



Alaska's Council on  
Domestic Violence  
& Sexual Assault

Hello CDVSA FY2020 Sub-Grantees:

Hard to believe we are already half-way through May! Not sure how that happened. When we last provided an Update, we, like many states were just beginning to experience Phase I of the soft opening of Alaska. We are now two-weeks in and each week a few more restrictions are lifted – luckily with guidelines for social distancing, disinfecting, wearing masks and other practices to continue to mitigate this virus and to prevent new cases. As information ebbs and flows, it is important to stay safe and provide safe options for those Alaskans in need of our services. Please review the information below and do not hesitate to contact me or your Program Coordinator if you have questions or need additional information/clarification.

- Thank you for your ongoing efforts to reduce the spread of the coronavirus to keep yourselves, your staff, and participants/clients safe and healthy during this critical health emergency. It is clear that things will not go back to “normal” any time soon. I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the information shared on March 9 when CDVSA sent its first COVID-19 Update, available on our website at: <https://dps.alaska.gov/getmedia/384681ca-31a7-42cc-bc96-b2d976685edc/CDVSA-Sub-grantee-Update-3-9-2020.pdf>. The information we shared on March 9 regarding safety measures (hand washing, social distancing, disinfecting to reduce germs and the spread of infection) and now wearing masks when interacting with people is as important as ever – our goal is to prevent and mitigate new cases and to keep everyone safe;
- To help in this effort, CDVSA has secured over 1,000 cloth masks and are sending them to our programs upon request. If you are in need of masks now or think you will need more in the future please let us know how many you would like and they will be sent ASAP. These are washable cloth masks that have been made by inmates across the state housed in state correctional facilities. DOC is working to provide the state with as many masks as needed; we have been told we can obtain more when our supply is gone. What we now know is that wearing masks is a key strategy to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19;
- A reminder that Emergency Funds for our 35 sub-grantees to apply for between now and June 10 are available. Application information is posted on our website under Highlights on our homepage: <https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Home>. We have been fielding a number of questions about these funds and want to remind everyone they are available to help cover necessary costs to safely stay open, provide critical services to those Alaskans seeking help, and to make sure you are prepared for the continued impact of COVID-19 on your operations. As we have stated previously, remember to leverage and realign all your current CDVSA grant funds before requesting Emergency



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Funding to make sure you are spending down all available funding to guarantee positive outcomes for your programs. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions;

- After providing everyone an opportunity to review our draft Infographic depicting the results of the Survey Monkey questionnaire, it is now finalized and posted at <https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Resources> under Data. The intent of the survey was to assess how your agency/community is doing amid the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 30 surveys or 85% of our 35 sub-grantees responded. Morgan analyzed the data and developed a point-in-time picture of how victim services are impacted by COVID-19, at this time. Thank you to everyone who responded and a big THANK YOU to Morgan;
- Thanks to everyone for submitting your Q. 3 reports, it is greatly appreciated knowing how hectic your work and home lives are at this time. Beginning today and over the next two weeks FY2021 Budgets are due [Victim Services = May 15; Enhanced Services = May 22; and BIP/PBP and Prevention = May 29]. As always, do not hesitate to contact your Program Coordinator if you have questions;
- CDVSA was contacted yesterday by Boards and Commissions to inform us that Governor Dunleavy has reappointed Lydia Hayward to a new term as a public board member (excellent news) and to say they are still looking for qualified applicants for our vacant Public/Rural board vacancy. If you know anyone interested, from rural Alaska, please have them submit an application at: <https://gov.alaska.gov/services/boards-and-commissions/>.

We hope everyone is doing well, keeping a positive attitude, and finding time for self-care. Have a great weekend and contact us if there is anything we can do to assist!