

VOCA

State by State Quick Reference Guide

May 2021 Edition



**National
Children's
Alliance®**

*The Force Behind
Children's Advocacy Centers*

Quick Reference Table

State	2020 VOCA To CACs	FI Funded	Match Waived	Chapter Receives VOCA \$	CAC Rep. in Decision Making Process	Notified of Potential Cuts	Last Updated
Alabama	\$154,000	Yes	No	No	No	?	2021
Alaska	\$1,253,617*	Yes	?	No	No	No	2021
Arizona	\$2,700,000	State	Yes*	No	No	Yes*	2021
Arkansas	\$1,913,299	Yes	?	No	No	?	2018
California	\$8,835,831*	Yes*	Hardship*	No	No*	Yes*	2021
Colorado	\$6,638,050	Yes*	Yes*	No	Yes*	No	2021
Connecticut	Yes \$?	Yes*	?	No	No	?	2016
Delaware	\$319,639	Yes	?	No	No	?	2017
Florida	\$13,148,244	Yes	Yes/No*	No	No	No	2021
Georgia	\$10,767,351	Yes	Yes*	No	No	Yes*	2021
Hawaii	\$160,920	No*	No	No	Yes*	Yes*	2021
Idaho	\$2,225,387	Yes	No*	No	No	Yes*	2021
Illinois	\$9,020,000	Yes*	Yes/No*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	2021
Indiana	Yes \$?	Yes*	Yes*	No*	No	Yes*	2021
Iowa	\$87,600	Yes	No*	No	No	No	2021
Kansas	\$2,980,532	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	2021
Kentucky	\$6,787,543	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	2021
Louisiana	\$4,508,920	Yes	No*	Yes*	No	Yes*	2021
Maine	\$856,500	Yes*	Yes*	No*	Yes*	Yes*	2021
Maryland	\$4,227,901	Yes	Yes*	Yes*	No	Yes*	2021
Massachusetts	\$5,116,738	Yes	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	2021
Michigan	\$6,694,984	Yes*	20%*	Yes*	No	?	2019
Minnesota	\$378,235	Yes	20%*	No	No	?	2015

Mississippi	\$5,985,459	Yes*	No	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	2021
Missouri	\$6,029,613	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	No	Yes*	2021

* Additional Information in "Quick Reference Notes"

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Quick Reference Table

State	2020 VOCA To CACs	FI Funded	Match Waived?	Chapter Receives VOCA \$	CAC Rep. in Decision Making Process	Proposed Cuts	Last Updated
Montana	\$614,000	Yes*	?	Yes	No	?	2017
Nebraska	Yes \$?	?*	?	No	No *	?	2015
Nevada	?	?	?	?	?	?	N/A
New Hampshire	\$1,631,046	Yes	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	2021
New Jersey	Yes \$?	County*	No	No	No	Yes*	2021
New Mexico	\$2,261,694	Yes*	Yes*	No	No	Yes*	2021
New York	Yes \$?	Yes	Yes*	Yes*	No	Yes*	2021
North Carolina	\$9,633,839	Yes*	20%	Yes*	Yes*	?	2019
North Dakota	\$667,440	Yes	No	No	Yes*	Yes*	2021
Ohio	\$7,412,926	Yes	20%	Yes*	No	?	2017
Oklahoma	\$2,056,969	Yes	No*	No	Yes	Yes*	2021
Oregon	\$2,103,749	Yes	25%	No	No	?	2019
Pennsylvania	\$1,900,000	Yes*	Yes*	No	Yes*	Yes*	2021
Rhode Island	\$120,144	Yes	Yes*	No*	No*	Yes*	2021
South Carolina	\$6,782,945	Yes*	Yes/No*	Yes*	No	Yes*	2021
South Dakota	\$454,471	Yes	No*	Yes*	No	Yes*	2021
Tennessee	\$2,443,797	Yes*	20%	Yes	Yes*	?	2017
Texas	\$39,760,965	Yes	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes*	2021
Utah	\$2,357,287	Yes*	25%	No	Yes*	?	2017
Vermont	\$394,730	Yes	No	No	No	Yes*	2021
Virginia	\$4,376,951	Yes*	No*	No	No	Yes*	2021
Washington	\$2,862,225	Yes*	No*	Yes*	Yes	Yes*	2021
West Virginia	\$1,956,529	Yes*	20%	No	No*		12/18
Wisconsin	\$2,607,870	Yes*	20%	No	Yes*		12/18
Wyoming	Yes \$?	No	20%*	No	No		2015

* Additional Information in “Quick Reference Notes”

Quick Reference Notes

VOCA to CACs

Children’s Advocacy Centers are now receiving Federal VOCA dollars in at least 48 states (likely all 50). Several states have seen dramatic increases in the numbers of Centers receiving funds as well as the overall amounts. CACs in at least 7 states received cuts to their funding in 2020 and at least 29 states have been advised to prepare for cuts in the coming grant cycles.

- Alaska** FY 2020 was the first year that AK CACs received VOCA funding.
- California** In 2018, for the first time ever, California VOCA set aside \$11,000,000 solely for CACs. Approximately 70%-80% of California CACs are now receiving VOCA funds. In 2020, CA CACs received \$8,835,831.
- Connecticut** VOCA does not fund CACs, but it does provide funds to St. Francis hospital which houses a CAC.
- Hawaii** The HI Chapter of CJs applied for VOCA on behalf of its CJs for the first time in the fall of 2016. In In 2018 HI CJs received \$201,150 for 5 CJs and 2 satellites.
- Missouri** All CACs received VOCA funding.
- Nebraska** Eligibility Clause: “Any CAC that is a recipient of VOCA funds must be fully established and operational, meet all the standards for full membership as set forth by the NCA and participate as an active member in the Nebraska State Chapter of CACs.” – VOCA Application Instructions -.
- New Hampshire** Each CAC receives \$75,000.
- New Mexico** In 2017, for the first time, all 10 NM CACs received VOCA funds.
- North Carolina** All accredited and provisional CACs receive a formula driven base amount that is non-competitive. The formula, in summary, works out to a base amount per CAC of \$70,000 plus an additional \$350.48 per child served. On top of that base amount they may apply for funds for priority areas that are competitive. Centers are in rotating application years to ensure higher amounts are available. Of the 45 centers, 23 applied this cycle for the 19-20/20-21 grant years, and next grant cycle 22 will apply for the 20-21/21-22 grant years.
- West Virginia** In 2018, for the first time ever, all eligible CACs (accredited CACs) are receiving VOCA funds. In CY 2015 VOCA funded 3 CACs. In CY 2016 VOCA funded all 14 that applied out of 20 centers in total.

Forensic Interviews

At least 19 states have changed their position regarding the funding of Forensic Interviews since 2015. Several states began to allow them after the interpretive letter obtained in January of 2016 while others changed their position following the adoption of the new rule. Most of these states report that the interpretive letter, and or the updating of the OVC rule was crucial to their VOCA Administrator having changed their position. Six states reversed their position and began allowing VOCA funds for FIs for the first time in 2017 and at least one did so in 2018. Absent other priority sources, nearly all states no allow VOCA funds to be used for forensic interviews.

Arizona	AZ VOCA does NOT fund forensic interviews with VOCA because there is a state mandate requiring counties to pay for FIs and Exams.
California	New for 2017. Previously VOCA for FIs was not allowed because it was considered purely investigatory. The OVC rule update gave further credibility to CAC services in general, and helped clarify questions people had about whether they were investigative services or victim services.
Colorado	Newly allowed in 2016.
Connecticut	Are an allowable expense, but only in the case where there is an accompanying advocacy program.
Hawaii	HI VOCA does NOT currently fund forensic interviewers. HI CJs use other funds to pay for its in-house FIs & consultants (State legislated.) HI CJs do not charge for interviews.
Illinois	Newly allowed in 2016.
Indiana	Newly allowed in 2016.
Kansas:	Newly allowed in 2017. The updating of the OVC rule was instrumental in affecting this change.
Kentucky:	The updating of the rule to clarify that forensic interviews are an eligible expense and waiving the supplantation clause has been instrumental in allowing KY CACs to hire additional interviewers to meet growing demand. The forensic interviewer position is the most “in demand” position at CACs in KY. Without this increase in funding and eligibility for funding, CACs would be challenged to find other funding sources to support forensic interviews
Maine	Newly allowed in 2016.
Michigan	Newly allowed in 2016.
Mississippi	Newly allowed in 2016. This is attributable to the updating of the OVC rule in 2016 that provided more clarity that funds could be used for forensic interviews.
Missouri	Newly allowed in 2016.

Montana	Newly allowed in 2017. The updating of the OVC rule was instrumental in MT in demonstrating to the VOCA administrators that forensic interviews could be covered by VOCA funds.
Nebraska	Under consideration.
New Jersey	FIs are primarily covered by detectives from the Prosecutor's Office and are thus paid for with county funds, so NJ is not advocating for the use of VOCA funds for Forensic Interviews.
New Mexico	New for 2017. Since the rule change the VOCA Administrator has allowed a limited amount of FI salaries to be funded.
North Carolina	Newly allowed in 2016.
Pennsylvania	Newly allowed in 2016.
South Carolina	VOCA Victim Assistance funds positions for forensic interviewers. Also, Victims' Compensation funds from the State Office of Victim Assistance are being used to reimburse for FIs referred by LE, but the interviewer must have a masters in therapy and be licensed to get the reimbursement at \$210 per interview.
Tennessee	Newly allowed in 2018.
Utah	As of 2017, Forensic Interviews may be an allowable expense, however, hurdles remain. There were several restrictions in the application, including that VOCA could only be used if funding was not used to supplant other State and local funding available for interviews; and the county attorney and the chief and sheriff of every law enforcement agency served by the facility signed a letter to use the interviewer for every interview instead of their own (among other restrictions). Most notably, signing agencies had to accept that the award was a two year start-up award only and that by the end of two years, all signing agencies were required to agree to fund %100 of the interviewer without any VOCA support. The vast majority of CJs reported that they could not secure that kind of commitment (especially centers that serve several law enforcement jurisdictions, since all were required to sign) so as long as those restrictions remain in place, most CJs do not expect to be able to apply. One center previously received a bit of funding to support its FI program (\$2,500 for services and almost \$2,000 for training); this year it received \$2,500 again but the training funding was denied.
Virginia	CACs do not get reimbursement for specific interviews but with the grant as a whole if they want to base their grant on doing forensic interviews they may.
Washington	Newly allowed in 2016. In addition, VOCA Administrator is waiving supplanting rule as it relates to FI in coordination with the updated VOCA Rule and OVC's comments supporting the waiver.
Wisconsin	Newly allowed in 2017. The VOCA Administrator was on the fence, but the updating of the OVC rule gave them the clarification they needed to begin funding forensic interviews.

West Virginia Newly allowed in 2016.

Match Waiver?

*The rule adopted in 2016 maintains the 20% match requirement that sub-recipients must contribute. The match can be cash or in-kind. States may request a federal waiver for the match requirement. The updated rule exempts from match requirements: American Indian/Alaska Native Tribes; projects that operate on tribal land; Us Territories (except for Puerto Rico); and sub-recipients that have received a federal waiver. Acceptable sources of the required match include: Cash; Volunteer/Professional Services; and Materials/Equipment (Not to exceed "fair market value" **In response to COVID-19 at least 16 states have granted or established a process for match waivers for VOCA grantees.***

- Arizona** Prior to COVID-19 AZ allowed match waivers for CACs.
- Arkansas** 25% cash or in-kind. (New programs must demonstrate that 25%-50% of their financial support comes from non-federal sources.)
- California** Hardship waivers were available prior to the pandemic. Otherwise, there is a match requirement of 20% cash or in-kind (5% for organizations on Native American Reservations.)
- Colorado** In-response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, match requirements for VOCA have been waived for 2020 grant awards.
- Florida** Florida CACs have been made aware that there are excess funds that will need to be spent by 9/30/21. The VOCA Administrator has reached out to CACs and other state organizations seeking ideas for one-time purchase needs. They have also provided a blanket waiver for the one-time purchases. It is unclear the degree to which CACs will receive these funds, if at all.
- Georgia** CACs have been granted a match waiver in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. It is unknown if this waiver will be extended for the next grant cycle, 2021-22.
- Hawaii** HI CJs have not been granted a match waiver. VOCA grants require a match of 20% cash or in-kind. Fulfilling the VOCA match requirement, which was about \$40,000 was a challenge. The primary match was CJC staff salaries made available through staff turnover and vacancies.
- Idaho** INCAC has been researching ways to request VOCA funds, but "we don't feel that we are able to fulfil the match and volunteer requirements at this time. (20% cash or in-kind match).
- Illinois** IL CACs were able to secure a match waiver for which CACs could apply, however, no CACs applied for the waiver.
- Indiana** In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, CACs have been granted match waivers on a case-by-case basis. Otherwise, there is a 20% cash or in-kind match for existing programs, and 25%-50% for new programs.

Iowa	The state has NOT granted a match waiver to CACs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. VOCA grants require a 25% cash or in-kind (currently discussing offering a hardship waiver)
Kansas	The KS VOCA Administrator immediately granted a match waiver for CACs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was done on an individual CAC basis, as to accommodate individual agency needs, rather than across the board. The VOCA administrator was extremely accommodating.
Kentucky	In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a one-year match waiver was granted, across-the-board for the 20-21 awards.
Louisiana	The Chapter was granted a hardship waiver prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Only waivers submitted with original applications were able to be considered (this was prior to the pandemic). CACs are experiencing hardship due to limited fundraising and volunteer hours.
Maine	In response to COVID-19 CACs have been granted a match waiver through 9/30/21.
Maryland	The state has granted a match waiver to CACs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Massachusetts	In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, all VOCA funded agencies are allowed to request a match waiver for the duration of their award. Some CACs, as well as the Chapter have successfully requested and been awarded a match waiver. Other programs have elected not to request a match waiver for their VOCA award.
Michigan	20% for CACs, but no match is required for the funds to the Chapter.
Minnesota	20% cash or in-kind with "hardship waiver" exceptions. (Considering changing to 15%.)
Mississippi	The state has NOT granted a match waiver for CACs or the Chapter in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. There is still a 20% match requirement for all project cost for victim service providers, 25% match on new victim service projects. However, most CACs and the Chapter have been able to access a "Match Waiver".
Missouri	Case-by-case match waivers were granted for VOCA recipients.
New Hampshire	A match waiver application was required by each CAC. Waivers were granted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
New Mexico	The state has granted a match waiver through FY2021.
New York	NY CACs have received a match waiver in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
North Dakota	The state did not grant a match waiver in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Requirements include a 20% match for current programs, and 25% for new programs.
Oklahoma	Match waivers are available, but the process is quite lengthy. It begins with CACs requesting a waiver, which they can do on their grant application. The next step is a review and recommendation to the VOCA Board (at the time the application is reviewed

by the Board). The next step is approval by the Board and finally, the waivers are sent to OVC for review

- Pennsylvania** PA has had a match waiver in place for CACs for several years. It was not included as-a-result-of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Rhode Island** Rhode Island CACs have received a full waiver of match requirements in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- South Carolina** CACs have been granted a match waiver for volunteers, but not for the 20% cash match.
- South Dakota** A match waiver has not been requested.
- Texas** Texas granted a match waiver for the FY19-20 award and for the FY21 award (10/1/20 – 9/30/21). The match was waived in full. The FY22 application includes a match requirement which may be waived during the contracting period. The FY22 waiver is not guaranteed.
- Utah** Sub-grantees who have received funds for four (4) or more years must provide one-fourth (25%) cash match. New programs must demonstrate that 25%-50% of their financial support comes from non-federal sources.
- Virginia** CACs did not request waivers since they use general funds from their state grants to meet the required 20% match.
- Washington** The VOCA administrator contends that they have not received any match waiver requests from CACs, but that there is a process in place if they do. Otherwise, 20% cash or in-kind is required.
- Wyoming** 20% cash or in-kind for existing programs. (25% for new programs.)

Chapters and VOCA Funding

Currently at least 19 State Chapters are receiving VOCA funds for various purposes including general chapter operations and equipment, data collection (NCATrak/OMS), annual symposiums, trainings, and CAC Development. Additionally, in recent years several Chapters have begun to assist with the administration and/or monitoring and compliance of VOCA grants.

- Hawaii** Funding for HI CACs passes through the Chapter, but none is retained by the Chapter.
- Idaho** The Chapter has received VOCA funds in the past to provide Forensic Interviewer Training at the Idaho Falls DV Center which took over the running of a CAC. Aside from this the Chapter has not applied for VOCA funds, though they are exploring other training possibilities.

- awards/administers grants
- serves as passthrough for grants
- helps develop RFPs
- assists with compliance monitoring

- represents CACs in award decision process

Illinois

Chapter is involved in the administration of VOCA grants in the following ways:

Additionally, in 2020 the Chapter received \$178,000 for the following:

- rent/utilities
- salary/benefits
- trainings
- grant administration/monitoring

Indiana

The Chapter does not receive VOCA funds, but does assist the state VOCA Administrator with compliance monitoring.

Kansas

The Chapter receives \$88,000 in VOCA grants. The Chapter uses VOCA funds for the

- Salary/benefits
- training related travel
- trainings
- prevention education

following:

Kentucky

The Chapter received VOCA funding for the first time in 2017 to monitor compliance of CACs receiving VOCA awards. The Chapter receives \$120,000 per year to perform compliance monitoring related to VOCA grant awards to CACs. Additionally, the Chapter received and administered the VOCA one-time grant of \$255,000 in 2018.

The Chapter also uses VOCA funds for the following:

- program evaluation
- salary/benefits
- equipment
- MDT enhancement
- training
- grant administration

Louisiana

LACAC most recently received \$477,455 for a 24-month grant period.

The Chapter is currently in the process of surveying member centers to gather additional information. The Chapter VOCA funds are used for:

- forensic interview peer review
- rent / utilities
- training related travel
- salary / benefits
- trainings
- equipment

Maine

The Chapter does NOT currently receive VOCA funds. The chapter is involved in the administration of VOCA grants in the following ways:

- awards/administers grants
- serves as passthrough for grants
- assists with compliance monitoring
- represents CACs in award decision process

Maryland VOCA has enabled the State Chapter to pay for a Chapter Director and a part-time assistant. The Chapter most recently received \$106,176 in VOCA funds. The Chapter uses VOCA grants for the following:

- salary/benefits
- MDT enhancement
- Compliance monitoring
- trainings

Massachusetts The Chapter most recently received a VOCA award in the amount of \$1,053,574. The Chapter serves as the passthrough for awards specifically to fund CSEC Case Manager positions for each CAC.

Michigan The chapter receives \$110,000 to provide administrative support to the CACs, including technical assistance and training. The Chapter has received funds for this purpose since 2016. The contract with VOCA through MPHI requires that they offer Building Resiliency training for CAC staff and MDT members. It further requires that the Chapter develop a comprehensive CAC growth plan that will provide CAC coverage in every county and a reasonable time frame to achieve that coverage.

Mississippi The Chapter is involved in the administration of VOCA grants in the following ways:

- Awards/administers grants
- Represents CACs in the award decision process

The Chapter receives VOCA grants in the amount of \$3,864,564 and uses the funds for the following purposes:

- forensic interview peer review
- training related travel
- renovations/capital outlay
- trafficking initiatives
- tele-mental health services
- grant administration/monitoring
- rent/utilities
- trainings
- direct services
- salary/benefits
- equipment
- MDT enhancement

Missouri In 2018, the MO Chapter received VOCA funding for the first time. The Chapter uses VOCA funds for:

- rent/utilities
- trainings
- MDT enhancement
- salary/benefits
- prevention/education
- vic./fam advocacy

In 2020, for the first time, the chapter has an administrative contract with the state administering agency. Funds now come from the 5% federal allotment for admin costs which does not require a match. The previous grant to the chapter required a match.

Montana The Chapter received funding for the first time in 2017. The chapter has been able to increase capacity by increasing staff by adding a training coordinator but also adding

funding to ensure that the chapter maintains a full-time ED. The chapter also increased capacity by being able to provide many more trainings to a variety of MDT disciplines.

New Hampshire The Chapter is involved in the administration of VOCA grants in the following way:

- Awards/administers grants
- Represents CACs in award decision process
- Helps develop RFPs
- serves as passthrough for grants
- assists with compliance monitoring

The Chapter most recently received a VOCA grant in the amount of \$1,101,716 to administer to CACs.

The Chapter uses VOCA funds for:

- rent/utilities
- salary/benefits
- training related travel
- translation services
- tele-mental health
- trainings
- equipment
- direct services
- grant admin/monitoring
- prevention/education
- operation of 4 CACs

New York The Chapter receives VOCA funds for MDT enhancement.

North Carolina The NC Chapter receives funds for their annual symposiums as well as CAC development (2 separate grants.) The Chapter has received VOCA funds in the past for training (human trafficking, the creation of a child medical exam training module, etc.) The Chapter is also working towards becoming a pass-through by awarding and administering the grants to CACs. The Chapter developed the formula under which the centers are funded.

Ohio The State Chapter receives VOCA funds including 25% of the director's salary, equipment, travel, and regional trainings for MDTs

Rhode Island The Chapter does not receive VOCA grants, but does help develop RFPs and assists with monitoring and compliance.

South Carolina The Chapter received VOCA funding for the first time in September of 2017. In 2018-19 the Chapter received a high of \$57,357 in funding. Most recently, for 2020-21 the Chapter received \$47,033 which is used to provide trainings opportunities for CACs.

South Dakota The Chapter serves as a passthrough of VOCA grants. Most recently the Chapter received VOCA funds in the amount of \$36,080. The Chapter uses VOCA funds in the following ways:

- training related travel
- training
- grant administration/monitoring

Texas The Chapter is involved in the administration of VOCA grants in the following ways:

- awards/administers grants
- assists with compliance monitoring
- serves as passthrough
- represents CACs in award decision process
- helps develop RFPs

Most recently the Chapter received VOCA funds in the amount of \$738,900. The chapter uses VOCA funds for:

- program evaluation
- salary/benefits
- trainings
- grant administration
- MDT enhancement

Washington The Chapter has received a grant in the amount of \$98,000 through December 2021 to provide individual technical assistance to CACs. The Chapter is working to build its relationship with the VOCA Administrator, but currently has limited involvement in the grant process and grant administration

Representation in the Decision-Making Process

CACs in at least 20 states participate in the decision making process in some capacity, either by serving on advisory boards and committees; reviewing applications and providing input on final funding decisions; and or helping to develop RFPs for VOCA grants.

California The Chapter helps develop RFPs for grants set aside for CACs.

Colorado A CAC Executive Director sits on the VOCA Advisory Board.

Hawaii The Director/VP of the Hawaii Chapter of CJs sits on the VOCA Advisory Committee to provide input on increased direct service for victims.

Illinois The Chapter Director is seated on the Victims' Panel which identifies priorities. While CACs do have representation they are very outnumbered by DV and SA. (2 to 20)

Kansas The Chapter participates in implementation planning for VOCA and VAWA grants.

Kentucky The new relationship allowed the Chapter to work closely with the state VOCA administrators to provide technical assistance and training in addition to monitoring. The structure also allowed the Chapter to facilitate communication between the state Justice Cabinet and member CACs.

Maine Funding decisions are made by the Maine Department of Human Services with input from key stakeholders including the Maine Network of Children's Advocacy Centers.

Massachusetts Both the Executive Director and the Program Coordinator have served as VOCA grant reviewers for the Massachusetts Office of Victim Assistance (MOVA.)

- Mississippi** The Chapter has a permanent seat on the advisory council along with the Sexual Assault Coalition and the Domestic Violence Coalition. Additionally, in 2018, a couple of CACs were asked to serve on the VOCA advisory council with term-limited seats. The Chapter awards and administers grants and represents CACs in the award decision process.
- Nebraska** Applications are reviewed by staff and recommendations are made to the Grant Review Committee. The Grant Review Committee then holds public hearings and makes recommendations to the Crime Commission which makes final recommendations for funding.
- New Hampshire** The Chapter is involved on a VOCA Steering Committee with NH DOJ and is involved in the decision-making process regarding strategies needed pursuant to the anticipated cuts to VOCA.
- North Carolina** The chapter helped develop the formula by which VOCA funds are distributed to CACs. Also, the Chapter participates in meetings with VOCA administrators to set the priorities for VOCA funds for the coming year.
- North Dakota** A CAC Director was asked to sit on the VOCA Advisory Committee (New for 2016).
- Pennsylvania** A representative of CACs serves on the Victims Services Advisory Committee (VSAC), which is a volunteer group of victim service representatives, appointed by the governor, under the auspices of the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). This group spent more than a year updating the guidelines for distribution of VOCA funds to be more inclusive of other agencies given the large influx of funds.
- Rhode Island** The Chapter helps develop RFPs for VOCA funds.
- Tennessee** The Grant process in Tennessee changed in 2016. Previously grants were reviewed and decisions were made by the staff of the administering agency. Under the new process OCJP selects partners in related fields to serve on application review committees.
- Texas** TX CACs request VOCA funding from CACTX for VOCA allowable activities and CACTX then applies for funding from the Office of the Governor's Criminal Justice Division (CJD) of behalf of all Texas CACs. CACTX then administers VOCA funds to the CACs.
- West Virginia** WV works with the state VOCA administrator to help develop RFPs.
- Wisconsin** The Chapter Executive Director sits on the Wisconsin Attorney General's Task Force for Children in Need, where she advocates for expanding funding opportunities for CACs.
- Utah** Grants are reviewed by a screening and allocation committee (some CJC personnel have been invited to participate in this process.)

Potential Cuts

CACs and/or state chapters in at least 29 states have been notified by their state VOCA administrators to prepare for cuts to their VOCA grants absent an immediate remedy for deposits into the CVF.

Arizona

Absent a fix for the CVF, AZ CACs have been advised to prepare for potential cuts in year 3 of the current new 3-year grant cycle. The layout for the next three years is as follows:

- FFY 2021 - \$4.2 million (100% guaranteed)
- FFY 2022 - \$4.4 million (100% guaranteed)
- FFY 2023 - \$4.6 million (80% guaranteed)

The Chapter maintains that any potential cuts would severely impact CACs. Each Center receives VOCA funds, and VOCA is the primary funder for the majority of centers at 60% to 80% of their total budgets. Any projected cuts would be detrimental to the agencies and to the victims they serve. CACs already have to think outside the box to raise unrestricted funding for FIs and Medical exams along with items that victims need after an exam. The burden of fundraising to cover any shortfalls may force some centers to close their doors.

California

There has been talk about possible cuts to the VOCA funding. An amount has not been given. CA CACs have also been told that cuts to funding may mean that previously non-competitive grants may become competitive.

The Chapter maintains that any cuts to VOCA would severely impact CACs. As stated earlier, the VOCA funding is the only state-level funding centers in CA receive. The loss of this funding would impact nearly every center in the whole state. Furthermore, while this cut would affect almost every center, the smaller, developing, and more rural centers would feel this cut most keenly. These centers, generally, have fewer resources and have relied on VOCA funding to launch and revamp the vital services of CACs in their communities. The possible cut to BOCA funds not only means fewer dollars to support CACs, it means inequitable responses to child abuse for hurt children.

Georgia

CJCC has notified GA CACs that they will receive a 10% across-the-board cut, and that the upcoming grant cycle will be a continuation grant cycle. The upcoming grant cycle was anticipated to be a competitive grant cycle.

Hawaii

CJCs have been advised to prepare for cuts, but no amounts have yet been determined.

The Chapter maintains that any Cuts would severely impact HI CJs. They have heard from partner agencies that direct victim advocacy services for victims of crime at their centers and for medical services/response for victims may be rejected or cut. If that occurred, they may not have a victim advocate at the CJs for cases of sexual abuse/assault which is about 85% or more of their current reports.

In addition, it may adversely affect the various county prosecutor's office and staffing of their victim advocates for criminal cases.

Idaho

CACs have been advised to prepare for cuts. Amounts have not been discussed, but CACs know that they may need to reduce their staffing in order to handle the cuts. The Chapter maintains that any cuts will severely impact staffing at CACs and lead to reduced services.

- Illinois** “We have not been given any amounts, just told to prepare for cuts if there is no “fix”.
- The Chapter maintains that cuts to VOCA funding would severely impact CACs. “A 40% cut in VOCA could result in 1600 kids in Illinois not receiving the services that they so greatly need in order to be protected from further harm and to receive the needed treatment from the trauma they have experienced.”
- Indiana** All VOCA funded organizations in Indiana have been told to prepare for up to 80% cuts. CACs have VOCA funding contracts through September 2022. The Chapter maintains that and Cuts to VOCA funding would severely impact CACs.
- Kansas** in FY2022. KS CACs have been advised to prepare for cuts in the coming years, most likely starting
- The Chapter maintains that the impact of proposed cuts to CACs would be severe. “Our CACs rely on this funding to support and provide direct services to children and families. Without it, staff hours will have to be cut or positions completely eliminated from our CACs, which directly affects the number of children that can or can’t be served, whether there can be services offered in multiple areas or not (most of our CACs serve multiple counties), on-site services such as therapy and forensic interviews will decrease tremendously, and coordination efforts with team partners will suffer.”
- Kentucky** KY CACs have been told to expect at least a 30% decrease in the next couple of years. The Chapter maintains that cuts to VOCA grants would severely impact CACs as VOCA funds make up more than 50% of the statewide budget for CACs.
- Louisiana** CACs have been told to prepare for VOCA cuts due to reduced funding on the federal level. The anticipated amount/percentage of funding cuts have varied across districts and have been within a range of 20-45%.
- The Chapter Director maintains that the proposed cuts would severely impact LA CACs. “VOCA funding cuts would be devastating to CAC programs, as essential programs and personnel are funded by these critical funds. CACs would be required to lay off staff and decrease accessibility to victims. Any cuts to VOCA funding would mean cuts to services. VOCA funding reductions would result in reduced staff, utilization of outdated equipment, and reduction in training opportunities, all of which are vital components of delivering professional services to abused and neglected children. Over the years, CACs have been able to expand services into advocacy, education, therapy and awareness for clients. In the event that CACs experience tremendous cuts, CACs would also lose these additional services which are essential to the healing and resiliency of victims and families.”
- Maine** Maine CACs have been advised to prepare for cuts in the coming years. The Chapter maintains that any cuts would severely impact the operations of CACs.
- Massachusetts** MA CACs have received an announcement from the state VOCA Administrator noting a 35% decrease to VOCA funding in the current federal fiscal budget, which will begin to impact grants starting July 2022. The VOCA Administrator has encouraged VOCA funded

programs to begin exploring additional funding opportunities that may be available in future years including private, public donations and the annual state budget.

The Chapter maintains that cuts to VOCA funding will severely impact CACs. VOCA funding directly supports nearly 50 positions at MA's 12 CCAs, and in some programs, a significant portion of CAC operating expenses. CACs report that a reduction to funds would drastically impact core services and impact their ability to maintain national accreditation. Furthermore, VOCA funds support key positions employed by multidisciplinary team partner agencies, such as forensic interviewers and victim advocates, which are critical to CAC service provision, as well as community-based victim services such as mental health services and peer mentorship upon which CACs rely to offer referrals to child victims and their families.

Mississippi CACs have been told to expect cuts in the upcoming year. The Chapter maintains that cuts would severely impact CACs. Services and staff would be cut and fewer children would be seen promptly or at all. VOCA funding is a huge part of the CACs' and the Chapter's budgets.

Missouri The state administering agency has advised CACs to prepare for cuts, warning that federal funds could be cut by as much as half. Even though the state has some unawarded funding to roll into the next cycle to soften the blow, if Congress does not stabilize the CVC through the VOCA fix, Missouri CACs expect to have to severely cut services.

New Hampshire NH CACs have been advised that the NH DOJ is preparing for cuts in 2023, including cuts of 20% in 2023; an additional 25% in 2024; and an additional 20% in 2025.

The Chapter maintains that this will have a dramatic impact on all staffing at NH CACs. Most of the funds from VOCA pay for direct services staff (salaries for forensic interviewers and family support specialists who provide case management and referrals for mental health and specialized medical). NH CACs receive only \$9,000 per CAC from state dollars, therefore a reduction in VOCA will have catastrophic effects on services to child victims of crime.

New Jersey Grantees have been advised to expect 30% cuts to available funds.

New Mexico Due to the strategic funding plan in place in NM, cuts are not anticipated in the upcoming fiscal year, but would need to occur in future years unless a VOCA fix is passed and/or the available formula awards from the CFF are increased from last year. The amount of VOCA funding increased by 4-5 times around 2015, which drastically increased the amount of VOCA funding received by CACs. This corresponded to an increase in the number of children served at CACs. There would likely be layoffs and potential closures if there are drastic cuts as anticipated, which would result in fewer child victims and families served.

With challenges posed by the pandemic and state budget shortfalls, projected cuts in VOCA would be devastating. New Mexico already struggles to improve child wellbeing based on many indicators and a reduction in funding will only make this crisis worse

- New York** NY CACs have been advised to prepare for cuts absent a fix for the CVF. The Chapter maintains that any cuts to VOCA funding would severely impact CACs.
- North Dakota** The Chapter has been informed that there will be less money available, possibly half, and that there is not enough funds for all who apply. The Chapter maintains that cuts to VOCA grants would severely impact CACs. They would likely have to cut many positions and have to spend more time fundraising rather than direct time with clients or working within their programs.
- Oklahoma** CACs have been made aware of potential cuts by VOCA monitors who have advised advocacy at the federal level to provide a fix for the CVF. Potential cuts would severely impact the operations of CACs in OK.
- Pennsylvania** PCCD administers VOCA funding, and they have put funds aside in past years in order to cover for any shortfalls in the near term. So, most CACs were awarded a 3-year grant in 2020. However, all are aware that in FY2023 there may be some cuts in the VOCA fund does not see an increase in deposits. Eds and Boards have begun to have hard discussions as part of long-term budget and program planning.
- The Chapter maintains that the impact of any cuts would be severe for CACs. They would have to cut positions, and would especially hurt smaller CACs that would experience a greater impact. Larger CACs would still be impacted and all CACs may be forced to re-write their MDT response protocols to limit the population of children served.
- Rhode Island** RI CACs have been told to expect VOCA funding across the board to continue to decrease. The Chapter maintains that cuts in VOCA funding will severely impact CACs. VOCA funds are vital to Rhode Island's CACs. These funds allow the CAC's to operate and expand coverage to support more children in the state. While funds are decreasing the need has increase. The number of children utilizing CACs in RI in 2020 grew by 300%.
- South Carolina** SC CACs have been experiencing cuts in the last couple of years and have been advised to prepare for more cuts in the coming years. With more than a \$1 million reduction in 2019, CACs cut out most equipment purchases and eliminated funding for all out of state travel. For 2020, there was an 18% across the board cut. It is anticipated that for 2021-22 there will be an additional cut of 10% from all awards.
- The Chapter maintains that these current reductions are severely impacting CACs and could result in a loss of up to 45% of direct service providers at SC CACs if a VOCA fix is not put into place.
- South Dakota** The Chapter has been advised that because it does not provide direct services, that it may not be eligible to apply for future VOCA funding through the state. The Chapter maintains that any cuts to VOCA funds would severely impact CACs. Grant coordination, training opportunities and forensic interview/medical equipment would be severely impacted across the state.

Texas

In early January 2021 CACTX was asked to plan for a 10% cut in FY22 funding (10/1/2021 – 9/30/2022).

CACs in Texas already anticipate a \$21 million deficit due to financial implications from the COVID-19 pandemic largely due to decreases in philanthropic giving and cancelled fundraising events. This means that the proposed 10% cut to FY22 VOCA funding poses serious consequences for all 71 CACs across the state. VOCA funds in TX are primarily and historically used to support direct service staff positions which means that cuts to VOCA funding threaten direct service provision. Preliminary analysis suggests that this cut would result in a loss of 56-63 direct service positions including forensic interviewers, family advocates, mental health professionals, and MDT coordinators. Essentially, two out of every three CACs will have to reduce staff capacity or eliminate staff positions. Alternately, a 10% cut represents a potential loss of 61,538 hours of mental health services which means 3,419 fewer children receiving evidence-based trauma focused cognitive behavioral health services. Regardless of how the 10% cut is applied, CACs across the state will be forced to reduce direct services staff capacity which will directly affect the scope and extent to which child victims of sexual abuse receive services.

Vermont

VT CACs have been advised to expect level funding through 2022 with cuts to follow in 2023. (See body of document for details.)

Virginia

While no indication has been given as to the expected reduction, VA CACs have been told that the increase in funds for FY19 and FY20 would end after FY21. The Chapter maintains that cuts would severely impact CACs as staffs would be cut with the potential for having to reduce the number of jurisdictions that CACs serve.

Washington

WA CACs have been told that the VOCA administrator is working to protect the “core” dollars to CACs through June 2022 and have already eliminated any additional competitive awards going forward. If cuts end up being more than they have projected, there will be other cuts, but the Chapter has not yet heard anything ore specific. The Chapter is not sure what things will look like as they start planning for July 1, 2023 and beyond.

The decision to NOT have competitive funding for the period July 1, 2021 to June 30,2022 is impacting CACs who were funded. For example: There are 3 CACs with unmet needs grants that run out 6/30/21 for a total of \$915,470. With no additional competitive opportunities this is a big impact.

Additionally, there are 2 CACs who will end VOCA Expansion/Enhancement grants 6/30/21 and that amount is \$380,000.