Technical Overview

- Participants will remain on mute throughout the session. If you have questions, please type them in the Q&A pod.

- Today’s session will be recorded and made available on the OVC TTAC Web site.

- If you have technical difficulties during the webinar, please contact Jason Adams at jadams@ovc_ttac.org.
Overview of Adobe

Nothing is being shared.
Facilitator

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Presenter

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Ohio Attorney General's Office
Crime Victim Section
Poll One

What is your involvement with VOCA?
The Impact of VOCA

31 Years of History

30 Years: Restoring the Balance of Justice
VOCA and Elder Victims
Improving Our Response
VOCA and Elder Victims

What We Know…
There is Much at Risk
Human and Economic Costs

Economic losses for the victim and others

Reliance on publicly funded programs

Unnecessary illness and injury

Premature risk of death
Poll Two

How often do you serve elder abuse victims?
VOCA in Plain Language
42 U.S. Code Chapter 112

Established in 1984

Created the Crime Victims Fund

Major funding source for victims

Financed by convicted federal offenders
VOCA in Plain Language

Crime Victim Compensation Program

• Direct reimbursement to or on behalf of a crime victim

• Statutorily identified crime-related expenses:
  – Medical costs
  – Funeral and burial costs
  – Mental health counseling
  – Lost wages or loss of support
VOCA in Plain Language

Victim Assistance

• Funds awarded to local organizations that provide services directly to victims of crime

• Victim assistance includes:
  – Crisis intervention
  – Emergency shelter
  – Emergency transportation
  – Counseling
  – Criminal justice advocacy
Allocating VOCA Funds
Understanding the Numbers
Allocating VOCA Funds

Understanding the Numbers

• Congress establishes an annual funding cap

• Allocations are made
  – Children’s Justice Act
  – U.S. Attorneys’ Offices
  – Federal Bureau of Investigation
  – Federal Victim Notification System
  – Office for Victims of Crime
  – State compensation formula grants
  – State victim assistance grants
Allocating VOCA Funds
More Funds Available

• December 16, 2014, President Obama signed into law the “Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015”

• VOCA cap raised from $745 million to $2.361 billion
Allocating VOCA Funds
Crime Victim Compensation Program

• Every state administers a CVC program

• Each state CVC program receives an annual grant equal to 60% of what the program spends in state money annually
  – Calculation is based on the state dollars paid out for the federal fiscal year 2 years prior to federal grant
Allocating VOCA Funds
Victim Assistance

• All states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico receive an annual grant with a base amount of $500,000
  – Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and American Samoa receive a base amount of $200,000

• Additional funds are distributed to states and territories based on population
Allocating VOCA Funds
Administrative and Training Costs

• No more than 5% of each year’s grant can be used for administration and training
  – Compensation
  – Victim Assistance
Poll Three

How can VOCA assist a victim of elder financial exploitation?
Did You Know…?
VOCA Program Guidelines

Victims of financial exploitation are eligible for counseling, criminal justice advocacy, and other support services.
Did You Know…?
VOCA Program Guidelines

Emergency, short-term nursing home shelter for elder abuse victims for whom no other safe, short-term residence is available is an allowable cost for VOCA subrecipients
Did You Know…?
VOCA Program Guidelines

Training on crime victim issues to aging and adult protective service providers can be supported with VOCA victim assistance administrative funds.
Did You Know…?
VOCA Program Guidelines

Adult protective service agencies are eligible to receive VOCA victim assistance funds to expand or enhance the delivery of crime victim services.
Ideas Anyone?
Steps to Bridging the Gap
Poll Four

List one way to bridge the gap between elder justice professionals and VOCA administrators.
Strategic Approach
Steps to Bridging the Gap

Identify
• Areas of higher need
• Opportunities within VOCA guidelines

Connect
• With state VOCA administrator to discuss findings
• With service providers to survey what’s available

Assist
• By promoting collaboration
• By building capacity to service elder victims
Ohio Attorney General’s Elder Justice Initiative

Protecting Ohio’s Families

1-800-282-0515

Enhancing Access to Criminal Justice Services for Elder Abuse Victims
Questions?