

# ARPA 2021

## FUNDING SUMMARY

**Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Supplement per 22RS HB1  
State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF)  
American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)**

**Award Period November 1, 2022 - October 31, 2023**

# INTRODUCTION

This is the Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet's Funding Summary for the State and Local Fiscal Recover Fund (SLFRF) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) subawards, which will encompass the grant period November 1, 2022, to October 31, 2023.

The mission of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet (JPSC) is to ensure the safety and security of Kentucky communities through a fair and impartial administration of taxpayer resources and Federal grant funds. Our approach centers on protecting citizens, restoring victims, and reforming wrongdoers - all in a focused environment where everything is measured for accountability and performance. The Cabinet seeks the best possible return from our public safety investment, using evidence-informed programs, fiscal discipline, and data-driven strategies. Likewise, we are committed to holding offenders to the highest standards of personal accountability and responsibility.

The Grants Management Division (GMD), within the JPSC, prepared this report.

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## AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING

On March 11, 2021, ARPA was signed into law and established the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund, which together make up the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program. This program is intended to provide support to State governments in responding to the economic and public health impacts of COVID-19.

The ARPA Final Rule was adopted by the Department of the Treasury (Treasury) on April 1, 2022 and increased the flexibility for SLFRF ARPA funds to support activities related to “preventing and responding to violence.” The JPSC solicitation for ARPA intends to fund projects that serve victims of crime within the following project categories: direct services for victims of crime, community violence deterrence, reentry services and recidivism reduction, advancement of community policing, prosecution of gun violence, law enforcement response to gun violence and enhancement of technology. State agencies, local units of government, and private not-for-profit organizations were eligible to apply for these funds.

## STATE ADMINISTERING AGENCY

The JPSC is the State Administering Agency (SAA) for federal criminal justice grants in Kentucky. The JPSC coordinates diverse funding sources, including ARPA grants, to assure delivery of the most efficient and effective services to crime victims. Within the JPSC, the Grants Management Division (GMD) is responsible for administration of ARPA subawards from application through closeout, as well as subrecipient monitoring and implementation of a competitive ARPA solicitation process.

As the SAA, the JPSC has discretion to determine which organizations will receive funds, and the amount of their awards, subject to the requirements of ARPA Final Rule, Uniform Guidance 2 CFR Part 200, the provisions of the *Treasury Compliance and Reporting Guidance for State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds*, and JPSC GMD Management Policies and Procedures relating to conflicts of interest.

## FUNDING AVAILABILITY SUMMARY

The Commonwealth of Kentucky has experienced three years of significant decreases in the federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) award due to nationwide reductions in funding at the federal level. To supplement this reduced funding, the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet's 2023-2024 biennial budget includes an additional \$10 million each fiscal year from the State Fiscal Recovery Fund of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA). This will provide additional funding for programs that focus on crime reduction or directly assist crime victims in the commonwealth.

## ARPA SOLICITATION

The JPSC awards ARPA funds through a competitive solicitation process. The ARPA solicitation was publicly advertised and open from August 26<sup>th</sup> through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Applications were submitted in *Intelligrants 10.0* (IGX), JPSC's electronic grants management system. GMD staff were available throughout the application process to offer technical assistance with the IGX platform.

- A total of 56 prospective subrecipients applied for ARPA awards and requested a total federal share of \$11,330,023.
- 52 (92.9%) applicants had received a VOCA 2022 subaward. Federal share request across these VOCA funded programs totaled \$10,590,080.
- 4 (7.1%) applicants were not recipients of VOCA 2022 subawards. Federal share request across these programs totaled \$739,943.

## FUNDING PRIORITIES

Due to the temporary nature of the available funds, priority was given to proposals that demonstrate a bona fide need for short term funding that can be utilized to increase capacities for preventing and responding to violence.

JPSC prioritized funding for current VOCA 2022 recipients who received a reduction in their FY21 award due to decreased federal funding, with the expectation that their application meets all eligibility and requirement items, and their organization demonstrates the ability to sustain core functions in future years without the addition of supplemental funding. Dependent upon the number of applications received that meet this criterion, an equitable amount of available funding was allocated to each eligible applicant.

## AWARD RECOMMENDATION PROCESS

JPSC utilized a layered approach, which contemplated many critical factors, including allowability of the request, level of VOCA reduction the agency had sustained over the past three (3) funding cycles, deconfliction of any duplicative funding requests with the VOCA 2022 award, sustainability of the project requested, unmet needs of crime victims, and the extent to which other sources of funding were available for direct services. A fair and consistent methodology was applied to all application review and recommendation decisions:

## Application Review

Each application was reviewed by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs). SMEs generated reviewer comments for each application, which will be made available to applicants upon request.

### Subject Matter Expert Group Review Meetings

1. The SMEs participated in a total of two (2) award recommendation meetings from October 10<sup>th</sup> to October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
2. The group considered reviewer comments to determine any applicants who would not receive an ARPA subaward. One (1) program was not recommended for an ARPA subaward.
3. The group reviewed solicitations from a pool of three (3) applicants who were not recipients of VOCA 2022 subawards. All three (3) applicants were recommended for ARPA subawards.
4. Each application was reviewed using the same layered methodology.
  - One-time procurement requests that supported or enhanced the availability of victim services were given priority in the recommendation of funding.
  - Each request was reviewed for allowability and reasonability, and any unallowable costs were subtracted from the final amount recommended for ARPA funding.
  - Each application from a VOCA 2022 subrecipient was closely reviewed to deconflict any duplicated requests. If any duplication of funded items were noted, they were subtracted from the final amount recommended for ARPA funding.
  - New personnel funding requested for more than ten (10) months of employment on the submitted projects were reduced to allow time for the agency hiring process to be completed, and to capture only the costs allowable within the period of performance. Any costs beyond ten (10) months for those new positions were subtracted from the final amount recommended for ARPA funding.
  - Finally, JPSC considered the VOCA funding reduction experienced by the applicant in the prior three (3) funding cycles to arrive at the final recommendation.

## AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS

**\$7,983,414** in ARPA awards were recommended by JPSC in support of 55 programs. These funding allocations ensure that services are available throughout the Commonwealth to support

victims of crime. A full list of subrecipients and subaward amounts will be published following execution of approved subaward documents on the JPSC GMD [website](#). Any funding that JPSC was not able to allocate to the current set of applicants will be made available in a future set of ARPA awards, either during year 2 applications, or an interim

set of applications, based on an assessment of current projects, and current coverage of services within Kentucky.

Award recommendations include a state agency, non-profit organizations, and units of local government that provide direct services to victims of crime and were affected by the reduced availability of VOCA funds:

### **State Agency**

- 1 state agency was awarded \$500,000 (6.3% of the total ARPA recommendation) to support the Criminal Justice Statistical Analysis Center (CJ-SAC) in compliance with Senate Bill 271 which requires the CJ-SAC to compile data on domestic violence fatalities and occurrences of dating violence and abuse or domestic violence and abuse. Obtaining this data is critical for maintaining records of effective programs, as well as ensuring that Kentucky is able to apply for and secure the maximum amount of Federal funding available for victims of crime in future Federal award cycles.

### **Non-profits who did not also receive a VOCA 2022 award**

- 2 prosecutor-based victim service projects were awarded \$147,298 (1.8% of the total ARPA recommendation).

### **Non-profits who also received a VOCA 2022 award**

- 52 non-profit agencies who received a VOCA 2022 award were awarded \$7,336,116 (91.9% of the total ARPA recommendation).
- Award allocations in this category were used to support all 24 regionally designated victim service providers who applied (including 4 dual service providers) and 28 community-based programs offering shelter, therapy, legal, SANE, and/ or other supportive services to victims of crime.

## RISK ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the and 2 C.F.R. § 200.332(d), (e), and (f), JPSC GMD is required "evaluate each subrecipient's risk...for purposes of determining the appropriate subrecipient monitoring". Monitoring ensures that the subaward is being used for the authorized purpose, in compliance with the federal program grant requirements, laws, and regulations. To fulfill this requirement, GMD performs a risk assessment as part of the application review process under each funding source managed by the division. Once a final award recommendation is approved, that risk assessment is revised to reflect the recommended award amount and a monitoring schedule is established based upon the overall assessment of risk.

Note: ARPA award recommendation amounts were NOT impacted by applicants' risk assessment scores. Rather, risk assessment scores will only be used to develop a risk-based monitoring schedule.

## FINAL APPROVAL

Award recommendations generated by GMD were submitted to JPSC leadership and the Governor's Office for final approval.

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