



# Cook County

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## Wraparound Services for Survivors of Gun Violence

### Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

#### 1205 – SCC-SGV2025

Suburban Cook County Wraparound Services for Survivors of Gun  
Violence  
(SCC-SGV)

Published December 29, 2025

Submissions due February 6, 2026 at 5:00pm CST

Information and submissions: [CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants](https://CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants)

Virtual Pre-Submittal Conference:

January 22, 2026 1:00-2:00pm CST

To RSVP and for more information, visit:

[CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants](https://CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants)

**Contact:** For inquiries about this NOFO, contact Juandalynn Johnson, Cook  
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## Notice of Funding Opportunity Summary

Awarding Agency Name	Cook County Justice Advisory Council (JAC)
Application Contact	Juandalynn Johnson <a href="mailto:JAC.Info@cookcountyil.gov">JAC.Info@cookcountyil.gov</a>
Announcement Type	Initial Announcement - Grant
Funding Opportunity Title	Suburban Cook County Wraparound Services for Survivors of Gun Violence (SCC-SGV)
Funding Opportunity Number	1205-SCC-SGV2025
Application Release Date:	12/29/2025
Application Due Date(s)	02/06/2026, 5:00pm (Central)
Award Funding Source	These awards will be funded with Cook County general revenue funds
Estimated Total Program Funding	\$5,000,000 for 24-month project period for Cook County Suburbs;
Anticipated Number of Awards	18
Award Amount	Anticipated award amounts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 awards for \$500,000 each award, and</li> <li>• 10 awards for \$100,000 each award</li> </ul> Over 24-month project period
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement	Cost sharing or matching is allowed but is not required
Indirect Costs Allowed	Yes
Pre- Submittal Conference	Session Offered: Yes Session Mandatory: No Date and time: 01/22/2026 1:00-2:00 PM (Central) Conference Info/Registration Link go to: <a href="https://cookcountyil.gov/JACGrants">cookcountyil.gov/JACGrants</a>
Questions	Due date for submitting questions to <a href="mailto:JAC.info@cookcountyil.gov">JAC.info@cookcountyil.gov</a> : 1/25/2026 11:59 PM (Central) All questions received and answers will be posted to the JAC website <a href="https://cookcountyil.gov/JACGrants">cookcountyil.gov/JACGrants</a> on 1/29/2026
Application Review Period	2/6/2026 - 3/31/2026
Anticipated presentation of awards to Cook County Board of Commissioners for approval	April 2026
Anticipated Grant Performance Period	6/1/2026 - 5/31/2028
<b>Disclaimer: Submission of any false or misleading information can lead to disqualification of application, or termination of grant agreement if awarded.</b>	

## **Background – Cook County Justice Advisory Council**

Cook County Government is a home rule county pursuant to Article VII, Section 6 of the Illinois State Constitution and is governed by a 17-member Board of Commissioners that is elected from single-member districts. The Commissioners and a County Board President are elected to four-year terms by the citizens of the County. Cook County represents one of the major metropolitan areas in the state and nation, and contains 134 municipalities, (including the City of Chicago), 29 townships, 221 special districts, and 164 school districts. Cook County is home to 5.28 million residents making it the second most populous county in the United States.

The Cook County Justice Advisory Council (JAC) implements Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle's public safety policy and criminal and juvenile justice system reform efforts. The JAC's mission is to promote equitable, human-centered, community-driven justice system innovation and practice through rigorous stakeholder engagement, policy work, service coordination, and grantmaking that increases community safety and reduces reliance on incarceration.

There are four key pillars that define the work of the JAC: 1) Policy Work; 2) Community Engagement; 3) Reentry Services; and 4) Grants and Investment.

### **Policy Work**

The policy work of the JAC includes advancing JAC priorities, legislation and administrative reforms in Cook County shaped by best practices, national trends and innovations, and community feedback.

### **Community Engagement**

Community engagement initiatives include structured dialogue sessions in the communities, continued dialogues with County leaders through the Cook County Action Summit, implementation of a fellowship program, the Racial Equity Fellowship Cohort, that centers justice impacted community members and includes co-learning with justice system stakeholders and community-based organizations.

### **Reentry Services**

JAC Reentry Services focuses on Rental Assistance and services for returning residents through the Cook County Reconnect program designed to address housing insecurity, health, employment and other needs of returning residents. In addition, reentry services also include housing placement for individuals on pretrial electronic monitoring through the No Place to Stay Program.

### **Grants and Investment**

JAC's investment strategy continues to support community-based organizations through grants in key focus areas of violence prevention, reentry services, domestic violence, and capacity building. The goal of these grant investments is to increase

community safety and decrease involvements in/reliance on the criminal legal system. Over \$150 million in investments have been made since 2022.

The JAC remains committed to supporting and developing programs, initiatives, and policies that are evidence informed and community affirmed. This particular NOFO reflects the JAC's focus on ensuring a meaningful proportion of grant funds are specifically available to service providers supporting suburban Cook County.

## **APPLICATION GUIDE**

### **Centering Survivors of Gun Violence: JAC Definition**

A "Survivor of Gun Violence" or "Survivor" for purposes of this NOFO is an individual who:

- has been directly harmed by gun violence, and/or
- a loved one of an individual directly harmed by gun violence,
- an individual who has witnessed an incidence of gun violence, or
- an individual living in a community with high levels of exposure to incidents of gun violence.

### **2024 and 2025 Community Listening Sessions**

In an effort to ensure community input and have voices of survivors of gun violence represented in this notice of funding opportunity, the JAC hosted (3) in-person Community Listening Sessions in September and October 2024. The Listening Sessions were held on the South and West Sides of Chicago and South Suburban Cook County. Listening sessions took place on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at BUILD; September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at The Front Porch (Precious Blood Ministries); and October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Bethel Resource Center. These sessions included community members that have lost loved ones to gun violence, those who have sustained gunshot injuries, youth, community activists, and representatives of agencies that support survivors of gun violence. Over 100+ individuals attended across the (3) Listening sessions to share their stories and to inform this notice of funding opportunity (NOFO). The insights gathered at these listening sessions resulted in the JAC issuing in the Spring of 2025 its first-ever NOFO offering \$5 million to City of Chicago and \$5 million to Suburban Cook County organizations providing services to survivors of gun violence. Although the allocation for Chicago was entirely awarded, no awards were made from the suburban allocation due to a limited number of qualified applications received. Therefore, the JAC proceeded to host three more listening sessions focused in suburban Cook County on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 in Maywood, Illinois; October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Chicago Heights, Illinois; October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Dolton, Illinois; and November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Harvey, Illinois to gather feedback on how to improve the NOFO for suburban participation. That feedback, titled "What We Heard", was shared on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at the closing

listening session and that recording can be found [here](#). That feedback has informed this NOFO.

## Summary of Feedback\*

### 1. Community Feedback: Services Most Needed by Survivors of Gun Violence

Services Most Need by Survivors of Gun Violence			
Clinical Services	Financial Services	Programming	Housing Services
Clinical case management	Victim compensation	Youth-specific programming	Relocation services
Crisis intervention and management	Medical cost assistance	Long-term support (more than 2 years post violence)	Temporary Housing
Mental health support	Financial support for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rent</li> <li>• Clothing</li> <li>• Grocery bills</li> <li>• Funeral/burial costs</li> </ul>	Mentorship programs	Expungement support
Family based services and therapy	Support in applying for public assistance	Survivor workshops	
Substance use disorder assistance		Services for indirect victims	
		Conflict Resolution classes	
		Unarmed social workers at the crime scene	
		Funeral arrangements and planning	

### 2. Community Feedback: Key Barriers to Accessing Existing Services

One of the most commonly stated barriers to accessing services in the listening sessions was a lack of education and awareness around available resources and services for victims and survivors. Thus, the services **being requested** by those at the Listening Sessions **are currently funded or directly provided** by the state and local government entities but community members may not be aware. Some key barriers to services noted by participants included:

Primary Barriers to Accessing Existing Services		
Awareness	Accessibility	Eligibility
Lack of Awareness about service	Services tied to law enforcement / Requires individuals to interact with law enforcement	Time restrictions/application deadlines
Lack of follow up	Stigma about needing support and stigma around victimization	Family members restricted from eligibility
Lack of training for responders	No transportation to service	Don't identify as a victim
Fragmented service providers	Limited hours of operation	
	No translation services	
	No lived experience in services	
	No help navigating systems/Lack of support in accessing services/apply for funds	

### 3. Community Feedback: Ideal Approaches to Providing Services

Ideal Approaches to Providing Services	
Outreach	Services Qualities
Visibility within the community	Lived experience by providers
Building rapport and strong community relationships	Peer support groups with shared experience
Relentless and ongoing outreach	No expiration date on healing
Listen and receive community needs	Client-centered awareness and understanding
Services and outreach close to home	Empathy
More listening sessions	



#### 4. 2025 Findings: Eligibility Criteria

2025 Community Feedback on Eligibility Criteria			
Services	Service Providers	Operating Budget	Community Need
Investment in preventive care	Ability to demonstrate inclusive agency experience	Allowing 990 that demonstrates an agency's grant experience	Identify real need of work in the community
Include healing of family members/community	Demonstrate collaborative partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deconstructing silos</li> </ul>	\$500,000 operating budget threshold is a barrier; either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tiered operating budget options with different levels of funding</li> <li>Lower operating budget threshold</li> </ul>	Require organizations funded by this grant initiative to build partnerships with each other
Women-centered services	Identify agencies that have a historical presence in the community		Proactive instead of reactive monitoring of grantees
Long-term support			

### Key Takeaways

Finally, there were (3) key takeaways from the Community Listening Sessions. These key takeaways are as follows: 1) Increased Services - more Victim Services are needed, including mental health services, transportation, and financial assistance; 2) Barriers to Access - many needed services are being provided but inaccessible due to lack of awareness, trust, and strict eligibility requirements; 3) Intentional Community Outreach - Community trust, visible partnership, and lived experience are key components of effective services.

Overall participants felt that the best ways to engage survivors of gun violence was through relentless engagement that included: 1) Space – in-person and street outreach, being visible in the community to establish relationships, providing safe spaces for individuals to support each other, reaching out at hospital, house visits, staying close to home and in community parks, advertise/victim advocates in hospitals, police stations, waiting rooms, churches, schools, community centers, phone calls; 2) Relationship building – building rapport, establishing relationships through visibility in community/networking, normalizing support, personal dialogue and listening, direct communication and outreach, approachable services, peer support; and 3) Mechanism – relentless engagement, mental health wellness van, education on resources, 24 hour survivor hotline, social media, privately networking, building trusted messengers in community, phone calls, work of mouth, outreach, incentivize services.

Applicants will need to demonstrate their experience in engaging the survivor community, and how they will consistently continue to engage survivors to raise awareness about services and remove barriers for survivors to access services.

\*This “Summary Feedback” with “Key Takeaways” section remains what has informed the types of services that this NOFO targets; plus this NOFO specifically reflects the feedback the JAC received on the suburban listening sessions in 2025, as noted above, to improve participation by suburban organizations in this NOFO.

## Research and Landscape Overview

Research has found that the tangible cost of violent crime each year is an estimated \$17 billion, and the indirect cost is estimated to be around \$330 billion. Each year victims pay \$44 billion out of pocket as a result of victimization. Financial peri-trauma has been found to be a stronger predictor of PTSD symptom development than other indicators, such as the feature of the violent crime. Financial stability and cost reimbursement can minimize this impact on victims. Nationally on 5% of eligible victims apply to receive compensation from the Crime Victims Fund, and 35 out of 52 states have an average annual surplus of \$1.8 million. One of the major causes of this surplus is a lack of awareness of the fund and a lack of application assistance programs. Data suggests that younger, male, and ethnic minority victims are underrepresented within compensation fund applicant pools.

In addition, research suggests that exposure to gun violence dramatically affects physical, cognitive, mental, and emotional wellbeing and development<sup>3</sup> of survivors of gun violence and the communities impacted by incidences of gun violence. Healing centered services for survivors, in communities most impacted by gun violence, have been shown to reduce adverse health effects and decrease the risk of future interactions with the criminal legal system. In Illinois, less than half of adult victims of

gun violence who need services report receiving them<sup>1</sup> and nationally, in 2021, only 9% of victims of violent crime received assistance from a victim service provider.

*\*Research summarized in JAC Survivors of Gun Violence Community Listening Session feedback presentation available at [cookcountyil.gov/agency/justice-advisory-council](https://cookcountyil.gov/agency/justice-advisory-council)*

### **State and Local Government Funded Program(s) for Survivors**

In addition to community listening sessions, JAC leadership also met with state and local government leaders from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA, Illinois Department of Human Services, and the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) to discuss existing programs and services currently funded by these agencies for survivors of gun violence. These meetings yielded a wealth of information. Both ICJIA and CDPH have released several Notice of Funding Opportunities since 2021 dedicated to funding services for survivors.

Between 2021 and 2023, ICJIA released three NOFOs focused on funding for Victim Services. These NOFOs were aimed at: 1) Violent crime victims and their families in underserved communities with high violence; 2) Underserved victim populations who experience high barriers to services; and 3) Families of individuals who were lost to homicide or murder.

As a result, organizations funded provide clinical case management, trauma recovery, individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, personal and legal advocacy, transportation, child/dependent care, psychiatric care, outpatient substance use disorder treatment, and comprehensive mental health services. ICJIA NOFOs funded public and non-profit hospitals in Illinois, non-profit organizations located and serving in the City of Chicago, non-profit victim service organizations across the state, and community-based non-profits with hospital partnerships.

In 2020 and 2024, CDPH released two NOFOs focused on strengthening connections between sectors within the victim services and violence prevention spaces, specifically CVI and victim services organizations and hospitals and victim services organizations. Both of these NOFOs targeted the 15 community areas that the City identified as being exposed to the highest rates of community violence. Organizations funded by both NOFOs needed to demonstrate at least three years of experience working in their proposed service delivery area and connections with other local organizations and community leaders. The main goals of both NOFOs were focused on capacity building and strengthening partnerships between organizations working in this sector.

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) has established the RPSA Emergency Victims Flex Fund to provide immediate, flexible, and equitable financial support to victims of gun violence and their families, prioritizing underserved and disenfranchised RPSA communities. By addressing urgent, unmet needs and filling critical service gaps, this fund enhances the collective impact of statewide victim assistance efforts,

ensuring comprehensive and equitable support for victims and families affected by gun violence. The fund goal is to complement and augment existing victim services and supports provided by other state and local agencies.

Considering best available research and community feedback, Cook County will offer a “Wraparound Services for Survivors of Gun Violence (CC-SGV)” grant opportunity to address the gap in services for victims/survivors of gun violence, focusing on three priorities: expanding existing services, increasing access, and improving coordination of services.

The JAC will continue to collaborate with both the State and City around making survivor services accessible.

## Funding

Cook County JAC will award up to \$5 million in Suburban Cook County Survivors of Gun Violence grants for the purpose of supporting those directly impacted by gun violence in suburban Cook County. Awarded organizations applying for Track 1 will receive up to \$500,000 and Track 2 will receive up to \$100,000 in funding over two years. The anticipated grant performance period for these awards will run from 6/1/2026 – 5/31/2028.

## Applicant Eligibility Criteria

Organizations applying for this NOFO must meet all of the following eligibility criteria:

- ❑ **Non-profit status:** Applicant, lead applicants, or fiscal agents must be a community based nonprofit organization with a 501(c)3 or 501(c)4 status at the time of application submission. Applicants must submit an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) determination letter proving its 501(c)3 or 501(c)4 status. IRS determination letters must be dated before the application deadline and the name on the IRS determination letter must match the organization name used to apply for this grant in order for an applicant to be eligible for consideration for this NOFO.
- ❑ **Budget:** The budget eligibility requirements are as follows:
  - **Track 1** – (8) \$500,000 awards, must have an annual operating budget of at least \$250,000 for the past two years.
  - **Track 2** – (10) \$100,000 awards, must have an annual operating budget of at least \$50,000 for the past two years.
  - Applicants must complete the operating budget template for 2024 and 2025 provided as **SCC-SGV Attachment 5 – Organization Operating Budget Template**. Failure to use the attached operating budget template will result in disqualification of your application.
  - Applicants must also submit their IRS annual tax returns for 2024 as a Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

- ❑ **Geography:** Be headquartered in Cook County (as validated by the address in the IRS Nonprofit Determination Letter) and have a physical location in Suburban Cook County.
  - Operate and provide services in Suburban Cook County as attested to by two (2) Affidavits completed by two different Cook County suburban municipal elected officials. Affidavits must be completed using the **SCC-SGV Attachment 6 – Affidavit Template and Instructions**.
  - Applicants who are headquartered in suburban Cook County as validated by the address in the IRS Nonprofit Determination Letter will receive a twenty (20) point “Suburban Headquarter Bonus” added to their final application score (provided the score meets the minimum 80-point threshold for consideration).
- ❑ **Experience:** Demonstrate at least (3) three years of experience of serving and supporting Survivors of Gun Violence in suburban Cook County with services and programming.
  - Applicants need not have non-profit status for the entire duration of this experience).
  - That experience must be attested to by two (2) Affidavits completed by two different Cook County suburban municipal elected officials. Affidavits must be completed using the **SCC-SGV Attachment 6 – Affidavit Template and Instructions**. Please note that only 2 affidavits total are needed to fulfill both the Geography and Experience eligibility criteria, since the affidavits attest to both criteria.
- ❑ **Solvent and Competent:** The Applicant must be financially solvent; and each of its members, if a joint venture, its employees, agents, or subcontractors at any level must be competent to perform the work and services required under this application. **Recipients of funds pursuant to this NOFO are strictly prohibited from using such funds for purposes outside the award agreement.**
- ❑ **Licensure:** It is understood that the selected Applicant is in good standing in the State of Illinois and licensed in any areas of service which require licensure. A certificate of good standing with the State of Illinois must be provided.
- ❑ **Additional Criteria**
  - **Applicants for Track 1 awards must** provide an application that includes a minimum of one additional partner non-profit organization that is headquartered anywhere in Cook County and has demonstrated experience serving survivors of gun violence. Applicant must submit the partner organization’s IRS determination letter, which must demonstrate that the partner is headquartered in Cook County.
  - **Existing JAC grant recipients of the Cook County Community Violence Intervention (CC-CVI) grants are not eligible** to submit an application as lead applicants under this funding. JAC CC-CVI grant recipients may serve as additional partner organizations for other lead applicants. **All other active JAC grantees are eligible to apply.**

## Key Partnerships and Collaboration

We strongly encourage applications comprised of two or more organizations to assure the overall success of the project. **The Applicant shall identify each partner organization and specify their role.** The Justice Advisory Council reserves the right to accept or reject any of the partner organizations.

- ☐ The Applicant shall submit a signed Letter of Partnership from each partner agency/non-profit organization named in the submitted proposal. Particularly in instances where the proposed program model incorporates a partnership or service to be provided by an entity separate from the Applicant, either with a government or private agency, the proposal must include a Letter of Partnership.
- ☐ Each partner agency completing a Letter of Partnership will have reviewed and approved the proposed scope of work outlined by the Applicant.
  - Approval from the director or designee of the proposed scope of work outlined by the applicant.
  - Willingness to partner over the course of the funding period.
  - Experience with serving survivors of gun violence.
  - Evidence of a strong track record of service provision and administration.
  - Evidence of a strong track record of service provision and administration.
- ☐ Applicants partnering with school(s) should provide a Letter of Partnership from the school and provide proof of vendor license to be able to operate in school(s).
- ☐ Applicants partnering with a hospital(s) should provide a Letter of Partnership from the hospital with a signed MOU within 90 days of being awarded.
- ☐ All awarded applicants must provide executed agreements with all partner organizations within 60 days of the start of the performance period of the grant agreement.

## Wraparound Service Categories

Applicants should propose a program that is responsive and provide services in at least two (2) of the following categories listed below. Please refer to the *Services Most Needed by Survivors of Gun Violence* on page 3 for a list of services under each of the four categories noted here. Collaboration across organizations under a lead applicant's proposal is encouraged to provide as comprehensive an array of services for survivors as possible.

- ☐ **Category 1: Clinical Services** - Services that provide direct therapeutic support to survivors and their families. These services can include but are not limited to

mental health counseling, family therapy, clinical case management, and substance use disorder.

- ❑ **Category 2: Financial Services** – Emergency financial assistance that includes support for immediate household needs, utilities, funeral costs, medical costs, assisting with applying for Victim compensation, and/or public assistance. For applicants applying under this category, no more than 15% of budget can be dedicated to personnel and administrative costs.
- ❑ **Category 3: Programming** – Programs that support youth directly impacted by gun violence, mentorship programs, peer groups for survivors and their families, conflict resolution, survivor workshops; trauma informed care programming, legal advocacy, transportation services, interpreter services, workforce development, partner abuse awareness trainings and services, educational advocacy services.
- ❑ **Category 4: Housing Support Services** – Housing support services can include relocation assistance and temporary Housing assistance.

**\*Note:** Direct financial support to survivors where such support is funded through this NOFO is strictly limited to individuals directly harmed by gun violence and family members of individuals directly harmed by gun violence.

## Performance Measures

### Performance Metrics

In addition to the performance metrics listed below, grantees will also submit a list of zip codes that participants are residing in. Performance metrics will include but not limited to:

- Demographics of client population
- Number of individuals served who have been shot in the last year/12 months
- Number of family members served who have lost someone to gun violence or who has survived a gun violence incident in the last year/12 months.
- Number of individuals who witnessed gun violence in the last year/12 months
- Number of new individuals served this quarter
- Number of individuals continuing services from last quarter
- Number of individuals served through clinical services
- Number of individuals served through financial services.
- Number of individuals engaged/served through youth programming.
- Number of individuals served through other support services (i.e. relocation assistance, housing assistance, expungement support).
- Number of unduplicated individuals served– across all 4 components.

#### Category 1: Clinical Services

- Average number of clinical service hours spent per client per quarter
- Number of services delivered
  - *Education*
  - *Employment*
  - *Medical*
  - *Mental health*
  - *Substance use*
  - *Crisis services*
- Number of services referred
  - *Education*
  - *Employment*
  - *Medical*
  - *Mental health*
  - *Substance use*
  - *Crisis services*

#### Category 2: Financial Services

- Average number of financial service hours spent per client per quarter
- Number of services delivered
  - *Immediate household needs*
  - *Utilities*
  - *Funeral costs*
  - *Medical costs*
  - *Assisting with applying for Victim compensation*
  - *Public assistance*
  - *Insurance registration*
  - *Expungement support*
  - *Food assistance*
  - *Legal assistance*
  - *Identification support (ID, SSN, etc.)*
  - *Referral to Victim Advocacy Services*
- Number of services referred
  - *Immediate household needs*
  - *Utilities*
  - *Funeral costs*
  - *Medical costs*
  - *Assisting with applying for Victim compensation*
  - *Public assistance*
  - *Insurance registration*
  - *Expungement support*
  - *Food assistance*
  - *Legal assistance*
  - *Identification support (ID, SSN, etc.)*
  - *Referral to Victim Advocacy Services*

#### Category 3: Programming



- Average number of programming hours spent per client per quarter
- Number of services delivered
  - *Mentorship programs*
  - *Peer groups for survivors and their families*
  - *Conflict resolution*
  - *Survivor workshops*
- Number of services referred
  - *Mentorship programs*
  - *Peer groups for survivors and their families*
  - *Conflict resolution*
  - *Survivor workshops*

#### Category 4: Housing Services

- Number of individuals engaged in housing services
- Average number of other service hours spent per client per quarter
- Average number of weeks someone waits to find housing
- Number of services delivered
  - Relocation assistance
  - Housing assistance
- Number of services referred
  - Relocation assistance
  - Housing assistance

## Performance Standards

Using the proposed numbers from your Standardized Work Plan from your application, use the following performance standards to evaluate your program.

1. The two required program components are delivered throughout the grant period. Clinical services, financial services, youth programming, and other support services. (Acceptable performance: 100% - all three components delivered)
2. Percent of projected vs. actual individuals engaged/served through clinical services. (Acceptable performance: 80%)
3. Percent of projected vs. actual individuals served through financial services. (Acceptable performance: 80%)
4. Percent of projected vs. actual individuals engaged/served through youth programming. (Acceptable performance: 80%)
5. Percent of projected vs. actual individuals engaged/served through other support services. (Acceptable performance: 80%)
6. Percent of projected vs. actual unduplicated individuals served in the program—including all 4 components. (Acceptable performance: 80%)

## Proposed Program Budget

Applications must include a complete budget that is submitted on the downloadable budget form available at [CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants](http://CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants), listed as “SCC-SGV Attachment 4 Program Budget and Narrative”. The budget should be for a 2-year period that includes line-item expenditures and a detailed narrative for expenditure that justifies the need for the expense and **should not exceed** \$500,000 for Track 1 and \$100,000 for Track 2 over the 2-year period. The proposed budget should include a (2) year budget with cost breakdown for each project year. **Budget(s) that are not completed on the provided budget template and does not provide detail narrative for each expense will lose points during scoring and evaluation.**

The JAC reserves the right to negotiate changes to the budget post award, to ensure that budgeted costs are allowable and are in alignment with the scope of work. To the extent possible, all negotiated changes will occur at the start of the contract period.

**Advance Payment:** Awardees may receive advance payment of funding within the first quarter of award of up to 25% of the first year’s budget to assist with project launch.

**Indirect Cost Rate:** In order to charge indirect costs to a grant, the applicant organization must either have an annually negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) or elect to use a standard de minimis rate of 15%.

**Funding Restrictions and Prohibited uses:** The following is a non-exhaustive list of services, activities, goods, and other costs that cannot be supported through this solicitation:

- Land acquisition, new construction, renovation, lease, or any other proposed use of a building or facility that will either result in a change in its basic prior use or significantly change its size, minor renovation or remodeling of a property either listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or located within a 100-year flood plain, Implementation of a new program involving the use of chemicals,
- Capital expenditures,
- Fundraising activities, gifts, donations to other organizations or individuals
- Lobbying, campaigning or any political activities
- Travel outside of Cook County
- Cash payments
- Direct financial support to survivors where such support is funded through this NOFO is strictly limited to individuals directly harmed by gun violence and family members of individuals directly harmed by gun violence.

## Coordination of Funding Sources and Restrictions

- Applicants are strictly prohibited from using multiple funding sources to pay for the same items charged to Cook County grants.

- Failure to properly track or disclose multiple funding sources for the service of program participants under a Cook County grant may result in termination of the grant and other legal recourse.

**Allowable expenses:** All expenses must be reasonable, necessary, and allocable to the program. The following is a non-exhaustive list of services, activities, goods, and other costs that can be supported through this Solicitation:

- Personnel providing direct services and supervisory personnel to the extent that they are engaged in providing services to these target communities and residents;
- Hiring and training costs for the above personnel that provide for their professional growth, development, and knowledge regarding best practices for the execution of their grant programs;
- Equipment and supplies integral to providing program services;
- All program operating costs related to providing services and prorated for use of this program, including: Rent for program space, Utilities, Supplies, Contractual expenses necessary for the execution of the program, including subaward costs for collaborative partners included on collaborative applications.

## Application Quality and Completeness

The below checklist of application components and required items should be used to ensure a complete application.

Category	Required Application Materials
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Grant Application Narrative and Attachments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Responses to all questions in Grant Application</li> <li>○ <b>SCC-SGV Attachment 1 - Implementation Workplan/Goals/Objectives/Deliverables</b> (download the attachment at <a href="http://www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants">www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants</a>)</li> <li>○ <b>SCC-SGV Attachment 2 - Implementation Timeline</b> (download the attachment at <a href="http://www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants">www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants</a>)</li> <li>○ <b>SCC-SGV Attachment 3 - Organization Demographic Data</b> (download the attachment at <a href="http://www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants">www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants</a>)</li> <li>○ Two (2) signed and notarized Affidavits signed by two different Cook County suburban municipal elected officials. Affidavits must be completed using the <b>SCC-SGV Attachment 6 - Affidavit Template and Instructions</b> (download the attachment at <a href="http://www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants">www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants</a>)</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Budget Form</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>SCC-SGV Attachment 4 - Program Budget and Narrative</b> (download the attachment at <a href="http://www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants">www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants</a>)</li> <li>○ This attachment should include line-item expenditures and a detailed narrative for expenditure</li> </ul>

	that justifies the need for the expense. (Note: points will be deducted if the narrative portion of the budget is incomplete.)
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Operating Budget Form</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>SCC-SGV Attachment 5 - Organization Operating Budget Template</b> (download the attachment at <a href="http://www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants">www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants</a>)</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Financial Documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2024 IRS annual tax return (e.g., Form 990 or Form 990-EZ)</li> <li>○ A copy of organization's official most recent audited financial statements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Note: If an audited financial statement is not available, a statement signed by the Chair of the organization's Board of Director's indicating the organization's actual revenues and expenses, and a statement of financial position, for the most recently completed fiscal year</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Other Supporting Documentation</b>	<b>Required Application Materials</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>501(c)3 or 501(c)4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The applicant shall submit a copy of the IRS Determination Letter exhibiting that the organization is tax exempt under 501(c)3 or 501(c)4. Applicant organization name must match the name listed on the 501(c)3 or 501(c)4 and the address on the IRS letter must be located in cook County.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Current Certificate of Good Standing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Please see <a href="http://Business Search / Certificate of Good Standing (ilsos.gov)">Business Search / Certificate of Good Standing (ilsos.gov)</a></li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Copy of Articles of Incorporation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ If amended from the Illinois Secretary of State, must submit Copy of Amended Articles of Incorporation</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Board of Directors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Applicant must include list of Board of Directors</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Conflict of Interest statement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The applicant provides a statement that if awarded, no person having any conflicting interest will be assigned to perform any Services or have access to any confidential information.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Legal Actions Statement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provide a list of any pending litigation in which the Applicant may experience significant financial settlement and include a brief description of the reason for legal action. If the Applicant does not have any legal actions, the Applicant shall indicate in a statement that there are no pending Legal Actions in this section.</li> </ul>

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Letters of Partnership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ For applicants partnering with other organizations to propose this program, each partner agency/entity must submit a Letter of Partnership. Please note that Track 1 applicants are required to partner with an additional nonprofit organization headquartered in Cook County and providing services to survivors of gun violence.</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Federal Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) - if applicable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provide applicant's Federal Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (if applicable)</li> </ul>
<p><i>Note: All items underneath "Other Supporting Documentation" should be submitted together as one file. All items underneath "Financial Documents" should be submitted together as one file. See page 20 for more details on how to submit attachments.</i></p> <p><i>Please note that missing the above listed items can render the application incomplete and result in the application not being scored.</i></p>	

## Application Evaluation Process

### Technical Review Process

After the application deadline for this funding opportunity closes, all applications undergo an initial technical review process to establish if they meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the NOFO. The technical review is limited only to the eligibility requirements to be considered a qualified applicant for this funding opportunity. The merits of the underlying application or proposal are not subject to the technical review. Applications that do not meet the eligibility criteria and do not pass the technical review are disqualified. Those applications will not receive further review. These applicants will be notified in writing of their ineligibility for the current funding opportunity. All technical review findings will be maintained as part of the application file.

### Application Review Process

Applications that successfully pass technical review will be reviewed by a panel of no less than 3 Application Reviewers (ARs). ARs are given an Evaluation Rubric, as described in the NOFO, to complete their scoring of applications. Once AR review is complete, the scores and AR comments are analyzed and compiled by the JAC Grants Management Team in collaboration with the JAC Research and Data Team.

Applications that are not unanimously recommended for funding by all ARs require a consensus review panel meeting facilitated by a JAC staff member. During the review

panel meeting, each application that was not unanimously recommended for funding is considered with ARs discussing the strengths and weaknesses of the application at issue and their individual rationale for recommending funding or not. As a result of discussions, ARs may change their recommendations but are not required to do so. Once consensus review panel meetings are completed, final scores and AR recommendations are submitted to the JAC Executive Leadership Team for review and final award determinations.

### **JAC Executive Team Review Process**

Once all AR comments, recommendations, scores and any needed consensus meetings are complete, the JAC Executive Team will convene to determine which, if any, of the unanimously recommended applications with an average AR score of 80 or higher will be recommended for a grant award.

Executive Team deliberations follow these steps:

- **Step 1:** The Executive Team will order favorably reviewed applicants by highest average reviewer score, from highest to lowest.
- **Step 2:** Determine an “Initial Award Projection” by calculating how much it would cost to award all applicants in this favorably reviewed pool at the award amount level requested in their application.
- **Step 3:** If the Initial Award Projection equals the amount of available grant funds, then the JAC Executive Team will proceed with recommending awards to all applicants in this favorably reviewed pool at the full level of their requested amounts.
- **Step 4:** If the Initial Award Projection is either more or less than the amount of grant funds available, the JAC Executive Team will consider other factors to maximize the equitable distribution and impact of awards. Those factors may include, but are not limited to:
  - Did the application cover multiple geographic locations?
  - Was the amount of funding requested in the application justified based on the size and depth of the proposed program?
  - Did the applicant propose relatively unique services or service relatively unique populations or community?
  - Did the application include robust collaboration and/or form a coalition of service providers?
  - Was a reliable referral stream for program participants evident or already established?
  - Current experience or past history of managing other government grants.
  - Past performance of organization on previous JAC grants.

## **Award Recommendation and Approval Process**

Once the Executive Team completes their review and determines final award recommendations, the JAC Executive Director presents these recommended awards to the Cook County Board of Commissioners for approval.

## **Executive Summary**

Once the JAC has determined that there are no further awards to be made under a given NOFO, the JAC will formally indicate the closeout of the NOFO by issuing an Executive Summary available to the public. The Executive Summary will be sent to all applicants and posted on the JAC grants website: [www.cookcountyil.gov/JACGrants](http://www.cookcountyil.gov/JACGrants). Executive summaries and all past grant opportunities will be archived on the website for public access.

## **Applicant Debriefing Feedback**

Applicants interested in receiving feedback on their application can request feedback by following the process outlined in the Executive Summary. Unless otherwise specified in the Executive Summary, an applicant seeking feedback has no more than 6 months since the issuance of the Executive Summary to request feedback. Upon request, Grants Management Leadership will arrange a 30-minute virtual meeting with applicants to provide application feedback. At a minimum, provided feedback will include: reviewer recommendations and comments including strengths and weaknesses. Reviewers will not be identified, nor will other applications be specifically discussed.

## **Other Items to Consider**

- Upon Board approval of the selected applicants for grant awards, a grant agreement will be prepared and presented to each selected applicant for their review and signature.
- The Cook County Justice Advisory Council reserves the right to reject any or all Applications or any part thereof, to waive informalities, and to accept the Application deemed most favorable to the County.
- The County reserves the right to check references on any projects performed by the applicant whether provided by the applicant or known by the County.
- In evaluating applications, the JAC Executive Review Team may consider past performance for Applicants who were prior grant recipients under a Justice Advisory Council Grant. In the event that an organization was designated as "non-compliant," the JAC may consider this designation in determining whether to award the agency a grant.

- **Applicants should not begin programming until official award notification has been received and the agreement has been fully executed. Expenses incurred outside of the agreement period will not be allowable.**



# APPLICATION

## Application Instructions

To submit an application for funding under the Cook County Starting Block Grant initiative, visit the Cook County Justice Advisory Council's Grants website: [CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants](http://CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants). The application deadline is February 6, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

## How to Submit Your Response

The Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) online submission portal for this NOFO will be posted at [CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants](http://CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants).

**Note:** Please be sure you have all materials ready to submit before completing this submission form - you will not be able to save as you go along.

### Steps to complete

1. Complete the Organization Information and contact fields on the form. Please make sure your Headquarter Address is accurate and consistent with the Headquarter Address you provide in your application cover sheet. Please note that the individual listed as the primary contact for this grant application will receive all communications related to this application.

**Note:** *Creating a Login is not required*

2. Upload the following nine (9) required files:
  - ☐ **SCC-SGV Application Narrative** - Upload as a PDF
  - ☐ **Application Supporting Documentation** (outlined in the checklist on page 16) - Upload all supporting documentation in one (1) PDF document
  - ☐ **SCC-SGV Attachment 1 – Implementation Workplan Goals Objectives Deliverables**
  - ☐ **SCC-SGV Attachment 2 – Implementation Timeline**
  - ☐ **SCC-SGV Attachment 3 – Organization Demographic Data**
  - ☐ **SCC-SGV Attachment 4 – Program Budget and Narrative** - Upload as an Excel document using the Excel budget template provided
  - ☐ **SCC-SGV Attachment 5 – Organization Operating Budget Template** - Upload as an Excel document using the Excel budget template provided
  - ☐ Two (2) signed and notarized Affidavits signed by two different Cook County suburban municipal elected officials. Affidavits must be completed using the **SCC-SGV Attachment 6 – Affidavit Template and Instructions** (download the attachment at [www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants](http://www.CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants))
  - ☐ **Financial Documents** (outlined in the checklist on page 16) - Upload all supporting documentation in one (1) PDF document

3. Enter the CAPTCHA validation characters shown on the screen, and press “Submit” to complete your submission.
4. Once the application has been submitted, the primary contact person identified on the application will receive an automated e-mail indicating that the application has been successfully submitted. Please save this e-mail when you receive it.
5. Once the application has been acknowledged by the JAC, the primary contact person identified on the application will receive an automated e-mail indicating the that JAC has acknowledged receipt of your application. Please save this e-mail when you receive it.

**Note:** It is HIGHLY recommended to submit early to avoid a potential delay caused by a high volume of last-minute applications.

Only one application per applicant will be accepted. If you submit multiple applications, the JAC will only review the most recently submitted application.

## Application Components

### Organization Information

*This information is required to ensure a complete application. Please include as the cover sheet for application. Failure to include the below information may affect your application's ability to pass technical review.*

- ☐ Organization Name
- ☐ Headquarter Address (*please answer the below questions*)
  - 1. Yes or No: Do you have a physical location in suburban Cook County where your organization provides services and programming to survivors of gun violence?
  - 2. If yes, what is the address? Please write full address with street number, street, city, state, and zip code. If no, please write N/A for this and the below questions.
  - 3. Yes or No: Is this address your headquarters? Y
  - 4. If no, where is your address? Please write full address with street number, street, city, state, and zip code.
- ☐ Name, title, and email address for Executive Director
- ☐ Name, title, and email address for point of contact
- ☐ List of geographic areas where services are provided
- ☐ Number of years organization has been in existence and providing services to survivors of gun violence in Suburban Cook County
- ☐ Amount Requested for Funding
- ☐ Track 1 or Track 2 application (*please answer the below questions*)
  - Yes or No: Are you applying to Track 1 for a \$500,000 award over 2 years?
  - If yes, do you have at least one additional partner nonprofit organization

- headquartered in Cook County? (Yes / No / N/A)
- If yes, what is their name? Please make sure to provide their IRS determination letter with an address that is their headquarter in Cook County as part of your application documents.

## Executive Summary

Please provide a one page summary which includes the mission of the applicant organization, a description of the proposed program services that will be provided community areas where services and target populations to be served.

## Application Narrative

### Section A: Increased Services (15 Points)

1. Describe the problem to be addressed by your proposed grant program.
2. Describe the target population the proposed program will serve.
3. Identify at least (2) of the following services categories below which your proposed program will provide to survivors. Refer to the table on page 2, *Services Most Needed by Survivors of Gun Violence*, for the list of services and service categories.
  - ☐ Category 1: Clinical Services- Services that provide direct therapeutic support to survivors and their families. These services can include but are not limited to mental health counseling, family therapy, clinical case management, and substance use disorder.
  - ☐ Category 2: Financial Services- Emergency financial assistance that includes support for immediate household needs, utilities, funeral costs, medical costs, assisting with applying for Victim compensation, and/or public assistance. For applicants applying under this category, no more than 15% of budget can be dedicated to personnel and administrative costs.
  - ☐ Category 3: Programming- Programs that support youth directly impacted by gun violence, mentorship programs, peer groups for survivors and their families, conflict resolution, survivor workshops; trauma informed care programming, legal advocacy, transportation services, interpreter services, workforce development, partner abuse awareness trainings and services, educational advocacy services.
  - ☐ Category 4: Housing Services – Additional support services can include relocation assistance, Housing assistance, and Expungement support
4. Describe, in detail, specific activities and services the proposed program will provide in the identified service categories. Discuss the plan for accomplishing each goal and objective of the proposed project using the table found in **Attachment 1- Implementation Workplan/Goals/Objectives/Deliverables**
5. Include a 2 year quarterly timeline that identifies a timeframe for all the tasks and activities to be completed using the table found in **Attachment 2- Implementation Timeline**

## **Section B: Addressing Barriers to Access (15 points)**

### **Awareness**

1. Identify how the proposed program will raise awareness about services and engage survivors.
2. Describe how the proposed program will address trauma experienced by survivors

### **Accessibility**

1. List suburban Cook County areas to be served. (*Note: Funds cannot be used to serve City of Chicago community areas*)
2. Describe current barriers survivors experience in accessing services and how the proposed program will work to remove barriers to services.
3. Describe current gaps in service that exist for survivors and how the proposed program will address the gaps.
4. Describe the availability of services and the methodology of how survivors will access services.
5. How will the proposed program assist survivors in accessing other resources and support services (e.g., victim compensation)?

### **Eligibility**

1. Describe the eligibility criteria for survivors to access services? Highlight any application processes, as well as any restrictions.
2. Will family members be eligible for services, and how will they access services?

## **Section C: Community Outreach and Key Collaborations (15 Points)**

1. Describe how the applicant will work with key collaborators, stakeholders, and victim service organizations that may assist in the implementation of the proposed program.
2. Please list each key collaborator, their role or connection with the proposed program.

## **Section D: Agency Qualifications and Organizational Capacity (30 Points)**

1. Please provide a brief overview of your organization's history and mission.
2. Describe your organization's experience in working with underserved populations in underserved communities.
3. Does your organization have 3 years experience in providing services to survivors of gun violence? Experience can also include working with survivors of other types of violence. Please provide specific examples of the 3 years of experience in serving survivors. (Applicant need not have non-profit status for entire duration of experience, just at time of application.)
4. Describe the applicant organization's experience in managing government grants? Please provide the government agency, the amount, and a brief description of the purpose of the grant.
5. If awarded, describe how long will it take for the proposed program to begin? Please note any possible delays in the start of program. Note: The expectation is that the

proposed program will begin within 30 days of the start of the performance period.

6. Complete the following organization demographic data table with demographic data on your board, staff and clients found in **Attachment 3- Organization Demographic Data**

### **Fiscal Capacity**

*This section will be scored based on the thoroughness of the responses and on the level of capacity. This section will also gauge the level of financial technical assistance that may be needed to support the applicant.*

1. Describe your agency accounting policies and systems/software used. Can your system track expenses by program area?
2. Describe your agency's experience creating budgets, applying cost allocation principles, etc.
3. What is the amount of your organization's overall budget? *Overall budget includes all programs, administration, etc; include this grant request/amount.*
4. Describe your agency timekeeping system. Can your system track staff time by grant program?
5. Identify staff who will be responsible for completing and submitting financial reports to JAC. Describe staff member's experience and/or credentials, if applicable. If your organization is contracting with an entity to manage fiscal responsibilities for this grant, provide name of the entity. Please explain your internal controls to ensure separation of duties related to approving invoices, accounting entries and payment authorizations for expenditures.

### **Agency Readiness**

Provide a description of the applicant agency's readiness for service provision commencing within 30 days of the contract start date, taking note of the following:

1. **Staffing:** Describe the applicant agency's plan for staffing to carry out and execute this program.
  - a. Include an organizational chart of the applicant organization, showing where the program and its staff will be placed. If subcontractors will be used, include the relationship with those organizations in the chart.
  - b. Submit job descriptions and resumes for all positions to be funded by this grant. Indicate whether these positions will be full-time or part-time and if the staff are current employees or will be new hires.
  - c. For new hires, include the anticipated timeline for staff to be hired.
2. **Physical Space:** Discuss the applicant agency's readiness in terms of the physical space where program activities will be carried out.

**Note:** As a condition of award, all organizations will be required to complete a **risk assessment** which will require the organization to provide documented policies for but not limited to fiscal, procurement, conflict of interest, personnel, and record retention.

### **Section E: Plan for Collecting Required Data (10 Points)**

1. Describe the process for measuring project performance.
2. Identify who will collect the data, who will be responsible for performance measurements, and how the information will be used to guide and evaluate the impact of the project.
3. Describe the process to accurately report data.

### **Section F: Proposed Program Budget (10 Points)**

Please complete the downloadable SCC-SGV Attachment 4 – Program Budget & Narrative available at [CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants](http://CookCountyil.gov/JACGrants).

Provide a (2) year budget that includes line-item expenditures and a detailed narrative for expenditure that justifies the need for the expense not to exceed \$500,000 for Track 1 or \$100,000 or Track 2 for the 2-year period.

**Note:** If indirect costs included in the budget are beyond the de minimis rate of 15%, the applicant must submit a copy of their organization's approved Federal Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA).

### **Application Quality and Completeness (5 Points)**

Please be sure the application is responsive to all of the narrative questions and all application components and required items identified in the *Application Checklist* are submitted to ensure a complete application.

### **Suburban Cook County Headquarters Bonus (20 Points)**

Applicants who are headquartered in suburban Cook County as validated by the address in the IRS Nonprofit Determination Letter will receive a twenty (20) point "Suburban Headquarter Bonus" added to their final application score (provided the score meets the minimum 80 point threshold for consideration).

## **EVALUATION CRITERIA**

The below chart summarizes the categories and point value system that will be used to score applications for funding under the Wraparound Services for Survivors of Gun Violence in Cook County

Section	Points
<b>Section A: Increased Services</b>	
• Does the applicant describe the problem to be addressed?	15

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the Applicant propose a program that provides services in two of the key service categories?</li> <li>• Did the applicant provide an Implementation Workplan?</li> <li>• Did the applicant provide an Implementation Timeline?</li> </ul>	
<b>Section B: Addressing Barriers to Access</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the applicant outline a plan to raise awareness about services and engage survivors?</li> <li>• Does the applicant describe existing gaps and barriers in services and how they will be addressed by the proposed program?</li> <li>• Does the proposed program outline how survivors will be supported in access services and resources?</li> <li>• Does the applicant describe proposed program eligibility requirements?</li> </ul>	15
<b>Section C: Community Outreach and Key Collaborations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the applicant identify key partners that will assist in implementation of the proposed program?</li> <li>• Does the applicant describe the role each of the key partners in the implementation of the proposed program?</li> </ul>	15
<b>Section D: Agency Qualifications and Organizational Capacity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the applicant describe experience in providing services to survivors?</li> <li>• Does the applicant have 3 years of experience in providing services to survivors?</li> <li>• Does the applicant describe their experience in working with underserved populations in underserved communities?</li> <li>• Did the applicant complete the Organization Demographic Data Table?</li> <li>• Does the applicant describe their experience in managing government grants?</li> <li>• Does the applicant provide details about its experience in managing budgets and tracking expenses?</li> <li>• Does the applicant discuss the organization's staffing plan and ability to carry out the proposed program?</li> <li>• Does the applicant identify a physical space to carry out program activities?</li> </ul>	30
<b>Section E: Plan for Collecting Required Data</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does the applicant describe its processes for collecting data?</li> <li>• Does the applicant identify who will be responsible for data collection?</li> </ul>	10

<b>Section F: Proposed Program Budget</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does the applicant provide a 2 year budget that does not exceed \$500,000 for Track 1 or \$100,000 for Track 2 on the template provided?</li> <li>Are the proposed program costs allowable and align with the proposed program?</li> <li>Does the budget include narrative for each budget line item?</li> </ul>	10
<b>Application Quality and Completeness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the application response to all of the grant application narrative questions?</li> <li>Does the application include all of the required attachments?</li> <li>Does the application include all of the required supporting documentation?</li> </ul>	5
<b>Total Points</b>	100
<b>Suburban Headquarter Bonus</b>	20
<b>Total Points for Suburban Headquarter applicants</b>	120

## Additional Information

### Questions and Pre-Submittal Conference

An optional virtual pre-submittal conference for potential respondents to this NOFO will be held on 1/22/2026 at 1:00pm Central Time. The conference will cover the submission process and serve as a formal question-and-answer session. To RSVP, visit [CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants](https://CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants).

Respondents may also submit questions via email to [JAC.Info@cookcountyil.gov](mailto:JAC.Info@cookcountyil.gov) until 11:59 PM Central Time on 1/25/2025.

### Clarifications and Addenda

A "Frequently Asked Questions" document will be posted on the Justice Advisory Council grants website: [CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants](https://CookCountyIL.gov/JACGrants). The document will be updated with questions and responses from the Pre-submittal Conference by 1/29/2026. Guidance offered in this Q&A document, as well as any notifications offered on the JAC website as to the manner and timing of submission, shall be considered as part of this Request for Qualifications. It is the responsibility of the respondent to remain advised of any updates.