



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Council Session

Item G-8

#2015-172 - Approving Police Department Three Year Victims Of Crime Act Grant Application

Staff Contact: Steven Lamken

Council Agenda Memo

From: Police Department
Meeting: July 14, 2015
Subject: 2015 VOCA Grant Application
Presenter(s): Steven Lamken, Police Chief

Background

The Police Department has received a Victims Of Crime Act, VOCA, Federal grant for several years. The VOCA grant funds support the Police Department Victim/Witness Unit. The VOCA grant requires a 20% match from the City. The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has provided a significant increase in the amount of funding available through VOCA grants. The U.S. DOJ has also changed the VOCA grant period from one year to three years in length. The grant application must be submitted in July.

The Police Department is applying for a three year VOCA grant requesting \$118,093 in 2015/2016, \$134,035 in 2016/2017, and \$134,714 in 2017/2018. The grant funding requires the City to pay employee costs of \$14,408 in 2015/2016, \$19,438 in 2016/2017 and \$20,117 in 2017/2018. The grant request provides for the hiring of a Victim Advocate for the Unit.

This action is to obtain Council approval to apply for the grant. It does not obligate the City to accept the grant if approved. Approval of an awarded grant will require Council approval. The 2015 through 2018 VOCA grant is an anticipatory grant application and does not obligate the City Council to accepting the grant or providing for an additional employee.

Discussion

The Police Department has received a Victims Of Crime Act, VOCA, grant for several years. The department must have City Council approval to apply for a grant and also to accept a grant if awarded. VOCA grants require a 20% match of costs by the City. Personnel salary and benefits must be a cash match while the remaining match can be in-kind. The Police Department must have City Council approval to submit an application for a VOCA grant and City Council approval to accept a grant when awarded.

There have been changes in the 2015 year. The U.S. Department of Justice has received a significant increase in VOCA funding that will extend for a minimum of three years. In

addition the U.S. DOJ has changed the grants from one year in length to three years. It is our understanding that the Police Department will not have the opportunity to apply for another VOCA grant until 2018. The grant application must be submitted in July. We recognize that the Council has not completed the 2015/2016 budget nor approved employee requests for the budget. Council approval of the grant application does not obligate the Council to increase staffing. The grant, if awarded, could be modified if the Victim Advocate position was not approved.

The 2014 VOCA grant was \$57,471. Historically the Police Department Unit has had one position, a Victim/Witness Coordinator who provides victim/witness services. The previous grant applications were based upon the limited funding available for VOCA grants. The Nebraska Crime Commission acknowledged that the workload of the Department Victim/Witness Unit was large and a second position was justified. Unfortunately, there was inadequate funding to provide for more resources. The result of this is that our Victim/Witness Coordinator is required to limit services only to victims of serious violent crime. Services are not provided for minor violent crimes or property crimes.

The Police Department is submitting a three year grant application that would add an additional position, a Victim Advocate, to the Victim/Witness Unit. The Victim Advocate will allow the Unit to expand services and provide more comprehensive services to victims. As stated earlier, 20% of the employee salary and benefits must be paid by the City. The Department used a new employee receiving full family health benefits in preparing the application. The required City benefits costs could change depending upon the health benefits of the employee. The benefits costs for the three year grant using full family health for the new employee is:

2015/2016 -	\$14,408
2016/2017 -	\$19,438
2017/2018 -	\$20,117

The remaining match for the grant will be in-kind with office space, equipment, administration and clerical support.

Alternatives

It appears that the Council has the following alternatives concerning the issue at hand. The Council may:

1. Move to approve
2. Refer the issue to a Committee
3. Postpone the issue to future date
4. Take no action on the issue
- 5.

Recommendation

City Administration recommends that the Council approve the application for a three year Victims Of Crime Act grant by the Police Department to the U.S. Department of Justice.

Sample Motion

Move to approve the Police Department 2015 – 2018, three year Victims Of Crime Act grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice to fund the Victim/Witness Unit.

Grant # _____

**NEBRASKA CRIME COMMISSION
2015 VICTIM ASSISTANCE
Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) & State Victim Assistance
GRANT APPLICATION**

1. Applicant Name: (Agency/Organization) The applicant <u>must</u> be the agency that will receive and disburse the grant funds.	Name: City of Grand Island	Phone (308)385-5444 Fax (308)385-5486
2. Applicant Federal Employer ID #: (must be 9 digits)	47-6006205	
3. Applicant DUNS #:	040919607	
4. Applicant Address:	P.O. Box 1968, Grand Island, Nebraska 68802-1968	
5. Project Title:	Grand Island/Hall County Victim Assistance Program	
6. Project Director: (Receives all correspondence)	Name: Dean Elliott Title: Captain	Phone (308)385-5400 Fax (308)385-5398
	Email: delliot@gipolice.org	
	Address: 111 Public Safety Drive Grand Island, NE 68801-8410	
7. Project Coordinator: (Contact Person)	Name: Kerry Garza Title: Coordinator	Phone (308)385-5409 Fax (308)385-5661
	Email: kgarza@gipolice.org	
	Address: 111 Public Safety Drive Grand Island, NE 68801-8410	
8. Fiscal Officer: (Cannot be Project Director)	Name: Jessica Gracia Title: Police Records Clerk	Phone (308)385-5400 Fax (308)385-5398
	Email: jgracia@gipolice.org	
	Address: 111 Public Safety Drive Grand Island, NE 68801-8410	
9. Authorized Official: (NOTE: The authorized official would include county board chair, mayor, city administrator, state agency director, chair or vice-chair of non-profit agency.)	Name: Jeremy Jensen Title: Mayor	Phone(308)385-5444,140 Fax (308)385-5486
	Email: MayorJensen@grand-island.com	
	Address: P.O. Box 1968 Grand Island, NE 68802-1968	

10. Previous 5-Years Commission funding for this Project:		
Grant #10-VA-229	Amount: \$46,110.00	
Grant #11-VA-212	Amount: \$46,110.00	
Grant #12-VA-213	Amount: \$46,110.00	
Grant #13-VA-217	Amount: \$46,110.00	
Grant #14-VA-220	Amount: \$57,471.00	
11. Area Served by this Project (Counties/Cities)		
Hall County, including the city/towns of Grand Island, Alda, Wood River, Cairo, Boelus, and Doniphan.		
12. Type of Agency:		
<input type="radio"/> State Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Unit of Local Government <input type="radio"/> Private Non-Profit <input type="radio"/> Native American Tribe or Organization <input type="radio"/> Other: (indicate)		
13. Funds will be used primarily to: (check only one)		
<input type="radio"/> Expand services into a new geographic area <input type="radio"/> Offer new types of services <input type="radio"/> Serve additional victim populations <input type="checkbox"/> Continue existing services to crime victims <input type="radio"/> Other:		
14. If awarded, these funds will: (check only one)		
<input type="radio"/> Start a New Victim Services Program <input type="radio"/> Expand or Enhance Existing Program not funded by VOCA in previous years <input type="checkbox"/> Continue Existing Program funded by VOCA in previous years <input type="radio"/> Technology		
15. Identify types of victims to be served with requested Victim Assistance funds and Match funds:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Child Abuse/Physical <input type="checkbox"/> Child Abuse/Sexual <input type="checkbox"/> DUI/DWI Victims <input type="checkbox"/> Domestic Violence Victims <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Victims/Sexual Assault <input type="checkbox"/> Other – Burglary, Arson, Protection Order Violations, Hate Crimes, Stalking, Terroristic Threats, Vulnerable Adult Abuse, Criminal Mischief, Intimidation by Phone, Witness Tampering, Strangulation, Identity Theft, Human Trafficking, Theft	<input type="checkbox"/> Elder Abuse <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Survivors of Incest or Child Sexual Abuse <input type="checkbox"/> Survivors of Homicide Victims <input type="checkbox"/> Robbery <input type="checkbox"/> Assault	
16. Agency Staff & Volunteers (volunteers are required)	# Part Time	# Full Time
Total # of agency volunteers (excluding board members)	3	0
Total # of paid agency staff	0	2
# of volunteers that support <u>this project only</u>	3	0
# of paid staff for <u>this project only</u>	0	2

17. Check the services to be provided by the Victim Assistance funds and Match funds.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Crisis Counseling* Follow-up Contact● Therapy● Group Treatment● Crisis Hotline● Shelter/Safe Home* Personal Advocacy | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Information/Referral* Criminal Justice Advocacy● Emergency Financial Assistance● Emergency Legal Advocacy* Assist with Filing Compensation Claims* VINE assistance to victims* Telephone Contacts (Information & Referral)* Other: Victim Impact Statement and Restitution Assistance, Court Accompaniment, Protection/Harassment Order Assistance, Transportation |
|--|---|

18. Project Summary: (150 words or less)

The Grand Island/Hall County Victim Assistance Program is a public service office established to assist victims of crime throughout the criminal justice process in order to prevent any further victimization, to reduce the trauma of the crime experience, and to aid in the rebuilding of the victim to a state of well-being. The Program, made possible by a grant from the Nebraska Crime Commission, became operational in April 2004 and functions under the Administrative Division of the Grand Island Police Department. The program encompasses all of Hall County and includes victims/witnesses of certain crimes handled within the jurisdiction of the Grand Island Police Department, Hall County Sheriff's Office, and occasionally the Nebraska State Patrol. The agency, conveniently located in the Law Enforcement Center, is staffed with one full-time bilingual coordinator and a few part-time trained volunteers and is open Monday through Friday 9:00 to 5:00.

3-Year Proposed Project Budget

Year 1 figures must match those in the application's request. Year 2 and 3 are considered proposed amount that are subject to change. One-time purchases are to occur in Year 1 or 2 to ensure the project fully benefits from the items. Each year will be considered a 12 month period unless otherwise indicated by the applicant (should be noted on this form).

Category	Year 1 – 2015/2016 Requested Federal Amount	Year 1 Match Share	Year 2 – 2016/2017 Proposed Federal Amount	Year 2 Match Share	Year 3 – 2017/2018 Proposed Federal Amount	Year 3 Match Share
A. Personnel	\$92,664.00	\$14,408.00	\$114,597.00	\$19,438.00	\$114,597.00	\$20,117.00
B. Consultants/Contracts						
C. Travel						
D. Supplies/Operating Expenses		\$9,211.00		\$9,211.00		\$9,211.00
E. Equipment	\$1,810.00				\$2,715.00	
F. Other Costs						
TOTAL AMOUNT	\$94,474.00	\$23,619.00	\$114,597.00	\$28,649.00	\$117,312.00	\$29,328.00

BUDGET SUMMARY – Year 1

Category	Requested Federal Amount	Match Share	Total Project
A. Personnel	\$92,664.00	\$14,408.00	\$107,072.00
B. Consultants/Contracts			
C. Travel			
D. Supplies/Operating Expenses		\$9,211.00	\$9,211.00
E. Equipment	\$1,810.00		\$1,810.00
F. Other Costs			
TOTAL AMOUNT	\$94,474.00	\$23,619.00	\$118,093.00
% Contribution	80%	20%	100%

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the information in this application is accurate and, as the authorized official for the project, hereby agree to comply with all provisions of the grant program and all other applicable state and federal laws.

Name of Authorized Official:	Jeremy Jensen
Title:	Mayor
Address:	P.O. Box 1968
City, State, Zip:	Grand Island, NE 68802-1968
Telephone:	(308)385-5444, Extension 144
Signature:	
Date:	

(NOTE: Authorized official includes county board chair, mayor, city administrator, state agency director, chair or vice-chair of non-profit agency.)

Year 1 - Proposed Project Period (month/day/year): From 10/01/15	To 9/30/16
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CATEGORY A – PERSONNEL

Title/Position Full-time or Part-time	* N or E	Current Annual Salary	Requested Annual Salary	% Time Devoted	Amount Requested	Match	Subtotal	Requested Fringe	Match Fringe	TOTAL COSTS
Project Coordinator Full-time	E	\$41,253.00	\$43,106.00	100%	\$43,106.00	\$	\$43,106.00	\$15,096.00	\$	\$58,202.00
Victim Advocate Full-time	N	\$	\$29,203.00	100%	\$21,902.00	\$	\$21,902.00	\$12,560.00	\$6,865.00	\$41,327.00
Volunteers (100 hrs. @ \$9.00 per hour)	E	\$	\$	100%	\$	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$	\$	\$ 900.00
GIPD Support Staff (36 hrs. @ \$16.67 per hour)	E	\$	\$	100%	\$	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$	\$	\$ 600.00
Hall County Investigator (250 hrs. @24.17 per hour)	E	\$	\$	100%	\$	\$6,043.00	\$ 6,043.00	\$	\$	\$ 6,043.00
		\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	%	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
*N for New; E for Existing					Amount Requested	Match	Subtotal	Fringe Requested	Fringe Match	TOTAL COSTS
Total Personnel Budget					\$65,008.00	\$7,543.00	\$72,551.00	\$27,656.00	\$6,865.00	\$107,072.00

CATEGORY A – PERSONNEL NARRATIVE:

1. Direct Salaries.

The City of Grand Island has a 15-step pay plan for non-union employees based on merit. The existing position of **Coordinator** will receive a Step 15 salary of \$43,106.00 which includes a 10-01-2015 3% COLA. This is a full-time position based on 2080 hours per year with 100% of that time devoted to the project. The amount of federal funds requested for that position is \$43,106.00. The Director is currently the only paid staff. A list of duties includes: provide direct service to victims of crime; recruit, train, and supervise volunteers and new full-time victim advocate; maintain proper records of all activities; promote public awareness of victim assistance services; coordinate grant management activities.

A new full-time **Victim Advocate** would begin January 1, 2016 and will work Sunday through Thursday 1:00pm to 10:00pm, extending our business hours 8 hours on Sundays and 5 hours per day Mondays through Thursdays. The advocate, who will be trained to work with children as well as adults, will provide direct service to victims of crime, maintain proper records of all activities, and promote public awareness of victim assistance services. This position is based on 2080 hours per year at the rate of \$14.04 per hour, a Step 1 salary of the City's 15-step pay plan, with 100% of that time devoted to the project. We are requesting federal funds for 9 months of the advocate's salary in the amount of \$21,902.00.

Volunteers for the program will provide conservatively 100 hours of service annually, assisting the Coordinator with victim advocacy and public awareness of victim assistance services. 100% of that time will be devoted to the project and will amount to a local match of \$900.00 (100 hours x \$9.00). Hall County Attorney's part-time Investigator will provide approximately 250 hours of service annually, assisting the Coordinator by locating victims and providing advocacy. 100% of that time will be devoted to the project and will amount to a Hall County match of \$6,043.00 (250 hours x \$24.17).

The existing position of **Project Director** will contribute approximately 2% of his time, equal to roughly \$1,674.00 (41.6 hours x \$40.23 per hour), to the project. The Director of the program will consult with the Coordinator regarding the program's activities. He will maintain weekly Coordinator contact, conduct a quarterly staffing, and prepare an annual written employee evaluation. Regarding direct victim service and specific cases, Director will continue to provide support, direction and guidance to Coordinator and victim advocate as needed.

The existing **Fiscal Officer** will devote 2% of her time, equal to \$612.00 (41.6 hours x \$14.70 per hour) to the project. The Officer will oversee the finances of the project.

Neither the Project Director's nor the Fiscal Officer's hours will be factored into the federal request or match portion of our grant.

Grand Island Police Department **Support Staff** will continue to provide 36 hours of service to the program. Support personnel will assist the coordinator by answering the telephone, reviewing reports, setting up victim files, filing, inputting data and maintaining records. 100% of that time will be devoted to the project and will amount to \$600.00 (36 hours x average \$16.67 per hour) City match.

2. Fringe Benefits.

The total fringe benefits for the Coordinator are estimated at \$15,096.00 and include the following: individual high deductible health insurance (\$5,179.00), individual Health Savings Account Employer Contribution (\$1,250.00), individual dental insurance (\$347.00), Social Security (\$2,673.00), Medicare (\$625.00), Pension (\$2,586.00), Bilingual Pay (\$1,500.00), Health Retirement Account (\$780.00), life insurance (\$78.00), and disability (\$78.00).

The total fringe benefits for the Victim Advocate are estimated at \$25,900.00 (\$19,425.00 for 9 months) and include the following: family traditional health insurance (\$19,942.00), family dental insurance (\$1052.00), Social Security (\$1,811.00), Medicare (\$423.00), Pension (\$1,752.00), Health Retirement Account (\$780.00), life insurance (\$78.00), dependent life insurance (\$9.00), and disability (\$53).

We are requesting federal funds for fringe benefits in the amount of \$27,656.00 (Coordinator \$15,096.00 + Victim Advocate for 9 months \$12,560.00 (\$19,425.00 minus match)) and the remaining \$6,865.00 will be paid by the City of Grand Island as a local match.

3. Total Personnel Budget

The total personnel budget for fiscal year 2015-16 is \$92,664.00 (\$43,106.00 Coordinator salary + \$15,096.00 Coordinator benefits + \$21,902.00 Victim Advocate salary + \$12,560.00 Victim Advocate benefits) in federal request with a local match of \$14,408.00 (\$900.00 Volunteers + \$6,043.00 Hall County Investigator + \$600.00 GIPD Support Staff + \$6,865.00 Victim Advocate Fringe Benefits) for a total cost of \$107,072.00.

CATEGORY D – SUPPLIES AND OPERATING EXPENSES

1. SUPPLIES:					
Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount Requested	Applicant's Match	TOTAL COSTS
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Supplies SUBTOTAL			\$	\$	\$
1. OPERATING EXPENSES:					
		Rate (per month)	Amount Requested	Applicant's Match	TOTAL COSTS
Rent – Equipment		\$	\$	\$	\$
Rent – Facilities		\$463.00		\$ 5,558.00	\$ 5,558.00
Telephone		\$ 6.92		\$ 83.00	\$ 83.00
Utilities		\$	\$	\$	\$
Auto Lease		\$	\$	\$	\$
Photo Copying		\$	\$	\$	\$
Printing		\$	\$	\$	\$
Non-consultant Contract Help		\$	\$	\$	\$
Bookkeeping/*Audit		\$	\$	\$	\$
Other: Computer User Fees Coordinator		\$ 148.75	\$	\$ 1,785.00	\$ 1,785.00
Other: Computer User Fees Victim Advocate		\$ 148.75	\$	\$ 1,785.00	\$ 1,785.00
Operating Expenses SUBTOTAL			\$	\$ 9,211.00	\$ 9,211.00
SUPPLIES / OPERATING EXPENSES TOTAL			\$	\$ 9,211.00	\$ 9,211.00

CATEGORY D - SUPPLIES AND OPERATING EXPENSES NARRATIVE:

1. Supplies

No federal funds are being requested for supplies, nor are supplies figured into the match portion of the grant.

2. Operating Expenses

No federal funds are being requested for operating expenses, but they will be included in the match portion of our grant.

The Victim Assistance Program office is located in Grand Island's Law Enforcement Center. The City provides this space as an in-kind match. The 306 square foot office, with a secure entrance, is appraised at a fair market value of \$14 per square foot, as is the adjoining 91 square foot office. Utilities, 3 cubicles with computers, custodial services, and receptionists are included with the facility. Monthly rent is figured at \$463.00 per month, or \$5,558.00 annually. Telephone service, also provided by the City, is estimated at \$6.92 per month, or \$83.00 annually, and is included in the match portion of our grant.

The County operates a Spillman software criminal justice program. Included on the system of shared data are the Hall County Sheriff, Hall County Attorney, Hall County Corrections, Hall County Court, and the Grand Island Police Department. The user fee for this system, including Internet, email, and support service is approximately \$148.75 per month, or \$1,785.00 per year, and will be provided for 2 users as a local match of \$3,570.00 (\$1,785.00 x 2).

The City Of Grand Island has made a vehicle available to the Victim Assistance Program staff and volunteers. Grand Island Police Department training funds have been and will be used to send the Program Coordinator and/or Victim Advocate to the annual Crime Victims' Rights Week Conference in Omaha and to other relevant trainings. However, neither expense is figured into the grant.

3. Total Supplies and Operating Expenses

Total supplies and operating expenses budget provided by Hall County and the City of Grand Island as a local match is \$9,211.00 (\$5,558 rent + \$83 telephone + \$3,570 computer user fees).

CATEGORY E – EQUIPMENT

Section 1. Program Related					
Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount Requested	Applicant's Match	TOTAL COSTS
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Program SUBTOTAL			\$	\$	\$
Section 2. Office Related					
Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount Requested	Applicant's Match	TOTAL COSTS
Desktop Computer	2	\$905.00	\$1,810.00	\$	\$1,810.00
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Office Related SUBTOTAL			\$	\$	\$
Section 3. Household/Maintenance Related					
Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount Requested	Applicant's Match	TOTAL COSTS
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Household / Maintenance SUBTOTAL			\$	\$	\$
			Amount Requested	Applicant's Match	TOTAL COSTS
EQUIPMENT TOTAL			\$1,810.00	\$	\$1,810.00

CATEGORY E – EQUIPMENT NARRATIVE:

The Victim Assistance Program office contains 3 cubicles, each with its own computer, which has allowed 2 volunteers to assist the coordinator simultaneously. Our Coordinator and volunteers alike have access to the various programs used to obtain case status updates for victims and to then manage victim demographic and contact information. All of our computers have been upgraded periodically and the City of Grand Island provided our Coordinator with a new computer just this quarter. Our other 2 computers, however, have reached their capacities and are not currently in the IT budget for upgrade. The Victim Case Management System (VCMS) currently used by our program is essentially obsolete and scheduled to be updated and our computers must be able to support the new database. Thus, with the addition of a full-time advocate, we will need a new computer for that advocate. We will also need a new computer for the 3rd cubicle which is utilized by our volunteers.

Our office is equipped with its own printer/scanner/copier/fax to which the new advocate and volunteers will have access. The advocate will also have full necessary access to Spillman software criminal justice program which includes shared data from the Hall County Sheriff, Hall County Attorney, Hall County Corrections, Hall County Court, and the Grand Island Police Department. The user fee for this system, provided as a local match, will also include Internet, email, and support service. Our IT department will purchase 2 Dell OptiPlex 9020 desktop computers because they are reasonably priced and because they are designed for ultimate durability, reliability, and adaptation to unique work styles such as ours. IT has provided us with a quote of \$904.97 each, which does not include applicable shipping, taxes and state environmental fee. We are requesting federal funds for the purchase of 2 computers in the amount of \$1,810.00 (\$905.00 x 2).

Sustainability (Limit 3 pages)

Describe:

1. **Organizational structure and operations that lend to the project's sustainability.** The Grand Island/Victim Assistance Program first received funding from the Nebraska Crime Commission in October 2003 and officially opened for business on April 1, 2004. The program functions under the Administrative Department of the Grand Island Police Department on a total annual operating budget of approximately \$60,000-\$70,000. Our primary source of funding has been the \$46,000-\$57,000 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant, with an additional \$15,000 match provided by Hall County and the City of Grand Island. Our program, staffed with one full-time bilingual (Spanish/English) coordinator and 3 active part-time volunteers, serves over 2000 unduplicated clients each year. Police Department Support Staff contribute a few hours per month to that accomplishment. It is our mission to assist victims throughout their cases in order to prevent any further victimization, to reduce the trauma of the crime experience and to aid in the rebuilding of the victim to a state of well-being. In addition, it is our hope to improve the attitude of the victim/witness, and the community in general, towards the criminal justice system.
2. **Long-term sustainability plan to include at least three specific activities accomplished in the past 12 months or planned for in the upcoming year.**

Current activities related to long term funding are as follows:

Presentations to the Grand Island City Council,
Provision of GIPD support staff hours to the Victim/Witness Unit,
Provision of GIPD light-duty police officers hours to the Victim/Witness Unit,
Presentations to public civic organizations.

3. **Discuss the contingency plan should the project not receive funds.** Since its inception, Victim Assistance Program staff has done, and continues to do, several presentations to community organizations. Those presentations always include information about our funding and the need for community support. We also inform our elected representatives on the status of funding for the Victim/Witness Unit. We are currently in the process of presenting information regarding the 2015 application and estimated funding budget to the Grand Island City Council. We will also present after the grant award with specific funding requirements for the City.
Award funding has varied each year. On every occasion, the City of Grand Island has met any financial shortfall as it relates to the program needs. While we cannot speak for future councils should the program not receive funds, the City of Grand Island and Hall County are committed partners to the effort and funding for the Victim/Witness Unit. In the event that we lose VOCA dollars, we will make formal pleas for continued funding to the City of Grand Island and Hall County. If unable to obtain the current level of funding, and to the necessary degree, we would reduce our office hours or the number of services and/or service hours provided to crime victims. Our list of the types of crimes covered would be shortened and would likely no longer include such misdemeanors as criminal mischief, theft, intimidation by phone, disturbing the peace, or harassment.

Supplemental Funding Chart:

List Sources of Funding (add lines as needed)	Is applicant direct Recipient of funds?	Projected 2015 – 2016 (12 months)	Actual 2014-2015 (12 months)
CRIME COMMISSION:			
STOP VAWA (federal)	<input type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N		
VOCA (federal)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N	\$93,931.00	\$57,471.00
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		
DHHS:			
FVPSA (federal)	<input type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N		
DHHS (state)	<input type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N		
NHAP (state & federal)	<input type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N		
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		
NDVSAC:			
SASP (federal)	<input type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N		
RPE (federal)	<input type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N		
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		
Other FEDERAL:			
Discretionary (ID Type)	<input type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N		
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		
Other STATE:			
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N		
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		
Other LOCAL:			
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N		
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		
OTHER: (i.e., service fees)			
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input checked="" type="radio"/> N		
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		
	<input type="radio"/> Y <input type="radio"/> N		

Community Description (Limit 3 pages)

1. Grand Island, Nebraska is located in Hall County in Central Nebraska where Interstate 80 and Highways 30 and 34 intersect Highway 281. The total county population is 61,492 according to U.S. census data. The estimated population of Grand Island is 50,550. Other communities in Hall County are Doniphan, Wood River, Cairo, Boelus and Alda. Grand Island is a major retail sales location with other major industry being light manufacturing, medical and health services, and a large beef packing plant which employs approximately 3,500 people (80% of them Hispanic, a majority of which speak Spanish). We have a rich blend of cultural influences in our community with significant immigrant populations from South and Central America (Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, Cuba primarily), Sudan, Somalia, Bosnia, Laos, and Vietnam. Because of our close proximity to the Interstate and highways, we do have many drug-related crimes and gang-related activities in our community. Grand Island Police Department has 6 Patrol Officers, 1 Investigator, and 1 Supervisor assigned to the Gang Operations Unit tasked to gather intelligence and work on increasingly effective methods of tracking gang-related crimes. Prevention efforts provided by Police School Resource Officers include Gang Resistance Education and Training to all Grand Island Public Schools' 5th grade and middle school students. In order to help reduce crime in the city of Grand Island, the Police Department has created a Crime Prevention Unit, which consists of 2 Crime Prevention Officers and 1 Crime Analyst.

Fortunately, Hall County has a variety of helping agencies which actively participate in this project. The Central Nebraska Child Advocacy Center (CNCAC), which is a fully accredited center by the National Children's Alliance since 2005, covers an 11-county area providing outreach and support to the child victims and non-offending family members. All of their services are provided at no cost to victims and/or their families. If referrals are made for mental health services and the family does not have insurance or resources to pay for these services then the CNCAC has made arrangements with various providers to pay these fees at a reduced cost. The basic components of their advocacy include the following elements: providing crisis response to child victims and their non-offending family members seen in their center following the report of the crime; forensic interviews, ongoing support and personal advocacy to the child victim and non-offending family members. Because the CAC, however, only provides services to children who were interviewed at their center, our agency still works with numerous child victims and their families. Our new full-time advocate, thus, will be trained to work with children as well as adults. The Crisis Center provides 24-hour emergency and supportive services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault from Hall, Howard, Hamilton and Merrick counties. Their services include, but are not limited to: safe shelter, transitional shelter, transportation, financial assistance, advocacy, support groups, child care, information and referrals. Hope Harbor provides a transitional shelter and other services to families who are temporarily displaced from their homes and to our refugee community. We make referrals to the CNCAC, Crisis Center and Hope Harbor, and to: St. Mary's Immigration Services, Nebraska Legal Services, DHHS, WIC, Community Food Pantry, Goodwill Services and numerous counseling agencies and churches. Agencies that actively participate in this project include: Grand Island Police Department, Hall County Sheriff's Office, Crisis Center, CAC, Hall County Attorney's Office and District 9 Probation Office.

2.

Race	Number	% of Total Population
White	57003	92.7
Black/African American	1537	2.5
American Indian/ Alaska Native	984	1.6
Asian	800	1.3
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	307	.5
Other	861	1.4
*Total Population	61492	100%
Hispanic or Latino		
*Total Population	61492	100%
Hispanic or Latino	15619	25.4
Not Hispanic or Latino	43044	70.0

*Total Population – these are the same number

Counties included in above table: Hall County Nebraska.

Source of Date: <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html> U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts. Data derived from Population Estimates, American Community Survey, Census of Population and Housing, State and County Housing Unit Estimates, County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, Economic Census, Survey of Business Owners, Building Permits Last Revised: Wednesday, 22-Apr-2015 08:59:46 EDT

Problem Statement (Limit 5 pages)

1. The problem to be addressed by this proposed project is crime and its devastating effect on individuals and families in the community of Grand Island and Hall County, Nebraska

There is a high number of felony and serious misdemeanor crime in Hall County that has a direct impact on not only the victims of that crime, but on their families and friends as well. Following a crime, one may experience trauma, emotional and psychological problems, loss of control, loss of income, loss of business, loss of property, loss of life, loss of security, and/or loss of trust. Another cost, paid by victims and entire communities, is that of the criminal justice system.

The FBI Report of Offenses Known to Law Enforcement in 2014 indicates overall a 6.49% decrease in crime in Grand Island with violent crime decreasing 3.82% from 2013 and property crime decreasing 6.64% from 2013. In Grand Island, there were 26 reports of forcible rapes, 6 attempted rapes and 40 other sex offenses. An additional 3 sexual assaults and 1 sex offense were investigated by the Hall County Sheriff's Office. The Victim Assistance Program (VAP) assisted 37 adult victims of sexual assaults and sex offenses in 2014. The reported incidents of assault also remain high in Hall County. Grand Island Police Department investigated 381 assaults and 232 domestic assaults, while Hall County Sheriff's Office investigated an additional 18 assaults and 16 domestic assaults. The VAP provided services to 321 victims of assault and 223 victims of domestic violence crimes. Law Enforcement agencies investigated a total of 267 reports of child abuse/neglect, and although the CAC is working with child victims who are interviewed in their center, the VAP still served 399 children, victims of serious crimes as well as victims of assault, threats, phone harassment, and theft. Other incidents of crime in the county include 9 robberies and 428 burglaries, many of them residential. The VAP served 10 robbery and 439 burglary victims.

Because of our close proximity to the Interstate and highways, we do have many drug-related crimes in Grand Island. In 2014 the Grand Island Police Department investigated 415 drug-related incidents (a 46.67% increase from 2013) resulting in arrests, citations, or referrals of 798 different charges. Gang-related activities are also on the rise in our community, with the most visible signs being: graffiti, felony assaults, property damage, self-reported increase in recruitment, and local alignment with out-of-state gangs. 144 "gang-flagged" incident reports in 2014 indicate a 3.6% increase over 2013, although a portion of this number most likely also indicates better documentation by our officers of contacts with gang members and their associates.

There is a large population of elderly, 8547 in Hall County according to the 2014 Census estimates, in our community. The VAP provided assistance to 306 last year. We know that offenders prey on the elderly because of stereotypical vulnerabilities related to age and we want to remain vigilant in providing these services to the elderly.

The underreporting of crime is an issue in all communities. However, within the Hispanic community there is the potential for the incidence of underreporting to be much higher. The perception of the lack of access, information, and a voice in the criminal justice system exacerbates this problem. Those with illegal immigration status are especially vulnerable. The Hispanic population reported by U.S. census data is 25.4% in Hall County. Hispanic crime victims, in 2014, made up approximately 38.5% of the VAP's clientele. Since we do not assume we are reaching every Hispanic crime victim, we believe the figures indicate a need for concern that there is a proportionately higher rate of victimization within the Hispanic community, suggesting a greater need for services.

2. Provide Statistical Documentation of the Problem

Number of Victims Served (face to face & telephone)	2012	2013	2014	% of change from 2012 to 2014
Total # Victims Provided Direct Services:	2195	2328	2230	+1.6
(unduplicated) Face to Face	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Telephone	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total # of children served (0-17 years)	427	387	399	-6.6
Total # of elderly victims served (65+)	260	248	306	+17.7
Total # minority victims served	1040	997	1031	-0.9
Number of Victims Served by Type of Crime:				
Homicide Survivors	8	5	5	-37.5
Sexual Assault / Adult	58	35	37	-36.2
Child Abuse / Physical	46	50	60	+30.4
Child Abuse / Sexual	83	87	52	-37.3
Intimate Partner Violence	379	315	223	-41.2
Adult Survivor of Incest / Child Sexual Assault	2	2	0	-100
Assault	309	347	321	+3.9
DWI / DUI Crashes	22	2	4	-81.8
Robbery	46	31	10	-78.3
Elder Abuse	2	2	0	-100
Burglary	303	521	439	+44.9
Other:	936	931	1068	+14.1
Total # adult victims provided shelter	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R
Total # child victims provided shelter	N/R	N/R	N/R	N/R

Source of data: *Analyst International's Victim Case Management System (VCMS) Provided by Nebraska Crime Commission.*

- *Face to Face and Telephone Contact statistics are available. A technical problem, however, prevents us from accessing the unduplicated numbers served. Provided below is the total number of F/F, telephone, follow up and email contacts.*

Additional Statistics	2012	2013	2014	%Change from 2012 to 2014
Number of e-mail contacts	704	1046	1922	+ 173
Number of telephone services	5402	7038	7348	+36.0
Number of face to face services	855	818	1068	+24.9
Number of follow up contacts	1115	1452	1724	+54.6

Solution (Limit 4 pages)

1. Project Operations

The Grand Island/Hall County Victim Assistance Program (“VAP”) has a cooperative relationship with several community-based agencies. The goal is to provide for continuity of comprehensive victim services, without duplication. The agencies currently include: law enforcement (the Hall County Sheriff’s Department; the Grand Island Police Department; District #9 Probation, and Howard County Attorney and Nebraska State Patrol on a more limited basis.); and also include: the Crisis Center; the Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC), and the Hall County Attorney’s Office. The VAP coordinator also attends the local Community Response Team (CRT) and the child abuse treatment and investigative team meetings required by LB 1184 to monitor and coordinate the investigation and treatment of families where child abuse or neglect has been found, and interacts with other organizations including: Central Health Center, Saint Francis Hospital, and Hall County School System.

Every morning, the VAP coordinator and/or the volunteer review all reports generated by the Grand Island Police Department (GIPD) and the Hall County Sheriff’s Office (HCSO) in the 24-hour period immediately preceding arrival at the office. We screen the reports for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and other high priority crimes to determine the immediacy of need for victim services. It is our view that many crimes involving family violence are reported as “other” crimes, such as: criminal mischief, theft, trespassing, etc. With domestic violence, for instance, as a batterer’s abusive conduct escalates, a batterer will act out violently against the personal property of the victim (including pets) as a way to instill fear and gain control over the victim. For this reason, the VAP reads all reports to determine if the facts—not just the reported charge—fall within the criteria for VAP intervention. If the case involves domestic violence or sexual assault, we call the Crisis Center (in accordance with our CRT protocols) to allow them to make immediate initial contact with the victim. The VAP will follow-up that afternoon or the next day unless otherwise contacted by the Crisis Center or the victim.

Many times, cases are determined to be open/not workable or closed by the investigating officers. Often, it’s because there is a crime that occurred against a victim, but the evidence does not lead to a clear suspect. Since the case may not go further in the system without more evidence, the VAP contacts these victims as soon as possible. At that time, we offer support, referrals to community resources and Crime Victims Reparations, safety planning, and explanations for why the case cannot move forward. When applicable, we also help them to document further activity in the hopes that they will continue to turn to law enforcement, and that they will have a better case next time. Occasionally, victims have additional pertinent information, so we refer them back to law enforcement, and accompany them or assist them if they desire. If/when there was an error or misunderstanding on the part of law enforcement, we contact the officer or a superior to correct that error.

Many of our cases are referred to the County Attorney before an actual arrest is made. In these instances, the VAP also makes contact with the victim. The purpose is to offer aforementioned services and: to help the victim determine if follow-up is needed within the system; answer whatever questions the victim(s) may have, explain the process and how it will affect them, and establish a link between the victim, law enforcement, and other helping agencies. We find that victims often feel more comfortable communicating their wishes/concerns etc. to someone who is not a member of “law enforcement.” Once a qualifying case comes to the VAP coordinator’s attention, initial contact is attempted or made either by telephone or face to face, along with a letter. The VAP will continue to assist the victim throughout the process, as long as the victim desires, and will facilitate continued communication between the victim and the other agencies. In those cases where there was a custodial arrest, we provide all the same services, but we contact victims immediately so we can help them access the VINE system before the inmate is released from jail and to find out if they have information or requests for the prosecutor regarding bond.

Some cases referred to the County Attorney are declined or dismissed. In this instance, we contact victims to inform them, and then proceed as with the previously mentioned victims. Fortunately, many cases are charged by the Hall County Attorney and will be prosecuted. In addition to the earlier explained services, the VAP, which has access to the County Attorney's case management system, checks the status of the victim's case and then notifies them of the status, name of the prosecutor, location of the courthouse/courtroom, and court dates/times. Once we have made initial contact with that victim and done the preliminary work, we encourage them to call us within a certain period of time relevant to that case (2 weeks before the trial, for instance). We continue to check on the status of that case until it is closed, and we continue to contact that victim when we note changes, but we do let them know that they should call us anytime with questions, etc. It is during this time that we help prepare the victims to testify in court. To make them more comfortable, we set up meetings with the prosecutors, we accompany them to the courthouse/courtroom for an "orientation," and we answer numerous questions they usually have about everything from what to wear to what to expect from the defense attorney. It is also during this time that victims are given the opportunity to talk about what they want to see happen with the case. To facilitate the victims having a "voice" within the system, we communicate their wishes to the prosecutors. Many cases are settled with plea agreements. For those that are not, we accompany victims (per their request) to court.

Once a court case is disposed of, we continue to follow-up with victims according to their needs. If the case is set for sentencing, we assist the victim in doing a Victim Impact Statement. We either contact the probation officer (who is responsible for the pre-sentence investigation) for them, or give them information on how to contact the responsible officer. We explain to them the reason for the statement, how it will be used, who will read it, etc. so they can make an informed decision on whether to execute their rights. We often attend sentencings with or for our victims, and then inform and explain to them what happened and what will happen next. In cases where the defendant is sentenced to prison, we provide the victims with handbooks, Parole Board information and telephone numbers, VINE instructions, etc. We have also accompanied victims to Parole Board Hearings.

There is an air of easy cooperation between the Victim Assistance Program personnel and the various Criminal Justice System agencies. Nonetheless, it is made clear to the victims that the VAP is advocating for the victim and advancing his or her desires only. VAP files are not shared with the attorneys, nor are our computer records accessible to the other agencies. For the most part, the goal of the Criminal Justice System and the VAP are similar, to create an environment in which a victim will return to the system, while holding the defendant as accountable as possible. On occasions where each agency takes an opposing position, each agency has respected the position of the other.

To all persons who are victims of crime in Hall County (or a victim of a serious felony in Howard County), the VAP is committed to providing the same services. Now, because of the VAP caseload and limited manpower, victims of violent physical crimes receive the highest priority. Our new advocate would allow us to contact the lower priority victims in a timelier manner and more victims overall. Elderly or minority victims of otherwise "low-priority" crimes are also contacted promptly. In order to reach out to our growing Hispanic population, our voicemail and victim letters are done in both English and Spanish, and we leave telephone messages in both languages. Our CAC only provides services to non-offending family members and child victims who were interviewed in their center. The Department of Health and Human Services will provide services to some of the other child victims. This leaves numerous child victims and families to be served by the Victim Assistance Program. For this reason, a new full-time advocate would be trained to work with children and would work during afternoon and evening hours to accommodate the schedules of schoolchildren and working parents.

2. Volunteer Job Description- Our program fully depends on our volunteers. Although we do have five on the roster, only three are currently active on a part-time basis. Two of the volunteers have been with the agency for a few years. Each is able to pull law enforcement reports, set up files, obtain case status information, telephone victims, and then document service hours in the database. One of the two worked as a child advocate and forensic interviewer at the Child Advocacy Center and is also trained to do community presentations and court accompaniment. The second is a retired Hall County Attorney well-versed in the criminal justice system. Our third and newest volunteer prefers

and excels in data entry and basic office duties. With only one paid staff-member, we frequently are behind in paperwork. This volunteer comes in one weekend per month for a few hours, enters updated court information in our victim files and service contacts on our database, and allows us to focus on our victims and maintain our high service numbers.

The Hall County Attorney’s part-time Investigator donates 5 hours a week to our program. He is retired police lieutenant who volunteered a year for our agency before taking the investigator position. When he began working as an investigator we realized the result of our continued combined efforts would benefit the VAP, the Hall County Attorney’s Office (HCAO), our community as a whole, and especially the victims. The Investigator locates victims and witnesses for the HCAO and refers them to us for extended services. We take files over to his office weekly so he can locate and telephone victims in order to begin providing advocacy. He has full access to law enforcement reports and case status information, but does not have access to our victim database. He documents his time and service on each individual victim file and returns it to our office so that we may review and record his contacts. By working together, we have higher numbers of victims receiving services, which allows them to more safely participate in the criminal justice system. The successful prosecution of criminals increases, while victims and the entire community begin to see the system in a more positive light and are more likely to turn to it in a time of need.

3. Community Coordination

Up to seven (7).

Agency Name	How the project specifically coordinates with this program.
Law Enforcement (Grand Island Police Department and Hall County Sheriff)	Law Enforcement allows us access to their reports via computer. Officers/Deputies refer victims to us, and frequently contact us with additional information regarding victims who need services. We contact officers for follow-up on cases, with victim questions, or for help with safety and other issues. We regularly arrange for victims to meet with officers.
Crisis Center	Mutual referrals and coordination of services. We contact each other when working with victims, so victims have access to both agencies without having to travel across town.
Child Advocacy Center	Mutual referrals and coordination of services. We refer every child victim to them for follow-up. We maintain contact regarding cases to ensure children and their families have access to all available resources with the least amount of inconvenience.
Hall County Attorney’s Office	Hall County Attorney allows us access to their case management system. We serve as a liaison between the victim and deputies regarding cases. We contact the deputies with requests/questions from victims, and deputies contact us with case information so that we may offer services to the victims. We arrange for victims to meet with the deputies, and when we accompany victims to court, deputies keep us informed of the proceedings so we can best support the victims.
District 9 Probation Office	Coordination of services with regard to victim impact statements. Probation officers contact us when they are doing certain PSI’s to determine the best way to contact the victim. We advise victims of their right to do the statement, and how/where to do that.

Activities / Timetables (Limit 2 pages)

1. Major Activities:

MAJOR ACTIVITIES	POSITION RESPONSIBLE	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Hire and train a new full-time victim advocate		X		

2. Reoccurring Activities:

REOCCURRING ACTIVITIES	POSITION RESPONSIBLE	1st Quarter 1st-3rd	2nd Quarter 4th-6th	3rd Quarter 7th-9th	4th Quarter 10th-12th
Assist with filing compensation claims	Coordinator, Advocate, Volunteers	X	X	X	X
Recruit, hire, and train new advocate	Project Director and Coordinator	X			
Attend Annual Victims' Rights Conference	Coordinator and/or Advocate			X	
Prepare VOCA grant	Coordinator, Fiscal Officer, Project Director		X	X	
Provide direct services to crime victims by phone, e-mail, or in person	Coordinator, advocate, and Volunteer (s)	X	X	X	X
Prioritize need for service to Hispanic and elderly victims of crime	Coordinator, advocate, and Volunteer (s)	X	X	X	X
Prepare quarterly reports in a timely manner	Coordinator, Fiscal Officer, Project Director	X	X	X	X
Conduct Community Presentations on Victim Assistance Program	Coordinator, advocate, and volunteer (s)	X	X	X	X
Recruit and train volunteers	Coordinator	X	X	X	X
Distribute Surveys	Coordinator, Advocate, Volunteers	X	X	X	X

Continuation Information (Limit 3 pages)

1. **Describe the most recent (past year/12 months) funded grant project's accomplishments and milestones.**
 - Retained 3 active volunteers
 - Updated program brochures and website
 - Received new computer from City of GI
 - Located and brought in IT person to resolve database issues
 - Continues to provide comprehensive services to crime victims in Hall County
 - Continues to provide bilingual services to Spanish-speaking victims
 - Increases public awareness of services by distributing brochures and conducting presentations
 - Continues to coordinate service with community agencies
 - Continues to meet goal objectives
 - Continues to attend LB 1184 Investigative Team Meetings and LB 1184 Treatment Team Meetings
 - Continues to attend Coordinated Community Response Meetings
 - Continues to assist with training of new officers for Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center by doing sexual assault and domestic violence role plays and panel discussions

2. **List the results of the project's measurable outcomes achieved.** Our goal last year, as in all years, was that victim assistance services be available to all victims of crime in Hall County. In order to best achieve that goal, we selected two objectives, both of which were nearly met or exceeded. One objective was to maintain the number of crime victims receiving needed services within the 12-months grant period. We served: 2089 victims (2189 goal), 274 elderly (263 goal), 768 Hispanics (790 goal), and 354 children (395 goal). Another objective was to maintain overall public awareness of victim services by distributing 715 brochures and conducting 5 community presentations. We distributed 725 brochures and conducted 4 presentations. For the 2014-2015 grant period we added one more objective, to maintain the number of crime victims receiving advocacy within the 12-month grant period. We provided personal advocacy to 779 victims (521 goal) and criminal justice support/advocacy to 2136 victims (1971 goal). For the upcoming 2015-2016 grant period, to the personal advocacy section we have added the number of victims registered for VINE/VINELINK and receiving safety planning assistance. Also new for the upcoming 2015-16 grant year, we will distribute surveys to victims in order to measure the effectiveness of our services. Following contact with the Victim Assistance Program, victims will be asked to give a simple yes or no answer to 3 questions: 1) Do you know what resources and help are available and how to access those resources, 2) Do you know more or different strategies for safety than you did before, and 3) Do you have a better understanding of how the justice process works?

3. **Explain any problems, barriers or challenges during the previously funded grant project. Discuss how these were addressed and the end results.** The majority of our problems are typically routine in nature and related to victims' individual cases as is par for the course with victim advocacy. In these instances we network very closely with our partner agencies and utilize community resources. Our ongoing struggle has been maintaining volunteers/volunteer hours and, thus, numbers of victims served. This last grant year, however, we retained our 3 volunteers from the previous year. Another ongoing issue for us has been our insufficient and outdated database. We discussed various solutions and consulted several IT experts. We were referred to a company in Hastings, Nebraska where we found help. They spent approximately 4 months analyzing our system and our needs, and then recreating the database. We are told the problem is solved and we expect to have the updates installed in the next quarter. During this last grant year we identified somewhat of a special need in our community. Our CAC serves child victims and their families only if the child was interviewed in their facility. This leaves numerous child victims of abuse, neglect, threats, theft, and harassment who do not receive services from the CAC. Some of those cases are transferred to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), but many will only receive services from the Victim Assistance Program. For that reason, our new full-time advocate will work with adults, but will receive additional training as a child advocate as well.

4. **Clearly state how continuation funding is vital to the ongoing success of the program.** The VOCA grant pays the salary and a majority of the benefits of the Grand Island/Hall County Victim Assistance Program's only paid staff member, the Coordinator, who is a full-time bilingual advocate. The City of Grand Island and Hall County are committed partners to this project and provide the match for VOCA funding. They've seen especially difficult budgets over the last few years, however, and were forced to cut positions and impose furloughs and wage freezes. While the most recent budget includes the Victim Assistance Program and balances current expenditures with current revenues in a manner that seems sustainable, the future remains uncertain. It is reasonable to assume the City and County would jointly fund a victim/witness unit, but without VOCA funding it is possible the program would experience a reduction in service hours, services provided and, thus, in the number of victims served.

Goals, Objectives & Performance Indicators

Outcomes, Objectives & Performance Measures

Outcome: Crime Victim Safety Will Be Increased In Hall County.		
Objective #1: Increase Number of Crime Victims Receiving Needed Services Within 12 Month Period.		
Performance Measures:	Baseline Statistics	Projected Results
Number of victims served within 12 months	2179	2679
Number of elderly victims served within 12 months	232	232
Number of Hispanic victims served within 12 months	786	786
Number of children served within 12 months	375	375
Objective #2: Maintain Overall Public Awareness of Program and Services by Distributing 680 Brochures and Conducting 4 Community Presentations.		
Performance Measures:	Baseline Statistics	Projected Results
Number of brochures distributed	680	680
Number of presentations conducted	4	4
Objective #3: Increase Number of Crime Victims Receiving Advocacy Within 12 Month Period.		
Performance Measures:	Baseline Statistics	Projected Results
Number of crime victims who received personal advocacy	590	590
Number of crime victims who received criminal justice support/advocacy	2026	2526
Number of crime victims referred to or registered for VINE/VINELINK	NA	500
Number of crime victims assisted with safety planning	NA	500
Objective #4: Increase number of crime victims reporting improvement as a result of Victim Assistance Program services.		
Performance Measures:	Baseline Statistics	Projected Results
Number of surveys distributed within 12 months	NA	500
Number of surveys completed within 12 months	NA	200
Number of crime victims who said they know more about community resources	NA	200
Number of crime victims who said they know more ways to plan for their safety	NA	100
Number of crime victims who said they have a better understanding of how the justice process works	NA	100

CERTIFIED ASSURANCES

1. The applicant assures that federal or state grant funds made available under the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and state victim assistance funds will not be used to supplant existing funds, but will be used to enhance or expand direct services to victims of crime.
2. The applicant assures that fund accounting, auditing, monitoring, and such evaluation procedures as may be necessary to keep such records as the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice (Crime Commission) shall prescribe will be provided to assure fiscal control, proper management, and efficient disbursement of funds received under the victim assistance grant program.
3. The applicant assures that it shall maintain such data and information and submit such reports, in such form, at such times, and containing such information as the Crime Commission may require.
4. The applicant certifies that the program contained in its application will meet requirements as stated in the Victim Assistance Grant Application Kit; that all information presented is correct; that there has been and will be throughout the life of the grant, appropriate coordination with affected agencies; and, that the applicant will comply with all provisions of the Victims of Crime Act and all other applicable federal and state laws.
5. The applicant assures that it will comply and all of its contractors will comply, with the non-discrimination requirements of the Victims of Crime Act; Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975; and the Department of Justice Non-Discrimination Regulations 28 CFR Part 42, Subparts C, D, E, and G and, Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375, and their implementing regulations.
6. The applicant assures that programs will maintain information on victim services provided by race, national origin, sex, age, and handicap.
7. The applicant assures that in the event a federal or state court, or federal or state administrative agency makes a finding of discrimination after a due process hearing on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin or sex against a recipient of funds, the recipient will forward a copy of the finding to the Crime Commission and the Office of Civil Rights Compliance (OCRC) of the Office of Justice Programs.
8. The applicant assures that, if required, it will formulate an equal employment opportunity program (EEO) in accordance with 28 CFR 42.301 et. seq., and submit a certification to the state that it has a current EEO on file which meets the requirements therein.
9. The applicant assures that it will comply and contractors will comply, with the provisions of the Office of Justice Programs "Financial and Administrative Guide for Grants," M 7100.01.
10. Pursuant to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, non-Federal entities expending \$500,000 or more a year from all federal sources shall have a single organization-wide audit conducted in accordance with the provisions of OMB Circular A-133. Non-federal entities that expend less than \$500,000 a year in Federal dollars from all sources are exempt from Federal audit requirements for that year. However, financial records must be maintained in an acceptable accounting system and be available for review or audit by appropriate officials of Federal, state or local agencies.
11. Confidentiality of Research Information. No recipient of monies under the Victims of Crime Act shall use or reveal any research or statistical information furnished under this program by any person and identifiable to any specific private person for any purpose other than the purpose for which such information was obtained in accordance with the Act.
12. Confidentiality of Victim Information - At no time shall a victim's name, address, phone number or other identifying information be divulged to another individual or agency unless they are a part of the criminal justice system or Health and Human Services system unless the victim has given prior voluntary written consent for such release of information.

13. The applicant agrees to submit all required reports in a timely manner.
14. The applicant agrees not to utilize federal or state victim assistance funds for crime prevention, community education, services to perpetrators, conference attendance by individual crime victims, lobbying, victim relocation or services to witnesses other than the victim.
15. The applicant agrees to establish and maintain a Drug Free Workplace Policy.
16. The applicant will comply, and all its contractors will comply with the Equal Treatment for Faith Based Organizations Title 28 C.F.R. part 38.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have read and reviewed the above assurances, that the applicant will comply with all provisions of the Victims of Crime Act and all other applicable federal and state laws, and, that the applicant will implement the project as written, if approved by the Crime Commission.

(SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL)

(DATE)

P.O. Box 1968, Grand Island, NE 68802-1968

(ADDRESS)

Jeremy Jensen

Mayor

(TYPED NAME)

(TITLE)

(308)385-5444, Ext 140

(TELEPHONE NUMBER)

CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING LOBBYING; DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTER; AND DRUG-FREE WORPLACE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should refer to the regulations cited below to determine the certification to which they are required to attest. Applicants should also review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature of this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 28 CFR Part 69, "New Restrictions on Lobbying" and 28 CFR Part 67, "Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)." The certifications shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the Department of Justice determines to award the covered transaction, grant, or cooperative agreement.

1. LOBBYING

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 28 CFR Part 69, for persons entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over \$100,000, as defined at 28 CFR Part 69, the applicant certifies that:

- (a) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any Federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement;
- (b) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form – LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions;
- (c) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subgrants, contracts under grants and cooperative agreements, and subcontracts) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

2. DEBARTMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER

RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS (DIRECT RECIPIENT)

As required by Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, and implemented at 28 CFR Part 67, for prospective participants in primary covered transaction, as defined at 28 CFR Part 67, Section 67.510-

- A. The applicant certifies that it and its principals:
 - (a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State of Federal court, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department of agency;
 - (b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - (c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and
 - (d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default; and

B. Where the applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, he or she shall attach an explanation to this application.

3. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE (GRANTEES OTHER THAN INDIVIDUALS)

The applicant certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

- A. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition:
 - B. Establishing an on-going drug-free awareness program to inform employees about—
 - (a) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - (b) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - (c) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - (d) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violation occurring in the workplace;

C. Notifying the employee in the statement that the employee will:

- (a) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
- (b) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such convictions;

The subgrantee shall notify the Crime Commission in writing of any conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction.

The subgrantee certifies that it will take one or more of the following actions within 30 calendar days of receiving notice of the conviction:

- A. Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
- B. Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance of rehabilitation program approved for such purpose by a Federal, State or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;

The subgrantee certifies that it will make a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace.

City of Grand Island
Organization Name and Address: P.O. Box 1968
Grand Island, NE 68802-1968

Mayor Jeremy Jensen
Typed Name and Title of Authorized Representative

Signature Date

Applicant Disclosure of Pending Applications:

Applicants are to disclose whether they have pending applications for federally and or state funded grants that include requests for funding to support the same project being proposed under this solicitation and will cover the identical cost items outlined in the budget in the application under this solicitation. Please mark none if you have no pending applications.

Federal or State Funding Agency	Solicitation Name / Project Name	Name/Phone/E-mail for Point of Contact at Funding Agency
None	None	None

RESOLUTION 2015-172

WHEREAS, The U. S. Department of Justice has significantly increased funding for Victims Of Crime Act, VOCA, grants and instituted a three year grant award process; and

WHEREAS, The Grand Island Police Department has a Victim/Witness Unit that serves as a valuable resource to victims of crime in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department has received VOCA grant funding in past years to support the Victim/Witness Unit; and

WHEREAS, the VOCA grant application must be submitted to the Nebraska Crime Commission in July; and

WHEREAS, The Police Department must have Council approval to submit a VOCA grant application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND ISLAND, NEBRASKA, to approve the Police Department 2015 – 2018, three year Victims Of Crime Act grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice to fund the Victim/Witness Unit.

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Adopted by the City Council of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, July 14, 2015.

Jeremy L. Jensen, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

Approved as to Form	☐ _____
July 10, 2015	☐ City Attorney