

A Message from
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL
KWAME RAOUL



The Attorney General's Office helps victims of violent crime navigate the inevitable challenges that can compound the impact of a crime.

The organizations funded through our Violent Crime Victim Assistance (VCVA) Fund provide services that can be a lifeline for crime victims throughout our state. The grant funding to community organizations provides essential support for the work of front-line service agencies.

Violent crime is not bound by county lines or income brackets—it has the potential to affect anyone. It is crucial that all victims who seek assistance from our programs are treated with the understanding that there is no hierarchy of hurt. Advocates must all remain anchored in a victim-centered approach that recognizes the underlying, long-term impact of trauma.

We are here to support and help the organizations that work to help victims heal and move toward restoration. Please contact the Attorney General's Office to determine if your agency is eligible for this funding program.

Sincerely,

Kwame Raoul
Illinois Attorney General



KWAME RAOUL
ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL

Crime Victim Services Division
Office of the Attorney General
115 South LaSalle Street
Chicago, IL 60603

For More Information Contact:
Sharon Dehn
Director, VCVA/AVN
Sharon.dehn@ilag.gov

**Crime Victim Services Division
Main Page**
[https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/Safer-Communities/
Supporting-Victims-of-Crime/](https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/Safer-Communities/Supporting-Victims-of-Crime/)

Crime Victims Assistance Line
1-800-228-3368
Individuals with hearing or speech disabilities can reach us by using the 7-1-1 relay service.

**More information is available on the
Attorney General's website:**
[https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/safer-communities/
supporting-victims-of-crime/violent-crime-vcva/](https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/safer-communities/supporting-victims-of-crime/violent-crime-vcva/)

www.IllinoisAttorneyGeneral.gov

**VIOLENT CRIME
VICTIM ASSISTANCE
(VCVA)
GRANT PROGRAM**



Violent Crime Victim Assistance (VCVA) Grant Program

The VCVA Grant Program provides funding to organizations, government entities and non-profit institutions to:

- Promote recognition of the rights, needs, and interests of crime victims.
- Provide victims with access to programs that supply needed information, assistance, and advocacy.
- Educate the public about victims' services.
- Ensure that victims' service agencies provide quality services.

The VCVA Grant Program supports the following types of victim services programs:

- *Bias Violence*
- *Child Advocacy Centers*
- *Court Appointed Special Advocate*
- *Child Victimization*
- *Community Violence*
- *Domestic Violence*
- *DUI*
- *Elder Abuse*
- *Homicide Survivor*
- *Hospital Based*
- *Police Based*
- *Prosecution*
- *Sexual Assault*
- *Training and Technical Assistance*
- *Therapy*
- *Violence Prevention*

Eligibility

According to 725 ILCS 240/7: Any public or private nonprofit agency may apply to the Attorney General for selection and funding as a victim and witness assistance center.

A private non-profit agency that provides, operates or coordinates a victim and witness assistance program, **IF** it has a tax exempt ruling from the Internal Revenue Service under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (26 USC 501(c)(3)), **AND**

is compliant with the Charitable Trust Act and the Solicitation for Charity Act OR is exempt from these Acts.

Allowable Expenses

- Salaries and fringe benefits for grantee employees.
- Contractual services.
- Equipment that is rented or leased for program use.
- General office expenses.
- Travel expenses and transportation costs for staff and clients.
- Printed or promotional materials used for informational purposes or to publicize the program.

Application Requirements

- Description of organization, mission/vision, services.
- Description of existing needs of the community to be served.
- Description of services to be provided with grant funding.
- A request for a specific dollar amount, with detailed budget showing income and expenses.
- Detail of all funding sources, including in-kind contributions, and the amount provided for the prior fiscal year.
- Three letters of support specific to the program for which funding is requested stating the interaction with the program and is dated no more than six months before the date of the application.

Required Certifications

Every agency must certify that they have the following items currently in place or are in the process of implementing written policies, or that the requirement does not apply:

1. Reasonable accommodation policy for persons with disabilities.
2. Drug-free workplace policies as required by law.
3. Non-discrimination policies.
4. Client intake protocols.
5. Client rights statement.
6. Volunteer training (if volunteers are utilized).
7. Personnel policies and procedures.
8. Conflict of interest rules.
9. A fee schedule with details of charges for specific services (if applicable).

How to Apply

- Applications are available on the Attorney General's website: <https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/safer-communities/supporting-victims-of-crime/violent-crime-vcva/>
- Submit all applications on-line.
- Grant year is the same as the State fiscal year: July 1 - June 30.
- Application due date is always the first Friday of February before the grant year begins.