

NEVADA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
2014-2015 Washoe County Pilot STOP/SASP Program Sub-Grant Application

Part 1 - TITLE PAGE

Agency : Sparks Police Department
(Enter the full legal name of the applicant.)

Project Title: Victim Advocate
(Enter a brief, descriptive title, e.g. Law Enforcement Training: Sexual Assault Investigations.)

Project Jurisdiction: **WASHOE COUNTY:**
(Add the community/geo-political area of project impact, i.e. city, tribal, judicial district, etc.)

Service Area: (check all applicable)

- Urban/Suburban
- Rural/Frontier
- Northern Nevada

State Priorities: (Check all applicable)

- Local/regional collaborative approaches
- Core victim services (Crisis Intervention/Referral/Shelter)
- Advocacy (community-based, system-based)
- Area with limited availability of services
- Training (law enforcement, prosecutors, victim services, courts)
- Linguistically/Culturally Underserved Populations
- Data Collection project

Federal Purpose Areas

STOP Number(s) # 3,5,7,9,10,11,19

SASP Number(s)# _____

(Include all applicable Purpose Areas being addressed in this application)

Source of Funds	Totals	*Describe Match Type/Source, if any
Grant Funds	\$46,369	<i>Cash match sourced from the General Fund.</i>
Match Funds*	\$15,457	
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET (all funds)	\$ 61,826	

Contact Info	Project Director	Fiscal Officer
Name	Karl Nieberlein	Rick Parton
Title/Position	Grant Administrator	Accountant
Mailing Address	1701 E. Prater Way	431 Prater Way
City, State & Zip	Sparks, NV 89434	Sparks, NV 89431
Telephone	775-353-2223	775-353-7486
Fax		
E-Mail	knieberlein@cityofsparks.us	rparton@cityofsparks.us
DUNS	030950187	SAM exp 1-5-2016
Signature/Date	X:	X:

Part 2 – ABSTRACT

Abstract

The Sparks Police Department will hire, train and engage a Victim Advocate to enhance our mission of Honor-Pride-Privilege. It is our goal to provide services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. The Sparks Police Department will enhance the services offered to victims of crime and collaborate with local agencies such as the Reno Police Department Victim Services Unit, Safe Embrace and the Crisis Call Center. The Victim Advocate will receive comprehensive training so that they may provide the best services and support to victims of intimate partner violence. These funds will help to pay for the salary of one full time victim advocate.

Part 3 - PROJECT NARRATIVE

Statement of Need:

A. The Sparks community has been deeply injured by the number of violent crimes in the community. The nature of the crimes has become more violent creating a need for direct victim services. Domestic violence is a crime that impacts the Spark's community and families on a daily basis. Between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014, the Sparks Police Department (SPD) responded to the following calls for service: 1,040 domestic battery cases, 1,568 domestic disturbance cases, 180 temporary protection order calls, 142 sexual assault/rape calls, 45 lewdness calls, 29 stalking calls and 2 homicides. Sparks Police Department (SPD) currently has one full time Victim Advocate that serves all victims of violent crime and there is a need for one more Advocate to attend to the needs of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. The funding available from the Violence Against Women Grant will help to pay for the salary of one full time Victim Advocate. The SPD Victim Advocate will serve victims of violent crime including domestic violence, sexual abuse and stalking.

B. The City of Sparks is located on the eastern portion of Washoe County and SPD collaborates with other system based and nonprofit agencies that provide direct victim services in this community. Other agencies that provide direct victim services in this community include the City of Sparks City Attorney's Office, the Reno

Police Department Victim Services Unit (RPD VSU), the Washoe County Sheriff's Office, the Crisis Call Center, the Washoe County Victim Witness Assistance Center, the Committee to Aid Abused Women, Safe Embrace, Nevada Urban Indians and the Victims of Crime Treatment Center. The City Attorney Victim Advocate's primary focus is providing direct support to victims and witnesses who are participating in the courtroom process. The SPD Victim Advocate is able to provide immediate support and also encourage follow through when a victim transfers from the support of the SPD Victim Advocate to the City Attorney Victim Advocate. The two agencies communicate with each other regularly and provide an overall supportive structure as needed for victims of crime. It is essential that all of these agencies continue to work together to reach every victim of crime.

The RPD VSU provides victim services to all violent crimes. RPD VSU extends their services beyond victims of intimate partner violence and has discovered that the needs for victims of intimate partner violence are a priority in all of Washoe County. RPD VSU extends assistance to Sparks when the Victim Advocate is away at training, on annual leave or when a major incident occurs and multiple victims and witnesses need assistance. RPD VSU has created a volunteer base to provide telephonic advocacy for victims of intimate partner violence when police are on scene for after hours and weekend needs.

The Crisis Call Center provides services for victims of sexual assault and also has placed victim advocates directly within the Washoe County Sheriff's office. The Washoe County Sheriff's office has a part time advocate and a full time advocate working in the realm of intimate partner violence and sexual assault. The Crisis Call Center provides immediate and confidential support for victims of sexual assault while they are getting a forensic exam. The Crisis Call Center advocates have also been available as a backup for cases at the Child Advocacy Center when families are in need of support and referrals.

C. SPD currently has one full time Victim Advocate to serve the needs for all victims of violent crime. While the SPD Victim Advocate has enhanced the services provided to our community, SPD recognized a need to expand the Victim Advocate services to a Victim Services Unit. There is a need for one full time advocate to address the multiple domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking calls that patrol officers handle. Victims of violent crimes are often confused by the criminal justice system and are often unaware of the rights available to them. Much of the justice system is based around trying to ensure that the rights of the accused are protected. Victims of violent crime rely on a Victim Advocate to obtain assistance in getting protection orders, registering with the Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) and for applying for Victims of Crime Compensation Program assistance and for referrals to appropriate programs.

Each time a domestic violence call is reported by a victim, a family member, a friend, or a concerned neighbor an officer begins their investigation. The patrol officer is dispatched to the call and it is their first priority to assess the safety of the victim and possibly the apprehension of the suspect. Once the police officers have investigated and made a decision about what will happen with the case, it is essential that a Victim Advocate is able to step in and provide the emotional and practical support for the victim and their family. The Victim Advocate assesses the victim's short term needs and long terms goals with the victim.

With the addition of a Victim Advocate position, SPD would be able to provide more immediate and comprehensive services to victims of intimate partner violence. The Victim Advocate would be able to extend on the services and outreach that has been provided for the past seven years. The Victim Advocate would connect with local community and system based resources to provide a more streamlined approach for victims of crime. The core services for victims of crime and the resources available to them would improve.

D. The SPD Victim Advocate will serve victims in the City of Sparks, Washoe County Nevada jurisdiction. The Victim Advocate will assist victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Domestic violence related offenses include; domestic battery, temporary protection order (TPO) violations, destruction of property, harassment, interrupting a 911 telephone call and all other related offenses. While the target population involves any woman who is a victim of domestic violence, men are also impacted by domestic violence. The face of a domestic violence victim reaches beyond borders of gender, economics and ethnicity. Those often most vulnerable tend to be the elderly and those with disabilities and mental health issues. By working together with all local community resources, the hope is to provide the best resource possible to those in need of specialized assistance.

What Will Be Done

The 2014-2015 STOP/SASP Violence Against Women Grant Program funds will help to employ one full time Victim Advocate position at the Sparks Police Department. The Sparks Police Department will collaborate with the local partners in the Washoe County and Northern Nevada area to help create a professional, cohesive and knowledgeable Victim Advocate to serve survivors of intimate partner violence. The Victim Advocate will be hired within three months of the grant reward. The victim advocate will be trained by the seasoned Victim Advocate on their basic job tasks, will train with officers and investigators working directly with victims; and will also train with other law enforcement advocates, community based advocates and

appropriate coordinated programs within 3 months of hiring. The advocate will report directly to the Detective Commander.

The victim advocate will work in conjunction with local agencies such as the Crisis Call Center, Victims of Crime Program, Committee to Aid Abused Women, Safe Embrace, Child Protective Services, and all law enforcement agencies and prosecution agencies, to provide support to all adult and children who are victims of violence and the cycle of violence. The Victim Advocate will also work closely with the other victim advocates in the community such as Crisis Call Center’s Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS), RPD VSU, Washoe County Sheriff’s Office, City of Sparks City Attorneys office, City of Reno City Attorneys office, and the Washoe County District Attorney’s Office. With the joint efforts of this funded position, we will continue to provide consistent support to victims and their families from the time a referral is made to the time that assistance is no longer needed.

Once the victim advocate has been hired, training and incorporated into the community, the victim advocate will provide core services to victims of intimate partner violence. They will develop a rapport with the victim; inform them of their rights in the criminal justice system, help with safety planning and assist with short term and long term safety and community resource needs.

The Victim Advocate will have the following responsibilities. The victim advocate will work alongside police officers and provides support during the investigative stage of the criminal justice process. The victim advocate will help to coordinate case information with court advocates and prosecutors. The victim advocate will assist in completing Victims of Crime compensation paperwork and provide referrals to victims of crime that are eligible for assistance. The Victim Advocate will provide community outreach and education on domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking education by participating in various committees addressing domestic violence and teaching Victims’ Rights curriculum to Law Enforcement Officers. The victim advocate will document and input data to track the number of victims served and the types of services provided.

GOAL	OBJECTIVE	COMPLETION DATE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Goal 1 – Increase services available to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking	A. Advertise for a full time advocate position B. Hire full time advocate C. Advocate to be trained, connected and incorporated into the community	A. Within 14 days of award date B. Within 3 months of the award date C. Within 6 months of the award date	A. Human Resources and Project Manager B. Human Resources and Project Manager C. Project Manager and Victim Advocate
Goal 2- Develop a professional, competent	A. Attend one training per quarter	A. Within 1 year of the award date	A. Victim Advocate

and community savvy Victim Advocate	B. Shadow other advocates and professionals in the field C. Attend community committee meetings	B. Within 6 months of the award date C. Within 6 months of the award date	B. Victim Advocate C. Victim Advocate
Goal 3- Provide core victim services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking	A. Victim Advocate will provide assistance to 80 victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking	A. Within 1 year of the award date	A. Victim Advocate

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):

The Sparks Police Department has ongoing partnerships with community agencies and service providers which enhances the delivery of services to victims. SPD utilizes the support of Safe Embrace, a victim is provided with safety, shelter, support and resources. SPD Victim Services also provide training and support to Safe Embrace on the topics of Victims’ Rights, intimate partner violence and the criminal justice system’s impact on victims of crime.

SPD works closely with RPD VSU. The RPD VSU has provided support and direction in developing the position and offers in service trainings. RPD VSU expanded their volunteer advocacy program by collaborating with the SPD Victim Advocate. The SPD Victim Advocate provides in service training to the volunteers and assists in recruiting new volunteers. RPD VSU also communicates regularly on cases that may cross over into both jurisdictions.

The SPD Victim Advocate works closely with the Crisis Call Center and their SASS team. This partnership provides a continuum of service between the times a victim reports a sexual assault to the time the case is transferred and processed by the District Attorney’s office where the victim receives support from the Victim Witness Assistance Center Advocates. The SPD Victim Advocate has worked closely with the Sexual Assault Support Services Coordinator in providing training to volunteers.

The SPD is fully ready and willing to enter into additional MOU’s with partner agencies to help define roles and responsibilities and to help insure that services are not duplicated and are provided in the most efficient and comprehensive manner possible. The SPD has resources in place to facilitate the creation and review of MOU’s as necessary for the success of this project.

Agency Name	Contact Name and Phone #	Describe Collaboration/Roles
Crisis Call Center Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS)	Ben Felix 775-784-8085	SPD provides training on victims' rights and laws associated to sexual violence. SASS provides advocacy for sexual assault victims
Reno Police Department Victim Services Unit	Lori Fralick 775-333-7789	Provides training and shadowing opportunities to new hires, volunteers and interns. Provides advocacy support across jurisdictions in the case of a major event or a conflict of interest
Safe Embrace	John Etchemendy 775-322-3466	SPD Victim Advocate provides services for the safety and support of the victim. SPD provides in-service trainings to Safe Embrace volunteers and staff on Victims' Rights and domestic violence Safe Embrace provides emergency shelter, advocacy, training, therapy and community outreach for survivors of intimate partner violence

Evaluation Plan:

The Sparks Police Department and Human Resources will follow our internal and Civil Service policies on employing one full time Victim Advocate within three months of the award date. The Sparks Police Department will then train, engage, and create a competent Victim Services provider. The SPD Victim Advocate will track client and service date through documentation in files and by inputting data referrals into a confidential excel database. Each client that receives services has a file that is locked in the Victim Advocates office. An excel database, certificates and a Curriculum Vitae will also help to track the number of training hours that the Advocate completes.

Sustainability Plan:

The administration of the Sparks Police Department is committed to serving the citizens of the City of Sparks with Honor-Pride-Privilege. To that end, the Sparks Police Department places a high value on its ability to provide direct assistance to the victims of crime in their time of greatest need. It is widely accepted that the receipts to the General Fund of the City of Sparks will continue to grow as economic activity increases and the Property Tax rate is allowed to increase.

Given the projected increases in revenue, it is the current plan of the SPD to absorb the new Victim Advocate position into its regular compliment just as SPD absorbed the previously grant sponsored position as the grant funds expire.

Performance:

The Sparks Police Department hired its first Victim Advocate in May of 2008. From May of 2008 through December of 2012, the program was supported by the Violence Against Women Act grant. This grant permitted the Victim Advocate to provide direct services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking over the age of 13. From January 2013 to June of 2015, the program was supported by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant. This grant permitted the Victim Advocate to provide services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, child abuse, and underserved victims of violent crime. Between May of 2008 and March of 2015, the SPD Victim Advocate has assisted 1920 primary victims of sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking. The SPD Victim Advocate assisted 1168 secondary victims of sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking. The Victim Advocate also assisted 613 additional victims of violent crimes such as childhood sexual assault and lewdness, survivors of homicide, Assault with a Deadly Weapon, Battery with a Deadly Weapon and other violent crimes against people. The Victim Advocate also made additional efforts to reach 1550 primary victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Starting in July of 2015, the City of Sparks has absorbed its first Advocate position into its general budget. The Victim Advocate reported successfully to both the VAWA and the VOCA grant over the period of seven years. This was during the tide of the recession that led to many layoffs and financial setbacks in the city. Because of the funds available via these resources, the Victim Advocate met an unmet need to provide Victim Services directly to those who have been impacted by crime in our community.

Part 4 - BUDGET DETAIL

“Part 4 Budget” Excel Form is attached. This form MUST be used.

Budget Narrative:

The requested funds represent 9 months operational in the fiscal year. This is due to the approximate 12 weeks it will take to receive the grant by the Sparks City Council, advertise and collect applications for the position, test and interview applicants and finally to conduct a background investigation on the person who is offered employment.

The funds will cover base salary and part of fringe benefits for the remaining 9 months of the

grant. The Sparks Police Department will provide the remainder of benefits to comply with the 25% match requirement. It is our desire to continue this grant for a period of up to 3 years, with the request being for the full 12 months of funding in subsequent years. At the end of that period, it is the plan for the City of Sparks to absorb this position into the standard complement at the Police Department.