

**VOCA Web-Ex  
Agenda  
October 5 2023 9:30 AM**

*Welcome –*

*Housekeeping*

- Please mute and put questions/comments put in the chat
- If we do not get all questions answered in the allotted time, we will schedule additional calls.
- The Web-ex will be recorded and placed on our website along with meeting minutes <https://dss.mo.gov/dfas/victims-of-crime-act/>
- There are Interpreters on the line as well.

*Contract Update*

- DSS received the DOJ Terms and Conditions on August 25<sup>th</sup>. The Terms & Conditions are required to be included in VOCA contracts. DSS sent out contracts on August 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> for signature, and requested the signed contracts be returned within 10 business days. DSS has not received the signed contract for 10 contracts, and these have to be signed to start the budget and budget narrative process.
- If you have not sent back the required documentation for contracts beginning October 1, 2023, please send this information ASAP since invoices cannot be paid until this process is finalized.
- We still have 10 that have not submitted their signature page. – **6 agencies have not submitted.**
- Working Through the Budgets Forms now for most of the agency's we have approved 109 so far.
- Questions please reach out to us. **Reminder that there is a webinar that was posted this morning to go over the Budget Forms.**

*Funding Levels-* In regards to the funding amounts for contracts from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024:

**Jeriane reminds that we sent an email recently. There have been a lot of questions on funding and how we allocated it. Goal is to use ARPA Funding first. The General Revenue appropriation was \$15M, but it was not the intention to use the full allocation, only use the amount needed to keep the contracts at the same levels as discussed on other meetings. Right now there is \$7.9M allocated, but this will be reduced after we determine the**

**remainder of 22 funds. 21 funds should be fully spent. Also, after the remainder of 22 is determined, the 23 grant allocations will be reduced.**

- ARPA: \$17.5M will be allocated to approximately 105 agencies for FFY24. This funding is anticipated to be spent the first two quarters of FFY24 and will not be more than 50% of the agencies total budget. After the remaining ARPA funding is determined for contracts ending September 30th, the amounts provided to the agencies will be adjusted to reduce General Revenue and increase ARPA levels.
- FFY2021 and FFY2022 VOCA funding: After the contracts end on September 30<sup>th</sup>, the amounts provided to the agencies for FFY24 will be adjusted to reduce General Revenue and use these remaining funds.
- General Revenue (GR): \$15M appropriated through the General Assembly is anticipated to be allocated to 90 agencies in the FFY24 contracts. The entire amount will not be spent as the allocation was provided to ensure the current contract levels could remain. There will be \$7.9M allocated, and this amount is expected to decrease to \$5M after the amount from FFY23 contracts is determined.
- FFY2023 VOCA funding: This will be completely allocated in the FFY24 contracts. However, after the remaining FFY23 contract amount is determined, this is expected to increase as funding will be moved from FFY23 to FFY21 and ARPA.
- Reallocating the funding between grant years and funding sources is not a new process. The changes to the amounts for agencies will be reflected on a budget adjustment form provided by DSS.
- If you have any questions, please contact the VOCA unit at [fsd.vocaunit@dss.mo.gov](mailto:fsd.vocaunit@dss.mo.gov)

#### ***4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Reports***

**Patti reminds about 4<sup>th</sup> QTR report, Annual reports, and narrative due dates. Please keep the narrative in the excel spread sheet.**

- 4<sup>th</sup> QTR ended 9/30/2023.
- 4<sup>th</sup> QTR Report, Annual Report and the Narrative are due to DSS by October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.
- Quarterly reports email to [fsd.vocaunit@dss.mo.gov](mailto:fsd.vocaunit@dss.mo.gov)

## *VOCA Invoices*

**Patti reminds us to use the following email addresses for sending reports in.**

- Send to [W&CI.INVOICES@dss.mo.gov](mailto:W&CI.INVOICES@dss.mo.gov)
- CC your VOCA specialist
- DATA sheets send to [fsd.vocaunit@dss.mo.gov](mailto:fsd.vocaunit@dss.mo.gov)
- When Invoicing please make sure you do not invoice more in Personnel than Benefits. We have seen finding's on this from Fiscal Audits.

**Please email questions to Patti. There have recently been fiscal findings. All agencies need to ensure all costs are allocated appropriately to grants, and if there are adjustment, the Budget Adjustment forms need to be sent to move funding between line items.**

**Note: Line items that are over 10% will need to be approved by DSS.**

## *October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month*

- October 19<sup>th</sup> is Wear Purple Day- Purple Thursday
- Any Special events you are having this month send them to us.

**If you have any photos of your group wearing purple, please send them in. Jeriane reminds that if you want your events to go out on to the 164,000 subscribers to the DSS Employment and Training page, send it to the VOCA unit ASAP so we can get it on the email [fsd.vocaunit@dss.mo.gov](mailto:fsd.vocaunit@dss.mo.gov).**

## *VOCA Agency Update's*

- CASA of Dunklin
  - **Carla Smith- Small rural agency, southern boot hill. Serves about 30 children in foster care. 15 volunteers. Constantly in recruitment for new volunteers. There is a new judge who is very supportive of the CASA Program. There is an evening with CASA in December with orchestra and catered meal. The funds are used for things that aren't covered by grants. There have been more referrals for children's services, and there is more focus on recruitment and community outreach.**

- **Contact information: Carla Smith, [csmithnhc@yahoo.com](mailto:csmithnhc@yahoo.com), 573.559.6670, [www.casadunklin.org](http://www.casadunklin.org)**
- **Central Mo Stop Human Trafficking**
  - **Loretta- Located in Columbia with a shelter in Jefferson City. They help with basic needs and transportation for survivors. Global Day of awareness for human trafficking. WALK FOR FREEDOM. Free event. Register at a21.org. Everyone wear black in solidarity. It will be a silent walk.**
    - **Nanette Ward, [cmshtcoalition@gmail.com](mailto:cmshtcoalition@gmail.com), 573.615.0621, [www.stophumantraffickingmo.com](http://www.stophumantraffickingmo.com)**
- **Child Abuse Prevention Association**
  - **Rochelle Parker- around since 1975 serving Jackson County. Counseling services, Promise 1000, Healthy Families America Site, Prevention Education for students and parents.**
    - **Rochelle Parker, [rparker@capacares.org](mailto:rparker@capacares.org), 816.252.1337, [www.capacares.org](http://www.capacares.org)**
- **Christos House**
  - **Not on call.**
- **CARDV**
  - **Erica- Works with individuals in Callaway County. No shelter on site but works with hotels and motels for shelter. They rely heavily on the local shelters in Callaway County. Mission is promote a clients personal wellbeing and safety. 24 hour help and information line. Standard crisis intervention and case management. They contract with a local attorney for orders of protection, divorce and custody situations.**
    - **Erica Nanney, [voca@callawaycardv.org](mailto:voca@callawaycardv.org), 573.642.7706, [www.callawaycardv.org](http://www.callawaycardv.org)**
- **Citizens Against Spouse Abuse**
  - **Not on call.**
- **Child Safe**
  - **Jenny- Supports children in 11 different counties. 9 full time staff, one part-time. Services include forensic interviews, outreach and therapy. The Annual Night of Gratitude just wrapped up last month. Last week, the agency hosted the Second Annual Sports Youth Camp with State Fair. Later this month they will be participating in a trunk or**

treat and a haunted hayride. There is training for students at USM's police academy. This is the second time they have participated with them for training. On October 19<sup>th</sup> they will have an MDT Training event. There is a mandated reporter training for schools. There will be a dessert auction the Tuesday before Thanksgiving.

- Jenny Shaver, [jshaver@childsafehouse.org](mailto:jshaver@childsafehouse.org), 660.829.3634, [www.childsafehouse.org](http://www.childsafehouse.org)

- MOCSA

- Josh King- Stated 1 in 4 rapes occur in Kansas City. Standalone rape crisis center founded in 1975. Jackson, Clay and Platte County. There are a staff of 95 and 100 volunteers. Services include 24 hour crisis line, hospital and criminal justice advocacy with 11 evidence based therapeutic models. They host presentations on victims' rights, and focus on vulnerable populations as well as rural populations. They have a partnership with KC Current. MOCSA will be highlighted during that game. Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> is the annual cocktail party and auction. If anyone is interested in collaborating, please reach out to Josh.

- Josh King- [jking@mocsa.org](mailto:jking@mocsa.org), 816.931.4532, [www.mocsa.org](http://www.mocsa.org),

Ten agencies will be contacted in the coming week for the highlights for November.

Jeriane clarifies that we will only use as much of GR funds to level out the awards to match the previous year. It wasn't attended to change the funding levels, only to keep them stable. We are in the process of finalizing our recommendations for the FFY25 contracts. Once they are finalized we will share them with the General Assembly. After that meeting, it will be shared in a separate call with all the agencies.

Training updates—We are working on building out trainings through DSS. We had some technical assistant trainings for free through OVC. There will be several training ideas proposed over the next year. Our intention over the next year is to take a deep dive over to make a robust training database for all of our agencies. We will be looking for feedback from agencies.

Ryan introduces himself- Ryan Stiffler has been here 2 weeks. He has a law enforcement background and investigated domestic violence.

**Julie introduces herself and has been with VOCA about 3-4 weeks. She has a human trafficking, nonprofit, and children's division background.**

**Diamond Diva Empowerment – Ms. Love stated Diamond Divas spoke with the house panel to pass House Bill 434 the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday as Domestic Violence Day for Missouri. They have a walk in STL on October 21<sup>st</sup>.**

Attendees:

Jeriane Jaegers-Brenneke- DSS  
Ken Chapman- DSS  
Patti Custer- DSS  
Benjamin Johnson- DSS  
Ryan Stiffler- DSS  
Julie Meranda- DSS  
Janelle Williams-MOCADSV  
Jill Wondel, House of Refuge, Sikeston  
Megan Garrett-Harmony House  
Karie Roark, Missouri Alliance for Children and Families  
Kelly Hill, Heart of Missouri CASA  
Laura Halfmann-Morris, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri  
Katie Courtway Lexington House of Hope  
Martha Sander, Council on Families in Crisis Inc  
Erica Nanney, CARDV (Coalition Against Rape and Domestic Violence)  
Jerod Breit with MADD  
Kathleen Tofall, Missouri Office of Prosecution Services  
Ann Mullen Mid Ozark CASA  
Michael Turner, KVC Missouri  
Linda Mattson - North Star Advocacy Center  
Connie Pendergrass, 37th Judicial CASA  
Laura Cook. The Child Advocacy Center of Northeast Missouri  
Les Johnson (ARCHS)  
Jenny Shaver, Child Safe of Central Missouri Inc  
Stephanie Logan, DeafLEAD  
Eric Keith - Legal Services of Eastern Missouri  
Brandi Bair, Hope House  
Shannon Unnerstall - Legal Services of Eastern Missouri  
Angie Blumel, Jackson County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)  
Jamie Willis, Greene County Family Justice Center in Springfield  
Marsha Keene - Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center, Inc.  
Loretta Schouten, Stop Human Trafficking Coalition  
Sharon Hileman, CASA of Southeast MO  
Julie West, Cass County Prosecutor's Office  
Michelle Barron, 11th Circuit CASA Program  
Victoria Roberts, St. Charles Prosecutor's Office

Hannah Meyer, 15th Judicial Circuit CASA  
Cynthia Danley, Safe Connections  
Cynthia R Bennett, JADASA  
Matt Stewart--Children's Center of SWMO  
Teresa Morehouse -- C.A.R.E. of Atchison County, Inc.  
Suzanne Wilber, Genesis: A Place of New Beginnings  
Louis Killebrew Healing Action  
Lisa Fleming, Rose Brooks Center  
Betsy Barnes Mid-Missouri Legal Services  
Crime Victim Center, Katie Dalton  
JoAnna Watts, CASA of the Parkland  
Janelle Anderson, Green Hills Women's Shelter  
Carla Smith, CASA of Dunklin County  
Alisa White, Survival Adult Abuse Center, Inc.  
Christine TenEyck, Child Advocacy Center of Northeast Missouri  
Christina Esteban, KC Mothers in Charge  
Laura Willeke - Child Protection Center  
Melissa Birdsell, Voices of Courage St. Joseph  
Cara Miller, AVENUES for Northeast Missouri, Inc.  
Gail Dickson, ARCHS  
Josh King, MOCSA  
Wende Ochoa-Turning Point Advocacy Services  
Travanna Alexander-Toney, Kansas City Public Schools  
Charity Holliday - Legal Aid of Western Missouri (fiscal team)  
Julie Lester, MACF  
Wendy Harris, Compass Health, ASP and CAC Farmington, Festus, Union.  
Judith Kile, COPE  
Donna Franz  
Melissa Platt, Missouri Alliance for Children and Families  
Tina Wise, Jackson County Prosecutor's Office  
Glenda Volmert, Franklin County CASA  
Asma Waheed, Lydia's House  
Emily Macdonald, RFCC  
Karrie Flowers Safe Connections  
Gloria McQueen, Women of Grace  
Donna Franz, Selah Place of Oregon County, Inc.  
Carol Fischer, Central MO Foster Care & Adoption