

# Notice of Funding Opportunity

Victims of Crime Act

FFY 21

Transitional Housing Program

December 2022



# Purpose

ICJIA has made available \$2,830,905 million in VOCA grant funding for the development or expansion of transitional housing and related support costs for victims of crime. 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.



# Program Design

This funding opportunity will support transitional housing services for persons whose housing needs arise from or are a cause of their victimization. Persons served must be 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.



# Program Requirements

Housing must be for victims with permanent housing as the goal. No funds from this grant may be used to provide emergency shelter. Funding can be for formerly incarcerated victims with proper screening/eligibility requirements demonstrating that victimization was a cause/consequence of unstable/lack of housing. Client participation in supportive services must not be required, but programs must ensure such services are offered, available, and accessible.



# Program Requirements Continued

Applications should reflect the following program activities:

- Staffing to support all clients. Every client must be assigned 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 whose services 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.



# Program Requirements Continued

The following support services: *These services may be offered by your program or a collaborating partner organization.*

- Employment assistance: Helping a client implement an employment plan.
- Education assistance: Helping a client implement education plans.
- Housing advocacy: Helping a client implement a plan for obtaining housing.
- 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.
- In-person counseling.
- Children's services (if program serves parents with children).
- Child Care: Programs may provide onsite or offsite childcare services.



# ***Goals, Objectives, & Performance Metrics***

- Funded programs will be required to submit quarterly progress reports based on the objectives applicant agencies propose in their response to this solicitation.
- Mandatory objectives
- Optional objectives: Applicants should create a program specific objective and corresponding performance measure for each program activity.
- **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 aligns with your proposed program activities. Exclude any service below does not 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).



<p># clients will receive education assistance (e.g., help completing a GED or college application).</p>	<p># clients provided with education assistance (e.g., help completing a GED or college application).</p>
<p># clients will receive economic assistance (e.g., help creating a budget, repairing credit, providing financial education).</p>	<p># of clients provided with economic assistance (e.g., help creating a budget, repairing credit, providing financial education).</p>
<p># clients will receive life skills assistance (e.g., teaching fundamental skills to improve daily living or enhance independence).</p>	<p># of clients provided with life skills assistance (e.g., teaching fundamental skills to improve daily living or enhance independence).</p>
<p># of clients will receive therapy.</p> <p># of therapy sessions will be provided by staff.</p>	<p># of clients provided with therapy.</p> <p># of therapy sessions provided by staff.</p>
<p>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).</p>	<p># ___ 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).</p>



# Funding Information

- Grant awards resulting from this opportunity will have a target period of performance of March 1, 2023, to February 29, 2024. Additional funding up to 24 months 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.
- A total of \$2,830,905 million in funding is available through this solicitation. A minimum of \$100,000 and a maximum of \$400,000 will be awarded to successful applicants.



# Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants must meet the following requirements:

- **Public Agency and Nonprofit Organization.**
- **Record of Effective Services.** Demonstrate a record of providing effective direct services to crime victims and financial support from sources other than the Crime Victims Fund.
- **Volunteers.** Utilize volunteers unless ICJIA determines there is a compelling reason to waive this requirement.
- **Promote Community Efforts to Aid Crime Victims.** Promote, within the community, coordinated public and private efforts to aid crime victims.
- **Help Crime Victims Apply for Compensation.**
- **Comply with Federal Rules Regulating Grants.**



## Eligible applicants must meet the following requirements:

- **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.** 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.
- **Services to Victims of Federal Crime.** Provide services to victims of federal crimes on the same basis as victims of state/local crimes.
- **Criminal Case.** Do not discriminate against victims because they disagree with the way the state is prosecuting the criminal case.
- **No Charge to Victims for VOCA-Funded Services.** Provide services to crime victims at no charge through the VOCA-funded program.



# Application and Submission Information

- Applications must be obtained at <https://gata.icjia.cloud/> by clicking on the link titled “VOCA Transitional Housing.”
- Notice of Intent. Agencies interested in applying are strongly encouraged to complete an online Notice of Intent form by 11:59 p.m. on December 20, 2022.
- Program Narratives may not exceed 30 pages, including proposal questions, and must be double-spaced and written in 12-point, Times New Roman font. Do not delete template questions from your response.



# Eligibility Information

An entity may not apply for a grant until the entity has registered and pre-qualified through the Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) Grantee Portal, [www.grants.illinois.gov/portal](http://www.grants.illinois.gov/portal). Registration and pre-qualification are required each state fiscal year.



# Funding Restrictions

Applicants must follow the current edition of the Department of Justice Grants Financial Guide (pg 18 of NOFO)

## Prohibited Uses

- Land acquisition and New construction
- A renovation, lease, or any other proposed use of a building or facility that will either (a) result in a change in its basic prior use or (b) significantly change its size
- Minor renovation or remodeling of a property either (a) listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or (b) located within a 100-year flood plain
- Implementation of a new program involving the use of chemicals
- Capital expenditures





## Prohibited Uses Continued

- Fundraising activities
- Lobbying and advocacy with respect to legislation, regulations or administrative policy
- 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



## Prohibited Uses Continued

- Most food and beverage costs
- Audits (agencies receiving less than \$750,000 in cumulative federal funds)
- Compensation for Victims of Crime
- Crime Prevention
- Any expenses including housing expenses, e.g., rent, mortgage, utilities, for periods that fall outside of the program performance period



# Transitional Housing Models and Rent Structures

## Transitional Housing Models (pg. 29 on NOFO)

### 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 rented units for a specific period while they find more permanent housing.



## Transitional Housing Rent Structures

### 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.

### 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.



# Questions and Answers

Questions may be submitted via email at:

[CJA.VOCA.transitional.housing@illinois.gov](mailto:CJA.VOCA.transitional.housing@illinois.gov)

- All substantive questions and responses will be posted on the ICJIA website at <https://gata.icjia.cloud/> .
- The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) will be updated every Friday.
- Questions may be summaries to include all similar questions submitted.
- The deadline for submitted questions is 11:59 p.m. on January 6, 2023.



# Thank you.



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