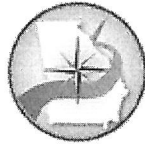


# ARRA STOP VAWA Implementation Plan for the State of Georgia

May 2009-April 2011

## Criminal Justice Coordinating Council



### **Mission:**

The State of Georgia's ARRA STOP VAWA grant funds will be used to hire and retain criminal justice and victim services personnel who respond to violent crimes against women, as well as support other strategies that create and preserve jobs and promote economic growth while improving responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking.

### **Plan Development:**

This plan was developed by the staff and board members of the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council as well as representation from victim service agencies, prosecution agencies, courts, law enforcement as well as our coalition. A full list of participants is included as Attachment 1 as well as the participant sign-in sheet.

The committee met on May 12, 2009 to discuss the issues, goals and objectives as it related to the STOP priorities of the Recovery Act. The issues discussed by the group revolved much around the lack of available services and the dwindling support by community funders. The economy has taken a toll on the available services that each agency is able to successfully

complete. There is basically not enough money available to support the needed services. Couple this with the number of increased cases that each agency has been faced with; the hardship has been twofold for those dedicated to providing services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and other acts of violence against women.

The committee discussed how the Recovery Act funding could best to be used to meet the specific needs of STOP programs and services all while ensuring the basics and so that core needs would continue to be met. As you can see by the agenda attached, the meeting was held in an open way to facilitate discussion and meaningful dialogue between all. Each was encouraged to analyze the current services available, examine the possibilities that Recovery Act funding would support and to think about how to equitable distribute the funding so that all those that work to support the criminal justice system with their violence against women initiatives would continue to serve.

The core victim services include:

- Emergency Shelter
- Crisis Intervention
- Law enforcement and prosecutorial responses
- Counseling/therapy services
- Advocacy

The committee requested that whatever funding is made available through the Recovery Act be offered to eligible organizations according to the priorities of restoration, retention, creation and economic stimulus not to exceed the funding limits per FTE to be determined by staff.

### **Distribution of Funds**

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To equitable distribute Recovery Act funding, greater emphasis was placed on those agencies that were able to show the loss or potential loss of an employee within agencies working on

violence against women initiatives. If there were any agencies showing that funding would restore a position that was lost due to recent economic conditions, beginning no earlier than July 2008, then that position was given consideration first, under the Recovery Act priority of restoration of jobs. For positions within the victim service realm, the award amount per FTE did not exceed \$40,000. For positions within the law enforcement realm, the award amount per FTE did not exceed \$60,000. And for position within the prosecution realm, the award amount per FTE did not exceed \$80,000. These amounts were based on recent calculations of salary ranges between agencies within Georgia.

If there were any agencies showing that funding would help to retain a position that was to be lost and/or cut due to recent economic conditions, then that position was given consideration second, under the Recovery Act priority of retention of jobs. Any jobs that were scheduled to be eliminated were to be supported by documentation such as board meeting minutes, an order from a department chair to cut services, or certified documentation by someone familiar with the financial situation of the agency/organization. As mentioned above, for positions within the victim service realm, the award amount per FTE did not exceed \$40,000. For positions within the law enforcement realm, the award amount per FTE did not exceed \$60,000. And for position within the prosecution realm, the award amount per FTE did not exceed \$80,000. These amounts were based on recent calculations of salary ranges between agencies within Georgia. Staff layoffs, furloughs, and/or the end of certain core services were of particular importance as the distribution of Recovery Act funds were made.

If there were any agencies showing that funding would help to create a position that was to be used to ensure the criminal justice system works more effectively for all victims and increased the safety of women in our state, then that position was given consideration third, under the Recovery Act priority of creating jobs. As mentioned above, for positions within the victim

service realm, the award amount per FTE did not exceed \$40,000. For positions within the law enforcement realm, the award amount per FTE did not exceed \$60,000. And for position within the prosecution realm, the award amount per FTE did not exceed \$80,000. These amounts were based on recent calculations of salary ranges between agencies within Georgia.

Agencies expressing the desire to purchase materials, equipment and/or supplies were given the last consideration and final priority for awards made through Recovery Act funding. Once awards were made to eligible organizations requesting funding to restore, retain, and/or create jobs awards were then made to those requesting economic stimulus purchases. Though not made a requirement by OVW, the State of Georgia encouraged all purchases funded through Recovery Act, to be at a minimum, made through a local vendor in order to stimulate the surrounding communities as well as the State.

### **Use of Administrative Funds**

CJCC intends to utilize administrative funds of ARRA STOP Violence Against Women (VAWA) Grant Program award for administrative costs. These funds will be utilized to support staff and operational expenses that relate to the administration of the VAWA Grant Program. Expenses will include salaries, fringe benefits, office rental, supplies and telecommunications. Staff will solicit applications; monitor programs financially and programmatically, prepare reports, and evaluate outcomes. The primary responsibility of staff will be to support and monitor subgrant programs to ensure that federal guidelines are understood and followed. Staff members will also coordinate activities, including training efforts, with our state and local partners to implement the goals of the STOP Implementation Plan.

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### **Allocation of Funds**



### Allocation of ARRA STOP VAWA funds

Court	5 %
Prosecution	25 %
Law Enforcement	25 %
Victim Services	45%

The State of Georgia's Recovery Act Implementation Plan's goal is to increase the safety of women in every community and will support projects that 1) restore and retain jobs, 2) create jobs and 3) create an economic stimulus for our local economy. In accordance with federal requirements, Georgia will ensure through direct granting and monitoring that each function area will utilize the funding awarded. These allocations will not be redirected, redistributed or transferred to another function area.

### Performance Evaluation and Monitoring of Subgrantees

Just as other funding cycles, subgrantees are required to submit quarterly statistical progress reports, 30 days after the quarter ends, to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council on the services provided during the period. For the Recovery Act award period, the following quarters will provide opportunities to get a detailed report of services being provided:

- August 2009 – September 2009 *due* October 30, 2009
- October 2009 – December 2009 *due* January 30, 2010
- January 2010 – March 2010 *due* April 30, 2010
- April 2010 – June 2010 *due* July 30, 2010
- July 2010 – September 2010 *due* October 30, 2010
- October 2010 – December 2010 *close-out and final report due* January 30, 2011

The following ARRA data is collected for victim service agencies:

- Number of existing and/or new victims served;
- Reason for agency referral (victimization);
- Number of victims by the type of services received;

- Total services delivered by the agency;
- New victims based on demographics;
- Number of services provided to victims.

\*As a note: All STOP victim service subgrantees are also currently collecting outcome surveys from (anonymous) victims who are being assisted. These surveys are collected by CJCC staff on a 6-month basis, entered into a database and the reviewed. We believe that this data will improved services to victims and help inform local coordinated community response teams in their work. \*

All reports mentioned above are similar to those currently being completed by regular STOP subgrantees and are consistent with the reporting guidelines provided by OVW. Site visit and desk review plans are currently being developed and will incorporate both reviews for compliance in both programmatic and fiscal areas. A report specific to recipients receiving STOP funding within law enforcement, fatality review agencies, probation, prosecution, courts and those agencies providing trainings for the above agencies will be developed and should be ready for all agencies to complete for the quarter beginning January 2010. This report is anticipated to mirror much of the STOP annual report allowing CJCC to collect data more frequently regarding these agencies.

The following ARRA data is collected for the previously mentioned agencies:

- Number of arrests relative to the responses and the calls for assistance;
- Number of people receiving specialized training on topics such as services to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, dating violence, and such information targeting culturally specific populations;
- Number of cases received compared to number of charges filed;
- Number of cases dismissed, convicted or acquitted (status);
- Number of services or number of clients served by prosecution staff;
- Number of trainings held and number of people trained on issues of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking and dating violence

In addition to the quantitative project data that each subgrantee is required to submit, success will be evaluated in all categories as follows:

- Number of jobs retained
- Number of jobs restored
- Number of jobs created
- Result of economic stimulus purchase as it relates to the violence against women initiative being served by the agency

## **Conclusion**

The State of Georgia goal of ARRA funds focuses on restoring, retaining and creating jobs to retain criminal justice and victim services personnel who respond to violent crimes against women, as well as support other strategies that create and preserve jobs and promote economic growth while improving responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking. Using the strategies listed earlier, competitive applications were developed and distributed statewide. In summary:

- Funding will be allocated through a competitive process;
- Funds will be distributed in accordance with the distribution plan listed above;
- Funding will be used to support and enhance community-based victim services, especially programs reaching underserved populations;
- Funding will be used to supporting the development of coordinated community teams across agencies designed to reduce and prevent the incidences of violence against women and to ultimately hold the offender accountable

2009 Recovery Act STOP VAWA Formula Grant Implementation Plan

Submitted by: Lateefah Raheem, Program Director and Georgia STOP Grant Administrator

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)

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404-657-1965



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

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## RECOVERY ACT STOP VAWA IMPLEMENTATION PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING

May 12, 2009 Sign-In Sheet

Name	Agency	Telephone Number	Email
1. <u>Chris Marsh</u>	<u>Halcyon Home, Inc</u>	<u>229-226-6682</u>	<u>halcyon@rose.net</u>
2. <u>Anne Falick Henry</u>	<u>RapeCrisis and Sexual Assault Services</u>	<u>706 774 2731</u>	<u>aefalickhenry@uh.org</u>
3. <u>Terrri Strayhorn</u>	<u>RAPE RESPONSE</u>	<u>7705031213</u>	<u>strayhorn@aol.com</u>
4. <u>Jill Reich</u>	<u>DeKalb DA's Office</u>	<u>404-371-2310</u>	<u>jmreich@co.dekalb.ga.us</u>
5. <u>Betsy Ramsey</u>	<u>DeKalb Solicitor's Office</u>	<u>404391-4773</u>	<u>br Ramsey@co.dekalb.ga.us</u>
6. <u>Kathy Patrick</u>	<u>CoBB County</u>	<u>(770) 528-8555</u>	<u>Kathy.Patrick@co.cobb.ga.us</u>
7. <u>Haley Plunkett</u>	<u>Cobb Co. Solicitor's Office</u>	<u>(770) 528-8547</u>	<u>haley.plunkett@co.cobb.ga.us</u>
8. <u>Juanita James</u>	<u>DeKalb Rape Crisis Center</u>	<u>(404) 397-1429</u>	<u>juanita@dekalbrapecrisiscenter.org</u>
9. <u>Brenda Hoffmann</u>	<u>Conasauga DA VAWA</u>	<u>(706) 876-1309</u>	<u>DAVW@CATT.COM</u>
10. <u>Jennifer Bivins</u>	<u>SCSAC &amp; GNESA</u>	<u>404-732-7024</u>	<u>jenniferbivins@gmail.com</u>
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### RECOVERY ACT STOP VAWA IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

#### COMMITTEE MEETING

May 12, 2009

10:00 A.M. -- 3:00 p.m.

#### AGENDA

#### 10:00 – 10:15 Welcome; Purpose of the Meeting; Ground-Rules (15 minutes)

**Purpose:** Prepare Recovery Act VAWA Implementation Plan – requirement of Recovery Act STOP VAWA Act. “All states and territories will need to submit a new implementation plan specific to the purposes of the Recovery Act. The Recovery Act STOP Program Implementation Plan must specify how the planned activities will create or retain jobs and create economic growth. This plan is due within 120 days after receipt of the Recovery ACT STOP award.”

This is also the year that our regular STOP VAWA Implementation Plan (long process) is due for updating. We wanted to start discussing early & planning ahead to build a more comprehensive & participatory process.

Finally, we wanted to build relationship between Lateefah Raheem as STOP VAWA Planner and STOP VAWA program partners.

**Guarantee of dialogue** – we will listen, we will record and document your recommendations, but we do not guarantee we will accept or implement all of your recommendations. (Honoring their expertise and inviting them to function as consultants).

#### 10:15 – 10:30 Round Robin: Introductions, Description of Programs Represented

Brief discussion (shorter than SASP meeting) – will have opportunity to meet at lunch as well.

#### 10:30 – 11:00 Overview of Recovery Act STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program; Allocation of Funds; Solicitation of Proposals

Recovery Act STOP VAWA makes funding available for the same Statutory Purpose Areas as those listed under the regular STOP VAWA grant program (see attached list).

Also requires compliance with Recovery Act Priorities: 1) Creation of jobs, 2) preservation of jobs, and 3) promotion of economic growth (actually reversed order)



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from ARRA). States must ensure that these elements are factors in the selection and review process and ensure that each project funded will address how their project will provide meaningful and measurable outcomes for achieving job preservation & creation.

**NOTE: States must promote a competitive process to the maximum extent possible.**

States must track and account separately for the use of Recovery Act funding.

*States are encouraged to develop and support projects to: hire and retain criminal justice and victim services personnel that respond to violent crimes against women; and, develop or improve protection order registries compatible with the Federal Bureau of Investigation NCIC Protection Order File.*

Allocation formula for Recovery Act STOP VAWA is the same as regular STOP VAWA (mandated by federal government, 15% discretionary approved by CJCC): 20% victim services, 10% victim services – cultural and linguistically distinct populations; 15% discretionary – victim services; 25% law enforcement, 25% prosecution, 5% courts. All victim services must be nonprofit, nongovernmental.

**Solicitation of Proposals/On-Line Application:** STOP VAWA Victim Services funding was included in the Victim Services joint application. Money not “blended” – application will sort eligible applicants out for each funding source. VAWA has specific limitations – (1) nonprofit, nongovernmental agencies only; (2) victims age 13+ of violence against women; and (3) 10% set-aside for culturally & linguistically diverse populations.

Agency set priorities of (1) job preservation or restoration; (2) job creation; (3) economic stimulus. With attention to geographic distribution of funds – application is open to all victim services programs, not just ones currently funded. We have approximately 88 eligible programs (or partially eligible, in the case of multiple component programs).

STOP VAWA Criminal Justice System Improvement (law enforcement, prosecution, courts) – separate RFA; same emphases. However, there are very few existing recipients due to 4 year rule of CJCC. Now, 4-Year Rule has been eliminated, plus application is open to all. Do not know who is applying, nor of their familiarity with STOP VAWA. Creates an opportunity for new programs in way that is not really available to victim services agencies (preservation & restoration of jobs may take most of the available funding). Creates a dilemma – topic of discussion for lunch & later this afternoon: How do we ensure that new



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CJSI programs really focus on system change – how the system responds to crimes of violence against women.

### **11:00 – 11:30 Recovery Act STOP VAWA Implementation Plan -- Requirements**

*States are required to develop their Recovery Act Implementation Plans through deliberative consultation and coordination with nonprofit, nongovernmental victim services programs (including sexual assault and domestic violence programs, faith-based and community organizations).*

Short summary of the information described below (no more than 10 pages):

- In addition to information on job creation, retention, and economic stimulus, the Recovery Act STOP VAWA Implementation Plan must describe:
  - The process used to redevelop the plan and the involvement of victim services, diverse populations, programs, and advocates;
  - The types of programs the grantee intends to support with grant funds; and
  - How the success of the grant-funded activities will be evaluated.
- Also, the implementation plan should also describe how the state will achieve & ensure the following:
  - The continued equitable distribution of funds on a geographic basis, including nonurban and rural areas of various geographic sizes; and
  - Recognition and meaningful response to the needs of underserved populations and ensure that monies set aside to fund linguistically and culturally specific services and activities for underserved populations are distributed equitably among those populations.

### **11:30 – 12:30 Recovery Act STOP VAWA Goals & Objectives, Recommendations**

Can we work together to develop some simple goals & objectives? Start with rephrasing the basic requirements of Recovery Act, and move on from there. How do we use this funding, and encourage agencies to use this funding, strategically, to strengthen system change efforts?

### **12:30 – 1:30 Lunch (Discussion topic: Going forward – FY 2009 STOP VAWA Implementation Plan: How do we encourage greater participation in STOP VAWA Criminal Justice System Improvement (CJSI), how do we generate projects that really result in system change?)**

### **1:30 – 2:40 Group Discussion – Topics:**

- (1) Encouraging the Participation of Law Enforcement, Prosecution, Courts;
- (2) How Do We Build On/Carry Forward Fatality Review Initiatives?



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- (3) How Do We Extend Availability of Sexual Assault Services Programs?**
- (4) Culturally & linguistically distinctive populations? Elderly? Disabled?**
- (5) Training issues – law enforcement, judiciary, SANE, other?**
- (6) What data do we need?**
  - (a) TPO Registry**
  - (b) Standardized police reporting – domestic violence**
  - (c) Assessment of medical resources – sexual assault, domestic violence**
  - (d) Other?**

**2:40 – 3:00    Next Steps – meeting dates? Sub-committees?  
Training on new STOP VAWA Annual Report**



## RECOVERY ACT STOP VAWA PROGRAM SCOPE

### Program Scope

The scope of the Recovery Act STOP VAWA Program is defined by the statutory purpose areas and the identified program activities under the legislation authorizing the STOP VAWA Program and the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.

### Statutory Program Purposes

By statute, funds under the Recovery Act STOP Program may be used for the following purposes:

STOP Program grants are intended for use by states and territories; state, local and tribal courts (including juvenile courts); Indian tribal governments; units of local government; and nonprofit, nongovernmental victim service programs, including those of faith-based and community organizations. Grants and subgrants supported through this Program **must** meet one or more of the following statutory purpose areas:

- Training law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence;
- Developing, training, or expanding units of law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors specifically targeting violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence;
- Developing and implementing more effective police, court, and prosecution policies, protocols, orders, and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence;
- Developing, installing, or expanding data collection and communication systems, including computerized systems, linking police, prosecutors, and courts or for the purpose of identifying and tracking arrests, protection orders, violations of protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions for violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence;
- Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services programs, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence programs, developing or improving delivery of victim services to underserved populations, providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted, and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence;
- Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing stalking;

- Supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts, to the extent not supported by state funds, to coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies, and other state agencies and departments, to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence;
- Training of sexual assault forensic medical personnel examiners in the collection and preservation of evidence, analysis, prevention, and providing expert testimony and treatment of trauma related to sexual assault;
- Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and others to address the needs and circumstances of older and disabled women who are victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, including recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of such violence or assault and targeting outreach and support, counseling, and other victim services to such older and disabled individuals;
- Providing assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in immigration matters;
- Maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives, while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families;
- Supporting the placement of special victim assistants (to be known as “Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants”) in local law enforcement agencies to serve as liaisons between victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, and personnel in local law enforcement agencies in order to improve the enforcement of protection orders. Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants shall have expertise in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and may undertake the following activities –
  - Developing, in collaboration with prosecutors, courts, and victim service providers, standardized response policies for local law enforcement agencies, including triage protocols to ensure that dangerous or potentially lethal cases are identified and prioritized;
  - Notifying persons seeking enforcement of protection orders as to what responses will be provided by the relevant law enforcement agency;
  - Referring persons seeking enforcement of protection orders to supplementary services (such as emergency shelter programs, hotlines, or legal assistance services); and
  - Taking other appropriate action to assist or secure the safety of the person seeking enforcement of a protection order.
  - *Provide assistance in obtaining protection orders, including informing victims about them, how to get them, and actually helping with forms.*
  - *Insure individuals with protection orders are entered into the Registry.*
  - *Notifying law enforcement that protection orders exist (cases where previous violence has occurred).*

- Providing funding to law enforcement agencies, nonprofit nongovernmental victim services providers, and state and local governments (which funding stream shall be known as the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program) to promote --
  - The development and implementation for local domestic violence service providers, and to fund victim services personnel, to be known as “Crystal Judson Victim Advocates,” to provide supportive services and advocacy for victims of domestic violence committed by law enforcement personnel;
  - The implementation of protocols within law enforcement agencies to ensure consistent and effective responses to the commission of domestic violence by personnel within such agencies (such as the model policy promulgated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police);
  - The development of such protocols in collaboration with state and local victim services providers and domestic violence coalitions.

#### Program Priorities

The emphasis of the STOP Program continues to be on the implementation of comprehensive strategies addressing violence against women that are sensitive to the needs and safety of victims and hold offenders accountable for their crimes. States and territories should seek to carry out these strategies by forging lasting partnerships between the criminal justice system and victim advocacy organizations and by encouraging communities to look beyond traditional resources and to look to new partners to respond more vigorously to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking crimes, such as faith-based and community organizations.

In shaping their strategies for the OVW Recovery Act STOP Formula Program, states are encouraged to develop and support projects to:

- Hire and retain criminal justice and victim services personnel that respond to violent crimes against women; and
- Develop or improve protection order registries compatible with the Federal Bureau of Investigation NCIC Protection Order File.

#### Consultation and Documentation Requirement

State applications **must now** include “documentation showing that tribal, territorial, state or local prosecution, law enforcement, and courts **have** consulted with tribal, territorial, state, or local victim services programs during the course of developing their grant applications in order to ensure that proposed activities and equipment acquisitions are designed to promote the safety, confidentiality, and economic independence of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence.

### Activities That May Compromise Victim Safety

Ensuring victim safety is a guiding principle underlying this Program. Experience has shown that certain practices may compromise victim safety rather than enhance it. Certain responses by the authorities may have the effect of minimizing or trivializing the offender's criminal behavior.

Accordingly, consistent with the goals of ensuring victim safety while holding perpetrators accountable for their criminal conduct, applicants are strongly discouraged from proposing projects that include any activities that may compromise victim safety, such as the following:

- Offering perpetrators the option of entering pre-trial diversion programs;
- Requiring mediation or counseling for couples as a systemic response to domestic violence or sexual assault;
- Requiring victims to report sexual assault, stalking, or domestic violence crimes to law enforcement or forcing victims to participate in criminal proceedings;
- Court mandated batterer intervention programs that do not use the coercive power of the criminal justice system to hold batterers accountable for their behavior;
- Placing of batterers in anger management programs; or,
- Procedures that would penalize victims of domestic violence (or sexual assault?) for failure to testify against their abusers or impose other sanctions on them.

*Proposals including these activities will not be funded.*