

PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Endowment Act Funds
Project Summary and Analysis

Project Title: Endowment Act – Direct Victim Service Org.

Applicants: 11 applicants from 11 counties

Project Duration: January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

Project Description:

On June 17, 2015, the Office of Research, Evaluation, and Strategic Policy Development (ORESPD) at PCCD announced the availability of state Endowment Act (Act 1 of 2013) Funds. Act 1 outlines five categories which are eligible for funding for the benefit of the residents of the Commonwealth. For the purposes of this funding announcement, the following four categories were opened:

- (i) Programs or projects assisting the victims of child sexual abuse.
- (ii) Child Advocacy Centers (CACs).
- (iii) Victim service organizations that provide services to children subjected to sexual abuse.
- (iv) Training of persons who treat victims of child sexual abuse.

The Endowment Act – Direct Victim Service Org. solicitation focused on providing funding to victim service organizations that provide direct services to children subjected to sexual abuse. Applicants were eligible to apply for up to \$100,000. Funding under this category was limited to supporting:

- (i) Direct victim services program enhancements to specifically serve child victims of sexual abuse.
- (ii) Innovative programs that reach child victims of sexual abuse who are underserved/unserved populations, including providing direct services in a non-traditional setting.

Staff Analysis and Recommendation:

In response to this solicitation, ORESPD received 23 applications requesting a total of \$1,446,496. The following table was prepared to provide highlights from the applications being recommended for funding. Staff is currently in the process of reviewing each application being recommended to ensure compliance with the requirements set forth in the funding announcement.

The Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee and Staff are recommending approval of these 11 applications requesting \$830,258 in Endowment Act Funds pending the resolution of outstanding programmatic and fiscal concerns.

<p>Center for Victims Allegheny County Grant # 26348 Amount: \$99,749</p>	<p>The Center for Victims (CV), in collaboration with UPMC's Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Child Advocacy Center (CHOP-CAC), is requesting funding to create a co-located counselor advocate position and trauma therapist for early and seamless therapeutic interventions with approximately 400 child sexual assault victims. The counselor advocate, housed at the CAC, will focus specifically on child sexual abuse cases stemming from the CAC and CHOP's Emergency Department. The trauma therapist will receive direct referrals for therapy from the CAC counselor advocate which will decrease the chances of unnecessary delays in treatment. This team, specializing in the provision of services to child sexual violence victims, would provide seamless and early therapeutic interventions and ensure the provision of a high quality full continuum of services offered to children. Funding will be used to support a full-time trauma therapist, a part-time counselor advocate and part-time clinical director.</p>
<p>Women's Center of Beaver County Beaver County Grant # 26222 Amount: \$62,218</p>	<p>The Women's Center of Beaver County is requesting funding to provide evidence-based counseling services to child victims of sexual abuse in Beaver County. Services will be provided to 50 child victims at either the Women's Center or at A Child's Place satellite CAC. Music therapy services will be provided through group sessions one to two times per week throughout the grant period. Screening of children for appropriate therapeutic services will include the use of validated standardized assessment tools such as the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory for Children, Beck Anxiety Inventory, Children's Depression Inventory and/or Checklist of Sexual Abuse and Related Stressors. Funding will be used to partially fund a full-time children's therapist, supervision of the new therapist, music therapy and therapy supplies.</p>
<p>Berks County Women in Crisis Berks County Grant # 26290 Amount: \$79,186</p>	<p>Berks County Women in Crisis (BWIC) is requesting funding to provide treatment to child victims of sexual assault. BWIC will hire a master's level, trauma-certified, therapist or licensed clinical social worker to implement I Feel Better Now!, a model research-based group program for child survivors of trauma ages 6-12 years old. The program provides psycho-education about trauma and focuses on the various themes of trauma including safety, hurt, worry, fear, anger and moving from victim to survivor thinking. BWIC will also utilize a Nature Explore Garden classroom program for children with regular and structured time in nature, which has been shown to facilitate better social and emotional development; improve fitness, motor skills and well-being; support creativity and imaginative play; inspire collaboration and reduce violence and bullying; reduce stress; and create feelings of empathy for nature and others. Funds will be used to hire a full-time therapist, support training costs including a two-day training by the National Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children and training materials.</p> <p>Funding for this application is conditioned upon the removal of all costs and activities associated with serving adult survivors of child sexual abuse.</p>
<p>Network of Victim Assistance Bucks County Grant # 26333 Amount: \$74,509</p>	<p>The Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA) is requesting funding to expand their Trauma Support Program which provides counseling to child sexual assault victims within their homes. Using the evidence-based Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT), a newly hired therapist will be able to provide therapy to approximately 40 children who are not able to attend therapy at the NOVA office due to transportation and other barriers preventing children from receiving these services. While in the home, therapists will also be able to assess the full needs of the family and the various ways victimization has impacted the family such as housing, food, income and transportation barriers. Funds will be used to hire a full-time therapist, partially fund four additional staff and partially fund administrative expenses.</p> <p>Funding for this project is conditional upon clarification of TF-CBT being implemented with fidelity to the model.</p>

<p>Victim Outreach Intervention Center, Inc.</p> <p>Butler County</p> <p>Grant # 26331</p> <p>Amount: \$71,392</p>	<p>The Victim Outreach Intervention Center, Inc. in collaboration with the Butler County Alliance for Children (CAC), is requesting funding to support a children’s justice specialist, a director of counseling and two children’s counselor/advocates to be housed at the CAC. The children’s justice specialist will become the child’s single point of contact. They will accompany the child to medical exams, provide advocacy and support through the criminal and civil legal system, keep the child and his/her family up to date on the status of the criminal case, provide advocacy with the child’s school and other service providers. The two trauma-informed counselors will be overseen by the director of counseling. They will provide individual crisis counseling, support and educational counseling, group therapeutic counseling and off-site counseling services as needed. The applicant anticipates providing an additional 2,100 hours of service to an additional 75 child victims of sexual abuse. Funds will be used to partially support a children’s justice specialist, children’s counselor/advocate and director of counseling. A full-time children’s counselor/advocate and various administrative costs will also be supported.</p> <p>Funding for this project is conditional upon clarification of current funding sources for the requested positions and clarification of the target population.</p>
<p>The Crime Victims’ Center of Chester County, Inc.</p> <p>Chester County</p> <p>Grant # 26229</p> <p>Amount: \$45,000</p>	<p>The Crime Victims’ Center (CVC) of Chester County, Inc. is requesting funding to open two drop-in centers in the southern part of Chester County where CVC has identified a critical need for their agency’s services. The southern part of the county contains a large Hispanic/Latino population and impoverished clients who tend to lack transportation and other resources. They will also enhance/expand their Children’s Program to include child support groups which historically have not been a part of CVC’s treatment model used for victims of sexual assault/abuse. The two drop-in sites, located in New Garden Township and West Grove Township, will be staffed by five counselor/advocates and two bilingual victim advocates. Funds will be used to partially support 11 staff, travel costs and program supplies.</p> <p>Funding for this project is conditional upon clarification of the target population and what the agency will do if non-child sexual abuse victims request services.</p>
<p>Community Resources of Fayette County, Inc.</p> <p>Fayette County</p> <p>Grant # 26291</p> <p>Amount: \$67,768</p>	<p>The Community Resources of Fayette County (CRFC) is requesting \$67,768 to provide therapy services to child sexual abuse victims. Specifically, CRFC will implement Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) onsite at their agency, within the home or at Fayette County Children and Youth Services. Funding will be used to hire a licensed therapist who is already trained in TF-CBT. This therapist will serve 35 children and 25 parents/caregivers with approximately 1600 direct service hours. Outcomes will include a reduction in the child’s fear and anxiety, an elimination of avoidance and destructive behavior and an increase in the child’s parent’s and/or caregiver’s quality of life.</p> <p>Funds will also be used to support travel, office rent, administrative supplies and mileage.</p>
<p>Women In Need</p> <p>Franklin County</p> <p>Grant # 26335</p> <p>Amount: \$60,000</p>	<p>Women in Need (WIN), in collaboration with Over the Rainbow Child Advocacy Center (OTR-CAC), is requesting funding to hire a dedicated staff person who will work with OTR-CAC to provide advocacy to the families and victims at forensic interviews, coordinate resources for direct services at WIN and throughout the community for each victim, offer ongoing follow-up for each family and participate in the monthly Multidisciplinary Investigative Team (MDIT) meetings. This coordinated response will help to minimize the trauma that can be experienced by a child during an investigation, and provide a safe environment for both the family and the child to receive efficient delivery of services, specific referrals for each family and consistent advocacy throughout the case. Approximately 250 children will be served throughout the life of the grant. Funding will be used to hire a CAC victim advocate, support training costs and various administrative supplies.</p>

<p>Sexual Assault Resource and Counseling Center of Lebanon County</p> <p>Lebanon County</p> <p>Grant # 26281</p> <p>Amount: \$74,299</p>	<p>The Sexual Assault Resource and Counseling Center of Lebanon County (SARCC) is requesting funding to provide direct victim service enhancements that serve child victims of sexual abuse. Funding is requested to provide a child advocate who will work at the SARCC and the Lebanon County Children’s Resource Center, a satellite CAC of the Dauphin Children’s Resource Center. The child advocate will provide advocacy and support to child victims of sexual abuse during the investigative process. They will also provide follow-up support to the child victim to include referrals, individual and group counseling and advocacy as needed. SARCC will also contract with an animal assisted therapist, art therapist, yoga instructor and a therapist trained in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) therapy to provide breakthrough integrative therapeutic interventions for children needing extra support. These therapies will be offered in community settings such as schools and churches in addition to the SARCC offices. Funds will be used to partially fund a child advocate, two SARCC staff, administrative costs and consultant costs associated with integrative therapeutic interventions.</p>
<p>Valley Youth House Committee, Inc.</p> <p>Lehigh County</p> <p>Grant # 26329</p> <p>Amount: \$100,000</p>	<p>Valley Youth House Committee, Inc. is requesting funding to implement TF-CBT to 30 Lehigh County children who are victims of sexual abuse. Services will be provided to children and their families by a licensed master’s level clinician in their home or other community site based on the convenience of the family. Youth aged 3 to 18 will be identified by community mental health/child welfare treatment professions, the Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth or the Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Department following a report of sexual abuse. Funds will be used to support 1.5 FTE therapists, travel costs, assessments and various administrative costs.</p>
<p>Support Center For Child Advocate</p> <p>Philadelphia County</p> <p>Grant # 26357</p> <p>Amount: \$96,137</p>	<p>The Support Center for Child Advocate is requesting \$96,137 to provide high-quality victim services for victims of child sexual abuse; identify and assess each client’s needs and ensure the provision of appropriate services; and facilitate the attainment of safe, legally permanent homes for clients, including return to family of origin with appropriate supports. Child Advocates’ innovative model involves lawyer-social worker teams providing comprehensive victim services to children who are involved in protective foster care and/or involved in criminal proceedings as victims and witnesses.</p> <p>Funding will partially support five child advocate social workers who will represent, in conjunction with volunteer attorneys, at least 50 new child sexual abuse victims in dependency and criminal child abuse prosecutions and continue representing at least 50 open/active cases. This grant will also support administrative expenses.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Total Amount Awarded: \$830,258</p>