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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY **VOCA Grant Funds**

Announcement: The Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is pleased to announce the anticipated availability of Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant funds from the U.S. Department of Justice. The purpose of VOCA grant funds is to support the provision of services to victims of crime. Services are defined as those efforts that respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims, assist victims of crime to stabilize their lives after victimization, assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system, and provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security. Eligibility to apply for VOCA funds is limited to victim assistance programs administered by state or local government agencies or not-for-profit corporations registered in Florida, or a combination thereof. The funding cycle for the VOCA grant funds under this notice is October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015.

Application and Deadline: Organizations may participate in the annual competitive grant process which involves submission of an application followed by an application review. Applications must be submitted using the Subgrantee Technology Automated Resource System (STARS) which can be accessed at <http://STARS.myfloridalegal.com>. **The STARS website will be available to the public on January 6, 2014.** STARS is a new web-based grant management system that replaces the paper application process used for VOCA grants previously.

The Office of the Attorney General will offer STARS technical assistance workshops throughout the state. Applicant agencies are strongly encouraged to send employees responsible for grant applications to one of the workshops. Workshops will be provided in the following cities:

Tallahassee	1/9/2014	9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
West Palm Beach	1/13/2014 and 1/14/2014	9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily
Ft. Lauderdale	1/15/2014	9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Miami	1/16/2014	9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Pensacola	1/22/2014 and 1/23/2014	9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily
Ft. Myers	1/28/2014 and 1/29/2014	9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily
Tampa	1/30/2014	9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
Orlando	2/4/2014 and 2/5/2014	9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily
Jacksonville	2/6/2014 and 2/7/2014	9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily

Due to limited seating pre-registration is required for all STARS technical assistance workshops. Contact the Bureau of Advocacy and Grants Management at 850-414-3380 to register for a workshop or for technical assistance completing the grant application.

The deadline for applying for a VOCA grant under this notice is **no later than 5:00 p.m.** Eastern Standard Time on **Friday, February 28, 2014.** Paper applications will not be accepted, only electronic submissions using the STARS system will be allowed.