

# CVSSD Advisory Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Oregon Department of Justice - CVSSD

Remote meeting

April 8, 2025 - 9:00am-9:48am

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***Committee Members Present:*** Steve Bellshaw, Amy Benedum, Debra Dority, Melissa Erlbaum, Perla Estrada, Barb Palicki, Geeta Paul, Shannon Rose, Sarah Stewart, Keri Moran-Khun

***CVSSD DOJ Staff Present:*** Marjorie Glick, Diana Fleming, Kim Kennedy, Alexxis Robinson-Woods, Twila Rosenberg, Kevin Dowling, Maria Ruiz Ceja, Robin Reimer

***Committee Members Absent:*** Sybil Hebb, Kimberly Lane, Justin Nelson, Melanie Prummer

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### Welcome and Introductions

Kim welcomed everyone and each member introduced themselves.

**Minutes:** The group approved the minutes from October 2024.

### Member Updates

Sexual assault task force (SATF)

- Next convening of the Task Force is scheduled for May 22, 2025, in Salem. The discussion will focus on the intersection of sexual violence and stalking.
- Training: Statewide Comprehensive Violence and Abuse Prevention training is scheduled for June 24-27, 2025. This training will be a four day in person training. Registration is now open for anyone that is interested in attending.

Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence (OCADSV)

- OCADSV and partner organizations convened in Salem to speak with legislators regarding the importance of their services and the impact these services have across Oregon communities. They had a large turnout from programs.
- April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- OCADSV is scheduling meeting dates this summer for new Executive Directors with the purpose of providing additional technical assistance and technical tools.

### Funding Update

Federal Funding

- CVSSD reports no new updates on federal funding opportunities. The solicitation for SASP was removed from the federal website and the VAWA and VOCA solicitations have not been posted. We are waiting for word about these solicitations.

- CVSSD remains in regular contact with federal grant monitors and will provide updates as they become available.

#### State Legislation

- House Bill 3196 (2025): Allocates funds to the Oregon Department of Justice to offset reductions in VOCA funding. Currently referred to the Joint Ways and Means committee.
- House Bill 4140 from the 2024 legislative session: This bill was intended to establish that the one-time funding for Children's Advocacy Centers (CAC), the Survivor Housing Funds grant program, and the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services would continue at current service level so that programs weren't required to lobby for those funds each session. There's ongoing discussion about whether the language used in the bill was sufficient to bind the legislature to allocate funds in this way.
- DOJ will be presenting their budget the week of May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025, and will address ongoing funding needs.

#### **CVSSD Practices in Response to Funding Challenges**

- CVSSD has worked to simplify and streamline our application processes as much as possible to ease the application process for grantees.
- During the initial threat of the federal funding freeze, CVSSD encouraged grantees to submit outstanding financial reports and worked closely and quickly with Finance and Accounting department to expedite federal payments before the freeze went into effect. They processed more than \$3 million in payments. In the end, we weren't impacted by the freeze however we continue to encourage grantees to stay current in reporting so that we can stay current in payments.
- We're seeing federal sites being taken down for review and some resource information being removed. We're monitoring these sites for changes that may occur and will keep grantees informed as we get information.

#### **Non-Competitive Grant Request for Applications (RFA) Releases**

##### Released:

- Child Abuse Multidisciplinary Intervention (CAMI) applications (RCAC and MDT).

##### Coming Soon:

- Children's Advocacy Center Funds (CACF) - Late Spring.
- Joint application (VOCA, VAWA, ODSVS) – End of April 2025 (fund allocation pending legislative session outcome)
- Survivor Housing Funds – tentatively late Spring/early Summer 2025 (fund allocation pending legislative session outcome)

- VOCA Non-Competitive Applications (CAC, Tribal, Victim Assistance Programs) – Mid to late Summer 2025

**Legislative Updates Provided by Shannon Rose, SATF**

- **Senate Bill 710:** Requires a curriculum and education plan for judges and for court staff to receive regular education on dynamics of domestic and sexual violence to help court decisions, and family court hearings.
- **House Bill 2975:** Establishes that a finding that a crime constitutes domestic violence is not an element of the crime for merger purposes in criminal proceedings.
- **House Bill 3070:** Provides funding to the SATF to manage and administer the SANE Certification Commission.
- **House bill 3582:** Eliminates the statute of limitations for civil suits based on child sex abuse and sexual assault.
- **Senate Bill 180:** An anti-SLAPP (Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation) bill to protect survivors from defamation lawsuits when speaking publicly about their experiences. Referred to the Senate floor.

**ACTIONS:**

- CVSSD will continue to share information regarding federal and state funding as soon as new information is received from federal grant monitors.

Meeting adjourned at 9:48 AM

Next remote meeting: July 15, 2025