



FVPSA

American Rescue Plan Grants to Support Survivors of Sexual Assault (SA) 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 rape crisis centers, sexual assault programs, tribes, and culturally specific organizations implement virtual services; ensure the continuity of sexual assault services; and provide supports for sexual assault survivors impacted by the COVID-19 virus. 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:

Training and Education

- SANE/SAFE nurse training;
- Resources to assist with both training and accessibility, including programmatic accessibility, for blind and visually impaired sexual assault survivors;
- More trauma-informed training of first responders, law enforcement, prosecutors, medical professionals, and others in the systems in which survivors find themselves after an assault
- Training on better serving LGBTQ+ survivors, and additional LGBTQ+ survivor advocates and counselors;
- Additional community outreach and education, including information about trauma-informed care, the dangers of victim blaming, and how to access resources;
- Survivor training and development, ranging from job training, self-care and/or healing, and confidence/skill building;
- Training on cultural issues to improve services to refugees, people of color, indigenous survivors, and other underserved populations.

Workforce Development/Capacity Enhancement:

- Digital technologies to strengthen the subrecipient'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;
- Acquisition, maintenance or repair of tools and/or technology used to access or provide services remotely (e.g., purchasing tablets, hotspots, headsets, 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; repairing laptops or computers; internet access; purchasing PPE and cleaning supplies for the extra level of cleaning and sanitation required; etc.)

- SANE/SAFE nurses throughout the State (including relief nurses who can provide coverage for rural nurses to attend trainings) and training of SANE/SAFE;
- Cortexflo (or similar) machines (specialized cameras that assist with collection of evidence in sexual assault cases);
- Paying portions of staff wages for employees working with sexual assault survivors 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, to assist in retention of those employees;
- Providing hazard pay to employees working with sexual assault survivors (provided programs have an adopted hazard pay policy);
- Hiring additional bilingual staff or contracting outside bilingual providers to serve limited English proficient (LEP) individuals, ensure that survivors are informed about available resources, and arrange for transportation and childcare assistance to vaccine appointments, as needed;
- Providing interpreters and translated materials for communications with LEP individuals and/or ASL interpreters for deaf or hearing impaired survivors;
- Hiring additional staff to respond to increased need for services during the pandemic, conducting additional outreach and education efforts (including education and information about available services for sexual assault survivors 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 serving sexual assault survivors 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 sexual assault survivor programs, i.e., mental health counseling, additional paid time off for “mental health days” consistent with adopted policy, etc.
- Paid childcare and/or transportation for SANE/SAFE nurses responding to calls on short notice

Supportive Services

- More resources to assist survivors with disabilities, including developmental disabilities, such as personal aids, communication aids, or other assistance with communication, mobility, and/or access to services and training on better assisting survivors with disabilities or mental health challenges;

- Legal services for sexual assault survivors (e.g. legal assistance on issues related to privacy, safety, education, housing, employment and immigration, protective orders, name changes and confidentiality, navigating the judicial system);
- Mobile advocacy, including the ability of survivors and advocates to be together in person while attending a court proceeding virtually so that survivors who want that support have access to it;
- Financial support for needs (such as food, clothing, and personal hygiene, as well as items which enhance a sense of personal safety, such as Ring cameras, additional locks or security measures, or self-defense courses, utility or other payments to allow survivors to stay in current shelters. A cap on this category per survivor will be established by ICDV);
- Services for juvenile offenders who report sexual assault while incarcerated (non-PREA disclosures) and training on how to better serve these underserved survivors and best connect them with services both during and after their incarceration;
- Survivor training and development, ranging from job training to self-care and/or healing and confidence building.

Behavioral Health & Counseling:

- Counseling for children or adults, including transportation and child care costs associated with attending counseling sessions and/or technology to access telehealth services;
- Providing certified ASL (American Sign Language) or language accommodations for counseling sessions.

Housing Assistance:

- Vouchers for hotels/motels to provide emergency housing for sexual assault survivors;
- 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.

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.