



**STOP Violence Against Women Grant Program
Implementation Plan
Federal Fiscal Year 2008-2010**

**Department of Children and Families
Domestic Violence Program Office**

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I. Introduction

The STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program first provided funding to the State of Florida in 1995. Since that time, a multidisciplinary approach to combating domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking has been a priority. Services, Training, Officers and Prosecutors (STOP) have all been components of this effort to ensure more effective strategies are used to hold perpetrators accountable and provide services to victims. Florida's STOP funding is administered by the Florida Department of Children and Families, Domestic Violence Program Office (the Department).

Florida's STOP program's major goal is to develop a collaborative approach between law enforcement, prosecution agencies, the courts, and victim service providers that will increase appropriate arrest and prosecution of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking perpetrators, and increase victim safety.

Florida's STOP Implementation Plan follows the same organizational structure set forth in the STOP Implementation Plan Tool designed by the Office on Violence Against Women. A table of contents which follows the same structure of the tool's "At a Glance" page is included for easy reference.

II. Description of Planning Process

Florida began implementation planning in the spring of 2006. During the summer and early fall of 2006, Florida conducted a STOP Implementation Plan survey. The complete survey results are included as an attachment to this document. The survey tool was administered to four different groups within the domestic violence community: participants at the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence (FCADV) Training event in Orlando (46 respondents), participants at the Coordinated Community Response Training event in Ocala (99 respondents), participants at the statewide Fatality Review Meeting (2 respondents), and participants at the Domestic Violence Case Coordinators meeting (16 respondents). The tool was also sent via email by the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence (FCASV) to its providers. Seventeen surveys were received, for a total of 180 surveys. One hundred and sixty-four (164) of the surveys were completed as intended and analyzed based on need for services (ranked 1-10).

Respondents were asked to rank ten potentially needed services from one to ten. Based on the 164 respondents, services were ranked in the following manner (1= most needed, 10 = least needed). (1) Direct Domestic Violence Services; (2) Coordinated Community Response; (3) Training for Law Enforcement; (4) Training for Judges (5) Direct Sexual Assault Services (6) Services for Underserved Populations (7) Specialized Law Enforcement Services; (8) Training for Prosecutors; (9) Stalking Issues; and (10) Specialized Prosecution Services.

On October 17, 2006, Florida held a STOP Implementation Plan meeting. Participants included all STOP Implementation Steering Committee members:

- Tiffany Carr, Executive Director, Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Jennifer Dritt, Executive Director, Florida Council Against Sexual Violence
- Grace Frances, Grant and Training Coordinator, Florida Council Against Sexual Violence
- Rose Patterson, Chief, Office of Court Improvement, Office of the State Court Administrator
- Sandy Neidert, Senior Court Operations Consultant, Office of the State Court Administrator
- John Hogenmuller, Executive Director, Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association
- Dave Rothamer, Staff Attorney, Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association
- Cynthia Rogers-Vallely, Victim Services, Office of the Attorney General
- Lt. Edward Smith, Special Victims Unit, Tallahassee Police Department
- Kim Powell, Victim Advocate, Tallahassee Police Department
- Sgt. Tim Baxter, Violence Crimes Unit, Leon County Sheriff's Office
- Capt. Lynne Benck, Investigations Bureau Commander, Gainesville Police Department
- Jan Davis, Sexual Violence Prevention Program Administrator, Department of Health
- Marsha Slade, Sexual Violence Prevention Program Contract Manager, Department of Health
- Trula Motta, Director, Domestic Violence Program Office, Department of Children and Families
- Tammy Rodgers, Domestic Violence Contract Unit Supervisor, Department of Children and Families
- Mary Marotta, STOP Administrator, Department of Children and Families
- Maggie Greenwald, STOP Grant Manager, Department of Children and Families

At this meeting, participants discussed the results of the STOP Implementation Plan survey, new certifications as a result of 2005 reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA 2005), and needs of the state based on each individual's area of expertise. A summary of the meeting is included as an attachment to this document.

Non-profit/Non-governmental Victim Service Participation

Florida included non-profit, non-governmental victim service providers in the planning process by asking them to serve on the STOP Implementation Plan Steering Committee. Both the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence (FCADV) and the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence participated in the planning meeting held in October of 2006. FCADV is the statewide, non-profit, non-governmental, professional organization for Florida's certified domestic violence centers. FCASV is the statewide, non-profit, non-governmental, agency that serves as Florida's coordinating body advancing the issue of sexual violence in the state of Florida. A letter from both statewide agencies supporting and agreeing to participate in the implementation planning process is attached to this

plan. Both agencies also administered the STOP Implementation Plan Survey to their membership for further participation from local advocates and other allied professionals in the field.

Diverse Populations

Both FCADV and FCASV have a very diverse membership and it is through their participation in the planning process that Florida was able to include “voices from underserved populations.” FCADV has several sub-groups or caucuses that represent disenfranchised, traditionally oppressed, and frequently underrepresented groups of individuals. Caucus meetings provide an opportunity for caucus members to obtain support and work on issues to be brought forward to the entire FCADV membership. The caucus provides a common, collective voice to speak out for the caucus members. Caucuses held to support underserved victims of domestic violence each year through the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence (FCADV) are: Women of Color, Battered and formerly Battered Women, Lesbian and Bi-Sexual forums, Rural, Children & Youth, and Hispanic institutes.

Indian Tribes of Florida

The Department attempted to contact the two federally recognized Indian tribes in Florida (the Miccosukee and the Seminole tribes) to invite them to participate in the planning process. To date, they have not responded to our inquiries. The Department will also mail the designated contact for the two tribes copies of all future STOP solicitations for which they may qualify. In our efforts to reach Native American populations in Florida, FCADV distributes a brochure funded by STOP to Native American communities, which discusses specific domestic violence issues in Native-American society. The Florida Council Against Sexual Violence (FCASV) has sustained difficulty in establishing relationships within the Native American communities in Florida, however the FCASV offers and provides scholarships for Native-American women to attend all training, seminars and conferences hosted by the Council. FCADV collects client information demographic data for the following:

- Ethnicity of individuals served in shelter for 06-07 = 61 Native-American women.
- Ethnicity of individuals served in Outreach programs for 06-07 = 143 Native-American women.

Continued Planning

Florida will continue planning activities related to STOP throughout the grant period by reviewing quarterly performance measure data (described in detail in a later section) and will make adjustments to the program as needed.

III. Needs and Context

Florida's Demographic Summary

Population

Florida is the fourth most populous state and the third fastest growing state in the nation. The total state population was estimated to be 17,918,227 on April 1, 2005, an increase of 1,935,403 over the 2000 census count of 15,982,824. This represents a 12.1 percent growth in five years. Despite its recent growth, 38 percent of Florida is considered rural as defined by the United States Department of Health.

Age

Florida's age distribution on April 1, 2000 showed changes in the aging of Florida's population. In 1980, there were 1,687,705 Floridians aged 65 and older (17.3 percent of the total population). The 1990 census enumerated 2,355,938 elderly (18.2 percent of total) while the April 1, 2000 census enumerated 2,807,598 in this group (17.6 percent of the total). These changes represent increases of 70.6 percent between 1970 and 1980, 39.6 percent between 1980 and 1990, and 19.2 percent between 1990 and 2000, somewhat lower than the overall statewide growth rate of 23.5 percent during the 90's. Florida's 65 and older population is projected to grow to 3,494,819 by 2010, an increase of 24.5 percent over the 2000 number.

The population aged 85 and older was one of the fastest growing age segments during the 1980's, increasing by 75.1 percent. This group grew by 61.2 percent during the 90's, more than twice the rate of growth for the state and is forecast to expand by 61.9 percent between 2000 and 2010. Florida is famous for its elderly average age and the extent to which that average is due to interstate migration. There are other states with high shares of elderly, but largely because the young have left, not because the old have moved in.

The youth population (ages 0-19) has shown increasing growth rates over the last 30 years -- from 15.5 percent between 1970 to 1980 to 25.2 percent between 1990 and 2000. In 1980, there were 2,688,242 persons aged 0 to 19 (27.6 percent of the total population.) In 1990, the youth population had grown to 3,232,493 (25.0 percent of the population) and in 2000, there were 4,048,632 youth (25.3 percent of the population). It's projected that by 2010 there will be 4,849,010 persons age 19 and younger in Florida, representing 24.3 percent of the total state population.

The FCADV receives VOCA funding that supports a program targeting an elderly population of domestic/sexual assault victims called *Economic Challenges that Impact Elder Victims with Disabilities of Abuse*. The FCADV recognizes that Florida maintains a constant expanding population of people over 85. To meet the demanding needs associated with an aging population subject to domestic violence and sexual assault, the coalition has applied this year to OVW for funding that would support Elder Abuse programs

Race and Ethnicity

Florida is unique because of its large Cuban population, particularly in the southern part of the state. Florida's Hispanic population includes large communities of Cuban Americans in Miami and Tampa, Puerto Ricans in Tampa and Orlando, and Central American migrant workers in inland West-Central and South Florida. No other state has a significant population of Cubans like Florida does. The Hispanic community continues to grow more affluent and mobile: between the years of 2000 and 2004, Lee County in southwest Florida, which is largely suburban in character, had the fastest Hispanic population growth rate of any county in the United States.

Large concentrations of black residents can be found in northern Florida (notably in Jacksonville, Gainesville and Pensacola), the Tampa Bay area, the Orlando area (especially in the city of Orlando and Sanford), and South Florida (where their numbers have been bolstered by significant immigration from Haiti and Jamaica).

Whites of all ethnicities are present in all areas of the state. Those of British and Irish ancestry are present in large numbers in all the urban/suburban areas across the state. There is a large German population in Southwest Florida, a large Greek population in the Tarpon Springs area, a sizable and historic Italian community in the Miami area, and white Floridians of longer-present generations in the culturally southern areas of inland and northern Florida.

Language

As of 2000, the most recent decennial census, 76.9 percent of Florida residents age 5 and older speak only English at home, while 16.4 percent speak Spanish. French-based Creole languages (predominantly Haitian Creole) are spoken by 1.3 percent, followed by French at 0.8 percent, German at 0.5 percent and Italian at 0.4 percent.

Crime in Florida

The 2006 Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Annual Crime in Florida Report shows a total of 115,170 domestic violence incidents for 2006, an overall decrease in domestic violence crimes of 4.3% since 2005. This overall decrease applied in all victim-offender relationships, including spouses, parents, children, siblings, and cohabitants.

Closer examination of the decrease since 2005 shows the most dramatic decrease (60.7%) was in simple stalking. In 2006, there were 330 recorded cases of simple stalking versus 840 in 2005. Although this is a dramatic change, data from past years shows that simple stalking was unusually high in 2005. From 1996 through 2004, simple stalking ranged from 428 to 673 incidents per year. The latest report of 330 may not be a significant change from past years.

The next greatest decreases were in forcible fondling (16.7%), forcible sodomy (15%), and forcible rape (12.2%). Forcible fondling and forcible sodomy are at a five-year low. However, the fluctuations for forcible fondling and forcible sodomy are relatively small. Forcible rape appears to be meaningfully lower in recent years compared to 1996 - 1998.

In 2006, there were 1,129 murders in Florida. Of those murders, 164 or 14.5 percent were domestic violence related. These figures are down five and one half percent from 2005, when there were 881 homicides, of which 176 were domestic violence related. Of these offenses, the spouse or live-in partner was the victim in 50.6 percent of the cases (FDLE, Uniform Crime Report).

2006 Annual Domestic Violence by Offense Type

Primary Offense	2005	2006	% Change
Murder	176	164	-6.8
Manslaughter	17	19	11.8
Forcible Rape	1240	1089	-12.2
Forcible Sodomy	434	369	-15.0
Forcible Fondling	1137	947	-16.7
Aggravated Assault	21676	20193	-6.8
Aggravated Stalking	254	259	2.0
Simple Assault	90455	88110	-2.6
Threat Intimidation	4157	3690	-11.2
Simple Stalking	840	330	-60.7
Total	120386	115170	-4.3

Florida’s Needs Assessment

In August 2006, the Department contracted with the Institute for Family Violence Studies at Florida State University to conduct the 2006-2007 Florida Domestic Violence Needs Assessment (the needs assessment). Overall, there are clear trends in the needs identified. The most common need is for services geared toward, or a basic understanding of the needs of, traditionally underserved populations across Florida. For example, the report cites the need for bilingual service providers and sensitivity to the needs of populations such as same sex, disabled, and older victims. The researchers termed this the “need for cultural competence”. The need for cultural competence is felt the strongest in rural areas of the state, where there are less specially trained staff equipped to handle the needs of unique victims.

The needs assessment also reports the need for specialized services, such as mental health and substance abuse programs for victims and their children, as an essential need, yet less often met than other essential needs. Respondents agreed that in general, mental health

services were only readily available to privately insured individuals. Additionally, free or low cost substance abuse treatment was rated only as *sometimes* available.

Recommendations stemming from the needs assessment include: 1) Increasing the number of bilingual staff available to victims and their children; 2) Making broad cultural competency training available to all persons who work with victims of domestic violence. This training should include working with victims from ethnic, racial, deaf, and lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgendered cultures, and dealing with worker-client cultural differences; and 3) Increasing the availability of mental health and substance abuse treatment programs for victims and their children. Florida is addressing the recommendations from the needs assessment in its allocation of funding from the STOP program and other related funding sources.

Relevant Legislation

During Florida's 2007 legislative session House Bill 989/Senate Bill 642 was passed bringing the state in compliance with all new STOP certifications required by the Violence Against Women Act 2005. Prior to the legislative session, Florida was not in compliance with the forensic medical examination payment requirement for victims of sexual assault certification and the polygraph certification. As a result of this new law, the Department is subcontracting with FCASV to provide training and technical assistance to Florida's law enforcement agencies to ensure proper implementation of the new statutory requirements.

IV. Plan Priorities and Approaches

Identified Goals

Florida's major program goal is to develop a collaborative approach between law enforcement, prosecution agencies, the courts, and victim service providers that will increase appropriate arrest and prosecution of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking perpetrators, and increase victim safety. Specific goals by funding allocation category are:

Prosecution Goals

1. Increase offender accountability through the prosecution of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases.
2. Increase services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and staking in prosecution agencies.
3. Increase coordination among members of the criminal justice system and the social service system.

Law Enforcement Goals

1. Increase prosecutable domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking arrests.
2. Increase coordination among members of the criminal justice system and the social service system.

Victim Service Goals

1. Increase awareness of domestic violence and sexual violence in rural communities and increasing awareness of multicultural aspects of violence against women in rural communities.
2. Enhance domestic violence knowledge and service provision skills of attorneys and domestic violence advocates by providing training and technical assistance.
3. Increase access to legal advocacy, information, and resources for victims of domestic violence through a statewide legal hotline.
4. Increase the number of professionals who work with battered incarcerated women and the number of professionals who file clemency cases on behalf of incarcerated battered women.
5. Increase the ability of sexual violence service providers and allied professionals to respond to the needs of victims of sexual violence.
6. Increase the knowledge of providers and allied professionals through the provision of educational training opportunities.
7. Increase the capacity of FCASV and member programs to provide leadership regarding sexual violence, disseminating best practices to providers, and coordinating statewide responses.
8. Increase capacity of law enforcement agencies to effectively implement the provisions of Chapter 960, Florida Statutes, which brought the state into compliance with VAWA 2005.
9. Increase services, including but not limited to substance abuse and mental health, to victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence and stalking.
10. Increase linguistically and culturally specific services available to victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence and stalking that will support the basic competence needs of both adult and elder adult victims in rural areas of the state who are victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence and stalking. Florida anticipates using the STOP funds earmarked for Linguistically and Culturally Specific Services to support a program in Gadsden County, a rural area affected by extreme poverty, to enhance victim's accessibility to domestic violence and sexual assault services. These services may include opportunities for women to seek advances in literacy education, on the job training, transportation, basic housing needs and mental health services

11. Increase coordination among members of the criminal justice system and the social services system.

Court Goals

1. Increase the number and quality of domestic violence (DV) education opportunities for judges, court administration staff, attorneys, clerks of court, and others involved in the family court system.
2. Increase levels of information and technical assistance to be provided to Domestic Violence Case Coordinators, court administration staff, public agencies, the public, and others.

Training Goals

1. Increase the amount of specialized training available to members of the criminal justice and social services systems.

Types of Programs to be Supported and General Tasks

1. Prosecution Services

Each State Attorney's Office is offered STOP funding. During FFY 2008 State Attorneys representing sixteen judicial circuits receive STOP funding. Although awards in this category are not competitive, reporting of specific performance measures are required. Specialized prosecution units will continue to provide a comprehensive approach in supporting victims and holding law violators accountable. Prosecutors, victim advocates and investigators all work in concert to achieve this end. Assistant State Attorneys take the lead in resolving cases either through the trial process or a plea agreement. Prosecutors work with victims to determine their preferences for a negotiated outcome and assist them in preparation for deposition and the courtroom experience. Victim advocates provide support to victims through community referrals, case information, safety planning, crisis counseling and support. Investigators take on the role of preparing evidence for trial purposes. STOP funding will continue to provide support for each of these vital roles in the prosecution effort.

2. Law Enforcement Services

Specialized domestic violence and sexual assault law enforcement units will continue to be funded for FFY 2008. A law enforcement unit may be comprised of one or more staff that is dedicated to domestic violence and/or sexual assault crimes. Staff may include but is not limited to detectives, patrol officers, investigators, victim liaisons, civilian case

coordinators, data entry staff and other support staff, as needed. In addition to the outcomes outlined on page 18, community education and officer training on domestic violence and/or sexual assault issues may also be provided.

3. Victim Services

- a. **Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence (FCADV):** FCADV, the statewide, non-profit, non-governmental domestic violence service provider, will receive funding to support statewide efforts to reduce domestic violence and serve victims in rural communities. Support will be provided to domestic violence centers through technical assistance and enhanced services. Direct services to victims will be provided for victims residing in rural communities. Additionally, FCADV will offer legal representation in injunction hearings, advice through the legal hotline and advocacy for incarcerated battered women. The Statewide Rural Initiative, the Statewide Legal Initiative, the Statewide Legal Hotline Initiative and the Statewide Clemency Projects are all aspects of the comprehensive services to be provided.
- b. **Florida Council Against Sexual Violence (FCASV):** FCASV, the statewide, non-profit, non-governmental sexual violence service provider, will receive funding to support statewide efforts to reduce sexual violence. Specifically, to: 1) increase the ability of sexual violence service providers and allied professionals to respond to the needs of victims of sexual violence; 2) increase the knowledge of providers and allied professionals through the provision of educational training opportunities; 3) increase the capacity of FCASV and member programs to provide leadership regarding sexual violence, disseminating best practices to providers, and coordinating statewide responses; and 4) increase capacity of law enforcement agencies to effectively implement the provisions of Chapter 960, Florida Statutes, which brought the state into compliance with VAWA 2005.
- c. **Local Victim Services:** During FFY 2008, ten local victim service programs will provide direct services to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking victims.
- d. **Linguistically and Culturally Specific Services:** A selected program will provide direct linguistically and culturally specific domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking victim services for a rural underserved population in Florida.

4. Statewide Courts

The Office of the State Courts Administrator (OSCA): OSCA was created to assist the courts in developing a uniform case reporting system that provides the judiciary information involving the budgetary and operational activities of the courts. The State Courts Administrator serves as the liaison between the court system and the legislative branch, the executive branch, the auxiliary agencies of the Court and national court research and planning agencies. OSCA will receive STOP funding to: 1) increase opportunities for domestic violence related education and information for judges, court administration staff, clerks of court, and other key participants; and 2) increase levels of information and technical assistance provided to Domestic Violence Coordinators, court administration staff, and other key participants.

5. Statewide Law Enforcement Training

The selected program will provide training to law enforcement officers and related civilian counterparts who work with victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking. Training will encompass current law enforcement approaches to offender accountability for violent crimes against women and victim safety. Examples include, but are not limited to, coordinated community response, enhanced evidence collection related to evidence-based prosecution of crimes against women, offender accountability, approaches to maintaining victim safety, and culturally competency when working with victims.

6. Statewide Prosecution Training

During FFY 2008, the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association (FPAA) will provide training to prosecutors and related civilian counterparts who work with victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence, and stalking. Training will encompass current prosecutorial approaches to combating violent crimes against women and promoting safety. Examples include, but are not limited to, coordinated community response, evidence-based prosecution of crimes against women, offender accountability, approaches to maintaining victim safety, and culturally competency when working with victims.

Prior Implementation Plans

In previous implementation of STOP funding, Florida has always placed a significant emphasis on coordinated community response to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. The state is expanding these efforts by awarding funding to agencies that are willing to work together to increase appropriate arrest and prosecution of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking perpetrators, and increase victim safety. All agencies that will be funded are required to consult with their

local non-profit, non-governmental victim service provider in a meaningful way. By forging these important partnerships communities tend to respond to victim needs in a more committed and organized manner. MOU's also seem to allow communities to develop lasting relationships, and create sustainability in projects no longer funded from grant programs. Florida plans to continue with this practice of community based relationship building. Coordinated community response to violence against women is still a priority.

Funding Methodology and Grant-making Strategy

Florida intends to allocate its STOP funding as indicated in the table below.

STOP Funding Allocation by Category	
Category	Funding Amount
Prosecution	\$1,343,707.00
Law Enforcement	\$1,477,650.00
Victim Services	\$2,257,424.00
Courts	\$269,303.00

The courts allocation includes refunds of \$562.07 from SFY 05-06. The law enforcement allocation includes refunds of \$12,061 from SFY 05-06 and funds equaling \$121,883 from a contract that was cancelled in SFY 06-07, and \$105,000 earmarked for training (\$100,000) and fatality review training travel costs (\$5,000). The prosecution allocation reflects \$100,000 earmarked for training. The victim services allocation reflects \$161,245 earmarked for culturally specific community-based organizations. With the exception of the \$5,000 for statewide fatality review training, the Department intends to subcontract all remaining STOP funds.

The STOP funds will be allocated through subcontracts as indicated in the tables below.

Statewide Funding

Service Area	Vendor	Number of Contracts	Funding Categories	Funding Amount	Match Amount
Statewide	Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence (FCADV)	1	Victim Services	\$1,125,549	N/A
Statewide	Florida Council Against Sexual Violence (FCASV)	1	Victim Services	\$223,034	N/A
Statewide	Office of the State Court Administrator	1	Courts	\$269,303	\$89,768

	(OSCA)				
Statewide	Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association (FPAA)	1	Prosecution Training	\$100,000	\$33,000
Statewide	TBA	1	Law Enforcement Training	\$100,000	\$33,000

Statewide victim services are procured through renewals of existing sole source contracts with the Department. Each sole source has a contract period of one year and is re-evaluated annually. Courts activities are procured through the renewal of a one-year governmental exemption contract with the Department. Statewide prosecution training is procured through a sole source contract. Statewide law enforcement training services will be competitively procured through an Invitation to Negotiate (ITN). The contract period for statewide training will be one year, with a potential renewal option. Under the allocation chart funding will primarily look the same in 2010, based on the methodology of funding, as well as current STOP programs that rely on continued funding for sustainability, particularly addressing current STOP funded Rural programs that would not continue to exist without STOP funds

Local Funding

Local law enforcement and victim service funds are procured through a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The Department currently has contracts with local service providers that are in effect until June 30, 2008. The Department intends to release a competitive solicitation in early 2008 to procure local law enforcement and victim services for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. The procurement document will be designed to ensure that subgrant amounts will be based on the population and geographic areas to be served, with the greatest need based on the availability of services.

STOP prosecution funding is offered to all twenty (20) State Attorneys. Funds are allocated to each of the judicial circuits requesting funding based on a formula which takes into account: 1) whether the area is rural or urban; 2) the percentage of children under the age of 18; 3) the percentage of women aged 18-44; 4) the area's population; 5) the crime rate related to violence against women; and 6) the amount of marriages and divorces in the area.

Additional funds in the amount of \$161,245 have been set aside to fund direct linguistically and culturally specific services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. The Department intends to competitively procure these services through an Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) process. This process was selected to ensure Florida's compliance with VAWA 2005's requirement that funds be distributed equitably to serve all populations represented in the state's application pool (solicitation replies).

Technical Assistance

The Department provides technical assistance to its grantees in the following manner:

1. All subgrantees (new and returning) are required to attend a grant implementation workshop. The workshop consists of all aspects of successful grant management (e.g. reporting, invoices, monitoring, etc.)
2. Periodic conference calls to ensure that everything is going well for the grantee and to update them regarding any changes.
3. One-on-one telephone calls to train new grant staff, as needed.
4. Site visits, as needed.

In terms of technical assistance for potential grantees, the Department is limited in what can be provided. With the exception of selected service areas, most STOP services are competitively procured, limiting the ability of the Department to assist prior to and during the application process. The Department does advertise its intent to competitively procure services through its website, Request for Information (RFI), and by presenting information at meetings of statewide associations and groups. Further, the Department does entertain written questions during the application process and answers are posted on its website.

STOP Grant Cycle Timeline

Florida's current STOP subgrant contracts are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2008. In preparation for the beginning of a new grant cycle, Florida began implementation planning in the spring of 2006. During the summer and early fall of 2006, Florida conducted a STOP Implementation Plan survey. On October 17, 2006, Florida held a STOP Implementation Plan meeting. At this meeting participants discussed the results of the survey, new certifications as a result of VAWA 2005, and needs of the state based on each individual's area of expertise. The Department also commissioned a Domestic Violence Needs Assessment that was completed in late spring 2007. In the summer of 2007, the Department took the results of the survey, the recommendations of the committee, and the needs assessment and developed an implementation plan for the STOP funding. Based on this plan, the Department renewed contracts with three statewide agencies (FCADV, FCASV, and OSCA) beginning July 1, 2007. Additionally, the Department plans to release two solicitations in fall 2007. All responses are expected to be received and scored during winter 2007. Contracts with successful vendors will be in place beginning March 1, 2008 and continuing until December 31, 2008 and December 31, 2010, both with renewal options.

Underserved Victims

In March 2007, in anticipation of the new 10 percent linguistically and culturally specific victim services allocation included in VAWA 2005, the Department conducted a Request for Information (RFI). The RFI was designed to allow the Department to gauge the interest and ability of qualified vendors to provide linguistically and culturally specific victim services in the state. As discussed in an earlier section, the 2006-2007 Florida

Needs Assessment examined the needs of all victims, including traditionally underserved victims. Based on the responses received from the RFI and the needs assessment, the Department crafted a linguistically and culturally specific Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) that will be released in late 2007. The Department will distribute funds to equitably serve those underserved populations represented in the replies received to provide linguistically and culturally specific services to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking victims.

The Department intends to address the needs of rural victims, a traditionally underserved population in Florida, through funds allocated to FCADV for its Rural Initiative. The Rural Initiative seeks to increase awareness about domestic violence, sexual violence, and multicultural aspects of violence against women in rural communities through funds provided to six certified domestic violence centers located in rural areas of the state. The Department also plans to address the needs of underserved victims through the funding allocated for statewide law enforcement and prosecution training. It is the intent of the Department to integrate cultural competency training into the different statewide events. Cultural competency training would encompass working with traditionally disenfranchised groups, such as individuals from ethnic, racial, deaf, and lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgendered cultures, and dealing with worker-client cultural differences.

The Department is limited in its ability to make contact with certain groups during its competitive process. The Department informs the statewide agencies and associations that represent each of the funding categories on the opportunities related to STOP funding and in turn it relies on these agencies to keep their own membership informed. In instances where it is appropriate based on Departmental guidelines, the Department will send copies of solicitations or other notification to potential vendors.

FY 2008-2011 Performance Measures

Prosecution

- a. Goal: Increase offender accountability through the prosecution of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases.**

Outcome	Outputs
80% of all domestic violence cases filed will be prosecuted.	1. # of cases filed
	2. # of cases reviewed
	3. # of cases resulting in trials
	4. # of cases referred to diversion
	5. # of cases resulting in plea agreements
	6. # of cases nolle prossed
Tracking Data	
Of the total # of cases prosecuted:	
1. # of cases referred to certified BIPs	
2. # of cases referred to Anger Management	
3. # of cases where defendant is incarcerated	
4. # other (cases which do not fit into numbers 1-3)	

Outcome	Outputs
80% of all sexual assault cases filed will be prosecuted.	1. # of cases filed
	2. # of cases reviewed
	3. # of cases resulting in trials
	4. # of cases referred to diversion
	5. # of cases resulting in plea agreements
	6. # of cases nolle prossed

Outcome	Outputs
80% of all stalking cases filed will be prosecuted.	1. # of cases filed
	2. # of cases reviewed
	3. # of cases resulting in trials
	4. # of cases referred to diversion
	5. # of cases resulting in plea agreements

	6. # of cases nolle prossed
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b. Goal: Increase services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking in prosecution agencies.

Outcome	Outputs
97% of all domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking victims will be served.	1. # of domestic violence victims requesting service
	2. # of sexual assault victims requesting service
	3. # of stalking victims requesting service
	4. # of domestic violence victims served
	5. # of sexual assault victims served
	6. # of stalking violence victims served

Law Enforcement

- a. Goal: Increase prosecutable domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking arrests.**

Outcome	Outputs
80% of all domestic violence arrests will be prosecutable.	1. # of domestic violence arrests resulting in prosecution
	2. # of domestic violence arrests

Tracking Data	
Of the total # of domestic violence arrests	
1.# of males arrested	
2.# of females arrested	

Outcome	Outputs
80% of all sexual assault arrests will be prosecutable.	1. # of sexual assault arrests resulting in prosecution
	2. # of sexual assault arrests

Outcome	Outputs
80% of all stalking arrests will be prosecutable.	1. # of stalking arrests resulting in prosecution
	2. # of stalking arrests

Victim Services

I. Statewide Victim Services

- a. **Goal: Increase awareness of domestic violence and sexual violence in rural communities and increasing awareness of multicultural aspects of violence against women in rural communities.**

Outcome	Outputs
Conduct one statewide rural training institute.	1. # of statewide rural training institutes.

Outcome	Outputs
Conduct four onsite trainings on rural issues to Centers receiving rural funding.	1. # of onsite trainings on rural issues to Centers receiving rural funding.

Outcome	Outputs
Conduct four on-site technical assistance visits on rural issues to Centers receiving rural funding.	1. # of on-site technical assistance visits on rural issues to Centers receiving rural funding.

Outcome	Outputs
Conduct two teleconferences for Rural Advocates on the Rural Initiative.	1. # of teleconferences for Rural Advocates on the Rural Initiative.

Outcome	Outputs
Conduct a Rural Advocates Institute for ten rural domestic violence advocates.	1. # of rural domestic violence advocates attending a Rural Advocates Institute.

- b. **Goal: Enhance domestic violence knowledge and service provision skills of attorneys and domestic violence advocates by providing training and technical assistance.**

Outcome	Outputs
Conduct a one day Clearinghouse lawyer training for legal Clearinghouse attorneys and advocates.	1. # of one day Clearinghouse lawyer trainings for legal Clearinghouse attorneys and advocates.

Outcome	Outputs
Update FCADV's Domestic Violence Center Confidentiality and Privilege Manual and distribute 50 copies to domestic violence centers and attorneys.	1. # of updated copies of FCADV's Domestic Violence Center Confidentiality and Privilege Manuals distributed to domestic violence centers and attorneys.

Outcome	Outputs
Provide 2500 units of electronic technical assistance to certified domestic violence centers – employees and volunteers, the legal community, the affordable housing community, certified batterer intervention program providers personnel, and partnering agencies.	1. # of units of electronic technical assistance to certified domestic violence centers – employees and volunteers, the legal community, the affordable housing community, certified batterer intervention program providers personnel, and partnering agencies.

c. Goal: Increase access to legal advocacy, information, and resources for victims of domestic violence through a statewide legal hotline.

Outcome	Outputs
Conduct one technical assistance meeting with staff of the legal hotline.	1. # of technical assistance meetings with staff of the legal hotline.

Outcome	Outputs
Operate and maintain the toll-free, statewide domestic violence hotline which will direct 900 calls to the legal hotline.	1. # of calls directed to the legal hotline.

Outcome	Outputs
Provide legal representation to victims of domestic violence in 800 injunction hearings.	1. # of injunction hearings where legal representation was provided to domestic violence victims.

Outcome	Outputs
Provide 1500 legal consultations to victims of domestic violence.	1. # of legal consultations provided to victims of domestic violence.

Outcome	Outputs
Provide legal advice and/or information to 900 callers to the FCADV/FLS domestic violence legal hotline.	1. # of callers to the FCADV/FLS hotline provided legal advice and/or information.

Outcome	Outputs
Provide and/or respond to 25 inquiries for technical assistance related to Clearinghouse subcontract management.	1. # of inquiries for technical assistance related to Clearinghouse subcontract management.

d. Goal: Increase the number of professionals who work with battered incarcerated women and the number of professionals who file clemency cases on behalf of incarcerated battered women.

Outcome	Outputs
Review, evaluate, prepare, and file as appropriate, 2 clemency petitions.	1. # of clemency cases reviewed and evaluated.
	2. # of clemency petitions prepared and filed.

Outcome	Outputs
Conduct an institute on working with incarcerated battered women in the Florida penal system.	1. # of institutes on working with incarcerated battered women in the Florida penal system.

Outcome	Outputs
Provide five scholarships for institute on working with incarcerated battered women in the Florida penal system.	1. # of scholarships for institute on working with incarcerated battered women in the Florida penal system.

e. Goal: Increase the ability of sexual violence service providers and allied professionals to respond to the needs of victims of sexual violence.

Outcome	Outputs
1000 technical assistance units will be provided to programs and allied professionals.	1. # technical assistance units provided to programs and allied professionals.

Outcome	Outputs
8 site visits will be conducted.	1. # of site visits conducted.

Outcome	Outputs
4 regional Law Enforcement trainings will occur.	1. # Law Enforcement Regional trainings.

Outcome	Outputs
8 regional training for advocates and rape crisis center staff on improving services to victims will take place.	1. # of regional training for advocates and rape crisis center staff on improving services to victims.

Outcome	Outputs
2 e-newsletters will be produced, distributed, and posted to website.	1. # of e-newsletters produced, distributed, and posted to website.

Outcome	Outputs
200 copies of the Sexual Violence Program Directory will be distributed.	1. # of the Sexual Violence Program Directories distributed.

Outcome	Outputs
12 updates to the website will occur.	1. # of updates to the website.

f. Goal: Increase the knowledge of providers and allied professionals through the provision of educational training activities.

Outcome	Outputs
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180 participants will attend the Annual Conference.	1. # of Annual Conference attendees.
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Outcome	Outputs
350 allied organizations and professionals will be trained.	1. # of allied organizations and professionals trained.

g. Goal: Increase the capacity of FCASV and member programs to provide leadership regarding sexual violence, disseminating best practices to providers, and coordinating statewide responses.

Outcome	Outputs
30 attendees at Annual Conference will participate in the Conference Leadership track.	1. # of participants in Conference Leadership track.

Outcome	Outputs
2 resource development proposals will be generated.	1. # of resource development proposals generated.

Outcome	Outputs
8 Public Policy sexual violence issue updates will be distributed and posted to FCASV's website.	1. # of Public Policy sexual violence issue updates distributed and posted to FCASV's website.

h. Goal: Increase capacity of law enforcement agencies to effectively implement the provisions of Chapter 960, Florida Statutes, which brought the state into compliance with VAWA 2005. (training institutes were held to bring law enforcement providers into compliance with the new VAWA certification for "polygraph testing").

Outcome	Outputs
50 law enforcement technical assistance units will be provided.	1. #of law enforcement technical assistance units provided.

Outcome	Outputs
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2 VAWA Certification Implementation Task Force face-to-face meetings will occur.	1. Actual # of VAWA Certification Implementation Task Force face-to-face meetings.
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Outcome	Outputs
2 VAWA Certification Implementation Task Force conference call meetings will occur.	1. # of VAWA Certification Implementation Task Force conference call meetings.

Outcome	Outputs
2 model protocols for storing evidence from non-reporting victims and conducting investigations of crimes reported sometime after the collection of forensic evidence will be developed.	1. # of model protocols for storing evidence from non-reporting victims and conducting investigations of crimes reported sometime after the collection of forensic evidence developed.

II. Local Victim Services

a. Goal: Increase services available to victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence and stalking.

Outcome	Outputs
90% of domestic violence victims requesting direct victim services will be served.	1. # of domestic violence victims receiving direct victim services.
	2. # of domestic violence victims requesting direct victim services.

Outcome	Outputs
90% of sexual violence victims requesting direct victim services will be served.	1. # of sexual violence victims receiving direct victim services.
	2. # of sexual violence victims requesting direct victim services.

Outcome	Outputs
90% of dating violence victims requesting direct victim services will be served	1. # of dating violence victims receiving direct victim services.
	2. # of dating violence victims requesting direct victim services.

Outcome	Outputs
90% of stalking victims requesting direct victim services will be served	1. # of stalking victims receiving direct victim services.

	2. # of stalking victims requesting direct victim services.
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b. Goal: Increase linguistically and culturally specific services available to victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, dating violence and stalking.

Outcome	Outputs
90% of domestic violence victims requesting linguistically and culturally specific services will be served.	1. # of domestic violence victims receiving linguistically and culturally specific services.
	2. # of domestic violence victims requesting linguistically and culturally specific services.

Outcome	Outputs
90% of sexual violence victims requesting linguistically and culturally specific services will be served.	1. # of sexual violence victims receiving linguistically and culturally specific services.
	2. # of sexual violence victims requesting linguistically and culturally specific services.

Outcome	Outputs
90% of dating violence victims requesting linguistically and culturally specific services will be served.	1. # of dating violence victims receiving linguistically and culturally specific services.
	2. # of dating violence victims requesting linguistically and culturally specific services.

Outcome	Outputs
90% of stalking victims requesting linguistically and culturally specific services will be served.	1. # of stalking victims receiving linguistically and culturally specific services.
	2. # of stalking victims requesting linguistically and culturally specific services.

Courts

- a. Goal: Increase the number and quality of domestic violence (DV) education opportunities for judges, court administration staff, attorneys, clerks of court, and others involved in the family court system.**

Outcome	Outputs
30 participants will attend the domestic violence workshop at the Annual Conference for Mediators and Arbitrators.	1. # of participants that attended the domestic violence workshop at the Annual Conference for Mediators and Arbitrators.
	2. Projected # of participants attending the domestic violence workshop at the Annual Conference for Mediators and Arbitrators.

Outcome	Outputs
85% of attendees will respond “yes” that the workshop increased their domestic violence knowledge.	1. # of participants that attended the domestic violence workshop at the Annual Conference for Mediators and Arbitrators who responded "Yes" to an evaluation question administered at the conclusion of the training that states "The information in this workshop increased my knowledge of domestic violence".
	2. # of participants that attended the domestic violence workshop at the Annual Conference for Mediators and Arbitrators who completed an evaluation administered at the conclusion of the training.

Outcome	Outputs
10 judges will attend advanced level domestic violence course at the Annual College of Advanced Judicial Studies.	1. Actual # of judges attending the advanced level domestic violence course at the Annual College of Advanced Judicial Studies.
	2. Projected # of judges attending the advanced level domestic violence course at the Annual College of Advanced Judicial Studies.

Outcome	Outputs
85% of judges that attended the advanced level domestic violence course at the Annual College of Advanced Judicial Studies will respond "Yes" to an evaluation question administered at the conclusion of the training which stated "The information in this course increased my knowledge of domestic violence".	3. # of judges that attended the advanced level domestic violence course at the Annual College of Advanced Judicial Studies who responded "Yes" to an evaluation question administered at the conclusion of the training which stated "The information in this course increased my knowledge of domestic violence".
	4. # of judges that attended the advanced level domestic violence course at the Annual College of Advanced Judicial Studies who completed an evaluation administered at the conclusion of the training.

b. Goal: Increase levels of information and technical assistance to be provided to Domestic Violence Case Coordinators, court administration staff, public agencies, the public, and others.

Outcome	Outputs
20 participants will attend two (2) statewide meetings for DV Coordinators and other court administration staff.	1. # of circuit court staff attending each of two (2) statewide meetings for DV Coordinators and other court administration staff.

Outcome	Outputs
Provider will publish and distribute 75 hard copies of a semi-annual newsletter for family court judges, courts staff, DV centers, BIPs, FCADV, and Clerks of Court throughout Florida.	1. # of DV newsletters published.
	2. # of DV newsletters distributed to family court judges, court staff, and other stakeholders.

Outcome	Outputs
Provider will provide 40 units of information or technical assistance regarding domestic violence response.	1. # information or technical assistance units provided.

Statewide Law Enforcement/Prosecution Training

1. **Specialized Training**
 - a. **Increase the amount of specialized training available to members of the criminal justice and social services systems.**

Outcome	Outputs
80% of participants taking a competency exam will score of 80% or higher.	1. # of training events provided.
	2. # of persons receiving training.
	3. # of persons taking a competency exam.
	4. # of persons scoring 80% or better.
Tracking Data	
People Trained	Number
Court personnel (judges, clerks)	
Law enforcement officers	
Prosecutors	
Victim-witness specialists	
Other (specify): _____	
TOTAL	

V. Conclusion

Florida intends to implement the programs and trainings set forth in this document in order to develop a collaborative approach between law enforcement, prosecution agencies, the courts, and victim service providers that will increase appropriate arrest and prosecution of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking perpetrators. Florida will continue to be creative and innovative as we develop in collaboration with the Office on Violence Against Women new opportunities to reach out to communities and find ways to enhance services to victims of crime. Although Florida has historically supported utilizing STOP funding to develop programs within the coordinated community response model, we recognize that we can always do more to enhance existing programs and support new ideas designed to better reach the victims served through STOP funding. An example will be to incorporate the 2005 VAWA recommended Crystal Judson advocacy program into Florida’s projected Request for Programs (RFP), addressing support for specialized training of law enforcement officers working in STOP funded programs. Florida’s goal is to realistically support as many victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking as possible, always remembering that each contribution is significant and powerful to the population we serve.

