

Overview of the PMT Data for VOCA Grantees: January–June 2017

Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA) is a grant program funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). VOCA grantees conduct a wide variety of services to enhance coordination among agencies and professionals that respond to child abuse through training and technical assistance (TTA) and information services. VOCA funding supports Regional Children’s Advocacy Centers (RCAC) that develop multidisciplinary teams, local children’s advocacy center programs, and state chapter organizations. These centers are accredited members of the National Children’s Alliance and support training opportunities for service providers and professionals responding to child abuse victims. The RCAC agencies provide TTA to these groups to assess community readiness, increase the number of communities using the children’s advocacy center model, and develop and strengthen state chapter organizations of children’s advocacy centers. VOCA grantees have been reporting in the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) since the January–June 2008 reporting period. This report provides data for the January–June 2017 reporting period.

Report Highlights

This report is an overview of the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) data for VOCA grantees as reported through June 30, 2017. Performance measures help OJJDP determine whether the federal program has achieved its goals and objectives and may be used to improve program and policy decisions at the federal level. The report is divided into two sections:

1. An examination of program information for VOCA grantees.
2. An analysis of VOCA performance measures.

Key findings from the analysis for the January–June 2017 reporting period include:

- Data were completed for 7 programs, for a reporting compliance rate of 64 percent.
- Washington, D.C. received the most funds (\$24,336,682).
- The National Children’s Alliance received the greatest number of awards (27 percent).
- Sixty-six program materials were developed.
- Twenty-six staff received formal training relevant to their program or position.
- A total of 902 technical assistance requests were received.

1. Examination of Program Information

The VOCA program grantees began reporting in the PMT in 2008. Grantees are required to report semiannually for each active federal award. Table 1, below, presents the reporting compliance rate of active federal awards since the July–December 2015 reporting period. Across the past four reporting periods, VOCA grantees have had an average compliance rate of 90 percent. However, during the January–June 2017 reporting period, grantees were 64 percent compliant on their PMT reporting requirement. Further examination is needed to understand what led to the decrease in reporting compliance during this reporting period.

Table 1. Status of Active VOCA Grantee Reporting by Period: July 2015–June 2017

| Data Reporting Period | Status | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| | Not Started | In Progress | Complete | Total | Percent |
| July–December 2015 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 100% |
| January–June 2016 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 10 | 100% |
| July–December 2016 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 15 | 100% |
| January–June 2017 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 11 | 64% |
| Total | 4 | 0 | 37 | 41 | 90% |

In examining federal award amounts by state or district, Washington, D.C. received the most funds, followed by Alabama and Pennsylvania.¹ Table 2 shows a comprehensive comparison of federal award amounts broken down by state or district.

Table 2. Federal Award Amount by State or District (Dollars): January–June 2017

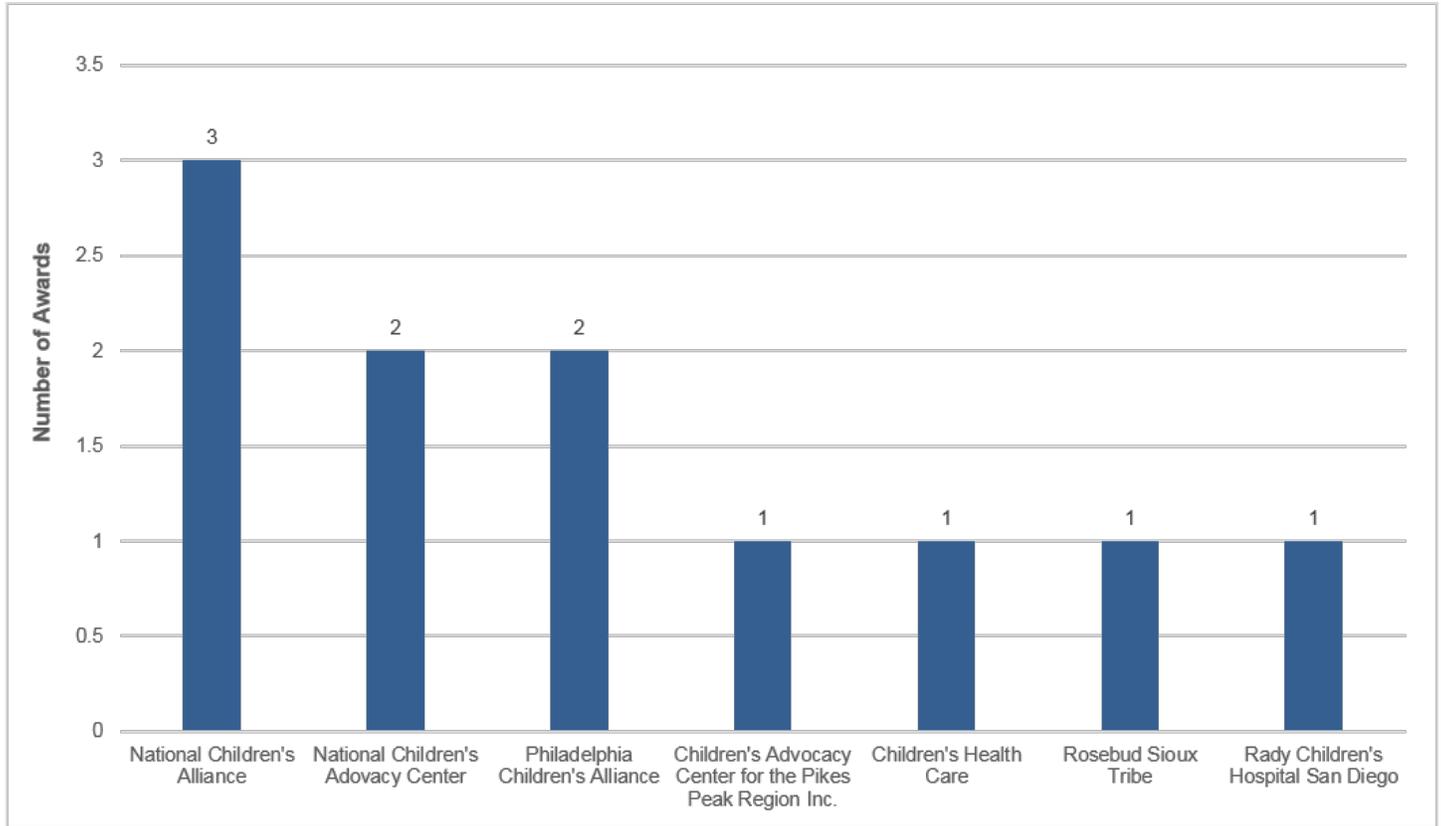
| State | N | Total Amount |
|-------|---|--------------|
| DC | 3 | \$24,336,682 |
| AL | 2 | \$3,105,000 |
| PA | 2 | \$2,840,000 |
| CO | 1 | \$1,590,000 |
| CA | 1 | \$1,250,000 |
| MN | 1 | \$1,250,000 |
| SD | 1 | \$344,107 |

¹ The federal award amounts represent the grant program for the life of the award, regardless of when it was awarded, and do not account for how much funding has been spent during the reporting period.

1.1 Grantee Awards

As figure 1, below, illustrates, the National Children’s Alliance received the greatest number of awards (27 percent; $n = 3$), followed by the National Children’s Advocacy Center (18 percent; $n = 2$), and the Philadelphia Children’s Alliance (18 percent; $n = 2$).

Figure 1. Awards by Grantee: January–June 2017



2. Analysis of Performance Measures

Tables 3–5, below, present the performance measures VOCA grantees reported in the PMT. Grantees reported on a number of measures related to enhancing existing justice system approaches and services for victims of child abuse through system planning activities, policy changes, training, and training and technical assistance (TTA). During the January–June 2017 reporting period, 198 system-planning activities were conducted. System planning activities could include creation of task forces or interagency committees, meetings that were held, and needs assessments that were undertaken (table 3).

Table 3. System-Planning Measures Data: January–June 2017

| Performance Indicator | Total Number Reported |
|--|-----------------------|
| Number of system-planning activities conducted | 198 |
| Number of planning or training events held | 181 |
| Number of program materials disseminated | 76 |
| Number of program materials developed ² | 66 |
| Number of other system-level improvement initiatives implemented | 36 |
| Number of memoranda of understanding developed | 35 |
| Number of publication resources developed ³ | 12 |
| Number of planning and coordination activities | 3 |
| Number of program policies changed | 0 |
| Number of program policies rescinded | 0 |

² Number of program materials developed includes the total number of program materials developed ($n = 66$) and the number of program materials related to cultural or racial and ethnic diversity developed ($n = 7$).

³ Number of publication resources developed includes the number of publication resources developed for tribally based multidisciplinary teams and children’s advocacy centers ($n = 0$) and the number of publication resources developed for nontribal children’s advocacy centers ($n = 12$).

Table 4 presents the VOCA training measures. During the January–June 2017 reporting period, a total of 26 staff, and 6,401 other relevant youth-serving professionals or community members were trained in program areas. A total of 2,878 training recipients completed surveys designed to understand if they demonstrated an increased knowledge of the program area post-training. Of the 2,878 participants who completed surveys, 99 percent increased their knowledge post-training.

Table 4. Training Measures Data: January–June 2017

| Performance Indicator | Total Number Reported |
|---|-----------------------|
| Number of other relevant youth-serving professionals or community members trained | 6,401 |
| Number and percent of training recipients with increased knowledge of program area ⁴ | |
| A. Number of people exhibiting an increase in knowledge post-training | 2,846 |
| B. Total number of people trained and returning surveys | 2,878 |
| C. Percent of training recipients with increased knowledge of program area | 99% |
| Number of training requests received | 156 |
| Number of new training materials developed | 62 |
| Total number of staff trained | 26 |
| Of total staff trained, the number of staff trained on cultural or racial and ethnic diversity | 25 |

Table 5 presents the VOCA TTA measures. During the January–June 2017 reporting period, 902 TTA requests were received. Forty-four percent of those served by TTA reported implementing an evidence-based program and/or practice during or after the TTA. OJJDP encourages grantees to use evidence-based practices in their programs. Evidence-based programs and practices include program models that have been shown, through rigorous evaluation and replication, to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors.

Table 5. TTA Measures Data: January–June 2017

| Performance Indicator | Total Number Reported |
|---|-----------------------|
| Forty-four percent of those served by TTA reported implementing an evidence-based program and/or practice during or after the TTA | 44% |
| A. Number of programs served by TTA that reported using an evidence-based program and/or practice | 827 |
| B. Number of programs served by TTA | 1,859 |
| Number of technical assistance requests received | 902 |
| Number of technical assistance requests delivered | 902 |

⁴ This number only includes training recipients who completed and returned surveys designed to assess their knowledge of the program area post-training.

Summary

During the January–June 2017 reporting period, the VOCA program grantees were 64 percent compliant on the PMT reporting requirement, which is a decline from previous reporting periods. Further examination of data is necessary to be able to provide an explanation of what led to the decrease in reporting compliance during this reporting period. However, across the past four reporting periods, VOCA grantees have had an average compliance rate of 90 percent. In examining federal award amounts by state or district, Washington, D.C. received the most funds, followed by Alabama and Pennsylvania. Analysis of the number of awards by grantee revealed that the National Children’s Alliance instituted the greatest number of awards (27 percent), followed by the National Children’s Advocacy Center, and the Philadelphia Children’s Alliance. Looking at the information from the performance measure data, grantees reported on a number of measures related to enhancing existing justice system approaches and services for victims of child abuse through system planning activities, training, and training and technical assistance (TTA). During the current reporting period, 198 system-planning activities were conducted and 66 program materials were developed (seven of which were related to cultural or racial and ethnic diversity). A total of 26 staff, and 6,401 other relevant youth-serving professionals or community members received training relevant to their program or their position. A total of 2,878 training recipients completed surveys designed to understand if they demonstrated an increased knowledge of the program area post-training. Of the 2,878 participants who completed surveys, 99 percent increased their knowledge post-training. Finally, 902 TTA requests were received. Forty-four percent of those served by TTA reported implementing an evidence-based program and/or practice during or after the TTA.