



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller
Director

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To: Criminal Justice Services Board Grants Committee

From: Kristina Vadas, Victims Services Manager

Date: May 15, 2024

Re: Victims Services Grant Program, Competitive Applications for State Fiscal Year 2025

The purpose of the Victims Services Grant Program (VSGP) is to support the delivery of direct services to victims of crime. Funding for this grant program comes from federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds, administered by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office for Victims of Crime. In addition, state general funds have been appropriated to support this program. In accordance with VOCA guidelines, direct services to victims of crime include efforts that:

1. Respond to the emotional, psychological, or physical needs of crime victims;
2. Assist victims to stabilize their lives after victimization;
3. Assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; OR
4. Restore a measure of security and safety for the victim.

VOCA requires that a minimum of 10% of each state's award must fund projects that support victims from underserved populations; therefore, this competitive funding opportunity prioritized projects designed to serve underserved populations.ⁱ

For State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025, DCJS staff **request approval to award \$1,246,330 in state general funds to 11 victim serving organizations.**

The requests for funds from applicants exceeded the funds available for this grant program by approximately \$8 million. DCJS received 77 applications. On May 9, 2024, the Criminal Justice Services Board approved funding for 21 projects from this solicitation. Since that time, additional state general funds were appropriated to support additional VSGP competitive applications. As a result, staff request approval to support 11 additional projects from this solicitation.

In summary, DCJS staff **request approval to fund 11 projects** for the 12-month period (7/1/2024–6/30/2025), **totaling \$1,246,330**, using state general funds allocated for this purpose.

ⁱ DCJS's other VOCA-supported funding opportunities address the other VOCA priority areas: sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse.

VSGP-- Grants Committee Recommendations (Cover Report)

Victims Services Grant Program, Competitive

30-May-24

Application #	Location	Jurisdiction	Requested DCJS Funds	Requested Local	Requested Total	Recommended DCJS Funds	Recommended Local	Recommended Total
526532	Charlottesville	City Government	\$ 167,720.00	\$ 41,960.00	\$ 209,680.00	\$ 123,600.00	\$ 30,900.00	\$ 154,500.00
524770	Center for Child & Family Services, Inc.	Other	\$ 154,935.00	\$ 43,248.00	\$ 198,183.00	\$ 151,800.00	\$ 37,950.00	\$ 189,750.00
526213	Doorways for Women and Families	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 93,652.00	\$ 23,413.00	\$ 117,065.00
527827	First Step, Inc.	Other	\$ 32,300.00	\$ 8,075.00	\$ 40,375.00	\$ 20,268.00	\$ 5,067.00	\$ 25,335.00
526102	Greater Richmond SCAN	Other	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 149,500.00	\$ 37,375.00	\$ 186,875.00
524320	Hampton	City Government	\$ 199,991.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 249,991.00	\$ 34,760.00	\$ 8,690.00	\$ 43,450.00
527970	Mental Health America of Virginia	Other	\$ 43,226.48	\$ 11,750.99	\$ 54,977.47	\$ 43,220.00	\$ 10,805.00	\$ 54,025.00
525859	Piedmont CASA, Inc.	Other	\$ 176,259.00	\$ 35,252.00	\$ 211,511.00	\$ 154,000.00	\$ 38,500.00	\$ 192,500.00
526150	ReadyKids-fmrly Children Yth & Fam Svs	Other	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 250,000.00
525683	The James House	Other	\$ 165,537.00	\$ 41,375.00	\$ 206,912.00	\$ 144,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 180,000.00
524124	Warren Coalition	Other	\$ 131,530.00	\$ 33,337.00	\$ 164,867.00	\$ 131,530.00	\$ 32,883.00	\$ 164,413.00
Program Category SubTotal:			\$ 1,671,498.48	\$ 414,997.99	\$ 2,086,496.47	\$ 1,246,330.00	\$ 311,583.00	\$ 1,557,913.00
Grant Program Grand Total:			\$ 1,671,498.48	\$ 414,997.99	\$ 2,086,496.47	\$ 1,246,330.00	\$ 311,583.00	\$ 1,557,913.00

VSGP -- Grants Committee Recommendations (Summary Report)

Victims Services Grant Program, Competitive

30-May-24

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Applicant Location	Implementing Agency	Requested Funding	Recommended Funding	Internal Status	Applicant Brief Project Overview	Type of Application
526532	Victims Services Grant Program	Charlottesville	City Government	\$ 209,680.00	\$ 154,500.00	Meets criteria	The City of Charlottesville's Department of Human Services' Evergreen Program will increase access to trauma-informed intervention for victims within schools as well as low-wealth families, expand access to mental health services for victims, and support behavioral interventionist positions serving victims of crime. Evergreen will employ one school-based family support specialist to meet the needs of student participants. Recommended funding reflects 2024 award amount.	New
524770	Victims Services Grant Program	Center for Child & Family Services, Inc.	Other	\$ 198,183.00	\$ 189,750.00	Meets criteria	The Thrive Program serves victims of child abuse, crime and neglect, including adults who were sexually abused as children, and the traditionally underserved populations and those who speak Spanish. VSGP funds will be used to pay salaries of 4 staff members who will provide mental health trauma-focused counseling for 150 clients, using a combination of individual, group, or family sessions. Recommended funding reflects 2024 award amount.	New
526213	Victims Services Grant Program	Doorways for Women and Families	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 117,065.00	Meets criteria	Founded in 1978, Doorways is Arlington County's sole provider for survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, and/or stalking (D/SV), providing holistic, comprehensive, and culturally inclusive and humble, trauma-informed services in our local community. Doorways requests \$200,000 to partially support critical services for immigrant survivors including: 24/7 Hotline, Hospital Accompaniment, Mobile Advocacy, and Counseling Services. With VSGP Competitive funds, Doorways will support historically marginalized survivors who identified as immigrants, foreign born, and English Language Learners. Recommended funding reflects 2024 award amount.	New
527827	Victims Services Grant Program	First Step, Inc.	Other	\$ 40,375.00	\$ 25,335.00	Meets criteria	VSGP grant funds will be used to pay for a portion of the personnel expenses (salary and benefits) for the Bilingual Domestic Violence Counselor who provides counseling services and facilitates a weekly support group at First Step for victims of Domestic Violence and a portion of the Executive Director's personnel expenses to supervise the Bilingual Domestic Violence Counselor. We anticipate serving 40 victims with these grant funds during the grant period. Recommended funding reflects 2024 award amount.	New
526102	Victims Services Grant Program	Greater Richmond SCAN	Other	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 186,875.00	Meets criteria	Greater Richmond SCAN's proposed project titled Trauma-Focused Treatment Services includes services to victims of child abuse and neglect and their nonoffending caregivers through SCAN's therapeutic preschool-based treatment at Circle Preschool Program (CPP). SCAN expects to serve approximately 170 victims of crime and 75 of their nonoffending caregivers through the requested positions at SCAN's Circle Preschool Program in fiscal year 24-25 through this proposed project. Recommended funding reflects 2024 award amount.	New
524320	Victims Services Grant Program	Hampton	City Government	\$ 249,991.00	\$ 43,450.00	Meets criteria	The Hampton Victim Witness Program provides comprehensive information and direct services to crime victims in accordance with the Crime Victims and Witnesses Rights Act and other applicable victims rights laws. It is estimated that 250 victims will receive program services during fiscal year 2025. Services will support the continuation of current VOCA-supported projects which include providing information about the criminal justice process and victims rights and referrals to other victim service programs. It will also enhance the further development and implementation of our community-based violence services through our RESET program designed to provide direct services, referrals, assistance, support, and resources. Recommended funding reflects 2024 award amount.	New
527970	Victims Services Grant Program	Mental Health America of Virginia	Other	\$ 54,977.47	\$ 54,025.00	Meets criteria	Survivors of Trauma Obtaining Resiliency and Empowerment ((Re)STORE), strengthens the mental health resiliency of adult victims in ongoing recovery from mental trauma. Certified Peer Recovery Specialists provide recovery tools and peer support to a total of 168 victims through: a 2-day retreat style program offered twice a year, a introductory webinar provided four times and a small group webinar provided four times during the year. Ongoing support is provided through the agency's peer run mental health Warm Line. Staff provides outreach to victim and mental health service providers at meetings and conferences and social media support. Recommended funding reflects 2024 award amount.	New
525859	Victims Services Grant Program	Piedmont CASA, Inc.	Other	\$ 211,511.00	\$ 192,500.00	Meets criteria	Piedmont CASA Bridges to Success for Older Youth in Foster Care (Bridges) provides for three full-time Coaches who are primarily responsible for providing individualized and professional support to 30 to 35 CASA youth, ages 13 to 18+. Bridges Coaches work directly with these older CASA youth to help them develop a comprehensive, holistic, and measurable plan to guide and support their transition to self-sufficiency and to living an independent, interdependent life. Working closely with CASA Supervisors and CASA Volunteers, Bridges Coaches help to ensure that these youth receive all necessary and appropriate support and advocacy services to thrive and to achieve their specific life goals. Recommended funding reflects 2024 award amount.	New

526150	Victims Services Grant Program	ReadyKids-fmrly Children Yth & Fam Svs	Other	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	Meets criteria	The ReadyKids Inside Out Counseling Program offers a critical response to the treatment needs of children (ages 2-17) who are victims of crime including abuse, neglect and/or exposure to domestic violence in Charlottesville and the five surrounding counties, including rural communities. The program targets underserved populations including immigrants, non English speaking clients, LGBTQ individuals and victims of trafficking. We anticipate serving 175 primary victims and 140 secondary victims during the grant period. Requested funds are less than 2024 award.	New
525683	Victims Services Grant Program	The James House	Other	\$ 206,912.00	\$ 180,000.00	Meets criteria	VSGP grants funds will be used to pay a percentage of salaries for 6 staff who will provide counseling services, case management, crisis intervention, hospital and court accompaniment and assistance with basic needs for underserved victims of crime. Funds will also be used for outreach activities with a focus on underserved populations. We anticipate serving 300 victims with these funds during this grant period. Recommended funding reflects 2024 award amount.	New
524124	Victims Services Grant Program	Warren Coalition	Other	\$ 164,867.00	\$ 164,413.00	Meets criteria	Project COURAGE (Creating Opportunities for Understanding Amid Gaining our Education) targets students in grades 5-8, their siblings, in alternative education who are the victims of physical, sexual violence, bullying, stalking or witnessed domestic violence. The students are evaluated to make sure they meet this criterion. If found eligible, the students are assigned a worker who meets with them at least weekly helping them build coping skills for anger/anxiety and works to strengthen resilience and hope. The worker contacts the parent at least monthly to check in, provide parenting support, assistance with basic needs, attending court and school meetings. Parents can request a mentor as well. Recommended funding reflects 2024 award amount.	New