



Tennessee  
STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant  
Program  
FFY 22, 23, 24, 25 Implementation Plan

State of Tennessee  
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## Contents

<b>I. INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>II. NEEDS AND CONTEXT .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>III. DESCRIPTION OF PLANNING PROCESS .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>IV. DOCUMENTATION FROM PROSECUTION, LAW ENFORCEMENT, COURT, AND VICTIM SERVICES PROGRAMS .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>V. PLAN FOR THE FOUR-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>VI. CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>32</b>

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# I. Introduction

- A. Plan Approval – The Plan was approved by the State on June 3, 2022.
- B. Time Period – Time period covered by this plan is FFY 2022-FY 2025.
- C. Overview of Tennessee STOP Implementation Plan – The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) under the State Department of Finance and Administration functions as the State Administering Agency for multiple federal fund sources including but not limited to Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), Office of Violence Against Women (OVW) Program, Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Program, Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP), National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP), the NICS Record Act Improvement Program (NARIP), Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) and the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program (Coverdell). For two decades, these programs have provided a vehicle for seeding and pioneering new projects as well as sustaining victim services across the state. This federal funding is complemented by various state fees, fines, and appropriations that further the initiatives of this office.

OCJP is a strategic planning agency that secures, distributes, and manages federal and state funds for Tennessee. OCJP utilizes strategic program management, a structured process that looks three to five years ahead of daily grants management activities at the changing needs of Tennessee’s justice system and the needs of its victims of violent crime. OCJP tracks problems surfacing in the criminal justice system, monitors trends in Tennessee’s communities, assesses the condition of the state’s resources, and measures the recent performance of OCJP-funded programs.

To address crime and victimization in Tennessee, OCJP manages a systematic, year-round cycle for determining the communities’ needs, identifying the justice system’s problems, setting program priorities, making grant allocation decisions, managing those funded projects, and evaluating the results of those decisions.

OCJP leverages all of the state and federal funds it oversees to implement a comprehensive strategic plan for criminal justice activities and victim services. The STOP Implementation Plan that is described in this document was part of OCJP’s strategic planning process. The full strategic plan can be found at this link: [2022 OCJP Statewide Five Year Strategy](#).

Tennessee’s FFY2022 - 2025 STOP Implementation Plan reflects a continuation of the service priorities set in place in our previous four-year Plan. However, this current plan will build upon efforts of the previous STOP Plan.

The Goals for this plan are:

- Cultivate meaningful, ongoing coordination around communities' response to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking by supporting evidence-based collaborative best practices.
- Increase access to trauma informed services for all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.
- Cultivate a coordinated approach to the investigation and prosecution of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking offenders.
- Enhance data-driven approaches to Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.
- Continued statewide efforts to reduce domestic violence related homicide.

OCJP worked with a dynamic group of Implementation Planning members to develop this plan, including local representatives from each region and discipline. Each member is asked to serve a minimum one-year term. During a plan year, the team meets multiple times to discuss and provide feedback on the goals and objectives for the new plan, as well as provide approval for the plan.

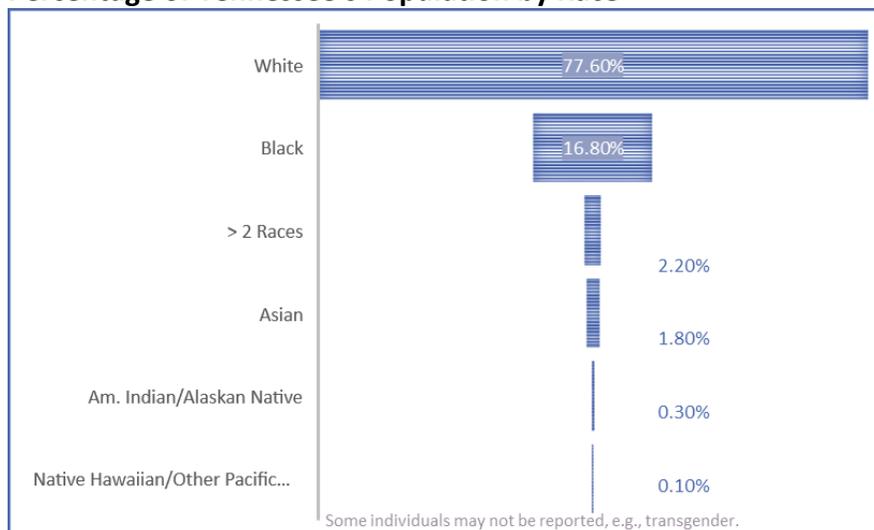
## II. Needs and Context

**A. Demographic information regarding the population of the State derived from the most recent available United States Census Bureau data including population data on race, ethnicity, age, disability, and limited English proficiency. (28 C.F.R. 90.12(g)(1)) (REQUIRED)**

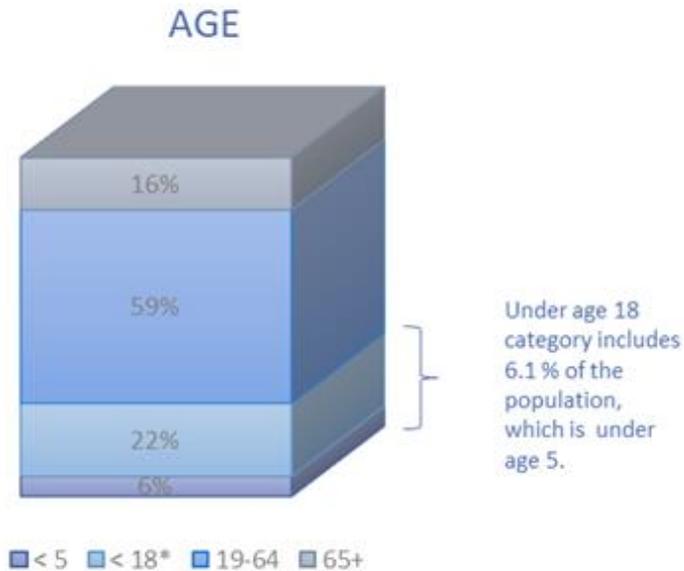
The following data, graphs, and charts give an overview of Tennessee’s population and demographics. The data, graphs, and charts used 2015-2019 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (DP05,j C16001) as well as data from Disabilitystatistics.org.

Roughly half (51%) of Tennessee’s population is female, which aligns with current national estimates. Approximately 15% of Tennesseans have a disability that does not require institutionalization. About 7% of Tennesseans citizens have limited English proficiency (LEP). The ethnicity of Tennesseans mirrors LEP, as a small minority of Tennesseans are Hispanic (5%), the remainder of the Tennessee population classified as non-Hispanic. As seen in the graphic below, Tennessee’s largest minority group are African Americans.

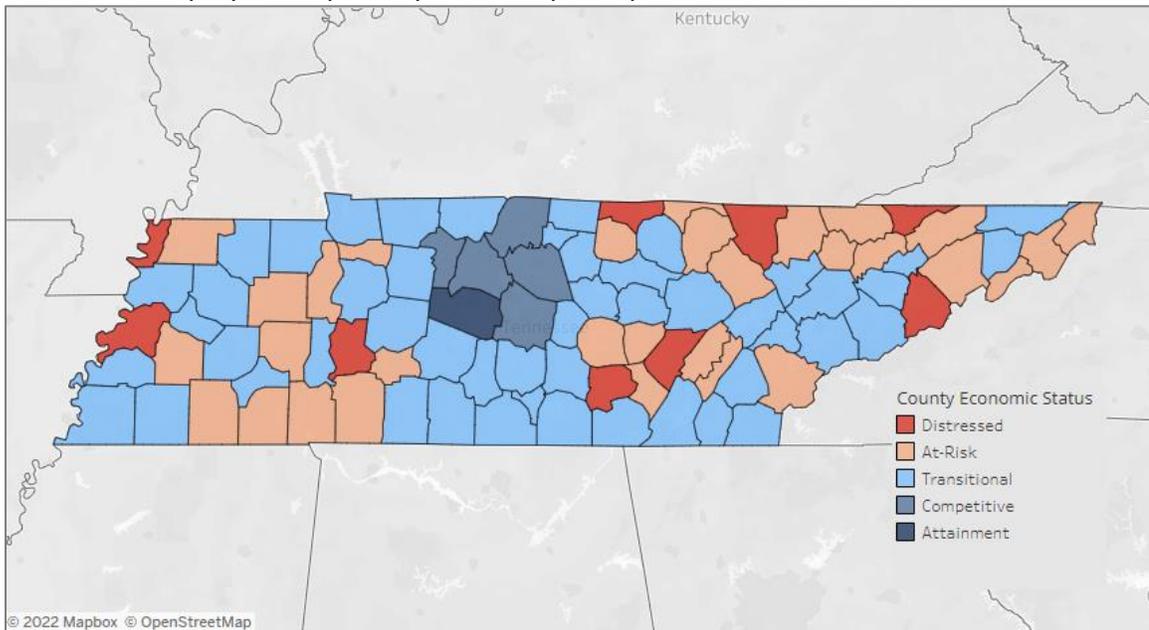
**Percentage of Tennessee’s Population by Race**



### Percentage of Tennessee's Population by Age



Tennessee has nine distressed counties in Tennessee and they include: Lake, Lauderdale, Perry, Clay, Grundy, Bledsoe, Scott, Hancock, and Cocke. The graphic below, copied from [Transparent Tennessee](#), shows the economic status of all counties in Tennessee. While under 10% of Tennessee counties are distressed, over 31% of Tennessee counties are at risk of becoming distressed. The economic status takes into account unemployment, poverty rate and per capita market income.



**B. Description of the methods used to identify underserved populations within the State and the results of those methods, including demographic data on the distribution of underserved populations within the State. (34 U.S.C. 10446(i)(2)(E); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(e)). (REQUIRED)**

OCJP has been working with the Department of Health to identify culturally specific and underserved/unserved populations. The Department of Health has a Health Disparity Task Force that engages with state, regional, local and private sector stakeholders to examine existing data, monitor trends and listen to individuals living working and serving in both minority and vulnerable communities to generate responsive solutions and policies to reduce these disparities. OCJP is in the process of developing a working relationship with the task force and the hope is that it will assist OCJP in developing an intentional plan for addressing culturally specific groups and underserved populations.

The diversity of age, ethnicity, race, ability, and geography presents unique challenges to the agencies and organizations working to address domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence in Tennessee. STOP funded agencies are working hard to provide services to limited and non-English speakers, urban and rural victims, victims living in poverty, victims with disabilities, Black victims, LGBTQ victims, Hispanic victims, and victims with other barriers that impact how they might access services from victim service agencies. While mainstream agencies are doing everything they can to meet the needs of all victims, OCJP is working with them and community-based agencies to further address the individual needs of each victim.

The first part of the OCJP plan was to develop a rolling solicitation for culturally specific agencies. The solicitation was posted to the OCJP website on September 17, 2021, with the goal of supporting the expansion of trauma informed domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and/or stalking services provided by culturally specific non-profit organizations to address the critical needs of victims in a trauma-informed manner that affirms a victim's background and effectively addresses cultural barriers. To date, OCJP has received one application that has been approved for funding. The hope is that as OCJP identifies additional culturally specific agencies through the Health Disparity Task Force, that future eligible applications will be submitted that address the needs of culturally specific populations. OCJP will continue to develop meaningful relationships with agencies that provide services to underserved populations such as LEP and LGBTQ+ as well.

### III. Description of Planning Process

**A. A brief description of the planning process (REQUIRED).**

STOP Implementation Plan team members are contacted by email to request their participation in the planning process for a one-year term. If an individual agrees to serve, they are incorporated into the STOP Implementation Plan team Outlook contact and notified of all meetings and materials via email. Tennessee has a robust community of professionals working in the field of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking and it has not been an issue to secure team members from each required entity. During plan development years, the team meets multiple times to gather feedback from team members on new trends and gaps in services, develop and approve new goals and objectives, review the initial and final draft of the plan, and to provide final approval once all feedback from team members is incorporated into the plan. This is a multi-step process that occurs over many months. Due to Covid, all meetings for the FFY22 – 25 plan were held virtually. If a team member had a conflict and couldn't attend a meeting, all materials were sent to the team member so that they are had the opportunity to provide feedback via phone or email.

For the FFY22 – 25 STOP Implementation Plan, the committee met four times. Meetings were held on November 10, 2020, February 10, 2022, April 14, 2022, and June 3, 2022. At each stage of the plan development, team members had the opportunity to provide feedback and input into the plan development until a final plan was developed that team members felt adequately addressed the needs of the state and victims.

During non-plan development years, team members that participated in the development of the current plan meet to review the current plan and assess if any amendments are needed to the plan. If a previous team member is no longer available to participate in the planning process due to vacating a position, retirement or lack of availability, an appropriate replacement team member is secured to ensure that all required entities are represented on the team.

**B. Documentation from each member of the planning committee as to their participation in the planning process. (34 U.S.C. 10446(i)(2)(B); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(b)(7)).**

**(Note: cross out and note "N/A" to the right if not applicable, for example dual coalition in States with individual coalitions or tribal government in States without any State or federally recognized tribes): (REQUIRED)**

Each member of the planning committee completed an Implementation Plan

Participation form located in Appendix A

- ~~1. State sexual assault coalition - NA~~
- ~~2. State domestic violence coalition - NA~~
3. Dual domestic violence and sexual assault coalition
4. Law enforcement entity or State law enforcement organization
5. Prosecution entity or State prosecution organization
6. State Administrative Office of the Courts
- ~~7. Representatives from tribes, tribal organizations, or tribal coalitions - NA~~
8. Representative from underserved/culturally specific populations
9. Victim service providers including population specific organizations and Family Justice Centers

**C. A description of consultation with other collaboration partners not included in the planning committee (do not include tribes in this section. See "III. D" below for information on consulting and coordinating with tribes). (REQUIRED)**

- 1. Sexual assault victim service providers. (34 U.S.C. 10446(c)(2)(H); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(b)(1))**
- 2. Domestic violence victim service providers (34 U.S.C. 10446(c)(2)(H); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(b)(1))**
- 3. Population specific organizations, representatives from underserved populations, and culturally specific organizations. (34 U.S.C. 10446(c)(2)(G); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(b)(2))**
  - a. How the State selected and meaningfully consulted with the included organizations, and**
  - b. how the State considered both demographics and barriers/historical lack of access to services for each population.**
- 4. Information on any others that were consulted but not part of the planning committee.**

OCJP actively participates in collaboration with sexual assault service providers, domestic violence service providers and culturally specific organizations in a variety of ways.

For sexual assault providers, OCJP hosts a quarterly information sharing session for sexual assault services providers. This virtual meeting is a time to share information, resources, and updates among sexual assault service providers across the state. These

sessions are always facilitated by OCJP but are largely driven by the needs of the service providers.

In addition to the sessions for the sexual assault service providers, OCJP also facilitates the codified Sexual Assault Advisory Committee. Established by Tennessee Code Annotated §71-6-303, the quarterly virtual meeting includes stakeholders from across the state who serve four-year terms. Members of the committee are outlined in the statute. These quarterly meetings provide input on the disbursement of funds that have been collected as a result of Tennessee Code Annotated §40-24-108, which outlines additional fines for offenders convicted of a sexual offense. This committee also provides guidance on any new sexual assault projects or practices that may need funding.

OCJP is collaborating with the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence to fund a position through fiscal year 2024 to support sexual assault service providers in the state. The project includes an assessment of the wellbeing of sexual assault providers and technical assistance for improving employee wellness and sustaining the workforce needed to meet the needs of sexual assault survivors. The project will also result in a needs assessment of the state of sexual assault services in Tennessee following the COVID-19 pandemic and technical assistance to organizations in developing, maintaining, and strengthening Sexual Assault Response Teams and other best practices in the state.

Two times per month an OCJP staffer attends a SASP connection call with other similar positions across the United States. Facilitated by the Resource Sharing Project, along with OVW staff, these meetings allow for the opportunity for states to glean information from one another, get updates from RSP and OVW, participate in training, and receive technical assistance.

For domestic violence service providers, OCJP hosts quarterly Shelter Director calls. The goal of these calls is to address current needs, provide training and identify resources to assist in the provision of services to victims. Training sessions have included topics such as grant application preparation and grant reporting as well as new trends and services in the field. These calls were crucial during the pandemic as shelter directors were called upon to share innovations in safe practices for shelters and serving domestic violence victims in unprecedented times. These service provider calls have been in place since the development of the previous implementation plan and they continue to be active today.

In addition to the sessions for the domestic violence service providers, OCJP also facilitates the Family Violence Shelter Advisory Board Committee that is authorized by TCA 71-6-201 through TCA 71-6-208. The Advisory Committee assists OCJP in planning for the obligation of the annual collection of fees and fines that are used for the support of Family Violence Programs throughout the state. Pursuant to TCA 67-4-111 and TCA

36-6-413 (b) (2) (C) funds are collected through the Marriage License fees and Parenting Bill fees, respectively; and fines assigned from the Domestic Assault Statute TCA 39-13-11 (c) (2) are credited to a general fund with the purpose of funding domestic violence programming. The Advisory Committee consists of five members; one of which is a former client of a Tennessee family violence shelter, a member selected to serve on the committee that is nominated by the Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and four TN Domestic Violence Shelter Directors, representing West TN, Middle TN and Southeast TN, and Northeast TN. The Committee meets twice per year; once in the Spring in order to review funding recommendation for the upcoming fiscal year, and once in the Fall, in order to review awards granted and to provide input for Strategic Planning.

OCJP works to bring regular trainings and technical assistance sessions to the Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Human Trafficking organizations across the state. One example of this occurred through a partnership with the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (DMHSAS) where their Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Howard Burley and Director of Treatment and Recovery Services, Linda McCorkle presented a session addressing substance use disorders, medical versus social detoxification and the use of medication assisted treatment with those struggling with an opioid addiction. The presentation covered how to access detoxification and treatment services; resources for covering the cost of these services and how to access services through local community providers.

OCJP also leverages VOCA funds to collaborate with WRAP, Inc. to provide intensive collaborative training on Trauma Informed Care (TIC) for domestic violence shelters and human trafficking programs. The training required an eight-month commitment that included online monthly meetings, assignments and an in-person meeting with agency board and staff and TIC Trainers. For FY22, it is anticipated that 5 shelter programs and 2 human trafficking programs will participate in and complete the TIC Peer Learning Collaborative.

OCJP collaborates the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County to fund a statewide Domestic Violence Fatality Review Technical Assistance Provider. The position evaluates and provides ongoing training and support a statewide domestic violence fatality review teams as well as local teams by ensuring effective and consistent data collection and prepare reports and recommendations based on the findings. These multidisciplinary teams work to analyze the causes of domestic violence deaths and identify improved procedures, laws, and protocols to reduce abuse-related deaths across the state.

OCJP further collaborates with domestic service providers through the DCS/DV Liaison program. This program implements a multidisciplinary approach to enhance services and advocacy to families experiencing domestic violence and is a collaboration between

local domestic violence shelters, the Department of Children's Services, OCJP and Nurture the Next for the prevention and intervention of domestic violence. Domestic Violence Liaisons work with shelters and DCS to provide all-inclusive resources to educate, support, engage and seek assistance for families on an individual and community level. The multi-disciplinary approach allows domestic service providers to better address the issue of domestic violence through this evidence-based program. OCJP leverages VOCA funding to fund this position at six liaison sites across the state.

For sexual assault service providers and domestic violence service providers, OCJP collaborates heavily with Family Justice Centers (FJCs) across the state. OCJP maintains a Program Manager position which serves as the statewide technical assistance provider for the state's Family Justice Centers. In addition to providing critical funding for FJCs, OCJP coordinates a statewide FJC Advisory Committee composed of the acting Directors of FJCs and which meets quarterly. The committee serves to assist in the development of the strong foundation for the FJC initiative in Tennessee, to facilitate input between OCJP and the FJCs, and to ensure collaboration among entities with diverse perspectives.

A core component of the Tennessee Family Justice Center initiative is the Coordinated Community Response function. In addition to providing services in co-located buildings, FJCs serve as coordinating entity in each community, facilitating collaboration among agencies that address domestic violence. CCRs are highly collaborative, multidisciplinary criminal justice interventions that work to ensure victim safety and bring about offender accountability by tracking a community's system response to domestic violence, monitoring compliance with policies and procedures, identifying gaps in services and safety for victims, and facilitates change to address emerging issues.

In 2022, OCJP is funding a statewide conference for FJCs and their partner agencies to enhance the statewide network through increased partnership and to increase the capacity and skill of statewide multidisciplinary teams in both urban and rural communities.

For culturally specific organizations, as mentioned above, OCJP is working to partner with the Health Disparity Task Force that is coordinated by the Department of Health. This collaboration will allow OCJP to identify other culturally specific service providers in Tennessee and expand services provided to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in culturally specific/underserved communities.

OCJP funds a project through the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence to support the growth of meaningful relationships and strategic collaborations with culturally specific and underserved service providers and victim service agencies to identify and address service gaps. Statewide coordination and planning in this area are facilitated by a statewide Inclusivity Committee. Agencies providing direct services to

victims of domestic violence and sexual assault have opportunities for technical assistance for improving cultural specificity and expanding culturally specific services.

OCJP conducts a variety of strategic planning activities with stakeholders across the state. The common themes from these various activities inform the FY23 Program Priorities and can be found in the [OCJP FY23 Strategic Plan Addendum](#). The activities include:

- FY23 Criminal Justice Roundtable – OCJP’s standing roster of roundtable participants serve three-year terms and meet in the fall to discuss topics including innovative projects, essential priorities, and ongoing community and organizational support. The participants include Chiefs of Police, Sheriffs, Judges, District Attorney Generals, Public Defenders, Executive Directors of community-based victim service organizations, and other experts in the field of criminal justice and victim service work in Tennessee.
- FY23 Victim-Centered Forums – Facilitated by OCJP subrecipient agency, Tennessee Voices for Victims, this year’s three forums were conducted over the course of several weeks and included individuals representing crime survivors, justice-involved individuals, underserved populations, domestic violence and sexual assault victim services, family justice centers, and local law enforcement and prosecution. Each group was guided through a two-hour long discussion exploring what is currently working within the criminal justice and victim service systems and should be replicated, as well as gaps and opportunities for improvement.
- Tennessee Elder Victims of Crime Forums – New this year, these forums are part of a broader statewide needs assessment conducted by OCJP’s VOCA-funded Elder Victim State Liaison project. Three forums were conducted over several weeks, discussing resources, issues, innovative ideas, and recurring needs among local and state government agencies and community-based organizations that serve elder victims of crime. The prevailing themes from all three forums will be included in a survey tool that will be distributed to stakeholders as part of the statewide assessment and will inform technical assistance efforts by the Elder Victim State Liaison in FY23.

In addition, OCJP is involved in many state level committees that assist in the planning of resources. Some of these state level groups include:

- Tennessee Building Strong Brains: ACEs Initiative
- Integrated Criminal Justice Steering Committee
- Tennessee Dangerous Drugs Task Force
- Tennessee Coordinated Community Response to Vulnerable Adults

- Tennessee Human Trafficking Advisory Committee

OCJP strategic planning is informed by the recommendations of Tennessee Criminal Justice Investment Task Force.

**D. Consultation and coordination with tribes (34 U.S.C. 10446(c)(2)(F); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(b)(3) and (c)(2)(iii))**

Tribes have not been included in the STOP planning process. There are no state or federally recognized tribes in Tennessee. There are neither tribal lands nor a tribal coalition in Tennessee.

**E. A summary of major concerns that were raised during the planning process and how they were addressed or why they were not addressed, which should be sent to the planning committee along with any draft implementation plan and the final plan. (28 C.F.R. 90.12(c)(2)(i))**

Committee members provided input and approval for the FFY22 – 25 plan primarily through virtual meetings. As mentioned above, if committee members were not able to attend, they were given the opportunity to provide feedback via phone or email.

The committee assisted in identifying needs for victims in our state and shared ideas on the following topics described in this plan:

- Continued cultivation of a coordinated community response to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking through CCR teams and Family Justice Centers.
- System wide training across all disciplines on trauma informed practices in working with victims.
- Continued expansion culturally specific services to victims, especially the need for language services and implicit bias training.
- Continued implementation of the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) in additional jurisdictions, with specific needs around training and technology such as electronic LAP.
- Continued efforts to reduce domestic violence homicides in the state through LAP and Fatality Review.

Committee member concerns were addressed directly in the development of the plan's goals and objectives. Based on feedback from committee members, there were no high-level concerns that were not addressed through the goals and objectives.

**F. A description of how the State coordinated this plan with the State plan for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act and the programs under the Victims of Crime Act and section 393A of the Public Health Service Act (Rape Prevention Education), including the impact of that coordination on the contents of the plan. (34 U.S.C. 10446(c)(3); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(b)(6) and (g)(6)).**

OCJP is the State Administering Agency for FVPSA and VOCA funds. The Department of Health is the State Administering Agency for RPE funds.

Due to the limited amount of STOP funds that the state of Tennessee receives, leveraging FVPSA and VOCA funds is crucial to addressing the needs of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Specifically, FVPSA and VOCA funds, as well as new ARP funds are used to maximize services to victims of domestic violence through funding the majority of domestic violence shelters in Tennessee. In addition, due to limited STOP funding, VOCA funds are used to support projects that would typically be STOP funded such as the Fatality Review Team Coordinator.

Furthermore, in order to enhance services to victims through STOP funded projects, each STOP prosecutor in the state of Tennessee also has a VOCA funded Victim-Witness Coordinator. Due to limited STOP funding, this would not be possible without leveraging VOCA funds.

OCJP coordinates with the Department of Health and the distribution of RPE funds that are used in the state of Tennessee to support a statewide sexual assault crisis line through the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence as well as education programs for high school and college students with bystander training. OCJP staff meet monthly with Coalition staff to provide support on the coordination of these funds.

## IV. Documentation from Prosecution, Law Enforcement, Court, and Victim Services Programs

This documentation may be in the form of letters from current grantees or State- or Territory-wide organizations representing prosecution, law enforcement, courts and victim services able to comment on the current and proposed use of grant funds. The documentation must describe:

1. the need for the grant funds;
2. the intended use of the grant funds;
3. the expected result of the grant funds; and
4. the demographic characteristics of the population to be served including age, disability, race, ethnicity, and language background.

Please see Appendix B for copies of these consultation letters.

(34 U.S.C. 10446(i)(2)(C))

## V. Plan for the Four-Year Implementation Period

**This section should describe how the State will address the needs of sexual assault victims, domestic violence victims, dating violence victims, and stalking victims, as well as how the State will hold offenders who commit each of these crimes accountable. (28 C.F.R. 90.12(g)(3))**

### **1. Concise description of the State's goal and objectives for the implementation period. 28 C.F.R. 90.12(a)).**

The goals and objectives listed below relate to the needs identified by the STOP Implementation Plan Committee. The goals and objectives were approved by the committee.

#### **1. Goals and Objectives:**

**Goal 1: Cultivate meaningful, ongoing coordination around communities' response to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking by supporting evidence-based collaborative best practices.** Tennessee will cultivate a coordinated response to the issue of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.

**Objectives:** Tennessee will continue to support evidence-based practices to enhance its response to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in Tennessee.

Tennessee will continue to utilize STOP to fund programs that create a proactive response to the problems of domestic violence. Programs such as the Lethality Assessment Program (LAP) and Fatality Review Teams encourage the coordination of stakeholder resources. These programs provide a comprehensive examination of individual cases allowing stakeholders to see both successes and failures which promote system-wide changes for the benefit of victims. OCJP will continue to fund a statewide LAP Coordinator and a statewide Fatality Review Team Coordinator. These positions provide technical assistance and training to local jurisdictions to expand the implementation of these evidence-based practices.

Tennessee supports a coordinated community response (CCR) approach to addressing domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking by investing in a multi-disciplinary approach that focuses on supporting systems-level improvements in the way communities respond to victims and offenders. This support will help lay the foundation for broader collective impact work engaged in by members of many of our communities<sup>1</sup>.

OCJP will leverage JAG and VOCA funds to implement new Family Justice Centers (FJCs). OCJP plans to have future open solicitations within the life of this implementation plan to increase in the number of FJCs in Tennessee, which currently sits at thirteen, in both rural and urban communities. FJCs facilitate a coordinated community response which provides a regular

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.collectiveimpactforum.org/what-collective-impact>

opportunity for local stakeholders, including victim service agencies, law enforcement, and prosecutors, to meet and actively discuss ongoing cases for the express purpose of coordinating a better response to domestic violence. Additionally, CCR Specialists can work with community stakeholders in order to identify underserved populations in that community and work with the CCR to increase access to services for those underserved and/or unserved populations.

Where additional resources are available, Tennessee will expand its current network of operational Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART) across the state with the goals of promoting a coordinated response to sexual assault.

**Goal 2: Increase access to trauma informed services for all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.** Tennessee will cultivate coordination of comprehensive services, resources, and training to better serve victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking while seeking to identify underserved and unserved populations.

**Objectives:**

OCJP will provide resources to agencies by promoting trauma-informed direct services which increase victim safety, address healing and promote medical advocacy for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking with the 6 Guiding Principles to Trauma Informed Care<sup>2</sup> at the heart of these services.

OCJP will continue to fund programs that address victim safety through emergency shelter and legal services. Shelters will support victims by ensuring the physical environment of the shelter and its practices do not replicate the trauma that victims have experienced. Legal services such as court advocacy and assistance with orders of protection will remain readily available to victims.

Funded programs will also address healing by using holistic trauma informed therapeutic techniques. These therapies will address the victim's emotional safety by addressing victimizations and adverse childhood experience. Continued funding will also be provided to programs that promote medical interventions for clients through sexual assault forensic exams and advocates to provide hospital accompaniment. Whenever possible, Tennessee seeks to provide these services to victims in a coordinated way through Family Justice Centers to yield stronger outcomes for victims.

Tennessee continues to work on enhancing the quality, consistency, and accessibility of specialized training and technical assistance for domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking service providers. These efforts expand the capacity of service providers to effectively address the trauma of victimization. Training, ongoing consultation, and peer support are provided to agencies at a statewide level to promote consistency of practice and are extended to frontline

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<sup>2</sup> [https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/infographics/6\\_principles\\_trauma\\_info.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/cpr/infographics/6_principles_trauma_info.htm)

responders. This includes staff of schools, colleges, and universities, medical professionals, and law enforcement who are not typically thought of as direct-service providers by trade.

OCJP will continue to explore and invest in evidence based domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking interventions with the goal of expanding services to underserved and inadequately served populations. This includes victims who are geographically isolated or members of minority populations.

**Goal 3: Cultivate a coordinated approach to the investigation and prosecution of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking offenders.**

Tennessee has prioritized STOP funding for specialized domestic violence and sexual assault law enforcement and prosecution positions.

**Objectives:** OCJP has prioritized STOP funding for specialized domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking law enforcement and prosecution positions. OCJP will continue to support specially trained investigators and prosecutors who are knowledgeable in domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking law enforcement procedures and a trauma-informed response to victims to increase the likelihood of successful investigative and prosecution outcomes.

Additionally, Tennessee seeks to expand jurisdictional access to evidence-based prosecution or “the practice of using independent cooperative evidence to prove the elements of the crime without relying on the victim’s testimony<sup>3</sup>” by funding prosecutors that are specifically trained and wholly dedicated to the prosecution of individuals who have been charged with domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. This practice has demonstrated a higher degree of success in prosecuting cases. It also acknowledges the trauma embedded in the court process by providing a prosecutor who already has an awareness of the victim’s unique circumstances.

Tennessee will continue to fund investigators and prosecutors in jurisdictions which have a demonstrated history of cultivating a strong coordinated-community response (CCR) and demonstrated a willingness to focus on STOP allowable crimes based upon its own community needs assessment. OCJP will continue to expand the number of jurisdictions which possess specialized investigators as funds allow. Whenever practical OCJP seeks to provide jurisdictions with both a specialized investigator and a prosecutor to enhance coordination in that area.

OCJP will utilize STOP funding to provide consistent and ongoing specialized training targeted at investigators and prosecutors in order to assure that they incorporate evidence-based practices and take a trauma-informed approach to working with victims of crime and their skillsets are continually updated to newly developed best practices in their area of expertise.

**Goal 4: Enhance data-driven approaches to Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking.**

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/evidence-based-prosecution-prosecuting-domestic-violence-cases>

Tennessee will use data to support evidence-based programming, techniques and training.

**Objectives:** Tennessee supports program strategies that recognize the potential overlap for many individuals who experience being both a victim of crime as well as an offender at some point in their lives; as well as the impact that validated, effective interventions can have in the lives of individuals and their communities. OCJP will work with law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, and victim service agencies to support evidence-based programs that hold offenders accountable and increase victim safety.

OCJP funded projects such Lethality Assessment Program, Fatality Review Teams and Family Justice Centers are intended to work collaboratively with one another to substantially increase the quality and frequency of coordination among the agencies addressing domestic violence sexual assault and stalking in each community. OCJP believes this level of coordination yields stronger outcomes for victims, offenders, and the agencies providing services at the local level.

Tennessee will work with the above-mentioned programs to generate data that will enhance and inform evidence-based programming and techniques to further support coordinated community responses to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. In FY23, OCJP created and filled the position of Assistant Director of Research and Evaluation. The individual in this role has specialized education and training in the area of statistics and data analysis and has been tasked with moving our office forward in how we use program data to inform decisions.

Additionally, OCJP manages STOP projects for results and accountability. OCJP Program Managers will continue to provide technical assistance, monitoring and general grant management of all STOP funded projects. Program output and outcome data will be reviewed annually to identify in gaps in services or need for improvements and to ensure that program data is consistent with the project scope of services and that data collection methods are accurate.

**2. Description of how STOP funding will be used to meet the State's goal and objectives during the implementation period. (34 U.S.C. 10446(i)(1); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(a)).**

OCJP will administer STOP funding to agencies that provide services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking through a competitive solicitation process. The above stated goals and objectives serve as the framework for STOP solicitations that are developed by OCJP and reflects our commitment to a coordinated community response, access to trauma informed services, specialized investigators and prosecutors and the use of data to improve outcomes for victims. The use of STOP funding, along with other leveraged federal fund sources administered by OCJP, is crucial to ensure that victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking receive the services that they need and deserve.

**3. A description of how the funds will be distributed across the law enforcement, prosecution, courts, victim services, and discretionary allocation categories. (See 34**

**U.S.C. 10446(c)(4)).**

In the table below is a general description of how STOP funds will be distributed to programs across the required allocation types. The allocations match the statutory allocation percentages for law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, courts, and discretionary programs. OCJP utilizes its discretionary funding to further support the required allocations of victim services and prosecution and for projects that don't fit in the other allocations (such as the fatality review training and technical assistance project through a local governmental entity).

Administrative Funds for OCJP – Tennessee utilizes 10% of the STOP award for administrative expenses. STOP administrative expenses include salaries and related benefits of those employees who perform direct STOP oversight services. STOP administrative expenses also include a proportionate share of indirect costs incurred to support the program and fiscal management of Tennessee's STOP Violence Against Women Grant Program. Administrative expenses include, but are not limited to, salaries, benefits, rent, indirect costs, monitoring, and computer related expenses.

Type	% of Funding	Current # of Projects
Court	5%	2
Law Enforcement	25%	9; 3 Training
Prosecution	25%	10
Nonprofit, nongovernmental Victim Services (30% Total)* *At least 10% of this amount will be to culturally specific victim services Set-aside for Cultural Specific Victim Services	30%	6; 1 Training
Discretionary	15%	1 Governmental Victim Services; 1 Nonprofit Victim Services; 2 Prosecution
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Looking forward, OCJP anticipates expanding the number of court projects and providing enhanced prosecutor training within the next year. As OCJP leverages funding to support domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victim services; efforts will be made to consolidate funding to decrease the administrative requirements on these entities.

**A. Statutory Priority Areas**

**1. Information on how the State plans to meet the sexual assault set-aside, including**

**how the State will ensure the funds are allocated for programs or projects in two or more allocations (law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, and courts). (34 U.S.C. 10446(c)(5)).**

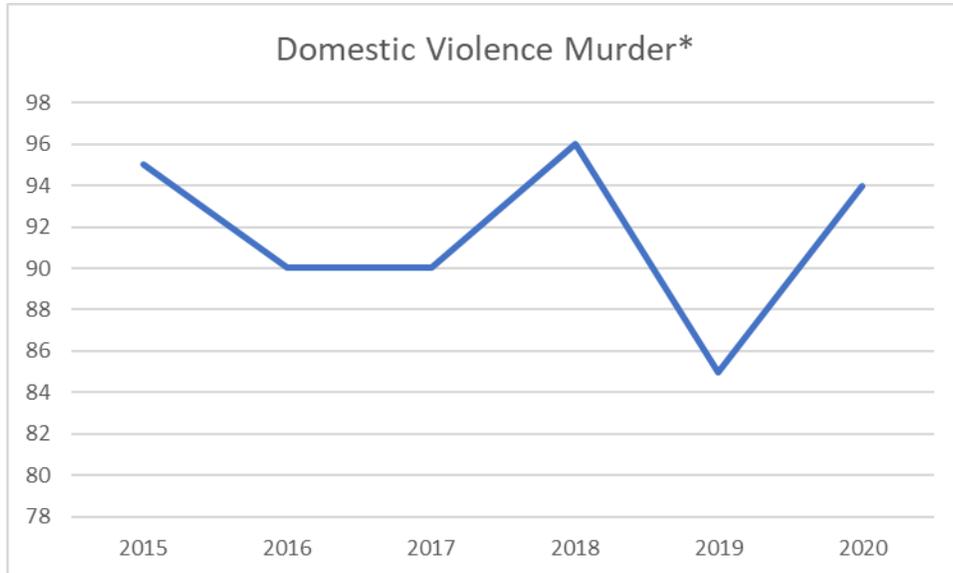
The table above does not show the required 20% sexual assault set aside. Tennessee will have at least 20% of the total award allocated to programs with meaningful sexual assault services. The 20% allocation will be part of at least two of the project type categories: victim services, courts, law enforcement, and/or prosecution.

Currently OCJP exceeds the 20% sexual assault set aside minimum. OCJP prioritizes a portion of the Victim Services allocation, the Law Enforcement allocation and the Prosecution allocation to meet the 20% total award allocation to meaningful, comprehensive sexual assault services in Tennessee. OCJP anticipates this continuing into this new plan with a focus on direct sexual assault victim services; law enforcement training and investigations that focus on sexual assault; and supporting prosecution efforts in sexual assault cases. OCJP continues to leverage STOP funding with other victim service funding to further sexual assault services across the state. Over the past four years OCJP has supported rural sexual assault providers and advocates through training and technical assistance that provided mentoring and support to these often isolated agencies.

- 2. Goals and objectives for reducing domestic violence-related homicides within the State, including available statistics on the rates of domestic violence homicide within the State and challenges specific to the State and how the plan can overcome them. (34 U.S.C. 10446(i)(2)(G); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(f)).**

**Goal 5: Reduce domestic violence related homicide deaths in Tennessee.**

Tennessee will continue to implement evidence-based practices to combat domestic violence related homicides. The graph below is based on TIBRS vetted data and shows that domestic violence related homicides have remained relatively stable since 2015 as reported to TBI.



\* Domestic violence refers to incidents with a qualifying Victim to Offender relationship under the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System. Valid relationships can include family members and are not solely intimate partner in nature.

**Objectives:** Tennessee will focus STOP funding and leverage JAG and VOCA to continue to implement programming and practices shown to reduce domestic violence related homicides. This programming will include the expansion of Family Justice Centers and further implementation of Lethality Assessment Program in Tennessee as well as enhancing Coordinated Community Response Teams and implementing Fatality Review Teams in communities in Tennessee. This will improve the investigative and prosecutorial outcomes to hold offenders accountable and increase safety for victims, which will ultimately lead to a reduction in domestic violence related homicides.

In addition, the Tennessee Maternal Mortality Review Act of 2016 established the TN Maternal Mortality Committee (MMRC) (T.C.A. § 63-3-601). This is an interdisciplinary team from across the state reviews every death and contributes to the annual recommendations through a published report which describes maternal deaths in Tennessee and the demographic characteristics of women who died while pregnant or within one year of pregnancy. This report also summarizes causes of death and contributing factors. Through a comprehensive review of deaths by the MMRC, the report identifies specific opportunities for prevention of maternal mortality and promotion of women's health.

The OCJP Deputy Director serves as the Domestic Violence expert on this Committee. The Committee identified many domestic violence related recommendations for increase education related to intimate partner violence, warning signs and increasing safety for victims. Through participation with this

committee, OCJP has increased education to our OB/GYN; ER and nurse partitioners on the dynamics of domestic violence and assessing for high lethality risk factors. Many have implemented many new protocols for women to safely signal the need to speak privately with their health professional. OCJP has also increased education in the area of understanding the dynamics of human trafficking as health care professionals might be the first opportunity for assessment and referral for services for these victims.

## **B. Addressing the Needs of Underserved Victims**

**Description of how the State will recognize and meaningfully respond to the needs of underserved populations as identified above in II.B. (34 U.S.C. 10446(e)(2)(D) and (i)(2)(F); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(d)(4)).**

According to “Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About STOP Formula Grants”, underserved populations is defined as “populations who face barriers in accessing and using victim services, and includes populations underserved because of geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, 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.”

Tennessee’s approach is to continue to fund programs that are effectively serving underserved populations, while seeking out new partnerships with agencies that are currently not funded with STOP funds but are already providing services to underserved populations across the state. This is accomplished through collaboration with other state agencies like the Department of Health. The Department of Health has a Health Disparity Task Force that engages with state, regional, local and private sector levels to examine existing data, monitor trends and listen to individuals living working and serving in both minority and vulnerable communities to generate responsive solutions and policies to reduce these disparities. OCJP is in the process of developing a working relationship with the task force and the hope is that it will assist OCJP in developing an intentional plan for addressing culturally specific groups and underserved populations in Tennessee.

Tennessee will continue to utilize data such as census data to monitor different racial and ethnic trends in the state. Additionally, OCJP established Victim-Centered Forums to further plan for the needs of underserved populations. The Forums are facilitated by OCJP subrecipient agency, Tennessee Voices for Victims, this year’s three forums were conducted over the course of several weeks. Participants came from a variety of backgrounds and included individuals representing crime survivors, justice-involved individuals, domestic violence and sexual assault victim services, family justice centers, local law enforcement and prosecution. Additionally, there was specific representation from underserved populations.

To further explore the needs of the underserved population of the elderly, OCJP established Elder Victims of Crime Forums. These forums are part of a broader statewide needs assessment conducted by OCJP's VOCA-funded Elder Victim State Liaison project. Three forums were conducted over several weeks, discussing resources, issues, innovative ideas, and recurring needs among local and state government agencies and community-based organizations that serve elder victims of crime.

OCJP continues to seek innovative avenues to reach underserved populations in the state of Tennessee.

**1. Description of how the State plans to meet the needs of the identified underserved populations, including, but not limited to, culturally specific populations, victims who are underserved because of sexual orientation or gender identity, and victims with limited English proficiency. (34 U.S.C. 10446(i)(2)(E); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(e))**

OCJP continues to build on the process of reaching underserved populations, including culturally specific organizations in Tennessee. Due to the narrow definition of a culturally specific organization, historically OCJP has struggled to identify agencies that are eligible and willing to apply for funding to provide services to culturally specific crime victims.

Barriers for agencies include:

- Many community organizations are leery of government involvement and are cautious to see out federal funding.
- Many community organizations are small and do not have the fiscal and programmatic oversight needed to manage federal funding.
- It takes time to develop meaningful relationships with community organizations outside of mainstream providers.

Upon the advice of our OVW Program Manager, OCJP developed and posted a culturally specific solicitation to our website in September 2021. This is a "rolling" solicitation with no due date to allow organizations the flexibility to apply for funding as they become aware of it. To date, we have successfully funded one culturally specific organization and we plan to continue to build on this success. OCJP continues to work with planning groups such as the Victim Centered Forums, Elder Victim of Crime Forums, and the Health Disparity Task Force to address the needs of underserved populations.

**2. A description of how the State will ensure that monies set aside to fund culturally specific services and activities for underserved populations are distributed equitably among those populations. (34 U.S.C. 10446(e)(2)(D) and (i)(2)(F); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(d)(4))**

OCJP sent notification of the culturally specific solicitation to all subgrantees statewide that receive STOP, VOCA, FVPSA or SASP funding. Subgrantees were encouraged to share the solicitation announcement with their partners that serve underserved and/or culturally specific communities. Applicant organizations are only eligible for funding through this solicitation if their primary mission is to address the needs of racial and ethnic minority groups and the organization was formed to serve that population.

In reviewing applications, OCJP will pay special attention to where the organization is located and whether the agency provides services in an urban or rural community. This will help ensure that there is equitable distribution for underserved victims across the state. OCJP is aware that the process of building relationship and developing meaningful services for specific populations takes time, but we are committed to that process.

**3. Specifics on how the State plans to meet the set-aside for culturally specific community-based organizations, including a description of how the State will reach out to community-based organizations that provide linguistically and culturally specific services. This could include specific information as to which subgrantees met the required 10% set aside within the victim services allocation for culturally specific organizations during the prior funding cycle. (34 U.S.C. 10446(i)(2)(E); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(g)(2))**

As mentioned above, OCJP is working to meet the required 10% within the victim services allocation through the STOP Culturally Specific solicitation. To date this rolling solicitation has yielded one application. CasaLuz was funded to provide emergency services such as food and housing to Hispanic/Latinx victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and dating violence in Shelby County and Memphis. The mission of CasaLuz is to prevent and reduce domestic violence and other violent crimes in the Spanish-speaking community and to promote equal access to justice and other services. The agency offers a variety of services such as legal advocacy, support groups and therapy. All services are offered in Spanish the agency was founded for the purpose of serving Hispanic/Latinx victims.

OCJP remains committed to continuing to seek out additional eligible applicants for this solicitation to meet the 10% set aside. Census data shows that two leading minority groups in Tennessee are black individuals and Hispanic individuals. This data guides our outreach collaboration activities for the new funding cycle.

**A. Grant-making Strategy**

**1. Timeline for the STOP grant cycle. (See 28 C.F.R. 90.12(g)(8)).**

The Tennessee Office of Criminal Justice Programs engages in a year-long cycle of strategic planning comprised of formal processes to identify community problems and needs, inventory available resources, establish priority issues, and design programmatic responses to meet the needs of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking and hold offenders accountable.

The activities that occur as a part of this process occur along the following timeline.

#### Continuously / Year-round Strategic Planning

On a continual basis OCJP seeks to identify community problems and needs based on information gleaned from a variety of programmatic activities including:

- Stakeholder Meetings: OCJP leadership and program staff meet with stakeholders on a quarterly basis to discuss current statewide trends as well as any issues identified within individual communities or programs across the state.

Items from these meetings are recorded by OCJP program staff for the purpose of: 1) Bringing information related to current successes, or “what’s working”, into the OCJP strategic planning process for potential replication; and 2) Bringing needs which cannot be adequately addressed by current resources into the OCJP strategic planning process as a potential priority issue to be addressed with funding.

For a list of stakeholder meetings please see Section III, Part C, of this document.

- Conferences / Trainings: OCJP leadership and program staff attend local, statewide, and national conferences and trainings for the purpose of remaining continually educated in current responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Information on current needs and preferred program responses is recorded and formally brought into OCJP’s strategic planning process.
- Technical Assistance: OCJP leadership and program staff continually and on an ongoing basis provide technical assistance to agencies who work with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking as well as those who seek to hold offenders accountable. Information gleaned from technical assistance sessions is incorporated into the agency’s formal strategic planning processes.
- Programmatic Monitoring: OCJP views programmatic monitoring not only as a means test for compliance but also as an opportunity to speak directly sub-

recipient program staff to better understand both their successes and their barriers to implementing STOP funded programming.

This is particularly noteworthy for while the administration of federal grants provides ample opportunity to connect with stakeholders, program executives, and subject matter-experts we have found that programmatic monitoring provides a unique opportunity to connect with direct-service employees who are doing the day-to-day work and learn more about the work they do. Information recorded during these visits are incorporated into the agency's formal strategic planning processes.

### July – October

- Strategic Planning: OCJP carries out its formal strategic planning process during the months of July – October. This process involves a review of the information gathered throughout the year for incorporation into the formal strategic planning events.

These events include:

- Victim-Centered Focused Groups: These forums are conducted over the course of several weeks and included individuals representing crime survivors, justice-involved individuals, underserved populations, domestic violence and sexual assault victim services, family justice centers, and local law enforcement and prosecution.

Each group is guided through a two-hour long discussion exploring what is currently working within the criminal justice and victim service systems and should be replicated, as well as gaps and opportunities for improvement.

- Strategic Planning Roundtable: OCJP's standing roster of roundtable participants serve three-year terms and meet in the fall to discuss topics including innovative projects, essential priorities, and ongoing community and organizational support.

The participants include Chiefs of Police, Sheriffs, Judges, District Attorney Generals, Public Defenders, Executive Directors of community-based victim service organizations, and other experts in the field of criminal justice and victim service work in Tennessee.

The mix of different disciplines and real-time discussions at the round table help OCJP identify which needs are being felt by many practitioners across the state.

### November – December

- Solicitation Updates: OCJP leverages the months of November and December to draft its solicitation templates. The purpose of these templates is to provide a fund-source specific shell which can be easily adapted by program staff to solicit programs that will meet the needs identified during strategic planning.

Annual updates include but are not limited to updating instructional language, requirements, or forms to include any changes to fund source requirements or guidance.

### January – March

- Program Specific Solicitations: OCJP uses the months of January to March to create program specific solicitations using the shells that have been approved for the current fiscal year. It is during these months that the gaps identified during strategic planning are given form and adapted into a call for programming which can overcome the barriers identified by the solicitation.

Program specific solicitations undergo a stringent review that includes a program supervisor, the assistant director of programs, and the agency director. Each solicitation includes a scope of services which has been tailored specific to the individual solicitation as well as a score-tool for the consistent scoring of applications.

OCJP posts solicitations to its website and also sends announcements out to current grantees and organizations whose programming align with the content of the solicitation.

### March – April

- Application Review: Application review occurs during the months of March to April. During this period applications undergo several stages of review.
  - Program Review: Program staff review application materials to assess the eligibility of the applicant and also review supporting documents including certifications related to fund-source requirements in order to assess whether or not the submitted packet was completed in its entirety.
  - Fiscal Review: Fiscal staff review application materials which can include balance sheets, audits, and budgets to assess an agency's fiscal solvency, the ability to meet any match requirements and

internal controls to determine a basic level of “fiscal risk” associated with the application.

- Review Team: Applications which successfully complete the program and fiscal review stages are then prepared and sent to review team. For competitive solicitations a review team consists of a panel made up of an OCJP staff member and an appropriate number of external participants who are knowledgeable in the subject matter described in the solicitation.
- Funding Plan Review: OCJP program staff exit the review-team process with a funding proposal which is then presented to a leadership team consisting of the agency director, deputy director, and assistant directors of program, quality assurance, and fiscal. Once the funding recommendation has been finalized by this team the plan is submitted to the Assistant Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration, the larger state agency that houses OCJP, for final review.

#### May – June

- Contracting: Program proposals are converted to contracts and submitted to agencies for execution. During this phase a new agency is required to undergo a pre-award risk assessment which is a fiscal evaluation that further determines whether an agency possesses any weaknesses in its internal controls that will require initial fiscal technical assistance and oversight.

## **2. Description of how the State will ensure that eligible entities are aware of funding opportunities, including projects serving underserved populations. (28 C.F.R. 90.12(d)(5) and (g)(4))**

OCJP takes multiple steps to ensure that eligible entities are aware of funding which includes:

- i. OCJP posts solicitations to its public website.
- ii. OCJP is often aware of individual organizations which have programming or are seeking to develop programming that align with the solicitation because of its robust strategic planning process. OCJP provides a notice that solicitations are posted to these agencies.
- iii. OCJP contacts its database of current grantees and notifies them of the availability of funding.
- iv. OCJP notifies membership organizations that align with a solicitation’s purpose of the availability of funding. Specific examples include but are not limited to: 1) Notification to the Associations of Chiefs and Sheriffs of the availability of funding for law enforcement grants; 2) Notification to the District Attorneys General conference for the availability of funding

for prosecutors; 3) Notification to the Administrative Office of the Courts for Court-based grants.

- v. At every opportunity OCJP communicates available solicitations that align with individuals who may be attending meetings or conferences with OCJP staff. For example, information on grants related to domestic violence or sexual assault would be provided during meetings with individual agencies or stakeholder groups.

When, as is the case with culturally specific programming, the solicitation can align with several areas of service communication is provided not only to the entities listed above but also to agencies which have more frequent contact with culturally specific programs outside of the list OCJP maintains such as Tennessee's Health Disparity Task Force.

**3. Description of how the State will ensure that any subgrantees will consult with victim service providers during the course of developing their grant applications in order to ensure that the proposed activities are designed to promote the safety, confidentiality, and economic independence of victims. (34 U.S.C. 10446(i)(2)(D))**

OCJP ensures that subgrantees will consult with victim service providers during the application development process by:

- i. Program Specific Questions: OCJP develops scopes of services which incorporate prompts designed to gain specific information relevant to the project. The questions included can include prompts related to safety, confidentiality, or economic activity when the project is direct service oriented.
- ii. Collaboration Activities: Each OCJP scope has a required "collaboration activities" section where agencies must detail how its programming works with other agencies to meet its goals.

Information in this section is scored based upon a description of how the collaboration functions and how resource sharing and consultation works for the individual project. Application reviewers are provided instructional language which states that a list of agencies without a supporting description is insufficient for a full score under this section.

- iii. Letters of Support: Projects are encouraged to provide letters of support from community partners during the application phase which demonstrate a community's need and support for the project and serve to demonstrate bonafide collaboration.

We additionally require non-victim service STOP applicants to submit a "certificate of consultation" which describes how the planning process for

their application included local agencies whose primary mission is to serve victims of sexual assault, dating violence, or domestic violence. This form requires not only a description of their collaboration but also the dates and content of each planning meeting that occurred.

- iv. Monitoring: OCJP develops a monitoring process tailored to each funded subcontract. As a part of this process monitors review policies surrounding safety planning, confidentiality, and other activities. This information is then used during a review of sample casefiles to ensure an agency is adhering to its own policies. Lastly, monitors interview grant funded staff about their duties which include client intake and adherence to policy.

**4. Description of how the State will identify and select applicants for subgrant funding, including whether a competitive process will be used. If different selection methods will be used for each allocation category, describe the method. (28 C.F.R. 90.12(g)(8))**

The state will utilize a mix of competitive and targeted funding opportunities. Competitive funding will be provided for projects which have been identified as needs across a broader geographic or service types. Priority will often be provided to communities that meet specific criteria such as identifying underserved populations, economic disparity, and whether the application is for rural, urban, or suburban areas of the state.

Targeted funding is made available to areas which are highly engaged in coordinated community responses to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The goal of targeting funding in this manner is to enhance the level of services in areas which have already been identified as possessing a need for services and that have a high-level of community engagement. We believe that layering different service components such as family justice centers, specialty courts, prosecutors, investigators, and direct victim service providers creates the best possible response.

**5. Whether STOP subgrant projects will be funded on a multiple or single-year basis. (See 28 C.F.R. 90.12(g)(8))**

OCJP operates under a delegated grant authority (DGA) for the creation of grant contracts. Under its DGA contracts can be no more than 5 years in length.

OCJP solicitations are typically for three years of funding. At the end of those three years, as a part of OCJP's strategic planning process, OCJP assesses whether projects should be extended for up to two additional years, allowed to end because the need has been met or the project has been unsuccessful, or if an additional competitive solicitation should be created in the same program area.

When a project is equipment-based or otherwise is suitable to a term for less than three years OCJP will create a subcontract for a lesser term.

**6. Description of how the State will determine the amount of subgrants based on the population and geographic area to be served. (34 U.S.C. 10446(e)(2)(B) and (i)(2)(F); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(d)(2))**

A score tool is developed for reviewers to evaluate each solicitation. This score tool includes weighted measures for program priorities including whether the project will focus on underserved populations, if the area served has been defined as a “distressed county” by the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, or if the application meets other specific geographic or population needs as expressed during OCJP’s strategic planning process. This can include scoring and funding mechanisms for urban, suburban, or rural areas based upon needs identified during our strategic planning process.

Applications meeting these thresholds receive additional points on the score tool which would provide them with additional consideration for funding.

**7. Description of how the State will give priority to areas of varying geographic size with the greatest showing of need based on the availability of existing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking programs. (34 U.S.C. 10446(e)(2)(A) and (i)(2)(F); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(d)(1))**

OCJP seeks to provide funding to areas which can demonstrate need in urban, suburban, and rural areas of the State of Tennessee. As a part of our solicitations and application score tool areas which can demonstrate a need based upon geographic location, services available, and underserved population receive additional scoring due to measured weighted for these factors. In addition, OCJP believes a coordinated community response is one of the best methods for reducing the prevalence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

When areas of the state are identified as in need of resources OCJP attempts to apply several programmatic layers. For example, Scott County in Tennessee that is geographically a rural county that is classified as distressed. To meet the needs of the victims in this area OCJP currently funds a Family Justice Center, domestic violence court, domestic violence investigator, and domestic violence prosecutor. These entities meet monthly to conduct case reviews and to discuss any barriers or concerns that have arisen within the community related to the services they provide or domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

**8. Description of how the State will equitably distribute monies on a geographic basis including nonurban and rural areas of various geographic sizes. (34 U.S.C. 10446**

**(e)(2)(C) and (i)(2)(F); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(d)(3))**

OCJP seeks to provide funding primarily to equitably across urban, suburban, and rural areas in the State of Tennessee. As a part of our solicitations and application score tool areas which can demonstrate a need based upon geographic location, services available, and underserved population receive additional scoring due to measured weighted for these factors. In addition, OCJP believes a coordinated community response is one of the best methods for reducing the prevalence of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

**9. Information on projects that the State plans to fund, if known. (28 C.F.R. § 90.12(g)(5))**

**a. Crystal Judson. (34 U.S.C. § 10441(b)(13))**

- i. If the State plans to address the “Crystal Judson” purpose area, include narrative on providing the required training.**
- ii. If the State does not plan to use the “Crystal Judson” purpose area, include a note to this effect.**

At this time, Tennessee does not plan to use the “Crystal Judson” purpose area.

## VI. Conclusion

Tennessee is committed to the principles and goals of the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program. OCJP administers STOP to provide subgrants to agencies that are providing vital victim services and offender accountability across the state. In order to formulate an implementation plan we assembled a group of experts that represented the state’s court system, law enforcement, prosecution, and victim services in order to design goals which meets both the needs of victims and to hold offenders accountable.

The goals under our implementation plan are as follows: 1) Cultivate meaningful, ongoing coordination around communities’ response to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking by supporting evidence-based collaborative best practices; 2) Increase access to trauma informed services for all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking; 3) Cultivate a coordinated approach to the investigation and prosecution of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking offenders; 4) Enhance data-driven approaches to Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking; and 5) Reduce domestic violence related homicide deaths in Tennessee.

To meet these goals OCJP engages in a robust year-round strategic planning process that includes planning with individual agencies and statewide planning groups. This process culminates in and concludes with a series of formal meetings between July and October. Most notable of these meetings are our: 1) Victim-Centered Focus Groups which assembles survivors of crime to discuss their experiences and what gaps appear to exist. Most often these discussions focus on improvements that can be made by the system as a whole in terms of communication and follow-up and also how services could better fit their individual or cultural needs; and 2) Strategic Planning Roundtable which assembles practitioners of various disciplines including judges, prosecutors, public defenders, law enforcement, and victim services with a goal of discussing and building upon the needs that have been previously identified and targeting those areas are having the largest negative impact as expressed by our attendees.

OCJP's strategy for allocating funding towards programs to meet the identified needs considers geographic and population factors such as whether an area is rural, urban, or suburban, whether an area is distressed, and whether program applications address the needs of underserved populations. Another important consideration is whether a program is collaborative and coordinates services its services as a part of a coordinated community response. OCJP believes that layering services in the areas of highest need can have the greatest impact and strongly support projects which demonstrate that they can meet a need and are involved in a coordinated community response to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

To better support its programming Tennessee is using a combination of state and federal resources to fund initiatives that compliment STOP formula funding. The complimentary funding includes VOCA, FVPSA, ICJR, SASP, and ARP.

## **Appendix A – Participation Forms**

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ by 6/3/2022.

State/Territory: Tennessee

Administering Agency: TN Office of Criminal Justice Programs

Participant Agency: Upper Cumberland Family Justice Center

Type of Agency: Other

If population specific organization, please specify which population: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: DV/SA Victims Services Agency

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): Nov 10, 2021; Feb 10, 2022; Apr 14, 2022; June 3, 2022

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan and a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?  Yes  No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No  Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Amy Stockwell  
Signature *Amy Stockwell*  
Date 6/3/2022

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to Amy Baynes at amy.baynes@tn.gov by 06/07/2022.

State/Territory: Tennessee

Administering Agency: Office of Criminal Justice Programs

Participant Agency: Brownsville Police Department

Type of Agency: Law Enforcement

If population specific organization, please specify which population: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): Nov 10, 2021 /Feb. 10 2022 /April 14 2022/June 3, 2022

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?  Yes  No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No  Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Sgt. Robert Haley 0322

Signature *Sgt. Robert Haley*

Date 06/07/2022

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to Jeremiah Morton at Jeremiah.Morton@tn.gov by June 6th, 2022.

State/Territory: Tennessee

Administering Agency: OCJP

Participant Agency: TLETA

Type of Agency: Law Enforcement

If population specific organization, please specify which population: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): November 10, 2021; February 10, 2022; April 14, 2022; June 3, 2022

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?**  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?**  Yes  No

**Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?**  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?**  Yes  No  Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?**  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?**  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Charles Aaron Ferguson  
Signature Aaron Ferguson Digitally signed by Aaron Ferguson  
Date: 2022.06.06 08:16:31 -05'00'  
Date June 6th, 2022

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to Amy Baynes at OCJP by 06/08/22.

State/Territory: Tennessee

Administering Agency: OCJP

Participant Agency: WRAP (Wo/Men's Resource & Rape Assistance Program)

Type of Agency: Other

If population specific organization, please specify which population: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: Dual DV/SA Victim Services Provider

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): 12/09/21, 02/10/22, 04/14/22, 06/03/22

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?  Yes  No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No  Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Daryl Digitally signed by  
Signature Chansuthus Daryl Chansuthus  
Date 06/08/22 Date: 2022.06.08  
10:22:51 -05'00'

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ by 06/08/2022.

State/Territory: Tennessee

Administering Agency: State of Tennessee, OCJP, Department of Finance and Administration

Participant Agency: CasaLuz

Type of Agency: Population Specific Organization

If population specific organization, please specify which population: Hispanic/Latinx

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): 11/10/2021, 02/10/2022, 04/14/2022, 06/03/2022

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?

Yes

No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?

Yes

No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes

No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes

No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

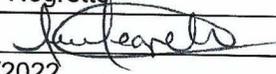
Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Inés Negrette

Signature 

Date 06/08/2022

STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program  
Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ by 6/3/2022.

State/Territory: Tennessee

Administering Agency: Office of Criminal Justice Programs

Participant Agency: 8th District Attorney General's office

Type of Agency: Prosecution

If population specific organization, please specify which population: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): 11/10/21 2/10/22 4/14/22 6/3/22

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?

Yes

No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?

Yes

No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes

No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes

No

Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes

No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes

No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Janette L. Taylor

Signature

*Janette L. Taylor*

Date 6/3/2022

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ by 6/3/22.

State/Territory: Tennessee

Administering Agency: OCJP

Participant Agency: TN Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence

Type of Agency: Dual Coalition

If population specific organization, please specify which population: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): November 10, 2021; February 10, 2022; April

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?  Yes  No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No  Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name JENNIFER ESCUE  
Signature *Jennifer Escue*  
Date 6/3/22

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ by 06-07-2022.

State/Territory: Tennessee-Shelby County

Administering Agency: Office of Criminal Justice- Tennessee

Participant Agency: YWCA Greater Memphis

Type of Agency: Other

If population specific organization, please specify which population: Domestic Violence Shelter

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): 11-10-2021,2-10-2022,4-14-2022, and 6-3-2022

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?

Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?

Yes  No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes  No  Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?

Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Marquiepta Odom

Signature 

Date 06-07-2022

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to Amy Baynes and Jeremiah Morton \_\_\_\_\_ at Jeremiah.Morton@tn.gov and Amy.Baynes@tn.gov \_\_\_\_\_ by June 3, 2022.

State/Territory: Tennessee

Administering Agency: OCJP

Participant Agency: Hope House

Type of Agency: Population Specific Organization

If population specific organization, please specify which population: Crime Victims living with HIV

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): November 10, 2021; February 10, 2022; April 14, 2022; June 3, 2022

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?  Yes  No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No  Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Melissa Farrar, LCSW

Signature *Melissa Farrar*

Date June 3, 2022

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ by 6/3/22.

State/Territory: Tennessee

Administering Agency: Dept. of Finance and Admin

Participant Agency: Anderson County FJC

Type of Agency: Other  

If population specific organization, please specify which population: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: Family Justice Center

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): 11/10/21, 2/10/22, 4/14/22, 6/3/22

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?  Yes  No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No  Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Melissa Miller

Signature 

Date 6/3/22

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to Amy Baynes at OCJP by June 2, 2022.

State/Territory: TN

Administering Agency: OCJP

Participant Agency: TN Administrative Office of the Courts

Type of Agency: Courts

If population specific organization, please specify which population: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): June 3, 2022 and several others before the June 3, 2022 meeting

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?  Yes  No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No  Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Michelle Consiglio-Young

Signature 

Date June 2, 2022

# STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Planning Participation

Please send back to Amy Baynes at AmyBaynes@TN.gov by 6/7/2022.

State/Territory: Tennessee

Administering Agency: OCJP

Participant Agency: Women Are Safe, Inc.

Type of Agency: Population Specific Organization

If population specific organization, please specify which population: Victims of domestic violence

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Planning Team Meeting Date(s): November 10, 2021; February 10, 2022; April 14, 2022; June 3, 2022

Did you receive notification of meeting dates at least one month in advance?  Yes  No

How were you notified? (check all that apply)

Email  In-person  Phone call  Website post  Letter  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you able to participate in the meetings?  Yes  No

If yes, how many meetings did you attend?  All  Some

Meeting format: (check all that apply)  Teleconference  Video conference  In-person

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

During the meeting(s), were you able to freely provide input, ask questions, share concerns, and propose goals?  Yes  No  Partially

Did you receive a draft of the Implementation Plan *and* a list of major concerns raised during the planning process?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were you given at least one month to review the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Were the major concerns raised during the planning process included in the draft plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you provide comments or recommended changes to the draft plan?  Yes  No

Did you receive a copy of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, do you believe your recommended changes to the draft plan were adequately addressed in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No  Not applicable

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Overall, were the feedback, concerns, recommended goals, etc. of planning group participants adequately reflected in the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If no, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any concerns with the content of the Final Implementation Plan?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Name Vanessa Davis

Signature *Vanessa Davis*

Date 6/7/2022

## **Appendix B – Consultation Letters**



# *Supreme Court of Tennessee*

Administrative Office of the Courts  
Nashville City Center, Suite 600  
511 Union Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
615 / 741-2687 or 800 / 448-7970  
FAX 615 / 741-6285

**MICHELLE J. LONG**  
Director

**RACHEL HARMON**  
Deputy Director

April 14, 2022

Office of Violence Against Women  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, MW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Director/Acting Director,

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) administers STOP grant funding, which coordinates the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies and other state agencies and departments to violent crimes, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking.

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) provides support to the Tennessee Supreme Court as well as the entire state court system. The AOC prepares the court system's annual budget, provides equipment, training and technical assistance for judges and other court personnel, and conducts orientation for new judges and staff members.

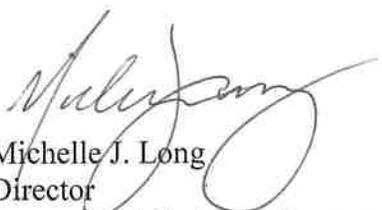
The intended use of these grant funds is to further enhance and build upon progress made through STOP funding to insure the effective disposition of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking cases.

The expected result of the grant funds is a more collaborative effort made between law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and victim service providers aimed at providing victims a sense of safety, access to appropriate services, and holding offenders accountable. In addition, as previously experienced with the implementation of the grant funds, enhanced training for the judicial system will equip law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and victim service providers with the necessary tools and knowledge to address the complexities of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

The demographic characteristics of the population services (including age, disability, race, ethnicity, and language background) are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking ages 11 and older, including victims of all ethnicities and any language.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to continued partnership to further this important work in TN.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle J. Long". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Michelle J. Long  
Director  
Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts

**Brownsville Police Department**

Barry Diebold  
Chief of Police  
118 N. Lafayette  
Brownsville, Tennessee 38012

Kelvin Evans  
Assistant Chief of Police

---

Telephone (731) 772-1260  
Fax (731) 779-3239

March 23, 2022

Office of Violence Against Women  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, MW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Director/Acting Director,

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) administers STOP grant funding, which coordinates the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies and other state agencies and departments to violent crimes, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking.

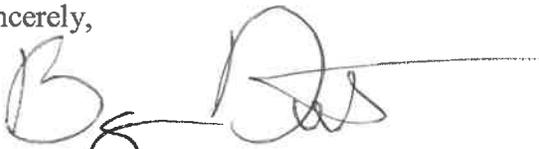
The goal of the Brownsville Police Department STOP domestic violence and sexual assault investigator is to increase victim safety and offender accountability, provide victims with assistance in obtaining warrants and orders of protection, increase victim collaboration with victim services in order to meet the needs of victims and to provide more effective investigations into domestic violence and sexual assault.

The intended use of these grant funds is to produce more effective investigation into domestic violence and sexual assault through specialized training, collaboration with prosecutors, specialized knowledge of pertinent domestic violence and sexual assault laws, communication with community partners, and coordination with the criminal justice system to insure the timely entry of orders of protection, bail/bond orders and final dispositions as well as case closure rates.

The expected result of the grant funds is that victims will feel safe, secure and protected, believe that the system hold offenders accountable, and know how to access available resources.

The demographic characteristics of the population services (including age, disability, race, ethnicity, and language background) are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking ages 11 and older, including victims of all ethnicities and any language.

Sincerely,



Barry Diebold  
Chief of Police  
Brownsville Police Department



**JARED EFFLER**  
**District Attorney General**  
**8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Tennessee**  
**Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott & Union Counties**



**Assistants DAG**

Thomas E. Barclay  
 Graham E. Wilson  
 David M. Pollard, Jr.  
 Sarah H. West Davis  
 Courtney S. Rickert  
 Tyler K. L. Hurst  
 Carla N. Brewer  
 Philip A. Kazee  
 Lindsey C. Cadle  
 Rondeau T. Laffitte  
 Apryl C. Bradshaw  
 Janelle L. Taylor  
 Andi L. Bridges  
 Ashley L. Claiborne  
 Jade A. Peters  
 Eric J. Montierth  
 Katie S. Fair  
 Mamey E. Gilliam

**Administrator**

Kathy A. Henard

**Coordinators**

Lana R. Frogge, Victim/Witness  
 Sandy K. Hurley, Claiborne Co.  
 Keisha D. Vanover, Campbell Co.  
 Bryan R. Pyle, Fentress Co.  
 Jeanne B. Collins, Union Co.  
 Mallory E. Cross, Domestic Violence

**Assistant Coordinators**

Daniel E. Barnett  
 Jessica R. Cain  
 D. Scott Jeffers  
 Lauren W. Botts  
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 Jaclyn M. Wright  
 Beeky R. Crockett  
 Trista E. Johnson

**Campbell County Office**

580 Main St., Ste. 4  
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 Jacksboro, TN 37757  
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 Mobile (865) 640-2587  
 Fax (423) 562-9602

**Claiborne County Office**

411 Blue Top Rd., Ste. 2  
 Tazewell, TN 37879  
 Telephone (423) 626-8002  
 Mobile (865) 659-9516  
 Fax (423) 626-2073

**Fentress County Office**

225 West Central Ave.  
 P.O. Box 321  
 Jamestown, TN 38556  
 Telephone (931) 400-8080  
 Mobile (865) 659-5736  
 Fax (931) 879-9112

**Scott County Office**

575 Scott High Dr., Ste. A  
 Huntsville, TN 37756  
 Telephone (423) 663-2544  
 Mobile (865) 216-9568  
 Fax (423) 663-4105

**Union County Office**

105 Monroe St., Ste. 2  
 P.O. Box 943  
 Maynardville, TN 37807  
 Telephone (865) 992-8826  
 Mobile (865) 659-5860  
 Fax (865) 992-7282

**Family Justice Center**

641 Howard H. Baker Hwy.  
 Huntsville, TN 37756  
 Telephone (423) 663-6638  
 Mobile (865) 556-4614

Appendix B - Consultation Letters  
 Prosecution

March 28, 2022

Office of Violence Against Women  
 U.S. Department of Justice  
 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, MW  
 Washington, DC 20530-0001

RE: STOP Grant  
 Prosecution Consultation Letter

Director/Acting Director,

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs administers STOP grant funding, which coordinates the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies and other state agencies and departments to violent crimes, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District of Tennessee has 2 prosecutors funded with STOP grants, who specialize in cases involving domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Having a specialized prosecutor assigned to these crimes, achieves the following:

- Explaining to victims court procedures, rights and responsibilities and providing guidance throughout prosecution;
- Helping victims connect with victim advocates to obtain immediate assistance for resources;
- Improving victim trust in the criminal justice process through work with community-based agencies for referrals;
- Ensuring that acts of intimidation, stalking, etc. are addressed with the court;
- Improving prosecution outcomes by collaborating with law enforcement and other criminal justice agencies for information sharing and instituting best evidence practices;
- Specializing in domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking law and receiving specialized training to remain experts in this area so offenders are held accountable while increasing victim and community safety.

To ensure that the above goals are met, there is a need for STOP grant funding. The intended use of these grant funds will increase victim safety and security and effectively prosecute the crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

The expected result of the grant funds is that victims will experience an increase in personal safety and knowledge about the criminal justice system, their rights as victims, and obtain access to all appropriate victim services. In addition, it is expected that offenders are held accountable as a result of effective prosecution by utilizing best practices.

The demographic characteristics of the population services (including age, disability, race, ethnicity, and language background) are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking ages 16 and older, including victims of all ethnicities and any language.

Sincerely,

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

Jared Effler  
District Attorney  
8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District



March 29, 2022

Office of Violence Against Women  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, MW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Appendix B - Consultation Letters  
Victim Services

Director/Acting Director,

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) administers STOP grant funding, which coordinates the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies and other state agencies and departments to violent crimes, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking.

The mission of Wo/Men's Resource and Rape Assistance Program (WRAP) is to prevent intimate partner violence, stop the transmission of violence to children, youth, and young adults, and build healthy relationships across the lifespan – from children to seniors – one relationship at a time.

OCJP leverages VOCA funding to provide services through WRAP to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Through OCJP's administered VOCA grants, WRAP offers several programs that aim to provide and enhance services to victims in West Tennessee: Domestic Violence Response, Sexual Assault Response, 1 Safe Place Family Justice Center Domestic Violence Response (FJC), Child Welfare/Domestic Violence Liaison Project, and the Trauma-Informed Care Organizational Culture Transformation Peer Learning Collaborative (TIC). The first two projects are designed to provide comprehensive, trauma-informed, strengths-focused, evidence-based, survivor-centered services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in 19 mostly rural West Tennessee Counties. The FJC project aims to provide crisis response, crisis stabilization, safety planning, and court advocacy services to survivors who interact with our Family Justice Center, 1 Safe Place, in Brownsville, Haywood County. Our Child Welfare/Domestic Violence Project has strengthened our collaboration with the Tennessee Department of Children's Services and enabled us to work together more effectively to address the needs of child-welfare involved victims of domestic violence. Finally, our TIC project partners with a local university's school of social work to facilitate a statewide peer learning collaborative. The collaborative's focus is on building participants' awareness and understanding of the cultural infrastructure and artifacts needed within an organization to support trauma-informed practice, services, and collaborative efforts. The program also provides participants with the tools and support needed to assess their agency's culture, identify changes needed, and develop and implement plans and actions steps to effect sustainable, positive change.

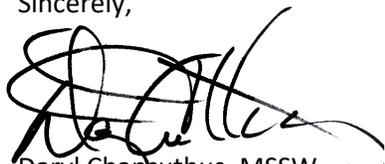
The intended use of these grant funds is to expand and strengthen services to victims of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking throughout rural West Tennessee. These services include crisis response and stabilization, safety planning, court and personal advocacy, education, supportive counseling/resilience building, and resource linkage. Programs in rural Tennessee like WRAP's are underfunded, often with only one advocate serving as many as three counties across a broad geographic area. In most of these areas, WRAP's services are the only services available for victims. WRAP currently has three sexual assault advocates and 14 domestic violence advocates attempting to provide trauma-informed, comprehensive services to victims in 19 counties while also handling the on-call for our 24/7 crisis line. These funds can also be used to provide training and support to victim-serving agencies statewide on how to infuse and sustain trauma awareness, knowledge, and skills into their organizational cultures, practices, and policies.

The expected result of the grant funds is that victims will experience an increased sense of safety and security, increased knowledge about victim services and the criminal justice system, and an improved ability to plan for their safety. In addition, victims will experience a decrease in the frequency and/or intensity of crime related symptoms, increased understanding of their victimization and its effect on their lives, increased ability to identify a support system and an increased quality of life. The expected result of grant funds utilized for training is the increase creation of organizational cultures in agencies that provide services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault that promote and sustain trauma-informed care.

The demographic characteristics of the population services (including age, disability, race, ethnicity, and language background) are victims of dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking ages 11 and older, including victims of all ethnicities and any language.

Receiving funding to strengthen and expand our services in rural West Tennessee is critical to the longer-term well-being of victims and their children in our communities and fundamental to WRAP's realization of our mission to prevent intimate partner violence, stop the transmission of violence from children, youth, and young adults, and build healthy relationships across the lifespan—from children to seniors—one relationship at a time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daryl Chansuthus', written over a horizontal line.

Daryl Chansuthus, MSSW

Executive Director

Western District of Tennessee

## Appendix C – Additional Information Requested

### Needs and Context

B. Description of the methods used to identify underserved populations within the State and the results of those methods, including demographic data on the distribution of underserved populations within the State. (34 U.S.C. 10446(i)(2)(E); 28 C.F.R. 90.12(e)). (REQUIRED)

**Can you expand to include any examples or successes from the Department of Health's Health Disparity Task Force?** Some items listed were existing data, monitor trends and listen to individuals living working and serving in both minority and vulnerable communities and how this information will be used to support programs.

While mainstream agencies are doing everything they can meet the needs of all victims, OCJP is working with them and community-based agencies to further address the individual needs of each victim.

OCJP's involvement with the Department of Health's Health Disparity Task Force is a newer endeavor and is primarily for the purpose of information sharing and networking. OCJP has shared information with members regarding the culturally specific solicitation for the purpose of locating new potential applicants.

Domestic violence and sexual assault agencies with residential settings are at an increased risk for the transmission of COVID to agency staff and clients. OCJP has been able to bring information provided by the state's Department of Health to OCJP subrecipients. For example, OCJP distributed information about free COVID testing and how to access the most up-to-date county infection rates to all domestic violence and sexual assault subrecipients. Sharing resource like these gives programs additional tools to keep staff and clients safe.

OCJP has encouraged all domestic violence and sexual assault service providers to join the Health Disparity Task Force to facilitate the building of additional statewide and local connections. We are building this new relationship with a goal of promoting a more holistic approach to providing services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in Tennessee.

Another example of information sharing is the result of OCJP's participation in the Maternal Mortality Review Committee. Resources developed out of the work of that committee and the TN Department of Health were shared with domestic violence shelters. These resources explore risk factors that lead to higher maternal mortality rates. Sharing these resources gives these programs additional opportunities to detect and respond to clients with risk factors.

The TN Department of Health's Maternal Mortality Task Force has increased training to its members and local providers on lethality assessments and screening that can combat maternal mortality, often health care providers are the first to see signs of potential assault and abuse and through trauma informed screening and assessment can identify victims and refer them to resources.

**Can you expand on how OCJP is working with them and community-based agencies to further address the individual needs of each victim?**

To date, OCJP has received one application that has been approved for funding. Discuss if OCJP only received one application or OCJP only funded one application.

To date, OCJP has only received one application for the culturally specific application and this application was fully funded. The rolling solicitation is continuously available on the OCJP website. This

## Appendix C – Additional Information Requested

solicitation has been shared with the members of the Tennessee Department of Health's Health Disparity Task Force twice in calendar year 2022. OCJP staff members and leadership are aware of this solicitation and mention the posting when meeting with new groups and those who might work with an agency that could benefit from the solicitation.

Can you expand on what is OCJP currently doing to develop meaningful relationships with that provide services to underserved populations such as LEP and LGBTQ+ as well as other underserved populations?

OCJP leverages VOCA funding to work towards developing meaningful relationships with agencies that provide services to underserved populations such as LEP and LGBTQ+ populations. OCJP released an underserved population solicitation for FY23 and 15 agencies were funded for the sole purpose of providing services to underserved populations who are also victims of crime. Some examples of funded agencies include Love Doesn't Hurt and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee, whose OCJP funded projects provide services to the LGBTQ+ community after victimization. These programs provide emotional support services, crisis intervention and information and referral to these underserved individuals. Another program that is funded specifically to provide services to an underserved population is Hope House in Memphis. This organization provides services such counseling, crisis intervention, and information and referral to men, women and children infected or affected by HIV who are victims of crime in areas experiencing a high crime rate. In addition, CasaLuz was funded through the VOCA Underserved solicitation as well and they work exclusively with LEP clients who are victims of domestic violence.

OCJP is committed to prioritizing funding for underserved populations through releasing solicitations geared towards expanding services for those populations. Through the solicitations and subsequent grant funded projects, OCJP provides training and technical assistance to assist with the compliance aspects of funding and conducts site visits to learn more about the projects. These interactions allow for mutual learning and enhanced relationship building and trust with new organizations.

Additionally, OCJP provided funding to the Family Justice Centers to hire a CCR Specialist who is tasked with providing outreach to underserved and unserved populations within their communities and the organizations that provide services to those populations. The goal of these positions in addition to starting open communication, building trust, and beginning conversations was to increasing participation within their local CCR and to explore opportunities of how to meet the needs to these survivors.

### Description of Planning Process

C. A description of consultation with other collaboration partners not included in the planning committee

**Please note, STOP generally does not support human trafficking. The one exception is when the narrative/activities is clearly addressing only the intersection of trafficking and the 4 VAWA crimes.**

Noted. OCJP STOP subrecipients only provide services to victims of human trafficking where their victimization is STOP allowable.

**Discuss the current actions for the following.** For culturally specific organizations, as mentioned above, OCJP is working to partner with the Health Disparity Task Force that is coordinated by the Department of Health. This collaboration will allow OCJP to identify other culturally specific service providers in

## Appendix C – Additional Information Requested

Tennessee and expand services provided to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in culturally specific/underserved communities.

As noted, OCJP is in the beginning stages of this partnership. The initial step was to join the task force and inform other task force members of the STOP culturally specific funding. The next step is to work with task force leadership to identify members that might fit the criteria for culturally specific STOP funding and engage those agencies in discussions through meetings outside of task force meetings.

### **Discuss what has this project uncovered and what suggestions has the project put forth?**

OCJP funds a project through the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence to support the growth of meaningful relationships and strategic collaborations with culturally specific and underserved service providers and victim service agencies to identify and address service gaps. Please note, the coalition cannot speak on behalf of populations specific, underserved, or culturally specific organizations.

Through its work supporting the growth of meaningful relationships and strategic collaborations with culturally specific and underserved service providers and victim service agencies, this project has uncovered the following challenges:

- Absence of staff and board diversity that impacts the ability to address the needs of underserved populations
- Lack of linguistically appropriate services for populations speaking languages other than English, as well as a lack of funding to increase these services
- Lack of accessibility for survivors with mental and/or physical disabilities
- Lack of affordable housing across the state that is particularly impacting survivors from underserved communities

To address these challenges, the following initiatives and suggestions have been implemented:

- Working with both mainstream and culturally specific organizations to build trust in underserved communities and to develop action plans on staff/board outreach and recruitment among underserved populations.
- The translation of brochures into multiple languages to share with agencies. The project is working with agencies to develop linguistically appropriate outreach and service strategies and recommends that more funding be allocated for this purpose.
- Project staff complete site visits with both mainstream and culturally specific programs to review accessibility for people with disabilities. The project provides TA and training to agencies on improving accessibility.
- The Inclusivity Committee has put forth a fair housing initiative and continues to work with both public and private entities to promote affordable housing for survivors from underserved communities.

E. A summary of major concerns that were raised during the planning process and how they were addressed or why they were not addressed, which should be sent to the planning committee along with any draft implementation plan and the final plan. (28 C.F.R.90.12(c)(2)(i))

**Can you expand on what OCJP is currently doing and how this effort will be continued expansion culturally specific services to victims, especially the need for language services and implicit bias training?**

## Appendix C – Additional Information Requested

OCJP works with subrecipients to emphasize the need for language services. A memo regarding Limited English Proficiency requirements was sent to subrecipients in March 2022 to reinforce the requirement and provide resources to agencies to ensure that clients have meaningful access to programs, services, and information. OCJP encourages subrecipients to include funding for LEP materials such as printed multi-language brochures, translated websites or access to a language line in their grant budgets. In addition, OCJP provides individual technical assistance to subrecipients on how to provide services to LEP clients and OCJP assesses agency compliance with this requirement through the monitoring process.

OCJP subrecipients are also working to use outside funding to further leverage STOP funded culturally specific services. CasaLuz received federal funding to provide language access training. The project is specifically working with the Memphis Police Department and the training included topics such as Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, cultural awareness and sensitivity and responding to Limited English Proficient (LEP) victims. This is a perfect example of leveraging outside funding to help further the work of a STOP funded agency providing culturally specific services.

As noted above, OCJP is a member of the Maternal Mortality Review Committee and participates in the Maternal Mortality Task Force. Both groups have identified the need for additional training on implicit bias and have shared resources with members, which have been shared with staff and subrecipients as appropriate. Access to the recommendations and resources can be found here:

<https://www.tn.gov/health/health-program-areas/fhw/maternal-mortality-review.html>

### IV Documentation from Prosecution, Law Enforcement, Court, and Victim Services Programs

Please get a revised letter from the court letter including the need for the funds.

See below



# *Supreme Court of Tennessee*

Administrative Office of the Courts  
Nashville City Center, Suite 600  
511 Union Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37219  
615 / 741-2687 or 800 / 448-7970  
FAX 615 / 741-6285

**MICHELLE J. LONG**  
Director

**RACHEL HARMON**  
Deputy Director

July 22, 2022

Office of Violence Against Women  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Director/Acting Director,

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) administers STOP grant funding, which coordinates the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies and other state agencies and departments to violent crimes, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking.

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) provides support to the Tennessee Supreme Court as well as the entire state court system. The AOC prepares the court system's annual budget, provides equipment, training and technical assistance for judges and other court personnel, and conducts orientation for new judges and staff members. There is a need for STOP funding to ensure that courts have the resources and training to effectively work with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.

The intended use of these grant funds is to further enhance and build upon progress made through STOP funding to insure the effective disposition of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking cases.

The expected result of the grant funds is a more collaborative effort made between law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and victim service providers aimed at providing victims a sense of safety, access to appropriate services, and holding offenders accountable. In addition, as previously experienced with the implementation of the grant funds, enhanced training for the judicial system will equip law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and victim service providers with the necessary tools and knowledge to address the complexities of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

The demographic characteristics of the population services (including age, disability, race, ethnicity, and language background) are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking ages 11 and older, including victims of all ethnicities and any language.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to continued partnership to further this important work in TN.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle J. Long, Esq." with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Michelle J. Long  
Director  
Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts