



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: *September 16, 2025*

DATE: Thursday, September 11, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Ryan Gustafson, Director, Human Services Agency
(775) 785-8600, rgustafson@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Kate Thomas, County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept an FY26 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) subgrant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$415,000.00; \$103,750.00 county match, including up to \$30,000.00 for participant gift cards] retroactive for the period of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 to support victim services including emergency assistance to include housing assistance, locksmith services, non-county travel, case management, mental health services, gift cards for groceries and relocation fuel and food; authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the sub-grant agreement and related documents; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts.) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Recommendation to accept an FY26 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) subgrant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$415,000.00; \$103,750.00 county match, including up to \$30,000.00 for participant gift cards] retroactive for the period of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 to support victim services including emergency assistance to include housing assistance, locksmith services, non-county travel, case management, mental health services, gift cards for groceries and relocation fuel and food; authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the sub-grant agreement and related documents; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Vulnerable Populations

PREVIOUS ACTION

On September 17, 2024, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #9.C.1 accepting a FY25 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) sub-grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$518,882; \$129,721 retroactive for the period of July 1, 2024 to July 31, 2025.

On September 12, 2023, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #15 accepting a FY24 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) sub-grant award from the State of

AGENDA ITEM # _____

Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$517,033; no county match] retroactive for the period of July 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024.

On July 19, 2022, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #10 accepting a FY23 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) sub-grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$879,493; no county match] retroactive for the period of July 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023.

On September 14, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners approved item #15 accepting a FY22 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) sub-grant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$951,057; \$237,765 County match] retroactive for the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022; authorizing the creation of a full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) Human Services Worker III position with a fiscal impact of [\$127,627], and reclassifying existing position 70009676 from a Victim Witness Advocate (pay grade JJ) to a Human Services Case Worker III (pay grade NN) with a fiscal impact of [\$9,254].

The Board has routinely accepted VOCA funds since October 2005.

BACKGROUND

A Federal Child and Family Services Review in 2004 found a lack of understanding for the impact of violence on children and families. In response to this critical area of need, the Department received permission from Finance in 2005 to apply for VOCA grant funds to provide direct services to children and their non-offending parents and siblings.

The primary purpose of VOCA is to support the provision of services to victims of crime throughout the nation. According to the VOCA program guidelines, services are defined as those efforts that (1) respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims; (2) assist primary and secondary victims of crime to stabilize their lives after victimization; (3) help victims understand and participate in the criminal justice system; and (4) provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security. The VOCA crime assistance grant program defines a crime victim as a person who has suffered physical, sexual, financial, or emotional harm as a result of a crime. This grant award may provide services and assistance to any type of crime victim and is no longer limited to those victims of domestic violence as previous awards. The FY26 funding opportunity has a focus on child abuse, sexual assault, domestic violence, and underserved victim populations.

Non-County Travel and gift cards for fuel and other basic needs are sometimes required to allow the family to quickly flee from the violent situation. Additionally, the grantor requires all groceries purchased with a gift card.

A key initiative to the successful implementation of the grant goals is to enhance victim services available to child, adult, homeless, and senior victims in Washoe County. The FY26 goals for the VOCA subgrant are as follows:

- Provide advocacy, immediate crisis intervention, emergency financial assistance, and support for child victims and their non-offending parent or caregiver, victims

of domestic violence, victims of sexual assault, homeless victims of crime, elderly victims, and expand services to adult survivors of child sexual abuse and incest.

- Provide access to mental health services for child victims.
- Provide targeted services for child victims of sexual abuse and commercial sexual abuse exploitation.
- Maintain a robust data collection system for victims of crimes.

The Agency received the Notice of Subaward for this subgrant on August 6, 2025 with an effective date of July 1, 2025; therefore, the request to accept this award is retroactive.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Program

Scope of the Project: VOCA funding will enhance the Human Services Agency's ability to provide services and assistance to residents including children, adults, and seniors who are victims of child abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, exploitation, and other crimes by providing an array of support for shelter, nutrition, case management, crisis intervention, medical and legal services, counseling, and other supportive services.

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: VOCA funding will be used to serve Washoe County residents across the continuum of care to include children, adults, and seniors who are victims of crimes.

On-Going Program Support: VOCA funds have been received annually. The funding serves as an enhancement to ongoing efforts.

Award Amount: \$415,000.00 (**\$415,000.00 direct/no indirect**)

Grant Period: July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs
Office for Victims of Crime

Pass Through Entity: State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Child and Family Services

Assistance Listing #/CFDA: 16.575

Grant ID Number: 16575-23-151

Match Amount and Type: \$103,750.00 cash match

Sub-Awards and Contracts: The Human Services Agency may contract with one or more vendors in the implementation of this program. All contracts will align with the County's procurement policies as well as federal grant procurement guidelines as defined in 2 CFR 200—Uniform Guidance.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and accept these amendments, Human Services Agency's Child Protective Services Fund (228) FY26 adopted budget will be increased by \$415,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

<u>Account Number</u>		<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount of Increase/(Decrease)</u>
IO 12574	-431100	Federal Grants	\$ 415,000.00
		Total Revenue	\$ 415,000.00
IO 12574	-710100	Professional Services	\$ 23,000.00
	-711210	Travel	\$ 23,205.00
	-710300	Operating Supplies	\$ 5,000.00
	-710313	Gift Cards	\$ 30,000.00
	-710509	Seminars & Meetings	\$ 14,214.00
	-710529	Dues	\$ 100.00
	-710210	Software Maintenance	\$ 4,000.00
	-710212	Software Subscription	\$ 22,932.50
	-710729	Mental Health Assess	\$ 70,000.00
	-710312	Special Dept Expense	\$ 8,000.00
	-710563	Recruitment	\$ 25,000.00
	-710577	Uniforms & Special C	\$ 5,000.00
	-710712	Family Preservation	\$ 15,000.00
	-711213	Travel – Non-County	\$ 12,000.00
	-710734	Residence Assistance	\$ 157,548.50
		Total Expenditures	\$ 415,000.00

This award includes a cash match of \$103,775.00. The expenditures to meet this match requirement will be posted to IO 60440.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation to accept an FY26 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) subgrant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$415,000.00; \$103,750.00 county match, including up to \$30,000.00 for participant gift cards] retroactive for the period of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 to support victim services including emergency assistance to include housing assistance, locksmith services, non-county travel, case management, mental health services, gift cards for groceries and relocation fuel and food; authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the sub-grant agreement and related documents; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: *"to accept an FY26 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) subgrant award from the State of Nevada, Division of Child and Family Services in the amount of [\$415,000.00; \$103,750.00 county match, including up to \$30,000.00 for participant gift cards] retroactive for the*

period of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 to support victim services including emergency assistance to include housing assistance, locksmith services, non-county travel, case management, mental health services, gift cards for groceries and relocation fuel and food; authorize the Director of Human Services Agency to retroactively execute the sub-grant agreement and related documents; and direct Finance to make the necessary budget amendments.”