

Category F: VAWA Evaluations

COMPENDIUM OF RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

1993-2016

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Category F: VAWA EVALUATIONS

1995-WT-NX-0005:	National Evaluation of the STOP Formula Grant Program
Amount:	\$1,870,306
PI:	Martha Burt
Program Officer:	Bernard Auchter
Status:	Completed

The work of this project will be geared towards documenting, to the extent possible, the impact that STOP funding is having on women's well-being and on justice and other community systems that should be helping women victims of violence. In addition, the project will pursue several activities to strengthen the capacity of the VAWO (name subsequently changed to the Office of Violence Against Women, OVW) and the STOP TA Project to support feedback and evaluation with respect to STOP-funded projects. These activities include training OVW staff to use and maintain the SAPR database, and working with the STOP TA Project to help states use their own SAPR information and incorporate more evaluation into their STOP portfolios.

Product: NCJ# 181797

Evaluation of the STOP Formula Grants to Combat Violence Against Women: The Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (1999) – M. Burt, A. Harrell, L. Raymond, B. Iwen, K. Schlichter, B. Katz, Bennett, K. Thompson
The report describes the distribution of STOP funds by the states and activities and goals of the STOP sub-grantee projects. It analyzes evidence of increased collaboration and system change through STOP projects and outreach to victims who previously had limited access to services. In addition, the report includes data on STOP accomplishments and impact; discussion of efforts to address the gaps and barriers to improved responses to violence against women, including those mandated by the legislation; analysis of the Federal and State administration and support of the STOP grants; and a summary of the plans and progress on national evaluations of STOP. STOP projects that have placed a major emphasis on collaboration for the purpose of bringing about system change have been successful. Both victims and service professionals reported substantial benefits of STOP projects.

Additional NCJ Citations: 162124, 166312, 183599, 193611, 196991, 197059

1996-WT-NX-0002:	Data Collection and Communication: Evaluating the Impact of the STOP Grant
Amount:	\$344,495
PI:	Dawn Rubio
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

This is a continuation project with objectives to: (1) expand the evaluation of data and communication system projects implemented with Violence Against Women Act STOP grants begun in 1996 (Phase I) to include all data and communication system projects undertaken with 1997, 1998, and 1999 STOP funds; (2) extend the scope of work in Phase I to examine the extent to which STOP grants and other federal funds facilitate the development of integrated criminal justice information systems and effective national databases related to violence against women; and (3) assess the broader and long-term effects of the data and communication systems on achieving improvements in justice system and community responses to violence against women. The objectives established to achieve these goals are to: (1) analyze the purposes and uses of STOP projects to develop or enhance data collection and communication system; (2) identify obstacles to implementation and strategies to overcome them; (3) assess the accuracy, reliability, and appropriateness of data in the systems for the purpose of enhancing services to victims; (4) measure user satisfaction with data systems developed or improved by STOP grant funds; (5) measure the extent to which data systems are serving their intended purposes and whether the data systems are being utilized in ways that violate the privacy interests of victims; and (6) address the policy, operational, and technical issues related to data integration and coordination among law enforcement prosecution, courts, corrections, victim services, and other sources of data. The methodology of the project includes analyzing and summarizing the databases of the 1997-1999 subgrants, surveys, telephone interviews, several field studies, and a case study of an exemplary jurisdiction.

Product: NCJ# 201408/ 201510

Evaluating Data Collection and Communication Systems Projects Funded Under the STOP Program (2002) – National Center for State Courts

The evaluation methodology involved mail surveys, telephone interviews with selected sub-grantees, and site visits evolving from 1998 to 2000. Results show that, in the period from 1996 to 2000, the majority of projects funded by STOP sub-grants were designed to fill a single, compartmentalized and localized requirement. The funds were most commonly used to purchase isolated pieces of computer equipment, software, cameras, fax machines, cellular phones, additional phone lines for agencies, and other communications equipment. Relatively few sub-grantees used STOP funds to develop data systems within or across agencies. Interviews with 46 sub-grantees revealed little emphasis on interagency communication through electronic means; the pooling of data concerning violence against women among law enforcement, prosecutors, courts, and service providers in some type of integrated automated system; or the coordination of grant funds to local recipients towards the achievement of regional or statewide strategic goals. The findings of this evaluation indicate that sub-grantees interpreted the definition of data collection and communication systems expansively in order to address particularly acute local needs in securing information to be used to support the prosecution of domestic violence cases, to enhance safety at the scene of domestic violence calls, and to increase access to services. These uses of the funds improved the ability of sub-grantees to provide services and to accomplish the general goals of the Violence Against Women Act. But these are reactive measures and do not advance the goal of violence prevention through linked and coordinated data systems. This may be attributed to the small amounts of STOP grant funds, the need of computers and software to support internal operations, and the security of data systems, which is a major issue for the safety of victims of violence against women.

1996-WT-NX-0003:	Impact Evaluation of Victim Service Programs: STOP Grants Funded by the Violence Against Women Act
Amount:	\$199,341
PI:	Barbara Smith
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this 24 month project is to conduct an impact evaluation of the first two years of STOP grants with respect to Victim Services Programs in the areas of sexual assault and domestic violence. The goals are to: (1) assess the impact of VAWA funds through national telephone and mail surveys to administrators in 55 states and territories that addressed victims services in their STOP grants; (2) intensely assess the impact of VAWA-funded victim services programs for sexual assault and domestic violence victims in five sites; and (3) evaluate the impact of services provided to sexual assault and domestic violence victims through VAWA funds via telephone interviews with victims. The proposed design is intended to provide: (1) a broad assessment of the impact of VAWA funds on victim services programs to sexual assault and domestic violence victims in the 55 states and territories that addressed this area in their STOP grants, and (2) an intensive assessment of the impact in five sites, including collection of data from official files and logs; (3) focus groups with 100-225 domestic violence and sexual assault victims; and (4) telephone interviews with an estimated 375-400 victims.

Product: NCJ# 183459/183460
Impact Evaluation of Victim Services Programs: STOP Grants Funded by the Violence Against Women Act (2000) – B. Smith, R. Davis, L. Nickles

Information came from 62 interviews with STOP sub-grantee program representatives and 96 interviews with representatives of collaborating programs. Results revealed that most programs were prosecution or law enforcement programs. The majority was fairly new; over one-third began with the receipt of STOP funds. The average award amount was \$47,626. Results also revealed that the programs provided a wide variety of services to victims at many stages of case processing. Participants reported many program changes and impacts. The majority of surveyed programs reported that they were able to serve more victims, expand the type of services, and provide more comprehensive services as a direct result of the STOP funding. A majority of those surveyed believed that STOP grants resulted in empowering victims and improving victims’ psychosocial well-being. The majority also reported that STOP grants had direct impacts on keeping victims better informed about case processing, improving the criminal justice response to victims, producing more successful prosecutions, and reducing the number of victims who withdrew their support from the prosecution. Participants also reported that the STOP funds affected the way the community handled victims. Overall, the analysis concluded that STOP funds substantially improved the lives of victims and the criminal justice system response to victims.

Additional NCJ Citation: 192283

1996-WT-NX-0006/ 1998-WT-VX-K010: Impact Evaluation of STOP Grant Programs for Reducing VAW

Among Indian Tribes

Amount: \$466,631
PI: Eileen Luna
Program Officer: Angela Moore Parmley
Status: Completed

The purpose of this 24 month project is to conduct an impact evaluation of the programs among Indian Tribes purpose area of the VAWA STOP grants. The goals of the study are to: (1) develop a basic understanding of the cultural and legal context of reducing violence against women among Indian tribes; (2) evaluate the impact of tribal programs aimed at reducing violence against women in terms of effectiveness, and the identification of program elements that require adjustment or modification; and (3) make recommendations for improving existing programs and developing effective, new programs for tribes to reduce violence against women.

Product: NCJ# 186235

Impact Evaluation of STOP Grant Program for Reducing Violence Against Women Among Indian Tribes (2000) – E. Luna

In fiscal year 1995, 14 tribal governments received funding under the Violence Against Women Act, designated as STOP (Service, Training, Officers, Prosecutors). The evaluation was conducted by using a case study approach which involved the evaluation of historical and legal research on each tribe, as well as requests for specific information from the 14 tribal grantees about their programs. The evaluation found that the STOP program is making a significant impact on violent crimes against Indian women in Native communities. The grants have empowered Native communities in the development of community-centered approaches as well as tribally specific customs and practices to combat violent crimes against Indian women and grant recipients have made significant advances in the effort to protect abused Indian women and hold their offenders accountable. The advances have resulted primarily from coordinated, community-based efforts. Grantees have shown the effectiveness of a coordinated approach in stopping the cycle of violence in many Indian homes by involving police officers, prosecutors, judges, victim service personnel, tribal leaders, and interested community members. STOP grantees are drawing on indigenous and American concepts of justice and community wellness to stop the abuse of women which have complemented many tribal communities that favor community-oriented methods for responding to violent crimes against Indian women.

Additional NCJ Citations: 187714, 195174

1996-WT-NX-0007: Impact Evaluation of STOP Grants: Law Enforcement and Prosecution

Amount: \$724,921
PI: Thomas McEwen
Program Officer: Bernard Auchter
Status: Completed

This project involves an impact evaluation at eight to ten sites under the Law Enforcement and Prosecution purpose area of the STOP formula grants. The STOP formula grants are supporting several types of local activities, including training for law enforcement officers and prosecutors, specialized units of law enforcement and prosecutors, police and prosecution policies, and programs to address stalking. This impact evaluation will address a cross-section of these activities. The impact evaluation of a local project will include several standard measures, such as changes in reported rapes and other sexual assaults, calls for service for domestic violence, clearance rates for homicide and rape cases involving women victims, and successful prosecution of violent crimes against women. Several new measures that may be used include first time reports of domestic violence, use of DNA in sexual assault cases, local problem solving efforts, and response by police and prosecutors to egregious crimes of violence against women. Other activities include: a fifty site process evaluation, a state-by-state review of police and prosecutor training, and a state-by-state analysis of relevant laws on violence against women. The project may be modified over the initial months to provide for coordination with the National Evaluation.

Product: NCJ# 189163

Evaluation of the STOP Violence Against Women Grant Program: Law Enforcement and Prosecution Components (2001) – B. Uekert, N. Miller, C. DuPree, D. Spence, C. Archer

This project involved a process evaluation at eight to ten sites under the Law Enforcement and Prosecution purpose area of the STOP formula grants. The STOP formula grants support several types of local activities, including training for law enforcement officers and prosecutors, specialized units of law enforcement and prosecutors, police and

prosecution policies, and programs to address stalking. This process evaluation found that the STOP program had a significant impact on the extent and scope of law enforcement and prosecution training. The STOP program also created a boost for statewide coalitions that lobbied legislators for changes in state laws and policies relating to violence against women. Finally, STOP facilitated the creation of partnerships between criminal justice agencies and nonprofit service providers. The creation of special units and dedicated staff has resulted in increased arrests, greater consistency in case handling and victim service coordination. The STOP program has been integral to the development of coordinated community responses to domestic violence.

1998-WE-VX-0012:	National Evaluation of the Arrest Policies Program Under the Violence Against Women Act
Amount:	\$1,130,574
PI:	Thomas McEwen
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

The purpose of the project is to conduct a national evaluation of funded Arrest Policies Program projects. The goal of the project is to document the impact of arrest policies in the context of system-wide and coordinated approaches to domestic violence. Project objectives are to: (1) explore how theoretically-conceived model programs are actually implemented at the local level; (2) study interactions between law enforcement, prosecution, probation, and victim services with the intention of developing a model of collaboration that advances a systematic approach to domestic violence; (3) assess program effectiveness, highlighting successful arrest policy strategies that jurisdictions may choose to implement based on local needs; and (4) identify projects that are innovative, unique, and appropriate for future research and evaluation. The proposed research will employ a three-stage methodology. In the first stage, an annual national assessment of all sites will be conducted. In the second stage, a process evaluation of 20 sites will examine the process and problems associated with the implementation of arrest policies. In the third stage, an impact evaluation of six sites will assess the impact of funded projects on victim safety, offender accountability, and system change.

Product: NCJ# 199441

National Evaluation of the Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies Program (2002) – C. Archer, C. DuPree, N. Miller, D. Spence, B. Uekert

Both quantitative and qualitative methods were used in the evaluation to document the national scope of the Arrest Policies Program and the implementation and outcomes of local projects. The evaluation addressed four key questions concerning both VAWO (name subsequently changed to the Office on Violence Against Women, OVW) and Congress: (1) how Arrest Policies Program funds are being spent by grantees; (2) were victims satisfied with the services provided through Program projects, and (3) Program impacts on organizations; and (4) Program impacts on offender accountability. Highlights include: (1) Most projects used their funds to support development of specialized units and for training; (2) in total, the 111 responding grantees funded 536 staff positions, for an average of 4.8 staff per project; (3) in most sites, the grants resulted in improved communication and cooperation among criminal justice agencies and community-based victim services organizations; (4) the Institute of Law and Justice (ILJ) analysis found that the proportion of warrant arrests of domestic violence suspects increased from an average across all sites of 4.1 percent of all arrests prior to the Program grants to 15.5 percent during the grant period; (5) the majority of victim/survivors were contacted by victim assistance staff and were provided a variety of services; and (6) a majority of victims/survivors in interviews and focus groups reported satisfaction with the victim assistance services they received and the law enforcement response.

Additional NCJ Citations: 198876, 201868, 201869, 201870, 201871, 201872, 201873, 201874, 201875, 201876, 201877, 201878, 201879, 201880, 201881, 201882, 201883, 201884, 201885, 201886, 201887

1998-WE-VX-K012:	Evaluation of Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies for Domestic Violence
Amount:	\$92,775
PI:	Jennifer Mastrofski
Program Officer:	Katherine Darke
Status:	Completed

The proposed project seeks to evaluate the goals and objectives of the State College, “Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies” proposal under four target areas, including, training, tracking/monitoring, safety audit, and services for victims. The training component will consist of: pre-/post-training assessments of all personnel trained during the first

year of the evaluation; follow-up surveys of trained personnel to assess long-term impact of training; and evaluations of other educational activities. The tracking/monitoring component will involve: (1) a technical assistance project for key practitioners and the researcher developing database systems for tracking efforts to serve women victims; (2) assessing the development of newly-created positions to better serve domestic violence victims; and (3) the examination of the development of a systemwide, interagency database. The safety audit will involve a partnership between the Safety Audit coordinator and the process evaluators. Together, they will develop a protocol for conducting a countywide safety audit, evaluate the outcome of the safety audit, and track the achievements of the Safety Audit Coordinator to establish a domestic violence case management team. The component related to the provision of services for victims will include the completion of focus-group meetings with domestic violence victims to document their own views on county services for victims.

Product: NCJ# 187345/187347

NIJ Researcher-Practitioner Partnerships: Evaluation of Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies for Domestic Violence (2001) – J. Mastrofski, D. Derman, E. Phillips, G. Woodling

The process evaluation was designed to correspond with the first 18 months of the grant project. Funded as a researcher-practitioner partnership grant in Pennsylvania, the process evaluation was based on a long-term collaborative relationship between the primary researcher and practitioners. Project goals were to expand mandatory arrest policies, update and expand domestic violence training, and improve case tracking and victim services, as well as centralize efforts by police, prosecution, probation and parole, and the judiciary in handling domestic violence cases. The process evaluated goals and objectives of the grant project in four areas—training, tracking and monitoring, safety audit and case management, and victim services. The process evaluation indicated practitioners faced the challenge of balancing cooperation with the evaluation and meeting obligations to victims. Commitment and time had significant impacts on data collection in the grant project as well. Practitioners were more than willing to provide needed information for the process evaluation but did not have time to meet requested deadlines. The process evaluation reinforced the importance of collaboration between researchers and practitioners on a continual basis throughout a project.

1998-WR-VX-K002:	National Evaluation of the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grant Program—Phase I and II
Amount:	\$719,949
PI:	Mary Ann Dutton
Program Officer:	Shelly Jackson
Status:	Completed

The National Evaluation of the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grant Program will assess the implementation and impact of the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grants awarded by the Violence Against Women Office (name subsequently changed to the Office on Violence Against Women, OVW) in fiscal years 1996 to 1998. The Phase I Process Evaluation is scheduled for completion in April 2000. The focus of this proposal is the Phase II Impact Evaluation. During Phase II, an in-depth quantitative and qualitative impact evaluation of the program will be conducted to identify short- and long-term outcomes that occurred as a result of specified activities. The evaluation methodology is guided by a nested ecological framework encompassing all levels of the community targeted by grant activities: (1) geographic isolation of victims; (2) scarcity of socioeconomic resources; (3) limited justice, health, and other victim services; (4) legislation and policies affecting the response by criminal justice and human services; and (5) conflicted cultural attitudes toward domestic violence and child abuse. The proposed Phase II Impact Evaluation will utilize the case study design as the primary analytic tool (Yin, 1994). Logic models were developed during the Phase I Process Evaluation to help the evaluators identify project elements and current implementation status. During Phase II, the logic model will be used to articulate impact outcomes.

Product: NCJ# 198127/198128

National Evaluation of the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grant Program (2002) – M. Dutton, A. Worrell, D. Terrell, S. Denaro, R. Thompson

Each evaluation report is organized into five sections: program description, a description of site visit activity, a description of the community context in which the grantee operated, presentation of the logic model, and conclusions. During the evaluation, two visits were conducted with each grantee which included interviews with grantee staff, community stakeholders, local evaluators, and service recipients to collect qualitative data regarding changes in services, policies and practices, interagency collaborations, and the lives of victims. Through interviews, the outcome

evaluation: (1) enhanced investigation of domestic violence cases; (2) enhanced prosecution of domestic violence cases; (3) established partnerships between domestic violence programs and child protective services by placing domestic violence advocates in child welfare offices; (4) increased provision of victim services; (5) increased victims' sense of well-being and safety; and (6) increased community awareness of the importance of prevention activities. Through the evaluation, grantees learned that there are considerable barriers to addressing the problems of domestic violence and child abuse due to the unique geographical, environmental, cultural, social, and economic context defined by rural areas in the United States and its territories. Additionally, acceptance of the community was an important determinant in the successful implementation of grant activities. Multiple sources of funding for domestic violence and child victimization enhanced the grantees ability to leverage resources and accomplish more. The Rural Program funding provided services to victims and their families that would be largely inaccessible because of the context of rural areas, or were otherwise not available.

1998-WT-VX-K013:	Impact of VAWA: What Counts?
Amount:	\$229,346
PI:	Marcia Chaiken
Program Officer:	Leora Rosen
Status:	Completed

The passage of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) as a part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 reflects a commitment on the part of the federal government to strengthen this country's response to and prevention of violence against women, particularly sexual assault and domestic violence. The VAWA provides incentives and mandates the speak directly to the serious and compelling nature of this problem and creates both challenges and opportunities for state and local law enforcement and criminal justice agencies to work collaboratively with victim service providers to reduce violent crimes against women. This evaluation is designed to assess the impact of VAWA funds in addressing domestic violence. The project will help answer the basic question: have VAWA-funded efforts produced changes in victim safety and offender accountability? Specifically, information will be collected in coordination with other researchers, as well as independently by LINC, which will then prepare a report documenting the impact of VAWA funds.

Product: NCJ# 191186

State and Local Change and the Violence Against Women Act (2001) – M. Chaiken, B. Boland, M. Maltz, S. Martin, J. Targonski

This evaluation was designed to assess the impact of VAWA funds in addressing domestic violence. Four case studies were conducted: Essex County, MA; Maricopa County, AZ; Multnomah County, OR; and Wicomico County, MD. The study examined the development of advocacy for women victims of violence in each venue and the role of VAWA/STOP funds and other factors in this development. The case studies included CJS agencies, other government agencies, media, private/nonprofit, and grassroots organizations. A primary impact of VAWA was to catalyze cooperation and coordination among agencies with very different perspectives of victims of violence, for example, the development of multiagency teams and offices; agencies with small budgets were able to benefit from small amounts of funds; cultural change was promoted; there was an increase in public awareness; at some sites there was an increase in reports to police and victim agencies. The effectiveness of the VAWA programs was also influenced by the enthusiasm of the U.S. Attorney's Office for reducing violence against women, and the relative strength of three social movements that existed prior to VAWA, namely, the women's rights movement, the victim's rights movement, and the system's effectiveness movement.

Additional NCJ Citation: 208709

1999-WA-VX-0008:	Procedures Undertaken After Higher Education Receives a Report of Sexual Assaults
Amount:	\$574,681
PI:	Heather Karjane
Program Officer:	Katherine Darke
Status:	Completed

The Education Development Center, Inc., the University of Cincinnati, and the Police Executive Research Forum propose to carry out rigorous study of procedures used by institutions of higher education (IHEs) to report campus sexual assaults. The project has three primary goals: (1) to conduct a nationally representative study of policies and procedures promulgated by IHEs in response to the Campus Security Act; (2) to conduct additional analyses to

supplement the mandated research questions; and (3) to disseminate the study results to a far-reaching audience, which will include submitting articles to academic journals, law reviews, and professional associations. The project design comprises a blend of quantitative and qualitative strategies. To address the nine research issues as requested by Congress and as outlined in the solicitation, the grantee will draw a stratified random sample of approximately 500 postsecondary institutions that participate in Title IV financial aid programs. For these schools, the grantee will perform content analyses of official documents and surveys of campus administrators. To supplement these sources, and to answer additional research questions, the grantee will conduct secondary analyses of prior victimization studies, review pertinent state statutes, conduct focus groups with selected professionals, perform legal research to identify concerns of campus administrators, and conduct field research at ten schools to document promising practices.

Product: NCJ# 196676

Campus Sexual Assault: How America’s Institutions of Higher Education Respond (2001) – H. Karjane, B. Fisher, F. Cullen

The national sample was composed of 2,438 institutions in the United States and Puerto Rico, including all historically black colleges and universities (*n* = 98) and all Native American tribal schools (*n* = 28). All nine types of schools eligible for Title IV funding were represented in the sample. The study found that most responding campuses did articulate some definition of rape and other forms of sexual assault that helped inform their response and reporting policies; however, there were no standard definitions of rape and sexual assault. The study found that few campuses provided sexual assault response and/or sensitivity training to those most likely to first hear of sexual assaults on the campus, i.e., friends and fellow students, campus law enforcement/security officers, and faculty members. Active support from friends was found to be the primary factor that distinguished victims who reported the crime to campus and/or local authorities and those who did not. Only 37.6 percent of the colleges required sexual assault sensitivity training for campus law enforcement/security officers. Only 40 percent of the schools provided students sexual assault response training. Approximately 25 percent of the schools provided victim-related support services to special populations of students. Due process procedures for the accused were used at 37.3 percent of schools.

Additional NCJ Citation: 205521

1999-WE-VX-K006:	Responding to Domestic Violence in Southern Illinois
Amount:	\$74,999
PI:	Joan McDermott
Program Officer:	Anna Jordan
Status:	Completed

The Southern Illinois University (SIU) for Crime and Corrections and Carbondale Police Department will conduct a collaborative process evaluation of an awarded Violence Women Act grant to encourage pro-arrest polices. The Police Department works in collaboration with the Women’s Center, the Jackson County State’s Attorney’s Office and Probation Officer, The Southern Illinois University Department of Public Safety, and the Domestic Violence Clinic at the SIU School of Law. The three objectives of the proposed project are: (1) to compile a complete descriptive analysis of the approach taken in interagency collaboration and to document the project history; (2) to identify research issues related to the safety of domestic violence in Carbondale (e.g., the operation and effectiveness of "no-contact bond" conditions versus orders of protection); and (3) work with participating agencies to prepare for an outcome evaluation.

Product: NCJ# 198825/198826

Responding to Domestic Violence in Southern Illinois (2003) – J. McDermott, J. Garofalo, K. Barrick, J. Kelley

The evaluation’s objectives were to conduct a descriptive analysis of the interagency collaboration and project history; to identify domestic violence research issues of priority in Carbondale; and to work with participating agencies to prepare for a potential outcome evaluation. The data collection techniques included document analysis, unstructured and structured interviews, and observations. Limited quantitative data were obtained in the analysis of the prosecution of domestic battery in Jackson County and the evaluation of the Domestic Violence Clinic. The evaluation found that under a series of grants for the development of pro-arrest programs to counter DV, Carbondale and Jackson County have made significant progress in developing a coordinated community response to DV. The project’s major accomplishments have been: (1) to establish a coordinating council (the Steering Committee); (2) police training and other training in the dynamics of and response to DV; (3) police and prosecution protocols for DV cases; (4) a Domestic Violence Clinic Program at the Southern Illinois Law School; (5) a consolidated records management system for the Carbondale Police Department and the SIU Department of Public Safety; (6) a community support

group for victims and survivors of domestic violence; (7) additional advocacy services for victims; and (8) joint probation-police patrols to monitor offender compliance with no-contact bonds and probation orders and to provide victim safety checks.

1999-WE-VX-K010:	Evaluating Domestic Violence Programs in Clinton County
Amount:	\$52,952
PI:	Lynda Ames
Program Officer:	Anna Jordan
Status:	Completed

The applicant will conduct a process evaluation of the Domestic Abuse Reduction Team (DART) in Clinton County, New York. DART is an interdisciplinary team including representatives of the probation office, the District Attorney's Office, and domestic-violence service agencies that house two legal advocates. The proposed project would serve two purposes by: (1) allowing practitioners in the current programs to finely tune their practices and (2) allowing other practitioners to implement successful programs of their own. A primary objective of the proposed project is to understand the local community and how its character impinges on the understandings of, and reactions to domestic violence. The researchers will be especially interested in the reactions of criminal justice and social service officials. The establishment of an ongoing partnership between researchers and practitioners in Clinton County is an important goal of this project.

Product: NCJ# 190989/190990

Domestic Abuse Reduction Team: Clinton County, New York (2001) – Plattsburgh State University

This study involved a process evaluation of the Domestic Abuse Reduction Team (DART), a specialized domestic violence unit within the probation department in Clinton County, NY, to understand the local community and how its character impinges on the understanding of and reactions to domestic violence. The researchers were specifically interested in the outcomes associated with putting abusers on probation, as well as the reactions of criminal justice and social service officials. The researchers used various qualitative methods such as victim interviews, court ethnographies, content of DA files, content of probation files, Domestic Incident Reports, participant observation with service providers, and consultant observation. Major findings suggest that there is a tension between what the victim wants and says she needs, and the requirements of the system. When the prosecutor wins a case, the victim may sometimes consider it a loss because sending her abuser to prison may not be in her best interest. DART encountered difficulties regarding the empowerment of women, at times at odds with vigorous prosecution and supervision. And the program has been unable to institutionalize the changes made in processing intimate partner violence crimes.

Additional NCJ Citation: 193638

1999-WT-VX-K005:	Evaluation of a Multi-Site Demonstration for Enhanced Judicial Oversight of Domestic Violence Cases
Amount:	\$4,608,276
PI:	Adele Harrell, Lisa Newmark
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Complete

This project will evaluate a three-site multiyear demonstration of Enhanced Judicial Oversight (EJO), an intensive, court-based approach to managing domestic violence cases. The goal of the evaluation is to determine whether strong judicial oversight of domestic violence offenders, together with extensive graduated sanctions for offenders and comprehensive services for victims, will reduce recidivism, increase the defendant's and system's accountability, and enhance victim safety. The project will use qualitative and quantitative research methods, including practitioner interviews, court observations, case file review, documentation of victim services provided and defendant compliance with court orders, and pre- and post-analysis of case outcomes and recidivism for a sample of defendants at each site.

Product: NCJ# 215349

Evaluation of Milwaukee's Judicial Oversight Demonstration (2006) – A. Harrell, M. Schaffer, C. DeStefano, J. Castro

The core goals of the Judicial Oversight Demonstration (JOD) Initiative were to protect victim safety, improve offender accountability, and reduce the incidence of IPV through the implementation of responses that combined a strong judicial response with coordinated community services. The evaluation found that the JOD created significant changes in the response to IPV between 2000 and 2004. Accomplishments included the dedication of a new Domestic

Violence Commissioner’s Intake Court, an intensive pre-trial supervision program for high-risk defendants, the development of strategies for prosecuting IPV cases without requiring victim testimony, a waiting room for IPV victims near the domestic violence courts, the development of a combined Domestic Abuse/Harassment Injunction Court, the development of a Family Violence Unit in the Milwaukee Police Department, and the addition of batterer treatment and victim services to the arsenal of services provided by community-based organizations. Challenges facing the JOD included problems with linking JOD to the existing coordinated community response to IPV, problems with expanding batterer intervention programs, and barriers to intervening with victims at the time of an incident. Despite these challenges, it was clear that the JOD program increased the accountability of offenders and improved victim safety. The higher rates of probation revocation observed under JOD might have been integral in increasing victim safety. The evaluation compared two samples of offenders: a JOD sample of 333 offenders who were found guilty of IPV between January 2001 and May 2002 and a pre-JOD sample of 289 offenders who were found guilty of IPV between October 1997 and December 1999. Data were obtained from the Consolidated Court Automated Program database and the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database. Probation supervision information was collected 2 years later in 2005. Logistic regression models were used to test the hypotheses of reductions in the likelihood of arrest.

Additional NCJ Citations: NCJ 219382, 219383, 219384, 219385, 219386

Product: NCJ# 215439

Evaluation of the Judicial Oversight Demonstration Initiative: Baseline and Implementation Report [Interim Report] – C. DeStefano, A. Harrell, L. Newmark, C. Visher

The Judicial Oversight Demonstration (JOD) Initiative tests the idea that a coordinated community response to DV that ensures both a focused judicial response and a systematic criminal justice response can improve victim safety and service provision, as well as increase offender accountability. To hold offenders accountable, the JOD Initiative encourages the development or enhancement of grassroots community and justice system partnerships designed to assist offenders in changing abusive behavior. Each demonstration site is working to implement a strong research component to improve the evaluation's effectiveness in measuring impact to reduce or stop DV, enhance victim safety and well-being, and hold batterers accountable. During fiscal year 1999, three demonstration sites were competitively selected to participate in this 5-year demonstration Initiative: (1) City of Boston/Dorchester District Court, Massachusetts; (2) Washtenaw County, Ann Arbor, Michigan; and (3) Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. Since implementation, each demonstration site has developed multiple governmental and nongovernmental partnerships working to address DV, which include victim advocacy organizations, local law enforcement agencies, prosecution offices, courts, probation and parole offices, representatives from the private and public defense bar, batterer intervention services, among others who are all working to create long-term sustainability of effective local innovations. In addition, each site employs a local project director and a local site evaluator who serve as the project's primary points of contact and oversee the Initiative's implementation.

Additional NCJ Citations: NCJ 219386, 219382, 219383, 219384, 219385

1999-WT-VX-0010:	National Impact Evaluation of Victim Services Programs Funded Through the S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Formula Program
Amount:	\$961,153
PI:	Martha Burt
Program Officer:	Shelly Jackson
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this study was to describe the many victim services programs funded by the STOP program, to understand the community and State environments where the STOP funds operate, to evaluate the degree to which STOP funds have improved victim services programs, and to assess how the victim services programs are affecting victim outcomes. The proposal is for additional support for the grant, "National Impact Evaluation of Victim Service Programs Funded through the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grants Program: funded by the National Institute of Justice. The request arises because of obstacles encountered in being able to bring the work of this grant to a successful conclusion. Most of the additional needs relate to recruiting women victims of violence to participate in telephone surveys, including additional costs for state coordinators, incentive payments to victims, and incentive payments to participating programs. The remaining additional cost relate to the need to have complete information on awards made under the STOP Formula Grants Program so the programs involved in this project can be put into a national context.

Product: NCJ# 196990/196991

Victim Service Programs in the STOP Formula Grants Program: Services Offered and Interactions With Other Programs (2000) – M. Burt, J. Zweig, K. Schlichter, C. Andrews

In order to assess the research questions, the authors selected a sample of 200 victim services programs to participate in a telephone survey and answer a faxed questionnaire. The telephone interview asked about the nature of the STOP funded programs, changes that have occurred in the legal system since the funding began, and what types of outreach strategies are employed. The questionnaire included questions about their budgets, funding, staff, and numbers of victims served. A key finding of this research was that STOP funds helped victim services programs offer new services and to bring existing services to a greater population of women. STOP funded programs were particularly likely to offer court advocacy and a multidisciplinary response team. STOP funds were also used to support projects involving collaboration, training, and policy development. The authors also found that agencies using STOP funds were more likely to have increased communication among agencies and more coordinated community responses for women at risk. In conclusion, the authors offer many implications for research and for practice, such as the fact that victim services programs should continue to work with legal system agencies to address violence against women.

Additional NCJ Citations: 195076, 199701, 199725, 200575, 202903, 210054, 212661, 212265, 214308

2000-MU-MU-0014:	Evaluation of a Multi-Site Demonstration of Collaborations to Address Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment
Amount:	\$3,048,605
PI:	Janet Griffith
Program Officer:	Bernard Auchter
Status:	Completed

The National Evaluation of the Multi-Site Demonstration of Collaborations to Address Domestic Violence and Child Maltreatment is designed to measure the process and extent to which demonstration sites' collaborative efforts result in system change. During the final year of the evaluation, Caliber Associates and its team will continue to work together with the Federal partners, the national technical assistance team, the evaluation technical workgroup, each of the demonstration sites, and their local research partners to achieve project goals. Our work in Year 3 will build on the foundation laid in Year 1 and the process and baseline implementation data collected during Year 2. Specifically, our work will focus on four key areas: completing the cross-site process evaluation, completing the cross-site system outcome evaluation, continuing to build local evaluation capacity, collaborating with the Federal partners and the training and technical assistance team to support the work of participating sites.

Product: NCJ# 233290

Greenbook Demonstration Initiative Final Report (2011) – The Greenbook National Evaluation Team

In responding to the Greenbook Initiative's (GI's) commitment to collaborative efforts to change systems in order to improve practices, services, and outcomes for children and families experiencing the co-occurrence of intimate partner violence and child abuse, the evaluation found that the GI sites undertook major collaborative efforts intended to improve practices, services, and outcomes for children and families. Although conflicts were experienced, sites reported that the success of their collaborations was one of the lasting achievements of the GI. Although the collaboratives used a variety of early structures, all evolved to include an executive committee, a larger advisory board, and workgroups on specific issues. Among the GI partners, child welfare and the dependency courts represented major formal systems with well-defined roles and considerable power; by contrast, the response to domestic violence was more typically composed of grassroots organizations that did not represent a single system. Among the lessons learned are that (a) achieving change requires significant resources and persistent effort; (b) shared focus and cooperation in addressing problems requiring collaboration fueled the motivation to achieve change; and (c) different partners, structures, and activities had to be involved at different times, both in the larger cross-system collaborative and within systems. The national evaluation team collected data through site visit interviews, surveys, and case file reviews.

Additional NCJ Citations: 200338, 204955, 209733, 237226, 237227, 237228, 237229, 237230

Product: NCJ# 204955 [Interim Report]

Greenbook Demonstration Initiative, Process Evaluation Report: Phase 1 (January 2001-June 2002) (2004) – J. Griffith

The aim of the Greenbook demonstration project is for key decision makers from the dependency courts, child protective services, and community-based domestic violence organizations to work collaboratively toward developing and implementing the recommendations outlined in the Greenbook, thus improving how these three systems work

with their broader community to address families with co-occurring domestic violence and child maltreatment. The evaluation will test whether implementation of the Greenbook’s guidelines results in change among selected communities in ways that effectively assist battered women and their children who may be involved with these three agencies to achieve greater safety and well-being. This project will develop and implement an integrated process and outcome evaluation design that uses multiple methods (both qualitative and quantitative) to measure the extent to which demonstration sites’ collaborative efforts result in system change. Key research questions, methods, and data sources are presented for this phase. The first phase of the process evaluation focused on mobilization and planning efforts of local Greenbook sites. The information presented in this report is more descriptive than analytical and is meant to portray a baseline profile of Greenbook sites, systems, and experiences with collaboration among the three entities involved in addressing the needs of women and children victimized by domestic violence.

Additional NCJ Citations: 200338, 209733

2000-WA-VX-0001:	National Evaluation of Grants to Combat Violent Crimes Against Women on Campus
Amount:	\$499,773
PI:	Cheron Dupree
Program Officer:	Katherine Darke
Status:	Completed

The Institute for Law and Justice (ILJ) will conduct a national evaluation of the VAW Campus Program under the Higher Education Amendments Act of 1998. ILJ's evaluation will inform policy and practice and address the impact of the VAW Campus Program on victim well-being and offender accountability. ILJ will document the impact of the Campus program in the context of system-wide and coordinated approaches to campus violence in four areas: (1) the national state of policies and programs that address campus violence; (2) interactions between university administrators, campus police, local criminal justice agencies, and community victim services in order to develop a model of collaboration that advances a systematic approach to campus violence; (3) assess program effectiveness, highlighting successful campus strategies that other universities may choose to implement based on local needs; and (4) identify projects judged worthy of further research and evaluation. The methodology will incorporate statistical analysis, training surveys, campus climate surveys, focus groups, and victim interviews.

Product: NCJ# 201306

Evaluation of Grants to Combat Violence Against Women on Campus (2003) – C. Dupree, T. McEwen, D. Spence, R. Wolf

College and university campus environments are recognized as a valuable location for influencing the way men and women perceive violence against women and for offering victim assistance and other resources that can have a significant effect on a woman’s safety. This report details the process evaluation of the Campus Program, which involved 38 grant projects from 1999 and 2000. Findings from this process evaluation showed that the Campus Program: (1) served as a catalyst for a variety of projects; (2) had increased awareness of violence against women issues among students, faculty, and staff; (3) clarified procedures for reporting incidents; and (4) improved the response to violence against women on campus by directly providing advocacy services or by strengthening the linkages with community partners that provide those services. The snapshot view of the projects funded under the Campus Program revealed that, in general, grantees were effective in implementing planned programming, with many far exceeding minimum grant requirements. The final chapter, “Findings, Conclusions, and Recommendations,” discusses findings from the cross-site analysis which examined programs and services provided under the grants by size of the grantee institution, location, and other variables, and the results of the partnership surveys. It also discusses findings and recommendations of key program components that appear to be particularly beneficial as well as several difficulties in implementing Campus Program minimum requirements along with suggestions for modifying those requirements.

2000-WL-VX-0002:	National Evaluation of the Domestic Violence Victims’ Civil Legal Assistance (CLA) Program
Amount:	\$800,154
PI:	Edward Connors
Program Officer:	Richard Titus
Status:	Completed

This evaluation will (1) document the range of local activities and programs supported by the FY 1998, FY 1999, and FY 2000 Civil Legal Assistance (CLA) grants; (2) examine how local non-CLA funded programs complement the

Office on Violence Against Women-funded programs; (3) document grantee planning and implementation efforts; (4) examine the special conditions imposed on grantees to preserve victim safety and confidentiality; and (5) determine the effectiveness of these programs in meeting the needs of the women they serve. To accomplish these goals, the project will (1) conduct an annual, national survey of all CLA grantees; (2) assess non-VAWA funded civil legal services within the grantees' communities; (3) conduct interviews, document reviews, and collaborate surveys, and collect statistical data on clients served, client characteristics, and services provided at 20 grantee sites; and (4) conduct interviews with approximately 240 domestic violence victims at eight grantee sites. The evaluation will reveal how well the grantees are meeting the needs of domestic violence victims in their individual communities, whether victims are safer and more secure, and what effects the grantees are having on the civil and criminal justice system and on the community.

Product: NCJ# 208612

National Evaluation of the Legal Assistance for Victims Program: Part I (2005) – Institute for Law and Justice

Overall, the Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) grant program has been a success. The LAV has made it possible to provide desperately needed civil legal services to more victims of domestic violence who cannot afford a private attorney. The LAV program has promoted the delivery of high quality, comprehensive services by encouraging collaboration and cross-training among legal services organizations and domestic violence victim services programs. The LAV program succeeded in creating a paradigm in legal service by providing holistic approaches to serving domestic violence clients and being more concerned with the victim’s safety and well-being. Despite the successes of the LAV grant program, the evaluation found that there is still a chronic unmet need for attorneys to assist and represent domestic violence victims who cannot pay legal fees, either because of poverty or because their access to financial resources is controlled by the batterer. This report offers recommendations, based on the evaluation’s findings, for future LAV grant programs.

Additional NCJ Citations: 208667, 208668, 209232

2005-IJ-CX-0050:	Evaluation of the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grant Program Special Initiative: FBCO Pilot Program
Amount:	\$797,094
PI:	Andrew Klein
Program Officer:	Carrie Mulford
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this evaluation is to determine whether and how intermediary organizations, that work in many different contexts and are supported by the Office of Violence Against Women (OVW), add value to the capacity of rural, faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) in their delivery of domestic violence programs. Intermediary organizations are strategic. Their objective is to provide FBCOs with technical assistance so they can build their service delivery capacity. The dimensions of capacity-building involve an organization’s aspirations, strategies, organizational skills, human resources, systems and infrastructure, organizational structure and culture. The evaluation plans to measure by triangulation the value added to the intermediaries. One dimension is to directly assess the capacity-building effects of intermediaries through interviews and focus groups. A second dimension is to use a Capacity Assessment Grid inventory to measure the capacity building that has taken place within the FBCOs. The final dimension is to examine evidence of capacity building that is available from the FBCOs outcome measures. The evaluation will have baseline measurements, a process evaluation, and an outcome evaluation. These data will determine the significant processes used by the intermediaries and the FBCOs in the delivery of rural FBCO domestic violence services and capacity building. The processes will be illustrated with logic models that draw the connections between process inputs and the portfolio of intended FBCO outcomes. The rich collection of data will provide for thick descriptions of intermediary and sub-grantee activities. The outcome analysis will examine the variation among the sites with case studies supported by appropriate data analysis to find patterns of intermediary capacity building assistance that result in successful FBCO outcomes.

Product: NCJ# 228192

Evaluation of the Rural Domestic Violence and Child Victimization Enforcement Grant Program Special Initiative: Faith-based and Community-Organization Pilot Program (2009) – A. Klein, M. Brown, M. Small, D. Tucker, R. Fischer, C. Walsh

The evaluation found that the Rural Pilot Program mostly funded already established domestic violence programs, which resulted in some expansion of domestic violence services but not an increase in the number of domestic violence programs. Most of the expanded services involved community-based programs. The program did result in the increased participation of faith-based agencies in domestic violence programs; however, the goal of building the capacity of funded subgrantees in order to sustain domestic violence services was overwhelmed by service demands. The evaluation found that the structure of the grant program intermediaries (organizations charged with recruiting FBCOs, supporting their domestic violence activities, and providing them with technical assistance) produced different outcomes. Differences between the faith-based and community-based organizations resulted in differing outcomes. A comparison of the outcomes of the Rural Pilot Program with OVW’s funding of ongoing rural domestic violence services that began in 2005 showed that the addition of the Rural Pilot Program did not significantly increase the quality or volume of domestic-violence services delivered in rural areas. The evaluation included a process evaluation, a capacity study, and an examination of faith-infusion and the value-added of the faith-based approach. The evaluation used a variety of methods, including case studies, organizational assessments, surveys, interviews, and focus groups.

2010-WG-GX-0011:	Evaluating Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Payment
Amount:	\$525,464
PI:	Janine Zweig
Program Officer:	Bethany Backes
Status:	Completed

This study will examine how states and communities are responding to VAWA 2005 provisions. Although the provision of free sexual assault forensic exams (SAFEs) was part of the original Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) legislation in 1994, the law permitted states to make free exams conditional on victim cooperation with law enforcement. Since then, it has been clear that not all victims across the country were being provided exams free-of-charge and that, in several places, victims were indeed required to report assaults to police before gaining access to SAFEs. Legislative changes in VAWA 2005 were designed to correct these practices, with federal STOP grant program eligibility requiring that: (1) sexual assault victims must not be charged for forensic medical exams, and (2) victims must not be required to file a law enforcement report in order to receive a free SAFE. States were given until January 5, 2009, to come into compliance with new federal mandates. This study will provide both national and local perspectives on the extent to which VAWA 2005 requirements are being adhered to. The research design includes multiple sources of data and combines both qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis methods. The following will be conducted: a survey of crime victim compensation administrators in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico; a survey of all state STOP administrators; a survey of the census of state and local sexual assault service providers across the country (*n* = 1,295); and case studies in six states (including two local jurisdictions within each state for interviews with victim service providers, law enforcement, prosecutors, and medical personnel as well as focus groups with sexual assault victims). Results of this study will provide critical information to the field about: (1) complying with payment mandates regarding SAFEs while addressing victims' needs, regardless of their intent to report the crime to law enforcement or cooperate with prosecution; (2) supplementing technical assistance efforts and identifying training opportunities that can increase compliance with payment mandates and maintain the integrity of the forensic material gathered during SAFEs; and (3) identifying implementation challenges and best practices for overcoming these challenges.

Product: NCJ #247314

Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Exams and VAWA 2005: Payment Practices, Successes, and Directions for the Future (2014) – J. M. Zweig; L. Newmark; D. Raja; M. Denver

Five themes emerged from the study’s findings. First, state victim compensation funds are the usual designated source of funding for MFEs across the United States. Second, with few exceptions in the jurisdictions involved in case studies for this report, sexual assault victims can receive MFEs and have them funded by the state without having to report the alleged assault to law enforcement. Survey respondents indicated this was occurring throughout the Nation. Third, there are still barriers to a sexual assault victim’s accessing a MFE, which prevents some victims from seeking medical help; this occurs most often with victims who identify as non-English speakers, immigrants or American Indians. Fourth, most sexual assault victims who receive MFEs report the assaults to the police at the time of the exam. Of the victims who get MFEs but do not report the assault at the time of the exam, few convert their kits to reported cases at a later date. Fifth, having sufficient funds available to pay for MFEs is a major concern for many states. The study conducted national surveys of state victim compensation fund administrators, state STOP (Services, Training,

Officers, and Prosecutors) administrators, state-level sexual assault coalitions, and local sexual assault service providers. Case studies in six selected states examined how MFE procedures were implemented locally. This product includes 21 figures, 29 references, appended questionnaire and key questions in structured interviews with various stakeholders.

2013-ZD-CX-0001:	Evaluation of OVW’s Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Demonstration Initiative
Amount:	\$1,899,856
PI:	Joy Kaufman
Program Officer:	Bethany Backes
Status:	Ongoing

The purpose of this project is to evaluate the Office on Violence Against Women's (OVW) Domestic Violence Homicide Prevention Demonstration Initiative. During Phase I, 12 sites assessed their structures and processes for addressing domestic violence. In Phase II, up to six sites will implement their work plans to test changes to existing procedures, practices and structures related to domestic violence homicide prevention. This evaluation will assess the processes and outcomes within and across sites. As this is an evaluation of models carried out by Phase II sites, the "subjects" are the six funded sites. The evaluation will be a utilization-focused developmental evaluation— "utilization-focused" in that the project will be done for and with primary intended users of the evaluation findings, and "developmental" in that the intended use is development of domestic violence homicide prevention models. The process evaluation will focus on the internal dynamics and actual operations of domestic violence homicide prevention programs at Phase II sites. This will be achieved primarily through the use of system dynamics modeling, which uses computer simulation to understand the behavior of complex systems over time. The outcome evaluation will examine the intended and unintended consequences of the prevention programs. This will be carried out largely through the use of multilevel modeling, which takes into account multiple sources of variation when estimating differences in outcomes between sites. System dynamics modeling within and across sites will progress through a series of iterative steps involving problem articulation, formulation of a dynamic hypothesis, development of a computer simulation model, validation and model testing, and policy design and recommendations. Multilevel modeling will take into account individual- (victims and perpetrators), intimate partner relationship-, and site-level variables in estimation of site variation in outcomes. Cost-effectiveness analyses will include an assessment of the cost effectiveness of the overall initiative, as well as sub-analyses comparing cost effectiveness of individual sites whose prevention programs proved effective.

2014-ZD-CX-0013:	Environmental Scan of Family Justice Centers in the United States
Amount:	\$299,971
PI:	Margaret Chapman
Program Officer:	Amy Leffler
Status:	Ongoing

Over the past fifteen years, close to 100 communities across the country have implemented Family Justice Centers (FJCs) to provide one location where victims of domestic violence and their families can access the range of services they need. The FJC movement was built on the premise that integrating the array of services in the community would improve access and utilization of services, which would improve outcomes at the individual, community, and service levels. While preliminary data suggest that FJCs may be achieving these outcomes, a formal multi-site evaluation is needed to confirm whether FJCs are achieving their goals. Abt Associates and the Family Justice Center Alliance, two organizations that have been part of the FJC movement since the beginning, will combine their expertise in FJCs and program evaluation to conduct an environmental scan of FJCs across the country, which will serve as the first in a multi-phase effort to measure the effectiveness of FJCs. The environmental scan will focus on two key questions. The first is what do FJCs in operation across the country look like. This question is important because, while guiding principles and best practices are available to communities as they design their own FJC, to be successful, each community has to make decisions regarding the organizational structure, partnerships, services, and other defining elements that best suit the unique conditions in their community. Consequently, all FJCs do not look alike. The second question is whether FJCs can support formal evaluation efforts. Up to now, efforts to evaluate FJCs have been limited. As a result, little is known regarding the availability, quality, and consistency of data across centers. We address both questions by collecting descriptive information in the following seven areas: program governance, operational status, funding, service provision, policy and procedures, data collection and analytic capabilities, and outputs and outcomes.

A program logic model will drive the development of the instrument and online data collection system. The final report will present descriptive information for all current FJCs in each of the above areas, identifying differences across FJCs in areas important to future evaluation efforts, including implementation status, sustainability issues, and data infrastructure. The goal of the study is to collect sufficient information to support a thorough assessment of the extent to which individual FJCs are evaluable and, if so, the most suitable design.

2015-ZD-CX-K002:	Evaluation of OVW’s Sexual Assault Justice Initiative
Amount:	\$999,724
PI:	Nelson Lim
Program Director:	Bethany Backes
Status:	Ongoing

The purpose of this project is to conduct a multi-site evaluation of OVW’s Sexual Assault Justice Initiative (SAJI). The proposed evaluation has four main objectives: (1) Design and implement the most rigorous evaluation plan possible. (2) Assess the implementation process and outcomes for each OVW-funded initiative site and, to the extent possible, across all sites. (3) Monetize the costs and benefits of the initiative and OVW’s investment in training and technical assistance. (4) Provide real guidance to criminal justice and social service professionals about the utility of the initiative and how SAJI may be implemented in other jurisdictions. RAND is the ideal evaluation partner for SAJI because of its extensive experience evaluating multi-site initiatives, a history of applying innovative methods to research, and an understanding of the deep complexities of the topic area. Research design: The research design will be finalized early in the project, when sites are selected and SAJI strategies identified. The RAND project team will prioritize designs that allow randomization of cases to treatment and control conditions. The evaluation will be accomplished through six tasks: (1) Implement a communication plan to ensure evaluation transparency with funders and implementing sites. We anticipate regular conference calls, webinars, and newsletters. (2) With the input of NIJ, OVW, and the project expert panel, finalize the technical approach for the evaluation. (3) Conduct a process evaluation to document SAJI design and implementation in each site. (4) Collect outcome data at each SAJI site, which will likely include case assignment and charging data, case outcomes data, data related to victim perceptions of the process, and cost-related data. (5) Analyze collected data to examine the impact of SAJI. (6) Report and disseminate evaluation site results in ways that will be useful to participating and future SAJI sites. This will include site-specific reports for participating sites, a report that outlines results and lessons learned across all sites, and journal articles to relay the findings to the wider academic and practice communities. Subjects: The collection of outcome measures will use participating agencies, administrative case records and surveys/interviews with agency employees, TTA providers, and a subset of victims served. The process evaluation will include interviews/surveys with TTA providers and site participants. This study will lay the groundwork for generating important information for policymakers and providers about the effectiveness, and the challenges, of implementing prosecutor performance measures for sexual assault cases.

For an index of all grants, go to <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/223572/223572-grants-index.pdf>.