



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: Laurel Marks, Manager, Juvenile Services Section

Jenna Foster, Children's Justice Act Coordinator, Juvenile Services Section

Date: May 18, 2023

Re: FY24 ARPA-Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC) funding request for local CAC programs

The purpose of the ARPA-Children's Advocacy Center Mental Health Supports funding is to provide one-time financial assistance to Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) to promote mental health and healing for child victims of crime and their families, and staff training. Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) are community-based, child-friendly, and trauma-informed organizations that coordinate a multidisciplinary response to child maltreatment allegations. CACs deliver a best practice model that bring together, often in one location, child protective services investigators, law enforcement, forensic interviewers, prosecutors, family advocates, and medical and mental health professionals to provide a coordinated, comprehensive response to victims and their caregivers. CACs have found success providing a safe, neutral environment for children and their families where the child's well-being is a priority. There are 19 fully functioning CACs in Virginia. All CACs were invited to apply for these funds; of the 19, 12 accepted the invitation to apply.

For fiscal year 2024, DCJS staff received and reviewed 12 applications. All applications were deemed adequate for approved funding. Zero applications were denied.

For state fiscal year 2024, DCJS staff **requests approval to award \$173,294 in ARPA funds to 12 local Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC) in Virginia.**

In summary, DCJS staff **request approval to fund 12 projects** for the 12-month period (07/01/2023 - 06/30/2024) **totaling \$173,294**, using ARPA funds allocated for child treatment related to crime victimization.

ARPA CAC -- Subcommittee Recommendations (Cover Report)

ARPA - Children's Advocacy Centers

1-Jun-23

Application #	Location	Jurisdiction	Requested DCJS Funds	Requested Local	Requested Total	Recommended DCJS Funds	Recommended Local	Recommended Total
513234	CAPS of the Blue Ridge, Inc.	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
512778	CHKD Child Abuse Program	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 14,995.00	\$ -	\$ 14,995.00	\$ 14,995.00	\$ -	\$ 14,995.00
513217	Children's Trust RKE Valley, Inc.	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 14,904.00	\$ -	\$ 14,904.00	\$ 14,904.00	\$ -	\$ 14,904.00
513591	ChildSafe Center-CAC	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
513383	Collins Center	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
512728	Emporia	County Government	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00
512735	Greater Richmond SCAN	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
512753	Highlands Comm Svcs Prev & Educ Department	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
513108	Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Cntr	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 14,632.00	\$ -	\$ 14,632.00	\$ 14,632.00	\$ -	\$ 14,632.00
513596	SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of Fairfax County	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 15,748.20	\$ -	\$ 15,748.20	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
513248	Southwest Children's Advocacy Center (ARPA)	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 13,763.00	\$ -	\$ 13,763.00	\$ 13,763.00	\$ -	\$ 13,763.00
513515	Valley Children's Advocacy Ctr.	Non-Profit Organization	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00
Program Category SubTotal:			\$ 174,042.20	\$ -	\$ 174,042.20	\$ 173,294.00	\$ -	\$ 173,294.00
Grant Program Grand Total:			\$ 174,042.20	\$ -	\$ 174,042.20	\$ 173,294.00	\$ -	\$ 173,294.00

Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
513234	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
CAPS of the Blue Ridge, Inc.	Other		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$15,000	\$15,000

Grant Project Description

The Southern Virginia Child Advocacy Center will be using these funds to increase the accessibility to trauma-informed mental health services for children impacted by civil and criminal acts abuse and neglect through contracts with eligible mental health professionals. Additionally, funds will be used to purchase supplies and resources for to support the needs of clients in treatment, to include specialized accommodations, assessments, and tools to provide this specialized service. Service contracts will be maintained for electronic records and on-going clinical supervision.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

Concur/accept staff recommendation as presented <input type="checkbox"/>	Concur w/staff recommendation as modified below <input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree w/staff recommendation as stated below <input type="checkbox"/>
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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
512778	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
CHKD Child Abuse Program	Other		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$14,995	\$14,995

Grant Project Description

Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters Child Advocacy Center (CAC) serves children throughout southeastern Virginia and parts of northeastern North Carolina when there are allegations of child maltreatment. Mental Health and Healing Support ARPA Grant funding will allow the CAC to better support the mental health and wellness of CAC staff and child victims of crime. Funds will support training for CAC staff, and supplies to promote resilience and healing for child victims and reduce vicarious trauma for staff. This project will allow us to provide best-practice victim-centered services to children and their caregivers, while also supporting the mental health and wellness of our team members who provide these invaluable services.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
513217	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Children's Trust RKE Valley, Inc.	Other		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$14,904	\$14,904

Grant Project Description

Children's Trust operates four Children's Advocacy Centers (CACs) in the Roanoke and New River Valleys, Bedford, and Twin Counties. Forensic interviews and Family Advocacy Services are provided at each center. The Multidisciplinary model of collaboration is core to the services offered to our alleged child victims of abuse, providing a continuum of coordinated oversight in their care. The quality of this care is dependent upon the quality of our Forensic Recording equipment and the training of our MDT partners. Our Bedford CAC is in need of updated Forensic Recording equipment, and due to lack of previous funding, opportunities for MDT partners to attend additional training have been unavailable. This project will address those needs.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
513591	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
ChildSafe Center-CAC	Other		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$15,000	\$15,000

Grant Project Description

This program will support ChildSafe Center-CAC efforts to provide evidenced based, trauma informed mental health services to child abuse victims and their non-offending caregivers. Services to clients will be provided in the Winchester and Shenandoah County Offices. Funds will be used to ensure the CAC mental health practitioners are trained in trauma informed, evidenced based therapy modalities. Additionally, funds will be used to ensure that mental health practitioners will have access to technologies to provide tele-health services to families that have barriers to accessing services in person, and to provide a safe, child focused space to those who receive services in person.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
513383	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Collins Center	Non-Profit Organization		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$15,000	\$15,000

Grant Project Description

Collins Center is seeking Mental Health and Healing Support funding to continue to provide a variety of evidence-based counseling modalities and resource materials to our primary and secondary Child Advocacy Center clients and their non-offending caregivers. Eye-Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), Sand Tray, and Play Therapy interventions that form the cornerstone of Collins Center treatments for child victims of sexual assault and have resulted in measurable, sustainable treatment gains that enable victims/survivors to move from crisis to resiliency with reduced trauma symptoms and improvement of overall wellbeing and sense of safety.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
512728	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Emporia	City Government		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$10,000	\$10,000

Grant Project Description

The CAC, a child-focused setting designed to provide a safe and comfortable neutral place where services can be offered to child victims of abuse and neglect and their families. Services offered include forensic interviews, victim advocacy services, case management services, coordination with the multidisciplinary team, case review, referrals to other service providers, and court preparation and accompaniment, and assistance with other services as needed. The CAC conducts community outreach to inform communities about sexual abuse, physical abuse, and neglect of children. Additionally, the CAC offers training for community and professional organizations related to child abuse.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
512735	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Greater Richmond SCAN	Other		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$15,000	\$15,000

Grant Project Description

The funding will support CAC trauma focused treatment therapy services through a Clinician consultant who will provide additional access for children and families to trauma-focused treatment. This will enable us to serve clients in need on our waitlist.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
512753	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Highlands Comm Srvs Prev & Educ	Other		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$15,000	\$15,000

Grant Project Description

This project will focus on enhancing the CAC's efforts to mitigate the traumatic effects of child abuse through the following activities:

- 1) Training CAC's mental health providers in effective evidenced-based treatment modalities and providing appropriate treatment resources for implementation.
- 2) Training CAC's mental health providers in issues related to child maltreatment, recovery, and healing.
- 3) Providing equipment for capturing the CAC forensic interviews on digital recordings for investigators to allow child victims the opportunity to recount their abuse a single time, to prevent the trauma of having multiple interviews.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
513108	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Cntr	Other		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$14,632	\$14,632

Grant Project Description

There are multiple purposes for this project. They include:

1. provide mental health and healing support services to CAC staff and MDT members via a mental health consultant;
2. increase mental health, including trauma-informed care, training for CAC staff and child sexual abuse multidisciplinary team (MDT) members;
3. acquire supplies and equipment to promote resilience and healing for child victims;
4. provide resource materials for child victims of crime and their families; and
5. provide emergency client assistance to promote participation and follow through in CAC programming and accompanying services for victims of crime.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
513596	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
SafeSpot Children's Advocacy Center of	Non-Profit Organization		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria at reduced level	0	\$15,748	\$15,000

Grant Project Description

SafeSpot respectfully requests a \$15,000 grant to support our Mental Health Therapy Program. Specifically, grant funds would be used to provide mental health and healing support services through the use of a part-time mental health consultant. SafeSpot's Therapy program utilizes the evidence-based treatment of TF-CBT to help child abuse survivors address their trauma, build resiliency, and strengthen their healthy bond to their non-offending caregivers. TF-CBT helps children address distorted or upsetting beliefs and attributions and learn skills to help them cope with ordinary life stressors. It also helps parents who were not abusive to cope effectively with their own emotional distress and develop skills that support their children.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
513248	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Southwest Children's Advocacy Center	Non-Profit Organization		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$13,763	\$13,763

Grant Project Description

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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Grant Application Summary

Grant Application Number	Grant Program	Application Type	
513515	Child Advocacy Centers Grant	New	
Applicant Location	Town, City, County, etc.		
Valley Children's Advocacy Ctr.	Other		
Grant Application Category: >>>>>>			
Internal Status	Ranking Score (if New)	Requested	Recommended
Meets criteria	0	\$15,000	\$15,000

Grant Project Description

Valley CAC is seeking funding to improve our response to children who exhibit Problematic Sexual Behavior (PSB) so that we can better respond to their social emotional needs and, in turn, decrease the unwanted behaviors and increase their emotional resiliency. Additionally, we are seeking funding to support CAC staff members with their own mental health and vicarious trauma so that we can decrease burnout and continue to assist children with their own mental health resilience.

Project Performance to Date (if Continuation)

Additional Staff Recommendations/Comments

Subcommittee Recommendation/Comments

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