

# Faith and Community Technical Support

**A Rural Pilot Program funded through**

**U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, Washington, D.C.**

**Grantee: Office of Victim Services, Helena, MT and Baylor University, Waco, TX**

**Project Liaison: Matthew Dale (Montana)**

**Project Director: Byron Johnson (Baylor University)**

**Project Coordinator: Elizabeth Kelly (Baylor University)**

## PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM:

The Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), via the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grants, has recently launched a new pilot program specifically targeting the unique needs of rural communities. The Faith and Community Technical Support (FACTS) program announces the availability of approximately \$2.2 million to fund a number of faith-based and community organizations (from September 2006 through August 2007) with the ability to serve rural victims of domestic violence. Victims of domestic violence residing in rural communities face unique challenges that are oftentimes exacerbated by the geographic isolation that comes with living in rural areas. For example, the delivery of social services in remote communities may be late or even absent. This project is designed to build much needed capacity so that appropriate and timely social service delivery is possible even in remote places. Applicants must document the capabilities of extending services to victims of domestic violence beyond the initial OVW funding. Funds are available especially for those grassroots faith-based or community organizations that have not previously received funds from the U. S. Department of Justice. Applicants must have a staff of less than 10 full-time employees and an annual domestic violence program budget of less than \$100,000 (and an overall budget less than \$350,000). Subaward applications meeting the minimum eligibility requirements will be accepted from all organizations and all states, rural or non-rural.

## HOW THE PROCESS WILL WORK:

FACTS will provide program management for this Rural Pilot Program through the following activities:

1. Invite and select small, faith-based or community-based organizations to fill gaps in service delivery. To be considered for funding please complete the attached application form. An evaluation team will select applications for funding, submitting their recommendations to OVW for final approval.
2. Organizations selected may receive grant awards from \$2,500 up to \$100,000. Program funding will be for twelve months – from September 2006 through August 2007.
3. The FACTS Project Director, Program Coordinator, Project Liaison, and FACTS staff will work closely with funded organizations to provide Domestic Violence Advocacy Training, Program Development, Program Delivery and Sustainability Training throughout the project term.
4. Organizations selected will commit to attend all mandatory training provided (approved travel and mileage expenses will be reimbursed). Initial Domestic Violence Training will be provided during September and October, 2006.
5. Organizations selected agree to collect qualitative and quantitative participant data, and complete all required reports by the deadlines provided. This information may include all or some of the following:

- a. Number of victims served.
  - b. Number of victims seeking services who could not be served.
  - c. Types of services received.
  - d. Program records and documents, crime data, etc.
  - e. Contact information for individuals willing to be interviewed about the program.
  - f. Program staff for participation in interviews.
  - g. Program participants who would be willing to be interviewed.
  - h. Space for evaluation team members to conduct interviews, and do other necessary work on-site, if necessary, during the course of the evaluation.
6. FACTS will work with organizations to develop programs specific to the needs of each region.
7. Internet options as well as teleconference options will be provided to develop additional skills for organizations and opportunities to partner and collaborate with other service providers and agencies. Organizations selected will commit to attend the Monthly Workshop Sessions, which are expected to begin in November 2006 and conclude in March 2007. These sessions may include training in Program Development, Utilizing Client Feedback to Build Strong Programs, Grant Writing Skills, Volunteer Recruitment and Management, and Program Sustainability.

#### ACTIVITIES THAT OVW WILL FUND INCLUDE:

- \* The provision of treatment, counseling and/or assistance to victims of domestic violence, including assistance with matters related to immigration.
- \* The development of domestic violence education and prevention strategies. These must be linked to the community and receive the backing/support of the community. Evidence of community willingness must be forthcoming in the proposals.

#### ACTIVITIES OVW WILL NOT FUND INCLUDE:

- \* Batterer Intervention Programs that are voluntary and not court-mandated.
- \* Anger management classes.
- \* The investigation, prosecution or provision of direct services for child victimization, rape, sexual assault or stalking that are NOT related to a specific domestic violence incident or episode.
- \* Projects that allow perpetrators the option of entering pre-trial diversion programs.
- \* Case management approaches that do not ensure the confidentiality of victims.
- \* Mediation or couples counseling as systemic responses to domestic violence.
- \* Batterer intervention programs that do NOT use the coercive power of the criminal justice system to hold batterers accountable.

#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR FUNDING:

1. Small, faith-based and/or community organizations.
2. Organizations with less than 10 full time employees.
3. Organizations with annual domestic violence program budget less than \$100,000; overall budget less than \$350,000.
4. Organizations must use funding to serve victims of domestic violence.
5. Activities must not compromise victim safety.
6. Priority will be given to those who have never received Department of Justice funding.
7. Organizations from all states are eligible to apply.
8. Applicants are required to complete the attached Letter of Certification Eligibility to certify that they are indeed in a rural area.

### **How applications are reviewed:**

**All completed applications must be received by FACTS no later than Close of Business July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006.** Applications should be mailed to **FACTS, Rural Pilot Project, PO Box 97236, Baylor University, Waco, TX 76798**. Potential applicants are encouraged to visit the new website ([www.factsdv.org](http://www.factsdv.org)) just launched for this pilot project. Inquiries can also be directed to the FACTS office at 254-710-1420. All applications will be reviewed by the FACTS panel prior to submission to OVW. FACTS will include a short evaluation and will offer funding recommendations to OVW. **FACTS will send all eligible completed applications with evaluations to OVW no later than Close of Business August 2, 2006** via overnight mail.

Each application will be reviewed by OVW and will be scored according to guidelines set forth in the grant program initiative. Applications with the highest scores will be considered for funding. Applicants are not entitled to appeal the OVW funding decision. If the applicant fails to meet the criteria listed below, the application will not receive further consideration:

1. Whether the application is complete.
2. Whether the proposed activities are within the scope of the program.
3. Whether all statutory eligibility criteria are met.
4. Whether the minimum requirements for the program are met.
5. Whether the application proposes significant activities that may compromise victim safety.
6. Whether the proposed budget is within the established limits.