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**Agency Name:** Hidalgo County  
**Grant/App:** 2924307 **Start Date:** 10/1/2024 **End Date:** 9/30/2025

**Project Title:** Hidalgo County DA's Office-Victim Assistance Program  
**Status:** Application Pending Submission

#### Profile Information

**Applicant Agency Name:** Hidalgo County  
**Project Title:** Hidalgo County DA's Office-Victim Assistance Program  
**Division or Unit to Administer the Project:** Hidalgo County District Attorney's Office  
**Address Line 1:** 100 N. Closner, Room 303  
**Address Line 2:**  
**City/State/Zip:** Edinburg Texas 78539-3563  
**Start Date:** 10/1/2024  
**End Date:** 9/30/2025

**Regional Council of Governments(COG) within the Project's Impact Area:** Lower Rio Grande Valley  
Development Council  
**Headquarter County:** Hidalgo  
**Counties within Project's Impact Area:** Hidalgo

#### Grant Officials:

##### Authorized Official

**Name:** Richard F. Cortez  
**Email:** countyjudge@co.hidalgo.tx.us  
**Address 1:** 100 East Cano, 2nd Floor  
**Address 1:**  
**City:** Edinburg, Texas 78539  
**Phone:** 956-318-2600 Other Phone:  
**Fax:** 956-318-2699  
**Title:** The Honorable  
**Salutation:** Judge  
**Position:** Hidalgo County Judge

##### Financial Official

**Name:** Leticia Chavez  
**Email:** lettyg.chavez@auditor.co.hidalgo.tx.us  
**Address 1:** 2808 S. Business Highway 281  
**Address 1:**  
**City:** Edinburg, Texas 78539  
**Phone:** 956-318-2511 Other Phone:  
**Fax:** 956-318-2577  
**Title:** Ms.  
**Salutation:** Ms.  
**Position:** County Auditor

##### Project Director

**Name:** Toribio Palacios  
**Email:** terry.palacios@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us  
**Address 1:** 100 East Cano Street, 2nd Floor  
**Address 1:**  
**City:** Edinburg, Texas 78539  
**Phone:** 956-292-7604 Other Phone: 956-318-2300  
**Fax:** 956-318-2078  
**Title:** The Honorable  
**Salutation:** Mr.  
**Position:** Criminal District Attorney

**Grant Writer**

**Name:** Toribio Palacios

**Email:** terry.palacios@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us

**Address 1:** 100 East Cano Street, 2nd Floor

**Address 1:**

**City:** Edinburg, Texas 78539

**Phone:** 956-292-7604 Other Phone: 956-318-2300

**Fax:** 956-318-2078

**Title:** The Honorable

**Salutation:** Mr.

**Position:** Criminal District Attorney

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**Grant Vendor Information**

**Organization Type:** County

**Organization Option:** applying to provide services to all others

**Applicant Agency's State Payee Identification Number (e.g., Federal Employer's Identification**

**(FEI) Number or Vendor ID):** 17460007176041

**Unique Entity Identifier (UEI):** LHACK1UL6NR3

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## Narrative Information

### Introduction

The purpose of this program is to provide services and assistance directly to victims of crime to speed their recovery and aid them through the criminal justice process. Services may include the following:

- responding to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims;
- assisting victims in stabilizing their lives after a victimization;
- assisting victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; and
- providing victims with safety and security.

### Program-Specific Questions

#### Culturally Competent Victim Restoration

Victim service providers must have the ability to blend cultural knowledge and sensitivity with victim restoration skills for a more effective and culturally appropriate recovery process. Cultural competency occurs when: (1) cultural knowledge, awareness and sensitivity are integrated into action and policy; (2) the service is relevant to the needs of the community and provided by trained staff, board members, and management; and (3) an advocate or organization recognizes each client is different with different needs, feelings, ideas and barriers.

Provide information in this section regarding how your organization is culturally competent when providing services to victims.

#### Culturally Specific and Underserved Populations

Following are relevant definitions needed to answer this question.

- Underserved populations means populations who face barriers in accessing and using victim services, and includes populations underserved because of geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, underserved racial and ethnic populations, populations underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, alienage status, or age), and any other population determined to be underserved by the Attorney General or by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, as appropriate.
- Culturally specific means the program is primarily directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups (as defined in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u-6(g)).
- Racial and ethnic minority group means American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts); Asian Americans; Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders; Blacks; and Hispanics.
- Hispanic means individuals whose origin is Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or any other Spanish-speaking country.

Does your program have a primary focus on serving a culturally specific population? (The organization must do more than merely provide services to an underserved population or culturally specific group; rather, the organization's primary focus must be on providing culturally competent services designed to meet the specific needs of the target population in order to justify a YES response in the section below.)

Yes

No

If you answered '**YES**' above, you must explain in the box below how your organization's program is specifically designed to focus on and meet the needs of culturally specific populations. If this item does not apply enter '**N/A**'.

### Certifications

In addition to the requirements found in existing statute, regulation, and the funding announcement, this program requires applicant organizations to certify compliance with the following:

### **Constitutional Compliance**

Applicant assures that it will not engage in any activity that violates Constitutional law including profiling based upon race.

### **Forensic Medical Examination Payments**

Health care facilities shall conduct a forensic medical examination of a victim of an alleged sexual assault if the victim arrived at the facility within 120 hours after the assault occurred and the victim consents to the examination. The victim is not required to participate in the investigation or prosecution of an offense as a condition of receiving a forensic medical examination, nor pay for the forensic examination or the evidence collection kit. Crime Victim Compensation funds may be used to pay for the medical portion of the exam unless the victim of sexual assault is required to seek reimbursement for the examination from their insurance carrier. If a health care facility does not provide diagnosis or treatment services for sexual assault victims, the facility is required to refer the victim to a facility that provides those services.

### **Confidentiality and Privacy**

Applicant agrees to maintain the confidentiality of client-counselor information and research data, as required by state and federal law. Personally identifying information or individual information collected in connection with services requested, utilized, or denied may not be disclosed; or, reveal individual client information without informed, written, reasonably time-limited consent of the person about whom information is sought. If release of information is compelled by statutory or court mandate, reasonable attempts to provide notice to victims affected by the disclosure of information will be made and steps necessary to protect the privacy and safety of the persons affected by the release of information will be taken.

### **Activities that Compromise Victim Safety and Recovery**

Applicant agrees to not engage in activities that jeopardize victim safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions.

### **Polygraph Testing Prohibition**

A peace officer or attorney representing the state may not require an adult or child victim of an alleged sex offense to submit to a polygraph examination or other truth telling device as a condition for proceeding with the investigation of such an offense. In addition, the refusal of a victim to submit to a polygraph or other truth telling examination will not prevent the investigation, charging, or prosecution of an alleged sex offense or on the basis of the results of a polygraph examination.

### **Protection Orders**

Victims applying for a protective order or their attorney may not bear the costs associated with the filing of an order of protections.

### **Offender Firearm Prohibition**

The applicant certifies that its judicial administrative policies and practices include notification to domestic violence offenders of the requirements delineated in section 18 USC § 992(g)(8) and (g)(9).

### **Criminal Charges**

In connection with the prosecution of any misdemeanor or felony domestic violence offense, the victim may not bear the costs associated with the filing of criminal charges against a domestic violence offender, issuance or service of a warrant, or witness subpoena.

### **Cybersecurity Training Requirement**

Local units of governments must comply with the Cybersecurity Training requirements described in Section 772.012 and Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code. Local governments determined to not be in compliance with the cybersecurity requirements required by Section 2054.5191 of the Texas Government Code are ineligible for OOG grant funds until the second anniversary of the date the local government is determined ineligible. Government entities must annually certify their compliance with the training requirements using the [Cybersecurity Training Certification for State and Local Government](#). A copy of the Training Certification must be uploaded to your eGrants application. For more information or to access available training programs, visit the [Texas Department of Information Resources Statewide Cybersecurity Awareness Training](#) page.

### **Criminal History Reporting**

Entities receiving funds from PSO must be located in a county that has an average of 90% or above on both

adult and juvenile dispositions entered into the computerized criminal history database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) as directed in the *Texas Code of Criminal Procedure, Chapter 66*. The disposition completeness percentage is defined as the percentage of arrest charges a county reports to DPS for which a disposition has been subsequently reported and entered into the computerized criminal history system.

Counties applying for grant awards from the Office of the Governor must commit that the county will report at least 90% of convictions within five business days to the Criminal Justice Information System at the Department of Public Safety.

### **Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)**

Eligible applicants operating a law enforcement agency must be current on reporting complete UCR data and the Texas specific reporting mandated by 411.042 TGC, to the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) for inclusion in the annual Crime in Texas (CIT) publication. To be considered eligible for funding, applicants must have submitted a full twelve months of accurate data to DPS for the most recent calendar year by the deadline(s) established by DPS. Due to the importance of timely reporting, applicants are required to submit complete and accurate UCR data, as well as the Texas-mandated reporting, on a no less than monthly basis and respond promptly to requests from DPS related to the data submitted.

### **Entities That Collect Sexual Assault/Sex Offense Evidence or Investigate/Prosecute Sexual Assault or Other Sex Offenses**

In accordance with Texas Government Code, Section 420.034, any facility or entity that collects evidence for sexual assault or other sex offenses or investigates or prosecutes a sexual assault or other sex offense for which evidence has been collected, must participate in the statewide electronic tracking system developed and implemented by the Texas Department of Public Safety. Visit DPS's [Sexual Assault Evidence Tracking Program](#) website for more information or to set up an account to begin participating. Additionally, per Section 420.042 "A law enforcement agency that receives evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense...shall submit that evidence to a public accredited crime laboratory for analysis no later than the 30th day after the date on which that evidence was received." A law enforcement agency in possession of a significant number of Sexual Assault Evidence Kits (SAEK) where the 30-day window has passed may be considered noncompliant.

### **Immigration Legal Services**

PSO prioritizes funding of projects that provide a full spectrum of counseling, crisis services, and other direct victim services. PSO will not fund projects that focus primarily on immigration legal services and do not provide a significant level of other types of victim services.

### **Legal Representation in Divorce and Custody Cases**

PSO limits eligibility for legal representation in divorce and custody cases to circumstances where the survivor has been directly victimized by intimate partner violence (IPV) within the last six (6) months. This may include physical violence, sexual violence, stalking, and psychological aggression (including coercive tactics) by a current or former intimate partner against the survivor or survivor's kin sharing the residence. Additionally, legal services in divorce and custody cases funded under this award are limited to emergency order assistance, safety planning, client representation in divorce or guardianship proceedings, and other family law matters directly resulting from the victimization. Through acceptance of this award, grantee agrees that reimbursement for divorce and custody-related legal services will be limited to circumstances listed above.

### **Discrimination**

Applicant agrees not to discriminate against victims because they disagree with the State's prosecution of the criminal case.

### **Records**

Applicant agrees to maintain daily time and attendance records specifying the time devoted to allowable victim services.

### **Volunteers**

If awarded VOCA funds, applicant agrees to use volunteers to support either the project or other agency-wide services/activities, unless PSO determines that a compelling reason exists to waive this requirement.

### **Crime Victims' Compensation**

Applicant agrees to assist crime victims in applying for crime victims' compensation benefits.

### **Community Efforts**

Applicant agrees to promote community efforts to aid crime victims. Applicants should promote, within the community, coordinated public and private efforts to aid crime victims. Coordination efforts qualify an organization to receive these funds, but are not activities that can be supported with these funds.

**Civil Rights Information**

Applicant agrees to maintain statutorily required civil rights statistics on victims served by race, national origin, sex, age, and disability of victims served, within the timeframe established by PSO. This requirement is waived when providing services, such as telephone counseling, where soliciting the information may be inappropriate or offensive to the crime victim.

**Victims of Federal Crime**

Applicant agrees to provide equal services to victims of federal crime. (Note: Victim of federal crime is a victim of an offense that violates a federal criminal statute or regulation; federal crimes also include crimes that occur in an area where the federal government has jurisdiction, such as Indian reservations, some national parks, some federal buildings, and military installations.)

**No Charge**

Applicant agrees to provide grant-funded services at no charge to victims of crime. Applicants are also prohibited from billing Crime Victims Compensation, private insurance, Medicaid, or Medicare for services provided using VOCA funds.

**Effective Services**

Applicants applying for funds to provide victim services must demonstrate a record of providing effective services to crime victims. (See "Eligible Organizations" in the Funding Announcement.)

**College Campus Confidential Direct Services Providers**

All personnel compensated through OOG or match funds are Confidential Direct Service Providers that maintain victim's confidentiality for all case information (written or oral) and share information only at the victim's request and with the victim's informed consent, except when release of information is required by law. Confidential Direct Service Providers compensated with grant funds shall not be required to disclose client or case information to any entity, including a campus Title IX officer or coordinator, except when release of information is required by law. A victim may not be coerced or required to file a report or disclose information regarding their victimization with any entity as a condition of receiving services from a Confidential Direct Service Provider.

Failure to comply with this certification may result in PSO, at its sole discretion, withholding reimbursement on personnel line items contained in the program budget until satisfactory evidence of compliance is provided.

## Compliance with State and Federal Laws, Programs and Procedures

**Local Units of Government:** Local units of government, including cities, counties and other general purpose political subdivisions, as appropriate, and institutions of higher education that operate a law enforcement agency, must comply with all aspects of the programs and procedures utilized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to: (1) notify DHS of all information requested by DHS related to illegal aliens in Agency's custody; and (2) detain such illegal aliens in accordance with requests by DHS. Additionally, counties and municipalities may NOT have in effect, purport to have in effect, or make themselves subject to or bound by, any law, rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) require or authorize the public disclosure of federal law enforcement information in order to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection fugitives from justice or aliens illegally in the United States; or (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3). Lastly, eligible applicants must comply with all provisions, policies, and penalties found in Chapter 752, Subchapter C of the Texas Government Code.

Each local unit of government, and institution of higher education that operates a law enforcement agency, must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/Law Enforcement Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements. This Form is required for each application submitted to PSO and is active until August 31, 2025 or the end of the grant period, whichever is later.

**Non-profit Organizations:** Each non-profit 501(c)(3) organization must certify that it does not have, and will continue not to have any policy, procedure, or agreement (written or unwritten) that in any way encourages, induces, entices, or aids any violations of immigration laws. Additionally, the organization certifies that it does not have in effect, purport to have in effect, and is not subject to or bound by any rule, policy, or practice (written or unwritten) that would: (1) encourage the concealment, harboring, or shielding from detection of fugitives from justice or aliens who illegally came to, entered, or remained in the United States; or (2) impede federal officers from exercising authority under 8 U.S.C. § 1226(a), § 1226(c), § 1231(a), § 1357(a), § 1366(1), or § 1366(3). Lastly, the organization certifies that it will not adopt, enforce, or endorse a policy which prohibits or materially limits the enforcement of immigration laws, and will not, as demonstrated by pattern or practice, prohibit or materially limit the enforcement of immigration laws.

Each non-profit organization must download, complete and then upload into eGrants the [CEO/NGO Certifications and Assurances Form](#) certifying compliance with federal and state immigration enforcement requirements.

### Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEO Plan)

If awarded, applicant agrees to comply with the Equal Employment Opportunity Program (EEO) requirements per 28 C.F.R. § 42 Subpart E. Agencies may use the EEO Utilization Report Builder to assist with preparing Verification Forms and, if required, Utilization Reports.

### Civil Rights Liaison

A civil rights liaison who will serve as the grantee's civil rights point of contact and who will be responsible for ensuring that the grantee meets all applicable civil rights requirements must be designated. The designee will act as the grantee's liaison in civil rights matters with PSO and with the federal Office of Justice Programs.

Enter the Name of the Civil Rights Liaison:

Enter the Address for the Civil Rights Liaison:

Enter the Phone Number for the Civil Rights Liaison [(999) 999-9999 x9999]:

### Overall Certification

Each applicant agency must certify to the specific requirements detailed above as well as to comply with all requirements within the PSO Funding Announcement, the *Guide to Grants*, the *Grantee Conditions and Responsibilities*, any authorizing or applicable state and federal statutes and regulations to be eligible for this program.

**I certify to all of the application content & requirements.**

### Project Abstract :

This project will fulfill the requirement of the Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office to designate a Victim Assistance Coordinator or Victim Advocate in accordance with Title I, Chapter 56, Right of Crime Victims, of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure to perform duties imposed therein. The Victim Advocates from the Domestic Violence Unit have the duty to ensure victims' rights are afforded during the prosecution

process. The Victim Advocates will assist victims by providing them notice of any scheduled court proceedings, court accompaniment, changes to the court proceedings, filing of a request for continuance of a trial setting and any plea agreements to be presented to the court. The Victim Advocates will provide direct victim services to victims in the Felony, Misdemeanor, Civil, and Juvenile Divisions. The Assistant District Attorney in the Civil Division will assist victims in filing protective orders as well as provide additional counseling on family law, specifically information on divorce, child custody, child support, emergency protective orders, and immigration relief for undocumented victims of crime. The twelve Court Advocate positions from the Victims Unit will be assigned to the 13 felony district courts and have the duty to ensure victims are afforded their victim's rights during the prosecution process. The Court Advocates are located at the courthouse and are easily available to assist victims when needed. Victims will be given the opportunity to participate in the criminal justice proceedings and receive information about their case at all stages of prosecution. The Court Advocates will provide court accompaniment for victims attending a court hearing and notify victims of future proceedings/hearings in their case. The Court Advocate will prepare victims for the interview with prosecutors and explain the criminal trial process. The Court Advocates will assist victims before and after testimony, with preparation of victim impact statements, and court ordered restitution. The Court Advocates will provide victims with post sentence services by helping them register with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and the VINE & VOICE system. The Court Advocates will do an assessment of the victim and family needs to make appropriate referrals for on-site/off-site services including medical, mental health, and crime victim's compensation. They may also provide immediate crisis intervention or provide a referral to mental health specialist as needed.

### **Problem Statement :**

It is the duty of the Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office (HCCDA) to designate a Victim Assistance Coordinator or Victim Advocates that will provide victim services to victims of crime in Hidalgo County. The Victims Unit and Domestic Violence staff is fulfilling the requirement of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC) and in turn addressing the gap of victim services for victims in the criminal justice process. The HCCDA Victims Unit has provided services to 81,292 victims of crime with a total of 184,158 services provided from April of 2015 to November of 2022. Our office continues to see an increase in victims requesting court accompaniment and support during the court proceedings. Victims of crime require on-going support throughout the entire criminal justice process and referrals for post sentence services. Court Advocates are an important component to the legal advocacy services provided to victims in preliminary hearings, pre-trial hearings, trials, guilty pleas, sentencing, and other court hearings/proceedings. Victims of crime require on-going support throughout the entire criminal justice process and referrals for post sentence services. There is a lack of victim services in system-based programs, and this program bridges the gap in services available for victims of crime at the onset of the crime. Many victims do not receive the much-needed service to help them cope and deal with the victimization. The HCCDA's Office Victims Unit will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies to help victims address the trauma and problems encountered by violent crime, such as sexual assault-rape, survivors of homicide, robbery, human trafficking, DUI/DWI, child abuse, domestic violence, assault, and witness to violent crime. In addition, this grant will provide training opportunities for law enforcement officers, criminal justice professionals, and victim advocates to expand their knowledge.

### **Supporting Data :**

The Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office provided services to 81,292 victims of crime with a total of 184,158 services provided from April of 2015 to November of 2022. In addition, we provided services to 15,283 victims in 2022 in the Civil Division, 61.25% of which were domestic violence. According to the Texas Crime Report of 2021 of the Texas Department of Public Safety there were a total of 7,874 family violence cases reported in Hidalgo County an increase of 34% from the 2020 where 5,876 cases were reported. Also reported in Hidalgo County were 423 Sexual Assaults, 30 Murders, 247 Robberies, and 1,770 Assaults. In 2021 The Texas Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR), stated that law enforcement officers in Texas responded to 231,207 incidents of family violence, an 8 % increase from 2020 where 218,950 incidents were reported. The 2021 Honoring Texas Victims Report of the Texas Council of Family Violence reported a total of 204 Texans were killed by an intimate partner. There were 168 women and 28 males. In Hidalgo County, 4 homicides were attributed to family violence. This represents a 10% increase from the 2020 fatality report. In addition, the 2021 Texas Department of Family & Protective Services for Region 11 Statistics Report shows that Hidalgo County confirmed 4,273 victims of child abuse and 2,305 victims of elder abuse.

### **Project Approach & Activities:**

The HCCDA office is addressing the needs identified by the local Council of Governments (COG)- the Lower Rio

Grande Valley Development Council's (LRGVDC) Regional Criminal Justice Strategic Plan which are 1.) the need to build the local agencies' capacity to assist victims of violent crime 2.) the need to support programs that provide direct and/or referral services, including treatment to victims of violent crimes 3.) the need to advocate for effective outreach education to services communities in the region 4.) the need to strengthen the working relationship between law enforcement, assistance centers, and other agencies that provide services to victims of crime 5.) the need to advocate the establishment of programs that educate the community about human trafficking, domestic violence, teen dating violence, sexual assault and cybercrime 6.) the need to provide training for law enforcement and other agencies that address issues as a result of crime or drug abuse. The Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office uses the "CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE STANDARDS" which were developed and distributed by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Victim Services Division Texas Crime Victim Clearinghouse, in accordance with the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 56A.604, to law enforcement officers and attorneys representing the State to aid those officers and prosecutors in performing their duties imposed by the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Chapters 56A - Rights of Crime Victims, 56B - Crime Victims' Compensation, and 58 - Confidentiality of Identifying Information and Medical Records of Certain Crime Victims.

### **Capacity & Capabilities:**

The Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney Office (HCCDA) represents the State of Texas as the prosecutorial agency in all criminal cases in Hidalgo County. This grant is administered by HCCDA's office. All reports are provided on a quarterly, bi-annually, and annually basis as required. Justification for the grant is provided on a yearly basis. In addition, HCCDA's office oversees the Victims Unit & the Domestic Violence Unit to ensure that the grant monies are adequately expended and budgeted properly. HCCDA's office staff works closely with the County Auditor's Office to ensure the proper use of grant funds. Victim services are tracked by the use of the Victim Services (VS tracking) software to ensure accurate data collection. The Victims Advocates and Coordinators will have a minimum of two years' experience in victim assistance and are required to attend continuing education to obtain certification in victim services for system-based advocates. The goals of the HCCDA's Office- Victims Unit are 1.) to protect victims' rights during the prosecution process; 2.) to reduce the trauma of victims of crime 3.) to ensure that their safety is a priority 4.) to provide victims with notification of court proceedings and a platform that ensures the victim's voice is heard and is considered during the prosecution process 5.) to comply with the duties imposed on the attorneys representing the state by the Texas Administrative Code of Procedure, Chapter 56: Rights of Crime Victims.

### **Performance Management :**

The overall goal of this project is to reduce trauma and problems encountered by victims of violent crimes during the prosecution process. This will be achieved by providing immediate crisis intervention, guidance on the judicial process, court accompaniment, victims' rights, information on compensation programs, and follow-up services by using a victim-centered, multi-disciplinary team approach. The program's success will be measured by providing every victim that we serve with a service evaluation. The service evaluation will measure the effectiveness of the services offered.

### **Target Group :**

The target group will be Victims that reside in Hidalgo County with a population of 870,781 as of 2020. Hidalgo County has a 92.5% of Hispanic population, of which 23.9 % of the population live in poverty. HCCDA will serve crime victims of all age groups, both sexes (male and female), multiple languages, and undocumented individuals.

### **Evidence-Based Practices:**

The Hidalgo County District Attorney's Office implemented the Victims Unit to comply with Chapter 56 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure (TCCP) that states the Attorney representing the state has the duty to ensure to the extent practicable that a victim, guardian of a victim, or close relative of a deceased victim is afforded the rights granted in said chapter. The Hidalgo County District Attorney's Office uses the "CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE STANDARDS" that were developed and distributed by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Victim Services Division Texas Crime Victim Clearinghouse, in accordance with the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 56A.604, to law enforcement officers and attorneys representing the state to aid those officers and prosecutors in performing their duties imposed by the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Chapters 56A - Rights of Crime Victims, 56B - Crime Victims' Compensation, and 58 - Confidentiality of Identifying Information and Medical Records of Certain Crime Victims.

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### Project Activities Information

#### Introduction

This section contains questions about your project. It is very important for applicants to review their funding announcement for guidance on how to fill out this section. Unless otherwise specified, answers should be about the EXPECTED activities to occur during the project period.

#### Selected Project Activities:

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE:	DESCRIPTION
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#### CJD Purpose Areas

PERCENT DEDICATED	PURPOSE AREA	PURPOSE AREA DESCRIPTION
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**Measures Information**

Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Output Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
-----------------------	--------------

Custom Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
------------------------	--------------

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**Budget Details Information**

**Budget Information by Budget Line Item:**

CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL	UNIT/%
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DESCRIPTION	MATCH TYPE	AMOUNT
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**Summary Source of Match/GPI:**

Total Report	Cash Match	In Kind	GPI Federal Share	GPI State Share
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

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CATEGORY	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
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**Budget Grand Total Information:**

OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

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### Resolution from Governing Body

Applications from nonprofit corporations, local units of governments, and other political subdivisions must include a resolution that contains the following:

1. Authorization by your governing body for the submission of the application to the Public Safety Office (PSO) that clearly identifies the name of the project for which funding is requested;
2. A commitment to provide all applicable matching funds;
3. A designation of the name and/or title of an authorized official who is given the authority to apply for, accept, reject, alter, or terminate a grant (Note: If a name is provided, you must update the PSO should the official change during the grant period.); and
4. A written assurance that, in the event of loss or misuse of grant funds, the governing body will return all funds to PSO.

Upon approval from your agency's governing body, upload the approved resolution to eGrants by clicking on the **Upload Files** sub-tab located in the **Summary** tab.

### Contract Compliance

Will PSO grant funds be used to support any contracts for professional services?

Select the appropriate response:

- Yes  
 No

For applicant agencies that selected **Yes** above, describe how you will monitor the activities of the sub-contractor(s) for compliance with the contract provisions (including equipment purchases), deliverables, and all applicable statutes, rules, regulations, and guidelines governing this project.

Enter a description for monitoring contract compliance:

### Lobbying

For applicant agencies requesting grant funds in excess of \$100,000, have any federally appropriated funds been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any federal contract, grant loan, or cooperative agreement?

Select the appropriate response:

- Yes  
 No  
 N/A

For applicant agencies that selected either **No** or **N/A** above, have any non-federal funds been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress in connection with this federal contract, loan, or cooperative agreement?

Select the appropriate response:

- Yes
- No
- N/A

**Fiscal Year**

Provide the begin and end date for the applicant agency's fiscal year (e.g., 09/01/20xx to 08/31/20xx).

Enter the Begin Date [mm/dd/yyyy]:

Enter the End Date [mm/dd/yyyy]:

**Sources of Financial Support**

Each applicant must provide the amount of grant funds expended during the most recently completed fiscal year for the following sources:

Enter the amount (in Whole Dollars \$) of Federal Grant Funds expended:

Enter the amount (in Whole Dollars \$) of State Grant Funds expended:

**Single Audit**

Applicants who expend less than \$750,000 in federal grant funding or less than \$750,000 in state grant funding are exempt from the Single Audit Act and cannot charge audit costs to a PSO grant. However, PSO may require a limited scope audit as defined in 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart F - Audit Requirements.

Has the applicant agency expended federal grant funding of \$750,000 or more, or state grant funding of \$750,000 or more during the most recently completed fiscal year?

Select the appropriate response:

- Yes
- No

Applicant agencies that selected **Yes** above, provide the date of your organization's last annual single audit, performed by an independent auditor in accordance with the State of Texas Single Audit Circular; or CFR Part 200, Subpart F - Audit Requirements.

Enter the date of your last annual single audit:

**Debarment**

Each applicant agency will certify that it and its principals (as defined in 2 CFR Part 180.995):

- Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State or Federal Court, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
- Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property; or
- Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (federal, state, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in the above bullet; and have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transactions (federal, state, or local) terminated for cause or default.

Select the appropriate response:

- I Certify
- Unable to Certify

If you selected **Unable to Certify** above, please provide an explanation as to why the applicant agency cannot certify the statements.

**FFATA Certification**

**Certification of Recipient Highly Compensated Officers**

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requires Prime Recipients (CJD) to report the names and total compensation of each of the five most highly compensated officers (a.k.a. positions) of each sub recipient organization for the most recently completed fiscal year preceding the year in which the grant is awarded if the subrecipient answers **YES** to the **FIRST** statement but **NO** to the **SECOND** statement listed below.

In the sub recipient's preceding completed fiscal year, did the sub recipient receive: (1) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenue from Federal contracts (and subcontracts), loans, grants (and subgrants) and cooperative agreements; AND (2) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenue from Federal contracts (and subcontracts), loans, grants (and subgrants) and cooperative agreements?

Yes

No

Does the public have access to information about the compensation of the senior executives through periodic reports filed under Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or Section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986?

Yes

No

If you answered **YES** to the **FIRST** statement and **NO** to the **SECOND** statement, please provide the name and total compensation amount of each of the five most highly compensated officers (a.k.a. positions) within your agency for the current calendar year. If you answered NO to the first statement you are NOT required to provide the name and compensation amounts. NOTE: "Total compensation" means the complete pay package of each of the sub recipient's compensated officers, including all forms of money, benefits, services, and in-kind payments (see SEC Regulations: 17 CCR 229.402).

Position 1 - Name:

Position 1 - Total Compensation (\$):

Position 2 - Name:

Position 2 - Total Compensation (\$):

Position 3 - Name:

Position 3 - Total Compensation (\$):

Position 4 - Name:

Position 4 - Total Compensation (\$):

Position 5 - Name:

Position 5 - Total Compensation (\$):

You are logged in as **User Name:** HidalgoCoDA

General Information and Instructions

Agency Type

Implementing Agency Type - Government

Which designation best describes your agency (select only one):

- Corrections
- Courts
- Juvenile justice
- Law enforcement
- Prosecutor
- Other – describe below

If Other is selected describe below:

Purpose of Award

Check all that apply:

- Continue an OOG-funded victim project funded in a previous year
- Expand or enhance an existing project not funded by OOG in the previous year
- Start up a new victim services project
- Start up a new Native American victim services project
- Expand or enhance an existing Native American project

Type of Crime Funding Distribution

Identify the percent of funding dedicated to each type of victimization. The percentages provided below should not include matching funds. Cumulative total for all types of victimization must equal 100%.

Type of Crime	Percent of Funds Dedicated to Crime <i>Enter whole percentages only</i>	Funds Dedicated to Crime <i>Current Award x Percent Entered</i>
Child Physical Abuse	0	\$0.00
Child Sexual Abuse	0	\$0.00
Domestic and Family Violence	0	\$0.00
Child Sexual Assault	0	\$0.00
Adult Sexual Assault	0	\$0.00
DUI/DWI Crashes	0	\$0.00
Assault	0	\$0.00

Adults Molested As Children	0	\$0.00
Elder Abuse	0	\$0.00
Robbery	0	\$0.00
Survivors of Homicide	0	\$0.00
Adult Human Trafficking	0	\$0.00
Child Human Trafficking	0	\$0.00
Other Violent Crimes	0	\$0.00
Description:		
Other Non-Violent Crimes	0	\$0.00
Description:		
<b>SUM of %'s</b> <i>Sum of % MUST = 100%</i> <sup>0</sup>	<b>SUM of Funds</b> <i>Sum of Funds MUST = OOG Current Budget</i> <sup>\$0.00</sup>	

**Use of Funds**

Does this project provide **DIRECT SERVICES** to victims:

Yes

No

**Types of Victimization**

Check the types of victimization that best describe the victims the grant-funded project will serve. "Other" refers to a type that is not associated with any of the types provided in the list. Check all that apply:

**Type of Victimization**

Adult physical assault (includes aggravated and simple assault)

Adult sexual assault

Adults sexually abused/assaulted as children

Arson

Bullying (verbal, cyber, or physical)

Burglary

Child physical abuse or neglect

Child pornography

- Child sexual abuse/assault
- Domestic and/or family violence
- DUI/DWI incidents
- Elder abuse or neglect
- Hate crime: racial/religious/gender/sexual orientation/other

If Hate Crime is TRUE provide explanation:

Empty text box for Hate Crime explanation.

- Human trafficking: labor
- Human trafficking: sex
- Identity theft/fraud/financial crime
- Kidnapping (noncustodial)
- Kidnapping (custodial)
- Mass violence (domestic/international)
- Other vehicular victimization (e.g., hit and run)
- Robbery
- Stalking/harassment
- Survivors of homicide victims
- Teen dating victimization
- Terrorism (domestic/international)
- Other

If Other is TRUE provide explanation:

Empty text box for Other explanation.

**Budget and Staffing**

Answer the questions below based on your current fiscal year. Report the total budget available to the victim services program by source of funding. Do not report the entire agency budget, unless the entire budget is devoted to victim services program.

**Annual funding amounts allocated to all victimization programs and/or services for the current fiscal year:**

Identify by source the amount of funds allocated to the victimization program/services budget for your agency. DO NOT

COUNT FUNDS IN MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY. OTHER FEDERAL includes all federal funding except the award amount for this grant.

<b>OOG Current Budget:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
Other State Funds:	\$0.00
Other Local Funds:	\$0.00
Other Federal Funds:	\$0.00
Other Non-Federal Funds:	\$0.00
<b>Total Victimization Program Budget:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Total number of paid staff for all grantee victimization program and/or services:**  
COUNT each staff member once. Both full and part time staff should be counted as one staff member. DO NOT prorate based on FTE.

Total number of staff:

**Number of staff hours funded through THIS grant award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs and/or services:**

Total COUNT of hours to work by all staff supporting the work of this award, including match.

Total number of hours:

**Number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs and/or services:**

COUNT each volunteer staff once. DO NOT prorate based on FTE.

Total number of volunteer staff:

**Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs:**

Total COUNT of hours to work by all volunteers supporting the work of the award, including match.

Total hours to work by all volunteers:

Explain how your organization uses volunteers to support its victimization programs or if your organization does not use volunteers explain any circumstances that prohibit the use of volunteers.