



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 2/9/2016

Agenda Placement: 6B

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Nikki Lundeen for Gary Lieberstein - District Attorney
District Attorney
REPORT BY: Nikki Lundeen, STAFF SERVICES MANAGER - 253-4215
SUBJECT: Application and Acceptance of Funding for Victim Services Programs

RECOMMENDATION

District Attorney requests approval of and authorization for the Chairman to sign two (2) Certification of Assurance of Compliance documents that authorize the District Attorney to apply for and sign grant subawards with the California Office of Emergency Services for the following programs:

1. Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program, approximately \$218,750 for the term April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017; and
2. Elder Abuse Program, approximately \$121,000 for the term July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval of the recommended action will allow the District Attorney's Office to seek continued funding for the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program for the term April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017 and for the Elder Abuse Program for the term July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. These programs will provide continued funding toward a Victim Services Program Manager and two full time and one part time Victim Advocates to enhance services provided to older adults and the Latino community.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	District Attorney

Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Discretionary

Discretionary Justification: This item is discretionary in that there is no mandate to apply for these funds or provide enhanced victim services to older adults or the Latino community. This grant would provide continued funding toward the program manager and two full-time and one part-time advocate to provide targeted outreach and services to older adult victims and victims of violent crimes in the Latino community that may otherwise have limited access to services. Increased federal funds allocated through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) provides additional funding opportunities to enhance services and outreach efforts to targeted populations in Napa County based on assessed needs. An annual subaward in the amount of \$218,750 will benefit unserved/underserved victims in the Latino community, while a subaward program benefitting older adult victims totaling of approximately \$121,000 for Fiscal Year 2016-2017, comprised of about \$97,000 in federal VOCA funds and approximately \$24,000 in local matching funds (already included in the District Attorney budget), with no additional cost to the County General Fund.

Is the general fund affected? Yes

Future fiscal impact: The Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program grant subaward is renewable for a five-year funding cycle through a re-application process. Appropriations have been included in the District Attorney's Fiscal Year 2015-2016 adopted budget and appropriations for future fiscal years will be budgeted accordingly.

Appropriations for the Elder Abuse Program grant subaward will be included in the District Attorney's Fiscal Year 2016-2017 requested budget and appropriations for future fiscal years will be budgeted accordingly.

Consequences if not approved: If this item is not approved, the District Attorney's Office will not be able to receive funding to provide enhanced services to older adult victims and unserved/underserved victims in the Latino community, including bilingual outreach and services to these vulnerable populations.

Additional Information:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The District Attorney's Office began providing victim witness services in Fiscal Year 2010-2011. The Victim Services Division currently operates with funding provided primarily by grant programs administered by the California Office of Emergency Services. Increased funding allocated under the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) will allow for expanded services to targeted populations. The Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program and the Elder Abuse Program grant subawards provide VOCA funding for the Victim Services Program

Manager, two full time and one part time advocate solely for the purpose of assisting the targeted populations of older adult victims and victims of violent crime in the Latino community. The programs provide outreach and enhanced victim services such as crisis intervention, emergency assistance, resource and referral assistance, and direct counseling.

Approval of the recommended action will allow the District Attorney to apply for and accept funding needed to operate the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program and the Elder Abuse Program so that Victim Advocates will be able to assist these targeted populations by linking them to County and State programs, aiding and guiding them through the legal system, assisting with the trauma recovery process, and providing outreach and education about available services and resources. If funds are awarded under both programs, the District Attorney's Office will receive sufficient funding to maintain current advocate staffing levels, and to hire an additional full-time advocate position that would be dedicated to expanding services to the target populations. The Victim Services Division is funded with state and federal grant funds with matching funds included in the District Attorney budget at no additional cost to the County General Fund.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi