



To encourage and facilitate mutual support, awareness and cooperation among states and territories administering Violence Against Women Act grants

AVA/OVW CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
APRIL 8, 2019
11:00 – 12:00 pm Eastern Standard Time (EST)

OVW Staff: OVW Associate Director Amy Loder, STOP Program Managers Latonya Eaddy and Omar Muhammed, SASP Team Lead Melissa Schmisek

AVA Board Members: Julia Fuller-Wilson, Bill Schaeffer, Cecilia Miller, Tina Chamberlain, MaryEllen Garcia, Merry Wills, Jade Palin

AVA Executive Director: Barry Bryant - absent

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

STOP Formula Grant Applications

- Sincere thanks to OVW for making the solicitation available prior to the STOP Conference and having the due date beyond the conference dates.
- STOP and SASP allocations are out.
- Remind everyone that the applications and RSCCA certifications and reapplications are due April 18. If they come in after the deadline, they will not be funded.
- Last year for states to be funded if in 4th year of 4 years.
- Any thought to the time limit for states to continue to be funded?
 - OVW has not had any conversations indicating that Congress would go beyond the four years. Not an OVW rule; it's a statutory rule. For states who have not had the 4 years, the funding continues unless Congress decides otherwise. Funding is an appropriation every year.
 - Where does funding for RSCCA come from? OVW doesn't know.
- May 8 is the due date for the STOP application.

STOP Annual Conference

AVA in-person meeting with OVW

- The Director's schedule is very busy and OVW hasn't pinned down a time to meet for breakfast or lunch while at the conference.
- Katie will not be at the conference for the entire time. Katie is looking forward to meeting us since she wasn't able to attend the conference in person last year.

Can AVA help OVW in preparing for the Conference?

- OVW sent out a recent email about state administrators bringing their data to look at it with their coalitions in order to think about what needs to be done to get the next

implementation plan in place. States will be sitting with their coalitions to build relationships and work on developing the plan

- Would be great to really participate and take advantage of the time to plan with all parties working together. Including the tribal coalitions for the first time.
- Heard from the states that there's so much to do; states that struggled with their plan weren't doing any work (relationship building, occasional check-ins) during the years. Get people to think about the quality of the work, how to leverage funds between VOCA, FVPSA, etc. OVW will really push that administrators work with VOCA since there are states returning money or not funding a diverse group of projects.
- AVA can talk to states about the need to coordinate how the funds are being used.
- Any changes to the requirements to the plan from last time? No, they are the same. Outlined in the statute, not just OVW staff. OVW reordered it to make it flow better but the information is the same.
 - OVW will be looking at similar issues as the last implementation plan review and will be interested in the same things they pushed back on in 2017. If you haven't talked to all the tribes in your state, they won't approve the plan. Emails don't really demonstrate collaboration with tribes. OVW wants states to go beyond the requirements to figure out how best to serve victims. Not just bare minimum.
- OVW arranged the sections in this way: Data, who to talk to, who to fund. Often read as separate sections and aren't related to another. Underserved and culturally specific were often conflated. Many states saw them as the same. Doesn't translate into who is actually being supported. Many states support who they always support. Some states are doing really great things, working well with VOCA, holding listening sessions, going out and meeting tribes, diversifying funding.
- SA set-aside: can be done in a better way. Impression that Amy got was that SA was being done only because statute said to.
- New administrators: OVW recognizes there is a lot of turnover in the past two years and not a lot of support sometimes for new administrators. OVW provides support through tools, conversations with coalitions. For new administrators, OVW will provide additional support; there's time available before the plan is due for them to receive some onboarding help. OVW and AVA can emphasize
 - if they are new, that it's good to reach out to OVW for help, looking at materials, reaching out to AVA. They encourage new administrators to ask for help. There are no dumb questions. OVW is trying to pay attention to knowing the new admins
- OVW doesn't want the plans to look like they are only checking boxes. AVA can convey the message to embrace this opportunity to plan; to inspire. Meeting will give the opportunity for OVW to put practices in place to alleviate the back and forth between OVW and administrators during plan review.
- Some states are doing the work formally and informally; take extra steps to document the informal work.



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- OVW stresses that talking to each other is important. AVA can help nudge states about looking early and often and being thoughtful about the process.
- The next plan is due in 2021, it's 2019 now so there's time to do planning.

Other Discussion

- Next phone call will take place on July 8.

Adjourn 10:40 am