

OVW Priorities

OVW Priority Areas

The emphasis of the STOP Formula Grant Program continues to be on the implementation of comprehensive strategies addressing violence against women that are sensitive to the immediate and long-term needs and safety of victims and hold offenders accountable for their crimes. States and territories should seek to carry out these strategies by forging lasting partnerships between the victim advocacy organizations and the criminal justice system, and by encouraging communities to look beyond traditional resources. States and territories should also look to new partners, including community-based organizations, to respond vigorously to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking crimes.

In shaping their strategies for FY 2014, OVW encourages states and territories to develop and support projects that:

- Retain core services to victims;
- Increase support for sexual assault, including services, law enforcement response and prosecution;
- Increase support for underserved populations, particularly communities of color, in a culturally appropriate manner, with a special emphasis on African-American, tribal and LGBT communities;
- Increase the use of promising or evidence-building practices, where available;
- Support core services for victims of sexual and domestic violence, particularly support for rape crisis centers and domestic violence shelters;
- Provide culturally-specific services and training to underserved communities based on factors such as race, ethnicity, language, sexual orientation, or gender identity;
- Provide basic and advanced training to tribal law enforcement and tribal courts regarding services for victims in tribal communities;
- Provide comprehensive training to victim services, law enforcement, prosecution, and court personnel on sexual assault, to encourage increased reporting, arrest and successful prosecution of perpetrators;
- Support Full Faith and Credit training for tribes, states and territories; and Implement evidence-based risk/danger assessments to identify and prioritize victims who are considered to be in relationships with a high risk of lethality