

FVPSA

American Rescue Plan Covid-19 Testing, Vaccines & Mobile Health Units (COVID TVMH) Funds

Allowable Expenditures

These supplemental FVPSA funds are intended to allow subrecipients to conduct programs and activities in response to the COVID-19 virus to ensure that domestic violence survivors and their dependents have access to COVID-19, testing, vaccines, and mobile health units and to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 within FVPSA guidance. Applicants must explain the tie between their funding request and COVID-19. Quarterly data reporting will be required with these awards.

Allowable expenditures to meet identified needs to prevent COVID-19, prepare for COVID-19, and respond to COVID-19 are as follows:

Workforce Development:

- Rapid tests and reimbursement for any COVID-19 testing not covered by insurance;
- Expanding the range of COVID-19 mitigation activities and reducing the mitigation burdens on additional staff (e.g. hiring professional cleaners to disinfect and clean shelters and offices to allow shelter and program staff additional time to provide direct services to victims, purchasing toys for children using DV facilities which the children take with them when they leave vs. rather than cleaning/disinfecting and rotating toys; purchasing tablets, hotspots, or cell phones for victims to allow them to access services, appear at remote hearings and have a means of reliable communication during the pandemic; purchasing PPE and cleaning supplies for the extra level of cleaning and sanitation required, etc.)
- Paying portions of staff wages for employees who do not have sick leave/paid time off and who are out sick or quarantining due to someone else in their home testing positive for COVID-19;
- Providing hazard pay to workers (provided programs have an adopted hazard pay policy);
- Hiring additional bilingual staff or contracting outside bilingual providers to serve limited English proficient individuals (LEP), ensure that victims are informed about available resources, including vaccines and testing, provide information on the closest vaccine locations, make vaccine appointments for individuals, make vaccine reminder calls/texts, and arrange for transportation and childcare assistance to vaccine appointments, as needed;
- Providing certified interpreters and translated materials for communications with LEP individuals;
- Hiring additional staff to respond to increased need for services during the pandemic, conduct
 additional outreach and education efforts (including education and information about vaccines and
 testing and travel to remote areas or isolated communities) and/or administrative staff to handle
 additional data collection and reporting related to these funds;

- Paid time off and/or paid childcare for employees for testing, vaccines, boosters or to care for sick family members with COVID-19 who do not have Family Medical Leave or other paid time off, in accordance with adopted policies of programs;
- Education, rehabilitation, prevention, treatment, and support services for symptoms occurring after recovery from acute COVID-19 infection, including, but not limited to, support for activities of daily living—this includes services for the range of symptoms described as Post-Acute Sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 infection (PASC) (i.e., long COVID-19);
- Efforts to promote workforce well-being and sustainability for DV shelters/programs, i.e. mental health counseling, additional paid time off for "mental health days" consistent with adopted policy, etc.
- Leasing office space to accommodate additional staff to meet demand and/or to provide a safer working environment where staff can serve clients in a more socially distant setting, to decrease the risk of transmission of COVID-19 and minimize time staff are out sick:
- Digital technologies to strengthen the recipient's core capacity to support the public-health response to COVID-19, including laptops, videoconferencing tools and other items which support telehealth, remote work, and/or access to services and information.

Housing Assistance:

- Vouchers for hotels/motels to provide emergency housing;
- Leasing and/or furnishing of additional facilities, such as apartments or single family homes, for use by victims to provide alternatives to communal living shelters.

Behavioral Health & Preventive Services:

- Counseling for children or adults, including transportation and child care costs associated with attending counseling sessions and/or technology to access tele-health services;
- Proving certified ASL (American Sign Language) or language accommodations for counseling sessions;
- Preventative health services to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 such as vaccines, primary health care, or behavioral health services, including transportation and child care costs associated with attending appointments.

Please Note:

ICDVVA plans to allow ongoing applications for the funding for any allowable use consistent with FVPSA guidance. This will assist programs in dealing with unanticipated needs related to prevention, mitigation, and/or response to COVID-19 that come up between grant application cycles. It is the intention to remain as flexible as possible and provide a resource for programs grappling with sudden needs while this funding is available. The funds are available to Idaho until 9/30/25 or until they are expended.