END SEXUAL VIOLENCE

National Alliance to End Sexual Violence

Office of Family Violence Prevention and Services (OFVPS), Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) - Sexual Assault Funding

Historic Investment for Sexual Assault Programs
On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 into law to support America's recovery from the health and economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the passage of this bill, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Program under OFVPS received an investment of **$198 million** to distribute through states, territories, tribes, and tribal organizations to support sexual assault survivors impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency through September 2025.

In a **2020 survey** of more than 600 sexual assault programs, **89% of programs reported needing emergency funding** to respond to requests from survivors for support and **40% had experienced increased demand for services**.

Priority needs identified include:

- Funds to purchase technology, equipment and platforms to allow remote staff to provide virtual services.
- Funds to meet the emergency needs of survivors such as food, rent, pre-paid cell phones to receive emergency support, and vans to deliver emergency supplies.
- Funds to meet the needs of vulnerable populations including immigrant and homeless survivors.

OFVPS FVPSA ARPA SA funding is making a difference

Since funding began rolling out, rape crisis centers are:

- Building workforce capacity to meet survivor needs and retain staff.
- Upgrading and adding technology to improve virtual service options and increase accessibility.
- Mitigating the impact of COVID-19 on staff and survivors by increasing access to testing, vaccines, and cleaning supplies.
- Supporting the unique housing and shelter needs of sexual assault survivors.

Training and Technical Assistance
This is the first time that HHS and ACF received sexual assault funding that has been distributed to states, territories, tribes, and tribal organizations. NAESV is proud to collaborate with culturally specific capacity building centers supporting sexual assault coalitions, State Administrators, Tribal Nations, and local sexual assault programs through listening sessions, webinars, consultation, and more.

Our TTA partners are:

Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition
Mujeres Latinas en Acción
National Organization of Asians & Pacific Islanders Ending Sexual Violence
National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault (SCESA)
Ujima, The National Center on Domestic Violence in the Black Community

Have additional questions? Contact Terri Poore, Policy Director at terri@endsexualviolence.org