

LANCASTER COUNTY GRANT FORM

Submitted by: Human Services Today's date: 1/15/2019

1. Funding source: U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women
2. Grant due date: Feb. 26, 2019
3. Amount requested: \$500,000.
4. Other sources of funding anticipated: None. No match is required.
5. Project Contact: Bob Moyer, Family Violence Council *
 Phone Number: 402-489-9292 *
6. Number of years grant will run if funded: Three years from Oct. 1, 2019 to Sept. 30, 2022.*
7. This grant is: *Continuation of grant that began Oct. 1, 2017 and will end Sept. 30, 2019
8. General purpose for grant: (2-3 sentences)
This grant will fund a fulltime LPD investigator who will focus on adult sexual assault investigations and domestic violence related Lincoln Threat Advisory Team cases. Funds will also go to position in LPD's Victim Assistance Unit; Voices of Hope sexual assault/domestic violence agency, the Asian Community and Cultural Center. The executive director of the Family Violence Council will also receive funds as the project coordinator.
9. Attach a one page summary of grant.
10. Attach a one page budget of grant.

	Requested
Voices of Hope	\$103,485
Family Violence Council	\$60,000
LPD Investigator	\$260,000
LPD Victim Assistance	\$75,000
County Human Services	\$1,515
Total	\$500,000
Note: Grant requires NO match.	

9. One-page summary

To address the need to improve Lancaster County response to adult sexual assault and domestic violence this grant would seek federal Office on Violence Against Women funds. The grant would be for three years and \$500,000 through OVW's Improving Criminal Justice Response program.

The grant would fund a fulltime LPD investigator who would focus on adult sexual assault cases in a manner similar to the way another investigator focuses on domestic violence cases. The DV investigator has been funded through the VAWA STOP grant funds since 1996.

Now, because of the continuing increase in reports of first degree and attempted first degree sexual assaults, the need exists for a similar position for sexual assaults. In 2018, the county sought VAWA STOP grant funds to support adding a third sexual assault prosecutor because of the same ongoing increase in reports of sexual assaults.

A variety of factors are causing this increase in reports that include not only trends like #MeToo and the campus Title IX provisions, but also because of several steps the coordinated response in Lancaster County have taken to improve investigations and gain the trust of victims to report sexual assaults. Most sexual assaults both in Lancaster County and throughout the nation are never reported.

Very few sexual assaults are reported to the Lancaster County Sheriff's Office. More than 95% of investigations are conducted by LPD. This person will also assist in some sex trafficking cases, which are also increasing, which like sexual assaults are felony crimes that take a lot of time to investigate.

This person will also assist on some threat cases that involve individuals who have been identified as high risk to kill or seriously injure someone. Since the Threat Team formed in 2014, 72% of identified high risk cases involve domestic violence. These cases are also labor intensive.

To support the work of the new investigator and generally support of community coordinated response, we also seek funds for community victim services provider Voices of Hope and LPD's Victim Assistance. Both receive funding through the current federal grant.

Our coordinated response attempts to address victim safety and perpetrator accountability its coordinated response approach. The Family Violence Council Executive Director facilitates monthly meetings of CRT (coordinated response team) members called the Case Management Team, for domestic abuse, and SART (Sexual Assault Response Team).

Members of the CRTs include staff members from Voices of Hope, the Sheriff's Office, the Lincoln Police Department, and the County Attorney's Office. Other representatives include Adult Probation, Friendship Home and the UNL Police Department. Representatives from the BryanLGH and Saint Elizabeth health systems, Nebraska State Patrol, Nebraska National Guard and the Nebraska Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Coalition also attend some of the meetings. The state representatives requested attending our CRT to share policies, procedures and problems and solutions that arise at the meetings.

The Family Violence Council executive director will continue to serve as project coordinator. He will also continue to participate in the Lincoln Threat Advisory Team, which meets twice monthly. The new investigator will also be an LTAT member as will representatives from VOH and Victim Assistance.