

Family Violence Prevention & Services Program

2021 FVPSA Government-to-Government Consultation Framing Paper: Establishing a Minimum Base Grant Award for Every Tribe that Applies for Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Funding

FVPSA CONSULTATION QUESTION: Do Tribal Leaders support the Family Violence Prevention and Services Program establishing a minimum grant award of \$55,000 for all tribes that apply for Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funding?

Written testimonies are requested by Friday, October 29, 2021, and can be submitted to FamilyViolenceDivision@acf.hhs.gov with the subject line: **FVPSA Minimum Grant Award Testimony.**

FVPSA GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION INFORMATION

The Family and Youth Services Bureau, Family Violence Prevention and Services Act Program virtual Government-to-Government Consultations are scheduled for September 8, 2021 from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ET and September 9, 2021 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ET. The topic of discussion will be the establishment of a minimum grant award for all tribes that apply for FVPSA's noncompetitive formula grants each year.

Registration link:

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwucOqqj4iHNyTJmE393dtWhp1OYXDVChv](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJwucOqqj4iHNyTJmE393dtWhp1OYXDVChv)

If you need assistance with registration, please contact, Treceia Bazemore at (301) 358-4436 or Treceia.Bazemore@f2solutions.com.

BACKGROUND ON FVPSA GRANT AWARD CALCULATIONS FOR TRIBES

Currently, FVPSA Section 309 authorizes the Secretary in consultation with tribal governments to *award grants for Indian tribes from amounts appropriated under section 303(a)(2)(B) to carry out this section* which represents 10% of FVPSAs total appropriation.

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act is mandated to support Native American Tribes (including Alaska Native Villages) and tribal organizations through an allocation of 10 percent of the total appropriation (less amounts reserved under Section 312). The purpose of these grants is to: 1) Assist Tribes in efforts to increase public awareness about, and primary and secondary prevention of, family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence; and 2) Assist Tribes in efforts to provide immediate shelter and supportive services for victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence, and their dependents (42 U.S.C. §

10401(b)(1),(2)). The total funding allocation for tribes in FY 2021 is \$23,412,500.

All Federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for FVPSA Tribal Formula grants as individual sovereign nations or as consortia of tribes. Typically, the largest number of tribes funded are in Alaska and California (between 45-70 tribes), followed by Nevada, Oklahoma, and Washington (13-23 tribes). All other states have less than ten tribes funded through FVPSA.

In calculating grant award allocations for Tribes, ACF uses the following sequence:

1. ACF uses the latest available population figures from the Census Bureau, American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes in the US (column 5) at [https://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2010/cph-t/t-6tables/TABLE%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.census.gov/population/www/cen2010/cph-t/t-6tables/TABLE%20(1).pdf).
2. Where Census Bureau data are unavailable, ACF uses figures from BIA's Indian Population and Labor Force Report, available at <https://www.bia.gov/WhatWeDo/Knowledge/Reports/index.htm>.
3. If neither of these sources has a population figure for the tribe, then the tribe shall submit a certified population number.

The formula has two parts: the tribal population base allocation and a population category allocation.

1. A tribe's population and a fund allocation schedule determine base allocations. Tribes with populations between 1 and 50,000 people receive a \$2,500 base allocation for the first 1,500 people. For each additional 1,000 people above the 1,500-person minimum, a tribe's base allocation is increased \$1,000. Tribes with populations between 50,001 and 100,000 people receive base allocations of \$125,000, and tribes with populations of 100,001 to 150,000 receive a base allocation of \$175,000.
2. Once the base allocations have been distributed to the tribes that have applied for FVPSA funding, the ratio of the tribal population category allocation to the total of all base allocations are then considered in allocating the remainder of the funds. By establishing base amounts with distribution of proportional amounts for larger tribes, ACF is balancing the need for basic services for all tribes while recognizing greater demand for services among tribes with larger populations. In FY 2018, actual grant awards ranged from \$45,830-\$1,874,879.

FVPSA currently funds over 86 tribes serving 15,000 people or less with an award amount of \$55,826 for FY 2021. For the last four fiscal years, Congress has provided over \$24 million additional funding specifically for tribes and American Indian and Alaska Native communities. These additional appropriations have allowed ACF/FYSB/FVPSA to increase annual awards for smaller tribes serving 15,000 people or less to have a minimum award ranging from \$38,000 in 2018 to \$45,830 in 2020 to \$55,826 in 2021, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/grant-funding/fy2020-family-violence-prevention-and-services-tribal-grant-awards>.

Funding Allocation Schedule for Tribes

Minimum Population for this Base Amount	Base Amount
-	-
1	\$2,500
1,501	\$3,500
3,001	\$4,500
4,001	\$5,500
5,001	\$6,500
6,001	\$7,500
7,001	\$8,500
8,001	\$9,500
9,001	\$10,500
10,001	\$13,000
12,001	\$15,000
14,001	\$17,000
16,001	\$19,000
18,001	\$21,000
20,001	\$23,000
22,001	\$25,000
24,001	\$27,000
26,001	\$29,000
28,001	\$31,000
30,001	\$33,000
32,001	\$35,000
34,001	\$37,000
36,001	\$39,000
38,001	\$41,000
40,001	\$43,000
42,001	\$45,000
44,001	\$47,000
46,001	\$49,000
48,001	\$51,000
50,001	\$125,000
100,001	\$175,000
150,001	\$225,000

CONSULTATION BACKGROUND

The FVPSA Program is seeking testimony from tribes and Tribal Leaders on the establishment of a minimum grant award of \$55,000 for each tribe that applies for FVPSA funding. If a minimum grant award is established, the remaining funds would be allotted to each tribe on the same ratio as the population of the tribe as reported by the Census and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Authorizing a higher minimum base award for each tribe that applies for FVPSA

funding is needed to help smaller tribes meet the needs of thousands of women, men, and children seeking their services each year.

All Tribal Leaders are invited to provide written or verbal testimony about whether they support or do not support the establishment of a minimum base grant for all tribes that apply for FVPSA funding each year.

EXAMPLE OF FVPSA GRANT AWARD CALCULATIONS FOR TRIBES

The FY 2020 Consolidated Appropriations Act included for appropriations to the FVPSA Program, which included a \$7 million increase over the FY 2020 enacted appropriation level. Congressional Appropriations Committee Report language directed the \$7 million increase be for the purposes of supporting Native American Tribes and tribal organizations. With the \$7 million increase, the total amount allocated to tribes in FY 2020 was \$22,850,000.

In 2020, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) awarded \$22,850,000 in FVPSA formula grants to over 253 tribal domestic violence programs through tribes (including Alaska Natives), tribal organizations and tribal consortia. FVPSA is the primary federal funding source dedicated to providing immediate shelter and supportive services for victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence and their dependents. Annually, 10 percent of the amount appropriated to FVPSA is allocated to tribes. The table below shows the number of grants made categorized by award amount.

	FY 2020
Total Funding for Tribal Formula Grants	\$22,850,000
Range of Awards	\$55,826 to \$1,940,306
Number of Tribes Funded	253
Number of Grants	138
Number of Grants at \$55,826	86
Number of Grants between \$62,148 and \$94,381	22
Number of Grants between \$111,652 and \$390,782	22
Number of Grants over \$1,000,000	8

** FY 2020 funding was awarded to tribes before September 30, 2020.*

BACKGROUND ON FVPSA FUNDING FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES FOR AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVES

The Family Violence and Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) funds emergency shelter and supportive services for victims of domestic violence and their dependents. It is authorized under Title III of the Child Abuse Amendments of 1984, Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. § 10401 -10414).

FVPSA Funding Allocations Formula

- 70% State and Territory Formula Grants
- 10% Tribal Formula Grants
- 10% State Domestic Violence Coalition Formula Grants
- 6% National, Special Issue, & Culturally Specific Resource Centers
- 1.5% Discretionary
- 2.5% Evaluation, Monitoring and Administration

For the last four fiscal years, the FVPSA Program has seen meaningful and steady increases in appropriations. Congress has specifically identified additional appropriations to supplement the existing 10 percent set-aside in FVPSA funding for Native American tribes and tribal organizations, in recognition of the importance of providing supports that are culturally appropriate for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

2021 FUNDING OVERVIEW

Fiscal Year 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act – Through the FY2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act, the FVPSA Program received an \$8.5 million increase (\$7.5 million for shelter, supportive services and technical assistance, and an additional \$1 million for the hotline).

- FVPSA’s FY 2021 appropriation is \$182.5 million for shelter and supportive services, of additional appropriations in the amount of \$7,500,000 shall be allocated for tribes and tribal organizations.
- FVPSA’s Domestic Violence Hotline appropriation is \$13 million, including continued support for the *StrongHearts* Native Helpline.

FY 2021 Tribal Budget Overview

** FY 2021 funding was awarded to tribes and tribal organizations by September 30, 2021.*

2021 FVPSA Grant Program	Amount
FVPSA Formula Non-Competitive Grant Awards for 252 Tribes	\$23,412,500
FVPSA Training and Technical Assistance Grant Awards for Tribal Organizations National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center and Alaska Native Women’s Resource Center	\$2,300,000
Subaward for StrongHearts Native Helpline	\$1,800,000
Specialized Services for Abused Parents and Children Demonstration Grant Awards for Choctaw Nation and Redcliff Band	\$798,076
FVPSA Tribal Safe Housing Capacity Building Center Grant Award	\$400,000
TOTAL	\$28,710,576

FVPSA Formula Funding to Tribes and Tribal Organizations, including Alaska Natives Standing Announcement for Family Violence Prevention and Services/Domestic Violence Shelter and Supportive Services/Grants to Native American Tribes (including Alaska Native Villages) and Tribal Organizations (HHS-2021-ACF-ACYF-FVPS-1961) - FVPSA funding is

available to tribes and tribal organizations on an annual basis through a mandated 10% set aside. These awards are made for the purpose of assisting tribes with: 1) increasing public awareness about primary and secondary prevention of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence; and 2) to provide immediate shelter and supportive services for victims of family violence, domestic violence, or dating violence and their dependents (42 U.S.C. 10401(b)(1)-(2)).

- Announcement Publish Date: May 7, 2021
- Award type: non-competitive
- Estimated Number of Awards: 254
- Application Due Dates:
 - July 7, 2021
 - March 31, 2022
 - March 31, 2023

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Supplemental Appropriations – In the ARP, section 2204 provides for a total of \$450 million in appropriations for the FVPSA. On May 20, 2021, the FVPSA Program released \$198,000,000 in ARP funding to the existing FVPSA grantees, including states, tribes, and state domestic violence coalitions to provide temporary housing, assistance, and supportive services to victims of family, domestic, and dating violence in response to the coronavirus public health emergency. Funding was appropriated for training and technical assistance, grants to specialized services for abused parents and their children, new grants to culturally specific programs, strategic partnerships, and for rape crisis centers.

- On May 20, 2021, FVPSA awarded \$34.75 million for tribes and tribal organizations this included 144 grant awards, reaching 252 tribes, including \$18 million specifically designated for tribes in legislation.
- Award amounts are were calculated by the ACF Office of Grants Management, and the award application process was coordinated with the ACF Office of Grants Policy.
- ARP supplemental grant awards were distributed to FVPSA discretionary grantees, including the following tribes or tribal organizations:
 - ***StrongHearts*** Native Helpline.
 - National Indian Resource Center Addressing Violence Against Indian Women (NIRC).
 - Alaska Native Tribal Resource Center on Domestic Violence (ANTRCDV).
 - Specialized Services for Abused Parents and their Children (SSAPC) demonstration grants to two tribes Choctaw Nation and Redcliff Band.

The full text of the bill is located here with ACF related text sections noted in the summary below: <https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr1319/BILLS-117hr1319eas.pdf>.

FY 2021 ARP Supplemental Funding Tribal Budget Overview

** FY 2021 ARP funding was awarded to tribes and tribal organizations on May 20, 2021.*

2021 FVPSA ARP Grant Programs	Amount
FVPSA Formula Non-Competitive Grant Awards for 252 Tribes includes 10% set-aside + additional \$18 million	\$34,750,000
FVPSA Training and Technical Assistance Grant Awards for Tribal Organizations National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center and Alaska Native Women’s Resource Center	\$2,300,000
Subaward for StrongHearts Native Helpline	\$1,000,000
Specialized Services for Abused Parents and Children Demonstration Grant Awards for Choctaw Nation and Redcliff Band	\$798,076
FVPSA Tribal Safe Housing Capacity Building Center Grant Award	\$400,000
TOTAL	\$39,248,076

- [ARP FVPSA Supplemental Funding Program Instruction for Formula Grantees](#) - Provides an overview of how FVPSA’s ARP supplemental funding will be disseminated and allowable use of funds guidance for states, tribes, and coalitions.
- [ARP FVPSA Supplemental Funding Program Instruction for Discretionary Grantees](#) - Provides an overview of how FVPSA’s ARP supplemental funding will be disseminated and allowable use of funds guidance for discretionary grantees including the National Domestic Violence Hotline, grants to Specialized Services for Abused Parents and their Children, and national resource centers.

2020 FUNDING OVERVIEW

Fiscal Year 2020 Tribal Budget: \$30,075,000

- **\$15,675,000** in non-competitive awards for shelter, supportive services, and prevention initiatives. Awards were made August 2020.
- **\$7,000,000** additional in non-competitive awards for shelter, supportive services, and prevention initiatives. Awards were made August 2020.
- **\$1,400,000** in discretionary, non-competing continuation for training and technical assistance. Awards were made September 2020.

- **\$1,000,000** in discretionary, competitive for statewide training and technical assistance across Alaska. Awards were made September 2020.
- **\$4,500,000** CARES Act COVID-19 supplemental funding, non-competitive for shelter, supportive services, and prevention initiatives. Awards were made May 2020.
- **\$500,000** CARES Act COVID-19 supplemental funding to *StrongHearts* Native Helpline, non-competitive. Award was made May 2020.

In FY 2020, the \$7 million in increased funding for tribes was added to the 10% set-aside for tribes (\$15.6 million) bringing the total award amount to \$22.6 million. Doing so brought the smaller awards up to \$46,000 for 86 tribes.

The full listing of FY 2020 grant awards for tribes and tribal organizations can be viewed with the following link: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/grant-funding/fy2020-family-violence-prevention-and-services-tribal-grant-awards>.

FVPSA CARES Act Supplemental Funding Summary

- The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Administration for Children Youth and Families (ACYF), and Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) is committed to providing resources and flexibility to communities in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency and are pleased to announce the release of the FVPSA Program’s Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act supplemental funding for FVPSA formula grantees. On May 11, 2020, ACF’s Office of Grants Management released the CARES Act supplemental funding for FVPSA funded states, tribes, and coalitions. Each state, tribe, and coalition will receive an electronic notice of award via email.
- This supplemental funding comes through provisions of the CARES Act, which was signed into law on March 27, 2020. Through the CARES Act, the FVPSA Program received \$45 million in supplemental funding for formula grantees and \$2 million in supplemental funding for the National Domestic Violence Hotline. This funding provided flexibility in how agencies can prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency while addressing the evolving needs of domestic violence survivors and local domestic violence programs within their communities.
- The FVPSA Program implemented a streamlined application process for all FVPSA formula grantees to receive CARES Act funding. The documents linked below provide all the additional details needed to complete this streamlined application process. All application documents needed to be submitted through Grant Solutions within 30 days of the supplemental award release date, which was June 11, 2020. The project period for this supplemental funding for the states, tribes, and coalitions is March 27, 2020 through September 30, 2021. Please direct any questions to the FVPSA Project Officer and OGM Grants Management Specialist assigned to your grant.
 - [CARES Act Supplemental Funding Overview Memo](#) – Provides an overview of how FVPSA’s CARES Act supplemental funding will be disseminated and key supplemental funding deadlines.

- [CARES Act Reporting Instructions for States and Tribes](#) – Provides the required documents that need to be submitted to the FVPSA Program via Grant Solutions for the supplemental funding.
 - [CARES Act Reporting Instructions for Coalitions](#) – Provides the required documents that need to be submitted to the FVPSA Program via Grant Solutions for the supplemental funding.
 - [CARES Act Use of Funding Document](#) – Lists allowable activities to support your COVID-19 efforts in preventing, preparing and responding to COVID-19 to support victims of family violence, domestic violence, and dating violence.
 - [CARES Act Grant Awards Funding Table](#): Provides a full listing of all supplemental grant awards issued to tribes in 2020.
- The table below shows the number of grants made which are categorized by award amount.

	FY 2020
CARES Act Total Funding for Tribal Formula Grants	\$4,500,000
Range of Awards	\$6,089 to \$548,047
Number of Tribes Funded	253
Number of Grants	138
Number of Grants at \$6,089	59
Number of Grants between \$8,525 and \$80,380	71
Number of Grants between \$114,474 and \$304,470	5
Number of Grants over \$500,000k	3

FVPSA TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE UPDATES FOR TRIBES AND TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS

The National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center serves as the National Indian Resource Center Addressing Domestic Violence and Safety for Indian Women. Visit www.niwrc.org or call 1-855-649-7299 for additional information.

The FY 2020-2021 webinar training and technical assistance highlights include sessions on:

- “Disaster Planning for Tribal Domestic Violence Programs and Shelters,” which was attended by 277 people in April 2020 and later viewed by more participants.
- “Trauma-Informed Advocacy in the Time of a Pandemic” in June 2020, which had over 1204 total views.
- “Providing Safety for Domestic Violence Survivors in the Time of a Pandemic” in July 2020, viewed 679 times.

The Alaska Native Women’s Resource Center is the current statewide resource center to reduce Tribal disparities and enhance the capacity of Alaska Tribal villages and Tribal organizations to respond to family, domestic and dating violence in a culturally sensitive and effective manner. Visit www.aknwrc.org or call 907-328-9399 for additional information.

- AKNWRC has provided hands on training and technical assistance by helping four (4) remote villages develop village-specific policies, protocols, training tools and educational materials to address domestic violence in a culturally specific way within their communities.

StrongHearts Native Helpline is a confidential and anonymous helpline for AI/AN affected by domestic violence and dating violence. **StrongHearts** is currently a collaborative project of The National Domestic Violence Hotline (www.thehotline.org) and NIWRC. As of February 20, 2021, StrongHearts now offers support by both phone and online chat 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Visit www.stronghearts.org or call 1-888-747-5707 for additional information.

- During the COVID-19 pandemic, **StrongHearts** experienced an increase in activity on their website and social media. This was a safer way for victims to access information, support, and helping resources while sheltering in place with an abusive partner.
- Increased online activity motivated **StrongHearts** to launch chat advocacy services at the end of May 2020, and to use CARES Act supplemental funds to modernize and optimize its website, launched in March 2021.

ADDITIONAL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION INFORMATION

Additional Suggestions

The Family and Youth Services Bureau welcomes any suggestions for additional actions the FVPSA Program should take that are permitted by law to support the implementation of services and supports for American Indians and Alaska Natives surviving domestic violence, dating violence, and family violence.

Written Testimony

All Tribal Leaders are invited to submit written testimony. Please submit all written testimony to FamilyViolenceDivision@acf.hhs.gov by Friday, October 29, 2021.

Registration link:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwucOqqj4iHNyTJmE393dtWhp1OYXDVChv>

Registration Questions

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