

PUBLIC NOTICE

LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Notice of Availability and Award of Funds

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019 Victims of Crime Act Grant Program

Take notice that in compliance with the Federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984, 42 U.S.C. §§ 10601 et seq., the Department of Law and Public Safety (Department) announces the availability and award of the following non-competitive subawards funded by FFY19 VOCA program funds:

Safe+Sound Somerset, Inc.

\$108,750

Under this program, \$108,750 in grant funding will be offered and awarded to Safe+Sound Somerset, Inc. to support their Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate (“CSVA”) program. Safe+Sound Somerset, Inc. has been awarded a contract by the Division on Women as the dedicated sexual violence service provided in Somerset County.

Funding from this solicitation will support a full-time Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate Coordinator (“Coordinator”) position (**The Coordinator must meet the minimum training requirements; proof of training must be supplied with the application**), training of new Confidential Sexual Violence Advocates (CSVAs), and on-call pay for weekend and holiday activations. Advocate stipends will be made available in an effort to retain skilled advocates during days/times when demand for services occur.

The full-time Coordinator will be responsible for the following:

1. To ensure that there are an adequate number of volunteers to be called upon in a SART activation.
2. Successfully recruit, train, and supervise advocates to accompany victims of sexual violence through the crisis response system (law enforcement, forensic medical exam, court, etc.).
3. The Coordinator would also facilitate and/or attend local level advocate response team meetings (i.e., county level SART meetings) that would include key partners. As a key member of the response team, the Coordinator would identify emerging issues, and assist with and/or facilitate a solution focused approach to reduce/eliminate challenges that impede a victim from successfully accessing services in a timely and quality manner.

A Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate (“CSVA”) is an individual that has completed the statutory (N.J.S.A. 2A:84A-22.14) minimum forty (40) hours of Division of Women (“DOW”) and New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Violence (“NJCASA”) approved Sexual Violence Advocacy training and is an individual who is under the supervision of a Sexual Violence Service Organization that is funded by the DOW.

The CSVA shall ensure that the victim is informed of all resources, including those from sexual violence services, the importance of seeking medical attention, and the value of timely evidence collection and early reporting to law enforcement; provide the victim a safe, neutral, and confidential avenue to explore and weigh options; support the victim’s choices and decisions; and maintain the confidentiality of all communications occurring solely between the advocate and the victim, unless otherwise instructed by the victim’s prior written consent.

Funding will be provided on a reimbursement basis only and is contingent upon subrecipient application submission, compliance with grant conditions, and satisfactory performance of services. The funding is for a 9-month period from October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Eligible recipients of the non-competitive FFY19 VOCA program funds will receive application guidelines and all required application forms, via e-mail, that must be completed and submitted by the established due date in the application letter. Upon approval of project narrative and budget, applicants will receive subaward contract documents for approval and signature. Subrecipients must comply with programmatic and fiscal reporting requirements for approval and/or reimbursement of costs incurred during the project period. **Matching funds are not required for this project.** Grant extensions are not permitted.

Please note that funding allocations and individual subaward amounts are subject to change. Subrecipients shall recognize and agree that both the initial provision of funding and the continuation of such funding under a grant agreement is expressly dependent upon the availability to the Department of funds appropriated by the State or Federal legislature from State and/or Federal revenue to such other funding sources as may be applicable. A failure of the Department to make any payment under a grant agreement or to observe and perform any condition on its part to be performed under a grant agreement as a result of the failure of the State or Federal legislature to appropriate funds shall not in any manner constitute a breach of a grant agreement by the Department or an event of default under a grant agreement because of the absence of available funding appropriations. In addition, future funding shall not be anticipated from the Department beyond the duration of the award period set forth in a grant agreement and in no event shall a grant agreement be construed as a commitment by the Department to expend funds beyond the termination date set forth in a grant agreement.