

CVSSD Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Oregon Department of Justice - CVSSD

Remote meeting

July 16, 2024 - 9:00am-10:24am

Committee Members Present: Steve Bellshaw, Amy Benedum, Desiree Coyote, Debra Dority, Melissa Erlbaum, Perla Estrada, Sybil Hebb, Alexandra Hoover, Kimberly Lane, Justin Nelson, Barb Palicki, Geeta Paul, Melanie Prummer, Shannon Rose, Lauri Stewart, Sarah Stewart, James St. Martin

CVSSD DOJ Staff Present: Marjorie Doran, Mackenzie Gray, Kim Kennedy, Robin Reimer, Twila Rosenberg, Eleana Chase, Maria Ruiz Ceja, Shannon Sivell.

Committee Members Absent: Aryel Harrington, Vanessa Timmons.

Welcome and Introductions

Kim welcomed everyone and each member introduced themselves.

Minutes: The group approved minutes from June 3, 2024.

AC Member Updates

- Oregon Law Center shared about the Oregon Legislative Alliance to End Violence Against Women. The alliance advocates for programs serving survivors of domestic and sexual violence. They collaborate with other advocates and programs to share information about efforts taking place in communities across the state. They conducted a survey and will do a presentation summarizing the results of the survey and use that information develop legislative priorities.
- Oregon Law Center has seen a rise in DVSA victim service providers programs being subpoenaed by district attorneys' offices or defense attorneys' offices. The Oregon Law Center provides guidance on how to reply to a subpoena. Programs and advocates are advised to contact the Oregon Law Center for legal assistance. Advocates can also visit [Domestic Violence Resources for Practitioners | Oregon Law Help](#) for resources.
- Sarah Stewart, with Kids FIRST Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) talked about their challenges in recruiting and retaining a designated medical provider due to the competition from nearby hospitals who offer higher compensation and provide significant signing bonuses. Many CACs find that they don't have enough funding to be competitive. Due to the competitive market, the program currently holds two unfilled positions that they are unable to fill. This is a challenge many CACs are navigating.

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) potential allocations in next award cycle 2025-2027:

Shannon provided a brief overview of VOCA funding to CVSSD over the past few years as well as a description of programs funded with VOCA and how allocations have been determined.

CVSSD's 2024 VOCA allocation is 42% less than the 2023 award. This results in approximately a \$15 million deficit over the next two year funding cycle in order to maintain all programs at the current level of service through 2025–2027. CVSSD discussed two possible options for implementing cuts to program funding. These options focus on funding administered and awarded through CVSSD grants.

- Option 1: CVSSD would apply equal percentage reductions to VOCA awards only. This would require application of a 33.6% reduction to all VOCA awards to cover the \$15 million deficit. This approach results in varying levels of impact to individual programs' overall funding allocations.
- Option 2: CVSSD would apply equal percentage reductions to programs' total overall allocations administered through CVSSD. This would require application of a 13.2% reduction to all programs' total overall funding allocations to cover the \$15 million deficit. This approach results in varying levels of impact to individual VOCA allocations.

It was suggested that we provide time at the next meeting for program representatives to talk about the mandates or requirements of their work specific to the services they provide. Anyone who would like to provide this information at the next meeting may do so.

CVSSD updates

- In September CVSSD plans to submit a request to the legislative Emergency Board to discuss continued funding to the competitive grants that will end on September 30, 2024.
- DOJ plans to submit a Policy Option Package (POP) to the legislature requesting general funds to offset the reduction in VOCA funds.

ACTIONS:

- CVSSD will send out the charts that were presented in the meeting. CVSSD will also send the document that summarizes VOCA funding for recipients once it is finalized and released.

Meeting adjourned at 10:24 AM

Next remote meeting to be set for September.