

GMU Newsletter



NEW HAMPSHIRE
Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General

March 2019

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Inaugural Newsletter

The New Hampshire Department of Justice Grants Management Unit (GMU) is excited to start issuing a monthly newsletter to all subgrantees in an effort to forge stronger communication about key information relating to the grants that are managed from this office. As this is the very first newsletter we are very eager to hear your feedback, good or bad, on how to make it a useful document. We all have busy schedules so our intent is to make sure that we do not inundate you with information that you don't find necessary.

In this newsletter we have included several pieces of information that we feel will be useful. Also, in this first newsletter and subsequent newsletters, we will have an area to showcase projects or initiatives that our subrecipients are engaged in. If you would like your agency to be showcased please let us know!

Victim Survey

The NH Attorney General's Office is conducting a statewide needs assessment. The purpose of the assessment is to identify any gaps in services for victims of crime in New Hampshire. Surveys are available for victims of crime and for stakeholders that work with victims of crime in any capacity. The surveys are available at NHCrimeSurvey.com



NEW HAMPSHIRE'S STATEWIDE VICTIM'S NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2019
SURVEY OF CRIME VICTIMS/FAMILY MEMBERS

WWW.NHCRIMESURVEY.COM

WHAT

This is a statewide survey conducted by Market Decisions Research, an independent research firm, on behalf of the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office.

WHO

We are looking for feedback from people who have had victim experiences and/or got services in New Hampshire only. Participants should be 18+ to complete the survey, however a parent/guardian can complete on behalf of a minor child.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT:**

WHY

The purpose is to gain a better understanding of the needs of victims of crime and the services they did or did not receive. The information gathered will help other victims in the future.

HOW

You can access the survey online at www.NHCrimeSurvey.com. The survey is voluntary and answers are confidential and anonymous. The survey is also available in a paper version and in multiple languages.

Lindsay Gannon
lgannon@marketdecisions.com
207-767-6440, ext. 149

The Grants Management Unit (GMU) of the Department of Justice exists to make a difference in the lives of the citizens of New Hampshire by ensuring the proper use of federal funds for criminal justice purposes.

Did You Know?

U.S DOJ is starting to require grant recipients to have a Personally Identifiable Identification (PII) procedure in place in the event that an actual or imminent breach of the information has occurred. Check your special conditions on your most recent contract to see if you are subject to this requirement, or contact your assigned grant manager to discuss.

Don't Forget!

Charges made to Federal awards for salaries, wages, and fringe benefits must be based on records that accurately reflect the work performed and comply with established policies of your organization.

VOCA

VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) is used to support organizations providing direct services to victims of crime. The VOCA grant program identifies sexual assault, domestic violence, and child abuse as core services programs to be given priority. This priority status requires that each of these areas receives a minimum of ten percent of the total VOCA State victims' assistance award. The New Hampshire Department of Justice is further required to award ten percent of the total State grant award to provide services to previously underserved populations of victims of crime. These services include personal advocacy, emergency shelter, safety planning, support groups, transportation and material goods, courtroom advocacy, and many other life-changing and life-saving services. The VOCA Fund is comprised wholly of criminal fines, penalties, and forfeitures; there are no taxpayer dollars in the VOCA Fund.

Byrne JAG

This grant has been awarded to the State of New Hampshire for over twenty years and is used to fund the Attorney General's Drug Task Force (DTF). The DTF has been a main staple for the State of New Hampshire having started back in the early 1990's. Currently, there are seventeen officers from federal, state, local and county law enforcement agencies that work in an undercover capacity and are assigned to one of the four DTF regional teams.

Requirements for the FY 2019 Byrne JAG grant includes a Strategic Plan that will envision the next five years. A steering committee made up of stakeholders selected by the Attorney General from Law Enforcement, Corrections, Parole & Probation, Reentry Services, Public Defenders and the Courts will act as an advisory panel envisioning the future of the state. The stakeholders chosen have met monthly with the purpose of having a written plan by May 2019. We look forward to sharing the plan once it is approved.

VAWA

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant has been assisting the State of New Hampshire in providing needed support to victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking for over two decades. Funds have been distributed throughout the state to a variety of programs, including, but not limited to: 1) It has provided our Law Enforcement with the tools to respond to and investigate incidences of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking with diligence within their respective jurisdictions to not only support our victims through trying times but to insure that evidence is being collected and provided for prosecution with validity. 2) Funds help support specific prosecutorial attorneys throughout the state with training and knowledge to increase functional collaboration with law enforcement entities like Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence investigators, Sexual Assault Response Teams and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners while understanding the challenges to successfully prosecuting cases with allegations of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. 3) The VAWA grants supports victim advocate programs within local police agencies, county agencies, state agencies and with nonprofit organizations; particularly trained in assisting victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. These victim advocates play an imperative role in guiding victims through our Criminal Justice System and introducing them to an array of community based services. Most importantly, assisting victims in their healing process with technical guidance and direct services.

Subrecipient Spotlight

Onsite Monitoring

Many of you have already experienced an onsite monitoring conducted by this office. If you haven't, then you will in the very near future. Federal requirements dictate that we must monitor programs that we provide subgrants to.

While each grant has specific guidelines as to the frequency that those monitorings should occur, in an effort to remain consistent we are trying to monitor each program once every two years, onsite.

Constant contact between your assigned grant manager will also be maintained.

It is important to note that an onsite monitoring is not an audit, nor is it a reason for worry. The purpose of our visit is to ensure that if an audit were to occur, that the program is ready for it. It also gives us the opportunity to meet you, hear about all of your successes, and to provide any technical assistance that you or your program may need.

We strive to make the experience as stress-free as we can.



With support from the New Hampshire Department of Justice and other contributors, the Greater Lakes Child Advocacy Center (GLCAC) completed a large scale renovation project and created, for the first time in New Hampshire, an Expanded Services Model Child Advocacy Center in Laconia, NH. The remodeled GLCAC houses the existing forensic interviewing services for child abuse investigations lead by multidisciplinary teams in Belknap County, but also includes a health service center. This health service center of the GLCAC includes a medical examination room for specialized medical evaluations, counseling rooms for mental health assessments and evidence based treatments, and a training classroom for the Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examination (Pedi-SANE) Program.



For the two hundred brave children and families who visit the GLCAC each year, all healing services are under one child and family welcoming and highly confidential roof. No more visits to outpatient clinics or hospitals for non-acute specialized medical evaluations or navigating an overburdened mental health system for assessment and treatment for their trauma. All healing services under one roof with our medical and mental health partners to help children Heal, Survive and Thrive!

Please join us and the Granite State Children's Alliance for the Greater Lakes Child Advocacy Center Ribbon Cutting Celebration on Wednesday, April 10th 2019 from 5:30pm to 8pm (formal ceremony at 6:30pm). GLCAC is located at 95 Water Street in Laconia, NH.



Contact Information

Tom Kaempfer	GMU Administrator	(603) 271-8090	Thomas.Kaempfer@doj.nh.gov
Melanie Barker	Accountant	(603) 271-1224	Melanie.Barker@doj.nh.gov
Johanna Houman	Grant Manager	(603) 271-7820	Johanna.Houman@doj.nh.gov
Tanya Pitman	Grant Manager	(603) 271-1261	Tanya.Pitman@doj.nh.gov
Rene St. George	Grant Manager	(603) 271-8473	Rene.StGeorge@doj.nh.gov
Travis Teeboom	Grant Manager	(603) 271-8091	Travis.Teeboom@doj.nh.gov