



**SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES PROGRAM (SASP)
COMPETITIVE GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT
Federal Fiscal Year 2018
October 1, 2018-September 30, 2019**

The North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault is now accepting applications for the funding period of **October 1, 2018- September 30, 2019**. The purpose of SASP is to help support rape crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations or tribal programs that provide **core services, direct intervention, and related assistance** to victims of sexual assault. Awards of approximately **\$22,167** will be made to up to 21 eligible organizations.

SASP funding can be used to support:

- Advocacy, defined as any services, assistance, or resources provided to survivors of sexual violence to support them in meeting their goals for healing, safety, and accountability (could include individual support services, support groups, case management, therapeutic services, accompaniment, etc.)
- Services for adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault
- Services for secondary survivors impacted by sexual assault (family and household members, friends, coworkers, classmates of victims)

Applicants will apply for a project under one of the following priorities:

- Core sexual assault services
- Innovative programming
- Improving accessible services for marginalized and underserved communities

Continuation projects (all projects currently funded by SASP and seeking continued funding) must answer additional questions as indicated in the application.

Starting with this SASP cycle, NCCASA will act as the pass-through agency for SASP sub-grantees/contractors. This means that all applications, notifications, reporting, and reimbursements will come through NCCASA and no longer directly through GCC and GEMS. Funded projects will receive the following support from NCCASA during the project:

- Up to monthly programmatic monitoring and technical assistance/support calls
- Collaboratively developed training/technical assistance plan to support SASP goals
- At least one in-person site visit
- Ongoing responsive technical assistance and support

Applications can be found at <http://www.nccasa.org/blog/sasp-2018-2019-grant-solicitation-now-open> and must be submitted by **March 15, 2018 at 5:00pm**. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. If you have any questions about SASP or this application process, please contact Megan Clarke, Director of Statewide Capacity, at megan@nccasa.org.

SASP Overview

The SASP grant was created by the Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act of 2005 Technical Amendments. SASP is authorized by 42 U.S.C. §14043g and is the first Federal funding stream solely dedicated to the provision of direct intervention and related assistance for victims of sexual assault. The purpose of SASP is to help support rape crisis centers and other nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations or tribal programs that provide core services, direct intervention, and related assistance to victims of sexual assault (OVW Sexual Assault Services Formula Program (CFDA 16.017)).

Project eligibility

SASP funding can be used to support:

- Advocacy, defined as any services, assistance, or resources provided to survivors of sexual violence to support them in meeting their goals for healing, safety, and accountability (could include individual support services, support groups, case management, therapeutic services, accompaniment, etc.)
- Services for adult, youth, and child victims of sexual assault
- Services for secondary survivors impacted by sexual assault (family and household members, friends, coworkers, classmates of victims)

SASP funding cannot be used to support:

- Training for allied professionals and the community (e.g., law enforcement, child protection services, prosecution, other community based organizations)
- Activities focused on prevention efforts and public education (e.g., bystander intervention, social norms campaigns, presentations on healthy relationships)
- Criminal justice activities (e.g., law enforcement, prosecution, courts, forensic interviews)
- Sexual Assault Response Team coordination
- Sexual assault forensic medical examiner programs or sexual assault forensic examination projects
- Offender treatment services
- Research projects (This does not include program assessments conducted only for internal improvement purposes.)
- Domestic violence services that do not relate to sexual violence
- Lobbying
- Fundraising
- Purchase of real property
- Construction
- Physical modifications to buildings, including minor renovations (such as painting or carpeting)

Organizational eligibility

Applicants are limited to rape crisis centers and other non-profit, nongovernmental organizations or tribal programs that provide direct intervention and related assistance to sexual assault survivors. Intervention and related assistance may include:

- 24-hour hotline services providing crisis intervention services and referral
- Accompaniment and advocacy through social support, medical, or criminal legal systems

- Crisis intervention, short-term individual and group support services, and comprehensive service coordination and supervision to assist sexual assault victims and family or household members
- Information and referral to assist the sexual assault victim and family or household members
- Community-based, culturally specific services and support mechanisms, including outreach activities for underserved communities
- Development and distribution of materials on issues related to the services described in the previous bullets

Additionally, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Provide services to sexual assault victims of all ages
 - Providers such as child advocacy centers are presumed to be ineligible for SASP sub-awards unless they can provide documentation that they serve all ages.
- In operation on the preceding July 1 and continue to be in operation
- Current and valid Charitable Solicitation License (CSL) or Letter of Exemption on file with the NC Secretary of State's Office (SOS)
- Do not appear on the NC Office of State Management of Budget (OSBM) Suspension of Funding List (SOFL) or the Federal Excluded Parties List (EPLS)
- In good standing at the time of application and throughout the grant cycle. Good standing requires:
 - Timely and complete submission of SASP reports (*Organizations will not be eligible for this funding cycle if they have outstanding overdue SASP reports from previously funded projects.*)
 - Engagement with NCCASA technical assistance to support SASP-funded projects
 - NCCASA membership (*If an organization is not a current NCCASA member at the time of application, they must be willing to become a member prior to the grant start date if awarded. NCCASA membership information can be found at <http://www.nccasa.org/about/membership-information>.*)

The following activities have been found to jeopardize victims' safety, deter or prevent physical or emotional healing for victims, or allow offenders to escape responsibility for their actions.

Agencies engaging in any of the following are ineligible to receive SASP funding.

- Procedures or policies that exclude victims from receiving safe shelter, advocacy services, counseling, and other related assistance based on their actual or perceived age, immigration status, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental health condition, physical health condition, criminal record, work in the sex industry, or the age and/or gender of their children
- Procedures or policies that compromise the confidentiality of information and privacy of persons receiving OVW-funded services
- Policies that deny individuals access to services based on their relationship to the perpetrator
- Materials that not tailored to the dynamics of sexual assault or the culturally specific population to be served
- Policies or engaging in practices that impose restrictive conditions to be met by the victim in order to receive services (e.g. mandatory counseling, seeking an order for protection)
- Policies that require the victim to report the sexual assault to law enforcement.

Application process

Awards of approximately **\$22,167** will be made to up to 21 eligible organizations.

Applicants will apply for a project under one of the following priorities:

- Core sexual assault services
- Innovative programming
- Improving accessible services for marginalized and underserved communities

Continuation projects (all projects currently funded by SASP and seeking continued funding) must answer additional questions as indicated in the application.

Applications can be found at <http://www.nccasa.org/blog/sasp-2018-2019-grant-solicitation-now-open> and must be submitted by emailing the completed application and any relevant attachments (as listed in the application) by **March 15, 2018 at 5:00pm**. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. If you have any questions about SASP or this application process, please contact Megan Clarke, Director of Statewide Capacity, at megan@nccasa.org.

NCCASA will facilitate two **Grant-writing Information Webinars** in February. During these webinars, we will explain anticipated changes to the SASP program in 2018 and will go over the solicitation and application. There will also be time for prospective applicants to ask any questions about the program, process, or application. The same information will be provided during each session. You can register for these webinars at the links below. Information about how to join the webinar will be provided upon registration.

Friday February 16 10:00am-11:00am:

<https://cc.readytalk.com/registration/#/?meeting=mzzw1f4zrtjz&campaign=xx4wnak5m60f>

Monday February 19 2:00pm-3:00pm:

<https://cc.readytalk.com/registration/#/?meeting=fmdorsxcgmct&campaign=1nkg4x0qui0z>

Review and selection process:

Each application will be screened to determine eligibility, including current and valid CSL or Letter of Exemption with the NC SOS. **Applications that do not meet the requirements, unallowable projects, and incomplete or late applications will be deemed ineligible and will not be scored.**

Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by the SASP Multi-Disciplinary Review Team (MDRT). This collaborative effort is committed to improving and making services accessible to all sexual assault victims. Generally, each review team is comprised of 3-5 reviewers, including the facilitator. Results of the competitive, objective review are the major element of the decision-making process.

NCCASA will notify successful applicants by a letter that sets forth the amount of funds granted, any modifications required for funding, the terms and conditions of the grant, and the effective date of the grant. **Awardees will receive notification by June 30, 2018.**

Selection criteria is outlined on the following pages.

Selection Criteria:

Logic/Clarity of Proposal: Logic has to do with the internal consistency of the application. There must be a logical connection between the problem statement and the program operation. The project should make sense. The following kinds of questions should be considered:

Is the applicant clear about what they intend to do?

Do the project activities address the problem/need?

Does the application display insight into and understanding of their agency and community needs, including a positive problem-solving stance toward the problem/need?

Are all of the activities included allowable under SASP?

Strong SASP applications should clearly be written to improve and implement sexual assault services only. Is this project clearly focused on sexual assault service provision and improvement?

Evidence of Problem and Need for Project: It is a priority of NCCASA to use this limited SASP funding to ensure that we are meeting the most pressing needs to ensure high-quality sexual assault services accessible to all survivors in every community across NC. This scoring section should reflect the relative levels of need reflected in SASP applications, both in the problem this application seeks to address as well as in the Organizational Sexual Assault Services section of the application. A high score in this category should reflect relatively high levels of need more than it should reflect the quality of responses. The following kinds of questions should be considered:

Is the need for the project clearly established/demonstrated?

Is the need specific to the community being served?

Will these funds address a gap that would likely not be addressed without the funding and technical assistance that come with a SASP award?

For core sexual assault services projects: Does this agency/community need added support to be able to provide basic sexual assault services? Are there clear gaps in their service provision (services offered, number of clients served) that this project could help address?

Potential for Positive Impact: The impact of the program is influenced by the nature of the problem being addressed, the kind of program being proposed, the number of people or agencies impacted by the program, the likely effectiveness of the program, and the agency's ability to successfully implement the project. The application should address how the project will address the identified problem. The following kinds of questions should be considered:

To what extent will this project make sexual assault services stronger and/or more accessible to survivors?

What kind of impact will the project have on citizens in the respective communities?

Is the proposed project a good fit to address the most pressing needs communicated in this application?

Is there good reason to believe that this kind of program will be effective?

Is there good reason to believe that this agency has the readiness and capacity to implement the proposed project successfully?

Do the attached job descriptions make sense for the project activities as listed in this grant application? Is sexual assault explicitly mentioned as part of the roles as listed in the job descriptions?

For core sexual assault services projects and innovative programming projects: Does the application express a clear plan for making services provided through this grant accessible and relevant to all survivors in the community, including communities that are underserved by mainstream rape crisis centers?

For innovative programming projects: Is the agency providing adequate and appropriate basic sexual assault services (services offered, number of clients served)? Given the services currently offered, does the prioritization of this project make sense?

Program Goals and Performance Measures: Applicants should provide 1-2 goals and performance measures that relate directly to the problem they have defined and the project operation described. Goals should be aspirational yet realistic, and progress should be able to be clearly measured through the performance measures provided. The following kinds of questions should be considered:

Do the goals directly relate to the needs identified in the description of the problem?

Are the goals both aspirational yet realistic for a year-long project?

Do the performance measures make sense, given the project activities and goals? Are they realistic?

Community Collaboration: Applicants should express clear plans to collaborate with agency partners that are an appropriate fit for the purpose and goals of the project. Applicants do not need to have strong pre-existing relationships with agency partners, but they should have a clear intention to strengthen those partnerships as needed. The following kinds of questions should be considered:

Does the proposal clearly state how agency will collaborate with other agencies to improve the overall response to victims? What are the results that relationship is expected to achieve in carrying out the project?

Do the agencies prioritized in this application make sense, given the purpose and goals of the project? Are these the right partners to help achieve the best outcomes?

What is the nature of current collaborative relationships with these partners?

For improving accessible services for marginalized and underserved communities projects: *Does the application identify one or more agencies that provide culturally-specific services, support, community connection, and/or organizing opportunities with and for the communities that they seek to prioritize with this project? Does their plan for engagement with that agency partner display appropriate respect for their time, current work, and expertise? What is their current collaborative relationships with these partners?*

Budget and Budget Justification: The budget should be allowable and logical, given the parameters provided and the project activities. The following kinds of questions should be considered:

Are the costs included allowable, given the guidance given for a maximum budget of \$22,167 and for all rates and allowable costs?

Is the proposed budget and budget justification feasible, logical, reasonable, and appropriate for the proposed project activities?

Continuation Projects Only: Agencies applying for continuation funding must be in good standing related to reporting and spending for currently funded projects in order to receive continued funding. Continuation project applications should show positive project outcomes consistent with the number of years previously funded and/or opportunity for growth through lessons learned in previous iterations of the project. The following kinds of questions should be considered:

Have previously funded projects had a clear impact, consistent with the number of years that they have been funded?

Does the application show an ability and willingness to learn from previous project cycles and to intentionally 1) continue what is working well, and 2) improve programming where there is room for growth?