



Alaska's Council on
Domestic Violence
& Sexual Assault

FY2020 COVID-19 Emergency Funding Opportunity

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
April, 24 2020

Recognizing the enormous strain the COVID-19 health crisis is causing for sub-grantees of CDVSA, staff and board members are working together to create optional emergency funding opportunities for those agencies challenged to continue providing services to victims of domestic and sexual violence and other violent crimes, including children and youth who experience or witness those crimes. While these times are difficult for all service agencies, those with 24/7 emergency shelters are experiencing a more urgent need to practice social distancing in limited space. We know that many of our programs are using alternative ways of providing advocacy services, mental health counseling, and legal services via telecommunications when it can be done carefully, confidentially and with compassion.

CDVSA understands, even with the changes we have made and budget flexibility offered, the longer this situation continues, the more difficult it will be to meet the expectations of your grant with the funds you currently have available. We know that many shelters are using more hotel rooms as alternative safe housing and that due to staff shortages there are additional costs for substitutes, overtime, hazard pay and administrative leave related to illnesses and family care. Cleaning and safety supplies are running low and costs are increasing.

Please note that if you do not expect to expend the full amount of your FY2020 CDVSA grant(s), do not request emergency funds. After you have reallocated your current grant funds to meet existing needs and you need additional funding for the remainder of the year, then we encourage you to apply for Emergency Funding.

To assist agencies unable to cover all necessary costs to stay open and provide critical services, CDVSA is offering access to limited Emergency Funding within the following parameters.

The approximate amount of funding available is between \$200,000 -\$300,000.

Requests will be limited to a maximum total amount of \$10,000 per agency.
Allowable expenses, related to the COVID-19 pandemic, include:

- ✓ personnel and benefit costs;
- ✓ supplies (including food), personal protective gear to keep staff and residents/clients safe and necessary equipment to keep services available;



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- ✓ cost of alternative housing such as hotel rooms, B & Bs or other safe housing options;
- ✓ increase costs related to telework, telehealth, and crisis line expenditures or expansions;
- ✓ facility and utility expenses.

Eligibility to apply for and receive the FY2020 CDVSA COVID-19 Emergency Funding is limited to the 35 community-based agencies currently receiving grant funds from CDVSA.

Funds received through this Funding Opportunity must be expended by June 30, 2020 (or within the FY2020 State fiscal year).

A short narrative report outlining how the funds were used and the impact they made to your community, organization and individuals you serve will be required, along with a budget spreadsheet itemizing all expenditures, plus receipts for all purchased items such as supplies, equipment, food, alternate housing, and other similar items. All required reports, receipts and spreadsheets are due by July 30, 2020.

To apply please complete the short application form (attached) including your agency name, community(ies) served, Authorized Agency Representative to accept these funds, contact information and responses to three (3) questions.

Applications will be accepted until June 10 to allow for processing. Applications will be reviewed at the time they are received. If you request less than \$10,000 and later discover you need additional emergency funding, you may submit a second request for a total combined request up to \$10,000. Because there are limited Emergency Funds, CDVSA will strive to fairly and equitably meet the needs of everyone who applies.

Once decisions are made, CDVSA will process and submit a request for funds to be direct deposited into agency accounts; an email will be sent to the agency's Authorized Representative to notify each agency of the award of these Emergency Funds.

All questions regarding these COVID-19 Emergency Funds should be directed to L. Diane Casto, Executive Director at l.casto@alaska.gov.