South Carolina Department of Public Safety

Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs

MEMORANDUM

TO: Current VOCA FFY2014 Subgrantees
FFY 2015 VOCA Potential Applicants

FROM: Phil Riley PCR
Director

Ed Harmon EH
Assistant Director/Justice Programs Administrator

DATE: February 12, 2015

SUBJECT: Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) FFY2015 Revised Application Deadline and Funding Cycle Change

Please be advised that based on new federal funding information, the SC Department of Public Safety's Office of Highway Safety and Justice Programs (OHSJP) will be making some operational changes in the administration of the VOCA Program in South Carolina.

States have been notified that Congressional funding authorization for VOCA for 2015 exclusively has been increased nationally. Thus, South Carolina's appropriated share is likely to experience a major increase. Obviously, this has the potential to create tremendous opportunities for the state, and we will have to plan carefully so that these funds may be utilized over the next four years to the best and most impactful extent possible. This situation allows the OHSJP to make some operational changes to the administration of the VOCA Program, which should prove beneficial to applicants and current subgrantees.

Thus, we are moving toward a new funding cycle for VOCA grant projects beginning in FFY 2015. The cycle will be changed from a July 1-June 30 cycle to an October 1-September 30 funding cycle. This will align all victims services programs administered by the OHSJP, the STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Program, the State Victims Assistance Program (SVAP), and VOCA to the same project funding period each year.

Additionally, the OHSJP is extending the deadline for applications for FFY 2015 VOCA grant projects from February 26, 2015, until May 21, 2015, at 5:00 PM to allow applicants to sufficiently prepare project applications in preparation for the anticipated federal funding increase for FFY 2015.

In order to make the above operational changes, the OHSJP will be asking the permission of the SC Public Safety Coordinating Council (SCPSCC) during its March meeting to extend grant

projects for agencies who received an FFY 2014 VOCA grant award with an end date of June 30, 2015 through September 30, 2015. This change will include a grant award adjustment with additional funding for salary and fringe benefits through the additional three months. The OHSJP and Accounting-Grants Staff will be sending FFY 2014 subgrantees the necessary documents for the three-month extension after this process is approved by the SCPSCC.

As a reminder, all applications for funding under VAWA, SVAP and now VOCA are due via the OHSJP's Grants Management Information System (GMIS) by 5:00 p.m. on May 21, 2015.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. B.J. Nelson, our Victims Services Program Manager, at (803) 896-8712.

EH:vfc