

Agency Name: Grayson County

Grant/App: 1344924 **Start Date:** 9/1/2021 **End Date:** 8/31/2022

Project Title: Domestic Violence Investigator Program

Status: Pending OOG Review

Profile Information

Applicant Agency Name: Grayson County

Project Title: Domestic Violence Investigator Program

Division or Unit to Administer the Project: Grayson County District Attorney's Office

Address Line 1: 200 South Crockett, Suite 116A

Address Line 2:

City/State/Zip: Sherman Texas 75090-7167

Start Date: 9/1/2021

End Date: 8/31/2022

Regional Council of Governments(COG) within the Project's Impact Area: Texoma Council of Governments

Headquarter County: Grayson

Counties within Project's Impact Area:

Grayson

Grant Officials:

Project Director

Name: Kathy Scheibmeir

Email: scheibmeirk@co.grayson.tx.us

Address 1: 200 S. Crockett Suite 116 A

Address 1:

City: Sherman, Texas 75090

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Title: Ms.

Salutation: Ms.

Position: Victim Services Coordinator

Narrative Information

Project Abstract :

The Grayson County Domestic Violence Investigator will ensure that misdemeanor and felony cases of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence and Stalking are investigated and prepared with adequate information for prosecution, provide victims 13 years of age and over assistance in participation in the criminal justice system, and provide referral to the Victim Services Division for assistance with Crime Victims Compensation, Protective Orders or other victim related matters and/or referrals. According to the Crimes in Texas report, published by the Texas Department of Public Safety, in 2019, there were 853 incidents of family violence to law enforcement within Grayson County's 136,212 population. The Domestic Violence Investigator investigated 376 cases of Family Violence provided to the District Attorney's office by the 13 law enforcement agencies in Grayson County from September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020. 139 of those were felonies and 237 were misdemeanors. The goal of the Domestic Violence Investigator Program is to provide investigative services to all adult female victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence and Stalking to assist in the successful prosecution of offenders and to ensure adult female victims are afforded the rights granted by Article 56.02 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. The Grayson County District Attorney's Office Domestic Violence Investigator program will provide investigative services to all female victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence and Stalking within the 136,212 population of Grayson

County, ages 13 years and up. Functions of the position include: interview victim/witnesses, assist prosecutors with scheduling witnesses for trial, contacting witnesses and provide security for victims/witnesses during criminal proceedings, provide information to victims concerning crime victims compensation and protective orders, referring victims to the victim services coordinators and to other area agencies and services when appropriate.

Problem Statement :

Criminal cases of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, and Dating Violence are not adequately investigated and prepared for prosecution in Grayson County's 136,212 population. Female victims 13 years of age and over need assistance with information concerning participating in the criminal justice system, making good decisions regarding prosecution, as well as, information on Crime Victims Compensation, Protective Orders and other Victim related matters and/or area agencies or services. Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking cases require information to be gathered at the beginning of the case for prosecutors to determine the cases place in the system, and someone to contact the victim to determine if that victim is willing to participate in the prosecution of the case.

Supporting Data :

According to the 2019 Crimes in Texas report published by the Texas Department of Public Safety, law enforcement agencies in Grayson County reported 853 incidents of Domestic Violence or calls for service in the 2019 fiscal year for it's 136,212 population. This year there was no data on sexual assaults or stalking, however, sexual assaults as always are mixed with all sexual assaults including child cases. From September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020 the Domestic Violence Investigator conducted investigations on 376 cases. 139 were felonies and 237 were misdemeanors. These cases include dating violence and stalking. There were 5 sexual assault case and two cases of stalking investigated during this time period.

Project Approach & Activities:

The Grayson County District Attorney's Office participates in the Texoma Council of Governments regional community planning process in all focus areas and specifically in the area of victim services. The Domestic Violence Investigator Program project addresses the number one priority for prosecution projects by supporting and responding to violence against women. This project continues the development of a specialized Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence and Stalking victim services division within the prosecutor's office. The Investigator in this program dedicates his time to locating and contacting victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking, gathering demographic as well as case specific information including determining if medical records need to be obtained from a medical center, if there has been past violence, if the victim and defendant are still together, what the relationship is, and if the victim wishes to pursue prosecution. This information is vital to prosecutors who file the cases. Every effort is made to contact a victim including the Investigator physically attempting to locate. The Investigator also serves subpoenas, marshals witnesses at criminal hearings, provides criminal history checks on defendants and witnesses, obtains any records necessary for the case and other duties that may be required for such cases or the program.

Capacity & Capabilities:

The Domestic Violence Investigator program has maintained the same general structure during it's entire history - covering the same geographical area (Grayson County) and with the same hierarchy. The Domestic Violence Investigator reports to the District Attorney and the First Assistant Attorney. The Investigator is a United States Army Veteran and has 26 year law enforcement experience. The Investigator will remain up to date on all training hours necessary, especially in the areas of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking.

Performance Management :

The Domestic Violence Investigator program's goal is to ensure that all cases of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking cases filed in our office by the 13 law enforcement agencies that serve Grayson Counties 136,212 population are properly investigated and prosecuted, and that all victims of such crimes are given appropriate resources and the rights guaranteed by Chapter 56 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure. The Domestic Violence Investigator will dedicate his time to contacting female victims aged 13 and above, gathering demographic and permanent contact information to enhance the prosecution on approximately 450 total cases for the 2021 fiscal year on the cases provided by law enforcement by August 31, 2021. The Domestic Investigator will track the number of cases filed by law enforcement, the number of cases he investigates, the number referred for prosecution, and the number of cases prosecuted in both felony and misdemeanor courts.

Data Management:

The Domestic Violence statistical sheets are provided to the Victim Services Director on a Weekly basis. Those statistics are kept to be used at several intervals throughout the year, including for grant performance reports as well as other instances such as supporting data for fiscal budgets or when providing local information at public venues and public awareness campaigns.

Target Group :

The Domestic Violence Investigator Program provides investigative services on all cases of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking involving female victims age 13 years and over in Grayson County's 136,212 population. Cases are submitted from 13 law enforcement agencies, as well as the two college campuses and the Texas Rangers. In the 2019 fiscal year, the Domestic Violence Investigator provided services to 407 victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking cases. As of the date of this writing 230 cases have been investigated. Spanish speaking victims are assisted by personnel in our office or certified interpreters and other challenges are handled on a case by case basis to ensure all needs of victims are met. There is not a specific population of persons that are investigated by the investigator as the cases brought for investigation are provided by law enforcement. All races, religions, genders, and gender identities, ages above 13 years of age are served by our investigator. In the 2021 fiscal year the Domestic violence Investigator intends to provide services to 425 female victims of all races, religions, genders and gender identities, ages above 13 years of age in Grayson County.

Evidence-Based Practices:

The Grayson County District Attorney's Office designed the Domestic Violence Investigator Program out of a need to provide vital information to prosecutors in cases of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Dating Violence, and Stalking cases. Initial contact with victims within a week of receiving the offense report, and maintaining the most current demographic and permanent contact information is paramount to successful prosecutions of these cases. We have found that if we can make contact with those victims at the earliest possible time after the offense, gather her information, defendant information, including criminal history and prior bad acts, the better chance of not only keeping that victim engaged but also assisting her in making a change in her life and a successful prosecution. Our current records show our investigator has investigated 300 cases from January 1, 2020 to August 31,2020 and from September 1, 2020 to December 31,2020 he has investigated 127 cases forwarding 245 of those cases to be prosecuted which includes cases from before the December 31,2020 date.

Project Activities Information

Selected Project Activities:

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE:	DESCRIPTION
Investigation	100.00	The Domestic Violence Investigator, Terry Syler provides investigative services in the Grayson County District Attorney's office including;

		interviewing victim/witnesses; criminal history checks; marshaling witnesses; victim contact; records retrieval; filing class C cases; and providing information and referral.
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Measures Information

Objective Output Measures

OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of arrests made.	0
Number of cases filed.	0
Number of cases investigated.	427
Number of cases referred for prosecution.	427

Objective Outcome Measures

OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
Number of convictions.	0

Custom Output Measures

CUSTOM OUTPUT MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Custom Outcome Measures

CUSTOM OUTCOME MEASURE	TARGET LEVEL
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Victim Services Information

Agency Type

Implementing Agency Type - Government

Which designation best describes your agency

- Prosecutor

Purpose of Award

- Continue an OOG-funded victim project funded in a previous year

Type of Crime Funding Distribution

Identify the percent of funding dedicated to each type of victimization. The percentages provided below should not include matching funds. Cumulative total for all types of victimization must equal 100%.

Type of Crime	Percent of Funds Dedicated to Crime Enter whole percentages only	Funds Dedicated to Crime Current Award x Percent Entered
Child Physical Abuse	0	\$0.00

Child Sexual Abuse	0	\$0.00	
Domestic and Family Violence	98	\$32,865.53	
Child Sexual Assault	0	\$0.00	
Adult Sexual Assault	2	\$670.73	
DUI/DWI Crashes	0	\$0.00	
DUI/DWI Crashes	0	\$0.00	
Assault	0	\$0.00	
Adults Molested As Children	0	\$0.00	
Elder Abuse	0	\$0.00	
Robbery	0	\$0.00	
Survivors of Homicide	0	\$0.00	
Adult Human Trafficking	0	\$0.00	
Child Human Trafficking	0	\$0.00	
Other Violent Crimes	0	\$0.00	
Description:			
Other Non-Violent Crimes	0	\$0.00	
Description:			
SUM of %'s Sum of % MUST = 100%	100	SUM of Funds Sum of Funds MUST = OOG Current Budget	\$33,536.25

Use of Funds

Does this project provide DIRECT SERVICES to victims:

- Yes
 No

Information and Referral

Personal Advocacy/Accompaniment

Emotional Support or Safety Services

Shelter/Housing Services

Criminal/Civil Justice System Assistance

Assistance in Filing Compensation Claims

All VOCA-funded direct service projects MUST assist victims with seeking crime victim compensation benefits. Please explain why your agency is not assisting victims with crime victim compensation benefits:

Types of Victimitizations

Check the types of victimization that best describe the victims the grant-funded project will serve. "Other" refers to a type that Is Not associated with any of the types provided in the list. Check all that apply:

Types of Victimitizations

- Adult sexual assault
- Domestic and/or family violence
- Stalking/harassment
- Teen dating victimization

Budget and Staffing

Answer the questions below based on your current fiscal year. Report the total budget available to the victim services program by source of funding. Do not report the entire agency budget, unless the entire budget is devoted to victim services program.

Annual funding amounts allocated to all victimization programs and/or services for the current fiscal year:

Identify by source the amount of funds allocated to the victimization program/services budget for your agency. DO NOT COUNT FUNDS IN MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY. OTHER FEDERAL includes all federal funding except the award amount for this grant.

OOG Current Budget:

\$33,536.25

Other State Funds:

\$0.00

Other Local Funds:

\$0.00

Other Federal Funds:

\$0.00

Other Non-Federal Funds:

\$0.00

Total Victimitization Program Budget:

\$33,536.25

Total number of paid staff for all grantee victimization program and/or services:
 COUNT each staff member once. Both full and part time staff should be counted as one staff member. DO NOT prorate based on FTE.

Total number of staff:
 1

Number of staff hours funded through THIS grant award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs and/or services:

Total COUNT of hours to work by all staff supporting the work of this award, including match.

Total number of hours:
 40

Number of volunteer staff supporting the work of this award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs and/or services:

COUNT each volunteer staff once. DO NOT prorate based on FTE.

Total number of volunteer staff:
 0

Number of volunteer hours supporting the work of this award (plus match) for grantee's victimization programs:
 Total COUNT of hours to work by all volunteers supporting the work of the award, including match

Total hours to work by all volunteers:
 0

Explain how your organization uses volunteers to support its victimization programs or if your organization does not use volunteers explain any circumstances that prohibit the use of volunteers.

Budget Details Information

Budget Information by Budget Line Item:

CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	TOTAL	UNIT/%
Personnel	Certified Peace Officer - Police Department	Domestic Violence Investigator Terry Syler provides investigative services in Grayson County District Attorney's Office including: interviewing victim/witnesses; victim contact; record retrieval filing class c cases; and providing	\$33,536.25	\$48,023.24	\$0.00	\$81,559.49	59

		<p>information and referral. The initials of the Domestic Violence Investigator or TS. Terry Syler's current salary is \$22,609.34 and his benefits are 25,413.90 (benefits include F.I>C>A>, Health Insurance, Retirement, Unemployment, and Workers Compensation. (Also includes a 3.5 salary and benefit increase as required by our commissioners)</p>					
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Budget Summary Information

Budget Summary Information by Budget Category:

CATEGORY	OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	TOTAL
Personnel	\$33,536.25	\$48,023.24	\$0.00	\$81,559.49

Budget Grand Total Information:

OOG	CASH MATCH	IN-KIND MATCH	TOTAL
\$33,536.25	\$48,023.24	\$0.00	\$81,559.49