



CVSSD Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Oregon Department of Justice - CVSSD
Meeting held at State Library of Oregon, Rm 103
August 22, 2019 - 9:00am-12:30pm

Committee Members Present: Steve Bellshaw, Amy Benedum, Debra Dority, Justin Nelson, Michele Roland-Schwartz, Lauri Stewart, Vanessa Timmons

Committee Members via Teleconference: Allison Cleveland, Desiree Coyote, Barb Palicki, Merle Weiner, Letetia Wilson

CVSSD DOJ Staff Present: Ben Bradshaw, Marjorie Doran, Alisha Goodwin, Mackenzie Gray, Diane Harvey (phone), Christine Heyen, Terri Johnson (phone), Kim Larson (phone), Mike Maryanov, Shannon Sivell, Amanda VanTil

Committee Members Absent: Sybil Hebb, Kelsey LeBrun Keswani, Kimberly Lane, Tawna Sanchez, Chanpone Sinlapasai, Lynne Whiteman

Welcome/Minutes Approval

Mike welcomed all the members on the phone and in the room, and introduced Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division (CVSSD) staff in the room. With ten voting Advisory Committee (AC) members present, quorum was reached. The meeting was used to recommend how to fund the 2019 Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Competitive applicants who have previously been scored and ranked through a series of review teams.

Past Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the November 2018 meeting were approved. There was a phone meeting May 2019 without minutes.

Joint Allocation Updates

Christine reviewed the recommendations from the workgroup as laid out in the attached document. By 2017, Department of Justice (DOJ) and Department of Human Services (DHS) had reached \$12.63 million of the \$16.46 million formula benchmark. In March 2018, DOJ and DHS convened a Joint Allocation workgroup to review the formula and its implementation. The workgroup made recommendations for adjusting the base and population elements of the formula



to account for increased demographics
increased prevalence rates for sexual assault.

including adolescents and males, and

Housing Allocation Update

Concluding the 2018 Legislative session, \$3 million was budgeted to fund housing for domestic violence victims/survivors across the state. CVSSD has been tasked with disbursement of these funds. Shannon detailed two methods by which programs could apply for funding: 1. formulaically distributing to all counties at a base amount through a non-competitive grant agreement, or 2. establishing a competitive grant application by which programs identify need and budget projections. Programs would be given the option of accepting the non-competitive grant at the allocated amount and then also applying via the competitive grant application for additional funds, or identify that the set allocation would be in excess of the need for their program. CVSSD would consider state-wide program needs and funding requests in order to disburse funds appropriately and efficiently.

2019 VOCA Competitive Review

With the 60 applications across five categories and \$17 million requested, CVSSD recommended funding the top six applicants in each category, and then discuss the next highest scoring applications to also recommend for funding.

The voting AC members approved this recommendation.

Following discussion, the motion to also recommend the applications from Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence, CASA for Children, HAVEN from Domestic Violence was seconded and approved. In total, the 2019 VOCA Competitive grant will fund 33 grantees at a level of just over \$10 Million.

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 AM

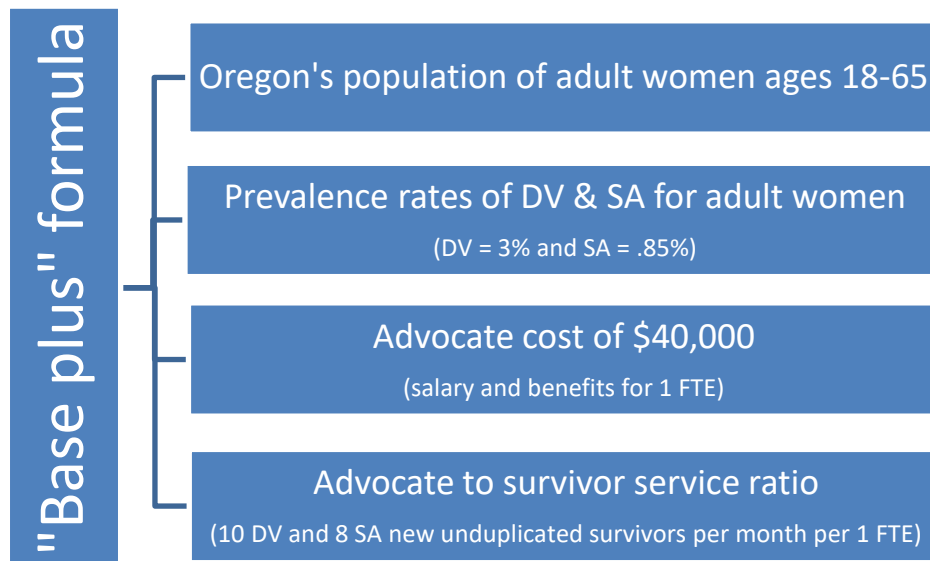


BACKGROUND

In 2006, the Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) established a joint formula for equitably distributing non-competitive federal and state grant funds to non-profit domestic violence and sexual assault (DVSA) advocacy organizations. The formula was recommended after completion of an 'Equity Allocation Study'. The formula is designed to cover personnel costs only for a critical response to survivors and not the full funding needs of DVSA programs and organizations statewide. The formula established a base amount for each service area regardless of population, with the remaining funds being distributed by population (base plus population) for each service area. The formula established an initial benchmark of \$16.28 million for reaching an equitable distribution of funds statewide. In 2012, the nine federally recognized Tribal Nations in Oregon were added to the formula and the funding benchmark was adjusted to \$16.46 million.

The *current* base plus population formula relies on four elements that together determine the allocation of funds to each service area. A service area is a county or Tribal nation. Figure 1 shows how the current formula is structured.

Figure 1 – Current Formula since 2007



The current formula is described in detail in Appendix A, *"Funding towards Equity: Oregon Sexual and Domestic Violence Programs."*

By 2017, DOJ and DHS had reached \$12.63 million of the \$16.46 million formula benchmark. In March 2018, DOJ and DHS convened a joint funds workgroup to review the formula and its implementation. The workgroup made recommendations for adjusting the base and population



elements of the current and future formulas and their implementation. This paper summarizes recommendations that the joint funds workgroup has made to date.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FORMULA

Recommendation for adjusting the current formula

Formula recommendation #1: With the current formula, adjust the base for nine service areas and Tribes with the smallest populations to have the same per capita rate as Wallowa County.

CVSSD will adjust the base for these nine service areas and Tribes with the smallest populations to have the same per capita rate as Wallowa County. This increases the original benchmark of \$16.46 million by about \$300,000 for a new benchmark of \$16,787,000. This adjustment will be applied in the 2019-2021 biennium. CVSSD currently has federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and state Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services (ODSVS) funds available for the Joint Allocation to reach the \$16,787,000 benchmark.

Recommendations for a new formula

Formula recommendation #2: Update formula elements after examining current research and evidence.

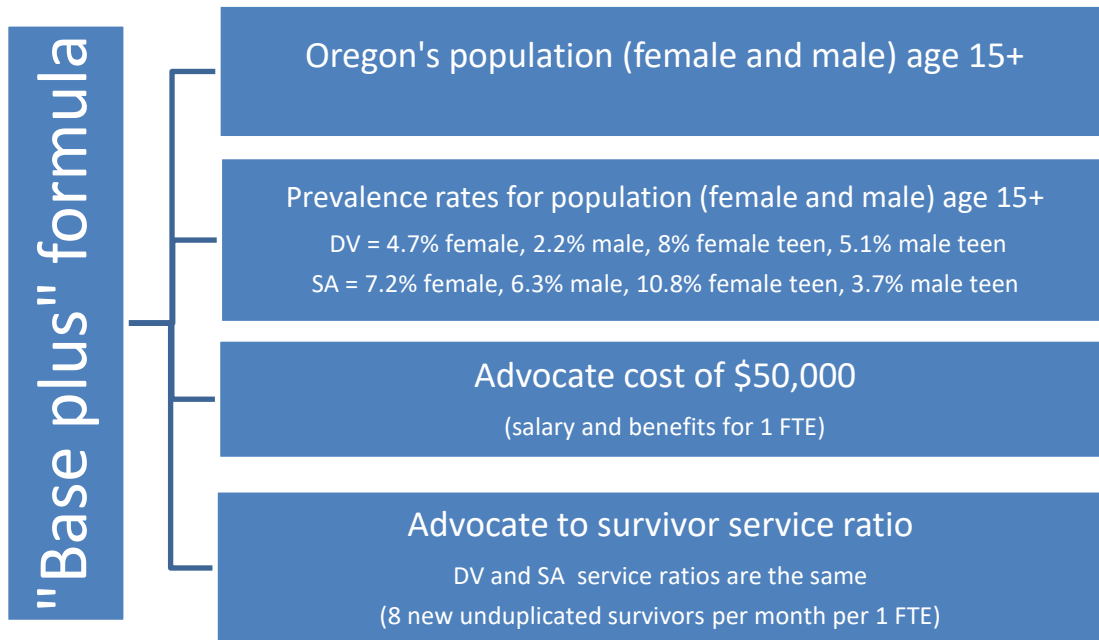
DOJ and DHS pulled population data from the 2010 U.S. Census with annual projections from the PSU Population Research Center. Prevalence rates are the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) national rates. To arrive at the cost for 1 FTE advocate, DOJ ran a salary analysis by DVSA program and region which was pulled from the 2015-2017 Joint Non-Competitive Grant Awards in CVSSD EGrants. The advocate to survivor service ratio was derived from analyzing the number of unduplicated survivors served reported to DHS in 2015-2017 and FTE reported on CVSSD EGrants staff rosters for the 2015-2017 Joint Non-Competitive Grant Awards.

Under this new formula model, personnel costs for a critical response to survivors' needs are \$185 million. Like before, the new formula does not meet the full funding needs of DVSA programs and organizations. DOJ and DHS will update the four elements of the formula each biennium using the sources named above and any other current, relevant annualized data.

The workgroup considered this information in making its recommendation for the updated formula elements shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2 – Updated Formula



Formula recommendation #3: Finalize the base amounts in the new formula using a tiered base approach. Adjust the base amount for the three smallest counties (Sherman, Wheeler and Gilliam) to \$75,000.

Separate discussion is needed with the Tribal Nations about what base amounts to set among other considerations for the formula. Each of Oregon's nine Tribal Nations is recognized as a distinct service area within the formula.

Formula recommendation #4: Recognize the population density of underserved, marginalized, and oppressed communities (UMOC) in each service area by putting a 50% weight on population distribution of funds for certain population groups.

The recommendation is to add a 50% weight to the population distribution side of the formula to account for and recognize four UMOC populations: people of color, LGBTQ, people with disabilities, and immigrants/refugees. This will give slightly increased allocations to service areas with higher densities of these four UMOC populations.

Formula recommendation #5: Establish a 25% set aside (of total base + population distribution) for population specific programs and organizations in each service area.

With the exception of Tribal Nations, 25% of each service area's total allocation would be set aside for population specific programs/organizations. A population specific organization as defined by VAWA "means a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that primarily serves



members of a specific underserved population and has demonstrated experience and expertise providing targeted services to members of that specific underserved population.” CVSSD and DHS would expand this definition to include population specific programs within a larger organization. Implementation of the 25% set aside is yet to be determined. A phased implementation approach may be suitable for counties with few or no population specific programs/organizations that also carry expertise in DVSA advocacy. If no population specific program/organization exists, perhaps the funds set aside for this purpose could be used to develop programs or organizations to meet the need of a specific underserved population. Ideally, the set aside would be given to organizations that are led and operated by people who represent the specific underserved population.

Formula recommendation #6: Establish a differential for culturally specific programs/organizations, as well as Tribal Nations.¹

A differential for culturally specific programs/organizations and Tribal Nations would result in additional funding for these provider types above what is already allocated through the formula. This differential would be over and above the formula at total funding. It is intended to account for the cost of additional services that must be provided to overcome barriers faced by survivors from the populations served by these programs/organizations, i.e. translation, immigration assistance, etc. Further discussion is needed about the meaning of culturally specific and the application of that meaning to this differential. For example, OCADSV developed a definition of culturally specific that is broader than VAWA’s definition of the term.

¹ Refer to OCADSV and VAWA definitions for culturally specific services.