

VOCA Synopsis

Background

- VOCA was transferred from Department of Public Safety (DPS) to Department of Social Services (DSS) in 2017
- Funding levels have been unstable due to inconsistency at the federal level which is driven by the collection of fines and fees. Missouri's SFY24 budget included \$15M of General Revenue to keep the contracts stable. It is anticipated \$5M of the \$15M will be used.

2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
\$6.8M	\$6.8M	\$7.1M	\$7.6M	\$7.1M	\$5.9M	\$11.1M	\$7.9M	\$8.1M	\$7.2M	\$8M

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
\$8.6M	\$36M	\$41M	\$34.4M	\$61.8M	\$41.7M	\$30.9M	\$19.2M	\$26.3M	\$24.7M

- Notice of Funding Opportunity released in 2021:
 - Included regions to address discrepancies in funding allocations in St. Louis and Southwest and presented these to MO Kids First and MOCADSV.
 - Enhanced points for services, and reduction to allowable response length.
 - Received 197 bids with 140 providers totaling \$69.6M and funding to allocate to these contracts was \$48.5M.
 - There were multiple iterations of funding possibilities shared with MOCADSV and MO Kids First.
 1. Only awarding top bidders - There would have been 86 contracts with 77 providers, compared with the 194 contracts, and 140 providers. (Currently there are 190 contracts.)
 2. Provide funding to bidders on a sliding scale.
 3. Average of the expenditures for the last 12 months, or the lesser of the bid. New bidders receive the lesser of the bid or the average of the region.
 4. Average of the expenditures for the first 11 months, or the lesser of the bid. New bidders receive the lesser of the bid or the average of the region.

5. Average of the 23 months, or the lesser of the bid. New bidders receive the lesser of the bid or the average of the region.
 - After discussion, the 5th option was chosen as it would keep the agencies “whole”.
See Attachment 2 for provider funding levels.
 - DSS held conference calls with providers regarding the new contracts and contract process.
 - Contracts began April 1, 2022.

For additional information, see Attachment #3.

Stakeholder Engagement

- DSS hosted meetings in 2022:
 - October 14 – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 3
 - November 7 – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 4
 - December 12 – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 5
- After the initial meetings, there was a request to lower the attendees to groups that could represent all agencies including: DSS, MSHP, MOCADSV, MO Kids First, Missouri Association for Prosecuting Attorneys, and MO-CASA
- Stakeholder meetings occurred:
 - December 20, 2022 – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 6
 - January 10, 2023 – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 7
 - February 21st – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 8
 - March 27th – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 9
 - May 1st – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 10
 - May 23rd – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 11
 - June 20th – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 12
 - July 10th – Meeting Minutes in Attachment 13

Note: MSHP didn't continue to attend after the conversations were in regards to sub recipients

- During the meeting on June 20, 2023, DSS outlined some options for discussion:

- Option 1: Contract with MCADSV, MO Kids First, MO-CASA, and MAPA Potential Allocations
- Option #2: Create 4 formulas and 1 competitive bid
- Option #3: Entire competitive bid
- The represented agencies chose for DSS to subcontract with them
- July 19, 2023 in which DSS reviewed the history, VOCA funding, award amounts, regional structure, upcoming contracts, and reviewed the stakeholder group meeting – Attachment 14
- August 7, 2023 DSS reviewed new Fact sheet, quarterly report, grant release and conditions update, 4 provider updates, discussed the next meeting, and future communication – Attachment 15

Overview of Stakeholder Recommendations & Options

Option	Stakeholder Group Opinion	Pros	Cons	Notes	Department Recommendations
Contract with MOCADSV, MO Kids First, MO-CASA, and MAPA as sub recipients	This is the option these agencies would like to pursue	Sub recipient would make determinations through a formula or competitive process based on feedback from providers	Received feedback from agencies with concerns	2 from MO-CASA, 3 from MO Kids First, and 2 from MAPA: These were preferential.	Finalize plans for MO-CASA, MO Kids First, and MAPA to become sub recipients.
			The Department will lose some of the one-on-one contact with the agencies.	MOCASDV concerns: See Attachment #16 Non-members not being treated equally MOCASDV's stance on Roe vs. Wade Questionable advice regarding accounting procedures Limited face-to-face interaction MOCADSV doesn't understand the agencies or the needs Conflict of interest because MOCADSV also has a TA contract and this will create a different relationship Members receive information on VOCA from MOCADSV and non-members do not	Determine procurement mechanism for remaining agencies.
		There would be a consistent percentage amount of the total grant for the agencies		Many agencies did not request or want any changes to the current processes.	DSS review current contract process and simplify.
				In contracting with additional sub grantees, the department loses oversight of data reports	Engage MO-CATE (for human trafficking) to become a sub recipient.

			and expenditures.	<p>Agencies do not receive the same training opportunities</p> <p>MOCADSV stated providers could not directly engage with the state agency</p> <p>Concerns will only fund DV and SV</p> <p>MOCADSV most recently put a post on Social Media asking for donations to the Coalition and not to VOCA providers</p> <p>MOCADSV continues to hold conference calls with only members regarding the potential to be a sub recipient and indicated to the Department they would not do this</p> <p>MOCADSV put a Facebook post up asking for donations to them and not to providers, providers commented on the screen shots and then sent it to all DV/SV providers</p>	
Create 4 formulas and 1 competitive bid	Preferred Option #1	Consistent Formula	Doesn't take into consideration variances for rural vs. urban costs		The Department should still consider this for the shelter and other services
Entire competitive bid	Preferred Option #1, but agreed necessary for underserved	Entire process will continue to remain competitive	The process is time consuming as every application is reviewed by multiple people	MOCADSV wants to engage on who receives these funds.	There will need to be a portion of the contracts (i.e. underserved) that will need to be competitively bid.
Reduce the funding level that any one agency can receive	MOCADSV doesn't agree with capping amounts*				

*Rose Brooks is MOCADSV board member and receives \$2.4M or 5% of the grant.

