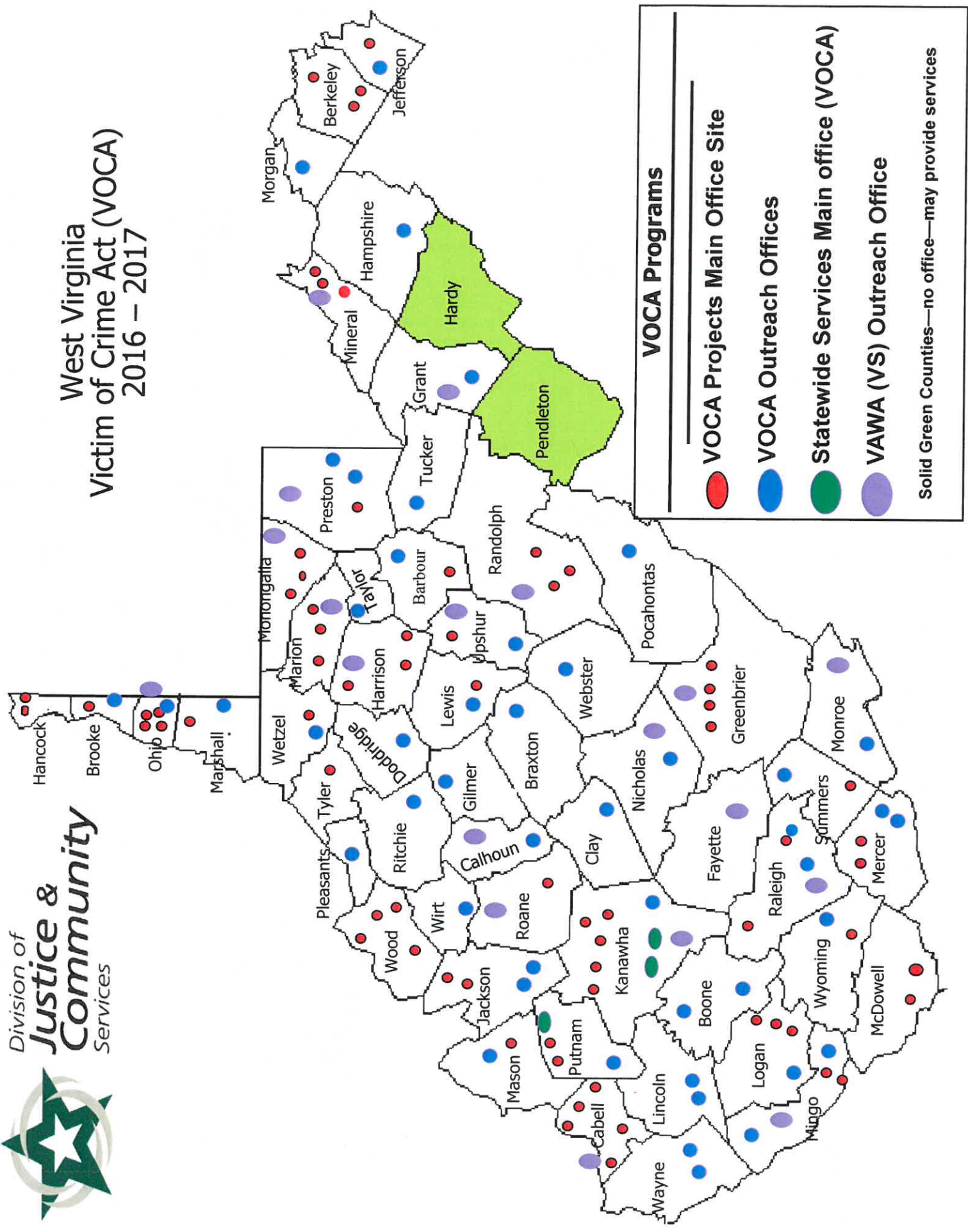
Division of
**Justice &
Community**
Services

Sexual Assault Service Programs (SASP) Funded 2016-2017





West Virginia Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) 2016 – 2017

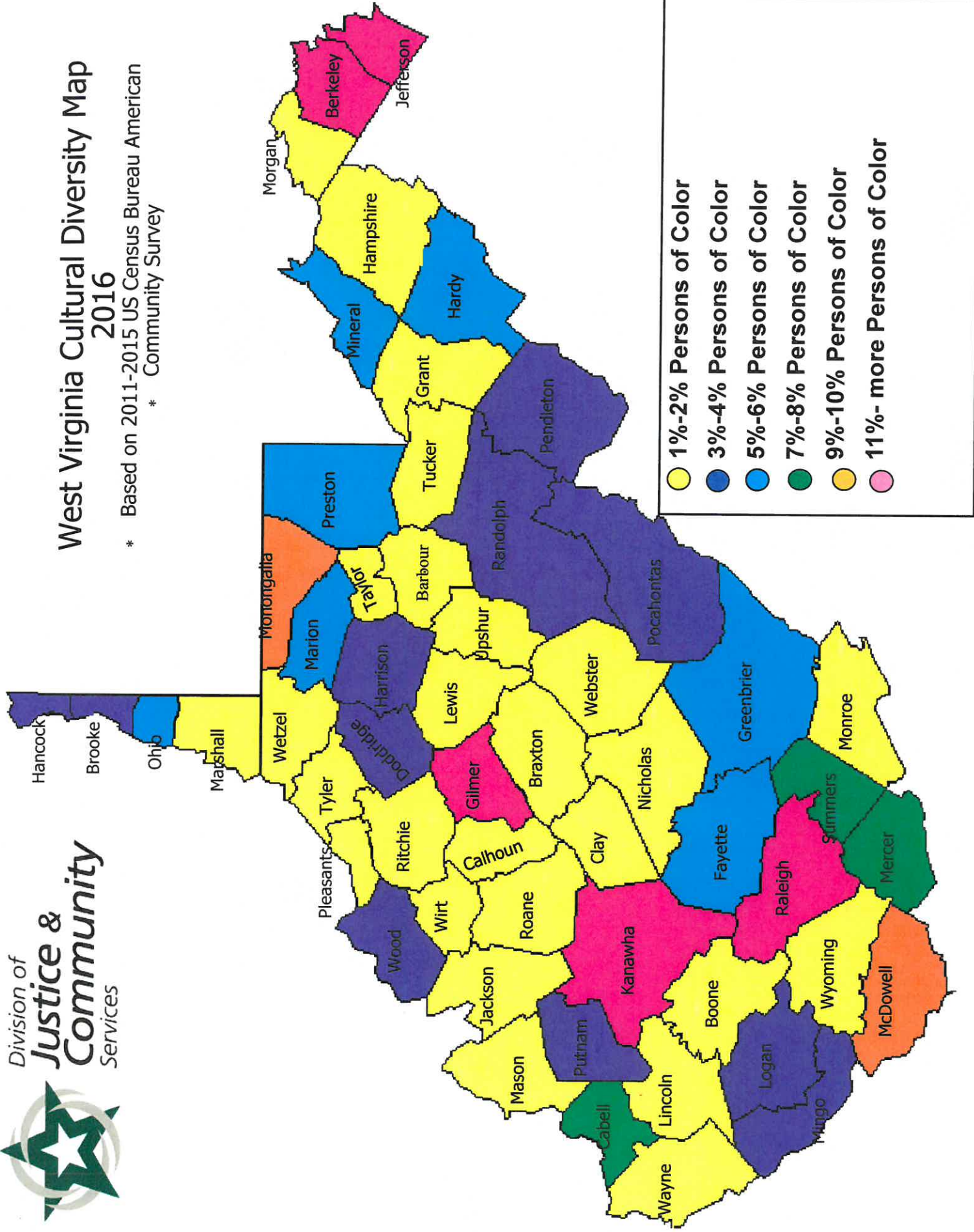




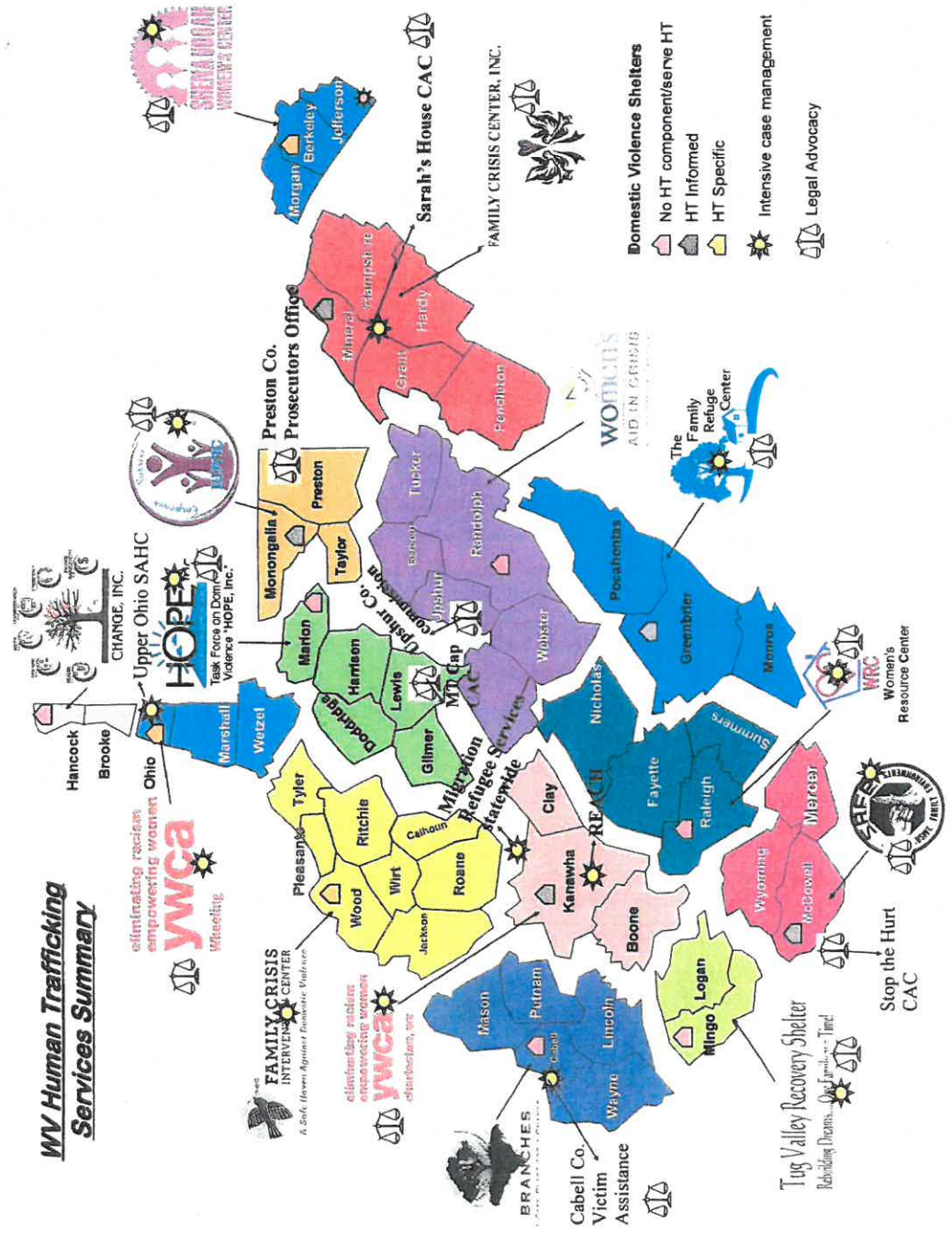
Division of
**Justice &
Community**
Services

West Virginia Cultural Diversity Map 2016

* Based on 2011-2015 US Census Bureau American
* Community Survey



WV Human Trafficking Services Summary



APPENDIX F

Documentation of Participation in Planning Process

Summary of Major Concerns with Final Plan

- Only two comments concerning statistics and staff reviewed and the statistics were correct.
- Copies of the documentation which shows a draft plan was sent for agencies to review are on file at the DJCS office.

STOP Violence Against Women Act (STOP VAWA) Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Process

Documentation of Collaboration

State	West Virginia
Administering Agency	WV Division of Justice and Community Services
Agency Name	
Date	
Type of Agency	
Date of Focus Group Meeting	

The following questions should be answered by the Collaborating Agency and STOP Team Members:

- Did you participate in the planning (please circle one): **YES** **NO**
 Is so, did you participate (please check what is applicable):
 In Person
 Though mailed survey questions
 Survey
- Were you informed of Meetings (please circle one): **YES** **NO**
- Did you attend the meeting? (please circle one): **YES** **NO**
- Did you have adequate opportunity to discuss the concerns or issues impacting your area of expertise and/or the population(s) you were representing? **YES** **NO**
- Did you receive a copy of the draft plan? **YES** **NO**
- Did you review the draft plan **YES** **NO**
- Do you feel the primary needs were addressed in draft plan? **YES** **NO**
- Did you offer feedback/submit comments on draft plan? **YES** **NO**

Comments (type on separate pages):

I certify I have received a copy of the West Virginia STOP VAWA Implementation Plan for 2017-2020 and have reviewed the plan.

Signature

**STOP Violence Against Women Act (STOP VAWA) Formula Grant
Program Implementation Planning Process**

Documentation of Collaboration

State	West Virginia
Administering Agency	WV Division of Justice and Community Services
Agency Name	
Date	
Type of Agency	
Date of Focus Group Meeting	

The following questions should be answered by the Collaborating Agency and STOP Team Members:

- | | | |
|--|------------|-----------|
| 1. Did you offer feedback on draft plan? | YES | NO |
| 2. Were your concerns addressed in the final plan? | YES | NO |

Provide any comments or concerns with the final plan (type on separate pages):

I certify I have received a copy of the updated West Virginia STOP VAWA Implementation Plan for 2017-2020 and have reviewed the plan.

Signature

Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Information

1) Agency contact info

**Department of Health and Human Resources
Bureau for Children and Families
350 Capitol Street, Room 730
Charleston, WV 25301
Phone: (304) 558-7980; Fax (304) 558-4563
Email: Michelle.C.Dean@wv.gov**

**Dun and Bradstreet Number: 14-804-0327
Central Contact Registration is Current**

2) How will the state involve community-based orgs whose primary purpose is to provide culturally specific programming to underserved populations, including how such community-based orgs can assist the state in identifying and addressing the unmet needs of such populations, including involvement in the state planning process and other ongoing communication?

The state has initiated an ambitious goal of developing a holistic picture of West Virginia's domestic violence and sexual assault services in the state. With this in mind, we have repurposed the Violence against Woman Act (VAWA) collaborative in West Virginia to becoming the planning collaborative for domestic violence and sexual assault services in the state. The members of the collaborative include:

- Joyce Yedlosky/Tonia Thomas Team Coordinators, West Virginia Coalition against Domestic Violence (WVCADV)
- Kenyatta Grant, Community Organizing Coordinator, WVCADV
- Sarah Brown, Senior Justice Program Specialist and VOCA and VAWA state administrator, DJCS
- Nancy Hoffman, Director, Foundation for Rape Information and Services
- Patricia Bailey, Director Women's Resource Center & Family Protection Services Board Chair
- Marla Eddy, Director REACH Rape Crisis Center
- Michelle Dean, Program Manager and state FVPSA administrator, Bureau for Children and Families (BCF)

The collaborative has developed a two-prong approach to identifying and including community-based -culturally specific programs in the state planning process. First, the collaborative planned and hosted a focus group. This focus group included participants from all backgrounds, who work with victims of domestic violence and sexual assault (see attachment for participant roster). The purpose of the focus group is to hear from various representatives of communities around the state as to the welfare of the services

provided and services still needed. The collaborative invited participants from culturally specific programs and minority groups, as well as, included a discussion led by Kenyatta Grant on the Woman of Color Network's three-tiered approach to serving marginalized communities. This group provided the opportunity for providers of service to hear the voices of those who feel services are not adequate for all cultural groups, as well as, the collaborative and funders to hear what services are needed to meet the specific needs of these communities.

Secondly, the collaborative worked with BCF, Community Partnerships unit, to survey the state's Family Resource Networks (FRN). FRN's are local coalitions of people working to better meet the needs and improve services for children and families in their communities. FRN's are an excellent resource for not only the formal service providers in a community, but also the informal. The collaborative utilized this resource to reach out to individual communities and specifically learn if there were any informal providers of domestic violence related services we could reach out too. This will provide us the opportunity to reach out to these groups and learn about potential underserved groups, but also unserved and inadequately served groups. The collaborative has identified this as a potential opportunity to open direct communication with the types of community-based groups that can provide insight unfounded in formalized groups.

- 3) A plan describing in detail how the needs of underserved populations will be met. "Underserved populations" include populations underserved because of geographic location (such as rural isolation); underserved racial and ethnic populations; populations underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, or immigrant status); LGBT or other populations determined to be underserved by a statewide needs assessment, the state planning process, or the Secretary of HHS. The State plan must:**
- a. Identify which populations are underserved populations; describe those that are being targeted for outreach services; and provide a brief explanation of why those populations were selected to receive outreach and services.**

While many population groups in our state can be identified as "underserved", we have primarily focused on our increasingly large rural population and taken a "we serve all" approach to other marginalized communities. Through our active participation with the Women of Color Network (WOCN) and our Collaborative's focus group, we have been able to identify a variety of underserved and inadequately served populations within our state. Our focus group identified underserved and inadequately served groups as:

- Persons with disabilities;
- Rural Communities;
- LGBTQI individuals, and;
- Persons of racial minorities

- Adolescents/youth

Through data information provided by our FVPSA sub-grantees, we have also been able to specifically identify African-American Women as disproportionately accessing shelter services and an increased presence in immigrant women in need of services, including translation services. The collaborative has yet to completely analyze and evaluate the information we have received and, as such, have yet to identify which groups will take priority focus.

- b. Describe the outreach plan, including the domestic violence training to be provided, the means of providing technical assistance and support, and the leadership role played by those representing and serving the underserved populations in question.**

What the Collaboratives finalized outreach plan will look like has yet to be determined. This is inclusive of the Collaborative's joint plan to address service provision in West Virginia. However, we anticipate that through the information obtained by the FRN's we will initiate direct contact with many of the community organizations or groups identified.

We will continue in our contract with the WVCADV to provide domestic violence trainings and technical assistance. WVCADV has also been working closely with the WOCN to ensure they take a structured approach to lifting up marginalized communities and ensure our service providers understand the need to be culturally sensitive and competent in their service provision. Further, the Collaborative has determined seats at the planning table should remain open to leaders of culturally specific organizations as they become identified.

All STOP VAWA and VOCA sub-grantees which include all fourteen licensed Domestic Violence Programs, are currently required to identify underserved populations in their service area(s) and how they will provide outreach and awareness of services as part of their applications. In the new Implementation Plan we will be requiring sub-grantees to use the approach of inadequately served, un-served, and not served for victims.

- c. Describe the specific and specialized services to be provided or enhanced, including new shelters or services, improved access to shelters or services, or new shelters for underserved populations and victims who are members of racial and ethnic minority populations, such as victims from communities of color, immigrant victims, refugees, LGBTQ individuals, adolescents, youth at risk, or victims with disabilities.**

The state intends on continuing to ensure literature and educational materials have a diverse population depicted and that materials are culturally sensitive and inclusive. Further the state intends on supporting efforts to diversify staff of shelters and services, develop community partnerships to provide referral to culturally specific organizations when available, and to receive the necessary trainings to educate staff on the importance of cultural competency.

The Collaborative has also determined that a unified plan to provide technical assistance to interested parties, including grassroots organizations, in navigating the state system to obtaining licensing, should they seek funding for shelter programs, or other funding which may be available is a needed service to our communities. While licensure and state regulations provide certain assurances in service provision, they create a relatively large barrier too many would-be organizations.

d. Please list all tribes – N/A

4. A plan describing how the state will provide specialized services including trauma informed services for children exposed to family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence.

West Virginia understands the grave impact and the deep connections trauma can have on one's mental and emotional health. As such, West Virginia has developed an extensive public/private partnership in its efforts to respond to trauma-inflicted individuals. The Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) recently mandated that all children who come into contact with our system, via Child Protective Services or Youth Services, shall have a Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment completed. This assessment has been implemented through a statewide effort to ensure all children who experience trauma have a comprehensive assessment of their needs and strengths that will follow the child throughout their care. This is in an effort to ensure the child is receiving the appropriate services to address their trauma needs and are making progress in that treatment. As mentioned previously this system occurs in both the public and private child-serving systems. When a child in a domestic violence program is identified as having experienced trauma due to abuse and neglect, they are immediately referred to the DHHR for an investigation of the allegations and the completion of a CANS assessment. Additionally, our public/private partnership collaborated with Dr. John Lyons, author of the assessment, to ensure we could develop a CANS assessment particular to the needs of our children and youth that maintains the same evidence-base of the original assessment. Additionally we have begun to utilize the Adult Needs and Strengths Assessment (ANSA) in our adult services population. West Virginia continues in this on-going implementation of the CANS family of assessments as we move through the treatment planning phase of implementation as well as the statewide automation of the assessment.

Additionally, the state contracts with the WV Coalition against Domestic Violence to ensure trauma-informed trainings and technical assistance is provided to our shelters and community agencies throughout the state. Each training is tailored to the specific program, however, training on using a trauma-informed model for doing work pertaining to domestic violence includes helping participants to understand what is meant by trauma, the impact of trauma on the health and well-being, the trauma-brain connection, the potential short- and long-term effects, the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study and the impact of complex trauma, especially across the lifespan. Additionally, the training focuses on intervention and prevention strategies designed to help survivors and their family members, what is and is not helpful, referrals and resources and how to work with community-based programs that help victims.

5. Include a description of how the state plans to use the grant funds to provide shelter, between domestic/dating violence organizations with documented histories of effective work and community-based organizations

Each sub-grantee is required to provide shelter and supportive services to prevent incidents of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence. Additionally, each agency is required to make referrals to appropriate community agencies to ensure a seamless delivery of services. Agencies must also provide assistance in referring victims of available state and federal financial resources and assistance which may be available to assist. Additionally, the WVCADV utilizes FVPSA funds to work with domestic violence programs and providers of direct services to educate on appropriately responding to domestic violence situations.

As mentioned previously, each of our programs provide shelter and supportive services. Below are the definitions for the required services to victims, as stipulated in contract for the use of FVPSA funds.

<i>Advocacy</i>	Assisting victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking, and their children, in securing rights, remedies, and services by directly providing for or referring to public and private agencies to provide for safety planning, shelter, housing, legal services, outreach counseling, case management, information and referral, training, employment, child care, health care, transportation, financial literacy education, financial planning and related economic empowerment services, parenting and other educational services and other support services.
<i>Emergency Shelter</i>	A licensed domestic violence shelter created for the purpose of receiving, on a temporary basis, persons who are victims of domestic violence, abuse or rape as well as the children of such victims.
<i>Information and Referral</i>	Responding to a request for services with an assessment of the victim's needs and appropriate referrals to community resources to meet those needs.
<i>Peer Support</i>	Interaction, either in person or by phone and either individually or in a group. With the goals of validating the experiences of victims, exploring options with them and advocating for their safety, building on their strengths and avoiding victim-blaming, and respecting their right to self-determination.

<i>Services to Children</i>	Information and referrals, advocacy and structured activities designed to relate to physical, emotional, social, and intellectual needs of children.
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The state further intends on determining more effective means of ensuring that our providers collaborate with one another to allow the most qualified organization, agency, or group is referred to assist when necessary. This was another issue learned through our focus group. Many of our agency partners expressed frustration in not knowing who or what was out there and available to assist in cases of domestic violence and sexual assault that may be seemingly unrelated.

6. A plan describing how the state will support programs in developing and sustaining an accessible, culturally relevant, and trauma-informed approach to service provision which must include (1) how the state will partner with the State Domestic Violence Coalition (Coalition) to identify what is needed to do trauma-informed work with sub-grantees and victims; and (2) how the state will partner with the Coalition to support training and/or technical assistance to promote trauma-informed care and to continue to build trauma-informed organizations.

As the FVPSA state administrator we ensure we maintain a close working relationship our state Coalition against Domestic Violence. The Coalition has informed domestic violence policies for our agencies social services staff, has provided trainings to our child serving staff and other bureaus within our agency, and now provides trauma-informed trainings to our shelter programs. Each program receives a trauma-informed training that is tailored to each specific program needs. Though individualized, the overarching focus of the training is on using a trauma-informed model for doing work pertaining to domestic violence which includes helping participants to understand what is meant by trauma, the impact of trauma on the health and well-being, the trauma-brain connection, the potential short- and long-term effects, the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study and the impact of complex trauma, especially across the lifespan. Additionally, the training focuses on intervention and prevention strategies designed to help survivors and their family members, what is and is not helpful, referrals and resources and how to work with community-based programs that help victims.

Additionally, we anticipate through our partnership with VOCA and VAWA state administrators and the coalition to develop a unified four year plan, that the Coalition will develop and deliver much of the training and technical assistance that agencies, shelter and otherwise, identify as a needed.

7. Describe the plan to ensure an equitable distribution of grants and grant funds within the state and between urban and rural area within such state.

BCF developed the formula for distribution of funds in collaboration and consultation with the Family Protection Services Board and the WVCADV. The Department has limited the use of FVPSA funds to programs licensed by the Family Protection Services Board. The fourteen domestic violence programs in the state are the only licensed programs and therefore are the only agencies receiving FVPSA funds during the fiscal year. In addition to providing these funds to

the domestic violence programs and the WVCADV, the administrative fee of 5% is taken from the federal funds to pay incurred costs from managing this grant.

The FVPSA funds are divided equally among the fourteen domestic violence programs in the state. Each licensed domestic violence program maintains outreach offices in the counties within their catchment area that do not have shelter available, providing many of their non-shelter services.

8. Provide complete documentation of consultation with and participation of the State Domestic Violence Coalition in the state planning process and monitoring of the distribution of grants and the administration of grant programs and projects

BCF State administrator for FVPSA funds, Michelle Dean, has been attending the WVCADV quarterly board meetings and working to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations and to enhance communication between agencies. The WVCADV Board consists of the Executive Directors of the fourteen contracted domestic violence programs. Through this avenue the FVPSA state administrator has the opportunity to hear directly from the shelter programs, as well as, the Family Protections Services Board (licensing agency) as to outstanding issues needing addressed. Additionally, as discussed earlier, the state FVPSA administrator has engaged in a joint collaborative process for state planning which includes the VAWA and VOCA state administrators, the WVCADV, and others.

9. Provide complete documentation of policies, procedures, and protocols that ensure personally identifying information will not be disclosed when providing statistical data in program activities and program services; the confidentiality of records pertaining to any individual provided family violence prevention services by any FVPSA- supported program will be maintained; and the address or location of any FVPSA-supported shelter will not be made public without the written authorization of the person or persons.

All programs shall follow the rules of confidentiality as required by the West Virginia State Code in 49-7-1, 9-6-8 and 9-6-11. See attachment of West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources Grant Agreement and 9-6-8 Confidentiality of Records.

10. Provide a copy of the law or procedures, such as a process for obtaining an order of protection, that the state has implemented for the barring of an abuser from a shared household.

See Attachment regarding West Virginia State Chapter 48 Article 26.

11. Describe the efforts and activities, if any, to coordinate the State's Violence against Woman Act implementation plan, and the FVPSA state plan/application pursuant to the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013.

BCF has historically participated in the VAWA collaborative, chaired by the WV Division of Justice and Community Services (DJCS). The workgroup is responsible for assisting with the implantation set forth in the Violence Against Women Act, including all amendments. The BCF and DJCS have worked jointly through various workgroups and committees, most notably those

related to the rural VAWA grant, which focuses on the correlation between domestic violence and child abuse, and the Injury Prevention grant, which focused on the prevention of sexual assault victims, including people of later life and vulnerable adults. As mentioned previously, this group has now been repurposed to include the state planning process for VOCA, VAWA, and FVPSA grants. The group members are as follows:

- Joyce Yedlosky/Tonia Thomas Team Coordinators, West Virginia Coalition against Domestic Violence (WVCADV)
- Kenyatta Grant, Community Organizing Coordinator, WVCADV
- Sarah Brown, Senior Justice Program Specialist and VOCA and VAWA state administrator, DJCS
- Nancy Hoffman, Director, Foundation for Rape Information and Services
- Patricia Bailey, Director Women's Resource Center & Family Protection Services Board Chair
- Marla Eddy, Director REACH Rape Crisis Center
- Michelle Dean, Program Manager and state FVPSA administrator, Bureau for Children and Families (BCF)

This group recognizes the need for a unified plan and vision to end interpersonal violence and sexual assault. The collaborative held a focus group designed to understand the needs of our communities and to learn what is working well and what is not working across communities and professions. Important information was obtained through this group, including the need for a collaborative system. **The VAWA Collaborative will ensure the development of a four year plan to include a holistic view of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence crime victims in the state and which targets identified needs and gaps in services, to create an improved system in the state.**

12. Applicants must include a signed copy of the assurances as required by Section 10401.

LETTERS REGARDING GRANT FUNDS



West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services, Inc.

112 Braddock Street, Fairmont, WV 26554 304-366-9500 FAX 304-366-9501

March 12, 2017

Sarah Brown
Division of Justice and Community Services
1124 Smith Street, Suite 3100
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Sarah,

The State's sexual assault coalition, the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services (FRIS), fully supports West Virginia's application for STOP Violence Against Women Funds. State funds for sexual violence are extremely limited, so STOP funding helps fill a gap in comprehensive services for victims of sexual violence on the local level. On the state level, these funds assist the coalition in providing a more comprehensive, collaborative response to victims of stalking and sexual violence. Specifically they enable the facilitation of an Intercollegiate Council to address sexual assault and stalking on our campuses and the SANE Advisory Board to address gaps in access to quality forensic exams. Anticipated outcomes of these continued collaborations include increased victim-centered services to our college-aged students, improved forensic evidence collection as well as data collection on forensic evidence collection in the state for victims of all ages, abilities and demographics.

STOP funds will be used to assist in training first responders. These include sexual assault nurse examiners through specific SANE trainings as well as increasing the capacity of local service providers to better respond to victims of sexual assault and stalking. As these first responders identify needs of victims from special populations in the State, we are working to assist them in meeting those needs. We recognize that services are only as effective as the person's skills in delivering them, so as a coalition we are working to enhance the skills of service delivery providers through multidisciplinary trainings on the issues of stalking and sexual violence – the only such trainings provided West Virginia.

On behalf of victims in our State, we encourage your continued support of West Virginia's STOP grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy Hoffman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nancy Hoffman
State Coordinator



west virginia
**Coalition Against
Domestic Violence**
for a safer state of family

5004 Elk River Road, South
Elkview, WV 25071
P: 304.965.3552
F: 877.335.2306

wvcadv.org

March 9, 2017

Office on Violence Against Women
800 K Street, NW
Suite 920
Washington, DC 20530

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to inform you of the importance of the STOP Violence Against Women Act funding for the state of West Virginia. STOP VAWA funds allow the community to address domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence as a collaborative effort.

The West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WVCADV) is a statewide, non-profit organization committed to ending personal and institutional violence in the lives of women, children, and men. The organization is composed of a Coalition Statewide Office (CSO) and fourteen licensed domestic violence programs. WVCADV has a successful history of developing and implementing projects that address the complex dynamics of domestic violence. Current WVCADV projects reflect partnerships with the legal and criminal justice systems, education and health care systems, the judicial system, and allied state and federal agencies.

West Virginia has approximately 1.8 million residents and is a primarily rural state with 64% of residents living in rural areas and only 36% living in urban areas. Per the FY 2014-2015 domestic violence database report, 14,901 persons received services from licensed domestic violence programs in the state. Of the persons receiving services, WVCADV was able to collect aggregate demographic characteristics including age, marital status, disability, race, ethnicity, and gender. Non-identifying information is collected at the statewide office.

Need, Use, and Expected Results of STOP Funds

Statewide Domestic Violence Database Project - Timely and precise data is invaluable in developing long-range or strategic plans, assessing client needs, evaluating project activities, compiling funding requests, responding to funders, and providing current statistical information to policy makers, law makers, and the public.

Past grants from the STOP Violence Against Women Program (STOP) have enabled the Coalition to continue development of and provide high quality training and technical support for the West Virginia Domestic and Sexual Violence Database. Used and critiqued by all licensed domestic and sexual violence programs, the database system has matured through numerous versions, each a marked improvement on the prior. Nineteen successive STOP grants have enabled WVCADV to make improvements and refinements in the database system and to respond to the data evolving management and training needs of the local programs.

In addition to the statewide database project, the financial assistance provided by the STOP grants over the last nineteen years allowed the Coalition to contract with a team of computer consultants and thereby increase staff and programmatic technology skill, knowledge, and capacity.

STOP funding assisted the Coalition to establish an Internet domain host for the Coalition's web page as well as a secure network for the database project. High speed, secure access to the internet enables the Coalition Statewide Office to perform internet research on a variety of domestic violence issues, to search for funding opportunities, submit grant applications, track state and federal policies which effect domestic violence victims, and to sharpen and define communications with each other in a more efficient and effective way.

The Coalition's "Technology Team", composed of computer specialists who provide training and technical assistance, includes Osnum, and two Computer Technicians. Osnum provides the database software and technical assistance to programs; one computer technician is assigned to the database and coalition servers; and the other computer technician provides in-house hardware and software support.

Benefits associated with the database system, recent technological advances, and the critical role these components play in meeting the technology needs of the Coalition Statewide Office and domestic and sexual violence programs highlight the need for the WVCADV to enlist the leadership, training, and technical assistance services of the "Tech Team". Based on the number and variety of requests for support received and the continued development of electronic services, the Coalition affirms that the availability of technical assistance is a necessity in today's electronic world.

Cultural Competency Training and TA Project - Funding from the STOP Grant will enable continued training and technical assistance for advocates and STOP Teams.

In order to gain a deeper understanding of cultural accountability, there is an ongoing need to educate on areas of competency, sensitivity, privilege and awareness. The goal is to elevate the consciousness regarding cultural realities by applying a different lens to recognize issues affecting marginalized groups. The lack of diversity in West Virginia is reflected in the low percentage of people of color and members of the LGBT members residing in this state. It is clear that in order to prevent racial, ethnic and divisions based on sexual orientation, understanding and respecting other cultural aspects will assist in overcoming structures of racism and heterosexism that enables social change to occur. The recent political climate and the insensitivity towards marginalized communities expands the need considerably to encouraging a deeper understanding regarding cultural diversity.

In conjunction with the Women of Color Network (WOCN), WVCADV developed a statewide anti-oppression action plan to use as an accountability measure for the organization. The action plan upholds the ongoing need to inform and educate on the interrelation of the various forms of oppression. The plan was developed as a compilation of needs identified through the WVCADV statewide Advocate of Color Network, Rainbow Justice League, Advocates Aspiring for Equity and WVCADV/WOCN coalition project. The goals in the plan address continued needs to:

- Educate advocates & allies on issues of racism and oppression;
- Establish and maintain a group for the mainstream advocates and WVCADV staff that will work in conjunction with the ACN;
- Support the Advocacy of Color Network (ACN) and the Rainbow Justice League (statewide LGBT Advocacy Group);
- Expand outreach to communities of Color and LGBT;
- Engage marginalized communities in policy development and advancement.

Previous STOP grant projects were successful because of the willingness to prioritize issues of oppression and the impact on victims. This project will capitalize on the educational trainings on providing extensive technical assistance for advocates, members of STOP Team, community members and allied organizations. Grant funding will continue to address:

- Ways to shift our approach to support underserved, un-served and inadequately served populations.
- The impact of heterosexism, sexism and racism on victims from communities of color and LGBT community experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.
- Marginalized communities lack of participation in coordinated community responses, advocacy and community organizing.
- Non-discrimination grant conditions indicated in VAWA 2013
- The lack of culturally specific outreach and services to provide remedies and support in addressing additional barriers specific to marginalized groups. (i.e. employment and housing discrimination, fear and mistrust of the criminal justice system, gender policies that decrease transgender shelter options, discriminatory experiences as a result of systemic and internal heterosexism and racism)

Demographic Characteristics of Populations to be Served

West Virginia is primarily a rural state with a low population (1,831,102 people in 2015) of which 6.8% are people of color. It is estimated that a total of 3% West Virginians identify as LGB or T compared to the national average of 3.4%¹.

According to the 2015 Census, the racial composition of the West Virginia's population was:

- 93.6% of the population was non-Hispanic White
- 3.6% Black or African American
- 0.2% American Indian and Alaska Native
- 0.8% Asian American

¹ Gallup Special Report: The U.S. Adult LGBT Population - See more at: <http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/research/census-lgbt-demographics-studies/gallup-special-report-18oct-2012/#sthash.SQ7nWjt6.dpuf>

- 1.5% Hispanic or Latino
- 1.6% Multiracial American (non-Hispanic).
- 0.1% Other

This project will target populations that consist of STOP Team members and domestic violence advocates. The motivation of this project is to provide comprehensive culturally specific services to marginalized communities by providing training, specific outreach methods, and technical assistance with a specific focus on the LGBT community and communities of color.

The West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence pledges full cooperation and strongly affirms leadership and staff efforts of the WV Division of Justice and Community (DJCS). Throughout the funding cycles of VAWA, strong and effective partnerships with DJCS have enhanced and expanded a statewide coordinated response to interpersonal violence. The professional leadership and administration of the program has been effective, efficient, and a model for cooperative efforts among federal, state, and local agencies.

WVCADV strongly urges the Office on Violence Against Women to provide continued support for the development of the STOP program in West Virginia.

Thank you for your serious consideration of the DJCS proposal for support.

Sincerely,



Tonia Thomas
Team Coordinator



Upper Ohio Valley
Sexual Assault Help Center Inc.
P.O. Box 6764
Wheeling, WV 26003
Business Office: 234-1783

Sexual Assault Help Center Inc.

January 25, 2017

West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1124 Smith St, Ste 3100
Charleston, WV 25301-1323

To the Application Committee:

As director of the Upper Ohio Valley Sexual Assault Help Center, Inc., I am writing in support of the Ohio County STOP Team's application for STOP-VAWA funds.

The activities funded under this proposed project assist SAHC in providing services to victims of sexual violence, particularly those in underserved populations such as individuals with disabilities, etc. As a STOP team member for the last two years, SAHC has been able to increase services to all victims through the enhancement of the 24/7 crisis hotline and increased capacity to accompany victims to court proceedings. VAWA funding has allowed SAHC the opportunity to recruit, train, and retain an increased number of volunteer advocates to staff the 24/7 crisis hotline to assist victims of sexual assault at any time of day. It is my sincere belief that over the years the funding provided through VAWA to SAHC has allowed for additional support for victims of sexual violence. Continued funding will allow us to maintain this level of support and augment court advocacy services for victims.

Ohio County's current population is estimated at 43,328 residents by the US Census Bureau. Over half of this population is female. Demographic breakdowns are as follows: 3.7% African American; 2.0% mixed race; 1.1% Hispanic or Latino; 0.8% Asian; 92.4% white. Specific demographics as it pertains to this application include 3,771 veterans living in Ohio County, 11% of persons under age 65 are disabled, and 19.4% of Ohio County residents live below the poverty line.

The Ohio County STOP team, formed in 1998, has been an invaluable asset for Ohio County. Domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking can affect anyone without regard to the victim's age, sex, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, economic status, mental and or intellectual acumen, race, political affiliation, or other discernable affiliation.

Thank you for your past support of this project and your consideration for continued support.

Sincerely,


Megan Palmer



OV/MC

January 25, 2017

Sarah Brown
Senior Justice Program Specialist
WV Division of Justice and Community Services
1124 Smith Street Suite 3100
Charleston, West Virginia 25301-1323

Dear Ms. Brown:

As Outreach Coordinator for Women's Aid in Crisis, I write in support of the Upshur County Commissions STOP Violence Against Women Grant Program Application for Project Period July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018.

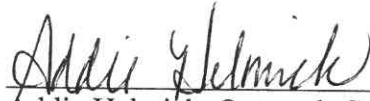
As a member of the STOP Team, I assisted with the development of the application. I believe that the application fully details Upshur County's need for the grant funds, intended use of the grant funds, and expected results from the use of the grant funds.

Upshur County victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence crimes are the population that will be served by this grant. The demographic characteristics of this population can be found in the 2015 People Quick Facts for Upshur County, West Virginia provided by the United States Census Bureau. The demographic characteristics are detailed as percentages of the total population as follows:

Persons under 5	5.6 %
Persons under 18	20.6 %
Persons above 65	18.2 %
Females	50.4 %
White alone	97.4%
Black or African American alone	0.9%
Language Other than English Spoken at Home	0.9%

My agency strongly supports the continuation of STOP VAWA funds to assist the citizens of Upshur County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Addie Helmick", written over a horizontal line.

Addie Helmick, Outreach Coordinator
Women's Aid in Crisis

SJM/pcr



Domestic Abuse Response Team

P.O. Box 585 Grantsville WV 26147

304-354-9254 or 1-800-794-2335

lorifleagle@yahoo.com

Re: Letter of support for the Domestic Abuse Response Team and Outreach office in Calhoun County, West Virginia.

To whom it may concern:

This Letter is to confirm the need and support for the Domestic Abuse Response Team, (DART) the Calhoun County STOP Team.

I Lori Fleagle have worked in the DART office since 1996. This STOP team was one of the pilot programs for the State of West Virginia. I have worked hard for 20 years with Law Enforcement officers and the Prosecutor of Calhoun County and can relate too many of the serious problems that have risen out of domestic violence situations. I have responded to calls where women and children have been abused, neglected and times when domestic assaults or battery was committed in the home. I found that victims of domestic related problems could be assisted with education, counseling, or prevention of domestic offenses due to the funding of the VAWA that was simply non-existent before the VAWA. Without the VAWA Calhoun County would go back to having just a poster on a wall with a hot-line number on it to the Shelter 50 miles away. Calhoun County is one of the most rural counties in the State of West Virginia and this STOP team over the last 20 year with the help of VAWA has helped over 1000 clients not counting men and children. We have provided Public Awareness, Civil Legal Advocacy, CJ support/Advocacy, Crisis Advocacy, Medical Advocacy, Hotline Advocacy, Support Groups, Transportation and Language Services to a underserved population. We have helped all victims of ages, races and ethnicities free of charge in a community of 7400 people.

I greatly appreciate the assistance you have provided to our community with the VAWA fund to help victims of rape, abuse, stalking and dating violence. Making it possible to reach out and help victims that otherwise would have no resources at all. Safety of victims is number one in Calhoun County and we will continue to offer resources to victims with the help of the VAWA. I am proud to have worked with the STOP Team the last 21 years. I assure you I will support this effort any way I can.

Sincerely yours,

Lori Jean Fleagle, dva
Outreach Coordinator

1-4-17



Minnie Hamilton Health System

January 4, 2017

Family Crisis Intervention Center
PO Box 695
Parkersburg, WV 26102
Attn: Emily Larkin

Re: Letter of support for the Domestic Abuse Response Team

Dear Ms. Larkin,

Minnie Hamilton Health System is pleased to continue support Lori Fleagle and the Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART). Minnie Hamilton will provide medical services that will assist the program in securing the safety of domestic violence victims.

Since the conception of the DART program in Calhoun County, we at Minnie Hamilton have been very pleased with the efforts made to protect the men and women in this area through your program. Please keep up the good work and we look forward to working your program in the future.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. McKown
Community Outreach Coordinator

Marion County
367-1100

Harrison County
624-9835

Gilmer County
462-5352

Task Force on Domestic Violence

Doddridge County
873-1416



Lewis County
269-8233

P.O. Box 626
Fairmont, West Virginia
26555-0626

February 1, 2017

VAWA Program Committee
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1124 Smith St Suite 3100
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Committee Members,

The Task Force on Domestic Violence, "HOPE, Inc." is pleased to give support of the West Virginia STOP Violence Against Women FY 2016 Grant Program in Marion County to address the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. Violence can occur across all socioeconomic levels, from the rich to the poor, and does not discriminate against age or race. The STOP Violence Against Women funds will allow all victims of violence in Marion County to receive an improved, coordinated response to their situation using a Team approach. This grant will allow us to have a part-time staff position that will be able to serve victims of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking, with a special emphasis on victims of sexual violence. With a more coordinated criminal justice response, we hope to hold abusers more accountable for their actions and work to decrease violence in Marion County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harriet Sutton".

Harriet Sutton
Executive Director



United Way

Tug Valley Recovery Shelter

"Helping Rebuild Dreams...One Family at a Time!"



February 2, 2017

Sarah J. Brown
Division of Justice & Community Services
1124 Smith Street, Ste. 3100
Charleston, WV 25301-1323

Re: STOP VAWA Grant Proposal-Logan County

Dear Sarah,

Please accept this Letter of Support from myself and the Tug Valley Recovery Shelter Board of Director's. TVRS strongly supports this grant proposal for Logan County for fiscal year 2017-2018. The continued funding of this grant is vital in order that we may continue providing services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. The Court advocate funded through this grant plays an important role in the provision of services for these victims, those services will include, but not be limited to the following:

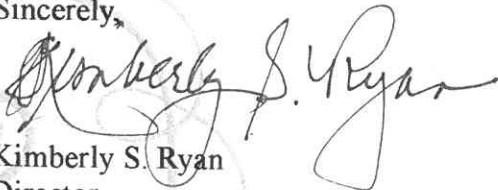
- ★ Providing assistance for victims when filing domestic/protective orders in Magistrate Court
- ★ Providing information and referrals that is important for their safety
- ★ Working collectively with the Logan County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Logan County Sheriff's Department making certain that all issues facing victims of the above crimes are being addressed
- ★ Working with these agencies to decrease these crimes in Logan County

The services funded through this grant will serve these victims in Logan regardless of age, marital status, disability, race, ethnicity or language background.

Your approval of this grant will assure that current service will continued unabated and make justice more attainable for all victim of these crimes in Logan County.

Thanking you in advance for your favorable consideration of this grant proposal.

Sincerely,


Kimberly S. Ryan
Director

/KSR

PO Box
Williamson, WV
304-235
304-235

Tug Valley Recovery Shelter

"Helping Rebuild Dreams...One Family at a Time!"



February 2, 2017

Sarah J. Brown
Division of Justice & Community Services
1124 Smith Street, Ste. 3100
Charleston, WV 25301-1323

Re: STOP VAWA Grant Proposal-Mingo County

Dear Sarah,

Please accept this Letter of Support from myself and the Tug Valley Recovery Shelter Board of Director's. TVRS strongly supports this grant proposal for Mingo County for fiscal year 2017-2018. The continued funding of this grant is vital in order that we may continue providing services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. The Court advocate funded through this grant plays an important role in the provision of services for these victims, those services will include, but not be limited to the following:

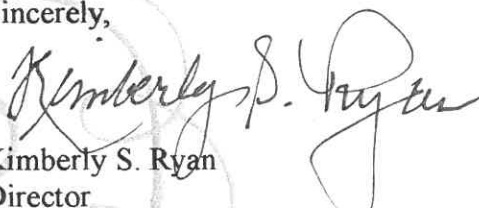
- ★ Providing assistance for victims when filing domestic/protective orders in Magistrate Court
- ★ Providing information and referrals that is important for their safety
- ★ Working collectively with the Mingo County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Mingo County Sheriff's Department making certain that all issues facing victims of the above crimes are being addressed
- ★ Working with these agencies to decrease these crimes in Mingo County

The services funded through this grant will serve these victims in Mingo regardless of age, marital status, disability, race, ethnicity or language background.

Your approval of this grant will assure that current service will continued unabated and make justice more attainable for all victim of these crimes in Mingo County.

Thanking you in advance for your favorable consideration of this grant proposal.

Sincerely,



Kimberly S. Ryan
Director

/KSR



FAMILY REFUGE CENTER

Serving Greenbrier, Monroe and Pocahontas Counties

January 30, 2017

Sarah Brown
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1124 Smith Street, Suite 3100
Charleston, WV 25301-1323

RE: STOP VAWA Application

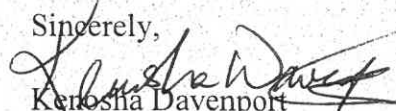
Dear Sarah,

I am writing to inform you of the importance of the continued STOP Violence Against Women Act funding for Monroe County. VAWA funds have allowed the community to address domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence as a collaborative effort. The dedicated staff of Family Refuge Center and the STOP team in Monroe County has continued to be an effective team working at improving service delivery to victims.

Our advocate is providing vital advocacy to clients while working closely with law enforcement and the Prosecutor's office. The STOP team has worked to improve community awareness of services which has resulted in more referrals. In addition, the cross training that typically takes place at our meetings has improved interagency referrals.

Over the next year, we plan to take a closer look at the gaps in service delivery for communities of color and increase outreach to those communities. This funding will be essential to doing this work and our community depends on the services that are paid for by the VAWA grant funds. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Kenosha Davenport
Executive Director

RECEIVED

FEB 03 2017

Division of Justice &
Community Services

P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901
304-645-6334

P.O. Box 414
Union, WV 24983
304-772-5005

919 10th Avenue
Marlinton, WV 24954
304-799-4400

Website - www.familyrefugecenter.org



I am for the child™

"We believe all children deserve the right to have a voice in court."

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

CASA of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

CASA of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that CASA of the Eleventh Judicial Circuit and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

Jenny Castle
Executive Director

CASA of the ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, WV, Inc.

Post Office Box 1142, Lewisburg WV 24901

Telephone: (304) 645-5437 Facsimile: (304) 645-4500 casal1c@live.com CASAadvocates.org



Greater Greenbrier Valley Community Foundation

Hollowell
Foundation

The Jeanne G Hamilton & Lawson W Hamilton Jr. Family Foundation
...and other donors





Child & Youth Advocacy Center

Child & Youth Advocacy Center
212 W. Washington St.
Lewisburg, WV 24901

Phone: 304-645-4668
Fax: 304-793-4669
E-mail: cyac@suddenlinkmail.com
Website: www.childandyouthadvocacy.org

January 23, 2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The Child and Youth Advocacy Center (CYAC) is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The CYAC will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that the CYAC and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

Katherine D. Thompson

Katherine Thompson
Executive Director



FAMILY REFUGE CENTER

Serving Greenbrier, Monroe and Pocahontas Counties

January 30, 2017

Sarah Brown
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1124 Smith Street, Suite 3100
Charleston, WV 25301-1323

RE: STOP VAWA Application


Dear Sarah,

I am writing to inform you of the importance of the continued STOP Violence Against Women Act funding for Greenbrier County. VAWA funds have allowed the community to address domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence as a collaborative effort. The dedicated staff of Family Refuge Center and the STOP team in Greenbrier County has continued to be an effective team working at improving service delivery to victims.

Our advocate is providing vital advocacy to clients while working closely with law enforcement and the Prosecutor's office. The STOP team has worked to improve community awareness of services which has resulted in more referrals. In addition, the cross training that typically takes place at our meetings has improved interagency referrals.

Over the next year, we plan to take a closer look at the gaps in service delivery for communities of color and increase outreach to those communities. In addition, the STOP team is working to identify training needs of service providers in the community. This funding will be essential to doing this work and our community depends on the services that are paid for by the VAWA grant funds. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Kerisha Davenport
Executive Director

RECEIVED

FEB 02 2017

P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901
304-645-6334

P.O. Box 414
Union, WV 24983
304-772-5005

Division of Justice &
Community Services
919 10th Avenue
Marlinton, WV 24954
304-799-4400

Website - www.familyrefugecenter.org



CASA of the Eastern Panhandle, Inc.

336 South Queen Street

Martinsburg, WV 25401

304.263.5100 • 304.263.5111 Fax

www.mycasaep.org

February 1, 2017

Re: Letter of Support for:
STOP VAWA TEAM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the Executive Director for CASA of the Eastern Panhandle, INC. (CASA-EP). We are a 501c3 not-for-profit corporation whose mission is to recruit, train, manage and retain community members as Court Appointed Special Advocates or CASAs. Once sworn-in as an officer of the court by a circuit court judge a CASA will speak out for children birth to age 18 who have been removed from their homes due to wanton abuse and neglect by the hands of their caregivers. A CASA will advocate in the judicial and foster care systems as to the best interests, rights, and safe and permanent placement for these children.

On behalf of CASA-EP, and with great pleasure, I write this letter in support of funding for the STOP TEAM and its members:

Shenandoah Women's Center (SWC), Community Alternatives to Violence (CAV), Martinsburg Police Department, Berkeley County Sheriff's Department, Berkeley County Council.

We value each individual faction of the STOP VAWA TEAM's commitment to combat violence against women and identify the needs of domestic violence and sexual assault survivors and their respective family members within our community. Additionally, each entity's individual commitment to further the education, awareness and provision of advocacy within our community in order to change the fundamental beliefs and practices that have allowed abuse to continue is paramount to steady the foundation of this principal community concern. Further, the TEAM will provide a building block for sister agencies to identify gaps in service and thus build a tighter knit foundation from which to further our united efforts for the greater whole. CASA-EP firmly stands behind this core concept with steadfast knowledge of the vitality it will provide for all of our community's children and their families.

CASA-EP has had an opportunity of individual interaction with the majority of the STOP TEAM organizations for the past 12 years, and has found their core missions and programs to be effective and essential in our joint efforts to provide victims of child abuse and neglect with resolutions in their best interest. We look forward to the added

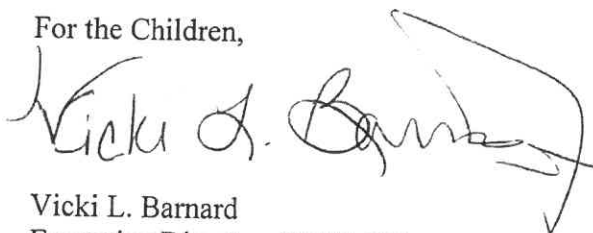


benefits and resulting positive outcomes for our community members that this team can provide through this funding.

The STOP TEAM will be a beneficial contributor to a less stressful environment for CASA-EP kids, and we have no doubt that continued partnership will only result in a positive impact on the lives of these children.

On behalf of CASA-EP, it is without hesitation that this organization does, in fact, fully support all members of the STOP TEAM, in their endeavor to develop, strengthen, and enhance our community through this funding.

For the Children,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vicki L. Barnard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Vicki L. Barnard
Executive Director, CASA-EP



January 21, 2017

Ms. Sarah Brown
WV Division of Criminal Justice Services
1204 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Sarah,

I am writing in support of Branches Domestic Violence Shelter and the Cabell County Stop Team and its application for STOP funds for 2017-18.

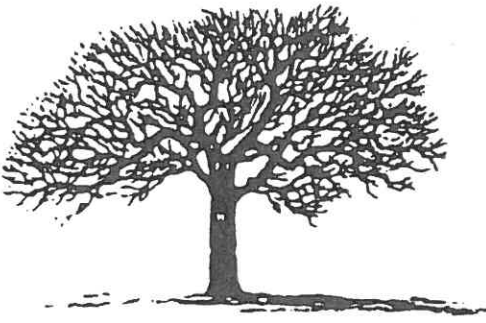
CONTACT relies on members the Cabell County STOP Team to network with each other, and therefore sexual assault and domestic violence victims can receive the full benefit of available services in a victim-centered approach. We rely on funding from this grant to support a part-time victim advocate to provide direct services to victims of sexual assault and stalking in Cabell County. These services include medical advocacy, 24 hour hot-line support, and accompaniment for law enforcement and court proceedings. CONTACT serves all adult and adolescent victims of sexual assault as well as providing support services for the families of child victims of sexual abuse. CONTACT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability or age in the delivery of services.

CONTACT could not provide the local services it does for sexual assault and stalking victims without the support of STOP Funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sharon Pressman".

Sharon Pressman
Executive Director



Branches
Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc.

P.O. Box 403
Huntington, West Virginia 25708
304-529-2382 • Fax (304) 529-2398
1-888-538-9838

February 1, 2017

Sarah J. Brown
Senior Justice Program Specialist
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1204 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Sarah Brown:

I am writing this letter in support of the Cabell County STOP Team's project for proposed funding for a continuation of the current VAWA project, which is aimed at addressing domestic and sexual violence. The Cabell County STOP Team has been effective in their efforts to coordinate community responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. These responses help hundreds of victims find safety and receive services, while holding perpetrators accountable for their actions.

These life-saving services must be available when, and where, victims of abuse turn for assistance in Cabell County and funding through the VAWA grant is vital to maintain these efforts. The true collaboration between STOP Team members is imperative to stop violence against victims of domestic violence. Each member of the STOP Team depends on the others, and none could ever be as successful working separately.

In conclusion, I fully support the efforts of the Cabell County STOP Team as they seek funding to support this program designed to assist the victims of Cabell County, West Virginia.

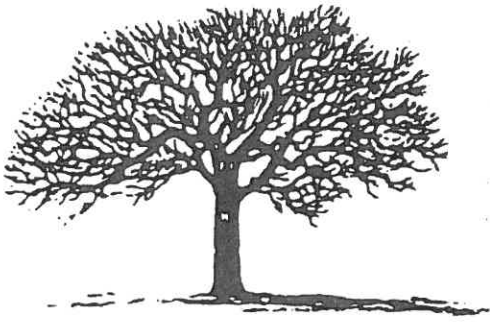
Sincerely,

Amanda Weiss-McComas
Executive Director
Branches Domestic Violence Shelter

Outreach Services Available
Lincoln County (304) 824-2600
Mason County (304) 675-4968



Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-F
Putnam County (304) 586-3865
Wayne County (304) 272-9035



Branches
Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc.

P.O. Box 403
Huntington, West Virginia 25708
304-529-2382 • Fax (304) 529-2398
1-888-538-9838

January 26, 2017

Corporal A.J. Craig
Putnam County Sheriff's Department
236 Courthouse Drive Suite 8
Winfield, WV 25213

Dear Corporal A.J. Craig:

Branches Domestic Violence Shelter is pleased to support Putnam County Sheriff's Department in its application to the STOP Violence Against Women Act for the continued service of domestic violence victims in Putnam County, WV.

We believe the Putnam County Sheriff's Department plays an important role in the community by serving victims of domestic violence. With the prevalence of domestic violence in the community, it is critical that Putnam County have the services provided by a Domestic Violence Investigator. This grant also helps assist victims in rural areas of the county as well as elderly and LGBT victims. A lack of funding for the Investigator would effect services currently being provided.

We whole-heartedly support the Putnam County Sheriff's Department and its work in Putnam County, West Virginia.

Sincerely,

Amanda Weiss-McComas
Executive Director
Branches Domestic Violence Shelter

Outreach Services Available
Lincoln County (304) 824-2600
Mason County (304) 675-4968



Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-F
Putnam County (304) 586-3865
Wayne County (304) 272-9035

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
wheeling

Family Violence Prevention Program

1100 Chapline Street T: 304.232.2748
Wheeling, WV 26003-2919 F: 304.232.0513

STOP VAWA Grant Committee
1124 Smith Street, Ste. 3100
Charleston, WV

March 9, 2017

Dear Grant Committee:

The STOP VAWA Grant continues to be a vital part of the YWCA Family Violence Prevention Program's effort and collaboration offering coordinated community response team. STOP funds enable us to keep a much respected team effort with law enforcement, prosecution, the sexual assault help center and cultural diversity and community outreach; a program of the YWCA. The funds that support this partnership allow us to continue streamlining our response to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking victims. The formation of the Marshall County Team has opened the door to bring other community and systems based programs to the table. This aspect of the STOP Team is vital to a well-rounded coordinated response resulting from the four covered crimes.

As you are aware, the population of Marshall County WV is 97.5% white. Receiving these funds not only enable us to assist our rural residents, they give us the ability to improve outreach/services to our minority, elderly and gay & lesbian population. Without these funds this specialized outreach would probably not happen to the extent this partnership allows.

As you can see STOP VAWA funds are vital to keeping Marshall County's Domestic Violence Partnership intact. If you have any questions please contact me at (304) 232-2748.

Sincerely,

Patricia Flanigan

Patricia Flanigan, Director

YWCA Family Violence Prevention Program

Ohio County Office T: 304.232.2748 F: 304.232.0513
Marshall County Office T: 304.845.9150 F: 304.845.4957
Wetzel County Offices T: 304.455.6400 T: 304.455.3911 F: 304.455.6866

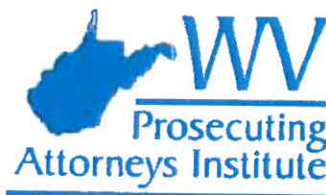
THE MARY KAY
FOUNDATION.



JIM JUSTICE
GOVERNOR

JOHN MYERS
ACTING CABINET SECRETARY

PHILIP W. MORRISON, II
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



1124 Smith Street
Suite 4500
Charleston, West Virginia 25301
Telephone: (304) 558-3348
Facsimile: (304) 558-6008
www.pai.wv.gov

JOHN L. BORD
CHAIRPERSON

DEBRA MCLAUGHLIN
VICE CHAIRPERSON

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

JIM DAVIS
TIMOTHY HAUGHT
KRISTEN KELLER
THOMAS PLYMALE
JUSTIN ST. CLAIR
AGNES QUEEN
JACK DAVID WOODRUM

March 28, 2017

Sarah Brown
STOP Violence Against Women Administrator
WV Division of Criminal Justice Services
1124 Smith Street, Suite 3100
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Ms. Brown:

Please accept this letter as the Institute's support of your efforts regarding pursuing VAWA STOP grant funding. Annually the institute applies for a small portion of this funding for the purpose of educating Prosecutors and their staffs on the topic and specifically in the areas of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking by promoting common strategies and techniques and supporting innovative approaches for prosecutors and prosecution-based victim advocates. Victims of domestic violence face unique problems which may not be amendable to purely legal regulation or solution. Rural area victims, found statewide in West Virginia, face different challenges from those experienced by their more urban counterparts because of geographic isolation and limited resources. Greater coordination of efforts in training and education are of paramount importance in finding strategies for the rural victim.

Local prosecutors and prosecutor-based victim advocates require continued training opportunities to provide the most current and appropriate solutions regarding violence against women issues. Through such specialized training, Prosecutors and prosecution-based victim advocates are given the opportunity to participate in idea sharing and have the support and effort of the Institute's resources to enhance their knowledge and expertise. They continue to request targeted training from the Institute to raise their level of professionalism in prosecution and increase their knowledge of support services for victims.

Prosecutors' Offices throughout the State simply do not have the resources to provide opportunities for training, collaboration regarding ideas, resources, services and policies. The rural demographics of West Virginia and the caseloads also serve to hinder local prosecutors in taking on this burden. The Executive Council of the Institute and the Institute staff, in conjunction with Prosecutors and prosecution-based victim advocates' offices, will continue to combat violence against women.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

In addition, the Institute also remains committed to its role in the State's STOP implementation plan. We believe there has been long term improvement in services provided directly to victims from local prosecutors and victim advocates based upon this training. Continuation of this course of action is vitally important to prosecution-based victim advocates and prosecutors' offices and we expect to continue to improve system wide if, and because of, the funding in question.

The continuation of specialized training to prosecutors, assistant prosecutors, and prosecution based victim advocates is extremely important and necessary to the safety and well-being of victims of abuse as they navigate through the criminal justice system. Funding is necessary to continue this important training in an area and VAWA funding makes most of what we do in this regard possible. We support the Office of Violence Against Women in this endeavor and appreciate all that they do for the victims of domestic violence in West Virginia.

Sincerely,



Philip Morrison, Executive Director
West Virginia Prosecuting Attorneys Institute

OFFICE OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

**OHIO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
1500 CHAPLINE STREET
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26003-3590**

**Scott R. Smith
Prosecuting Attorney**

Telephone (304) 234-3631
Facsimile (304) 234-3870

January 25, 2017

West Virginia Division of Justice & Community Services

RE: VAWA STOP Applicaiton

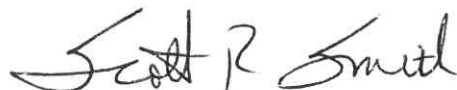
To the Application Committee:

The Ohio County STOP team, formed in 1998, and has been an invaluable asset for Ohio County West Virginia. Ohio County's current demographics, as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau consist of 43,328 residents, 52.1% of whom are female. 3.7% of Ohio County's population is African American, 2.0% are mixed race, 1.1% Hispanic or Latino, 0.8% Asian, and 92.4% white. There are 3771 veterans living in Ohio County, West Virginia. 11% of persons under age 65 in Ohio County are disabled. The median household income for Ohio County West Virginia is \$40,342. The poverty rate in Ohio County is 19.4%.

Domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cut across all demographic and economic lines. The services rendered by the Ohio County Prosecutor's Office and its grant funded Assistant are provided without regard to the victim's age, sex, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, economic status, mental and or intellectual acumen, race, political affiliation, or other discernable affiliation.

The funding provided over the years through VAWA have allowed the opportunity for the Ohio County Prosecutor's Office to hire, train and retain highly specialized professionals, skilled and knowledgeable in providing services to victims of covered criminal activity. It is my sincere belief that over the years the funding provided through VAWA to this office has caused Ohio County West Virginia to be a safer place to live for all of its residents.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott R. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" and last name "Smith" being clearly legible.

Scott R. Smith
Ohio County Prosecuting Attorney

OFFICE OF
MARSHALL COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

RHONDA L. WADE

ASST. PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS

ERIC M. GORDON
JOSEPH R. CANESTRARO – CHIEF ASSISTANT
ADAM E. BARNEY
HERMAN D. LANTZ
ANDREA C. POLING



SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR

THOMAS R. WESTFALL

VICTIM SERVICES

TIFANY GIOVENGO

MARSHALL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
MOUNDSVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA 26041
(304) 845-3580
FAX (304) 843-0320

March 9, 2017

STOP VAWA Grant Committee
1124 Smith Street, Ste. 3100
Charleston, WV

Dear Grant Committee:

The STOP VAWA Grant continues to be a vital part of the Prosecutor's Office domestic violence program. These funds enable us to keep a part-time assistant prosecutor staffed to prosecute domestic violence cases. Without these funds this responsibility would be widespread throughout each assistant prosecutor and not the focus of one. Having one assistant prosecutor assigned to domestic violence cases lets us continue our partnership with the Sheriff's Office and the YWCA Victim Advocate. The funds that support this partnership allow us to continue streamlining the legal process for victims of domestic violence.

As you are aware, the population of Marshall County WV is 97.5% white. Receiving these funds not only enable us to assist our rural residents, they give us the ability to improve outreach/services to our minority, elderly and gay & lesbian population. Without these funds this specialized outreach would probably not happen to the extent this partnership allows.

As you can see STOP VAWA funds are vital to keeping Marshall County's Domestic Violence Partnership intact. If you have any questions, please contact me at (304) 845-3580.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rhonda L. Wade', written over a horizontal line.

Rhonda L. Wade
Prosecuting Attorney
Marshall County, West Virginia

**UPSHUR COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
J.D. JENNINGS ANNEX, ROOM 202
38 W. MAIN ST.
BUCKHANNON, WV 26201**

Phone: 304-472-9699

Fax: 304-472-1452

**DAVID E. GODWIN
Prosecuting Attorney**

KELLEY J. CUNNINGHAM
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
STEPHANIE J. MILLIRON
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
LAURA QUEEN
Victim Services Coordinator

PATTY REPLOGLE
Administrative Assistant
ROBERTA SAMPLES
Administrative Assistant
LINDA TOLER
Administrative Assistant

January 25, 2017

Sarah Brown
Senior Justice Program Specialist
WV Division of Justice and Community Services
1124 Smith Street Suite 3100
Charleston, West Virginia 25301-1323

Dear Ms. Brown:

As Prosecuting Attorney in and for Upshur County, West Virginia, I write in support of the Upshur County Commissions STOP Violence Against Women Grant Program Application for Project Period July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018.

As a member of the STOP Team, I assisted with the development of the application. I believe that the application fully details Upshur County's need for the grant funds, intended use of the grant funds, and expected results from the use of the grant funds.

Upshur County victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence crimes are the population that will be served by this grant. The demographic characteristics of this population can be found in the 2015 People Quick Facts for Upshur County, West Virginia provided by the United States Census Bureau. The demographic characteristics are detailed as percentages of the total population as follows:

Persons under 5	5.6 %
Persons under 18	20.6 %
Persons above 65	18.2 %
Females	50.4 %
White alone	97.4%
Black or African American alone	0.9%
Language Other than English Spoken at Home	0.9%

My agency strongly supports the continuation of STOP VAWA funds to assist the citizens of Upshur County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "David E. Godwin", written over a horizontal line.

David E. Godwin,
Prosecuting Attorney

SJM/pcr



Office of the Prosecuting Attorney - Preston County, WV
Mel Snyder - Prosecuting Attorney

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC • PROMOTING JUSTICE

February 2, 2016

Ms. Nnenna Minimah, Director
RDVIC

RE: Support Letter for 2017-2018 VAWA – STOP Grant

Dear Ms. Minimah:

I wish to express my strong desire for the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) – STOP Grant to continue so that my Office can continue to receive funds to support the prosecution of domestic violence crimes. I consider these types of cases to be one of my strongest priorities. Domestic violence represents the greatest number of violent crimes and runs the gamut from simple domestic batteries to murders.

This office has utilized VAWA – STOP funds along with help from Rape and Domestic Violence Center (RDVIC) to partially fund the salaries of Jay Shay and Savannah Wilkins, two of my Assistant Prosecuting Attorney's who prosecute domestic violence crimes in Preston County, for many years.

The prosecution of domestic violence crimes is labor-intensive. The VAWA – STOP grant helps this office to devote the necessary time and effort to properly address the inherent problems connected with domestic crimes and to achieve our objectives to provide effective prosecution for such crimes. The VAWA – STOP grant also provides funds to provide training for the prosecution of domestic violence crimes. This training component allows me to send my Assistant Prosecutors who handle domestic violence crimes to well-planned, informative, and technical training to further promote the objectives of the grant.

The Preston County Commission and the various law enforcement agencies in Preston County, West Virginia have likewise, supported and endorsed the continued funding of this grant.

If you need anything further from my Office in order to continue the funding of this grant, please let me know. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mel Snyder
Mel Snyder



Kanawha County
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

301 Virginia Street East
Charleston, WV 25301
(304) 357-0300
FAX (304) 357-0342

CHARLES T. MILLER
Prosecuting Attorney

Sarah J. Brown
Senior Justice Program Specialist
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1124 Smith Street Suite 3100
Charleston, WV 25301-53337

January 27, 2017

Dear Sara,

I am writing this letter to express my continued support for the Kanawha County STOP team and its efforts at combating Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking and Sexual Assault crimes. Our office has been a member of the STOP team since 1997. As we have evolved over the years, the need for victim services has increased. Here in Kanawha County, part of responding to victims' needs has been the development of Domestic Violence Court, which is the first of its kind in West Virginia. This Court has assisted in reducing recidivism and has allowed for perpetrator accountability.

Victim advocacy plays an integral role in the Court's process. I am pleased to have the opportunity to provide victim services to all victims in Domestic Violence Court. In 2016, the Domestic Violence Court held 2,588 domestic violence hearings. It has been our office's policy to have a victim advocate present every day in Domestic Violence Court. The victim advocates support the Assistant Prosecuting Attorneys by contacting victims before hearings, meeting with victims during court hearings, and providing referrals for services depending on the victims' needs. Without VAWA and VOCA funding, this would not be possible and such advocacy is integral in reducing victimization among vulnerable populations.

Grant funding also allows our advocates to devote resources to victims of sexual assault and sexual abuse and assist them through the criminal justice process. For these victims particularly, this process can be particularly intimidating and traumatic. Our office goal is to provide victim assistance through an advocate early in the process so that the victims are informed and empowered as much as possible.

The Kanawha County Prosecuting Attorney maintains a strong partnership with law enforcement and the community organizations that also serve on the Kanawha County STOP team. I recognize the importance of a coordinated community response in order to effectively address these crimes. Our office looks forward to continuing to assist the STOP team as we combat crimes of domestic and sexual violence.

Sincerely,



Charles T. Miller

Joshua W. Downey
Roane County Prosecuting Attorney
Roane County Courthouse
200 Main Street
Spencer, West Virginia 25276

Telephone (304) 927-2091

Facsimile (304) 927-4165

January 18, 2017

Emily Larkins, Director
Family Crisis Intervention Center
PO Box 695
Parkersburg, WV 26102

Re: Letter of Support for the Roane County Outreach Center's "EVE" Program
Roane County, West Virginia

Dear Ms. Larkins:

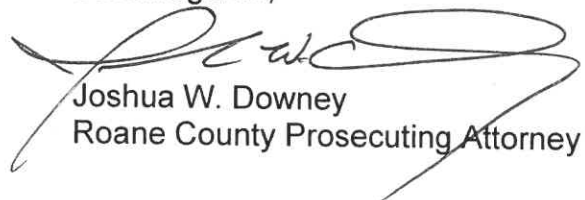
Prosecution of domestic violence cases is an on-going struggle. However, services offered by the Eve Program (Roane County Eliminating Violent Environments) is a tremendous asset. Victims who have sought the assistance of the EVE Program members are able to provide better information to police officers, the Prosecuting Attorney and other individuals associated with the Court System. More importantly, they receive help in breaking the cycle of domestic violence.

The individuals who have utilized the services of the EVE workers praise the program. Also, law enforcement officers from all levels in this jurisdiction, state, county, and municipal, have commented favorably about the assistance provided to the victims of domestic violence by EVE program members.

This office reiterates its "No-Drop" policy regarding domestic violence cases in Roane County and solicits the support of any individual or program that may assist in eliminating violent environments. Even though intimidation, fear of reprisal, or otherwise, do not wish to proceed with prosecution of the offender. However, the judicial system cannot function entirely on its own. These types of situations required the cooperation of law enforcement and the victim.

Further, I ask that you accept this letter as evidence that the Roane County Prosecuting Attorney's Office unequivocally supports the Roane County "EVE" program, and I hereby pledge myself, my staff and my office, toward the goal of reducing domestic violence.

Best Regards,



Joshua W. Downey
Roane County Prosecuting Attorney

cc: Anita Freeland

4 Randolph Avenue
2nd Floor Courthouse Annex
Elkins, WV 26241



Telephone: (304) 636-2053
Fax: (304) 636-4198

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
RANDOLPH COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA
Michael W. Parker, Prosecuting Attorney

Assistant Prosecutors:
Christina W. Harper, Esquire
Lori A. Haynes, Esquire
Richard W. Shryock, Jr., Esquire

Victim Service Coordinator:
Jayne Rawl

File Clerk:
Melanie C. Ratliff

Legal Assistants:
Amber Channell, Circuit Court Coordinator
Peggy S. Burgess, Juvenile Coordinator
Jessica Brookings, Magistrate Coordinator

Investigator:
Susan E. Gainer

January 11, 2017

Sarah J. Brown
Senior Justice Program Specialist
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1204 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25301

Dear Mrs. Brown,

Please place this letter with your application for funding under the STOP VAWA Grant Program for the upcoming year. It is and has been for a number of years the position of the Randolph County Prosecuting Attorney's Office to be a supporter of Women's Aid in Crisis and the Randolph County STOP/SART Team and the many works they provide to the County through the funding they are able to do through the STOP VAWA Grant, as well as other programs.

This funding will provide a tremendous benefit to the community of Randolph County. I believe this program will be beneficial in raising the awareness of domestic violence, as well as, provide much needed support and assistance to victims of violence against women, including domestic and dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. There is simply no substitute in this area of the State for the work the STOP/SART Team has accomplished and will continue to enhance efforts for law enforcement, prevention, awareness and victim's assistance.

Therefore, the Randolph County Prosecuting Attorney's Office strongly supports this grant request and if there is anything further this office can do to assist and aid in continuing to obtain this vital and important funding, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Parker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" and last name "Parker" clearly distinguishable.

Michael W. Parker

OFFICE OF THE
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CALHOUN COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA
Shannon S. Johnson, Prosecutor

Calhoun County Courthouse
P.O. Box 337,
Grantsville, WV 26147

Telephone: 304-354-6170
Fax: 304-354-6703
Secretary, April Wilson

January 4, 2017

Family Crisis Intervention Center
ATTN: Emily Larkin
P.O. Box 695
Parkersburg, WV 26102

RE: Letter of Support for Domestic Abuse Response Team and Outreach Center in Calhoun County, West Virginia

Dear Ms. Larkin


This letter is to confirm support for the Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) and Outreach Center in Calhoun County, West Virginia.

As the Prosecutor of Calhoun County, I can honestly state that the victims of Domestic Violence are desperate for resources within the county. Often times the Law Enforcement responses are delayed due to hesitation on the victims part to report incidents, as are reports from witnesses. The DART and Outreach Programs allow for an increased reporting of these incidents so that they can be dealt with in a timely manner. In addition, both of these resources will serve to educate the population and hopefully reduce the incidents to a manageable number.

We are aggressively prosecuting every case presented, and have been successful in obtaining convictions. I feel that the community is responding to Domestic Violence in a manner which greatly assists us in the Judicial system. The DART and Outreach Programs will greatly enhance the ability of the community to respond to these incidents either with or without Law Enforcement and/or Judicial involvement.

In short, I support the effort, and will continue to support your efforts in any manner that I can.

Sincerely yours,



Shannon S. Johnson
Prosecuting Attorney of
Calhoun County, WV



PROSECUTING ATTORNEY OF MARION COUNTY

JEFFREY L. FREEMAN

213 JACKSON STREET

FAIRMONT, WEST VIRGINIA 26554

TELEPHONE (304) 367-5380 • FAX (304) 368-0930

CHIEF ASSISTANT
JENIFER L. PIGOTT

ASSISTANTS
BRANDON S. FLOWER
DENNIS B. KITTLE
JOSEPH T. HODGES, III
KATICA RIBEL
CHARLES A. SHIELDS
JONATHAN A. WRIGHT

VICTIM ADVOCATE
KIM HAWKINS
(304) 367-5383

INVESTIGATOR
DONALD HARRIS
(304) 367-5438

Dear STOP Team Committee,

The Marion County Prosecutor's Office is pleased to give support to the West Virginia STOP Violence Against Women FY 2016 Grant Program in Marion County to address the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. Violence can occur across all socioeconomic levels, from the rich to the poor, and does not discriminate against age or race. The STOP Violence Against Women funds will allow all victims of violence in Marion County to receive an improved, coordinated response to their situation using a Team approach. This grant will provide Marion County with an Assistant Prosecutor who will be dedicated to working cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. With this approach, our expectation is to see an increase in the prosecution rate for these four specific crimes. With a more coordinated criminal justice response, we hope to hold abusers more accountable for their actions and work to decrease violence in Marion County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey L. Freeman".

Jeffrey L. Freeman
Prosecuting Attorney of Marion County



COUNTY OF HARRISON
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
301 WEST MAIN STREET
CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26301
PHONE: (304) 624-8660
FAX: (304) 624-8708



HARRISON COUNTY COURT HOUSE

Rachel Romano
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

February 1, 2017

Stop Team Committee

Dear STOP Team Committee,

I am very pleased to once again have the honor to support the initiative for a West Virginia STOP Violence Against Women FY 2016 Grant Program in Harrison County to address the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. Violence can occur across all socioeconomic levels, from the rich to the poor, and does not discriminate against age or race. The STOP Violence Against Women funds will allow all victims of violence in Harrison County to receive an improved, coordinated response to their situation using a Team approach. This grant will provide Harrison County with an Assistant Prosecutor who will be dedicated to working cases involving domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. With this approach, our expectation is to see an increase in the prosecution rate for these four specific crimes. With a more coordinated criminal justice response, we hope to hold abusers more accountable for their actions and work to decrease violence in Harrison County.

Sincerely,

Rachel Romano
Prosecuting Attorney

**OFFICE OF PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
LOGAN COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA**



Jerry R. White
Chief Assistant Prosecutor

R. Todd Goudy

Shana L. Thompson O'Briant
Assistant Prosecutor

Assistant Prosecutor

David A. Wandling
Assistant Prosecutor

Donald C. Wandling
Assistant Prosecutor

JOHN W. BENNETT
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
1 WASHINGTON AVE., SUITE 200
LOGAN, WEST VIRGINIA 25601
PHONE: (304)792-8670
FAX: (304)792-8677

February 8, 2017

Sarah J. Brown
Division of Justice & Community Services
1204 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25301

RE: STOP VAWA Grant Proposal
(Mingo County-Tug Valley Recovery Shelter)

Dear Sarah:

Please be advised that I intensely support the Tug Valley Recovery Shelter STOP VAWA Grant Proposal. Budget restraints are a continued burden to law enforcement and crime victim services. Fortunately, the Tug Valley Recovery Shelter STOP VAWA Grant provides vital funding for the following:

- Assistant Prosecuting Attorney that focuses on enforcing domestic violence laws and prosecuting offenders
- Comprehensive services by the Logan County Sheriff's Department
- Court Advocate that assists domestic violence victims in filing Protective Orders.

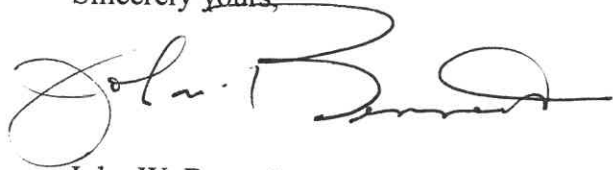
The Tug Valley Recovery Shelter STOP VAWA Grant would serve the population of Logan County regardless of age, marital status, disability, race, ethnicity, linguistic background and LGB communities.

Brown, Sarah Letter
February 8, 2017
Page Two (2)

Your approval of the Tug Valley Recovery Shelter STOP VAWA Grant will assure that current services will continue to persistently make justice more achievable for victims of domestic violence.

Thank you for your invaluable consideration of Tug Valley Recovery Shelter STOP VAWA Grant Proposal.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Bennett", with a large, stylized initial "J" and a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John W. Bennett
Prosecuting Attorney
Logan County, WV

JWB:ksc



JONATHAN "DUKE" JEWELL
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

78 EAST 2ND AVENUE, SUITE 201
WILLIAMSON, WEST VIRGINIA 25661
TELEPHONE (304) 235-0350
FACSIMILE (304) 235-0567
mingoprosecutor@mingocountywv.com

February 8, 2017

Sarah J. Brown
Division of Justice & Community Services
Department of Military Affairs & Public Safety
1204 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

Re: STOP VAWA Grant Proposal
{Mingo County – Tug Valley Recovery Shelter}

Dear Ms. Brown:

Please be advised that I strongly support the Tug Valley Recovery Shelter {Mingo County} STOP VAWA Grant Proposal. Budget restraints are a perpetual hindrance to effective law enforcement and crime victim services. Fortunately, the Tug Valley Recovery Shelter {Mingo County} STOP VAWA Grant provides vital funding for the following:

- Assistant Prosecuting Attorney who specializes in enforcing domestic violence laws and prosecuting offenders
- Extended services by the Mingo County Sheriff's Department
- Court Advocate who assists domestic violence victims in filing protective orders.

The Tug Valley Recovery Shelter {Mingo County} STOP VAWA Grant would serve the population of Mingo County regardless of age, marital status, disability, race, ethnicity, or language background.

Your approval of the Tug Valley Recovery Shelter {Mingo County} STOP VAWA Grant will assure that current services will continue unabated and make justice more attainable for domestic violence victims. This is extremely important to me both as the county's Prosecuting Attorney and as a board member of Tug Valley Recovery Shelter.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of Tug Valley Recovery Shelter {Mingo County} STOP VAWA Grant Proposal.

Sincerely,

Jonathan "Duke" Jewell
Prosecuting Attorney

JDJ/ar



OFFICE OF THE
MONROE COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Post Office Box 740
Union, West Virginia 24983

Justin R. St. Clair
Prosecuting Attorney

Telephone: 304.772.5098
Facsimile: 304.772.4056

Carrie F. DeHaven
Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

January 25, 2017

Paula Boothe, Board President
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Monroe County STOP Grant

Dear Ms. Boothe,

The Monroe County Prosecutor's Office is pleased to continue a relationship with the Monroe County STOP team under the STOP VAWA Grant. This grant is very valuable for the continuing effort the STOP Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking in Monroe County, West Virginia.

The Monroe County Prosecutor's Office will commit to the STOP Team by involvement at the STOP meetings and Community Response meetings. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

Sincerely,

Carrie F. DeHaven
Monroe County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney

GREENBRIER COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

PATRICK I. VIA
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

RYAN R. BLAKE
ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



912 COURT STREET NORTH - P.O. BOX 911
LEWISBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 24901
TELEPHONE (304) 647-6616
FAX (304) 647-6671

H. ROD MOHLER
ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

BRITT B. LUDWIG
ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

BETHANY BURDETTE
ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

January 19, 2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The Greenbrier County Prosecuting Attorney's Office is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The Greenbrier County Prosecuting Attorney's Office will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that the Greenbrier County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Rod Mohler".

H. Rod Mohler
Assistant Greenbrier County Prosecutor

GREENBRIER COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

PATRICK I. VIA
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

RYAN R. BLAKE
ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



912 COURT STREET NORTH - P.O. BOX 911
LEWISBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 24901
TELEPHONE (304) 647-6616
FAX (304) 647-6671

H. ROD MOHLER
ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

BRITT B. LUDWIG
ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

BETHANY BURDETTE
ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

January 19, 2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The Greenbrier County Prosecuting Attorney's Office is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The Greenbrier County Prosecuting Attorney's Office will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that the Greenbrier County Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick I. Via".

Patrick I. Via
Greenbrier County Prosecutor

COUNTY OF CABELL
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
SEAN "CORKY" HAMMERS

CABELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE
750 5TH AVENUE, SUITE 350
HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25701

TELEPHONE (304) 526-8653
FAX (304) 526-8679

January 25, 2017

WV Violence Against Women
Attn: Committee Members
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1204 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25301

RE: VAWA Grant Support Letter

Dear Committee Members:

Please consider continued VAWA funding for the Cabell County Prosecutor's Office. With the ever-changing law and increase in criminal cases in Cabell County, the funding from VAWA makes it possible to have an Assistant Prosecutor position who can devote time to such important cases.

The results of such funding would increase the participation of services for victims. The demographic range in Cabell County is difficult to narrow down due to the vast size of the county; however, Cabell County services all ethnicities equally, with women being the higher majority in our domestic cases.

Thank you for your consideration in the continued funding for the Cabell County Prosecutor's Office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "SH", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sean K. Hammers
Prosecuting Attorney

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Perri DeChristopher, Prosecuting Attorney
Monongalia County Justice Center
75 High Street, Ste. 11
Morgantown WV 26505

Phone: (304) 291-7250

Fax: (304) 291-7285

January 31, 2017

West Virginians Against Domestic Violence Committee

RE: VAWA Grant

Dear Committee Members:

As Prosecuting Attorney of Monongalia County I am writing in support of the renewed grant application seeking continued funding for our team efforts against domestic violence and related crimes. Our team has been in existence for going on ten years. Our members, including our domestic violence shelter (RDVIC), local police departments, prosecuting attorney, and victim advocate, all view our efforts as having achieved greater success in preventing and/or prosecuting domestic violence cases through our multi-disciplinary approach. These efforts would be much more difficult, more expensive, and/or perhaps impossible without the financial support as well as guidance and mentoring the grant resources offer.

With renewed grant funding we expect to be able to continue to provide professional responses to family and interpersonal violence from the time of the initial police response, to ensuring the safety of victims, to effective victim advocacy, to concluding with successful prosecutions without discrimination.

I want to thank you for your support of our team in the past, and your consideration of continued funding for this important work.

Sincerely,



Perri DeChristopher
Prosecuting Attorney

PJD/dss



MARK A. SORSAIA
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

PUTNAM COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
Putnam County Judicial Building
12093 Winfield Road
Winfield, WV 25213-7907

Phone: (304) 586-0205
Fax: (304) 586-0269

1/25/2017

Division of Justice and Community Services
1124 Smith Street, Suite 3100
Charleston, WV 25301

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to inform you of my office's support for the Violence Against Women Act funding for the Putnam County Sheriff's Department and Corporal Anthony Craigo. Our office is committed to participating in the development of the state's implementation plan. The state plan will address the needs of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. The Putnam County STOP Team continues to work in a collaborative effort toward ensuring the safety of victims and their families. VAWA funding is vital in these efforts.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mr. Sorsaia", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mark A. Sorsaia
Prosecuting Attorney
Putnam County

MAS/nb

Mingo County Sheriff's Department

**James M. Smith,
Sheriff**

PO Box 1270
Williamson, WV 25661
(304) 235-0300
(304) 235-0436 Fax
Emergency 911

February 7, 2017

To: Whom it may concern:

**Fr: James M. Smith,
Sheriff**

Mingo County Sheriff's Department have been a STOP Team member in collaboration with Tug Valley Recovery Shelter and the Mingo County Prosecutor's Office in order to improve the Criminal Justice System" response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking crimes in Mingo County. Mingo County Sheriff's Department receives STOP VAWA funds to investigate VAWA crimes, and to serve protection orders in order to hold perpetrators accountable and provide victim safety.

Mingo county has a population of 26, 839 if which the median age is 40.9. Males make up 49 percent of the population. The following is the racial makeup of Mingo County:

White: 97.1 %

Black or African American: 1.8%

American Indian: 0.1%

Asian: 0.2%

Hispanic: 0.4%

Of the total population who are in household is 99.7%; 5.8% of the population is unemployed according to the U.S. Census American Factfinder 2010-2014 Economic Characteristics. 59 % of the population has disability.

Mingo County is rural county made up of 424 square miles and the unemployment rate is 13.4.%. These funds are needed to be able to work in coordination with other agencies in order to continue to provide services and safety to VAWA victims.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James M. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

James M. Smith,
Sheriff



SHERIFF, OHIO COUNTY

51 Sixteenth Street, Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

Law Enforcement 304-234-3680
Records 304-234-3792

January 25, 2017

West Virginia Division of Justice and Criminal Services

RE: VAWA STOP Application

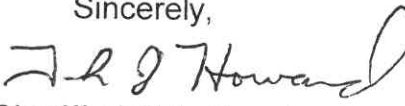
To the Application Committee:

The Ohio County STOP team, formed in 1998, and has been an invaluable asset for Ohio County, West Virginia. Ohio County's current demographics, as reported by the U.S. Census Bureau consist of 43,328 residents, 51.2% of whom are female. 3.7% of Ohio County's population is African American, 2% are mixed race, 1.1% are Hispanic or Latino, 0.8% are Asian, and 92.4% are white or Caucasian. There are 3771 veterans living in Ohio County, WV. 11% of persons under the age of 65 in Ohio County are disabled. The median household income for Ohio County WV is \$40,342. Ohio County has a poverty rate of 19.4%.

Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking effect persons from all demographic and economic areas. The services provided by the Ohio County Sheriff's Office and its grant funded assistance are provided without regard to a person's age, gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, economic status, mental and or intellectual acumen, race, nationality, political affiliation or other discernable affiliation.

STOP VAWA funding allow the community to address domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence as a collaborative effort. STOP VAWA funding have allowed the Ohio County Sheriff's Office to provide and train a specialized position to investigate crimes against women, to include but is not limited to Sexual Assault, Stalking, Harassment and Domestic Violence. The deputy assigned to the position also assists in serving warrants, Domestic Violence Protective Orders, Personal Safety Orders and subpoenas related to Domestic Violence cases. This deputy attends court hearings and assists victims, if necessary, to prevent violations of protective orders and bond conditions related to these offenses. This deputy also works with defendants to make sure they have a clear understanding of what the courts have ordered as well as conduct intakes into the BIPP program, and facilitate/monitor all BIPP meetings. It is my sincere belief that over the years the funding provided through VAWA to this office has caused Ohio County WV to be a safer place to live for all its residents.

Sincerely,


Sheriff of Ohio County



Buckhannon Police Department

24 S Florida St * Buckhannon, WV 26201
Phone 304-472-5723 * Fax 304-473-7911



January 25, 2017

Sarah Brown
Senior Justice Program Specialist
WV Division of Justice and Community Services
1124 Smith Street Suite 3100
Charleston, West Virginia 25301-1323

Dear Ms. Brown:

As Lieutenant for the Buckhannon Police Department, I write in support of the Upshur County Commissions STOP Violence Against Women Grant Program Application for Project Period July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018.

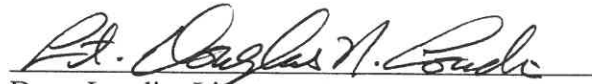
As a member of the STOP Team, I assisted with the development of the application. I believe that the application fully details Upshur County's need for the grant funds, intended use of the grant funds, and expected results from the use of the grant funds.

Upshur County victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence crimes are the population that will be served by this grant. The demographic characteristics of this population can be found in the 2015 People Quick Facts for Upshur County, West Virginia provided by the United States Census Bureau. The demographic characteristics are detailed as percentages of the total population as follows:

Persons under 5	5.6 %
Persons under 18	20.6 %
Persons above 65	18.2 %
Females	50.4 %
White alone	97.4%
Black or African American alone	0.9%
Language Other than English Spoken at Home	0.9%

My agency strongly supports the continuation of STOP VAWA funds to assist the citizens of Upshur County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lt. Douglas M. Loudin", written over a horizontal line.

Doug Loudin, Lieutenant
Buckhannon Police Department

SJM/pcr



Office of the Chief of Police
Chief Steve Shine

Fairmont Public Safety Building
500 Quincy Street
Fairmont, WV 26554
(304) 366-9280 x422
(304) 366-5533 FAX

Dear STOP Team Committee,

The Fairmont Police Department is pleased to give its support of the West Virginia STOP Violence Against Women FY 2017/18 Grant Program in Marion County to address the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. Violence can occur across all socioeconomic levels, from the rich to the poor, and does not discriminate against age or race. The STOP Violence Against Women funds will allow all victims of violence in Marion County to receive an improved, coordinated response to their situation using a Team approach. This grant will be able to significantly enhance our officer's knowledge of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault resulting in improved services to victims. This grant will specifically allow our officers to work overtime hours that will be dedicated to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. With a more coordinated criminal justice response, we hope to hold abusers more accountable for their actions and work to decrease violence in Marion County.

Thank You,

Chief Steve Shine



JEFFERY S. STARCHER

Sheriff & Treasurer, Calhoun County

P.O Box 340 Grantsville, WV 26147

Phone: 304-354-6333 Fax: 304-354-6609

Deputy G. J. Knight, Deputy C. E. McCroskey

Home Confinement Officer: J. Elkins

Family Crisis Intervention Center

January 4, 2017

P.O Box 695

Parkersburg, WV 26102

Re: Letter of support for the Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) in Calhoun County West Virginia

Dear Ms. Larkins

This letter is to confirm the need and support for the DART Team, in Calhoun County.

During the last several years as Chief Deputy, I have had the privilege to support and work closely with the DART Team.

As Sheriff of Calhoun County I still strongly support DART, because of the education brought to our Community and the assistance and training provided to our Law=Enforcement.

I have been on several domestic violence calls and because of the trained personnel, victims received assistance from DART such as education, support and transportation that otherwise they may not receive.

In closing I would like to thank all the staff for their dedication, guidance and assistance to the citizens and Law-Enforcement of Calhoun County when they need it the most, and I feel that due to your continuing efforts Calhoun County is a safer place to live. I will continue to support the DART program in all their efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jeff Starcher", written over a horizontal line.

01/04/17

Jeff Starcher, Calhoun County Sheriff and Treasure

Office of the
SHERIFF OF RANDOLPH COUNTY

Law Enforcement

32 Randolph Avenue
Suite 201
Elkins, WV 26241

Web: rcsowv.org
Phone: (304) 636-2111
Fax (304) 630-0467



Mark Brady, Sheriff

Tax Office

4 Randolph Avenue
Suite 100
Elkins, WV 26241

Web: wvpropertytaxes.com
Phone: (304) 636-2100
Fax (304) 636-2093

January 11, 2017

Sarah Brown
Senior Justice Program Specialist
WV Division of Justice and Community Service
1204 Kanawha Blvd, East
Charleston, WV 25301

Re: Randolph County STOP/VAWA Grant

Mrs. Brown,

The Randolph County Sheriff's Office strongly supports the above grant as it continues to provide the services that are much needed to the victims in Randolph County.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this grant.

Respectfully,

Mark T. Brady

Mark T. Brady, Sheriff

Elkins Police Department

401 Davis Avenue
Elkins, W.V. 26241
Telephone 304-636-0678
Fax 304-636-7866

January 9, 2017

Sarah J. Brown
Senior Justice Program Specialist
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1204 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25301
Phone: 304-558-8814 Extension 53337
Fax: 304-558-0391

Dear Mrs. White:

Please place this letter with your application for funding under the STOP VAWA Grant Program for the upcoming year. It is the position of the Elkins Police Department to be a supporter of Women's Aid Crisis and the Randolph County STOP/START Team and the many works they provide to the county through the funding they are able to do through the STOP VAWA GRANT, as well as other programs.

This funding will provide a tremendous benefit to the City of Elkins. I believe this program will be beneficial in raising the awareness of domestic violence, as well as, provide much needed support and assistance to the victims of violence against women, including domestic and dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. There is simply no substitute in this area of the state for the work the STOP/START Team has accomplished and will continue to enhance the efforts for law enforcement, prevention, awareness and victim's assistance.

Therefore, the Elkins Police Department strongly supports this grant request and if there is anything further this office can do to assist and aid in continuing to obtain this vital and important funding, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With warmest regards and best wishes I remain.

Sincerely,

Chief George D. Gross



West Virginia State Police
5190 Beverly Pike
Beverly, West Virginia, 26253
(304) 637-0200
www.wvsp.gov

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

02 January 2016

Superintendent

Sarah Brown
Senior Justice Program Specialist
WV Division of Justice and Community Service
1204 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 35301

Dear Ms. Brown,

Please find this correspondence as support for funding under the STOP VAWA Grant Program. This funding will be vital to assist Women's Aid in Crisis and the Randolph County STOP/SART Team for their vision in a safer Elkins, Randolph County, West Virginia, specifically related to the reduction of and or the assistance to victims in domestic violence and sexual assault cases. The West Virginia State Police Elkins Detachment has been and will continue to be a partner in this effort.

In closing this officer would request a copy of this correspondence be placed with your application for funding under the STOP VAWA Grant Program and should any further assistance be needed do not hesitate contact the West Virginia State Police Elkins Detachment.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sgt M.D. Anderson".

Sergeant M.D. Anderson
Detachment Commander
Troop -3- District -1- Elkins

Roane County Sheriff's Office

L. Todd Cole, Sheriff

200 Main Street

Spencer, WV 25276

304-927-3410 or 304-927-2540

Fax: 304-927-4160

January 11, 2017

To: Family Crisis Intervention Center
Emily Larkins, Director
P.O. Box 695
Parkersburg, WV 26102

Re: Letter of Support for EVE (Eliminating Violent Environments), Spencer, Roane Co.

Greetings,

Please permit this letter to serve as a letter of support for the EVE Program here in Roane County. Anita Freeland has worked with our department in numerous cases, and her support and assistance is greatly appreciated. I feel that without the EVE Program persons needing assistance may never come forward. Our department and the people of Roane County have benefited from this program, and we hope it continues.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at the number above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LTC' or similar, written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

L. Todd Cole, Chief Deputy



CITY OF
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA
POLICE DEPARTMENT



P.O. BOX 2749
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA 25330

January 31, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

The Charleston Police Department has consulted with the Kanawha County Prosecutor's Office, Kanawha Magistrate Court, Family Counseling Connection and YWCA Resolve Family Abuse Program in developing the grant applications in order to ensure that proposed activities and equipment acquisitions are designed to promote the safety, confidentiality, and economic independence of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence.

We look forward to continuing our work with these, and other agencies, to assist and support crime victims.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Webster", written over a horizontal line.

Brent Webster
Chief of Police



Kanawha County Sheriff's Office
Law Enforcement Division
301 Virginia Street, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

Sheriff
Michael Y. Rutherford
304-357-0216

Chief Deputy
Gregory S. Young
304-357-0150

January 30, 2017

Sarah Brown
Senior Justice Program Specialist
West Virginia Division
of Justice & Community Services
1204 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

Re: Violence Against Women Grant Application

Dear Ms. Brown:

I am writing in support of the Violence Against Women Grant Application requesting money for our officers to work overtime investigating cases involving violence against women, and serving Domestic Violence Protection Orders. As an active member of the STOP Team and the Domestic Violence Task Force, the Kanawha County Sheriff's Office recognizes the need for continued funding to maintain a collaborative effort to combat these crimes in Kanawha County.

The Violence Against Women Grant has been very beneficial in our efforts to properly investigate these crimes. Please feel free to contact me if you need further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Y. Rutherford".

Michael Y. Rutherford
Kanawha County Sheriff

MYR/sm



Clarksburg Police Department, Detective Division

222 West Main Street • Clarksburg, West Virginia 26301
Phone: 304-624-1618 • Fax: 304-624-1616 • Tip-Line: 304-624-1625



Dear STOP Team Committee,

The Clarksburg Police Department is pleased to give support to the West Virginia STOP Violence Against Women FY 2016 Grant Program in Harrison County to address the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. Violence can occur across all socioeconomic levels, from the rich to the poor, and does not discriminate against age or race. The STOP Violence Against Women funds will allow all victims of violence in Harrison County to receive an improved, coordinated response to their situation using a Team approach. This grant will be able to significantly enhance our officer's knowledge of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault resulting in improved services to victims. This grant will specifically allow our officers to work overtime hours that will be dedicated to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. With a more coordinated criminal justice response, we hope to hold abusers more accountable for their actions and work to decrease violence in Harrison County.

DET/PFC Paul Graeber

Paul Graeber
2-2-17



Lieutenant Jason B. Snider
Sergeant Jason E. Webber
Sergeant J.M. Walsh

Detective Chris Willis
Detective Paul D. Graeber
PFC L. Menendez

Bridgeport Police Department
Investigations Division
515 West Main St.
Bridgeport, West Virginia, 26330
(304) 842-8264 Ph. #
(304) 842-8267 Fax #



February 1, 2017

Dear STOP Team Committee,

The Bridgeport Police Department is pleased to give support to the West Virginia STOP Violence Against Women FY 2016 Grant Program in Harrison County to address the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. Violence can occur across all socioeconomic levels, from the rich to the poor, and does not discriminate against age or race. The STOP Violence Against Women funds will allow all victims of violence in Harrison County to receive an improved, coordinated response to their situation using a Team approach. This grant will be able to significantly enhance our officer's knowledge of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault resulting in improved services to victims. This grant will specifically allow our officers to work overtime hours that will be dedicated to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. With a more coordinated criminal justice response, we hope to hold abusers more accountable for their actions and work to decrease violence in Harrison County.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Chief J. Walker".
Chief J. Walker

**HARRISON COUNTY
SHERIFF AND TREASURER**

ROBERT G. MATHENY

301 WEST MAIN STREET
CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26301
PHONE (304) 624-8550 FAX (304) 624-8734



February 1, 2017

Dear STOP Team Committee,

The Harrison County Sheriff's Department is pleased to give support to the West Virginia STOP Violence Against Women FY 2016 Grant Program in Harrison County to address the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. Violence can occur across all socioeconomic levels, from the rich to the poor, and does not discriminate against age or race. The STOP Violence Against Women funds will allow all victims of violence in Harrison County to receive an improved, coordinated response to their situation using a Team approach. This grant will be able to significantly enhance our officer's knowledge of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault resulting in improved services to victims. This grant will specifically allow our officers to work overtime hours that will be dedicated to the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, and sexual assault. With a more coordinated criminal justice response, we hope to hold abusers more accountable for their actions and work to decrease violence in Harrison County.

Sincerely,


Robert G. Matheny
Sheriff

Michael A. Mayes
Chief Deputy



Phone (304) 792-8590
Fax (304) 792-8596

Sheriff
Sonya M. Dingess Porter
Logan County Sheriff's Department
Law Enforcement Division
300 Stratton Street - Room 209
Logan, WV 25601

February 9, 2017

Sarah J. Brown
Division of Justice & Community Services
Department of Military Affairs & Public Safety
1204 Kanawha Blvd., East
Charleston, WV 25301

RE: STOP VAWA Grant Proposal
(Mingo County-Tug Valley Recovery Shelter)

Dear Ms. Brown:

Please be advised that I am strongly supporting the Tug Valley Recovery Shelter (Mingo County) STOP VAWA Grant Proposal. Now with county and state budget restraints we all are currently seeing how it is effecting our law enforcement and crime victim services. So it is important to have this funding continue because it is vital funding for the following agencies that provided crime victim services:

- Assistant Prosecuting Attorney that specializes in enforcing domestic violence laws and prosecuting offenders.
- Extended services provided by Law Enforcement Division of Logan County Sheriff's Department as well as the Mingo County Sheriff's Department.
- A Court Advocate that assists domestic violence victims in filing protective orders.

The Tug Valley Recovery Shelter (Mingo County) STOP VAWA Grant would service the both population of both Mingo and Logan County regardless of the age, marital status, disability, race, ethnicity, or language background.

Your approval of the Tug Valley Shelter (Mingo County) STOP VAWA Grant will assure that current victim centered services would continue for our underserved population of those that are effected by domestic violence.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the Tug Valley Recovery Shelter (Mingo) STOP Grant VAWA Grant Proposal.

If you may need any additional information from myself or my office please feel free to contact me at (304) 792-8590.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sonya M. Dingess Porter / Sheriff".

Sonya M. Dingess Porter
Sheriff of Logan County

cc: File Copy



ALDERSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

POST OFFICE BOX 179
CITY BUILDING-202 SOUTH MONROE STREET
ALDERSON, WV 24910
TELEPHONE (304) 445-2355
FAX (304) 445-7652

Paula Boothe, Board President
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Monroe County STOP Grant

Dear Ms. Boothe,

Alderson Police Department is pleased to continue a relationship with the Monroe County STOP team under the STOP VAWA Grant. This grant is very valuable for the continuing effort the STOP Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking in Monroe County, West Virginia.

Alderson Police Department will commit to the STOP Team by involvement at the STOP meetings and Community Response meetings. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.



Chief Jeremy Bennett

Alderson Police Department

Sheriff of Monroe County
PO Box 350,
Union, West Virginia 24983
Telephone: 304-772-3018 Fax: 304-772-5051



Sheriff Sean Crosier

Paula Boothe, Board President
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Monroe County STOP Grant

Dear Ms. Boothe,

The Monroe County Sheriff's Department is pleased to continue a relationship with the Monroe County STOP team under the STOP VAWA Grant. This grant is very valuable for the continuing effort the STOP Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking in Monroe County, West Virginia.

The Monroe County Sheriff's Department will commit to the STOP Team by involvement at the STOP meetings and Community Response meetings. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cpl. Philip R. Wickline', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Cpl. Philip R. Wickline
Monroe County Sheriff's Department



West Virginia State Police
381 Greenbrier Road
Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901
(304) 647-7600

Jim Justice
Governor

Colonel Jan Cahill
Superintendent

January 23, 2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The **WVSP-Lewisburg Detachment** is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The **WVSP-Lewisburg Detachment** will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that **WVSP-Lewisburg Detachment** and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sgt. D. A. Evans".

Sgt. D. A. Evans
Detachment Commander
Troop "6", District 3



LEWISBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

National Register Historic District

119 Preston Boulevard • Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901-0548
304/645-1626 • Fax 304/645-1025

Tim Stover
Chief of Police

01/25/2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The **Lewisburg Police Detective Division** is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The **Lewisburg Police Detective Division** will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that **Lewisburg Police Detective Division** and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

Sgt. Jeff Vance
Detective



LEWISBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

National Register Historic District

119 Preston Boulevard • Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901-0548
304/645-1626 • Fax 304/645-1025

Tim Stover
Chief of Police

01-19-2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refugee Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The Lewisburg Police Department is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refugee Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The Lewisburg Police Department will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that Lewisburg Police Department and the Family Refugee Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

Tim Stover
Chief



Rainelle Police Department

Chief J.P. Stevens

Unit# 501



201 Kanawha Ave.
P.O. Box 648
Rainelle, WV 25962
Email: chiefjp.rainellepd@yahoo.com

Office 304.438.7772
City 304.438.7191
Cell 304.673.4586
Fax 304.438.6319

January 27, 2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The *Rainelle, Rupert, and Quinwood Police Departments* are pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The *Rainelle, Rupert, and Quinwood Police Departments* will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that *the Rainelle, Rupert, and Quinwood Police Departments* and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

J.P. Stevens
Chief



WEST VIRGINIA STATE POLICE

354 John Raine Dr
Rainelle, WV 25962
Ph: (304) 438-3000
Fax: (304) 438-3001
www.wvsp.gov

Jim Justice
Governor

Colonel J.L. Cahill
Superintendent

January 20, 2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The WVSP-Rainelle is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The WVSP-Rainelle will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that WVSP-Rainelle and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sgt. H.F. Blevins".

Sgt. H.F. Blevins
Detachment Commander
Troop "6" Rainelle



GREENBRIER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

P. O. BOX 347 – LEWISBURG, WV 24901

912 COURT STREET NORTH

Bruce A. Sloan – Sheriff & Treasurer
bruce.sloan@greenbriercounty.net

Email:	gbrso@yahoo.com
Law Enforcement:	(304) 647-6634
Fax:	(304) 647-6636
Tax Office:	(304) 647-6609
Fax:	(304) 647-5429

January 30, 2017

Paula Boothe, Board President
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

Ms. Boothe:

The Greenbrier County Sheriff's Office is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The Greenbrier County Sheriff's Office will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that the Greenbrier County Sheriff's Office and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Sloan".

Bruce Sloan
Sheriff of Greenbrier County

GREENBRIER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

P. O. Box 347 – Lewisburg, West Virginia 24901

Bruce A. Sloan – Sheriff & Treasurer
bruce.sloan@greenbriercounty.net

Email: gbrso@yahoo.com
Law Enforcement: (304) 647-6634
Fax: (304) 647-6636
Tax Office: (304) 647-6609
Fax: (405) 647-5429

01/31/2017

Paula Boothe, Board President
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The Greenbrier County Sheriff Department is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The Greenbrier County Sheriff Department will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that Greenbrier County Sheriff Department and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,



Sgt. Ronald B. Baker



GREENBRIER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

P. O. BOX 347 – LEWISBURG, WV 24901

920 COURT STREET NORTH

Bruce A. Sloan – Sheriff & Treasurer
bruce.sloan@greenbriercounty.net

Email: gbrso@yahoo.com

Law Enforcement: (304) 647-6634

Fax: (304) 647-6636

Tax Office: (304) 647-6609

Fax: (304) 647-5429

January 30, 2017

West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1204 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, WV 25301

To Whom It May Concern:

Please be advised the Family Refuge Center has consulted with the Greenbrier County Sheriff's Office in the development of their grant application in order to ensure that proposed activities and equipment acquisitions are designed to promote the safety, confidentiality and economic independence of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Sloan".

Bruce Sloan
Sheriff of Greenbrier County

RECEIVED

FEB 08 2017

Division of Justice &
Community Services

Joseph I. Ciccarelli, Chief of Police



Huntington Police Department

(304) 696-5510

(304) 696-4434

jciccarelli@hpdwv.com

675 Tenth Street, Huntington, WV 25701

www.hpdwv.com

January 25, 2017

Sarah J. Brown, Senior Justice Program Specialist
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1204 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

RE: 2017 STOP Violence Against Women Grant Application

Dear Ms. Brown,

Please accept this letter as support for the Branches Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc., Huntington, West Virginia, grant application for the 2017 STOP Violence Against Women Grant.

I believe that the continuation of the Cabell County STOP Team's efforts to improve the services available to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking is imperative to the health of the community which it serves. The Huntington Police Department directly benefits from this grant by providing an additional two officers to serve Domestic Violence Petition's (DVP's) and respond to domestic calls. This additional man power enables the Huntington Police Department to reduce the number of days within which DVP's are served and reduce the time within which officers are able to respond to domestic calls. In addition to these services, the STOP grant also provides funding for approved training to the detectives of the Huntington Police Department's Family Crimes Unit.

Attached hereto is demographic information regarding the victims of domestic violence and domestic battery that the Huntington Police Department has reported on from the 11th of December to present.

If I can be of additional assistance regarding this matter, please contact me directly. I look forward to the continued combined efforts of all agencies involved in the Cabell County STOP Team in improving our victim services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joseph I. Ciccarelli". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Joseph I. Ciccarelli
Chief of Police

tf

attachment



Morgantown Police Department

300 SPRUCE STREET
MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA 26505
(304) 284-7522
www.morgantownwv.gov



August 22, 2016

West Virginias Against Domestic Violence Committee

Re: STOP WAWA Grant

Dear Committee Members,

Please be advised that the Morgantown Police Department has consulted with the Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center, Inc. in the development of their grant application in order to ensure that the proposed activities and any equipment acquisitions are designed to promote the safety, confidentiality and economic independence of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence.

It is understood that the use of resources is not to be restrictive to age, marital status, disability, race, ethnicity or language background regardless of the demographic characterization of the population of Monongalia count and the City of Morgantown.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Ed Preston, Chief of Police



MONONGALIA COUNTY

PERRY M. PALMER



Sheriff and Treasurer

116 WALNUT STREET
MORGANTOWN, WV 26505

January 30, 2017

Rape and Domestic Violence
Information Center Inc.
P O Box 4228
Morgantown WV 26505

To Whom It May Concern:

As in recent years, the Monongalia County Sheriff's Department has participated in the S.T.O.P. Grant. This grant has been very instrumental in allowing my deputy's extra man-hours to enforce the law regarding domestic violence.

These funds have been instrumental in providing resources for the service and enforcement of family violence protective orders. This funding has also been utilized for the investigation of cases that involve improper or illegal sexual conduct.

It is with sincere appreciation that I write this letter in support of the continuation of the S.T.O.P. Grant.

Sincerely,

Perry Palmer
Sheriff and Treasurer
Monongalia County Sheriff's Department

PUTNAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

STEVE DEWEESE, SHERIFF

236 COURTHOUSE DRIVE, SUITE 8

WINFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA 25213

304-586-0256 FAX 304-586-0260

February 24, 2017

Sarah Brown
Department of Criminal Justice Services
1204 Kanawha Boulevard East
Charleston, WV 25301

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to inform you of the importance of Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding for Putnam County and our commitment to participate in the development of the state's implementation plan. The state plan will address the needs of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. The Putnam County STOP Team works to ensure the safety of victims in collaboration with our VAWA Funded Special Investigator for Domestic Violence, Cpl. Tony Craigo. Continued VAWA funding is critical to providing assistance, protection and services to victims in Putnam County.

Sincerely,



Steve Deweese
Sheriff of Putnam County



Kevin Cecil, Sheriff
Marshall County Sheriff's Office
P.O. Box 648
Moundsville, West Virginia 26041

Email
sheriff@marshallcountywv.org

Law Enforcement
304-843-1500

Law Enforcement Fax
304-843-1551

Tax Office
304-843-1400

Tax Office Fax
304-845-1283

March 9, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

The STOP Grant continues to be a vital part of the MCSO domestic violence program. These funds enable us to keep a full-time deputy staffed to respond to domestic violence incidents. Without these funds this responsibility would be widespread throughout the department and not the focus of one officer. Having one officer assigned to the domestic violence program lets us continue our partnership with the Prosecutor's Office and the YWCA Victim Advocate. The funds that support this partnership allow us to continue streamlining the legal process for victims of domestic violence.

As you are aware, the population of Marshall County WV is 97.5% white. Receiving these funds not only enable us to assist our rural residents, they give us the ability to improve outreach/services to our minority, elderly, gay and lesbian population. Without these funds this specialized outreach would probably not happen to the extent this partnership allows.

As you can see STOP VAWA funds are vital to keeping Marshall County's Domestic Violence Partnership intact. If you have any questions, please contact me at (304) 843-1500.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kevin Cecil".

Kevin Cecil, Sheriff
Marshall County, WV

The Senate of West Virginia
Charleston

SENATOR MICHAEL A. WOELFEL
5 SENATORIAL DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 441-M
304-357-7956

January 30, 2017

Sarah J. Brown, Senior Justice Program Specialist
West Virginia Division of Justice and Community Services
1204 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

Re: 2017 STOP Violence Against Women Grant Application

Dear Ms. Brown:

Please accept this letter as support for the Branches Domestic Violence Shelter, Inc., Huntington, West Virginia, grant application for the 2017 STOP Violence Against Women Grant.

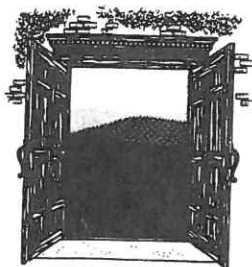
Continuation of the Cabell County STOP Team's efforts to enhance services available to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking is imperative to our community. This program is vital to victims of sexual exploitation, physical violence, emotional abuse, etc. who frequently experience a sense of intimidation when engaging in our justice system.

In the event I might provide additional information to assist in your review of the merits of this application, please call.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Woelfel
Senator, 5th District



Serving the Developmentally Challenged

211 E. WASHINGTON STREET
LEWISBURG, WV 24901
(304) 645-2130 • 1-800-439-2135
FAX (304) 647-9943

500 MAIN STREET, SUITE 106
SUMMERSVILLE, WV 26651
(304) 872-6560 • 1-800-491-4460
FAX (304) 872-6579

www.opendoorsinc.org

OPEN DOORS, INC.

January 26, 2017

Kenosha Davenport
Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

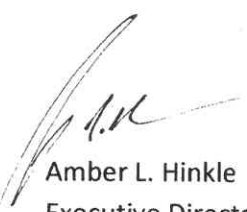
Dear Kenosha,

Open Doors for the Developmentally Challenged, Inc. is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Open Doors, Inc. will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that ODI and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,


Amber L. Hinkle
Executive Director

**Greenbrier County
Emergency Communications Center**

911

P.O. Box 218, Maxwelton, WV 24957
1/19/2017

(304) 647-7911
Fax (304) 647-7906

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The **Greenbrier County 911 Center** is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The **911 Center** will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that **Greenbrier County 911** and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,



Donna Hinkle
Administrative Director



West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine

Office of the President

January 27, 2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Adelman", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael D. Adelman, D.O., J.D.
President



202 Maplewood Avenue · Ronceverte, West Virginia 24970

Phone (304) 647-4411 · Facsimile (304) 647-6010 · www.gvmc.com

January 18, 2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The Greenbrier Valley Medical Center is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The Greenbrier Valley Medical Center will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that Greenbrier Valley Medical Center and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

Tom Neal
Chief Executive Officer

**Southeastern Regional Drug Court
ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

Drug Court Probation Officer:
Adam Carr
Phone: (304) 793-3257
Fax: (304) 647-6679

P.O. Box 28
Lewisburg, WV 24901
Greenbrier/Pocahontas County



January 23, 2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

The **Adult Drug Court/Probation Department** is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The **Adult Drug Court/Probation Department** will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that **Adult Drug Court/Probation Department** and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

Adam J. Carr

**Southeastern Regional
Drug Court Probation Officer**



Seeking Justice, Changing Lives

LEWISBURG

125 Green Lane
Lewisburg, WV 24901
P: (304) 645-3131, ext. 2614
F: (304) 647-3581
lsills@lawv.net

January 24, 2017

Kenosha Davenport, Executive Director
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Greenbrier County Community Response Team Commitment Letter

To Whom It May Concern:

Legal Aid of West Virginia is pleased to continue a relationship with the Family Refuge Center under the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the Community Response Team. This Grant is very valuable to the continuing effort the Community Response Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Legal Aid of West Virginia will commit to the Community Response Team by the involvement of our personnel in meetings and through in-kind contributions. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

In closing, I would like to say that I am proud that Legal Aid of West Virginia and the Family Refuge Center have embraced this project.

Sincerely,

Leah Sills,
Supervising Attorney



*Seniors and Future
Seniors Working
Together For
The Future of All!*

**John Wyman
Executive Director**

Greenbrier County Committee on Aging, Inc.
284 Greenbrier Street
P.O. Box 556
Rupert WV, 25984
304-392-5138 phone
304-392-5969 FAX
E-mail Address: gcca@suddenlinkmail.com
[www.. Greenbriercountycoa.com](http://www.Greenbriercountycoa.com)

Jan. 19, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

The Greenbrier County Committee on Aging is pleased to continue our successful relationship with the Family Refuge Center by participating in the STOP VAWA Grant by participating in the local Community Response Team. The GCCA provides services to seniors in Greenbrier County and one of our on-going efforts is working on the issues of Elder Abuse. Our participation in the Community Response Team has contributed to both the awareness of this issue in our community and access to resources and collaboration with professionals and agencies.

The Greenbrier County Committee on Aging commits to the Community Response Team by participation in meetings and though in-kind contributions. We know that this is an important element to ending family violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking in Greenbrier County, as well as elder abuse.

We value our partnership with the Family Refuge Center and look forward to continuing this vital work in Greenbrier County.

Sincerely,

Gloria Martin

Gloria Martin

GCCA Board Member

Elder Abuse Awareness Comm.



MONROE COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
PO BOX 911
UNION, WV 24983
PHONE: 304-772-3925
FAX: 304-772-3924

Paula Boothe, Board President
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

RE: Monroe County STOP Grant

Dear Ms. Boothe,

Monroe County Office of Emergency Management is pleased to continue a relationship with the Monroe County STOP team under the STOP VAWA Grant. This grant is very valuable for the continuing effort the STOP Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking in Monroe County, West Virginia.

Monroe County Office of Emergency Management will commit to the STOP Team by involvement at the STOP meetings and Community Response meetings. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey W. Jones", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

JEFFREY W. JONES

OEM, Director

304-772-3925

jjones@monroecountywv.net



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Jim Justice
Governor

Bureau for Children and Families
Region IV
Greenbrier/Monroe/Pocahontas/Summers District
P.O. Box 678
Union, West Virginia 24983
Telephone: (304) 772-3013 Fax: (304) 772-4372

Bill J. Crouch
Cabinet Secretary

Paula Boothe, Board President
Family Refuge Center
P.O. Box 249
Lewisburg, WV 24901

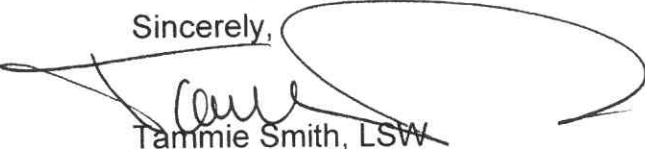
RE: Monroe County STOP Grant

Dear Ms. Boothe,

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources is pleased to continue a relationship with the Monroe County STOP team under the STOP VAWA Grant. This grant is very valuable for the continuing effort the STOP Team is making towards community awareness of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking in Monroe County, West Virginia.

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources will commit to the STOP Team by involvement at the STOP meetings and Community Response meetings. It is clearly a priority for us, and our community will be well served.

Sincerely,



Tammie Smith, LSW
Child Protective Service Worker
WVDHHR



Roane County Commission

*200 Main Street
Spencer, WV 25276
304 927-0078*



jenrand@commission.state.wv.us

Melissa O'Brien, President

Merlin Shamblin

Randy Whited

January 11, 2017

Family Crisis Intervention Center
P. O. Box 695
Parkersburg, WV 26012

To Whom It May Concern:

The Roane County Commission is extremely pleased to be a part of the Roane County Outreach Center's Eliminating Violent Environments (EVE) program. The donated space has a value of approximately \$2,400 annually and the utilities are approximately \$2,400 annually as well. We feel that providing an office location for this program is a minor contribution considering the importance of working towards eliminating domestic violence.

Undoubtedly, the works of the EVE Director, Anita Freeland, along with the volunteers that assist the clients of the office, have been advantageous to our county and surrounding areas. The office is operated in a very professional manner and yet with a friendly family atmosphere.

We wish you continued success and want you to know that we are very supportive of your program. Please advise us of any assistance that we may offer towards attainment of your goals.

Sincerely,

Melissa O'Brien | jja

Melissa O'Brien, President
Roane County Commission

MOB/jjr