# New Mexico Crime Victims Reparation Commission

# 2015 REPORT

#### www.cvrc.state.nm.us

(505) 841-9432

Our primary mission is to provide financial assistance to victims of violent crime in regard to expenses incurred as a result of being victimized. In addition, CVRC also administers federal flow-through funding from the United States Department of Justice. This funding is sub-granted to private non-profit and governmental programs throughout the State of New Mexico.

## New Legislative Changes to the Crime Victims Reparation Act (Section 31-22-8 NMSA 1978)

Beginning July 1, 2015 the Crime Victims Reparation Commissions' enumerated crimes have been amended as follows. Aggravated assault resulting in bodily injury, stalking, assault & battery against a household member, human trafficking and dangerous use of explosives resulting in bodily injury.

Additionally, an exception to the two-year limit for filing a compensation application has been amended to allow the commission to extend the time limit *for good cause shown by a victim or claimant*. As of July 1, 2015 these exceptions will be considered by the commission on a case-by-case basis.

Lastly, court assessed and collected mandatory crime victims reparation fee or penalty assessments have been implemented. The penalty assessment includes a felony fee of \$75.00, if convicted, and a misdemeanor fee of \$50.00. The intent of these fees are to increase monies available to our agency to assist victims with expenses incurred as a result of their victimizations.

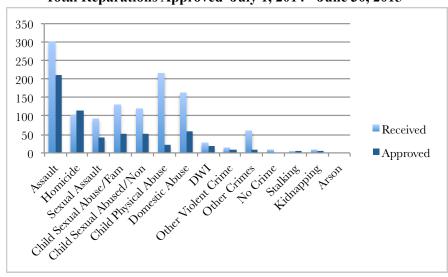
# **Crime Victims Reparations Program**

**Purpose:** To protect the citizens of New Mexico from the impact of crime and to promote a stronger criminal justice system through the encouragement of all citizens to cooperate with law enforcement efforts.

**Source of Funding:** The four types of funding include the federal compensation general state funding, 15% of inmate wages from the NM Department of Corrections and restitution payments from non-incarcerated offenders.

**Total Reparations Approved:** up to \$20,000.00 per application, with an additional \$30,000.00 for (catastrophic victimizations).

# Total Reparations Approved July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015



# Reparation Application Summary July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

Applications Received	1302
Applications Approved	597
Applications Denied	289
Applications Pending (Inactive due to Collateral sources/No expenses eligible)	416

Payments By Benefit Type		
Hospital	\$461,794.86	30%
Medical	\$130,066.61	9%
Funeral	\$285,183.16	19%
Ambulance	\$118,462.92	8%
Loss of Wages	\$249,881.33	16%
Pecuniary	\$228,473.58	8%
Mental Health	\$120,249.15	7%
Dental	\$41,188.39	3%
Total Approved	\$1,635,300.00	100%

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## Grants Program

# Total Federal Dollars Awarded July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015

VOCA Victim Assistance Grant	\$2,931,512.00
STOP VAWA Grant	\$1,171,306.23
SASP Grant	\$251,661.00
Total Awarded	\$4,354,479.23

#### Victims of Crime Act Assistance Grant

**Purpose:** The primary purpose of the VOCA Victim Assistance grant is to provide services to victims of crime throughout the state. These funds support state, local, tribal and non-profit victim services organizations to provide direct services to victims of crime which is defined as those efforts that (1) respond to the emotional and physical needs of crime victims; (2) assist primary and secondary victims of crime to stabilize their lives after a victimization; (3) assist victims to understand and participate in the criminal justice system; and (4) provide victims of crime with a measure of safety and security.

Source of Funding: Federal Flow Through Funds

Range of Awards: \$4,996 to \$139,000

**Statistics:** 57 VOCA funded programs across the State of New Mexico provide services to victims of enumerated crimes. Awards to programs that provide services to Indian Country consisted of 4% of the total award amount.

# **STOP Violence Against Women Act Grant**

**Purpose:** The primary focus of the STOP Formula Grant Program is to support communities in their efforts to develop and strengthen effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to combat violent crimes against women and to develop and strengthen victim services in cases involving violent crimes against women. These funds support state, local, tribal and non-profit victim service, law enforcement, prosecution and court based projects. These projects include direct services to victims of violence against women, training and specialized projects that support the federal purpose areas in the Violence Against Women Act.

**Source of Funding:** Federal Flow Through Funds

Range of Awards: \$9,000 to \$70,288

**Statistics:** 36 STOP funded programs provided services across the State of New Mexico. Awards to programs that provide services to Indian country consisted of 22% of the total victim services award amount.

#### **Sexual Assault Services Program SASP**

**Purpose:** SASP funds support intervention, advocacy, accompaniment, support services and related assistance impacting adult, youth and child victims of sexual assault, family and household members of victims and those collaterally affected by the victimization in New Mexico. The 2015 SASP funds supported ten programs in New Mexico. These programs were awarded to promote core services to underserved, inadequately and unserved victims of sexual assault in New Mexico.

Source of Funding: Federal Flow Through Funds

**Range of Awards:** \$14,963 to \$30,000

**Statistics:** 10 SASP funded programs provided services across the State of New Mexico. Awards to programs that provide services to Indian country consisted of 18% of the total award amount.

# 2014 Basic Victim Advocacy Training

The New Mexico Basic Victim Advocacy Training (BVAT) was held in Socorro, New Mexico July 14-17, 2014. The training hosted 52 advocates from non-profit and governmental victim service agencies around the state. Advocates enhanced their advocacy skills through a curriculum designed to support core advocacy services, increase knowledge of community and statewide resources and develop a personal network of professional peers. In addition to the three days of intense training which included ethics, boundaries and core skills all participants completed the Online VAT training offered through the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center.

# 20th Annual Advocacy In Action Conference

The Annual Advocacy in Action Conference is one of New Mexico's premier training events for professionals working with victims of crime. The 20th Annual Advocacy in Action Conference was held in collaboration with the New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault Program and the New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence on March 24th - March 27th, 2015. More than 473 attendees experienced an array of national and local speakers. While new challenges emerge, we continue to better serve victims of crime. We are encouraged by the hardworking, dedicated people we partner with in victim services, law enforcement, probation and parole, the judiciary and prosecution. We remain committed to enhancing services to victims of crime.

#### Victim Notification

New Mexico participates in the automated victim notification systems, NMSAVIN and VINE. Victims and their families can be notified by e-mail, text or by telephone of their offenders change in status.

Websites: <u>www.nmsavin.com</u> www.vinelink.com