



GRANT OPPORTUNITY INFORMATION SESSION

SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

HOUSEKEEPING

- This is a Zoom webinar
- Please use the Q&A feature for questions
- This will be recorded and shared
- CART/ASL is available
- Use of AI is not allowed

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Facilitators

- Ashlee Renich-Malek (she/her), Grants Administration Specialist
- Kristin Nguyen (she/her), Director of Grants Administration
- Kristen Tavano (she/her), Deputy Director of Grants Administration
- Madeleine Gorman (she/her), Deputy Chief of Staff

AGENDA

Introduction to:

- Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA)
- Victim & Survivor Services (VSS) Grants

FY27 VSS Funding Opportunity:

- Eligibility
- Allowable and unallowable services
- Post award requirements
- FY27 application logistics
- Frequently asked questions & your questions



INTRODUCTION TO MOVA

WHO ARE WE?

Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance

- Independent state agency
- Operates under the guidance of Victim and Witness Assistance Board (VWAB)
- Promotes high quality, comprehensive, and coordinated services for victims of crime
- Serves as a central statewide resource for victim service providers
- MOVA does: policy and legislative advocacy, training, grant administration, information and referral services, victim compensation, Garden of Peace

WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

MOVA strives to advance victim rights by ensuring all victims and survivors of crime across the Commonwealth are supported and empowered through access to high-quality services that are trauma-informed, culturally-responsive, and reflective of diverse communities. MOVA achieves this through survivor-informed work, advocacy for enhanced victim rights and services, partnerships with agencies and individuals, and a commitment to providing funding and services for underserved and marginalized communities.



INTRODUCTION TO MOVA GRANTS

WHAT GRANT PROGRAMS DO WE ADMINISTER?

SAFEPLAN

- Funds community-based advocates based in district, and probate and family courts to support victims & survivors with restraining and protective orders
- In FY26, MOVA funds 16 organizations and FY27 will be a renewal year

Culturally Specific Victim Services (CSVS)

- Enhances culturally specific services for victims & survivors from communities of color in Western Massachusetts
- In FY26, MOVA funds 5 organizations and FY27 will be a renewal year

Civil Legal Aid for Victims of Crime (CLAVC)

- Funds free, statewide, trauma-informed, civil legal services to victims & survivors
- In FY26, MOVA funds 9 legal services organizations to provide direct services, along with 2 organizations for the administration of the program and FY27 will be a renewal year

WHAT GRANT PROGRAMS DO WE ADMINISTER?

Victim and Survivor Services (VSS)

- Funds organizations to provide counseling, advocacy, and intervention services free of charge to victims and survivors of crime
- In FY26, MOVA funds 92 organizations and FY27 grants will be open and competitive

FY27 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR VICTIM AND SURVIVOR SERVICES (VSS)

- The FY27 VSS funding opportunity is the first open and competitive application since FY19
- MOVA anticipates having \$30 million available for FY27 grant awards
- The initial duration of this grant will be for one year, July 1, 2026-June 30, 2027, with an opportunity to renew funding in FY28
- Funding will support **free** services to victims and survivors of various crimes, geographies, populations, etc.

WHAT IS THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA)?

- The Crime Victims Fund (CVF) was established by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984
- Serves as a major federal funding source for victim services throughout the country
- The Fund comes from the collection of Federal criminal fines; not taxpayers
- Each year the CVF helps an average of 3.7 million victims of all types of crime



IS MY
ORGANIZATION
ELIGIBLE FOR
FUNDING?

ORGANIZATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR VSS FUNDING IF THEY:

- Operate in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- Are a public or nonprofit organization (including Native American Tribal Governments)
- Have a minimum of a one-year history of providing services to victims and survivors of crime at the time of application
- Have the organizational and administrative capacity to provide the proposed services and meet the grant requirements
- Would use MOVA funding to provide direct services

ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR VSS FUNDING IF THEY:

- Are an individual
- Have less than a one-year history of providing services to victims and survivors of crime at the time of application
- Are eligible for a FY27 Culturally Specific Victim Services in Western Massachusetts (CSVs) renewal grant
- Do not have the administrative or organizational capacity to support the proposed services and meet the grant requirements
- Would not use MOVA funding to provide direct services



WHAT SERVICES
MAY BE FUNDED?

ALLOWABLE SERVICES: DEFINITION

Allowable direct services are defined as those that:

- Respond to the emotional, psychological, and physical needs of crime victims
- Assist crime survivors to stabilize their lives after a victimization
- Assist crime survivors to understand and participate in the criminal justice system
- Restore a measure of safety and security to crime survivors

ALLOWABLE SERVICES: EXAMPLES

Direct services to support a victim/survivor in assessing, responding to and navigating the impact(s) of a crime via:

- Information and referral services
- Advocacy and accompaniment
- Emotional support and safety services
- Shelter and housing services
- Criminal/civil justice system assistance

CRIME/VICTIMIZATION TYPE: EXAMPLES

- Domestic violence / Intimate partner violence
- Sexual assault
- Child sexual abuse
- Child physical abuse or neglect
- Survivors of homicide victims
- Human trafficking

UNALLOWABLE SERVICES: EXAMPLES

- Lobbying and fundraising activities
- Perpetrator rehabilitation
- Activities that seek to improve the criminal justice system
- Activities exclusively related to crime prevention
- Out-of-pocket crime victim expenses
- Most medical costs
- Most capital improvements
- Studies and research efforts

WHAT COSTS
CAN BE
INCLUDED IN MY
BUDGET
REQUEST?

BUDGET CATEGORIES

- Personnel – salary and fringe
- Consultants/contracts
- Office & program supplies
- Equipment
- Travel
- Other
- Indirect

WHAT SHOULD I
KNOW IF I
RECEIVE A
GRANT FROM
MOVA?

GRANTS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (P&P) MANUAL

Go-to guide for grant related policies, requirements, and resources

- Includes examples of allowable/unallowable services
- Outlines program requirements
- Outlines monthly and quarterly reporting requirements
- Details MOVA's monitoring and risk assessment process
- Outlines financial policies and responsibilities of grantees

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This is a cost reimbursement grant

- Award funds will not be provided in a lump sum; they will be paid as costs occur
- You must submit monthly expense reports with backup documentation (as determined by the assigned monitoring level)
- Payments will be issued no later than 45 days after the submission of an error-free expense report to MOVA
- You must have a financial management system in place that can record all grant financial activity and separate it from activity related to other funding

DATA COLLECTION & REPORTING

You must have a system in place to:

- Collect, record, and report demographic information about all participants served and all services provided with MOVA funding on a quarterly basis
- Collect, record, and report progress made towards self-defined performance measures on a quarterly basis

A database system for data collection and reporting is highly recommended

MONITORING

MOVA will conduct the following monitoring activities:

- A risk assessment process for all funded organizations that determines frequency and intensity of monitoring activities
- More information can be found in the policies and procedures manual on how this impacts specific requirements
- Periodic desk reviews and site visits to ensure compliance with all grant requirements



WHAT'S NEXT?

ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

- Anticipated grant application posting: [October 14, 2025](#)
- Upcoming optional grant application workshops and technical assistance session:
 - Virtual Grant Application Workshop: [October 21, 2025](#)
 - In person Grant Application Workshop: [October 28, 2025](#)
 - eGrants Technical Assistance session: [November 19, 2025](#)
- Applications due: [December 2, 2025](#), at 12pm EST
- VVAB anticipated to vote on awards in April 2026
- Applicants will be notified following the vote and contracting will begin
- Grant award period is July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

REGISTER FOR GRANT APPLICATION WORKSHOPS

Grant application workshops

- Virtual Grant Application Workshop
 - October 21, 2025, 10:00am-12:00pm ET, Zoom Webinar
 - [Register for the Virtual Grant Application Workshop](#)
- In-Person Grant Application Workshop
 - October 28, 2025, 1:00pm-3:00pm ET, Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel in Marlborough
 - [Register for the In-Person Grant Application Workshop](#)

REGISTER WITH EGRANTS

eGrants: MOVA's grants database, where all grant management will occur, from application to monitoring

If your organization is going to apply for a FY27 VSS grant, between now and the application release date, you can:

- Register your organization with eGrants
- Create users for anyone who needs to be involved in the grant
- Complete the Contact Information section

PEER REVIEWERS NEEDED!

- We are currently seeking peer grant application reviewers
- To participate in a peer review for this grant you must be available during the first half of December 2025 to review applications
- If interested (non-binding), please fill out the Peer Reviewer Questionnaire



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q & A

Q: Is there a budget amount that you recommend we apply for?

A: MOVA recommends that you apply for essential costs necessary to provide direct victim services. The average FY26 VSS award amount was \$390k. Any limitations will be included in the Call for Grant Applications (CGA).

Q & A

Q: What, if any, impacts might the current administration have on this funding or procurement?

A: MOVA will receive the first federal award administered under the current federal administration this Fall. We will provide more information as it becomes available.

Q & A

Q: Can we apply for more than one VSS application?

A: No. Organizations should include all proposed programming under one application.

Q & A

Q: What will be different for currently funded organizations versus new organizations?

A: The same evaluation criteria will be applied to all applicants, whether it is their first time applying for a VSS award or whether they have applied for and received VSS funding in the past, except history of grant funding reversion, which will only be considered for returning applicants.



OPEN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



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