

VOCA Web-Ex
October 3rd, 2024 10:00 AM Agenda

Welcome – Patti Custer is leading the meeting.

Housekeeping

- Please mute and put questions/comments 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.

New Staff introduction - Renee Goepner – Welcome!

Letter of Intent from the General Assembly

- We received the Letter of Intent on July 12th, 2024 from Chairmen Cody Smith and Lincoln Hough.
- DSS responded to the letter 8.1.24
- The letter outlined their request for the FY25 VOCA allocations process, which includes collaboration from both DSS and the Stakeholder group to determine an application process.
- The Stakeholder group including MOCADSV, MAPA, MOCASA, and MONACA will later discuss updates regarding the funding process.

Quarterly Reports (4th Quarter)

- Due October 31st, 2024 – we will reach out if we need corrections to the submitted reports.
- Send the Q4 reports to FSD.VOCAUNIT@dss.mo.gov.
- **Send us the PDF version and the Excel version for reporting purposes**

VOCA FY24 Extension Budgets

- Procurement has been sending out finalized copies of the FY24 VOCA 3-month Extension Contracts.
- Once you receive the finalized copy, the VOCA team will send out the budget and budget narrative forms that will need to be completed.
- If you have already received approval on your budget documents, there is nothing we need from you currently.

- If you haven't already received approval, please ensure that you have sent in all necessary documents (e.g., signed amendment form, completed-signed budget forms, etc.).
- Match is not required to report on General Revenue Funds - Match will be required to report once we start using VOCA Funds. UN less you fill out a match waiver and go through the orocess with DSS AND DOJ to be approved.
- **You cannot invoice us in November if you do not have an approved budget and budget narrative for October's spending**
 - **We have had several findings this year for personnel vs. charges in salaries, so we want to ensure that everything is spelled out in the narrative so we know what is being charged where**
- **Match has been waived until 9-30-24, and it technically started on October 1, 2024 – however, with GR funds, you do not need to produce Match**
 - **Everyone received GR funds for the extension, so we may not begin using VOCA dollars again until probably April, 2025 (Match is not required until we start using VOCA funds again)**
 - **You can apply for a match waiver – we will send out information on the Match requirements and Match waivers**

Available VOCA Trainings

- Jessica Seitz, Missouri Network Against Child Abuse (MONACA)

The Missouri Office of Prosecution Services will be hosting a free webinar-

The Use of EMDR & Its Impact on the Criminal Case

Wednesday, October 30, 2024 10 AM to 12 PM

In this webinar, JoLeigh Fischer will provide you with an understanding of what Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) therapy is, how it works, when it is used, how long it takes, how it is used with PTSD, some positives and negatives of using it, and how it could impact the criminal case.

This course is CLE and POST certified.

To register, please go to:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5649924502822831958>

FORENSIC INTERVIEW IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES

Monday, October 7, 2024 1 to 3 PM Child Trafficking cases are best worked with a multidisciplinary team approach; however the forensic interview cannot be approached the same way as a traditional forensic interview. Join forensic interviewers Amy Robins and Anthony Harper to learn how a forensic interview of a child human trafficking victim is different from a traditional forensic interview, identify and discuss the importance of the multidisciplinary team model and demonstrate and transfer knowledge through real cases and forensic interview examples. This course will be CLE and POST certified.

To register, [click here](#).

VOCA 3-month Contract Extension, Stakeholder Updates

- The Stakeholder group will be providing updates on the VOCA funding allocation processes.

Application Process Update...

- **Jessica Seitz, MONACA**
 - MONACA, MOCADSV, MOCASA, & MAPA are the stakeholders for this process
 - Joint letter that was submitted the GA leadership
 - Stakeholders were tasked with developing an application and review process for the next funding cycle (FY25) then turning to DSS for final review
 - Percentage (%) allocations by category were set in the letter (CACs, CASAs, DV, SV, Underserved, etc.)
 - The Letter set a ceiling for categories
 - The Letter required an open-competitive process, but the stakeholder group is setting percentages for each of the categories for the agencies
 - There have been several meetings to develop and application for the next funding cycle, as well as a scoring and review process which has been submitted to DSS for review
 - January 1, 2025 is the anticipated start date, as of right now (9-month contract)
 - May not be feasible, but we are working with DSS on possible additional contract extensions to ensure all agencies have (at least) 30 days to write
- **Zak Wilson, MOCADSV**
 - VOCA is a very fluctuating fund at national and state levels
 - We have support from the GA to provide state general revenue funding to backfill some needs, but we know we can't bank on it every year
 - We are identifying priority areas within the funds by looking at needs assessments, data, etc.
 - Goal – to decrease the admin grant-writing burden on providers while ensuring the longevity of the VOCA fund
 - Competitive Grant Process
 - #1, Direct Services to victims – (include training and coordination of volunteers who provide direct services to crime victims).
 - #2, Specialized Services for communities impacted by inequity.
 - #3, Supportive Services for victim services.
 - #4, Direct Services to secondary victims.
 - #5, Supportive Services for secondary victim services.
 - As we go through allocation process, everything will be scored and allocations will be based on scoring
 - All applications will be looked at by priority area first – we have to identify dollars that are going to certain categories
 - If there are still funds available, which there will be, we will move to the 2nd priority area
 - Ensuring VOCA funds are being used on the highest priority needs (direct services for primary victims)
 - We are utilizing OVC Performance Measures definitions of Victims to ensure it aligns with federal requirements

- Primary victim – person who experienced the crime
 - Secondary victim – person who experienced the crime second-hand (family member, caretaker, etc.)
- Specific underserved populations – LGBTQIA+, people of color, etc.
- We know we need to be very specific with extensions to ensure everything that's coming in is allowable and correct, same with budget requests
- You will need to submit a budget and budget narrative form with the application
 - Same DSS budget items used on budget forms
- Ask for what you need, but it needs to be justified (you are not likely to receive an award higher than what you have already received in the past)
- Identify the fund as which priority area that you choose, then total
- \$X dollars in priority area #1, \$X dollars in priority area #2, etc.
- We are still fine tuning a few things, but we will talk about the full application before grant writing begins
- Grant Application Review Process
 - At a minimum, there will be 2 reviewers per application
 - Stakeholders will not review their own category (group will be available and at the review, but will not be allowed to review or score themselves)
 - VOCA unit staff will be available for technical assistance as they are being reviewed (**they are not reviewing themselves**)
 - We are looking to recruit reviewers! Get ahold of Patti if you are interested in reviewing some applications

Clarification...

- There is not a guarantee that current funded agencies would, at min, receive what they are currently receiving. It's only open to current VOCA funded agencies, but no agencies are guaranteed a certain amount since it's a competitive bid process and everything will be scored. We don't know the outcomes, but there may be agencies who receive a funding cut – it is possible. We are essentially working with the same amount, but the individual amount could change during the review process
- The VOCA Unit will send out all the documents related to this, including the percentage breakdowns
- Patti – we are using the rest of GR funding (roughly 12M), 23 funding (roughly 10M), and 24 funding (roughly 14M) – this is a 46% cut from last year (we won't find out about 25 funding until probably next summer)
 - Anticipating it to be right around the 14M, just so everyone is aware
- Patti – for match, you can use cash, check, in-kind, volunteers, materials as equipment that was donated, space or facilities that have been donated, etc.
 - <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-28/chapter-I/part-94/subpart-B/subject-group-ECFR50d70f7c906e72d/section-94.118#94.118>
- Jeriane – We cannot request a blanket match waiver for every agency per federal regulations
 - Match is going back to 20%, only with VOCA funds – not GR

- We will send out match and the conversion of volunteer hours
- The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO) is with procurement currently, finalizing the document for Department approval
- Ideally, we would like to begin writing in November, but we don't want folks to have to write over the holidays – once we get through some of the levels of approval, we will notify the providers about what the process will look like
- Jeriane – Patti and I will put something together to show where DSS is at in the process

DVSS Web-Ex October 3rd, 2024 Agenda

FVPSA Contract Updates

- **Procurement will be releasing the DVSS contracts with the FVSPA Awards (hopefully by the end of next week).**
- **Please sign, fill out the budget and narrative and return for approval and a finalized contract.**
- **You will have to have finalized before you can invoice for FVSPA**
- **You can go back to July 1st and invoice for FVSPA.**

DVSS Trainings

- Zak Wilson, Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence (MOCADSV)

MOCADSV October Training Updates

Information and registration can be found at <https://mocadsv.wpengine.com/training-opportunities/>

SPARC Stalking Training

October 10, 2024 - 09: 00 AM - 01: 00 PM

MOCADSV's Education Center, Jefferson City

Attend this in-person training session with Jennifer Landhuis from The Stalking Prevention, Awareness, and Resource Center (SPARC) to gain valuable insights on stalking. Stalking is a harmful victimization in its own right, and indicates a higher likelihood and severity of sexual violence, physical violence, and homicide. Empowering providers with the capacity to inquire about, identify, and respond to victims' needs is the next logical step in violence and homicide prevention. This workshop will provide attendees with the tools and resources necessary to enhance their local healthcare community's ability to better identify and respond to stalking victims.

Immigrant and Refugee Services Roundtable (IRSR)

October 25, 2024 - 10: 30 AM - 11: 30 AM

Zoom - Join the meeting at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/5734697817> or use **meeting ID 573 469 7817**

MOCADSV will host an Immigrant and Refugee Services Roundtable meeting with the Asian Pacific Institute Against Gender-Based Violence. Cannon Han from the Interpretation Technical Assistance Resource Center (ITARC) at the Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence will provide training on Title VI and Trauma Informed Meaningful Language Access. This meeting brings advocates, attorneys, and immigrant service providers together to connect with one another, share resources, and discuss strategies for providing excellent services to immigrant and refugee survivors of violence throughout Missouri.

The Asian Pacific Islander Institute on Gender-Based Violence is a national resource center on domestic violence, sexual violence, trafficking, and other forms of gender-based violence in Asian/Asian-American and Pacific Islander communities. They are leading experts on integrating language access into services for immigrant survivors of violence. This Immigrant and Refugee Services Roundtable meeting provides a unique opportunity to learn from national experts and consider how we might overcome recent challenges to language access and provide meaningful services to all survivors of violence.

2024 MOCADSV Conference – Unity

November 6 – 8th

Holiday Inn Expo Center, Columbia

The Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence is excited to come together once again for our 2024 conference with the theme of Unity. The 2024 Conference will focus on the transformative power of solidarity in the movement against domestic and sexual violence. As we come together, we emphasize the critical importance of a united front in creating safer communities and striving for meaningful progress for survivors. By sharing insights, strategies, and experiences, we aim to strengthen our shared determination and amplify our impact. Together, we will pave new paths and work towards our vision of a world free from violence.

The 2024 Conference keynote speaker will be Dr. Wendy Mahoney. Dr. Mahoney has more than 30 years of experience in the non-profit and social service fields, with a resume containing numerous executive director positions for domestic violence and mental health agencies. She is currently the principal consultant of her business, Devine Strategies, providing training and professional development on various topics throughout the country.