

STATE OF NEW MEXICO

CRIME VICTIMS REPARATION COMMISSION



**STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN FORMULA GRANT
PROGRAM**

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

2007 - 2010

I. INTRODUCTION

The State of New Mexico's 2007 - 2010 STOP Violence Against Women Grant Program's implementation plan builds upon the initiatives and successes of previous years and presents effective strategies for increasing the safety of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence victims and for promoting offender accountability. The plan provides an overview of the context of violence against women in New Mexico and demonstrates the needs of victims as well as of providers. Accomplishments and directions of past years are highlighted and the planned initiatives for the next three years are identified.

The 2007 - 2010 plan was approved by the NM Implementation Team on April 23, 2007.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING PROCESS

The New Mexico Crime Victims Reparation Commission (NMCVRC) is the state agency administering the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program for the State of New Mexico. The Commission facilitates meetings of multidisciplinary experts in the fields of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence to collaborate on the development of New Mexico's Implementation Plan.

The New Mexico STOP Violence Against Women Implementation Team is composed of members from prosecution, law enforcement, victim services, the court, health care, and the business community. Non-profit, non-governmental victim services organizations participating on the planning team include the NM Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, the NM Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and Enlace Comunitario (representing the issues of undocumented immigrant victims of domestic violence). A national leader representing the rights and needs of victims with disabilities also serves on the planning team. Native American interests are included in the planning process through the participation of representatives from the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women, Sacred Circle and Three Star Consulting. Catholic Charities of Central New Mexico represents the legal issues of undocumented victims of domestic violence. Please see Appendix A to view the complete list of team members. The VAWA Grant Administrator serves on several statewide initiatives with many of the Team members, resulting in ongoing planning activities that contribute to and compliment the Implementation Team process. Please see Appendix B for letters supportive of the NM implementation planning process.

All members of the team have an equal voice. All recommendations for specific priorities and the overall direction of the plan are discussed and evidenced based documentation is reviewed to support the recommendations. Team member consensus is required for priority and plan endorsement. Specific priorities for non-profit, non-governmental victim services organizations that were endorsed by the Team include:

- Assisting victims of domestic and sexual violence to obtain orders of protection
- Assessing courts' accessibility for victims with disabilities
- Providing services for non-English speaking families
- Increasing rape crisis and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) services
- Continuing the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner training program
- Providing assistance for victims of human trafficking that are also victims of domestic or sexual violence

The Coordinators from the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women, the Anti-Sexual Violence Specialist from Sacred Circle and the President of Three-Star Consulting represented the issues of Native American communities. Priorities for Native communities that were endorsed by the Team include:

- Providing a coordinator to address the needs of domestic and sexual violence against elders, including pueblo communities
- Assisting victims of domestic violence to obtain orders of protection in tribal court
- Providing a violence against women in Indian country conference for law enforcement

- Developing a protocol to address domestic violence perpetrated by law enforcement officers that is inclusive of Indian country

All Team members were invited to review the prior year application for recommendations for enhancement. Representatives from the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women, the NM Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Enlace Comunitario recommended strengthening the portion of the application that addresses victims that require language assistance. A subcommittee was formed and all recommendations from the subcommittee were accepted and integrated into the 2007 STOP Violence Against Women Request for Proposals (RFP). As a result, the RFP Guidelines were enhanced and a separate section of the RFP now addresses the responsibilities, requirements and the development of a plan for working with persons with limited English proficiency.

In addition to the input of team member experts, data driven evidence from the *New Mexico Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository Reports* (Appendix C), the *Intimate Partner Death Review Team* (Appendix D), the *Statewide Survey of Victimization in New Mexico* (included in Appendix C) the VAWA Grant office's monitoring process and quarterly and annual progress reports, influence the Implementation Team's collaborative decision-making process regarding the priority given to projects and the equitable distribution of funds, that takes into account geographic area and populations to be served. As in previous years, information and recommendations from the community were solicited through the statewide NM Crime Victims Reparation Commission newsletter, the Coalitions, the statewide NETWORK electronic newsletter, and local and regional violence against women task force meetings. Additionally, the nature and geographic locations of the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) Discretionary Grant awards and the Victims of Crime Act Grant awards were reviewed to ensure that services are not being duplicated.

III. NEEDS AND CONTEXT

New Mexico is the fifth largest state in the country with a widely dispersed rural population, covering a land area of two thousand square miles. There is an average of fifteen persons per square mile. According to the US Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 27.1% of the 1,954,599 people reside in a rural region of the state. The US Census Bureau reports that 7.0% of the population is under the age of 5, 25.4% of the population is under the age of 18, and 12.2% of the population is over the age of 65. Females comprise 50.8% of the population. Since 2000, the population of New Mexico has increased 7.5%.

New Mexico has the most culturally diverse population, in relation to total population, of any state in the country. According to the 2006 U.S. Census Bureau statistics, 43.1% of the population is non-Hispanic white, 43.4% is Hispanic, 10.2% is Native American, 2.4% is African American, and 1.3% is Asian. There are twenty-three Indian nations in New Mexico and each nation operates under its own sovereign governmental system. 80% of the 173,483 Native Americans residing in New Mexico live in Indian country. New Mexico borders Mexico and as a result, has a large immigrant population. In addition, poverty permeates the state with 19.3% of the population living below the federal poverty level.

New Mexico leads the nation in Spanish-speaking population and has the second highest rate of non-English speaking residents in the nation. About 277,000 people in New Mexico are first or second generation immigrants. Of these, approximately 61% immigrated from Spanish-speaking countries. Although statistics on undocumented immigrants are difficult to tabulate with accuracy, the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service estimated that 39,000 undocumented people resided in New Mexico as of 2000. The largest percentage of immigrants (approximately 31%) resides in Bernalillo County.

New Mexico is the second most dangerous state in which to live, according to a 2007 annual report compiled by Morgan Quitno Press of Lawrence, Kansas, using crime information compiled from Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) records. Factors used to rank the states are the rates for murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft.

The primary source for obtaining New Mexico's domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking data is the annual analysis of domestic violence, stalking and sex crimes of the *New Mexico Interpersonal Data Central Repository*. In addition, the first *Survey of Violence Victimization in Mexico* was conducted in 2005. This landmark survey revealed that 1 in 4 adult women and 1 in 20 adult men in New Mexico have been the victims of rape or attempted rape in their lifetime. It also revealed that 1 in 4 adult women and 1 in 10 adult men have been the victim of intimate partner violence in their lifetime. The surprise finding of the survey was the number of adult women (1 in 4) and men (1 in 14) in New Mexico who have been stalked in their lifetime. Please see Appendix C for the most current and relevant crime statistics pertaining to violence against women in New Mexico.

In 2005 in New Mexico, 28,256 cases of domestic violence were reported to law enforcement, and 18,778 victims identified, which is 51% of the victims identified in the *Survey of Violence Victimization* in the same time period. Domestic violence victims reported an average of 5.5 victimizations each by their offender in the last year, resulting in an estimated 201,267 incidents of domestic violence in New Mexico in 2005.

In 2005, law enforcement identified 206 stalking victims. The *Survey of Violence Victimization* identified 17,177 stalking victims in the same period (83 times as many). Stalking victims reported experiencing an average of 14.3 stalking incidents each in the last year, resulting in an estimated 245,631 incidents of stalking in New Mexico in 2005.

Law enforcement agencies have been reporting on rape and attempted rape of women via the FBI's *Uniform Crime Report* (UCR) since the 1930's. The UCR represents a severe underreporting of sexual assault incidents as the data does not include sexual assaults that were not reported to police and did not include most types of sexual assault incidents when reported to police. The FBI limits its definition of rape to penis to vagina penetration or attempted penetration of women. It excludes anal and oral sex crimes and penetration with an object or finger, and does not include assaults on males. In addition, the UCR cannot specify the nature of the rape, i.e., drug-facilitated, statutory, spousal or gang. Sex crimes that did not include penetration were not counted. In order to get a clearer picture of the problem in our state, New Mexico has begun to do its own accounting of this problem.

In 2005 there were 2,874 sex crimes reported by the 99 law enforcement agencies (representing 94% of New Mexico's law enforcement agencies) that participated in collecting data for the *New Mexico Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository*. Based on the data submitted to the central repository by twenty-nine sexual assault service provider agencies in 2005, 1,545 clients received services for sexual assault victimization. It is difficult to make a meaningful comparison between the number of sexual assault cases reported by service providers per county and the number of sex crimes reported by law enforcement per county, because only 60% of all survivors who sought treatment in 2005 experienced the sexual assault in 2005. However, making a comparison simply based on a twelve month interval basis, the number of survivors seen by service providers represents 54% of the number reported by law enforcement in the same time frame.

In 2005, 948 victims of sexual assault were seen by Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Programs (SANE). 43 % of the victims seen by SANE were under the age of seventeen.

Domestic violence history among survivors was documented in 790 of the sexual offense reports. Of these reports, 60% of the survivors reported a history of domestic violence.

As reported in the most recent annual report of the Intimate Partner Death Review Team, *Getting Away with Murder II: Violence Against Women Homicide Deaths in 2003-2004*, approximately three people a month died in circumstances related to intimate partner violence in New Mexico. Of the 28 closed cases that were reviewed during this time period, 86 % were female and 14% were male. The majority of

victims (86%) died in their homes and in half of the cases, a firearm was the principal weapon. About one-fifth of the cases (21%) were homicides followed immediately by suicide of the perpetrator. The average actual term for perpetrators in cases where there was a plea or a conviction was 19.5 years. The longest actual sentence was 76 years and the shortest was twelve months. In five of the cases (18%) the judicial outcome did not reflect a prison sentence.

The work of the Intimate Partner Death Review Team and the recommendations from *Getting Away with Murder II: Violence Against Women Homicide Deaths in 2003-2004* significantly guided the Implementation Team's planning process. The following recommendations were endorsed by the Team for the 2007 – 2010 Implementation Plan:

- Expand the number of specialized violence against women prosecution units
- Increase the number of special programs to enhance civil legal assistance for victims of intimate partner violence
- Improve access to marginalized populations with improved translation, interpretation, and transportation services
- Improve education and outreach to immigrant communities
- Emphasize law enforcement training to increase scrutiny of misdemeanor level crimes
- Create a benchmark for correct and effective law enforcement response and risk assessment in cases of intimate partner violence

It is important to note that although we are able to get a glimpse of the picture of violence against women in Indian country when reviewing the statistics of counties with significant tribal populations, we are not able to report a true and accurate picture of violence against women in Indian country. Unfortunately, only a small percentage of tribal organizations were willing to participate in the *New Mexico Interpersonal Data Central Repository*. The repository's project staff will continue to encourage the participation of tribal agencies so that a true reflection of Indian country occurrences can ultimately impact service delivery and prevention efforts.

The New Mexico Intimate Partner Violence Death Review Team is making progress in forging connections with tribal communities about intimate partner homicides involving American Indians. At the core of this effort are methods to identify victim barriers in a sensitive way that respects the core values of diverse communities. Exploring the gaps in services and disparities in judicial outcomes that are a direct result of jurisdictional issues impacting tribal communities is paramount.

In 1998 the NM Department of Health reported that 25% of New Mexico's population have some type of disability. Per the *New Mexico Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository*, of the 998 reports that documented disability of the sexual assault survivor, 31% of the victims had a disability. The highest reported disability among the 301 survivors with disability was emotional/mental disability prior to the sexual offense, accounting for 77% of the 301 documented cases of disability. 23% (30) of reported cases had a physical disability and 3% had a hearing disability, 1% visual, 2% mobility and 16% non-specified physical disability. Crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking committed against persons with disabilities are likely to go unreported. In addition, victims with disabilities face multiple barriers to accessing needed services and participating fully in the civil and

criminal justice systems. Persons with disabilities are more vulnerable to victimization and lack information about available services and interventions.

The need for domestic violence and sexual assault services in New Mexico remains great. Although STOP funds have been used creatively, productively and cost effectively, it is unrealistic to think that one million dollars would be able to significantly reduce crimes against women in all regions of the state.

Sexual assault services were largely unavailable in the eastern and southern portions of the state and, with the exception of the town of Shiprock, they are non-existent in Native American communities. Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner programs (SANE) in rural communities have emerged as extremely effective programs to increase offender accountability and promote victim safety and subsequent involvement in the criminal justice process. A University of New Mexico research study, *Impact of a SANE Unit on Emergency Services in Albuquerque, New Mexico*, indicates that the Albuquerque SANE program increased the number of charges filed against a perpetrator, that conviction rates increased, and that the initial and final charges were more likely to be the same. The Albuquerque SANE Unit data shows that nearly 75% of sexual assault victims treated at the unit file a police report at the time of the exam, a rate higher than the national average of 50%.

IV. PRIORITIES AND APPROACHES

The following section highlights the project goals and summary of activities for the 2007 - 2010 New Mexico Implementation Plan:

PROJECT # 1 COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Goal: To create a more responsive, consistent and coordinated effort to address domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence in any regions of the state including Indian reservations and/or tribal communities.

Project Activities

1. A coordinating council will provide a forum for interagency communication and collaboration and will work to develop and implement policies and procedures that improve interagency coordination and lead to more uniform responses to domestic violence, sexual assault stalking and dating violence cases. Components of coordinated community response may include: developing pro-arrest or mandatory arrest policies, providing follow-up support and advocacy for victims, implementing aggressive and prompt prosecution, implementing active monitoring of offender compliance and court mandated participation in batterer education programs, or removing barriers to obtaining orders of protection, and improving their enforcement.
2. The coordinated community response will include members from law enforcement, prosecution, probation/parole, victim services and members of the judiciary representing the populations of the region.
3. Coordinating council subcommittees will focus on the varied aspects of the community response.
4. Coordinating council members will drive the focus of the project by identifying concerns and gaps that impede a uniform response to cases of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.
5. Information on public and private funding opportunities for domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking projects and on local and national training opportunities will be disseminated to coordinating council members on an ongoing basis.
6. The project will coordinate efforts with the Coordinator of the Governor's Domestic Violence Office, as needed.
7. The project will conduct and receive an anonymous evaluation from coordinating council members on the project's effectiveness during the beginning of the fourth quarter of implementation.

PROJECT #2
CIVIL LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Goal: To strengthen the civil legal assistance provided to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in New Mexico by providing civil legal assistance in cases that bear directly and substantially on criminal justice matters or that are inextricably entwined with criminal justice matters. Victims attempting to obtain civil protection orders may be supported.

Project Activities

1. The project may establish, continue and/or strengthen direct legal service programs for domestic and/or sexual violence victims by making available assistance in the obtainment of orders of protection as defined by state or tribal law.
2. The project may establish, continue and/or strengthen programs to recruit, train and coordinate attorneys who will provide pro bono civil legal assistance to domestic and sexual violence victims.
3. The project may establish, continue and/or strengthen programs that provide civil legal services to battered immigrant victims eligible for legal remedies as identified under the provision of VAWA.

PROJECT #3
ASSESSING COURTS' ACCESSIBILITY FOR VICTIMS WITH DISABILITIES

Goal: To ensure that courts are accessible to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking victims with disabilities.

Project Activities

1. The project will submit a Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Administrators of the courts that will participate in the assessment.
2. The project will develop a tool to be utilized to assess courts' accessibility and barriers for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking with disabilities.
3. The project will write a report identifying accessibility strengths and barriers to victims with disabilities and provide written recommendations.
4. The project will review the report with the Court Administrators and provide on-site technical assistance to aid the court to become more accessible.
5. The project will present the findings of the report to the Access to Justice Commission, Administrative Office of the Courts.

PROJECT #4
SERVICES FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKING FAMILIES

Goal: To provide comprehensive assistance and recovery services exclusively to non-English speaking victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and/or stalking.

Project Activities

The project will provide linguistically and culturally sensitive advocacy, counseling and life skills services that will be utilized to assist victims and their families to work with the justice system as well as to work towards self-sufficiency.

PROJECT #5
JUDICIAL TRAINING DVD ON RULES AND STATUTES CHANGES
JUDICIAL EDUCATION ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FOR MAGISTRATE COURT JUDGES

Goal: To provide all levels of the state and tribal judiciary with DVD training on new rules and statute changes related to domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. To provide regional judicial education seminars on domestic violence to magistrate court judges.

Project Activities

JUDICIAL EDUCATION DVD

1. A planning committee knowledgeable about 2008 NM rules and statute changes that are pertinent to members of the judiciary will be utilized for DVD curriculum development.
2. The DVD will provide information on the rules and statute changes and appropriate judicial responses.

JUDICIAL EDUCATION ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A multidisciplinary, multicultural planning committee with expertise on domestic violence will be utilized for curriculum development.

1. The curriculum should include:
 - a. The dynamics of domestic violence and the reasons that victims often recant or withdraw
 - b. Impact of domestic violence on victims and children
 - c. Behavior of domestic violence victims in court
 - d. Judicial opportunities for supporting safety
 - e. Acceptable use of evidence when a victim is unavailable or uncooperative
 - f. Effective sentencing
 - g. Effective and ineffective treatment programs
 - h. Jurisdiction over offenses and full faith and credit of protection orders
 - i. Disposition and sentencing

PROJECT # 6
REGIONAL SPECIALIZED LAW ENFORCEMENT VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT

Goal: To develop, continue and/or strengthen units of law enforcement in regions of the state, including tribal communities, to more effectively respond to the crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and/or stalking utilizing law enforcement based victim advocates.

Project Activities

1. Projects will develop, continue or enhance a regional law enforcement victim assistance program that will be devoted to responding to the crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence
2. Advocacy services in rural communities will be available to law enforcement agencies within the region through the development of a pool of volunteers or the provision of additional advocate employees by the applicant or applicant partner(s).
3. Projects will demonstrate that victims are referred to services at the crime scene.
4. Projects will include a designated law enforcement officer that is specially trained in responding to the crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. This officer will ensure that policies, protocols and practices regarding these crimes are current and reflect best practices.
5. The proposed project will collect and submit domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking data to the Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository.

PROJECT # 7
PROBATION AND PAROLE TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Goal: To increase the skill level of experienced probation and parole trainers on the crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence.

Project Activities

1. The project will develop and implement a comprehensive plan to increase the skill level of experienced New Mexico probation and parole trainers to ensure the delivery of effective training on monitoring domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking offenders in the community to New Mexico state and tribal probation and parole officers.
2. The training plan will include a training component on culturally sensitive perspectives that reflect the diversity of cultures in our state.

PROJECT # 8
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PROSECUTION UNIT

Goal: To develop and/or continue specialized Violence Against Women (VAW) prosecution units to expedite the handling of, and increase the successful conviction rate of adult sexual assault, domestic violence and/or stalking cases on state or tribal land.

Project Activities

1. The project will develop or enhance a specialized prosecution unit that is designated exclusively for domestic violence, sexual assault and/or stalking cases. Prosecutors, investigators, and/or victim advocates may staff the specialized units, which will implement a vertical prosecution of cases (one attorney handling a case from beginning to end).
2. The project will collaborate with community based victim services and law enforcement departments to achieve increased coordination in the handling of VAW cases. A memorandum of agreement will be submitted to demonstrate this mutually beneficial relationship.
3. The project will provide training for law enforcement officers on evidence collection and investigation of cases.
4. The project will demonstrate their agency's commitment and plan to prosecute cases utilizing an evidence-based prosecution strategy to take into consideration that the victim may not be available to testify..

PROJECT #9
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN TRAINING FOR RURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PERPETRATED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Goal: To provide comprehensive training seminars and ongoing technical assistance on responding to and investigating domestic violence perpetrated by law enforcement officers.

Project Activities

1. Projects will include a coordinator that is knowledgeable about violence against women and that has significant experience organizing adult education training programs.
2. The project will contract with trainers from the fields of law enforcement, prosecution and victim services to provide training and ongoing technical assistance.

3. The project will utilize local law enforcement, prosecution and victim services presenters that represent the cultural and ethnic composition of the selected regions to assist with the presentation of each session.
4. The project will include a planning committee composed of representatives from state and tribal law enforcement, prosecution, victim services and domestic and sexual violence survivors to develop the training agenda and curriculum.
5. The project will use the International Association of Chiefs Of Police Domestic Violence by Police Officers policy, to assist with curriculum development.
6. The project will present eight-hour training sessions in rural communities focusing exclusively on domestic violence perpetrated by law enforcement officers. At the conclusion of the training sessions, attendees will understand:
 - Supervisor responsibilities
 - Officer responsibilities
 - Best practice incident responses and critical considerations
 - Department follow-up
 - Victim safety and protection

PROJECT #10
SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES

Goal: To enhance or maintain existing SANE programs or existing programs that provide rape crisis services.

Project Activities

1. The project will demonstrate the need for the enhancement or maintenance of the proposed program.
2. The project will present the current status of the program or service and the number of clients served during the last grant year.
3. The project will describe the ongoing collaborative relationships with agencies that coordinate with the SANE. The relationship with local law enforcement, prosecution and sexual assault victim services providers will be highlighted.
4. The project will demonstrate the ways in which the program will outreach to and provide services to tribal communities in their service area.
5. The project will report on the underserved populations that the program reached out to during the past year.
6. The project will report on the number of underserved clients served during the past twelve months.
7. The project will specifically describe how victims will have access to linguistically and culturally appropriate services.

PROJECT #11
SEXUAL ASSAULT NURSE EXAMINER TRAINING PROGRAM

Goal: To improve the statewide response to sexual assault victims through training initiatives and through the coordination of the statewide SANE Task Force.

Project Activities

1. The project will sponsor two comprehensive SANE training programs for New Mexico and Indian Health Service nurses that meet the minimum qualifications for becoming a SANE nurse.
2. The project will sponsor multidisciplinary trainings for state and/or tribal communities that do not currently have a SANE program, to strengthen the emergency response to victims of sexual assault.
3. The project will provide a preceptor/skills development program for newly trained rural SANE nurses to enable them to obtain these necessary clinical skills in a timely manner.
4. The project will promote a consistent, quality statewide SANE response to sexual assault survivors and consistent, quality program implementation and standards by supporting a statewide SANE Task Force.
5. The project will fund travel and registration expenses to out of state forensic conferences to SANE nurses from SANE programs that do not have a training budget.

PROJECT # 12
CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN IN INDIAN COUNTRY CONFERENCE FOR TRIBAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Goal: To provide a statewide training program to increase the skill level of Tribal law enforcement officers in the areas of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking and dating violence.

Project Activities

1. A conference planning committee will be established that includes Native American members from law enforcement, victim services and prosecution.
2. Law enforcement trainers along with domestic and sexual violence advocates that have experience working in Native American communities will provide training that is designed for law enforcement attendees.
3. Training shall include culturally competent perspectives that are victim-centered and specific to issues of Native Americans that relate to law enforcement techniques and issues.
4. The training agenda will include but not be limited to the following topics that specifically address violent crimes against women in Indian Country:
 - a. Dynamics of domestic and sexual violence, stalking and dating violence and responding to the needs of the victim
 - b. Interviewing victims, particularly victims that are known
 - c. The importance of tribal codes in the protection women
 - d. Jurisdictional issues regarding full faith and credit and conditions of release
 - e. Expert techniques in investigation and evidence collection
 - f. Interrogation of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking suspects
 - g. NM and federal statutes concerning domestic and sexual violence and stalking
5. Tribal leaders will be recruited to attend the training program.

PROJECT # 13
PROTOCOL TO ADDRESS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PERPETRATED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS (Crystal Judson Project)

Goal: To provide protocols for state and tribal law enforcement agencies to ensure consistent and effective responses to the commission of domestic violence by law enforcement officers.

Project Activities

1. A protocols development committee will be established that includes representatives from state and tribal law enforcement agencies, victim services providers, and prosecutors.
2. Projects will use the International Association of Chiefs of Police Domestic Violence by Police Officers policy, as a model for protocol development.
3. Protocols must address jurisdictional issues, available services for officers and their intimate partners, and pre-employment screening.

PROJECT #14
HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Goal: Provide appropriate assistance to domestic violence and sexual assault victims that are also victims of the crime of Human Trafficking.

Project Activities

1. The project staff will have an understanding of the issues of Human Trafficking and how it relates to domestic and sexual violence.
2. A protocol for victim advocates to respond to victims of Human Trafficking will be developed.
3. Outreach materials for victims of Human Trafficking will be developed and offered in multiple languages.

PROJECT # 15
STATEWIDE COORDINATOR TO END VIOLENCE & ABUSE OF WOMEN IN LATER LIFE

Goal: To reduce the incidence of domestic violence and sexual assault against women in later life.

Project Activities

1. To assess current available services throughout the state (to include working with Community Health Representatives in Pueblo communities).
2. To identify gaps in services.
3. To link services with service providers.
4. To develop a screening tool for providers.
5. To identify the training needs of providers.
6. To collaborate with experts in the fields of domestic and sexual violence to develop appropriate training curriculum.
7. To implement training programs.
8. To develop a website.

PROJECT # 16
SEXUAL ASSAULT DATA COLLECTION CENTER

Goal: To enable New Mexico to continue to reliably report on the incidence and frequency of sexual assault by collecting and analyzing data from state and tribal law enforcement agencies during 2006.

Project Activities

1. The project will solicit participation from a minimum of 85 state and/or tribal law enforcement agencies.
2. The project will provide technical assistance to law enforcement agencies for completing the Law Enforcement Sexual Violence Data Collection form.
3. The project will continue to enter quarterly and monthly reports into the Central Repository's Sex Crimes Database.
4. The project will continue to analyze sexual violence data from the Central Repository's Sex Crimes Database.
5. The project will culminate the work with a written report on the nature and prevalence of Sex Crimes in New Mexico in 2007.

PROPOSAL # 17
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND STALKING EXPERT WITNESS FUND

Goal: To provide funding for expert witnesses to be utilized by state and tribal prosecutors in complicated cases of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking when the victims of the crime are adults.

Project Activities

1. There will be a \$2,000.00 cap on each expert witness fund request.
2. Criteria will be provided that will determine the basis for the awarding of funds for expert witnesses.
3. The project will address the way in which they will inform tribal prosecutors of the available funds.

PROJECT #18
REVIEW OF SENTENCING PATTERNS IN CASES OF FELONY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Goal: To develop and implement a pilot project that will obtain meaningful and valid information on sentencing patterns in NM District Courts in cases of felony domestic violence and to identify system weaknesses that may impact sentencing patterns, which will lead to the development of more effective criminal justice system protocols.

Project Activities

1. Develop and implement a pilot project utilizing data from a minimum of two District Courts for the purpose of analyzing sentencing patterns in cases of felony domestic violence in urban and rural regions of the state.
2. Identify Court system and District Attorney system data capabilities to determine the type of sentencing information that can be ascertained.
3. Identify data elements that will best inform sentencing patterns in cases of felony domestic violence.
4. Identify missing needed data variables that would better inform system inadequacies and sentencing patterns.

The 2007 - 2010 STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program Implementation Plan continues to build upon the previous plans to work towards reducing violence against women in the following priority areas:

SPECIALIZED UNITS OF PROSECUTION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

Although most regions of the state have prosecutors to handle sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking cases, the majority of offices do not have the resources to fund specific prosecution staff dedicated solely to prosecuting these crimes. STOP Violence Against Women subgrant awards have funded specialized prosecutors, advocates and investigators in rural and urban areas. Proven success in several of these prosecution offices has resulted in these positions becoming permanently funded by the State, thus freeing up funds to be used in new jurisdictions.

Due to the rural, isolated regions in New Mexico the majority of law enforcement agencies have less than thirty sworn officers. There is a lack of state resources to support specialized Violence Against Women units of law enforcement, in the areas that need them the most. Over the years, we have discovered that the most beneficial and cost effective manner to support law enforcement officers and victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence is the provision of designated victim advocates that respond to the victim at the crime scene.

TRAINING

There are a number of training initiatives that will be continued during that next three years as a result of prior year successes. Providing in-service Violence Against Women law enforcement training to remote areas is an ongoing challenge. Lack of sufficient staff often prevents personnel from attending in-service training while available state training funds are insufficient. Developing and strengthening specially trained Violence Against Women law enforcement response teams and appropriate law enforcement protocols is critical to the State's effort of reducing the incidence of gender specific violence and STOP training funds are being targeted to address this goal. Compliance with the Full Faith and Credit provisions of VAWA is included in STOP funded law enforcement training programs with written protocols included in the STOP funded *Responding to Sexual and Domestic Violence: A Guide for Law Enforcement in New Mexico* (See Appendix E).

Rural state and tribal law enforcement officers are currently benefiting from the seventh year of STOP funded training in their respective regions of the state. This highly successful training program, based upon Colorado's Ending Violence Against Women training model, has consistently been well received. Last year, over 600 rural state and tribal law enforcement officers received specialized training in their respective regions of the state on domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking investigations. (Please see Appendix F to review the evaluation report of this project.) Due to the success of this project, funding for this training initiative will soon provide protocols, training and ongoing technical assistance on responding to and investigating domestic violence perpetrated by law enforcement officers. Although there is no hard data available on this topic in New Mexico, anecdotal reports by victims, providers and

law enforcement officers indicate that this is a significant problem that needs to be addressed. Another successful continuation program, Crimes Against Women in Indian Country Conference for Tribal Law Enforcement Officers, will focus exclusively on the challenges of responding to, investigating and prosecuting violence against women cases exclusively in Indian Country.

As the result of the current development of Stalking Guidelines (2006 funding) for law enforcement officers, this coming year will bring a training program, based on these guidelines, to the annual Advocacy in Action conference.

Prior funding cycles have provided effective training programs on monitoring domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking offenders in the community to state and tribal probation and parole officers. However, due to the lack of probation and parole violence against women training experts in our state, the NM Department of Corrections has consistently engaged national trainers. In an effort to provide more cost effective, ongoing probation and parole training in New Mexico, the first year of the 2007-2010 plan will be devoted to building a base of in-state probation and parole trainers with an expertise in violence against women.

In 2001, the Statewide SANE Task Force created the initial SANE training agenda and training manual, supported by STOP funds. The agenda and manual meet recommendations put forth by the American College of Emergency Physicians, the International Association of Forensic Nursing, and the Department of Justice's President's DNA Initiative, and offers 53 nursing continuing education hours. This endeavor has created a strong, consistent SANE delivery of services throughout the state and will be supported by the plan throughout the next three years.

COURT INITIATIVES

NM is a state with the dubious distinction of having magistrate court judges that are not trained attorneys. Judicial education has been a key to gradually changing attitudes and practices. The NM Supreme Court has joined in the partnership with the STOP Grant and the Judicial Education Center to help motivate judges to attend training on the judicial management of the crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. The creation of a NM Sexual Assault Bench Book will soon provide hard copy and electronic resources for judges that hear cases of sexual violence.

The coming grant cycle will build upon these initiatives through the development and implementation of another round of judicial education on domestic violence and the creation of a DVD for judges that informs them of all new rules and statute changes related to the crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Access to services is an enormous issue for victims with disabilities, as we discovered with our prior year assessment of accessible domestic violence and sexual assault services provided to victims with disabilities. The courts are no exception, and it is anticipated that the collaborative efforts between the STOP Grant, Court Administrators and the Administrative Office of the Court will result in a realistic

assessment of barriers to justice system access for victims with disabilities leading to significant improvements.

The issuance of minimal sentences for heinous domestic violence crimes are not unusual in New Mexico, and in 2005, the Intimate Partner Death Review Team recommended a review of sentencing patterns to determine the system failures that might be impacting this problem. The NM Sentencing Commission is in the beginning stages of a study that will obtain meaningful and valid information on sentencing patterns in NM District Courts in cases of felony domestic violence and will identify system weaknesses that may impact sentencing patterns. The second phase of this study will be continued with 2007 STOP funding.

VICTIM SERVICES

Many abused women on state and tribal land lack the knowledge of existing domestic violence and sexual assault resources, exemplifying the need for community outreach, training and collaboration. The feeling of isolation is exacerbated by a lack of services in many communities, and further compounded by distance and transportation problems. In more populated settings with a greater array of services, awareness about existing resources is increasing.

There are only three full-service rape crisis centers in our state that ranks second in the nation in rape. The remainder of the state is served by very overworked community mental health centers that have switched to managed care, and are at great risk for dropping the sexual assault response component of their centers. Rural communities are in a prime position to receive STOP funding to create and strengthen programs to help stop violence against women. Rural and urban communities in New Mexico are currently demonstrating successful outcomes of STOP funded SANE initiatives. For example, data from the Albuquerque SANE Unit shows that nearly 75% of sexual assault victims treated, file a police report at the time of the exam, a rate higher than the national average of 50%. In addition, a University of New Mexico research study, *Impact of a SANE Unit on Emergency Services in Albuquerque, New Mexico* indicates that the Albuquerque SANE program increased the number of charges filed against a perpetrator, that conviction rates increased, and that the initial and final charges were more likely to be the same.

Despite the reduction in funding for this year, the commitment to expanding sexual assault services remains a Plan priority and there will be an increase in STOP dollars to be used to continue the enhancement of the state's current Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner programs and rape crisis services. In addition, specialized services to victims who are deaf or hard of hearing will continue for a second year.

Community based victim advocates who will support, refer, and help victims navigate the criminal justice system, at the earliest possible moment, remain an important need. Early intervention by criminal justice advocates continues to be a vital link to the successful prosecution of violence against women crimes, while increasing victims' access to services. The provision of bilingual, culturally appropriate victim services remains a continuing priority for the next three years and beyond.

The provision of civil legal assistance to victims of gender specific violence has been a highly successful component of the victim services initiative and will continue in the 2007 – 2010 plan. Not only are victims receiving advocacy and legal assistance when obtaining orders of protection, but battered immigrant women eligible for relief under VAWA are also receiving free legal services.

Anecdotal reports by New Mexico service providers support the speculation that Human Trafficking is an existing and growing problem in our state. Human trafficking victims are seen in our shelters and rape crisis centers, yet without an understanding of how to identify such a victim and a protocol to effectively respond, these victims will remain invisible. The 2007 – 2010 Implementation Plan will support the development of a protocol and outreach materials to improve the response to Human Trafficking victims that are also victims of domestic or sexual violence.

COORDINATED COMMUNITY RESPONSE

The NM Implementation Plan has supported coordinated community response (CCR) efforts to address violence against women, for many years. There are currently two communities in the state that are receiving funding for these initiatives. Coordinators facilitate multidisciplinary working groups that include law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, health care and the courts to identify and then address gaps in the delivery of services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence. Interagency coordination has resulted in the creation of new, more effective policies and procedures. The 2007 – 2010 Implementation Plan will continue to support four-year CCR initiatives to afford new regions of the state with this opportunity.

DATA COLLECTION

Accurate information about the incidence and nature of domestic and sexual violence and stalking in our country has implications for the criminal justice system, healthcare system, families and individual victims. Funding for the domestic violence data collection for the *NM Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository* was previously funded by STOP and is now fully supported by the NM Department of Health following the success of the project.

New Mexico is now accounting for the nature and incidence of sexual assault in our state using a combination of STOP Grant and NM Department of Health funds. The 2007 – 2010 Implementation Plan will continue to support this initiative. Each annual report provides an analysis of annual sexual assault data from the New Mexico Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository; a discussion of the implications of the findings, and a review of the data limitations to highlight future data needs.

As a result of this most effective data collection project, the state of New Mexico subsequently awarded funds to the New Mexico Department of Health, Office of Injury Prevention to conduct a statewide violence victimization survey (*Statewide Survey of Victimization in New Mexico*). The survey was conducted by a national research organization with over 25 years conducting statewide surveys on health and trauma issues. The purpose of the survey was to obtain state estimates of the prevalence and nature of victimization among adults in New Mexico.

The Statutory Purpose Areas for which grant funds may be awarded are:

- a. Training law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence;
- b. Developing, training, or expanding units of law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors specifically targeting violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence;
- c. Developing and implementing more effective police, court, and prosecution policies, protocols, orders, and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence;
- d. Developing, installing, or expanding data collection and communication systems, including computerized systems, linking police, prosecutors, and courts or for the purpose of identifying and tracking arrests, protection orders, violations of protection orders, prosecutions, and convictions for violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence;
- e. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services programs, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence programs, developing or improving delivery of victim services to underserved populations, providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted, and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women, including crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence;
- f. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing stalking;
- g. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing the needs and circumstances of Indian tribes in dealing with violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence;
- h. Supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts, to the extent not supported by state funds, to coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim services agencies, and other state agencies and departments, to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence;

- i. Training of sexual assault forensic medical personnel examiners in the collection and preservation of evidence, analysis, prevention, and providing expert testimony and treatment of trauma related to sexual assault;
- j. Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs to assist law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and others to address the needs and circumstances of older and disabled women who are victims of domestic violence or sexual assault, including recognizing, investigating, and prosecuting instances of such violence or assault and targeting outreach and support, counseling, and other victim services to such older and disabled individuals;
- k. Providing assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in immigration matters;
- l. Maintaining core victim services and criminal justice initiatives, while supporting complementary new initiatives and emergency services for victims and their families;
- m. Supporting the placement of special victim assistants (to be known as "Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants") in local law enforcement agencies to serve as liaisons between victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking and personnel in local law enforcement agencies in order to improve the enforcement of protection orders. Jessica Gonzales Victim Assistants shall have expertise in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking and may undertake the following activities-
 - o Developing, in collaboration with prosecutors, courts, and victim service providers, standardized response policies for local law enforcement agencies, including triage protocols to ensure that dangerous or potentially lethal cases are identified and prioritized;
 - o Notifying persons seeking enforcement of protection orders as to what responses will be provided by the relevant law enforcement agency;
 - o Referring persons seeking enforcement of protection orders to supplementary services (such as emergency shelter programs, hotlines, or legal assistance services); and
 - o Taking other appropriate action to assist or secure the safety of the person seeking enforcement of a protection order; and
- n. To provide funding to law enforcement agencies, nonprofit nongovernmental victim services providers, and State, tribal, territorial, and local governments, (which funding stream shall be known as the Crystal Judson Domestic Violence Protocol Program) to promote-

- The development and implementation of training for local victim domestic violence service providers, and to fund victim services personnel, to be known as "Crystal Judson Victim Advocates," to provide supportive services and advocacy for victims of domestic violence committed by law enforcement personnel:
- The implementation of protocols within law enforcement agencies to ensure consistent and effective responses to the commission of domestic violence by personnel within such agencies (such as the model policy promulgated by the International Association of Chiefs of Police['Domestic Violence by Police Officers: A Policy of the IACP, Police Response to Violence Against Women Project' July 2003]1;
- The development of such protocols in collaboration with State, tribal, territorial and local victim services providers and domestic violence coalitions.

The 2007 – 2010 Plan for New Mexico will address the following purpose areas in the respective allocation categories:

ALLOCATION	PURPOSE AREAS
PROSECUTION	a, b, f
LAW ENFORCEMENT	a, b, c, f, g, i, n
VICTIM SERVICES	e, f, h, i, k
COURTS	a, c
DISCRETIONARY	d, e, f, g, h, j,

At least twenty-five percent of the funds granted will be allocated for prosecution purposes, at least twenty-five percent will be allocated for law enforcement purposes, at least thirty percent will be allocated for victim services purposes, and at least five percent will be allocated for the judiciary. Approximately fifteen percent will be allocated under the discretionary category.

Meeting the needs of underserved populations has always been a priority for the New Mexico STOP program. The 2007 - 2010 Plan continues to emphasize the coordination of services and training to meet the needs of sexual assault victims, victims with disabilities, Native American victims and immigrant victims.

Priority consideration for project funding is based on geographic diversity and existing service availability in the respective regions. During the proposal review process, information is provided about

the demographics of the particular geographic locations and of the nature of available services. Collaboration with the New Mexico VOCA Grant Program and the New Mexico Children Youth and Families Department programs are critical to ensure the funding of unduplicated services. Information about the location, funding and services provided by OVW Discretionary Grants is also critical to ensure that the geographic areas with the least amount of available services receive adequate funding. Each of the eighteen projects is designated a unique peer proposal review committee that is composed of statewide experts on the particular project being reviewed. Many proposal reviewers represent diverse, underserved communities within New Mexico. Applicants are required to demonstrate their knowledge of the existing services in their geographic area in their respective proposals.

V. GRANT-MAKING STRATEGY

STOP Grant funding is competitively awarded on an annual basis, with a possible competitive re-solicitation during the year if submitted proposals do not adequately meet the goals and objectives of the state implementation plan. Grants are awarded for a twelve-month period. The process typically gives priority to existing successful projects that are seeking continuation funding for initiatives begun in previous grant years. Solicitation announcements are included in the NM Crime Victims Reparation Commission newsletter and website, the New Mexico State Purchasing website, the Albuquerque Journal, the Violence Against Women Electronic-newsletter, the Santa Fe New Mexican and the Las Cruces Sun Times. In addition, the NM Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, the NM Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the Coalition to STOP Violence Against Native Women, the Administrative Office of the District Attorneys, the Department of Public Safety and the NM Sheriff's and Police Association receive solicitation announcements.

In an effort to continue successful projects, encourage project sustainability and also fund new projects, the New Mexico Implementation Plan adheres to the following funding strategy:

All projects that were successfully implemented and managed during the grant year will be eligible for continuation funding, unless the project was a non-recurring project (such as a conference). After two successful grant years of funding the project could apply for a third year of continuation funding with a 10% reduction in the request for funds (using the initial budget). After three years of funding, the project could apply for a fourth year of continuation funding with an additional 10% reduction in the request for funds for a total of a 20% reduction (using the initial budget). Projects would be eligible to apply for a fifth year of funding as a new project in competition with all other new applicants.

A very small number of awards are sole source funded based on the proven efficacy and expediency of a grantee and state and federal procurement requirements. For example, it would not make sense to award the Data Collection Repository project to a new applicant when the current staff has formed relationships with the contributors and has produced a stellar body of work in a very cost effective manner. Sole source funding might also occur if an agency proposed to implement a Plan project at the State's expense, which required only a small STOP award to support one particular aspect of the project. Sole source funding will be utilized for the Statewide Coordinator to End Violence and Abuse in Later Life, Review of Sentencing Patterns in Felony Domestic Violence, the Sexual Assault Data Collection Center and funding for Expert Witnesses.

The timeline for the 2007 STOP Grant Cycle will be July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009. Subsequent cycles will begin on July 1 and commence for twelve months. Projects are funded on a single year basis. Successful projects will be considered for a contract renewal.

As previously stated, priority consideration for project funding is based on geographic diversity and existing service availability in the respective regions. During the proposal review process, information is provided about the demographics of the particular geographic locations and about the nature of available services. Collaboration with the New Mexico VOCA Grant Program and the New Mexico Children Youth and Families Department programs are critical to ensure the funding of unduplicated services. Information about the location, funding and services provided by OVW Discretionary Grants is also critical to ensure that the geographic areas with the least amount of available services receive adequate funding.

Consideration is also based on the efficacy of a proposed project plan. All STOP applicants must submit a plan that realistically presents the goals, measurable objectives, implementing activities, timeline and impact evaluation activities for the project.

A unique peer proposal review committee will be designated for each of the eighteen that will be composed of statewide experts on the particular project to be reviewed. Many proposal reviewers represent diverse, underserved communities within New Mexico. Applicants are required to demonstrate their knowledge of the existing services in their geographic area in their respective proposals.

A comprehensive STOP Grant writing workshop will be offered approximately four weeks after the availability of funding announcement. A post award training workshop on effective grant management will be provided prior to the beginning of the new grant cycle.

In addition to eleven statewide projects, the map indicates the counties that are currently receiving STOP Grant funding.

VI. ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF UNDERSERVED VICTIMS

Per the VAWA 2005 requirement that monies must be set aside to fund linguistically and culturally specific services and activities for underserved populations, New Mexico will allocate more than the required ten percent of funds to culturally specific, community-based organizations. In addition to new applications that will be received, the 2007 STOP Grant will fund the continuation of services to Enlace Comunitario and the Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico.

Enlace Comunitario is a Bernalillo County based non-profit organization that has produced a dynamic continuum of culturally specific services offered exclusively to Spanish speaking immigrant victims of domestic violence and their children, since 1995. The majority of the staff (including the Executive Director) are bilingual (Spanish/English) immigrants and remaining staff are perfectly bilingual and come with a background in or significant experience with the Latino community. Enlace Comunitario will receive continuation STOP funding to provide advocacy, counseling and civil legal services to their clients.

The Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico, in partnership with the Advocacy Unit of the New Mexico Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons will be funded for the second year of a project designed to remove barriers to service for victims of sexual violence that are deaf and hard of hearing and increase and enhance services for this most underserved population.

The Rape Crisis Center of Central New Mexico has been providing crisis and counseling services to victims of sexual violence for almost thirty years. The State of New Mexico, Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons, Advocacy Unit advocates for, protects, and advances the civil, legal, human, and social service rights of deaf, hard of hearing, and deaf - blind people. This vital partnership is developing and implementing a program that is providing services tailored to the unique needs of the deaf and hard of hearing population. Training programs for sexual assault service providers and volunteers, SANE nurses, law enforcement officers, and certified sign language interpreters are being provided, an outreach strategy has been developed and certified sign language interpreters are being provided for victims and for deaf and hard of hearing service providers to enable participation at multidisciplinary violence against women meetings. Aspects of this project will have statewide benefit and other aspects will specifically benefit Bernalillo, Sandavol and Valencia Counties.

All STOP applicants that provide direct services to victims must provide detailed responses to the following questions to ensure that meaningful access to services are being provided to victims with Limited English Proficiency:

1. What is your organization's process for identifying LEP persons who need language assistance?
2. Provide the percentage of LEP persons within your organization's eligible service population? What is the frequency with which LEP individuals come into contact with the program?

3. What resources are available to LEP persons by your organization? What language assistance resources are available?
4. How will staff be trained to serve LEP individuals?
5. What is the status of LEP policy development within your organization?
6. How do you provide information about your services to LEP persons?

The FY 2007 STOP application guidelines include the following statement:

Applicants whose geographic area includes an American Indian population must include grant activities specifically designed to meet the needs of Indian tribes, or Indian populations in their service area. Applicants that do not have tribes or tribal lands within their service area should demonstrate good faith efforts to reach out to American Indians residing in their service area.

Applicants whose geographic area includes other underserved populations should include grant activities specifically designed to meet the needs of those populations.

Applicants should demonstrate the ways in which victims of gender specific violence will have access to linguistically and culturally appropriate community-based services.

VII. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

It is very important to understand the impact of STOP funds on reducing the incidence of violence against women in New Mexico. The 2007 - 2010 STOP applications will require applicants to demonstrate the ways in which they will measure the impact that they expect their project to achieve.

The STOP Grant writing workshop assists subgrantees in their efforts to effectively measure impact of their STOP funded projects. The one-day training, "Efficient Grant Writing: The Relationship between the Statement of the Problem, Goals, Objectives, and Evaluation Activities and How to Write Them" is presented shortly after the dissemination of the STOP application.

The FY 2007 - 2010 STOP applications will instruct the applicants to choose no more than three goals that they believe will be critical to the successful development and implementation of their project and to write three measurable objectives and corresponding evaluation activities regarding these goals.

Subgrantees are required to submit quarterly reports addressing the project's progress towards achieving the measurable objectives for that respective quarter. Applicable subgrantees are also required to submit data to the *Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository*. Project outcomes are reviewed during and at the end of the grant budget period.

All projects will receive quarterly desk reviews to monitor progress and compliance. Programs typically receive an in-depth site visit every three years. In addition, more frequent site visits are conducted at new programs and at programs requiring additional technical assistance.

Technical assistance is available to all subgrantees on an ongoing basis. In addition, NMCVRC offers grants management workshops several times a year.

All STOP subgrantees are required to collect Annual Report data that will be submitted to the Office on Violence Against Women via the Muskie School.

All applicable STOP subgrantees are required to submit data to the New Mexico Interpersonal Violence Data Central Repository.

VIII. CONCLUSION

The ongoing commitment and dedication of the New Mexico VAWA Implementation Team has resulted in a 2007 - 2010 Implementation Plan that embraces innovation while simultaneously providing ongoing funding for critical services to reduce the incidence of violence against women. These services were not available prior to the Violence Against Women Act and the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program.

Over the years, the New Mexico projects funded by the STOP Grant have introduced new concepts, developed best practices, trained numerous prosecutors, law enforcement officers, advocates and members of the judiciary and have provided much needed information to the state. In addition, collaborative efforts have brought together diverse groups that have resulted in sustaining and productive partnerships.

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