

C. BRIEFLY DESCRIBE EFFORTS TAKEN TO SERVE FEDERAL CRIME VICTIMS, I.E. COORDINATION ETC.

Throughout this report period the Crime Victim Services Division and grantees have expanded efforts to serve federal victims of crime toward increased understanding and enhancing partnerships among community partners. This section summarizes the efforts and includes: increased services to victims of federal crime by grantees; building partnerships and improving communication with Oregon's Native American tribes; increased stakeholder involvement in implementing state and federal gun dispossession and the development of stronger partnerships with federal agencies and non government organizations on anti - human trafficking efforts . CVSD welcomes these opportunities to strengthen our collaborative efforts resulting in the improvement of services and our response to Oregon's victims.

SERVING FEDERAL VICTIMS OF CRIME GRANTEE EXAMPLES

As one of the VOCA reporting requirements, grantees submit a semi annual account of their services to federal victims of crime. All VOCA grant recipients report that victims of federal crimes would receive the same breadth of services available to other victims of crime served by their agencies. The feedback submitted during this report period also indicates increased services to federal victims of crime especially by providers within Portland and the surrounding areas, as well as, those working closely with Oregon Tribes. Listed below is a sampling of responses regarding services and general comments with respect to federal victims of crime:

“The Portland Women’s Crisis Line (PWCL) Sexual Assault program has worked to facilitate a relationship with FBI victim specialists. Also, PWCL has been in contact with the human trafficking detective for the Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office.”

Portland Women's Crisis Line (Tri-County Metropolitan Area)

“In September, the Sexual Assault Resource Center (SARC) worked on a pilot project in collaboration with the Portland Office of the FBI and the Multnomah County Juvenile Reception Center to provide advocacy for minor commercial sex trafficking victims.”

Sexual Assault Resource Center (Tri-County Metropolitan Area)

“We have assisted a couple of human trafficking victims and one woman who were battered while camping on federal campgrounds.”

Harney HOPE (Eastern Oregon)

“Klamath Lake CARES works closely with Klamath Tribes to ensure that Native American Children are receiving services needed.”

Klamath Lake CARES (South Central Oregon)

“In the last few months, we have had some coordination with the federal victim services advocate on a case. We were able to work together in handing the case off to local agency.”

Linn County District Attorney's Office Victims Assistance Program (Willamette Valley)

"During this reporting period, we have been working with 4 victims of federal crime. These women were abused on their reservations. We have been working with our clients, advocating for their rights with the individual tribal court system and with representatives from the FBI. We have assisted women in representing themselves via phone testimony so they do not need to travel back to the reservation, and with navigating the different tribal systems. This work must be done cautiously as many tribal courts and government systems are familial and not safe for the survivors. We have also assisted these clients in acclimating to the urban area and accessing resources."

Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA) (Tri-County Metropolitan Area)

"All of the bilingual/bicultural advocates in the Refugee and Immigrant Family Strengthening Program (RIFS) are well equipped to serve federal crime victims. The program has provided services to international victims of trafficking to meet basic needs as well as co-advocated with domestic violence shelters. RIFS also provided the victim with access to other services such as: immigration legal services, intercultural counseling services and law enforcement responsible for the Oregon Human Trafficking Task Force."

Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization: RIFS Program (Tri-County Metropolitan Area)

"Through our speaker's bureau, we reach out and educate older adults about federal crimes such as mail theft, internet scams and identity theft."

Elders in Action (Tri-County Metropolitan Area)

"Victims receive information regarding victims' rights and information on how to exercise their rights and be supported in the CJ system. Referrals are made to the FBI if there is suspected abuse that involves sex trafficking."

Hood River County District Attorney's Victim Assistance Program (Columbia River Gorge)

The increased services to federal victims of crime are due to a myriad of factors including providing technical assistance by CVSD grant staff, community collaborations and awareness of federal crimes such as human trafficking. CVSD will continue to provide grantees with current information, network and training opportunities to support federal victims of crime.

IMPROVING SERVICES TO NATIVE AMERICAN VICTIMS OF CRIME

There are nine federally recognized Indian tribal governments located in the State of Oregon:

- Burns Paiute Tribe
- Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Suislaw Indians
- Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
- Coquille Indian Tribe
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
- The Klamath Tribes

Oregon law requires that state agencies develop and implement tribal relations policies. The purpose of formalizing the government-to-government relationship that exists between Oregon's Indian tribes and the State is to establish a process that can assist in resolving potential conflicts, maximize key inter-governmental relations and enhance an exchange of ideas and resources for the greater good of all Oregon's citizens, whether tribal members or not. During the past year, CVSD continued work designed to achieve the statutory objective and improve services to Native victims of crime.¹

Focus of work during this reporting period has been on continuing to increase understanding, improve communication and build partnerships:

1. Second Annual VOCA Tribal Grant Program Conference

Two CVSD staff members, representing the Victim Assistance and the Victim Compensation programs, attended the Second Annual VOCA Tribal Grant Program conference in Tucson, Arizona in January, 2008, with Warm Springs Tribal Victim Services Program (the only Oregon Tribe to receive the grant). The three-day conference focused on increasing mutual knowledge and understanding between state and tribal agencies, and on developing victim-centered collaborative strategies.

2. Recruitment of Tribal Representation on Funding Advisory Boards

Recruitment of tribal representatives was undertaken in order to assure that the voices and concerns of tribal victims are represented on advisory boards. The Program Coordinator for victim services within the Klamath Tribes Social Services Department was appointed to the Oregon STOP VAWA Advisory Board in January 2007 and continued membership throughout this reporting year. The Siletz Tribes Charitable Trust staff member was appointed to the ODSVS Advisory Council in April 2008, joining the Family Services Director of the Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA), which serves urban Native populations in Oregon.

¹ Oregon tribes include those with both federal and state criminal jurisdiction. The work described in this section includes tribes with both jurisdictions.

3. Developing Funding Strategies to Better Serve Native American Victims

All CVSD grant programs prioritize services to underserved populations, including Native American victims. Specific activities that have taken place within the reporting period include:

- a. **ODSVS:** In order to better educate itself on victim issues relevant to ODSVS, the ODSVS Advisory Council hosted a presentation in August 2008 on the history and experience of Native Americans in Oregon that could influence their response to victim services. The DOJ Tribal Liaison provided basic information on tribes & jurisdictional issues. The Program Director of Family Services for NAYA presented on how history shapes victims' attitudes & response to services. Subsequent discussion noted the challenges in estimating numbers and location of Native American population within the state, and the different needs of individual tribes. The Advisory Council will continue to gather information in order to assure that victims on and off reservations have access to services. As part of this effort the ODSVS Fund Coordinator has interviewed the non-profit grantee program that has contracted with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde to provide victim services. She will include this information in the Advisory Council's ongoing work.
- b. **STOP VAWA:** As part of the development of its three-year Implementation Plan, the Oregon STOP VAWA Advisory Board included the priority of providing culturally competent services. Among the competitive grants awarded for 2008 was one to the Coos County Victim Assistance Program to increase delivery of services to Native American clients, including members of the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Suislaw Indians; and the Coquille Indian Tribe, both located within Coos County. The project focuses on collaboration with (female) members of each Tribe's police department and relies on informal trust building to shape truly responsive services.

4. Visits to Tribes and Programs

- a. **Confederated Tribes of Siletz:** In May 2008 the ODSVS Fund Coordinator and the Executive Director of the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence visited the Siletz Tribes. The objectives of the visit included: a) orientation to the ODSVS Advisory Council for the Executive Director and Tribal Charitable Trust staff member, both of whom had recently been appointed to the Council; b) enhanced knowledge of Siletz Tribal services and history for the visitors; and c) enhanced knowledge of OCADSV for the Siletz representative.
- b. **Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR):** In September 2008, the ODSVS Fund Coordinator spent two days in Umatilla County. Her visit included a site review of a funded non-profit grantee program. It also included a lunch with the non-profit program Director and the staff of the CTUIR Umatilla Tribal DV/SA program staff and a visit to the tribal program for discussion of

how services are provided and the ways in which CVSD can better meet Native American victim needs through the funding it administers and the many initiatives in which it participates. The CTUIR Program Director has a long history of state-wide leadership in domestic and sexual violence services and generously shared a great deal of valuable information and insights. She continues to keep CVSD staff informed of opportunities for learning and collaboration.

- c. **Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs:** In February 2008, the Manager of the Crime Victims Compensation Program presented a training on the CVCP to the Tribal Victims Services program staff (one of the tribal judges also attended). Unfortunately, there have been 4 homicides on the reservation during this reporting year and the CVCP staff continues to work closely with the Tribes in addressing victim needs. In addition, the ODSVS Fund Coordinator attended a workshop on Sexual Assault Response conducted by the Victims of Crime Services staff at the annual OCADSV conference in August 2008.
- d. **Native American Youth & Family Center (NAYA):** The visit to CVSD by the OVW STOP VAWA Grant Monitor in September 2008 included a visit to NAYA, which receives VOCA, VAWA and ODSVS funds through CVSD. Located on the sprawling North Campus of a former Portland School District school, NAYA's range of culturally specific programs include a new charter school, as well as, services and activities for elders, youth, children and families. CVSD and OVW staff met with the director of the Healing Circle domestic and sexual violence services program for a tour and a discussion of services and challenges to the Oregon urban Native community.

USING FEDERAL AND STATE GUN DISPOSSESSION LAWS

In 2002-2003, Legal Aid Services of Oregon and the Oregon Law Center were awarded state grant funding administered by CVSD to implement a project designed to bring together all stakeholders involved in implementing state and federal gun dispossession legislation to: 1) develop a shared understanding of the scope and interrelationship of state and federal legislation and 2) develop protocols that would maximize protection of victims of intimate partner violence whose abusers own guns. Although that project's funding ended in 2003, work begun at that time has continued in each subsequent year. Most recently, this has included collaboration between CVSD and the Oregon Judicial Department to assure compliance with the VAWA Reauthorization Act of 2005 as to judicial notification to certain respondents and defendants of the possible impact of federal firearm prohibitions as described in the 2007 federal report.

This reporting year saw the work significantly advanced. In December, in a continuing effort to educate criminal justice system partners on specific roles in implementing federal firearms prohibitions, CVSD worked with partners to include a presentation on the laws to participants in the Oregon District Attorneys Association winter conference in December 2007. January saw an important step forward, as members of the Oregon team that had attended the 2006 National Summit on Domestic Violence and Firearms

reconvened to discuss the possibility of seeking funding that would support a paid staff position that all agreed was necessary to realizing objectives the group had identified.

These efforts culminated in June 2008, when the Law Enforcement Data Systems (LEDS), a division of the Oregon State Police was awarded a STOP VAWA grant for the first year of a collaborative project to develop and implement statewide protocols to enforce state and federal laws governing possession – and dispossession -- of firearms by batterers. Partners to the project include the US Attorney’s Office, the Oregon Judicial Department, the Oregon Sheriff’s Association, the Oregon District Attorneys Association, the Oregon Department of Justice, the Oregon Law Center and the Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence (OCADSV). Grant funding supports a Project Coordinator, who works with a Task Force made up of project partners and other stakeholder groups. The plan for year one (including July – September of this reporting year and October – June of the next reporting year), is for the Coordinator to travel to a representative sampling of Oregon’s 36 counties, meeting with those responsible for entry of relevant data, as well as, stakeholders working on domestic violence issues. The Coordinator will collect information on how data is entered and how communities address firearms and domestic violence. She will then compile and present the information to the Task Force, both directly and through subcommittees formed to address specific issues. This information will serve as the basis for developing protocols. Dissemination and implementation of the protocols will be the objective of the second year of the project, for which funding will be sought in spring of 2009.

STRENGTHENED RELATIONSHIP WITH FBI CONTINUES

As described in Section B (Serving Victims of Criminal Mass Trauma (SVCMT) Workgroup) CVSD continues to work closely with the FBI advocates serving Oregon to strengthen our combined response to victims of criminal mass trauma in the State of Oregon. As we gain better understanding and knowledge about the federal criminal justice system, we continue to identify how federal and state victim services agencies can better work together on behalf of federal victims of crime.

ANTI HUMAN TRAFFICKING EFFORTS

Throughout the reporting period the Crime Victim Services Division has participated in the Oregon Human Trafficking Task Force social services sub-committee. The Oregon Human Trafficking Task Force was formed to address a growing need for a comprehensive and collaborative response to human trafficking in the State of Oregon. The Task Force is funded by a U.S. Department of Justice grant through the Office of Justice Programs and represents the cooperative efforts of federal, state, and local law enforcement in partnership with non-governmental agencies. One of the goals of the subcommittee is to create a services directory. CVSD created a survey tool for all subgrantees across the state assessing the services being provided, as well as, assessing their knowledge base around the issue.

DOJ has also been involved in a legislative workgroup on human trafficking. The group's report to an interim legislative committee was presented on December 11, 2008 and includes a strong recommendation that DOJ, with appropriate involvement of CVSD, take the lead in helping to address the complex needs around this issue. An excerpt from the final recommendation in the report proposes:

“That the Department of Justice play lead role in coordinating and implementing these recommendations. None of these recommendations will come to fruition without the assistance of a strong advocate. No one in Oregon is better suited to provide this assistance than the Oregon Department of Justice. Under Attorney General Hardy Myer’s leadership, the department has become the leading state advocate for victims. The Oregon Department of Justice recently upgraded the stature of its victims’ rights advocacy program to a division status within the agency – The Crime Victims Service Division of the Oregon Department of Justice. The Oregon Department of Justice provides legal assistance to Oregon’s district attorneys. Oregon’s law enforcement community holds the Department of Justice in high esteem. In short, no one is better suited to assist victims of human trafficking in Oregon than the Oregon Department of Justice”

The full legislative report is attached (Attachment C).