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Agency Name: Hidalgo County
Grant/App: 2931310 **Start Date:** 9/1/2024 **End Date:** 8/31/2025

Project Title: Domestic Violence Specialty Prosecutor
Status: Application Pending Submission

Profile Information

Applicant Agency Name: Hidalgo County
Project Title: Domestic Violence Specialty Prosecutor
Division or Unit to Administer the Project: Hidalgo County DA's Office
Address Line 1: 100 N. Closner, RM 303
Address Line 2:
City/State/Zip: Edinburg Texas 78539-3563
Start Date: 9/1/2024
End Date: 8/31/2025

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 funding is to solicit applications for projects that promote a coordinated, multi-disciplinary approach to improve the justice system's response to violent crimes against women, including domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

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'.

Eligibility Requirements

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:

Grant Eligibility Regarding Compelling Victim Testimony:

In accordance with 34 USC § 10454, in order for a prosecutor's office to be eligible to receive grant funds under this subchapter, the head of the office shall certify to the State receiving the grant funding that the office will, during the 3-year period beginning on the date on which the grant is awarded, engage in planning, developing and implementing—

- (1) training developed by experts in the field regarding victim-centered approaches in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases;
- (2) policies that support a victim-centered approach, informed by such training; and
- (3) a protocol outlining alternative practices and procedures for material witness petitions and bench warrants, consistent with best practices, that shall be exhausted before employing material witness petitions and bench warrants to obtain victim-witness testimony in the investigation, prosecution, and trial of a crime related to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking of the victim in order to prevent further victimization and trauma to the victim.

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 government 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 grants 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.

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.

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 VAWA funds.

Discrimination

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

Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEO Plan)

If awarded, applicant agrees to comply with the Equal Employment Opportunity Program (EEOP) 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.

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.

Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) Certification

The applicant certifies that it meets the following federal statutory requirements in regards to the provision of legal advocacy:

- (1) any person providing legal assistance through a program funded under this section—
 - (A)(i) is a licensed attorney or is working under the direct supervision of a licensed attorney;
 - (ii) in immigration proceedings, is a Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representative;
 - (iii) in Veterans' Administration claims, is an accredited representative; or
 - (iv) is any person who functions as an attorney or lay advocate in Tribal court; and
 - (B)(i) has demonstrated expertise in providing legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking in the targeted population; or
 - (ii)(I) is partnered with an entity or person that has demonstrated expertise described in clause (i); and
 - (II) has completed, or will complete, training in connection with domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault and related legal issues, including training on evidence-based risk factors for domestic and dating violence homicide;
- (2) any training program conducted in satisfaction of the requirement of paragraph (1) has been or will be developed with input from and in collaboration with a tribal, State, territorial, local, or culturally specific domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking victim service provider or coalition, as well as appropriate tribal, State, territorial, and local law enforcement officials;
- (3) any person or organization providing legal assistance through a program funded under subsection (c) has informed and will continue to inform State, local, or tribal domestic violence, dating violence, or sexual assault programs and coalitions, as well as appropriate State and local law enforcement officials of their work; and
- (4) the grantee's organizational policies do not require mediation or counseling involving offenders and victims physically together, in cases where sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or child sexual abuse is an issue.

Does the applicant meet the criteria outlined above?

- Yes
 No

Prosecutor Certification

In order for a prosecutor's office to be eligible to receive grant funds under this subchapter, the head of the office shall certify, to the State, Indian Tribal government, or territorial government receiving the grant funding, that the office will, during the 3-year period beginning on the date on which the grant is awarded, engage in planning, developing and implementing—

- (1) training developed by experts in the field regarding victim-centered approaches in domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking cases;
- (2) policies that support a victim-centered approach, informed by such training; and
- (3) a protocol outlining alternative practices and procedures for material witness petitions and bench warrants, consistent with best practices, that shall be exhausted before employing material witness petitions and bench warrants to obtain victim-witness testimony in the investigation, prosecution, and trial of a crime related to domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking of the victim in order to prevent further victimization and trauma to the victim.

Does that applicant certify to the requirement outlines above?

- Yes
 No
 N/A-This grant will not be administered by a Prosecutor's Office

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 :

The Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office (HCCDA) has developed a victim centered approach to address the prosecution and victim services for domestic violence cases submitted to our office. Domestic violence cases are among the most difficult to prosecute and require specialty trained prosecutors. Special areas for the HCCDA include; 1) exposure of children to domestic violence 2) reduction of the number of affidavits of non-prosecution filed by victims 3) increased participation by the victim in the criminal justice process 4) lack of physical evidence during the investigation of a crime by law enforcement, 5) the change in the viewpoints of the community about domestic violence victims and 6) decreased victim blaming while holding perpetrators accountable. The assigned specialty prosecutor assesses the program through input from police, victims, and other members of the DVU. The prosecutor also determines how many of the domestic violence referrals lead to indictments by the Grand Jury for prosecution in Hidalgo County District Courts. The prosecutor serves all cities, municipalities and unincorporated areas in Hidalgo County, Texas. The services target victims of domestic violence while focusing on keeping said victims safe and holding perpetrators accountable.

Problem Statement :

In domestic violence cases, the victim and defendant share a common relationship which poses a serious barrier to successful prosecution. Victims often recant or refuse to testify about the crime due to fear or a state of denial. This is one of the reasons why these cases continue to be extremely difficult to successfully prosecute. Many jurors may be less likely to believe or be sympathetic to a victim of domestic violence who recants or returns to the abuser. Due to the difficulties in prosecution and the unique circumstances that exist in the lives of domestic violence victims, law enforcement and prosecutors need to be specially trained to ensure the safety of both the victim and the community. One of the areas of focus of the Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office (HCCDA) is the safety of children that are exposed to domestic violence at home. This HCCDA has implemented a safety planning program that follows guidelines found in the Evidence-Based Practices for Children Exposed to Violence of the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. These guidelines use a set of key principles to address children's exposure to domestic violence such as safety focused victim services, culturally appropriate victim services, and referrals to community-based agencies for children. The HCCDA understands that in cases of domestic violence ensuring the safety of the victim and their children is paramount. The Safety Planning program is tailored to ensure that every domestic violence victim that comes to our office to submit an Affidavit of Non-Prosecution (ANP) must meet in person with a Victim Advocate. The advocates inform victims about resources available to them and discuss a Safety Plan with them in a language they can read and understand. If the victim states that he/she wishes to continue with the ANP process, he/she is advised that the case will still be reviewed by the Domestic Violence Specialty Prosecutor (DVSP) and that the outcome of the case is not the victim's responsibility. Furthermore, victims are provided assistance in applying for a protective order if needed. The advocates will educate them on the criminal justice process and explain that the HCCDA is prosecuting a violation of the law and that the defendant will be held accountable. The primary goal of the HCCDA is to ensure victim safety. The DVSP Assistant District Attorney works with all the DVU staff to ensure this concern is always addressed.

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. The Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office Victims Unit & Domestic Violence Unit staff provided victim services to 15,283 victims of crime in 2022. Out of the 15,283 victims served 9,360 were victims of domestic violence. This constitutes that 61% of victims served in our office were victims of family violence. From January to December of 2022 there were 7,804 family violence incidents reported to law enforcement agencies in Hidalgo County. This constitutes a 24% increase from FY 2021 (5,876 FV Incidents Reported) According to the Texas Crime Report of 2021 of the Texas Department of Public Safety there were a total of 423 Sexual Assaults, 30 Murders, 247 Robberies, and 1,770 Assaults reported in Hidalgo County. 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 218,250 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 Domestic Violence Specialty Prosecutor (DVSP) reviews, investigates, and prosecutes cases of family violence, stalking, dating violence, trafficking and sexual assault. Victim Advocates, which are paid through another funding source, provide victims information on available resources, provide referrals, provide a Safety plan, translation services, and assist them through the judicial process. The Domestic Violence Unit staff interacts with other community-based organizations, including the local domestic violence shelter, and the Hidalgo County Family Violence Task Force. The DVU staff also coordinates community responses to domestic violence and work directly with victims throughout the criminal justice process to help ensure victims' rights are afforded and the victims' voice is heard in court proceedings. The Specialty Investigator, who is also paid through another funding source, works with local law enforcement agencies to provide guidance, training and develop victim centered responses to domestic violence incidents. The advocates are also responsible for referring victims to community-based agencies. The investigator works closely with the HCCDA Victims Unit to ensure that victims receive a Safety Plan, protective order assistance and other victim services. Together this will ensure that the prosecution process and the rights of victims are effectively met.

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. 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 oversees the Domestic Violence Unit and ensures that the grant monies are adequately expended and budgeted properly. HCCDA also 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 Domestic Violence Specialty Prosecutor must maintain a current law license with the State of Texas and have a minimum of 3 years of prosecutorial experience in domestic violence cases. The DVSP Assistant District Attorney attends continuous specialized education on domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, trafficking and crimes against women.

Performance Management :

The Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney's Office (HCCDA) has developed a victim centered approach to address the prosecution and victim services for domestic violence cases submitted to our office. Domestic violence cases are among the most difficult to prosecute and require specialty trained prosecutors. Special areas for the HCCDA include; 1) exposure of children to domestic violence 2) reduction of the number of affidavits of non-prosecution filed by victims 3) increased participation by the victim in the criminal justice process 4) lack of physical evidence during the investigation of a crime by law enforcement 5) change in the viewpoints of the community about domestic violence victims and 6) decreased victim blaming while holding perpetrators accountable. The assigned specialty prosecutor will assess the program through input from police, victims, and other members of the DVU. The prosecutor also determines how many of the domestic violence referrals lead to indictments by the Grand Jury for prosecution in Hidalgo County District Courts. The prosecutor serves all cities, municipalities and unincorporated areas in Hidalgo County, Texas. The services will target victims of domestic violence while focusing on keeping said victims safe and holding perpetrators accountable. The objectives are to provide victim advocacy through victim education on victims' rights, victim impact statements, the prosecution process, restitution, post sentence services, safety planning, and community organizational services and provide assistance to victims in obtaining protective orders. This will allow them to leave abusive relationships and live a life free of violence. The DVSP will perform targeted prosecution and case reviews for domestic violence cases. He/she will also provide training to law enforcement officers to improve the physical evidence collection which will aid the prosecution of domestic violence cases. This program's success will be measured by a service evaluation that will be filled out by victims that have been serviced by HCCDA. The service evaluation will measure the effectiveness of the services offered. This will allow HCCDA to understand if the information being provided to the victim is effective at addressing the needs of the victim. In addition, HCCDA will use the VS Tracking data system to have accurate data collection and track the number of victims to which services are being provided. This will allow HCCDA to determine what type of service is being requested most frequently so that the HCCDA can adjust accordingly to fulfill those needs. All training will also require a training evaluation to measure the success and learning objectives for attendees.

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 93.7% Hispanic population of which 23.9 % of the population live in poverty. The HCCDA will serve crime victims of all age groups, all genders, 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 Care and Division Texas Crime Victim Clearinghouse, in accordance with the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure Article 55A.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 56 - 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.

Violence Against Women Justice and Training Program

In the space below, briefly explain how your project will address one or more of the state priority areas listed below:

- a) Law Enforcement
 - Victim-Centered/Trauma-Informed Training
 - Regional Sexual Assault Response Teams: Law Enforcement participation
 - Specialized Investigators/Units
 - Coordination between Law Enforcement and Victim Service Providers
- b) Prosecution
 - Victim-Centered/Trauma-Informed Training
 - Regional Sexual Assault Response Teams: Prosecution participation
 - Specialized Prosecutors/Units
- c) Victim Services
 - Trauma-Informed, Professional Mental Health Therapy and Counseling
 - Address Rural Needs
 - Transportation and Emergency Housing
 - Implementation of Telehealth/Tele-Advocacy Technology
 - Language access plans
 - Victim-Centered/Trauma-Informed Training
- d) Courts
 - Legal Advocacy (protective order assistance, legal rights & options, court accompaniment, etc.)
 - Access to Court Hearings

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
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Custom Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Budget Details Information

Budget Information by Budget Line Item:

CATEGORY	FEB CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	GPI	TOTAL	UNIT/%
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You are logged in as **User Name:** HidalgoCoDA

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Agency Name: Hidalgo County

Grant/App: 2931310 **Start Date:** 9/1/2024 **End Date:** 8/31/2025

Project Title: Domestic Violence Specialty Prosecutor

Status: Application Pending Submission

Source of Match Information

Detail Source of Match/GPI:

DESCRIPTION	MATCH TYPE	AMOUNT
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Summary Source of Match/GPI:

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

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

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Agency Name: Hidalgo County
Grant/App: 2931310 **Start Date:** 9/1/2024 **End Date:** 8/31/2025

Project Title: Domestic Violence Specialty Prosecutor
Status: Application Pending Submission

Budget Summary Information

Budget Summary Information by Budget Category:

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

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

[Print This Page](#)**Agency Name:** Hidalgo County**Grant/App:** 2931310 **Start Date:** 9/1/2024 **End Date:** 8/31/2025**Project Title:** Domestic Violence Specialty Prosecutor**Status:** Application Pending Submission

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:

Certification of Recipient Highly Compensated Officers

The federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requires Prime Recipients (CJD) to report the names and compensation of each of the five most highly compensated officers (a.k.a. positions) of each subrecipient 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 subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, did the subrecipient receive: (1) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenue from Federal contracts (and subgrants) and (2) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenue from Federal contracts (and subgrants) and cooperative agreements; AND (3) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenue from Federal contracts (and subgrants) and cooperative agreements; AND (4) grants (and subgrants) and cooperative agreements?

Do the subrecipient's officers have access to information about the compensation of the senior executives through periodic reports filed with the SEC under Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or Section 101 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986?

If you answered **YES** to the **FIRST** statement and **NO** to the **SECOND** statement, please provide the name and title of each of the five most highly compensated officers (a.k.a. positions) within your organization for the current calendar year. If you answered **NO** to the first statement you are NOT required to provide the names and titles of the five most highly compensated officers. NOTE: "Total compensation" means the complete pay package of each of the five most highly compensated officers, including all forms of money, benefits, services, and in-kind payments. See 17 CFR 229.402 for regulations.

- Position 1 - Name: _____ Compensation (\$): _____
- Position 2 - Name: _____ Compensation (\$): _____
- Position 3 - Name: _____ Compensation (\$): _____
- Position 4 - Name: _____ Compensation (\$): _____
- Position 5 - Name: _____ Compensation (\$): _____

Your Name: _____ User Name: HidalgoCDA

(General Information and Instructions)

Empty rectangular input field.

Agency Type

Implementing Agency Type - (Government)

Which of the following best describes your agency (select only one):

Corrections

Court Services

Juvenile Services

Law Enforcement

Probation

Other (describe below)

If other, please describe below:

Large empty rectangular input area for agency type selection and description.

Proposed

Current

Former

Former

Former

Former

Former

Re-funded victim project funded in a previous year
Have an existing project not funded by OOG in the previous year
Former victim services project
Former Native American victim services project
Former Native American project

Form area for project funding status selection.

Target

Target

Target

Target

Target

Target

Target

Target

Target

Target

Target Distribution

Funding dedicated to each type of victimization. The percentages provided below should not include relative total for all types of victimization. The percentages must equal 100%.

Percent of Funds Dedicated to Crime
Funds Dedicated to Crime
Enter whole percentages only
Current Award x Percent Entered

Domestic Violence	0	\$0.00
Sexual Assault	0	\$0.00
Child Abuse	0	\$0.00
Elder Abuse	0	\$0.00
Human Trafficking	0	\$0.00
Stalking	0	\$0.00
Other	0	\$0.00

Form area for funding distribution percentages.

<p>Enter the amount of funding for this program.</p> <p>SUM of Funds <i>Sum of Funds MUST = OOG Current Budget</i> \$0.00</p>	<p>100%⁰</p>
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Use of funds:

Enter the amount of funding to provide **DIRECT SERVICES** to victims:

Types of victimizations:

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

Type of victimization

Adult sexual assault

Adult physically abused/assaulted as children

Adult family violence

Adult intimate partner sex

Adult partner violence

Child sexual victimization

Other

Provide a brief explanation: _____

Agency budget:

Enter the total amount of funding available to your agency below based on your current fiscal year. Report the total budget available to the victim services funding. Do not report the entire agency budget, unless the entire budget is devoted to victim services funding.

Agency budget for victimization programs and/or services:

Enter the amount of funds allocated to all victimization programs and/or services for the current fiscal year:

Agency budget for victimization program/services:

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

DO NOT CHECK MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY. OTHER FEDERAL includes all federal funding except the award amount.

Other Federal: \$0.00

Other State: \$0.00

Other Local: \$0.00

Other: \$0.00

Other Funds: \$0.00

Program Budget: \$0.00

Total 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

Total staff: 0

Number of hours funded through THIS grant award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs and/or services: Count all hours to work by all staff supporting the work of this award, including match.

Total hours: 0

Number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs: Count each volunteer staff member once. DO NOT prorate based on FTE.

Total volunteer staff: 0

Number of hours supporting the work of this award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs: Count all hours to work by all volunteers supporting the work of the award, including match.

Total volunteer hours: 0