



## U.S. Department of Justice FY 2022 Budget Request

### Addressing Gender-Based Violence (Amount in \$000s)

| ProgramName   | Positions | Attorneys<br>/Agents | Amount             |
|---|-----------|----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Violence Against Women Act Program</b>   |           |                      |                    |
| STOP Program  | 0         | 0                    | \$400,000          |
| Sexual Assault Services Program   | 0         | 0                    | 100,000            |
| Improving Criminal Justice Responses Program/aka Arrest                                 | 0         | 0                    | 80,000             |
| Legal Assistance for Victims Program  | 0         | 0                    | 80,000             |
| Transitional Housing Program  | 0         | 0                    | 80,000             |
| Rural Domestic Violence & Child Abuse Enforcement Assistance                            | 0         | 0                    | 47,500             |
| Campus Violence   | 0         | 0                    | 40,000             |
| Grants to Support Families in the Justice System  | 0         | 0                    | 28,000             |
| Restorative Justice   | 0         | 0                    | 25,000             |
| Culturally Specific Services  | 0         | 0                    | 20,000             |
| Consolidated Youth Oriented Program   | 0         | 0                    | 18,000             |
| Disabilities Program  | 0         | 0                    | 17,500             |
| Engaging Men and Youth in Prevention  | 0         | 0                    | 10,000             |
| National Deaf Services Line   | 0         | 0                    | 10,000             |
| Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women in Later Life | 0         | 0                    | 10,000             |
| Underserved Populations Program   | 0         | 0                    | 6,000              |
| Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction                                  | 0         | 0                    | 5,500              |
| Community-Based Organizational Capacity Building Program                                | 0         | 0                    | 5,000              |
| Emerging Issues in Violence Against Women   | 0         | 0                    | 5,000              |
| Other OVW Programs  | 0         | 0                    | 4,000              |
| Research and Evaluation Violence Against Women (NIJ)                                    | 0         | 0                    | 3,500              |
| Tribal Special Assistant United States Attorneys  | 0         | 0                    | 3,000              |
| Supporting Transgender Victims  | 0         | 0                    | 2,000              |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>             | <b>\$1,000,000</b> |

The FY 2022 President’s Budget requests \$1.0 billion for the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), an increase of \$486.5 million from FY 2021 Enacted. The OVW mission is to provide Federal leadership in developing the Nation’s capacity to reduce gender-based violence, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking through the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The Administration has made investments in efforts to address gender-based violence a key piece of the budget request.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated domestic violence and sexual assault, creating a

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“shadow pandemic” for many women and girls who are largely confined to their home with their abuser. To help address this growing crisis, the Administration’s request nearly doubles the FY 2021 Enacted level, including funding for new programs to study restorative practices, protect transgender survivors, and support women at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities to ensure these institutions have the same resources as other schools to address these pervasive issues. Other new investments include direct funding for Culturally-Specific Services, supporting Underserved Populations, a Community-Based Organizational Capacity Building Program, Tribal Special Assistant United States Attorneys, a Deaf Services Help Line, Engaging Men and Youth in Prevention, and funds to address Emerging Issues in Violence Against Women. In addition, significant increases are included for many current OVW programs, including the State formula programs— Services, Training, Officers, Prosecutors (STOP) Program and Sexual Assault Services formula grant programs (SASP)—and the Transitional Housing and Legal Assistance for Victims Programs.

### **Key Investments in New Programs**

This budget proposes investments worth \$106.0 million in 10 new programs designed to improve the Federal Government’s support to women facing violence and abuse. These new programs include:

#### **Restorative Justice: \$25.0 million**

Restorative justice is a growing practice in both the criminal and social justice fields that seeks to repair and address the harm experienced by victims, as well as any harm done to their community. Restorative justice also has been identified as a strategy for addressing underreporting of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence by offering victims an option for remedying the harm while also responding to their concerns about how they will be treated by the criminal justice systems. This substantial investment will enable OVW to test the efficacy of such practices and their uses in different types of communities. *There are no current services for this request.*

#### **Campus Violence: \$20.0 million (New set-aside)**

This funding will strengthen colleges’ and universities’ responses to domestic and sexual violence and stalking. While Campus Violence is not a new program, the set-aside requested is new, which requests \$20.0 million for grants to HBCUs, Hispanic-Serving institutions, and tribal colleges. These institutions play a critical role in expanding educational opportunities for diverse student populations and frequently impact the broader communities in which they reside.

*Current services: \$20.0 million.*

#### **Culturally Specific Services: \$20.0 million**

These funds will be used to support culturally specific services for victims. Advocates report that survivors are more inclined to seek services from organizations that are familiar with their culture, language, and background. Culturally specific, community-based organizations are more likely to understand the complex challenges that victims from their communities face when attempting to access services. Funding has previously only been through statutory set-asides totaling \$6.2 million; this funding is requested as its own line item and will significantly expand the reach of the program. There are no current services as a standalone line item.

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*In FY 2022, \$11.8 million will come from set-asides and \$20.0 million will come from the new line item, for a total of \$31.8 million for the year.*

### **Engaging Men and Youth in Prevention: \$10.0 million**

The Administration is requesting \$10.0 million to promote strategies for engaging boys and men in combating violence against women and girls. Emerging evidence shows that programming designed to change norms, beliefs, and attitudes around gender roles and violence may help prevent partner violence and sexual assault. These include mentorship, peer-led, and bystander intervention models that the OVW grantees currently employ to combat domestic and sexual violence early in young people's lives. This request provides a program to specifically combat this issue. Previous funding for Engaging Men and Youth in Prevention and for Consolidated Youth Oriented Programming shared a single appropriation line. In FY 2022, both programs are being requested as two separate line items. *There are no current services for this request.*

### **National Deaf Services Line: \$10.0 million**

Services specifically targeted for Deaf victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking are limited; only 21 "for Deaf, by Deaf" victims service programs exist nationwide. The result is that most deaf victims must rely on mainstream services providers for assistance, which may not be well-versed in deaf culture, do not provide appropriate accommodations, and have little experience accessing and working with American Sign Language interpreters. In 2019, the OVW commissioned a report on the state of services for deaf victims and recommendations for ways in which to meet the gaps identified. This request will enable the OVW to fund a five-year project to launch and maintain a national deaf services line, which will provide virtual services to deaf victims of all four VAWA crimes, provide technical assistance to victim service providers working with deaf victims, and pilot strategies to expand "for Deaf, by Deaf" in-person services. *There are no current services for this request.*

### **Underserved Populations Program: \$6.0 million**

To support projects to develop and implement outreach strategies and enhanced services for adult and youth victims of domestic and sexual violence in underserved populations. Funding has previously only been through statutory set-asides totaling \$4.5 million; this funding requested as its own line item will significantly expand the reach of the program. There are no current services for this program as its own line item. *In FY 2022, \$9.6 million will come from set-asides and \$6.0 million in the new line item, for a total of \$15.6 million for the year.*

### **Community-Based Organizational Capacity Building Program: \$5.0 million**

This funding would provide capacity building support for community-based organizations (culturally-specific, underserved, and other programs serving marginalized populations) to receive training and technical assistance necessary to apply for and successfully implement Federal grant awards. Existing OVW programs provide training and technical assistance to support service provision capacity but do not address the often-confusing world of Federal regulations and record-keeping requirements for organizations accustomed to receiving private donations and support from local religious institutions. This will provide enhanced capacity to apply for grants, administer grant funds, avoid audit findings, and provide ongoing services to their communities. *There are no current services for this request.*

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### **Emerging Issues in Violence Against Women: \$5.0 million**

This request will help design and implement demonstration initiatives and other special projects that address emerging trends and unmet needs relating to gender-based violence. The OVW's current funding structure limits its flexibility to fund pilot projects, address unique or emerging issues, or explore promising practices, as VAWA-authorized grant programs are highly directive in terms of eligible entities, statutory purpose areas, target populations, and other requirements. *There are no current services for this request.*

### **Tribal Special Assistant United States Attorneys: \$3.0 million**

This initiative supports tribal prosecutors to be cross-designated as Tribal Special Assistant United States Attorneys (SAUSAs) to address violence against women in Indian Country. These cross-designated prosecutors maintain active violence against women crimes caseloads in tribal court, Federal court, or both, while also helping to promote higher quality investigations and better inter-governmental communication. The OVW has previously relied upon de-obligated funds from different prior fiscal years to support Tribal SAUSAs. This unsustainable funding method to support Tribal SAUSAs impedes hiring and stability of the initiative. *There are no current services for this request.*

### **Supporting Transgender Victims: \$2.0 million**

These funds will be used to support greater outreach to, and services for, transgender victims of domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. Transgender individuals suffer high levels of violent victimization and are at a much greater risk of dying by suicide than are cisgender individuals. Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) individuals, and in particular, lesbian, gay, and bisexual persons of color and transgender persons of all races, may be reluctant to report victimization and seek services for fear of discrimination, and because biases and lack of knowledge compromise the quality and utility of the system's response. Service providers may be unprepared to offer sensitive and appropriate services to LGBT victims of violence; in fact, only an estimated one in five LGBT victims of intimate partner violence or sexual assault seek help from a victim services organization. The FY 2022 funding for services for transgender survivors will broaden the OVW's reach to this population that is disproportionately affected by violence and faces greater barriers to safety and justice. *There are no current services for this request.*

## **Other Investments**

### **STOP Program: \$400.0 million (+ \$185.0 million)**

STOP funding provides resources for States to combat domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking through victim services, law enforcement, prosecution, court response, and training for professionals. This significant increase in funding for the OVW's largest grant program will significantly enhance States' and territories' ability to finance coordinated community responses. *Current services: \$215.0 million.*

### **Sexual Assault Services Program: \$100.0 million (+ \$59.0 million)**

This program funding supports rape crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations or tribal programs that provide services, crisis intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault. By more than doubling funding, the OVW will be able to significantly increase the size of awards to States and territories, which are based on population,

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enabling rape crisis centers to serve tens of thousands of more victims each year. *Current services: \$41.0 million.*

### **Improving Criminal Justice Responses Program/aka Arrest: \$80.0 million (+\$27.0 million)**

This program funding supports coordinated community responses to domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, with an emphasis on the criminal justice system's role in holding offenders accountable for their crimes. Further, with the FY 2022 request set-asides of up to \$4.0 million for a homicide reduction initiative and \$8.0 million to address domestic violence lethality issues relating to firearms, the OVW will be able to invest in research, practice, and training and technical assistance designed to spot risk factors for domestic violence-related homicide and disarm abusers before they kill. *Current services: \$53.0 million.*

### **Legal Assistance for Victims Program: \$80.0 million (+\$33.0 million)**

This program funding supports civil legal assistance to victims. This program increases the quality, quantity, and efficacy of legal services for domestic violence and sexual assault victims. Research has shown that appropriately trained attorneys have a significant impact on safe outcomes for survivors. Victims who receive help from attorneys and community-based advocates may be more likely than victims without that assistance to perceive themselves as having a voice in the justice process. *Current services: \$47.0 million.*

### **Transitional Housing Program: \$80.0 million (+\$40.0 million)**

This program funding provides resources to assist victims in securing transitional housing, as well as supports victims with security deposits, rental assistance, and utility payments. Demand from victims far outpaces available resources, a fact exacerbated by ever increasing rental and housing costs and the enduring impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Grantees also provide supportive services, such as counseling, support groups, safety planning, and advocacy services, as well as childcare, employment services, and transportation assistance. *Current services: \$40.0 million.*

### **Rural Domestic Violence & Child Abuse Enforcement Assistance: \$47.5 million (+\$2.5 million)**

This program funding supports responses to violence against women in rural areas. This request reflects the need for justice solutions and victim services in communities where both may be out of reach due to resource shortages and infrastructure challenges. *Current services: \$45.0 million.*

### **Grants to Support Families in the Justice System: \$28.0 million (+\$10.0 million)**

This program funding supports approaches to improving civil and criminal justice systems' responses to violence against women. The program improves how the civil and criminal justice systems respond to families with a history of domestic or sexual violence and stalking, or in cases involving allegations of child sexual abuse. This request reflects the critical role of courts, court-related programs, and legal assistance in helping victims and their children escape violence and rebuild their lives. *Current services: \$18.0 million.*

### **Consolidated Youth Oriented Program: \$18.0 million (+\$6.0 million)**

This program funding provides services to children and youth exposed to domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, as well as youth victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Grantees also use these funds to provide services to non-abusing parents and

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caregivers. *Current services: \$12.0 million. However, in prior years, the consolidated Youth Oriented Program and the Engaging Men and Youth in Prevention program were funded as one line item. In FY 2022, these programs are being requested as two separate line items.*

### **Disabilities Program: \$ 17.5 million (+ \$11.0 million)**

This program funding provides accessible, safe, and effective services to individuals with disabilities and deaf individuals who are victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. *Current services: \$6.5 million.*

### **Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against and Abuse of Women in Later Life: \$ 10.0 million (+ \$4.5 million)**

This program funding supports strategies for responding to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The request reflects the critical roles that specialized training for criminal justice professionals, cross-training for professionals who work with older adults, and services for victims have in a coordinated community response to abuse in later life. This request also reflects the critical need anticipated by service providers in a post-pandemic environment. *Current services: \$5.5 million.*

### **Tribal Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction: \$5.5 million (+\$1.5 million)**

This program funding assists Tribes in planning, implementing, and exercising special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction to hold accountable non-Indians who commit crimes of domestic violence or dating violence or violate certain protection orders in Indian Country. *Current services: \$4.0 million.*

### **Research and Evaluation Violence Against Women (NIJ): \$3.5 million (+ \$1.0 million)**

This funding enhances the evidence base for VAWA-funded strategies, a \$1.0 million increase will enable the National Institute of Justice to invest further in rigorous research on approaches to serving victims and holding offenders accountable. *Current services: \$2.5 million.*