



Requester Information

Legislator Name: Bennion, Gay Lynn

Created Date: January 25th 2025

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Section 1: Requester Details

Description:

This \$1.4 million ongoing request will be administered to the 16 state (DHHS)-licensed, domestic violence shelter-based programs (DVSPs) that are responsible for providing crisis response, shelter, and other victim services to domestic violence victims who law enforcement finds in the most dangerous situations. With the unanimous passing of SB 117 in 2023, law enforcement officers in Utah are now required to conduct a standardized, on-scene victim lethality assessment on every domestic violence call. This policy is very effective and referrals of victims to DVSPs has nearly doubled statewide--specifically for victims who are found to be at the highest risk for lethal violence, most of whom have never gotten services before. This funding would support these nonprofit DVSPs in meeting this increasing demand to serve high-need, high-risk domestic violence victims statewide. Funding would be available to only the DHHS-licensed domestic violence service providers, currently administered through a grant process by the Utah Division of Child and Family Services.

Legislative designee contact information:

Name: Erin Jemison

Organization: Utah Domestic Violence Coalition

Position: Director of Public Policy

Section 2: Funding Information

How will the appropriation be used?



Domestic Violence Lethality Assessment Services

Social Services

Category	One-time	Ongoing
Personnel Services	2025: \$0.00 2026: \$0.00	\$0.00
In-State Travel	2025: \$0.00 2026: \$0.00	\$0.00
Out-of-State Travel	2025: \$0.00 2026: \$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies and Equipment	2025: \$0.00 2026: \$0.00	\$0.00
Technology Purchases	2025: \$0.00 2026: \$0.00	\$0.00
Infrastructure/Capital Investments	2025: \$0.00 2026: \$0.00	\$0.00
Other Charges/Pass Thru	2025: \$0.00 2026: \$0.00	\$1,400,000.00

Expenditure Total

One-time 2025	One-time 2026	Ongoing 2026
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,400,000.00

Funding Sources:

General Fund

Amount Requested:

2025 (One-time)	\$0.00
2026 (One-time)	\$0.00
2026 (Ongoing)	\$1,400,000.00

Revenue Total



One-time 2025	One-time 2026	Ongoing 2026
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,400,000.00

Is this a multi-year project?

Yes

Is this project scalable if the Legislature does not fund the full requested amount?

Yes

A short explanation describing how the project might be scaled?

The project could be scaled by either serving fewer of the victims referred to these service providers or offering more limited services. Victims, for example, may be able to access safety planning and other support services, but will not have access to emergency shelter if funding is not available. DVSPs make every effort to provide all wrap-around services needed by each victim, but have reached capacity limits as needs have increased specifically due to law enforcement referrals.

Section 3: Agency Information

Subjects:

Health and Wellbeing
02205

Agency:

250 / Department of Health and Human Services

Type of entity to receive pass-through funding:

Private Not for Profit

Grant recipient

No

Requested Direct Award Grant Recipient



Section 4: Performance Outcome Measurement

Who would benefit the most from this request (who is the target audience)?

This request would benefit over 6,500 victims of domestic violence annually, and specifically those who are assessed as "high risk" by law enforcements responding on scene. It does this by providing resources to the 16 licensed domestic violence shelter-based service providers who support these victims in every county of the state, ensuring access to services for victims referred by law enforcement.

What is this project or program intended to accomplish?

The Lethality Assessment Services program is intended to accomplish crisis response, wraparound support, and increased safety to domestic violence victims who are in high-danger situations that law enforcement is concerned may lead to severe harm or death. These services include emergency shelter, basic necessities such as food and clothing, and case management.

How will the Legislature know whether the project or program achieved its intended purpose?

Progress will be measured in alignment with the current licensing and contract reporting process through DCFS, and specific to assessing the service providers' use of this funding to meet needs from increased victim referrals. These progress outcome measures are: victims have access to an emergency phone line that is available and staffed 24 hours per day, seven days a week, to receive Crisis Intervention, information, and referral services; victims and their dependent children have access to emergency shelter services; victims and their dependent children have access to Supportive Services; victims report that services received increased access to safe shelter and Supportive Services.

Section 5: Other Supporting Documents

Intent Language Documents

Previous Funding Documents

Full Time Employees

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