



**ILLINOIS
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Budget Committee Members

FROM: Gregory Stevens, Acting Associate Director, Federal, & State Grants Unit

DATE: June 20, 2019

RE: **Victims of Crime Act Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**

This memo is in addition to the VOCA memo provided in the Budget Committee materials emailed on Friday, June 14, 2019.

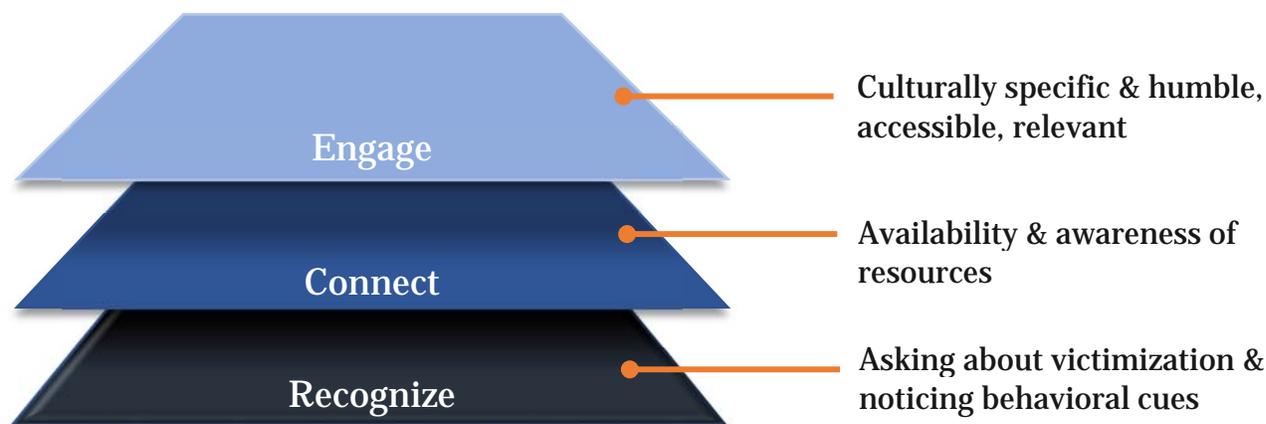
NEW NOTICES OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY (NOFOs)

The Grant Accountability and Transparency Act requires grants to be initiated through a competitive process unless an adequate justification is presented for sole source funding in a particular case. To comply with this requirement, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) will issue additional FFY18 Victims of Crime Assistance (VOCA) Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO) in the 3rd quarter of 2019 to solicit applications for two NOFOs. The notices will detail federal VOCA requirements and NOFO specific program designs as summarized below:

1. Helping Everyone Access Linked Systems

Illinois Helping Everyone Access Linked Systems (HEALS) is a demonstration project funded by the Office for Victims of Crime. The Illinois HEALS project calls for a relationship framework to improve the identification and coordination of services for child, youth and families.

A Relational Approach to Strong Linkages



The Illinois HEALS NOFO will focus on cross-system projects that emphasize the framework outlined above. Staff requests designating approximately 2.7 million in FFY17 VOCA funds to issue a competitive NOFO in the third quarter of 2019. This amount may change upon selection of applications. Designation recommendations resulting from this funding opportunity will be presented at the December 12, 2019, Budget Committee meeting.

2. Expanding & Enhancing InfoNet as a Case Management System

ICJIA developed and manages the statewide victim services data collection system called InfoNet. Staff requests designating up to \$556,024 in available FY18 VOCA funds to issue a sole source NOFO in the third quarter of 2019 for the ICJIA InfoNet System. Designation recommendations resulting from this funding opportunity will be presented at the August 15, 2019, Budget Committee meeting.

InfoNet is a web-based, centralized statewide case management system for domestic and sexual violence centers maintained by the ICJIA. InfoNet is used by over 100 Illinois victim service providers, allowing them to track individual victims served and services provided, and easily produce standardized program and funding reports. InfoNet has been instrumental for enhancing not only services supported with VOCA Assistance Funds, but all services provided to victims of domestic and sexual violence in Illinois for over 20 years.

This grant intends to expand staffing to support InfoNet to accommodate its growth and substantially strengthen the system as a case management tool for victim service providers. InfoNet has three distinct interfaces, each tailored for domestic violence, sexual assault, and child advocacy centers. ICJIA is beginning work with law enforcement and prosecutor based victim service providers to design a new, fourth InfoNet interface that meets their case management, data tracking, and reporting needs, potentially doubling InfoNet's user base within the next two years. Funds will be used to increase staff resources in project management, application development, technical and research support. This will ensure ICJIA keeps pace with the increasing number of service providers and users needing secure access, technical support, and training. The strengthened case management features will not only improve providers' ability to deliver

services at the individual level, but also InfoNet's utility for demonstrating service impact, evaluate programming, and the impact of VOCA funding.

Application development staff will modify and build upon InfoNet's application code with new data elements and reporting features that facilitate case management. Research and project management staff will devote the additional time providing user trainings and assistance about using InfoNet's data to inform case management, and host ongoing forums with users to learn how the practice is progressing and how it could be improved. Technical support staff will ensure ICJIA can accommodate InfoNet's growing number of users needing secure access. All staff roles will help meet the increased training and support needs.