

sessions may be conducted by juvenile justice or criminal justice personnel who have little understanding of the victimization experience or of the needs of victims. Without appropriate sensitivity and preparation, this form of intervention can be harmful to victims.

Goal: To improve and enhance services designed to empower and restore crime victims.

Objectives:

- To identify effective victim/offender mediation programs;
- To develop victim-oriented program guidelines for conducting victim/offender mediation;
- To create training materials for victim/offender mediation that are applicable to a variety of program settings; and
- To develop a plan for disseminating the guidelines and information about promising practices in victim/offender mediation and dialogue.

Program Strategy: This solicitation invites applications for a grantee to survey existing victim/offender mediation programs throughout the country, as well as some promising programs in other countries. This information should detail program goals and objectives; programmatic structure and agency affiliations; procedures and protocols; staffing, staff backgrounds, and training; and measures of effectiveness. The grantee will identify and describe particularly promising programmatic elements and develop a set of criteria for conducting effective and appropriate victim/offender mediation. Based on the criteria, training materials will be created to guide the development of effective victim/offender mediation programs in a variety of settings, including college campuses and the workplace.

The grantee will develop an OVC Bulletin that highlights existing promising programs and presents guidelines for conducting effective victim/offender mediation. The Bulletin should also include specific examples of kinds of crimes and circumstances which may lend themselves to mediation.

Major project products include:

- Assessment plan;
- Draft survey guide;
- Profiles of promising practices and programs;
- Criteria for victim sensitive victim/offender mediation programs;
- Training materials on program implementation;
- Guidelines for Victim/Offender Mediation, to be published as OVC Bulletin; and
- Dissemination plan.

Eligibility Requirements: In addition to the requirements of Sections VI–XI,

eligible applicants must demonstrate expert knowledge of victim/offender mediation principles and practices, the criminal and juvenile justice systems, and related victim issues.

Award Period: 12 months.

Contact: Susan Laurence, (202) 616–3573.

Workplace Violence Symposium

Award Amount: \$30,000.

Purpose: To improve the capacity and preparedness of employers and victim assistance providers to respond to the unique needs of victims of workplace violence.

Background: According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, each year nearly one million individuals become victims of violent crime (e.g., rape, robbery, assault, or homicide) while working or on duty. Crime costs these victims more than \$55 million in lost wages annually, not including days covered by sick or annual leave. Six out of ten incidents of workplace violence occur in private companies. In these companies, first responders are frequently employee assistance personnel or security guards, who often lack basic crisis response techniques. Company managers may not know how to assist employees whose performance suffers due to the effects of personal crime victimization or traumatic effects resulting from a co-worker's victimization.

Goal: To improve employer response to primary and secondary victims of workplace violence.

Objectives:

- To identify issues and challenges in responding effectively to victims of workplace violence;
- To identify and share examples of programs and techniques for immediate and long-term assistance for victims of workplace violence; and
- To develop strategies for further action in this area.

Program Strategy: This solicitation invites applications for one grantee to conceptualize, organize, and convene a two-day transfer-of-knowledge symposium for 30 participants on issues related to workplace violence. OVC will collaboratively plan the symposium with other Federal agencies that have workplace related responsibilities, such as HHS, the Department of Labor, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the United States Postal Service, and the Department of Commerce.

The grantee will identify an appropriate balance of participants from the fields of victim assistance, employee assistance, and business management/administration. Participation will be by invitation only, and attendees will be

expected to cover their own travel and per diem expenses.

The grantee will develop resource materials that will be sent to participants prior to the symposium. Participants will share information about promising practices, identify areas for further action, and, as a final group task, produce a report of recommendations and action plans to improve the response of employers to incidents of workplace violence. At the close of the event, participants will be asked to evaluate the conference. Symposium activities and discussions will be recorded and published in a written report for dissemination nationwide.

Interim documents and final products include:

- A list of attendees, for OVC review and approval;
- A symposium agenda, including descriptions of presentations;
- A participant resource package;
- An assessment plan;
- A transcript of symposium proceedings;
- A symposium report containing recommendations and action plans developed by participants; and
- A dissemination plan.

Eligibility Requirements: In addition to the requirements of Sections VI–XI, applicants must demonstrate:

- Knowledge of the organization, development, and implementation of training conferences;
- Knowledge of workplace violence issues;
- Knowledge of victim assistance practices related to workplace violence; and
- Management and financial capability to oversee a project of this size and scope.

Award Period: 12 months.

Contact: Duane Ragan, (202) 307–2021.

B. Training and Technical Assistance for Crime Victim Practitioners and Allied Professionals

Regional Seminars for Establishing Community and Institutional Crisis Response Teams

Award Amount: \$60,000.

Purpose: To provide high quality training on the establishment of community and institutional crisis response teams at the regional level to victim service providers, criminal justice personnel, and others who regularly deal with crime victims.

Background: Like individuals, an entire community or an institution's entire work force may suffer trauma in the wake of a sudden, devastating crime.