

**Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Transitional Housing Program
INSTRUCTIONS
NOFO # 1745-1001**

Task	Date
NOFO posted	October 1, 2025
Technical Assistance Recording	October 8, 2025
Notice of Intent due	October 15, 2025
NOFO question submission deadline	October 23, 2025
Applications due	5:00 p.m. CST, October 31, 2025
Budget Committee review/approval of recommended designations	February 2026
Performance Period	March 1, 2026 – February 28, 2027

CHECKLIST

Prior to applying:

- [Register with the System for Award Management \(SAM\), Obtain a Unique Entity ID \(UEI\) Number](#) [Register with the System for Award Management \(SAM\), Obtain a Unique Entity ID \(UEI\) Number](#)
- [Apply for, update or verify the Employer Identification Number \(EIN\)](#) [Apply for, update or verify the Employer Identification Number \(EIN\)](#)
- [Complete registration in the Grantee GATA Portal](#) [Complete registration in the Grantee GATA Portal](#)
- [Obtain Single Sign-On for application submission in AmpliFund](#) [Obtain Single Sign-On for application submission in AmpliFund](#)
- [Maintain in “Good” standing with all GATA pre-qualification requirements](#)

Application Submission via AmpliFund

The following process is required:

Step 1: Applying Organization must register in the Illinois Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal:

<https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/>.

Step 2: Applying Organizations must identify an individual(s) who will submit the application via AmpliFund, this person will serve as the Primary Contact for this application. However, more than one individual can have access to and complete components of the application via AmpliFund. The Primary Contact must submit the

applications, including attachments, via Amplifund. To submit an application, go to:
[AmpliFundAmpliFund](#).

To be considered for funding, completed applications must be submitted via the above AmpliFund link by the application deadline of 5:00 p.m., Friday, October 31, 2025
ICJIA encourages applicants to review this forthcoming recording.

**Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Transitional Housing Program
Uniform Notice for Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**

	Data Field	
1.	Awarding Agency Name:	Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA)
2.	Agency Contact:	Malea Conro Criminal Justice Specialist II Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority 60 East Van Buren Street, Suite 650 Chicago, Illinois 60605 Malea.Conro@illinois.gov 312- 793-8550
3.	Announcement Type:	☒ Initial announcement ☐ Modification of a previous announcement
4.	Type of Assistance Instrument:	Grant
5.	Funding Opportunity Number:	1745-1001
6.	Funding Opportunity Title:	VOCA Transitional Housing Program
7.	CSFA Number:	546-00-1745
8.	CSFA Popular Name:	VOCA
9.	CFDA Number(s):	16.575
10.	Anticipated Number of Awards:	15
11.	Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$2,830,905
12.	Award Range	\$100,000 - \$400,000
13.	Source of Funding:	☒ Federal or Federal pass-through ☐ State ☐ Private / other funding
14.	Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	☒ Yes ☐ No
15.	Indirect Costs Allowed	☒ Yes ☐ No
	Restrictions on Indirect Costs	☐ Yes ☒ No
16.	Posted Date:	October 1, 2025
17.	Application Range:	March 1, 2026 – February 28, 2027
18.	Technical Assistance Session:	Session Offered: ☒ Yes ☐ No Session Mandatory: ☒ Yes ☐ No It is recommended that applicants view the following technical assistance video: Posting on October 8, 2025
19.	AmpliFund Application Submission link:	Transitional Housing Application

Table of Contents

A. Program Description	6
1. <i>Purpose</i>	6
2. <i>Program Design</i>	9
3. <i>Program Requirements</i>	10
4. <i>Goals and Performance Metrics</i>	11
5. <i>Priorities</i>	12
6. <i>Evidence-Based Programs or Practices</i>	12
B. Funding Information	13
1. <i>Award period</i>	13
2. <i>Available Funds</i>	13
C. Eligibility Information	13
1. <i>Eligible Applicants</i>	14
2. <i>Cost Sharing or Matching</i>	15
3. <i>Indirect Cost Rate</i>	15
D. Application and Submission Information	17
1. <i>Accessing Application Package</i>	17
2. <i>Content and Form of Application Submission</i>	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3. <i>Unique Entity Identification Number (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)</i>	17
4. <i>Submission Dates, Times, and Method</i>	Error! Bookmark not defined.
5. <i>Application Questions</i>	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6. <i>Funding Restrictions</i>	18
7. <i>Requirement Prior to Submitting the Application</i>	22
E. Application Review Information	22
1. <i>Criteria</i>	22
2. <i>Review and Selection Process</i>	25
3. <i>Implementing Agency vs. Program Agency</i>	25
4. <i>Anticipated Announcement and State Award Dates</i>	26
5. <i>Appeal Process</i>	26
6. <i>Debriefing Process</i>	25
F. Award Administration Information	26
1. <i>State Award Notices</i>	26
2. <i>Administrative and National Policy Requirements</i>	26

3. <i>Reporting</i>	27
G. State Awarding Agency Contact(s)	27
H. Other Information	27

Notice of Funding Opportunity

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) FFY24 Transitional Housing Program

A. Federal Program Description

The federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) was passed in 1984 for the purpose of compensating and assisting victims of crime and providing funds for training and technical assistance.

ICJIA is the state agency charged with the administration of Illinois' Victims of Crime Act Victim Assistance Formula Grant Program. This program is supported by fines and penalties levied against criminals convicted of federal crimes and allocated to states by formula by the U.S. Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime. In federal fiscal year 2024, Illinois received a VOCA award of \$ 26,965,942 million.

VOCA grants must support the provision of direct services to victims of crime. States are required to allocate a minimum of 10% of funds received for services to each of the following: victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse, and underserved victims of violent crime. *VOCA funds may not be used to supplant or replace state and local funds that would otherwise be available for crime victim services and must be used to develop new projects or expand existing projects.*

The Victims of Crime Act of 1984 established the Crime Victims Fund (34 U.S.C. 20101(c)) for the purpose of creating a special mandatory spending account dedicated to helping victims of all types of crimes. Authorized by the Victims of Crime Act are:

- Children's Justice Act grants.
- U.S. Attorney's victim/witness coordinators.
- F.B.I. victim assistance specialists.
- Federal victim notification system.
- OVC discretionary grants.
- State compensation formula grants.
- State victim assistance formula grants.
- Antiterrorism Emergency Reserve.

In addition, distribution of federal funds through the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 by ICJIA is authorized by 20 Ill. Admin. Code 1520.40, stating in pertinent part that [ICJIA] will annually review Section 1404 of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (P.L. 98-473, effective October 12, 1984) and based on the requirements of Section 1404(a) and (b), the need for services to victims and the services available to address that need, as evidenced by oral and written comment and testimony received at public meetings conducted pursuant to the Open Meetings Act (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1983, ch. 102, par. 41 et seq.), select program priorities for each federal fiscal year.

1. *Funding Purpose*

ICJIA works to identify statewide needs through research, examination of state data sources, and collection of feedback from experts in the field. The purpose of this funding opportunity is to

address a significant service gap in Illinois: transitional housing services for victims of violent crime, including intimate partner and other forms of domestic violence, sexual violence, human trafficking, and community violence.

ICJIA's Victim Service Planning Ad Hoc Committee of justice system and victim service professionals convene every four years to review crime and victimization research and data to identify needs and define funding priorities. In March 2022, the committee approved 12 research-informed priority funding areas, which will guide statewide administration of victim services funding for the next four years.¹

While this funding opportunity responds to several priorities established by the committee in some respects, it most directly addresses the priority of increasing services that address victims' fundamental physiological and safety needs. Fundamental needs were described by providers as those that, when left unmet, inhibit victims' service engagement and their ability to address trauma. Among the needs identified as fundamental were food, transportation, child and health care, and employment and financial skills.

ICJIA's 2022 Victim Service Planning Research Report found that victims in Illinois face significant barriers to accessing services when their fundamental needs are not addressed.² These include human needs, such as shelter, food, and clothing, and resources that ensure safety (secure housing, utilities, legal protections from harm, and enough income to make ends meet).³ For many victims, basic necessities are threatened, reduced, or eliminated in the aftermath of victimization.⁴ When left unmet, these fundamental needs inhibit engagement in treatment and undermine long-term safety plans.⁵

Both an ICJIA process evaluation of three transitional housing programs in Illinois and an ICJIA-lead roundtable discussion among community-based transitional housing leaders indicated the demand for transitional housing by crime victims far exceeds the capacity of existing programs.⁶ The evaluation reported the three programs maintained substantial waiting lists, which included applicants facing homelessness and other dangerous situations. Evaluators noted extended waiting periods for many applicants. Roundtable participants echoed these issues.

ICJIA service planning efforts, the evaluation, and other research support the need to expand transitional housing services to victims of all crime types. ICJIA's 2022 Victim Service Planning Research Report cited housing as a top need among victims of domestic and sexual violence,

¹ Vasquez, A. L., Gonzalez, L. F., Nguyen, S., Schaffner, C., Hiselman, J., Smith, E., Hailey, S., & Reichgelt, R. (2023). *2022 victim service planning research report*. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

² Vasquez, A. L., Gonzalez, L. F., Nguyen, S., Schaffner, C., Hiselman, J., Smith, E., Hailey, S., & Reichgelt, R. (2023). *2022 victim service planning research report*. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

³ Vasquez, A. L., Gonzalez, L. F., Nguyen, S., Schaffner, C., Hiselman, J., Smith, E., Hailey, S., & Reichgelt, R. (2023). *2022 victim service planning research report*. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

⁴ DeLong, C., Alderden, M., Hiselman, J., & Hahn, T. (2016). *Transitional housing for victims of intimate partner violence*. Chicago, IL: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. Retrieved from: <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/articles/transitional-housing-for-victims-of-intimate-partner-violence>

⁵ Houston-Kolnik, J., Vasquez, A., Alderden, M., & Hiselman, J. (2017). *Ad hoc victim services committee research report*. Chicago, IL: Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. Retrieved from: <http://www.icjia.state.il.us/articles/ad-hoc-victim-services-committee-research-report>

⁶ Gatens, A. (2019). *An evaluation of transitional housing programs in Illinois for victims of domestic violence and/or human trafficking*. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

human trafficking, community violence, child and elder abuse, and even victims of impaired driving-related crashes.⁷ While the evaluation was limited to programs serving domestic violence victims, it recommended expanding programming for victims of other crime types. Human trafficking victims have many of the same needs as domestic violence victims.⁸ Victims of all types of crime often belong to communities that would benefit from programs that expand access to safe and affordable housing.⁹



ICJIA maintains a database that reveals additional support for transitional housing as a critical need for victims in Illinois. InfoNet is a web-based case management and reporting system used by 68 domestic violence programs statewide in calendar year (CY) 2024. InfoNet data show nearly 53,000 adults and children (or *clients*) received domestic violence services during CY24. While 18% (9,343) of these clients received emergency or transitional housing services from these programs in CY24, data suggest a larger portion needed temporary or longer-term housing services. Client needs assessments were completed for about 67% of new clients in CY24. Of those clients 28% indicated a need for emergency, transitional, or permanent housing services upon their first points of contact. While 3% (1,597) of those clients received transitional housing services from domestic violence programs in CY24, data suggest more than double this amount needed such services. In addition, 6% indicated a need for transitional housing upon initial contact with the provider. Nearly 10% needed permanent housing. Further, InfoNet data indicate Illinois domestic violence programs turned away more than 10,700 adults and children from emergency shelter due to lack of bed space that year.¹⁰

Program research and planning efforts also indicated a need to supplement transitional housing services with key non-housing services to enhance program benefits. These include economic/financial services, immigration advocacy, comprehensive legal services, childcare, transportation, mental health counseling and therapy, and services to help victims increase interdependence skills, e.g. working with landlords, understanding tenant rights and responsibilities, maintaining and managing a home.¹¹ Services and advocacy have been shown to be beneficial in improving trauma symptoms in survivors of domestic violence who have utilized transitional housing.¹²

Service providers have long recognized the economic barriers many victims face when trying to leave an abusive situation. InfoNet data indicate nearly 70% of adult victims who received housing services in CY24 were unemployed, with 53% having no income sources at all. Fewer than half, (43%) of these same adult victims served had education beyond high school. Many

⁷ Vasquez, A. L., Gonzalez, L. F., Nguyen, S., Schaffner, C., Hiselman, J., Smith, E., Hailey, S., & Reichgelt, R. (2023). *2022 victim service planning research report*. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

⁸ Shigekane, R. (2007). Rehabilitation and community integration of trafficking survivors in the United States. *Human Rights Quarterly*, 112-136.

⁹ Vasquez, A. L., & Houston Kolnik, J. (2017). *Victim need report: Service providers' perspectives on the needs of crime victims and service gaps*. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

¹⁰ Number is duplicated if a victim was turned away by more than one domestic violence service provider before finding shelter.

¹¹ Gatens, A. (2019). *An evaluation of transitional housing programs in Illinois for victims of domestic violence and/or human trafficking*. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority; ICJIA hosted a roundtable discussion among community based transitional housing program leaders at ICJIA's office on May 23, 2019.

¹² Voth Schrag, R., O'Connor, J., Leibovits, I., Wood, L., & Backes, B., (2025) Family health and wellbeing in domestic violence transitional housing: Service provider perspectives. *Families in Society: The Journal of Contemporary Social Services* 0(0): 1-17.

victims also were experiencing financial abuse—tactics used by an abuser to control, limit, and/or block a victim’s access to and information about assets or shared finances.

A cornerstone of victim services has been to empower victims’ choices and acknowledge that the victim best knows their own needs. Additionally, policies and programming should be designed to consider the impact of trauma on a person’s thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. Adopting a trauma-informed approach is a process that incorporates changes in behavior and culture. To that end, preference will be given to applicants demonstrating the use of trauma-informed services. For more on trauma and different models of trauma-informed care, go to: <https://icjia.illinois.gov/researchhub/articles/trauma-types-and-promising-approaches-to-assist-survivors/>.

2. Program Design

This funding opportunity will support transitional housing services for persons whose housing needs arise from or are a cause of their victimization. Eligible clients include adults (and, when appropriate, their dependent children) and victims of crimes, including, but not limited to, domestic violence (including intimate partner violence), human trafficking, anti-LGBTQ+ violence, and forced labor.

The program narrative must thoroughly explain housing models and rent structures (*See p. 32*) and should be reflective of the program requirements outlined in this document. Applicants that are current grantees should demonstrate need for continued funding, either by expansion, additional services, or how programming has evolved based on lessons learned.

Program Staffing

Applicants are responsible for including personnel costs in their budget and budget narrative needed to accomplish program requirements. Funding for this program is limited to salary and benefits for personnel providing direct services and direct supervision of victim service providers. If the chosen housing model involves the agency serving as landlord, landlord and service provision roles must be listed as separate staff. Applicants must explain how these roles will be clearly distinct. A case manager position is mandatory for each program.

Staff who provide services or support to persons who have been traumatized may be affected via indirect exposure to trauma. Commonly termed *vicarious trauma* or *compassion fatigue*,¹³ this form of trauma occurs when providers experience traumatic stress reactions resulting from exposure to another’s traumatic experiences, rather than from direct exposure. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to provide their direct service staff with skills training on vicarious trauma. This may include weekly self-care groups to build staff skills through debriefing or training activities that help staff process vicarious trauma. Groups may incorporate yoga, coping

¹³ Newell, J. M. & MacNeil, G. A. (2010). Professional burnout, vicarious trauma, secondary traumatic stress, and compassion fatigue: A review of theoretical terms, risk factors, and preventive methods for clinicians and researchers. *Best Practices in Mental Health: An International Journal*, 6, 57-68. Smith, E., & Vasquez, A. L. (2025). *Mental health professionals' experiences of burnout and vicarious traumatization: Illinois HEALS evaluation study findings*. Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.

skills, such as breathing techniques, and space for staff to debrief. VOCA funding supports staff time to engage or lead these activities and/or may be used to cover the cost of an external facilitator.

3. Program Requirements

Grants will support permanent housing for victims. Grant funds may not be used to provide emergency shelter. Funding will support justice-system impacted victims who can demonstrate that victimization was a cause/consequence of unstable/lack of housing. Funded organizations must ensure services are offered, available, and accessible, though client participation in those services is not required for housing assistance.

Completed applications should be reflective of the following program activities:

- Staffing to support all clients. Every client must be assigned to a case manager who coordinates assessments and services.
- Housing units and services offered for a minimum of 24 months. Exceptions may be made when non-VOCA funding sources conflict with this requirement.
- Letters of commitment from every collaborative partner organization that will provide services to meet your transitional housing client's needs as described in the Program Narrative.
- Attendance at ICJIA-coordinated annual meetings.
- Compliance with all prescribed assessment tools and reporting requirements.
- These services may be offered by your program or a collaborating partner organization.
 - **Employment assistance:** Helping a client implement an employment plan. This may include linking client to a job training program, helping client complete a job application or resume, or completing an employment action plan that supports the client's goals.
 - **Education assistance:** Helping a client implement education plans. This may include helping a client complete a GED application, helping enroll a client or his/her child(ren) into school, linking to local community college's childcare program so parent can attend classes, or developing an education plan that supports the client's goals.
 - **Housing advocacy:** Helping a client implement a plan for obtaining housing. This may include accompanying a client to the housing authority office to apply for Section 8 housing or helping a client identify available rental units, complete a tenant application, or develop a housing plan that supports the client's goals.
 - **Life skills:** Teaching client's fundamental skills to improve daily living or enhance independence.
 - **Economic assistance:** Helping a client implement plans to improve financial status. This may include helping a client create a budget or learn how to repair credit, advocating to receive public benefits, linking to a tax assistance center, or helping to develop an economic action plan that supports the client's goals.
 - **In-person counseling:** Providing in-person, client-centered counseling that addresses the violence and related issues in client's life and fosters self-determination.

- o **Children's services:** Providing services to clients' child(ren) that address violence and related issues and foster healthy growth and development. Such services may include individual, group, or family counseling, education assistance, or therapeutic activities, such as art therapy.
- o **Childcare:** Providing onsite or offsite childcare services. Offsite childcare services must be provided by day care centers licensed through the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

5. Goals and Performance Metrics

Funded programs will be required to submit quarterly progress reports that will minimally include the following information based on the applicant agency's proposed objectives.

Applicants should create a program specific objective and performance measure for each proposed program activity. **The first three objectives are mandatory.** Please also include additional objectives for other proposed program activities. Rows may be added for any service/activity not described below.

Goal: To provide victims of crime and their children with pathways to safe, permanent housing, respond to their emotional and physical needs, and to increase self-sufficiency through individualized trauma-informed services without cost.	
Mandatory Objectives	
Objective	Performance Measure
Serve # ____ clients in the transitional housing program this year.	Number of clients served in program.
Case manager will meet # ____ times each quarter with each client/family enrolled in transitional housing.	Number of clients/families enrolled in program. Number of meetings held.
# ____ clients will exit the transitional housing this year into safe, longer-term housing.	Number of clients who exited the program. Number of clients who exited the program AND moved into safe, longer-term housing
Additional Objectives: Create an objective for each service below that <u>aligns with your proposed program activities</u> . Exclude any service below does <u>not</u> align with your proposed program. Rows may be added to accommodate services/activities not described below.	
# ____ clients will receive individual counseling.	# of clients provided with individual counseling.
# ____ clients will receive group support.	# of clients provided with group support.
# ____ clients will receive child or dependent care assistance.	# of clients provided with child or dependent care assistance.
# ____ clients will receive transportation assistance.	# of clients provided with transportation assistance.

# ____ clients will receive housing advocacy, or help with implementing a plan for obtaining housing (e.g., accompanying client to apply for Section 8 housing)	# of clients provided with receive housing advocacy or help with implementing a plan for obtaining housing (e.g., accompanying client to apply for Section 8 housing).
# ____ clients will receive employment assistance (e.g., help creating a resume or completing a job application).	# of clients provided with employment assistance (e.g., help creating a resume or completing a job application).
# ____ clients will receive education assistance (e.g., help completing a GED or college application).	# clients provided with education assistance (e.g., help completing a GED or college application).
# ____ clients will receive economic assistance (e.g., help creating a budget, repairing credit, providing financial education).	# of clients provided with economic assistance (e.g., help creating a budget, repairing credit, providing financial education).
# ____ clients will receive life skills assistance (e.g. teaching fundamental skills to improve daily living or enhance independence).	# of clients provided with life skills assistance (e.g. teaching fundamental skills to improve daily living or enhance independence).
# ____ of clients will receive therapy.	# of clients provided with therapy.
# ____ of therapy sessions will be provided by staff.	# of therapy sessions provided by staff.
Staff will engage in public awareness activities (e.g., development and distribution of print and online material, presentations, etc. to raise awareness of victim rights and services).	# ____ of hours staff engaged in public awareness activities (e.g., development and distribution of print and online material, presentations, etc. to raise awareness of victim rights and services).

5. Priorities

While this funding opportunity responds to several priorities established by the ICJIA Victim Services Ad Hoc Committee, it most directly addresses priority areas: #3 Equity in Victim Services; #5 Fundamental Needs; #6 Core Services; # and #7 Long-term Needs.

6. Evidence-Based Programs or Practices

Applicants are strongly urged to incorporate research-based best practices into their program design, when appropriate. Applicants should identify the evidence-informed or -based practice being proposed for implementation, identify and discuss the evidence that shows that the practice is effective, discuss the population(s) for which this practice has been shown to be effective, and show that it is appropriate for the proposed target population.

Applicants are also encouraged to engage in program evaluation of transitional housing projects to help better understand their effectiveness. This may include victim satisfaction or other surveys, needs assessments, or other studies that help to improve delivery of services. Funds may be used for staff time and/or the cost of an external evaluator.

B. Funding Information

1. Award period

Grant awards resulting from this opportunity will have a target period of performance of March 1, 2026, to February 28, 2027. Additional funding support for up to 24 months of program operation may be awarded after the initial funding period, contingent upon a satisfactory performance and availability of funds. The funding period for this grant program will not exceed 36 months.

2. Available Funds

ICJIA has made available about \$2,830,905 in VOCA grant funding for the development or expansion of transitional housing and related support costs for victims of crime. A minimum of \$100,000 and a maximum of \$400,000 will be awarded to successful applicants.

Funded programs will facilitate victims' pursuit of safety, independence, and stable housing. Grant awards must be spent over a period of 12 months. Additional funding to extend the grant period will depend on both the availability of funds and project performance during the first 12 months.

Applications must include an Implementation Schedule that describes how the program activities will be carried out. The Implementation Schedule must include information that will allow ICJIA to assess grant activity relative to planned project performance.

C. Eligibility Information

Before applying for any grant, all entities must be registered through the GATA Grantee Portal at www.grants.illinois.gov/portal. Registration and pre-qualification are required annually. During pre-qualification, verifications are performed including a check of federal SAM.gov Exclusion List and status on the Illinois Stop Payment List. The Grantee Portal alerts the entity alerts of "qualified" status or informs how to remediate a negative verification (e.g., missing UEI Unique Entity Identifier assigned in sam.gov, not in good standing with the Secretary of State). Inclusion on the SAM.gov Exclusion List cannot be remediated.

Failure to meet an eligibility criterion by the application deadline will result in the return of the application without review and will preclude ICJIA from making a state award.

Applicants are also required to submit a financial and administrative risk assessment via the GATA Grantee Portal, utilizing an Internal Controls Questionnaire (ICQ) for the current state fiscal year and obtain approval from their cognizant agencies before execution of the grant agreement. Delay in obtaining ICQ approval will result in a delay in grant execution.

1. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants must:

Represent a public agency and/or nonprofit organization. Programs must be operated by a public agency or nonprofit organization, or a combination of such organizations, and provide direct services to crime victims. Nonprofit organizations must submit proof of 501(c)(3) status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service.

Demonstrate a record of providing effective services. Applicants must demonstrate a record of providing effective direct services to crime victims and financial support from sources other than the Crime Victims Fund. This includes having the support and approval of its services by the community and a history of providing direct services in a cost-effective manner. New programs that have not yet demonstrated a record of providing services may be eligible for VOCA funds if they can demonstrate that a minimum of 25% of their financial support comes from sources other than the Crime Victims Fund in the year of or the year preceding the award.

Involve volunteers. Proposed programs must utilize volunteers unless ICJIA determines there is a compelling reason to waive this requirement.

Promote Community Efforts to Aid Crime Victims. Proposed programs must promote within the community coordinated public and private efforts to aid crime victims.

Help crime victims apply for compensation. Proposed programs must assist victims by identifying and notifying crime victims of the availability of compensation, referring victims to organizations that can assist them in applying, assisting victims with application forms and procedures, obtaining necessary documentation, monitoring claim status and intervening on behalf of victims with the compensation program.

Comply with federal rules regulating grants. Proposed programs must comply with the applicable provisions of VOCA, the VOCA Victim Assistance Program Final Rule, Office of Victims of Crime guidelines, and the requirements of the Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide and government-wide grant rules, which includes maintaining appropriate programmatic and financial records that fully disclose the amount and disposition of VOCA funds received.

Uphold civil rights. No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, be subjected to discrimination under, or denied employment in connection with any VOCA-funded program or activity.

Comply with state criteria. Proposed programs must abide by any additional eligibility or service criteria as established by ICJIA including submitting statistical and programmatic information on the use and impact of VOCA funds, as requested by ICJIA.

Offer services to victims of federal crime. Proposed programs must provide services to victims of federal crimes on the same basis as victims of state/local crimes.

Support victims as they respond to their criminal cases. Program personnel may not discriminate against victims who disagree with the way the state is prosecuting the criminal case.

Provide VOCA-funded services to victims at no charge. Services to crime victims must be provided at no charge through the VOCA-funded program.

Uphold confidentiality of information. Proposed programs must reasonably protect the confidentiality and privacy of persons receiving services under the VOCA-funded program to the extent permitted by law, as set forth in 28 CFR 94.115.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Matching funds will equal 20% of the total cost of the project and must be included in the applicant's budget submission. Federal grant funds requested under this application may not exceed 80% of the total cost of the project. Match can be made in both cash and/or in-kind contributions. Cash or in-kind resources used as match must be spent in support of the program's goals and objectives.

In-kind match includes volunteered professional or personal services, office materials and equipment, workspace and facilities, and non-program funded victim assistance activities. Any reduction or discount provided to a sub-recipient shall be valued as the difference between what the sub-recipient paid and what the provider's nominal or fair market value is for the good or service. The value placed on volunteered services must be consistent with the rate of compensation paid for similar work in the program or the labor market. The value of donated space may not exceed the fair rental value of comparable space. The value placed on loaned or donated equipment may not exceed its fair rental or market value.

To calculate the amount of match required: Total Project Costs x 20% = Match

Example:

Total Project Cost:	\$100,000
20 percent matching funds (\$100,000 x .20):	\$ 20,000
Federal funds requested (\$100,000 x .80):	\$ 80,000

Federal guidelines prohibit use of matching funds to supplant existing funds. Refer to 28 CFR 200.306 for more information on match types and match requirements.

3. Indirect Cost Rate

In order to charge indirect costs to a grant, the applicant organization must either have an annually negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) or elect to use a standard *de minimis* rate. There are three types of allowable indirect cost rates:

- a) Federally Negotiated Rate. Organizations that receive direct federal funding, may have an indirect cost rate that was negotiated with the Federal Cognizant Agency. Illinois will accept the federally negotiated rate.

- b) State Negotiated Rate. The organization may negotiate an indirect cost rate with the State of Illinois if they do not have a Federally Negotiated Rate. If an organization has not previously established an indirect cost rate, an indirect cost rate proposal must be submitted through the GATA Grantee Portal no later than three months after receipt of a Notice of State Award (NOSA). If an organization previously established an indirect cost rate, the organization must annually submit a new indirect cost proposal through the GATA Grantee Portal within six (6) months after the close of the grantee's fiscal year.
- c) De Minimis Rate. An organization that has never negotiated an indirect cost rate with the Federal Government or the State of Illinois is eligible to elect a *de minimis* rate of 15% of modified total direct cost (MTDC). Once established, the *de minimis* Rate may be used indefinitely. The State of Illinois must verify the calculation of the MTDC annually in order to accept the *de minimis* rate.

All grantees must complete an indirect cost rate negotiation or elect the De Minimis Rate to claim indirect costs. Indirect costs claimed without a negotiated rate or a De Minimis Rate election on record in the GATA Grantee Portal indirect cost rate system may be subject to disallowance.

Limitations on indirect costs restrict the amount and/or type of indirect costs that are allowed to be charged to grant awards. Indirect cost limitations and restrictions must be clearly stated in this section. For example, the grant award may be subject to state and federal statutory requirements that limit the allowability of costs. The maximum amount allowable under a limitation cannot exceed the total amount under the NICRA. State and federal statutes may restrict the amount of salary that can be charged to a grant award, if the base salary exceeds the Federal Executive Level II Pay Scale. If additional statutory restrictions or limitations are imposed, such as parameters for direct administrative costs, facility costs, and indirect administrative cost levels, those restrictions or limitations must be stated in this section. The statutory reference or guidance imposing the indirect cost limitation or restriction must also be stated within this section.

Grantees have discretion not to claim payment for indirect costs. Grantees that elect not to claim indirect costs cannot be reimbursed for indirect costs. The organization must record an election to "Waive Indirect Costs" into the GATA Grantee Portal.

Indirect Cost election must be completed annually, for every entity's fiscal year. More information regarding the indirect cost election process can be found [here](#).

Code of Federal Regulations / Title 2 - Grants and Agreements / Vol. 1 / 2014-01-01191

D. Application and Submission Information

1. Accessing Application Package

Paper copies of the application materials may be obtained by visiting the ICJIA website at [ICJIA Funding Opportunities](#)

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Applications must be submitted in AmpliFund.

To be considered for funding, applications must be completed and submitted via AmpliFund by the application deadline of 5:00 p.m. (CST), October 31, 2025. ICJIA encourages applicants to review the videos listed in Section D7, Requirements Prior to Submitting the Application, for more information on how to apply.

3. Unique Entity Identification Number (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)

Applicants are required (unless the applicant is an individual or Federal or State awarding agency that is exempt from those requirements under 2 CFR § 25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the Federal or State awarding agency under 2 CFR § 25.110(d)) to:

- a) Be registered in SAM before submitting its application. To establish a SAM registration, go to <http://www.SAM.gov/SAM>.
- b) Provide a valid Unique Entity Identification Number. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) is now the primary means of identifying entities registered for federal awards government-wide in the [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#).

If your entity is already registered in SAM, it has been assigned a UEI. Instructions regarding the migration from DUNS to UEI have been posted in the [GATA website](#).

- c) Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information while it has an active award or application under consideration. ICJIA may not make a federal pass-through or state award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable SAM requirements. If an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time ICJIA is ready to make an award, ICJIA may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award, and may use that determination as a basis for making a state award to another applicant.

4. Submission Dates, Times, and Method

Completed application materials must be received by and in possession of the AmpliFund grant management system by 5:00 p.m., October 31, 2025, to be considered for funding. Applications must be submitted via [AmpliFund](#). Upon receipt, an automated confirmation will be emailed. Proposals will not be accepted by email, mail, fax, or in person. AmpliFund will not permit late submissions. Agencies are encouraged to submit their applications 24-72

hours in advance of the deadline to avoid unforeseen technical difficulties. Technical difficulties with the grant management system should be reported immediately to ICJIA at CJA.VOCA.transitional.housing@Illinois.gov.

5. Application Questions

Questions may be submitted via email at CJA.VOCA.transitional.housing@Illinois.gov. The deadline for submitted questions is 5:00 p.m. (CST) on October 23, 2025. All substantive questions and responses will be posted on the ICJIA website at <https://icjia.illinois.gov/gata> and on [AmpliFund](#). Due to the competitive nature of this solicitation, applicants may not discuss the opportunity directly with any ICJIA employee other than via this email address CJA.VOCA.transitional.housing@Illinois.gov.

6. Funding Restrictions

- a) Federal Financial Guide. Applicants must follow the current edition of the Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide which details allowable and unallowable costs is available at: https://ojp.gov/financialguide/doj/pdfs/DOJ_FinancialGuide.pdf. Costs may be determined to be unallowable even if not expressly prohibited in the Federal Financial Guide.
- b) Prohibited Uses. The following is a non-exhaustive list of services, activities, goods, and other costs that cannot be supported through this NOFO:
 - Land acquisition
 - New construction
 - A renovation, lease, or any other proposed use of a building or facility that will either result in a change in its basic prior use or significantly change its size
 - Minor renovation or remodeling of a property either listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or located within a 100-year flood plain
 - Implementation of a new program involving the use of chemicals
 - Capital expenditures
 - Fundraising activities
 - Most food and beverage costs
 - Lobbying
 - Audits (agencies receiving less than \$750,000 in cumulative federal funds)
 - Capital expenses; property losses and expenses, real estate purchases, mortgage payments, construction, and most capital improvements
 - Compensation for victims of crime
 - Crime prevention
 - Most medical care costs
 - Tort or criminal defense services
 - Active investigation and prosecution of criminal activities, and witness activities
 - Research and studies, except for project evaluations
 - Salaries and expenses for management, unless expressly allowed in the VOCA Final Rule

- Any expenses including housing expenses, e.g., rent, utilities, for periods that fall outside of the program performance period

Allowable expenses. All expenses must be reasonable, necessary, and allocable to the program. The following is a non-exhaustive list of services, activities, goods, and other costs that can be supported through this NOFO.

- Immediate emotional, psychological and physical health and safety
- Services to help victims improve interdependence skills such as financial/economic, employment, education, and life skills.
- Emergency medical care, medicine or medical equipment (not covered by other entities)
- Forensic medical exams
- Forensic interviews
- Short-term in-house respite care (child/adult dependent of person with justice system involvement /caregiver)
- Short-term nursing care
- Counseling, group treatment and alternative therapy
- Substance abuse treatment (out-patient)
- Transitional housing
- Child Care: Offsite child-care services must be provided by day care centers licensed through the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.
- Relocation
- Property repair/placement (safety-related repair of windows, locks and doors)
- Legal assistance (Assert victim rights in criminal proceedings, criminal record expungement, protective orders, related child and marital issues)
- Victim advocacy in any related public proceeding
- Transportation to services or court proceedings (please note; licensing, insurance and a tracking process will be required for transportation services)
- Operating cost of direct services (including security systems and guards, online media, servers)
- Multi-system, interagency and multidisciplinary activities and their coordination costs
- Restorative justice
- Salaries and benefits of direct victim services staff, supervisory staff and coordinators
- Liability insurance for staff and property
- Contractors for professional services
- VOCA administrative time for documentation (including program audit costs and needs assessment)
- Project evaluations, including victim satisfaction or other surveys, needs assessments, or other studies that help to improve delivery of services
- Training activities to address vicarious trauma of direct service staff.
- Public education presentations and materials
- Automated management systems and related technology equipment
- Training and materials allowed for direct service volunteers and staff (both VOCA-funded and not), managers and board members of service agencies
- Rent and utilities (water/sewer, heat/electricity)
- Furniture and equipment
- Indirect Costs

c) Pre-Award Costs. **No costs incurred before the start date of the grant agreement may be charged to awards resulting from this funding opportunity.**

d) Pre-approvals. Prior approvals may affect project timelines. Submission of materials for ICJIA approval should be incorporated into the application Implementation Schedules. ICJIA may require prior approval of the following:

- Out-of-state travel
- Equipment over \$10,000
- Certain Requests for Proposals, procurements, and sub-contracts
- Conference, meeting, and training costs

e) State Travel Guidelines. travel costs charged to ICJIA must conform to State Travel Guidelines, found here:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/cms/Employees/travel/Pages/TravelReimbursement.aspx>.

Out-of-state hotel rates are based on the General Service Administration (GSA)

guidelines found here: <https://www.gsa.gov/travel/plan-book/per-diem-rates>.

Applicant agencies with lower cost travel guidelines than the State of Illinois must use those lower rates.

f) Supplanting.

Supplanting is to deliberately reduce state or local funds because of the existence of federal funds. Supplanting rules do not apply to not-for-profit agencies.

Federal funds must be used to supplement existing state and local funds for program activities and must not replace those funds that have been appropriated for the same purpose. Supplanting will be the subject of application review, as well as pre-award review, post-award monitoring, and audit. If there is a potential presence of supplanting, the applicant or grantee will be required to supply documentation demonstrating that the reduction in non-federal resources occurred for reasons other than the receipt or expected receipt of federal funds. For certain programs, a written certification may be requested by the awarding agency or recipient agency stating that federal funds will not be used to supplant state or local funds.

If funds will be used for the expansion of an already implemented program, applicants must explain how proposed activities will supplement—not supplant—current program activities and staff positions.

g) Proposed Subawards and Subcontracts. Applicants may propose to enter into subawards or subcontracts under this award, each of which involve different rules and applicant responsibilities. A subaward carries out a portion of the grant agreement while a contract is often for obtaining goods and services for the grantee's own use. (44 Ill. Admin Code 7000.240). If a third party will provide some of the essential services or develop or modify a product that the applicant has committed to provide or produce, ICJIA may consider the agreement with the third party a subaward for purposes of grant administration.

Applicants must classify each expense in the contractual budget as a subaward or subcontract. The substance of the agreement, not the title or structure of the agreement, will determine whether it is a subaward of a subcontract. Applicants are advised to use the “Checklist for Contractor/Subrecipient Determinations” available at the GATA Resource Library for guidance:
<https://www.illinois.gov/sites/gata/pages/resourcelibrary.aspx>.

Applicants are required to justify their use of subawards and explain their capacity to serve as “pass-through” entities in the program narrative. Applicants will monitor subaward compliance with grant terms, applicable federal and state law including the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Award, 2 C.F.R. Part 200, GATA, and ICJIA policies. Proposed subawards must be identified, if possible, and their roles described in both the program and budget narratives.

For procurement contracts, applicants are encouraged to promote free and open competition in awarding contracts. All subcontracts must comply with federal and state requirements.

7. Requirement Prior to Submitting the Application

1. All Applicants must register their organization at the GATA Grantee Portal:
<https://grants.illinois.gov/portal/>.
2. To submit an application, approved individuals for an organization must be a registered via the GATA Grantee GATA Portal and identified as an AmpliFund user.

Applicant Technical Assistance Recording. Applicants are advised to view the following technical assistance recordings prior to application submission.

All recordings are located on the ICJIA YouTube channel.

- Link to the technical assistance recording, or the registration link for the live session
- Register in the GATA Grantee Portal
- Creating a GATA Grantee User Account
- Getting to know GATA and the GATA Grantee Portal
- Learn about the: Online Self-paced Grant Course:

E. Application Review Information

1. Criteria

Application materials must address all components of this NOFO and clearly demonstrate both the need for the program and the applicant’s ability to successfully implement it.

Reviewers will evaluate applications based on:

- Completeness
- Clear and detailed responses to program narrative questions
- Inclusion of all mandatory program elements
- Past performance and/or financial standing with ICJIA
- Justification that proposed costs are reasonable, necessary, and allowable.

A total of 100 points are available:

Scoring Criteria	
Possible Points	
Summary of the Program: 5pts	
Provide a clear and comprehensive summary of the proposed program and identify what type of transitional housing will be provided (e.g., scattered site, congregate, family units, etc.)?	5
Statement of the Problem: 20 pts	
Community and Housing Needs - Describe the local and county-level characteristics and geographics of the proposed community to be served. Include what specific housing challenges or gaps exist for the population to be served.	10
Program Strategies - How will the program address the needs of clients who face multiple barriers simultaneously (e.g., mental health, substance use, legal issues)? Include how any past initiatives or programs attempted to address this problem, and what were the outcomes.	10
Project Implementation: 15 pts	
Program History - How long has your organization been providing housing or victim services? Describe your agency's fiscal experience and ability to manage grants. Include all funding sources that support victim service programming and quantitative (e.g., years of service; number of clients served last year) and qualitative (e.g., description of services provided; client case summaries) descriptions. *(If applicant does not have a history of providing victim services, please explain how the applicant will build capacity to provide them.)	5
Evaluation, and Sustainability - Explain how you track program success, measure outcomes, and make improvements. Include details for sustaining the transitional housing program after the grant period ends.	5
Complete implementation plan.	5
Program Management: 30 pts	
Program Details - Describe how the program will operate, including victim screening and eligibility criteria, details of the housing stock (units, types, locations, accessibility), and how housing safety and code compliance will be ensured	10
Partnership info - Describe all collaborative partners involved in the	10

proposed transitional housing program: victim service agencies, landlords, housing advocates, etc.	
Staffing Plan - Describe your proposed staffing plan for the transitional housing program, including key staff positions, their responsibilities, and any specialized training in trauma-informed care, victim rights, confidentiality, and safety planning.	10
Goals and Performance Metrics	
Download and complete attached goal and performance metrics document. Upload completed version.	20
Budget Detail:	
Provide budget items which are appropriate and reasonable for suggested program.	5
Narrative is complete for all line items, clearly detailing how the applicant arrived at and calculated the budget amounts.	5

Programs with the highest scores will be funded first, and funding will continue in order of score until the budget runs out.

Proposal Quality	Score Range
Excellent: In addition to providing complete responses for all questions, the responses were clear and detailed. The program plan is thoughtfully designed considering legal practices and victim needs. Application includes all mandatory elements.	90-100
Very Good: Application provides complete responses and includes all mandatory elements, but a limited amount of clarification or modification is necessary to recommend the application for funding.	80-89
Good: Application provided complete responses to the majority of the questions while several responses lack clarity and detail. Application includes all mandatory elements.	70-79
Fair: The application responses consistently lacked completeness. Application lacks some mandatory elements.	60-69
Poor: The application responses consistently lacked completeness and demonstrates a poor understanding of the issues. Application lacks some mandatory elements.	0-59

2. Review and Selection Process

All applications will be screened for completeness including GATA pre-qualification and ICQ submission for the current state fiscal year. Applications that are not complete will not be reviewed.

Proposals will be reviewed by a panel of ICJIA staff and key stakeholders with expertise in victim services. Proposal selection will be made using the previously described scoring criteria. If possible, ICJIA will fund the highest scoring applicant in each geographic region before funding successive applicants (*See map on page 32 and list of counties on page 33*).

After applicants are selected from each region, applicants will be selected based on overall scoring, with secondary consideration given to geographic diversity and proposed program design. Applicants with equivalent scores will be selected based on scores in the proposed program design category.

ICJIA reserves the right to reject incomplete proposals, proposals that include unallowable activities, proposals that do not meet eligibility or program requirements, and proposals that are otherwise unsatisfactory. ICJIA may invite applicants to answer clarifying questions and modify budgets that include unallowable or unreasonable costs. NOFO application budgets will be reviewed for allowability, completeness, and cost-effectiveness. ICJIA will perform an in-depth budget review of all grants awarded and may require budget modifications that do not materially change the nature of the program.

Successful applicants whose applications contained unallowable or unreasonable costs may have their awards reduced by the total amount of those costs. Upon applicant acceptance of the grant award, announcement of the grant award shall be published by ICJIA to the GATA CSFA Active Programs and Awards. Review team recommendations will be forwarded to Budget Committee for approval. Applicants will be notified of the Budget Committee's decision.

3. Implementing Agency vs. Program Agency

An implementing agency is the legal entity that receives state funds, such as a county.

A program agency:

- Is a subdivision of the implementing agency, such as a county probation department.
- Carries out program operations.
- Is responsible for data and fiscal reporting.

4. Anticipated Announcement and State Award Dates

Task	Date
NOFO posted	October 1, 2025
Technical Assistance Recording	October 8, 2025
Notice of Intent due	October 15, 2025

NOFO question submission deadline	October 23, 2025
Applications due	5:00 p.m. CST, October 31, 2025
Budget Committee review/approval of recommended designations	February 2026
Performance Period	March 1, 2026 – February 28, 2027

5. Appeal Process

Unsuccessful applicants may request a formal appeal of the evaluation process. Evaluation scores and funding determinations may not be contested and will not be considered by ICJIA's Appeals Review Officer. The appeal must be via email and submitted within 14 calendar days after either the date the grant award notice is published or receipt of a Funding Opportunity Declination Letter from ICJIA, whichever comes first. The written appeal must include, at a minimum, the following:

- Statement indicating a request for a formal appeal
- The name and address of the appealing party
- Identification of the grant program
- A statement of reason for the appeal

Please send your appeal to:

Appeals Review Officer
 Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
CJA.ARO@Illinois.gov

Once an appeal is received, ICJIA will acknowledge receipt of an appeal within 14 calendar days from the date the appeal was received. ICJIA will respond to the appeal, in writing, within 60 days or explain why more time is required. ICJIA will resolve the appeal by a written determination, which will include:

- Review of the appeal.
- Appeal determination.
- Rationale for the determination.
- Standard description of the appeal review process and criteria.

6. Debriefing Process

Unsuccessful applicants may request a debriefing for feedback to improve future applications. Debriefings include written advice on the strengths and weaknesses of applications using the evaluation and review criteria.

Requests for debriefings must be made via email and submitted within seven calendar days after receipt of notice. Debriefing requests will not be granted if there is an active appeal, administrative action, or court proceeding. The written debriefing requests shall include:

- The name and address of the requesting party.
- Identification of grant program.
- Reasons for the debrief request.

Please send requests to:

Malea Conro
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
cja.VOCA.transitional.housing@Illinois.gov

F. Award Administration Information

1. State Award Notices

The ICJIA Budget Committee is scheduled to review and approve designations in February 2026.

ICJIA also requires the following additional documents to be submitted prior to the execution of an agreement.

- Fiscal Information Sheet
- Civil Rights Compliance Questionnaire
- Equal Employment Opportunity and Civil Rights Certification signed by the Implementing Agency
- Lobbying and Debarment certification signed by the Program Agency
- Conflict of Interest, Violation of Criminal Law and Other Employment Disclosure Form

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

In addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the approved project proposal and budget, agencies selected for funding must comply with applicable grant terms and conditions and other legal requirements, including, but not limited to, the Victims of Crime Act rules and related regulations, the ICJIA Financial Guide and Policy and Procedure Manual, the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act, and the U.S. Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide, which will be included in the award documents, incorporated into the award by reference, or are otherwise applicable to the award.

Additional programmatic and administrative special conditions may be required.

3. Reporting

Recipients must submit periodic financial reports, progress reports, final financial and progress reports, and, if applicable, an annual audit report in accordance with the 2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Requirements. Future awards and fund drawdowns may be withheld if reports are delinquent.

G. State Awarding Agency Contact(s)

For questions and technical assistance regarding application submission, contact:

Malea Conro
Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
cja.VOCA.transitional.housing@Illinois.gov

H. Other Information

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) is a state agency dedicated to improving the administration of criminal justice. ICJIA brings together key leaders from the justice system and the public to identify critical issues facing the criminal justice system in Illinois, and to propose and evaluate policies, programs, and legislation that address those issues. The statutory responsibilities of ICJIA fit into four areas: grants administration; research and analysis; policy and planning; and information systems and technology.

Section 7 of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Act grants ICJIA authority “to apply for, receive, establish priorities for, allocate, disburse, and spend grants of funds that are made available by and received on or after January 1, 1983 from private sources or from the United States pursuant to the federal Crime Control Act of 1973, as amended, and similar federal legislation, and to enter into agreements with the United States government to further the purposes of this Act, or as may be required as a condition of obtaining federal funds” and “to receive, expend, and account for such funds of the State of Illinois as may be made available to further the purposes of this Act.” (20 ILCS 3930/7(k), (l))

Neither the State of Illinois nor ICJIA are obligated to make any award as a result of this announcement. The ICJIA Executive Director or designee has sole authority to bind ICJIA to the expenditure of funds through the execution of grant agreements.

This application is subject to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. Any information that the applicant believes should be exempt under FOIA should clearly highlight the information that is exempt, and the basis of the exemption.

ICJIA must comply with all applicable provisions of state and federal laws and regulations pertaining to nondiscrimination, sexual harassment and equal employment opportunity, including, but not limited to: The Illinois Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/1-101 et seq.), The Public Works Employment Discrimination Act (775 ILCS 10/1 et seq.), The United States Civil

Rights Act of 1964 (as amended) (42 USC 2000a-and 2000H-6), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC 794), The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 USC 12101 et seq.), and The Age Discrimination Act (42 USC 6101 et seq.).

TRAUMA-INFORMED SERVICES

A cornerstone of victim services has been to support victims' choices and believing that victims best know their own needs. While providers undoubtedly operate from this philosophy, providers can do more to prevent unintentionally re-traumatizing victims by considering the impact of trauma on a person's thinking, feelings, and behaviors. Use of trauma-informed services is encouraged. Core principles of trauma-informed services include the following:

Core Principles	Examples
Understanding Trauma and Its Impact	Understanding traumatic stress and recognizing that many current behaviors and responses are ways of adapting to and coping with past traumatic experiences.
Promoting Safety	Establishing a safe physical and emotional environment where basic needs are met; safety measures are in place; and provider responses are consistent, predictable, and respectful.
Supporting Consumer Control, Choice and Autonomy	Helping people regain a sense of control over their daily lives. Keeping people informed about all aspects of the system and allowing them to drive goal planning and decision-making.
Sharing Power and Governance	Sharing power and decision-making across all levels of an organization, whether related to daily decisions or when reviewing and establishing policies and procedures.
Ensuring Cultural Competence	Respecting diversity within the program, providing opportunities for consumers to engage in cultural rituals, and using interventions specific to cultural backgrounds.
Integrating Care	Maintaining a holistic view of consumers that acknowledges the interrelated nature of emotional, physical, relational, and spiritual health and facilitates communication within and among service providers and systems.
Healing Happens in Relationship	Believing that establishing safe, authentic, and positive relationships can be corrective and restorative to trauma survivors.
Understanding that Recovery is Possible	Understanding that recovery is possible for everyone regardless of how vulnerable he or she may appear, instilling hope by providing opportunities for consumer involvement at all levels of the system, and establishing future-oriented goals.

Source: Guarino, Soares, Konnath, Clervil, & Bassuk, 2009

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING MODELS & RENT STRUCTURES

Transitional housing is often a critical service for survivors of violence, allowing them to safely escape an abusive partner. This section highlights the three most common transitional housing models used by the Office of Violence Against Women's (OVW) Transitional Housing Grant program grantees. Additionally, a variety of rent structures are in use by these programs, also noted here. There is more than one way to structure transitional housing models or rent processes. Structures vary based on program mission, funding streams, and service population.

Transitional Housing Models

Scattered Site

- Survivors live in an apartment in the community in a full market rent unit.
- Survivor holds lease in their own name.
- On rare occasions the program holds the lease and subleases to survivor.
- Program is not in the role of the landlord (unless subleasing to survivor).
- Increasingly the most common model. This model allows for the survivor to possibly remain in the unit once the financial assistance has ended therefore eliminating the need to relocate again.

Clustered Site

- Program owns building with units or rents a group of apartments in a common location.
- Program is landlord and service provider.
- Survivor lives in program building or one of the program's rented units for a specific period while they find more permanent housing.

Communal Living

- Similar to shelter design. May have separate/private bedrooms but share common space such as living room, dining room, kitchen, etc.
- Least common of the 3 models used.

It is important that communal living models for anyone that will be served with OVW Transitional Housing funds be sufficiently separate from any other communal housing offered by the grant recipient to allow for separate and distinct policies governing each type of housing. For example, the transitional housing units could be on a specific floor or section within a building or in a separate building on the same property.

Transitional housing is not an extended shelter stay. Federal guidelines for program receiving OVW grants state that transitional housing is not intended to be an extended shelter stay and must be offered for a minimum of 6 months. Regardless of the model used, transitional housing programs should be providing a longer-term housing option for survivors while helping them to obtain and maintain permanent housing.

Transitional Housing Rent Structures

As a best practice, rent structures should not cost more than more than 30% of the survivor's income.*

Subsidized

- Survivor enters into lease. Program provides a portion of rent, as rental assistance, paid directly to the landlord.

Rent and Sublet

- Lease is in program's name and program is responsible for payment of the rent. Program creates sub-lease or rental agreement for survivor and survivor pays a portion of the total

cost of rent to the program.

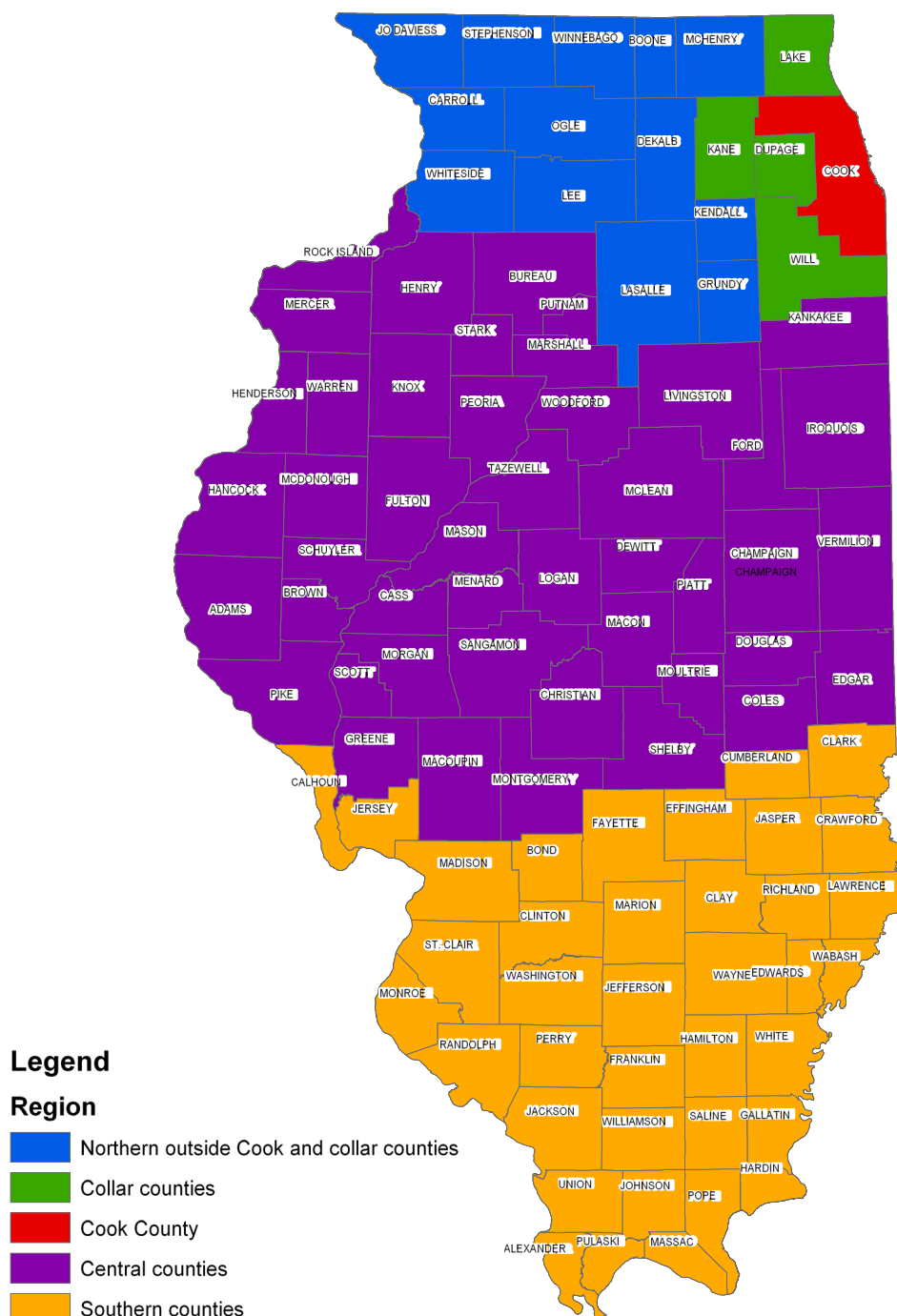
Own

- Program owned and operated. Program creates sub-lease or rental agreement for survivor and survivor pays a portion of the total cost of rent to the program.

Note – If you are implementing your transitional housing program with OVW Transitional Housing grant funds, rent collected from survivors must not be used as program income. Any rent collected from survivors in this structure must be put back into the transitional housing program and be used to provide assistance to survivors.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women Fiscal Year 2022 Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking Solicitation. Retrieved from:
<https://www.justice.gov/ovw/page/file/1118951/download>.

Illinois Regions



Regions represent the divisions of the U.S. District Courts of Illinois. Cook and Collar county regions are subsets of the Northern U.S. Courts of Illinois.

Regional Classifications of Counties

Northern outside Cook and collar counties	Central counties		Southern counties
Boone	Adams	Schuyler	Alexander
Carroll	Brown	Scott	Bond
DeKalb	Bureau	Shelby	Calhoun
Grundy	Cass	Stark	Clark
Jo Daviess	Champaign	Tazewell	Clay
Kendall	Christian	Vermilion	Clinton
LaSalle	Coles	Warren	Crawford
Lee	DeWitt	Woodford	Cumberland
Ogle	Douglas		Edwards
Stephenson	Edgar		Effingham
Whiteside	Ford		Fayette
Winnebago	Fulton		Franklin
McHenry	Greene		Gallatin
	Hancock		Hamilton
	Henderson		Hardin
Cook County	Henry		Jackson
	Iroquois		Jasper
Collar counties	Kankakee		Jefferson
DuPage	Knox		Jersey
Kane	Livingston		Johnson
Lake	Logan		Lawrence
Will	McDonough		Madison
	McLean		Marion
	Macon		Massac
	Macoupin		Monroe
	Marshall		Perry
	Mason		Pope
	Menard		Pulaski
	Mercer		Randolph
	Montgomery		Richland
	Morgan		St. Clair
	Moultrie		Saline
	Peoria		Union
	Piatt		Wabash
	Pike		Washington
	Putnam		Wayne
	Rock Island		White
	Sangamon		Williamson

**Victims of Crime Act Transitional Housing Program
PROGRAM NARRATIVE
NOFO # 1745-1001**

Program narrative must be submitted via AmpliFund. This document is for reference only. Applicants are highly encouraged to review the questions and complete a response on a separate document, then log into AmpliFund and “copy & paste” the response in the appropriate section.

The AmpliFund system times out after 20 minutes of inactivity. Clicking “save and continue” is encouraged as you begin completion of information in AmpliFund.

Summary of the Program – 5 Points

1. Provide a clear and comprehensive summary of the proposed program and identify what type of transitional housing will be provided (e.g., scattered site, congregate, family units, etc.)?
--

Response:

Statement of Problem– 20 Points

1. Community and Housing Needs - Describe the local and county-level characteristics and geographics of the proposed community to be served. Include what specific housing challenges or gaps exist for the population to be served.
--

Response:

2. Program Strategies - How will the program address the needs of clients who face multiple barriers simultaneously (e.g., mental health, substance use, legal issues)? Include how any past initiatives or programs attempted to address this problem, and what were the outcomes.

Response:

Project Implementation – 15 Points

1. Program History - How long has your organization been providing housing or victim services? Describe your agency’s fiscal experience and ability to manage grants. Include all funding sources that support victim service programming and quantitative (e.g., years of service; number of clients served last year) and qualitative (e.g., description of services provided; client case summaries) descriptions.

*(If applicant does not have a history of providing victim services, please explain how the applicant will build capacity to provide them.)

Response:

2. Evaluation, and Sustainability - Explain how you track program success, measure outcomes, and make improvements. Include details for sustaining the transitional housing program after the grant period ends.
--

Response:

3. Complete implementation plan. Directions in Amplifund documents.
Response:

Project Management – 30 Points

1. Program Details - Describe how the program will operate, including victim screening and eligibility criteria, details of the housing stock (units, types, locations, accessibility), and how housing safety and code compliance will be ensured
Response:

2. Partnership info - Describe all collaborative partners involved in the proposed transitional housing program: victim service agencies, landlords, housing advocates, etc.
Response:

3. Staffing Plan - Describe your proposed staffing plan for the transitional housing program, including key staff positions, their responsibilities, and any specialized training in trauma-informed care, victim rights, confidentiality, and safety planning.
Response:

Performance Metrics – 20 Points

Funded programs will be required to submit quarterly progress reports that will minimally include the following information based on the objectives the applicant agencies propose in their response to this solicitation.

Applicants should create a program specific objective and performance measure for each proposed program activity. **Note the first three objectives are mandatory.** Following are additional objectives for other proposed program activities. Rows may be added for any service/activity not described below.

Goal: To provide victims of crime and their children with pathways to safe, permanent housing, respond to their emotional and physical needs, and to increase self-sufficiency through individualized trauma-informed services.	
Mandatory Objectives	
Objective	Performance Measure
Serve # clients in the transitional housing program this year.	Number of clients served in program.
Case manager will meet # times each quarter with each client/family enrolled in transitional housing.	Number of clients/families enrolled in program. Number of meetings held.
# clients will exit the transitional housing this year into safe, longer-term housing.	Number of clients who exited the program. Number of clients who exited the program AND moved into safe, longer-term housing

Additional Objectives: Create an objective for each service below that <u>aligns with your proposed program activities</u> . Exclude any service below does <u>not</u> align with your proposed program. Rows may be added to accommodate services/activities not described below.	
# clients will receive individual counseling.	# of clients provided with individual counseling.
# clients will receive group support.	# of clients provided with group support.
# clients will receive child or dependent care assistance.	# of clients provided with child or dependent care assistance.
# clients will receive transportation assistance.	# of clients provided with transportation assistance.
# clients will receive housing advocacy, or help with implementing a plan for obtaining housing (e.g., accompanying client to apply for Section 8 housing)	# of clients provided with housing advocacy or help with implementing a plan for obtaining housing (e.g., accompanying client to apply for Section 8 housing).
# clients will receive employment assistance (e.g., help creating a resume or completing a job application).	# of clients provided with employment assistance (e.g., help creating a resume or completing a job application).
# clients will receive education assistance (e.g., help completing a GED or college application).	# clients provided with education assistance (e.g., help completing a GED or college application).
# clients will receive economic assistance (e.g., help creating a budget, repairing credit, providing financial education).	# of clients provided with economic assistance (e.g., help creating a budget, repairing credit, providing financial education).
# clients will receive life skills assistance (e.g., teaching fundamental skills to improve daily living or enhance independence).	# of clients provided with life skills assistance (e.g., teaching fundamental skills to improve daily living or enhance independence).
# of clients will receive therapy.	# of clients provided with therapy.
# of therapy sessions will be provided by staff.	# of therapy sessions provided by staff.
Staff will engage in public awareness activities (e.g., development and distribution of print and online material, presentations, etc. to raise awareness of victim rights and services).	# ___ of hours staff engaged in public awareness activities (e.g., development and distribution of print and online material, presentations, etc. to raise awareness of victim rights and services).

Budget and Budget Detail – 10 Points

1. Provide budget items which are appropriate and reasonable for suggested program.
Response:

2. Narrative is complete for all line items, clearly detailing how the applicant arrived at and calculated the budget amounts.
Response: