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Human Trafficking Services NOFO Q & A NOFO #1745-0724

RESPONSE TO APPLICANT QUESTIONS

The last day for question submission is Thursday, August 21, 2025, by 5:00 pm

Question

- 1. I am having trouble locating Attachment 1 for the following question: Please review the last page of this response document. Applicants should see the Attachment 1, Trauma-Informed Services, on page 3 of this document.
- 2. Is the application deadline for the VOCA Human Trafficking Services grant August 24 or August 25? Applications are due by 5 pm on Monday, August 25th.
- 3. The NOFO references that training is a required element of the application. Could you please provide guidance on where you would like to see these training costs reflected in the budget? Training cost can be added in the travel section of the budget template. Please review the budget template for guidance.
- **4.** Would we be able to meet the human trafficking requirement through a referral system, or is direct service the only way to meet this qualification? **Direct provision of all required services is expected, rather than relying solely on referral.**
- 5. Would criminal records relief be allowable on this opportunity? Yes, only is the criminal record is a result of a crime that resulted from the victim experiencing trafficking.
- 6. If an organization provides most, but not all the required services in house, but has established referral relationships to holistically serve this population, would they still be eligible to apply for this funding? Yes, your organization would still be eligible to apply for the ICJIA VOCA Human Trafficking Victim Services funding provided that the agency demonstrates a Holistic Service Delivery Model. Even if you do not provide all services in-house, ICJIA allows (and even expects) collaboration to ensure comprehensive care for trafficking survivors.
- 7. Are there character limits in the Amplifund application? ICJIA has not included any character limits however the Amplifund program itself may have them.

- 8. The NOFO award range states \$125,000 175,000, but ICJIA's response to question #2 (on the Q&A update posted 8/1/25) states that the award range is \$175,000 200,000. Which is correct? We will make a revision to the NOFO on Friday to reflect the application range from \$125,000 \$200,000. This may not be reflected in Amplifund however we are aware of the discrepancy. If the applicant agency is unable to submit a budget higher than \$175,000, adjustments can be made if the application is accepted and approved for funding during the agreement execution process.
- 9. The NOFO states that a recorded technical assistance session will be available on Tuesday, July 29, 2025. Where can we find this? Here is the link https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oj aHt2pqbA
- 10. Can you please advise the due date for the application? The due date is stated as both 5:00 p.m., August 25, 2025, as well as 5:00 p.m., August 24, 2025 on the program page online at <u>icjia.illinois.gov</u>. August 25, 2025. We will make this correction.
- 11. Can you please advise the total amount of funding available through this program? The total amount is stated as \$800,000 on the program page online at icjia.illinois.gov, but it is stated as \$26,965,942 on the application portal page online at il.amplifund.com. \$800,000 is the total amount for all Human Trafficking programs. Each program can apply for funds between \$125,000 \$200,000. The \$26,965,942 is the amount of VOCA funding that the state of Illinois received.
- **12.** Additionally, can you please advise the last day questions will be accepted for this program? The date is stated as August 21, 2025, 5:00 p.m. online at <u>icjia.illinois.gov</u>, but it is stated as 8/25/2025 5:00 PM (CDT) on the application portal page online at <u>il.amplifund.com</u>. The last day for questions is Thursday, August 21st by 5:00 pm.

ATTACHMENT 1

TRAUMA-INFORMED SERVICES

A cornerstone of victim services has been to support victims' choices; believing that victims know their situation best. While providers undoubtedly operate from this philosophy, there is more providers can do to ensure services do not unintentionally re-traumatize victims through policies and programming that don't consider 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 | Helping people regain a sense of control over |
| and Autonomy | 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 |
| Sharing I ower and Governance | 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, |
| Linsuring Cultural Competence | 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