

Victims of Crime Act: Community Victim Advocate Program

Purpose of Funds: VOCA Grant to support the provision of services to victims of crime. Services are defined as those efforts that (1) respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims; (2) assist primary and secondary victims of crime to stabilize their lives after a victimization; (3) assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; and (4) provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security such as boarding up broken windows and replacing and repairing locks.

Receiving Department: Denver District Attorney

Amount: \$50,909

Type of Grant: Competitive

Number of People Served: 140 crime victims over the 18 month grant period will be served directly and four elderly communities will receive information regarding crime prevention.

Public Process: The Denver District Attorney's Office identifies grants that will meet the needs of the agency and clients and applies for them. The DA Office submitted a complete list of Recover Act Grants to the City's ARRA committee. Once awards are received the agency follows the City's Grant Acceptance process.

Proposed Spending: The program will assist at least four communities that contain a significant population of elderly citizens to assess the needs of victims of crime in their congregation/community and assess gaps in services. This list of gaps in services will become the foundation for the community's customized Implementation Plan that incorporates the recruitment, training, and ongoing support of volunteers by the Community Victim Advocate (CVA). The CVA will train volunteers to reach out to victims, assess their needs, provide case management through the online VSN system, and make appropriate referrals through the VSN online resource directory. CVA and volunteers will be able to link victims with community services to address needs, both directly and indirectly, related to their victimization. The program will provide one job opportunity and serve 140 crime victims over the 18 month grant period.

Project Director: Steve Siegel

For more information, please see the oversight committee docs at
<http://www.denvergov.org/stimulus>