



# ARIZONA STOP Violence Against Women

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## Implementation Plan March 2014

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**Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families**

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## **I. Introduction**

Arizona is a diverse state comprised of urban, rural and tribal areas. Phoenix, the largest city in Arizona, is the sixth largest city in the United States with more than 1.4 million people, while the state as a whole has an estimated 6.3 million people. Maricopa County, where Phoenix is located, is ranked the third most populous county in the U.S. and makes up about 60 percent of the total Arizona population. Maricopa and Pima counties combined make up more than 75 percent of the population, leaving some very rural areas in the remaining 13 counties. Three of Arizona's 15 counties are the second (Coconino County), fifth (Mohave County) and sixth (Apache County) largest counties by area in the U.S. Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, and about a quarter of the state's land area is tribal. In addition, the two largest tribes (the Navajo Nation and Tohono O'odham) are located in Arizona. The Navajo Nation actually has territory in four states; however, the tribe's largest land area is located in Arizona.

Since the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) first passed in 1994, Arizona has been at the forefront in the development of partnerships among victim services, prosecution, courts, and law enforcement professionals to address and alleviate domestic violence, teen dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. This is a three-year implementation plan that was developed through the collaborative efforts of funders, potential and present subgrantees, members of the criminal justice system, the dual sexual and domestic violence coalition, as well as representatives from state and local governments. Arizona's STOP Violence Against Women 2014 Implementation Plan will continue to build strong foundations toward the development of programs that will effectively meet the needs of the citizens of Arizona.

The purpose of this implementation plan is to identify priorities that will provide guidance to criminal justice systems, victim service providers, coalitions, and the Governor's Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women in the development of statewide domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking programs and services. This plan will ensure that local and state governmental agencies and communities are united in their efforts to address violence against women in a systematic process, while meeting the needs of victims living in both urban and rural communities. Arizona has adopted three overarching and ambitious goals. Together, with complementary objectives, these goals will direct a concise, meaningful, and coordinated effort to change systems and provide an opportunity for a safer quality of life for victims. Arizona will continue to use VAWA funding in the most effective, efficient, and solution-focused manner by working toward the outlined goals and objectives.

Overall the plan details a four-month process of planning for the 2015 Arizona STOP funding cycle. Although Arizona is a large state with rural, tribal and urban areas, many of the team members expressed common needs and concerns. The top stated needs are:

- Expand and increase the response to sexual violence, including, but not limited to, addressing trafficking, Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) compliance, availability of trained forensic nurse examiners, and Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART).
- Enhance or create a coordinated community response to sexual and domestic violence in each community.
- Improve standards for batterer intervention programs, including collaboration with victim service providers.

- Enhance or provide all victims of domestic violence, teen dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking with support and information.
- Increase employment, housing, child care, and transportation support or options to all victims, within the confines of the STOP requirements.
- Streamline and make consistent the process for serving and enforcing protective orders throughout Arizona.
- Provide or enhance training for judges about victim safety and how domestic violence impacts legal decision-making (custody) cases.
- Improve training and use of assessment tools for all disciplines to provided early detection and intervention for high-risk situations in order to prevent fatalities.
- Increase the capacity among tribal communities to respond to sexual and domestic violence and related fatalities including, but not limited to, the creation of domestic violence coordinated community response teams, sexual assault response teams or fatality review teams.
- Increase or enhance culturally appropriate interventions and services for culturally specific populations.
- Implement evidence-based healthy relationship education in grades with youths 11 years or older.
- Increase awareness of and response to human trafficking in the context of sexual and domestic violence.
- Provide or enhance training, technical assistance and/or support to law enforcement and child welfare investigators on the overlap of domestic violence in child maltreatment cases.

This document is presented and organized using the STOP Formula Program Implementation Plan Checklist. It is ordered based on each section and subsection outlined in this document.

#### **A. Approved Plan Date**

The 2014 STOP Violence Against Women Implementation Plan was approved via email by the STOP Advisory Team on March 19, 2014.

#### **B. Time Period of the Plan**

The Plan was created by the Arizona STOP Advisory Team as a resource and guide to determine the community needs and funding priorities for the next competitive STOP funding cycle. The STOP grant is awarded for a 12-month contract each year; however, it has historically provided a three-year cycle from year one of the competitive cycle. Applicants who are awarded during the competitive Request for Grant Application (RFGA) receive the first one-year contract as part of the RFGA process, and then, if in good standing, they will be offered two more opportunities to renew their contract for a one-year period. The plan was created to support the next funding cycle, which starts in calendar year 2015, so the priorities detailed in this plan are based on what is needed in Arizona from January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2017. In fact, as part of the first planning meeting, participants were asked to write a letter to the President of the United States dated January 2018, detailing what Arizona has accomplished with the STOP grant from the funding 2015 cycle (see Appendix B). The accomplishments detailed in this exercise are the basis for the team to identify funding priorities.

## II. Description of the Planning Process

### A. Brief Description of the Planning Process

Relying on the checklist and the 2013 STOP Formula Grant Program application for guidance, the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families (GOCYF) re-assembled the Arizona STOP Advisory Team. Staff reviewed the past team members as well as current community leaders who met the requirements for participation in the planning process and quickly created a roster of potential 2014 team members. (See Appendix A for the STOP Advisory Team member roster.) The STOP Grant Administrator contacted a core group of team members (dual coalition, tribal coalition, Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) and Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) program administrator, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) program administrator and Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) program administrator) to confirm the best date that worked for all, or most, of them to participate. Once the first meeting date of December 11, 2013, was selected, the STOP Grant Administrator sent out an invitation and explanation to the full team roster about this meeting. Included in the email was a statement that, *mileage and/or hotel reimbursement are available on a limited basis*, in order to accommodate team members who may have financial hardships or barriers to participation. Attached to the email was a Dropbox link for an online folder containing multiple documents that would be helpful for the meeting activities. The folder included:

- 2011 Arizona STOP Implementation Plan
- Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence 2011 Environmental Scan Data Report
- Arizona Department of Health Services FVPSA 2012 State Data
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2007-2010 Arizona Violence Against Women data tables

- OVW STOP Formula Program Implementation Plan Checklist
- OVW VAWA 2013 Summary: Changes to OVW-Administered Grant Programs
- SACT 2012 Survey Results (the State Agency Coordination Team’s sexual assault/violence statewide survey)
- Sexual Violence Justice Institute VAWA STOP Funds Planning Bulletin: Sexual Assault Response Teams
- Southern Arizona Battered Immigrant Women Project Impact Statement (10-year Rural Grant impact assessment report)

The first planning meeting was held December 11, 2013, at the Governor’s Office (the Executive Tower building) in downtown Phoenix, where the STOP Grant Administrator is housed. Twenty-one community members attended, representing a variety of organizations and communities in Arizona: courts, law enforcement, prosecution, victim services as well as rural, urban and tribal interests. (See Appendix A for the full list and noted attendance at the meetings.)

Handouts for the December 11, 2013, meeting included:

- A copy of the meeting PowerPoint, which included the 2011 Arizona STOP Implementation Plan Goals and Objectives
- VAWA Purpose Areas
- Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) VAWA 2013 Summary: Changes to OVW-Administered Grant Programs
- Arizona Department of Health Services FVPSA 2012 State Data
- Sexual Violence Justice Institute’s *VAWA STOP Funds Planning Bulletin: Sexual Assault Response Teams*, November 2013

- Rural PATH (Partners in Transformation for Health and Safety) – Coordination  
Community Response in Southern Arizona Addressing Violence Against Rural Women  
Project

At the December 11, 2013, meeting, participants were provided with the background and purpose of the meeting, an overview of the STOP grant, and changes from VAWA 2013 that impact future STOP funding. After a brief overview, the majority of the time was focused on creating the new goals, objectives and priorities for the 2015 STOP grant. First the STOP Advisory Team reviewed and updated the goals and objectives. The prior plan had two goals, but during this process a new goal and two corresponding objectives were created. The remaining time was spent on creating the priorities for Arizona. A staff member from the GOCYF, who does not work directly on the STOP Grant, guided members through a letter-writing activity and vision exercise to help each person brainstorm and prioritize the most important uses of the 2015 STOP grant funds. (See Appendix B for the vision exercise). Members shared their letters with the group, and a scribe captured on an easel each element they envisioned for the progress of Arizona as a result of the 2015 STOP funding cycle. Once all the letters were shared, each member was provided with three dots (stickers) per section, with seven sections, to vote on top priorities.

The top priorities were typed up for the full group to read and review. A March 5, 2014, meeting was scheduled to discuss the list and finalize the priorities for the STOP 2015 RFGA. At the March meeting, members reviewed the goals, objectives and the list of priorities. The STOP Grant Administrator provided a list with the top two priorities (with a few edits and merging of similar items) and led a discussion to finalize the list of priorities. After a dynamic

group discussion, suggestions and edits, a new list emerged. The new list was then shared via email to all members for review and comment until a final priorities list was solidified.

At this point the final draft of the Implementation Plan was distributed to the STOP Advisory Team for review and comment. Once comments were gathered, the final plan was created and made ready for submission with the STOP application. Given the timing of this process, members did not have an opportunity to see and comment on the final plan, after their suggestions were incorporated from the final draft, in time to complete the *Documentation of Collaboration* form before it was submitted to OVW.

## **B. Documentation from the Planning Committee**

1. State sexual assault coalition – N/A
2. State domestic violence coalition – N/A
3. Dual domestic violence and sexual assault coalition – Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence
4. Law enforcement entities – Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training Board; Department of Public Safety, VOCA Administrator; El Mirage Police Department; Prescott Police Department; Navajo Nation law enforcement (retired); Santa Cruz County Attorney’s Office (investigator and former deputy sheriff in the county)
5. Prosecution entities – Arizona Prosecuting Attorney’s Advisory Council, Pima County Attorney’s Office
6. State and local courts – Administrative Office of the Courts, Pima County Adult Probation, Superior Court in Coconino County- Integrated Family Court, Superior Court in Pinal County, Tucson Municipal Court

7. Tribal governments – Not in attendance; however, the Southwest Indigenous Women’s Coalition and Southwest Center for Law and Policy attended.
8. Representatives from underserved populations, including culturally specific populations – Area Agency on Aging, DOVES Program; Arizona South Asians for Safe Families; Colorado River Regional Crisis Shelter; DeColores Shelter Southwest Indigenous Women’s Coalition, and Southwest Center for Law and Policy
9. Victim service providers – Area Agency on Aging, DOVES Program; Arizona South Asians for Safe Families; Colorado River Regional Crisis Shelter; DeColores Shelter; La Frontera Arizona, EMPACT Trauma Healing Services; Northern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault (NACASA); Training and Resources United to Stop Trafficking (TRUST);
10. Population specific organizations - Area Agency on Aging, DOVES Program; Arizona South Asians for Safe Families; DeColores Shelter
11. Other – National TA Providers (National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative, Southwest Center for Law and Policy), State Agency Participants including the administrators of Victim of Crime Act (VOCA), Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA), and Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) funds administrators.

### **C. Coordination with FVPSA and VOCA**

GOCYF staffs the State Agency Coordination Team (SACT) and has for more than 15 years. SACT is composed of ten state agencies that meet monthly to address issues of common concern and to look for ways to collectively be more effective. These efforts have included information sharing, joint program funding and training, developing common performance measures, and administering a statewide needs assessment. In addition, two statewide coalitions

(Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence and Arizona Child and Family Network, the family advocacy center coalition) are asked to join SACT at least quarterly to provide updates or discuss emerging issues. In addition, the coalitions can request to be on the agenda at any time. The mission of SACT is “to collaboratively assess needs, maximize state and federal resources, support intervention and prevention activities, and improve quality services for domestic violence and sexual assault victims while positively influencing violence against women policies and practices.”

Member agencies include:

- Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC)
- Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH)
- Arizona Supreme Court, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)
- Arizona Department of Corrections (ADC)
- Arizona Department of Economic Security (ADES)
- Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)
- Arizona Department of Public Safety (ADPS)
- Governor’s Office for Children, Youth and Families (GOCYF)
- Office of the Arizona Attorney General (AG)
- Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)

Three ADHS members attend SACT: The FVPSA grant administrator, the RPE and SASP grants administrator and their supervisor. One ADPS member – the lead VOCA grant administrator – attends the SACT meetings.

In 2012, SACT decided to conduct a survey of prevention and direct sexual assault/violence service providers to assess the level of collaboration and support they were receiving from statewide service organizations. The results of this survey were used to guide SACT in providing support and assistance to this issue, including this planning process.

Six members of the SACT group were invited to join the STOP Advisory Team. The representative from the AOC, the ADES representative (who oversee funds to most of the domestic violence programs), the ADPS representative (the VOCA administrator) and two members from ADHS (the FVPSA administrator and the RPE/SASP administrator). The five members who administer funds were reminded to speak up or point out if, during the planning process, there was a conflict with their plans or efforts. When appropriate, the STOP Advisory Team discussed whether a priority could be a conflict or solicited better language to coincide with other funding directives. With a long history of a collaborative relationship from the SACT, coordinating this process with other funding sources was a natural fit.

#### **D. Continued Planning Efforts**

As part of the continued efforts to do outreach and solicit feedback for the final 2015 RFGA, the STOP Grant Administrator will continue to collaborate with the SACT and the community. A big piece of this will be in sharing the Arizona STOP 2014 Implementation Plan with potential subgrantees and stakeholders. When VAWA 2013 passed, the STOP Grant Administrator made efforts to share the new requirements and funding opportunities with the community. This same effort will be made now that the Plan is final so the community will be aware of the new goals, objectives and priorities. In addition, this will give potential applicants time to discuss and plan in order to address the required federal purpose areas and Arizona priorities.

In addition, during the VAWA 2013 outreach efforts, a subgrantee from Pima County and the Executive Director of the Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition discussed holding tribal specific meetings with the STOP Grant Administrator. The purpose of these meetings would be to discuss the STOP grant, dialogue about potential projects, how to address or implement one of the priorities detailed in the Implementation Plan, and discuss concerns or barriers for the application. In the past, there have been very few tribal specific applications, so it was suggested these meetings will help educate and inform both sides with the hope of more tribal projects applying for STOP funds. These meetings will take place between April and June 2014.

### III. Needs and Context

#### A. Population Demographics and Geographical Information

With just over 6.3 million people in Arizona, the state's gender makeup is about 50 percent female and 50 percent male. Arizona's population is 30.2 percent Hispanic and 5.3 percent American Indian/Alaskan Native, both well above the national average. Although Arizona is home to the country's sixth largest city, Phoenix, it does contain very rural areas. In fact, with a land area of 113,594 square miles, there are 56.3 people per square mile in Arizona, well below the national average for population density. A quarter of the land in Arizona is tribal, home to 22 federally recognized tribes. Most children in Arizona learn the five "C's" – cotton, cattle, climate, citrus and copper; hence, Arizona has more than 7,500 farms and ranches that are known for their production of beef, cotton, lettuce, oranges, grapefruits, and lemons. Arizona is also known for its many retirement communities, seasonal residents, and tourists. In 2012, Arizona hosted almost 24 million non-residents for at least one night. All of these factors demonstrate Arizona's diversity and thus the need for a variety of resources and services to address violence against women.

In 2013, the Arizona Criminal Justice Council (ACJC) released a ten-year analysis of the criminal history data for domestic and sexual violence in Arizona. The following are statements from the Executive Summary of the *Domestic Violence Arrest and Case Processing Data: An Analysis of the Information in Arizona's Computerized Criminal History Record System*, which can be found online at:

[http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/Pubs/Home/Domestic%20Violence\\_SJS10\\_FINALforPUB.pdf](http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/Pubs/Home/Domestic%20Violence_SJS10_FINALforPUB.pdf)

- More than three-fourths of individuals arrested for an offense flagged for domestic violence are male. Additionally, more than eight out of ten individuals arrested for an offense flagged for domestic violence were White (page 42).
- When controlling for population, the aggravated domestic violence arrest rate increased 82.0 percent from 2001 to 2010 (page 8).
- From 2001 to 2010, 23.0 percent of arrest counts for which a domestic violence flag was attached resulted in a finding of guilt. During this time, the percentage of arrest counts that resulted in a finding of guilt ranged from a high of 27.4 percent in 2002 to a low of 18.7 percent in 2010 (page 16).
- From 2001 to 2010, the number of arrests for aggravated domestic violence more than doubled (page 8).
- The most common sentence for an offender convicted of aggravated domestic violence was a probation term (page 41).
- From 2001 to 2010 the percentage of offenders convicted of aggravated domestic violence and sentenced to prison increased by approximately four times (page 41).

The following are statements from the Executive Summary of *The Reporting of Sexual Assault in Arizona, CY 2002-2011*, which can be found online at:

<http://www.azcjc.gov/ACJC.Web/Pubs/Home/2013%20ARS%2041-2406%20Report.pdf>.

- The total number of arrests involving sexual assault increased from 265 arrests in CY 2002 to 275 in CY 2011, an increase of 3.8 percent. The total number of sexual assault charges increased by 23.1 percent from 442 in CY 2002 to 544 in CY 2011.

- More than 98 percent of arrestees from CY 2002 to CY 2011 were male, and the proportion that was White ranged between 75.8 percent and 81.8 percent of the total number of sexual assault arrestees.
- Convictions for sexual assault increased from 30.8 percent of all disposition findings for sexual assault in CY 2002 to 43.9 percent in CY 2011.
- The percentage of convictions that resulted in a sentence of probation ranged from a high of 88.9 percent in CY 2007 to a low of 67.4 percent in CY 2009. The percentage of convictions that resulted in a sentence to prison fell from 62.6 percent in CY 2002 to 54.0 percent in CY 2011, and sentences to jail fell from 5.7 percent to 2.7 percent over the same period.

SUBJECT	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
<b>Total population (2010 Estimate)</b>	6,392,017	100.0%
<u>Sex and Age</u>		
<b>Female</b>	3,223,053	50.3%
<b>Male</b>	3,187,926	49.7%
<b>18 years and over</b>	4,789,328	74.7%
<b>Under 5 years</b>	455,375	07.1%
<b>65 years and over</b>	894,510	14.0%
<u>Race</u>		
<b>White</b>	5,241,147	81.8%
<b>Black or African American</b>	313,735	04.9%
<b>American Indian and Alaskan Native</b>	340,022	05.3%
<b>Asian</b>	227,957	03.6%
<b>Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander</b>	24,520	00.4%
<b>Other</b>	455,347	07.1%
<b>Persons of Hispanic or Latino Origin</b>	1,902,946	29.7%
<u>Educational Attainment</u>		
<b>High school graduate or higher</b>		85.4%
<b>Bachelor's degree or higher</b>		26.6%
<u>Language Spoken At Home</u>		
<b>Language other than English</b>		26.9%
<b>Median Family Income (dollars):</b>	\$50,256	
<u>Population by County</u>		
<b>Apache</b>	71,518	1.12%
<b>Cochise</b>	131,346	2.05%
<b>Coconino</b>	134,421	2.10%
<b>Gila</b>	53,597	0.84%
<b>Graham</b>	37,220	0.58%
<b>Greenlee</b>	8,437	0.13%
<b>La Paz</b>	20,489	0.32%
<b>Maricopa</b>	3,817,117	59.7%
<b>Mohave</b>	200,186	3.13%
<b>Navajo</b>	107,449	1.68%
<b>Pima</b>	980,263	15.3%
<b>Pinal</b>	375,770	5.88%
<b>Santa Cruz</b>	47,420	0.74%
<b>Yavapai</b>	211,033	3.30%
<b>Yuma</b>	195,751	3.06%

US Census Bureau, Web. 11 Mar 2014 <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/04000.html>.

## **B. Demographic Data on the Distribution of Underserved Populations Within the State**

The demographic data provided in the previous section details the distribution of many of the underserved populations in Arizona. As stated earlier, Arizona is comprised of a diverse landscape of urban and rural populations. Even within the urban and rural areas lie tribal lands as well, which make up a quarter of the land in Arizona. With such a diverse population in Arizona, service providers strive to meet the needs of victims. There are about 35 domestic violence shelters, some of which provide domestic and sexual violence services in rural areas. Arizona also has a total of 16 advocacy centers spread around the state in 10 of the 15 counties. Each center varies on who or how they provide services in the community; some are child abuse only, and others are domestic and sexual violence service focused. Even with the resources available in the community, there are still pockets of unserved and underserved communities.

#### **IV. Plan Priorities and Approaches**

The Arizona STOP Advisory Team reviewed and revised the goals and objectives from the 2011 Implementation Plan. The team was careful to discuss and integrate some of the new allowable activities provided by VAWA 2013. As a result, there is a new goal and two accompanying objectives for the 2014 Implementation Plan. The team also participated in a guided process to set priorities; a total of 13 priorities were determined for the STOP 2015 RFGA.

Overall, the tasks and activities will be outlined by the potential applicants for future STOP grants. The GOCYF will include Objectives 1.1, 2.1 and 2.2 as required elements of the STOP RFGA. Objectives 1.2, 2.1 and 2.2 will be required elements included in reports to the GOCYF from STOP subgrantees. Objectives 3.1 and 3.2 will also be requested of programs or projects that are involved with prevention or homicide prevention activities. The RFGA will provide detailed instructions and the minimal requirements to achieve the objectives. For example, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be stated as a requirement of the STOP application. Any application that does not have an MOU or a letter of participation will not be considered. In addition, an applicant will be required to have an MOU with all identified partners who are needed to make the project viable.

The GOCYF will provide technical assistance before and after the RFGA process to assist agencies and organizations in achieving these goals and objectives. Furthermore, these efforts will be supported by the work of SACT. There are also other committees, task forces, and workgroups with whom this information will be shared. For example, one of the SACT members is from the Administrative Office of the Courts and staffs the Committee on the Impact

of Domestic Violence and the Courts (CIDVC). The STOP Grant Administrator is appointed to CIDVC and will provide an update on the final plan.

## **A. Identified Goals**

### 1. Concise description of current project goals and objectives:

Goal 1 - Improve the consistency and coordination of response to victims of stalking, domestic, dating and sexual violence in Arizona by holding the offenders accountable and strengthening collaborations among law enforcement, prosecution, courts and victim services systems.

Objective 1.1: For the 2015 RFGA, each Arizona STOP applicant will provide a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with its application to demonstrate and strengthen its collaboration and commitment to holding offenders accountable and supporting victim safety.

Objective 1.2: By 2018, each Arizona STOP subgrantee will provide information and examples of how its coordinated response has improved the criminal justice response to victims of stalking, domestic, dating and sexual violence and increased access to services for victims.

Goal 2 - Increase the capacity of Arizona's criminal justice and victim services systems to respond to the identified needs of unserved or underserved victims of stalking, domestic, dating and sexual violence in a culturally responsive manner.

Objective 2.1: By 2018, each subgrantee will provide a detailed description of how it increased its response to unserved or underserved victims.

Objective 2.2: By 2018, each subgrantee will provide a detailed description of how it provided services in a culturally responsive manner.

Goal 3 - Strengthen Arizona's capacity to reduce or prevent stalking, domestic, dating and sexual violence, and related fatalities.

Objective 3.1 - By 2018, Arizona will provide evidence of improved homicide prevention through victim-centered strategies such as implementation of fatality review team recommendations, development of evidence-informed high-risk teams, or other approaches.

Objective 3.2 - By 2018, Arizona will demonstrate efforts to increase awareness and prevention of stalking, domestic, dating and sexual violence.

2. Goals and objectives for reducing domestic violence-related homicides within the state:

The STOP Advisory Team developed a new goal and objective specifically to address domestic violence-related homicide. See Goal 3 and Objective 3.1 above.

## **B. Priority Areas**

1. Narrative about the priorities or goals the state has set regarding how STOP funds will be used:

The following 13 priorities will be included in Arizona's STOP 2015 RFGA. These are not ranked or listed in any specific order, just as they were addressed during the activity. As stated above, these will be shared around the state prior to the release of the RFGA so programs and communities can plan accordingly for their application.

- Expand and increase the response to sexual violence, including, but not limited to, addressing trafficking, Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) compliance, availability of trained forensic nurse examiners, and Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART).

- Enhance or create a coordinated community response to sexual and domestic violence in each community.
- Improve standards for batterer intervention programs, including collaboration with victim service agencies.
- Enhance or provide all victims of domestic violence, teen dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking with support and information.
- Increase employment, housing, child care, and transportation support or options to all victims, within the confines of the STOP requirements.
- Streamline and make consistent the process for serving and enforcing protective orders throughout Arizona.
- Provide or enhance training for judges about victim safety and how domestic violence impacts legal decision-making (custody) cases.
- Improve training and use of assessment tools for all disciplines to provide early detection and intervention for high-risk situations in order to prevent fatalities.
- Increase the capacity among tribal communities to respond to sexual and domestic violence and related fatalities including, but not limited to, creation of domestic violence coordinated community response teams, sexual assault response teams or fatality review teams.
- Increase or enhance culturally appropriate interventions and services for culturally specific populations.
- Implement evidence-based healthy relationship education in grades with youths 11 years or older.

- Increase awareness of and response to human trafficking in the context of sexual and domestic violence.
  - Provide or enhance training, technical assistance and/or support to law enforcement and child welfare investigators on the overlap of domestic violence in child maltreatment cases.
2. General descriptions of the types of programs and projects that will be supported with STOP dollars

The State of Arizona continues to respond to the goals and objectives that were established under VAWA. An emphasis will be placed on the 20 purpose areas while maintaining the flexibility to respond to societal and statewide changes. As stated above, the STOP grant will prioritize programs and projects that address the top needs provided from the Arizona STOP Advisory Team meetings. The GOCYF will continue to:

- Award programs that assure quality and accountability;
  - Use the RFGA process established through the State Procurement Office to assure an impartial, competitive review; and
  - Provide technical assistance and support to communities and programs on grant writing, use of a logic model to developing services, evaluation, research, impact of legislation, as well as sharing cutting-edge solutions to violence against women.
3. A description of how the funds will be distributed across the law enforcement, prosecution, courts, victim services, and discretionary allocation categories

The State of Arizona will strictly adhere to the federally mandated formula for allocating STOP grant funding as follows:

- 25% - Law Enforcement
- 25% - Prosecution
- 5% - Courts
- 30% - Victim Services
- 15% - Discretionary

Traditionally, the 15 percent discretionary funds have been overwhelmingly allocated to victim services with a small portion going to courts. This year, with the addition of the prevention and educational programming purpose area, which must come from the discretionary allocation, part of the discretionary funds (up to 5 percent of the award) may be used for prevention services or educational programming projects. What is not used for prevention or educational programming will be used mainly for victim services as has been the practice before. Ten percent (10 percent) of the victim services funds will be provided to applicants from culturally specific community organizations. The STOP 2015 RFGA will also follow the 2012 RFGA in breaking out rural, tribal, and urban, county, or statewide applicants so they compete within these categories, by allocation. The funds will be set by percentage of funds for the rural and tribal projects. See the breakdown below.

By allocating this way, if the rural or tribal funds are not fully used by a qualifying applicant, then the remaining funds will go toward the urban, county (non-rural), statewide pot of funds in that allocation. This will give rural and tribal programs a better advantage than the priority points method used in the 2009 process. Again, for the STOP 2015 RFGA, applicants can only receive priority points for projects specifically supporting unserved or underserved communities

as defined by VAWA, not geographic locations. In order to be eligible for the priority points, programs must score a minimum of 65 percent in each evaluation category.

- **Law Enforcement** (25% of total funds available)
  - Rural 40% of funding for program area
  - Tribal 40% of funding for program area
  - Urban/County/Statewide 20% of funding for program area
  
- **Prosecution** (25% of total funds available)
  - Rural 40% of funding for program area
  - Tribal 40% of funding for program area
  - Urban/County/Statewide 20% of funding for program area
  
- **Courts** (5% of total funds available award)
  - Rural 40% of funding for program area
  - Tribal 40% of funding for program area
  - Urban/County/Statewide 20% of funding for program area
  
- **Victim Services** (30% total funds available, of which 10% shall go to culturally specific community-based organization programs)
  - Rural 40% of funding for program area
  - Tribal 40% of funding for program area
  - Urban/County/Statewide 20% of funding for program area

In the past, the GOCYF used the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Rural Health’s definition of rural counties in Arizona. It is our intention to use this standard or another federally recognized standard for providing human services as the method to identify which Arizona counties are rural.

To further ensure equitable distribution of funds, experts in the fields of law enforcement, victim services, courts, and prosecution will evaluate applications that are submitted for competitive STOP funding.

4. Documentation from the prosecution, law enforcement, court, and victim services programs to be assisted, describing grant funds need, use and expected results (letters):

Please see the PDF document titled Arizona Grant Letters submitted as part of the application on GMS.

5. Information on the state's progress toward meeting the sexual assault set-aside (in future years, how the state will meet the set-aside, including how they will ensure the funds are allocated for programs or projects in 2 or more allocations (law enforcement, prosecution, victim services, and courts))

Since the passage of VAWA 2013, the STOP Grant Administrator has presented the STOP grant changes to stakeholders in the community that may apply for the funds. In addition, there have been specific discussions with law enforcement, prosecution, and victim service providers—including the dual coalition and the tribal coalition—about the 20 percent sexual assault requirements.

The STOP 2015 RFGA will stipulate that 20 percent of the FFY 2014 award will be granted for sexual assault programs in two funding allocations. If the 2015 applications do not have qualified applicants to meet the 20 percent requirement, then the remaining funds will be held until an appropriate sexual assault contract can be determined.

### **C. Grant-Making Strategy**

1. Description of how the state will give priority to areas of varying geographic size with the greatest showing of need based on the availability of existing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking programs:

As stated above, in section B(3), the STOP 2015 RFGA will break out rural, tribal, and urban, county or statewide applicants so they compete within these categories, by allocation.

Each application from these three categories will be required to demonstrate the need for its community as well as document the existing resources and services. Application reviewers with

expertise and experience in each category will be recruited to assist with a fair and equitable evaluation of the applications.

2. A description of how the state will determine the amount of subgrants based on the population and geographic area to be served:

See section B(3) above on how the STOP 2015 RFGA will first allocate a specific percentage of the award for rural and tribal communities, before awarding the urban, county (non-rural) or statewide applications.

3. A description of how the state will equitably distribute monies on a geographic basis including nonurban and rural areas of various geographic sizes:

Again, see section B(3) above on how the STOP 2015 RFGA will first allocate a specific percentage of the award for rural and tribal communities, before awarding the urban, county (non-rural) or statewide applications.

4. Description of methods to be used for solicitation/review proposals and selection of subgrant projects and for which sectors these methods apply:

Arizona offers the STOP grant as a competitive RFGA in accordance with our state procurement laws. Accepted applications are then provided to a review team, whose members are instructed to use the RFGA (detailing the priorities and requirements for the application) and the comprehensive scoring tool in evaluating each application. The review team members are selected based on their expertise in the field of law enforcement, victim services, courts, or prosecution. Once the individual review team members have had time to read and score their applications, they meet with the Procurement Manager and GOCYF staff to present their scores for each application, discuss their reasoning, and come to consensus on the final score. After the

final score is decided, the team then assesses whether the application qualifies for priority points. If so, these are added to the final score. Applications are then funded based on their score.

In the past, the STOP grant has used the following evaluation criteria and percentage of total points. However, the GOCYF may redistribute the percentages for each evaluation criteria once the final RFGA is drafted. See below. In addition, if the application scores at least 65 percent in each category, then it can be eligible for priority points. Priority points are granted only for applicants who demonstrate that their projects specifically address unserved or underserved victims.

Problem Statement/Needs Assessment	(30%) may be revised to 25%
Goals and Objectives	(20%)
Strategies and Approaches	(10%) may be revised to 15%
Implementation Plan	(10%)
Fiscal Capacity/Budget	(10%)
Organizational Capacity	(10%) may be revised to 15%
Evaluation Plan	(10%) may be revised to 5%

5. A timeline for the STOP grant cycle:

A timeline for Arizona's 2015 STOP grant cycle is as follows:

- By July 2014, participate in tribal meetings and community meetings to discuss the Plan and the upcoming STOP RFGA.
- By July 2014, draft STOP 2015 RFGA.
- By August 2014, finalize STOP RFGA and submit to the Procurement Manager.
- By September 2014, issue solicitation.

- By November 2014, STOP proposals due. Evaluation committee to review and score applications.
- By December 2014, STOP grant awards are completed and applicants are notified.

6. Whether STOP subgrant projects will be funded on a multiple or single-year basis:

In the past, the STOP grant has been offered initially for a one-year contract with the possibility to renew the annual contract for a maximum of two renewals. This has allowed projects to be funded for up to three years. GOCYF plans to continue this process.

7. A description of how the state will ensure that any subgrantees will consult with victim service providers during the course of developing their grant applications in order to ensure that the proposed activities are designed to promote the safety, confidentiality, and economic independence of victims:

The STOP 2015 RFGA will include requirements to demonstrate that the applicant has a confidentiality policy in place. The RFGA will also prompt applicants to provide details of how the current policy was created or reviewed by victim service providers to address safety, confidentiality, and economic independence of victims.

#### **D. Addressing the Needs of Underserved Victims**

1. Description of how the state will recognize and address the needs of underserved populations as defined by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) 2013:

The GOCYF staff and grant activities strive to strengthen the response to diverse and underserved communities. The STOP Grant Administrator does this regularly by speaking to and inviting participation from:

- The STOP Advisory Team;
- The Governor’s Commission to Prevent Violence Against Women;
- The Southern Arizona Rural PATHS (Partners in Transformation for Health and Safety);

- The Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence;
- The Arizona Child and Family Advocacy Network;
- The Arizona Coalition for Victim Services; and
- The State Agency Coordination Team.

The GOCYF reaches out to both urban and rural communities through a vast communication network consisting of email, teleconference calls, and attendance at community meetings. All of these groups influence the grant planning process for STOP funding. In addition, as stated above, STOP applications that specifically address the needs of an unserved or underserved population will receive priority points.

2. Specifics on how the state plans to meet the set aside for culturally specific community based organizations:

The STOP Grant Administrator has made efforts to speak to a broad community of service providers about the upcoming changes for the 10 percent set-aside. In addition, three non-profit organizations that met the criteria for the new VAWA 2013 culturally specific community based organization were invited to participate on the STOP Advisory Team. The STOP Grant Administrator also will participate in at least one or two upcoming tribal specific meetings to discuss the STOP grant and upcoming RFGA. This will be a time to help tribal programs plan for potential applications and hear any concerns or barriers in the application process. The STOP Grant Administrator has stressed to all potential applicants—at meetings or during one-on-one discussions—to ask any questions about the their proposed applications prior to the release of the RFGA, before the lines of communication close pursuant to procurement law.

3. A description of how the state will ensure that monies set aside to fund culturally specific services and activities for underserved populations are distributed equitably among those populations:

See section B(3) above on how the STOP 2015 RFGA will first allocate a specific percentage of the award for rural and tribal communities before awarding the urban, county (non-rural) or statewide applications. For the Victim Services evaluation, three separate categories (rural, tribal and urban) will compete for these funds. In the past, only one application was eligible for the 10 percent set-aside, and, therefore, it received the funds. If more than one application is eligible for the 10 percent set-aside, then the evaluators, the procurement manager, and staff will need to look at the total scores and amount requested to determine if one or more applications will receive the 10 percent set-aside.

4. Specific information as to which subgrantees meet the required 10 percent set-aside for culturally specific organizations within the victim services allocation (if known):

This information is not known and will not be determined until after the STOP 2015 RFGA is awarded in December 2014. As a result of the outreach and planning efforts, a few eligible organizations have discussed potential project ideas with the STOP Grant Administrator.

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\* Indicates members present at 12/11/13 and/or 3/5/14 meeting.

## VI. Appendix B – Letter Exercise for Priorities

### Arizona STOP Advisory Team: 2015 STOP Implementation Plan

#### VISION EXERCISE

*“Arizona not as it is, but as it has become ...”*

The month: *January*

The year: *2018*

On the behalf of the President of the United States of America, Congress seeks to provide special recognition to states for their cutting edge work in developing systems that have substantially addressed violence against women through collaborative efforts at both the state and local levels that has saved tax-payers millions of dollars and have made significant contributions in the lives of youth and families across the state.

As a result of Arizona’s success in this important arena, the President is personally inviting you to submit Arizona for prospective receipt of an inaugural **Distinguished Medal of Honor**. The President will present only three states with this award at the Gold, Silver, and Bronze levels. Subsequent to the award, the White House and the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) will organize to capitalize on Arizona’s success by incorporating its strategies into the future direction of federal agencies and to innovate the field for our country.

Your qualification and subsequent evaluation for this award will be judged solely on the letter you write to the President.

The President’s gracious invitation follows:

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I would like to consider Arizona for my first-ever **Distinguished Medal of Honor**. To do so, I have one requirement.

Write me a letter and begin with the following words...

*Dear President,*

*Our exceptional blend of vision and the strategies and activities we have developed to realize this vision for our state merits the GOLD **Distinguished Medal of Honor** because...*

Then, proceed to tell me—in as much detail as you can—the story of what has happened in your state and why you deserve the award. **Engage in unabashed self-promotion.** Do your own version of “show and tell” or “bring and brag.”

**Words like *I will...I hope...I intend...must not appear*. Tell me what you have actually accomplished.**

Include, too, your attitudes and feelings, perspectives and the insights you have about contributing to the “favorable future” of your state and its communities.

**Complete your letter within the next 30 minutes.**

***[Suggestion: Place yourself fully in the future, looking back and reporting...]***

*Dear Mr. President,*

*Our exceptional blend of vision and the strategies and activities in which Arizona have become engaged that have dramatically influenced the responses to violence against women in our great state merits the GOLD **Distinguished Medal of Honor** because...*

A. With the STOP Grant Implementation, we... *(What indicators has the work of STOP funded projects impacted? How are victims now safer and perpetrators held more accountable? How are communities now better empowered to address violence against women?)*

•

•

•

B. Because of the Vision we pursued, ... *(For example, What does the STOP Advisory Team "Stand For"? As a result of our planning efforts how has Arizona become a safer place for victims and communities?)*

•

•

•

C. In the arena of victim services, we... *(services, collaborations, training, policy changes/recommendations etc.)*

- 

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- 

D. In the arena of systems response, we... *(For example, a county implemented a new lethality assessment or safety planning protocol, law enforcement increased the number of crisis response advocates or a rural county implemented a VAW CCRT.)*

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-

E. As a result of the STOP grant implementation, domestic violence related homicides . . .  
*(How did funded STOP projects help reduce domestic violence homicides? This can be direct supportive efforts (funding for team efforts, training, lethality assessment policies, etc.). STOP funds could also help indirectly by supporting advocate and/or criminal justice positions who sit on team, co-chair teams, support team implantation efforts, etc.)*

•

•

•

F. Because of our new prevention efforts, we... *(What methods, projects or programs are used to prevent violence against women?)*

•

•

•

G. As wise stewards of the STOP funds, during the implantation planning we prioritized discretionary funding to ... *(How best should STOP use discretionary funds? A new specific project to address a pressing need? Use the funds in existing allocations to help with their funding (like victim service and/or courts to support their efforts)?*

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Respectfully yours,