



City of Cleveland Memorandum

Frank G. Jackson, Mayor

TO: Kevin J. Kelley, Chair
Committee of the Whole

FROM: Michael McGrath, Director
Department of Public Safety

Barbara Langhenry, Director
Department of Law

SUBJECT: Ordinance No. 1388-2019 Authorizing the Directors of Public Safety or Law to apply for and accept grants from the County Public Safety and Justice Services for the FY 2019 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) program for a sexual assault advocate and for the Law Enforcement and Prosecution components of the Cleveland Domestic Violence Program; and authorizing one or more contracts with Cuyahoga County, the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, and other entities to implement the grants

DATE: December 2, 2019

This Request for Legislation would authorize the Directors of Public Safety or Law to apply for and accept grants from the County Public Safety and Justice Services for the FY 2019 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) program for a sexual assault advocate and for the Law Enforcement and Prosecution components of the Cleveland Domestic Violence Program; and authorizing one or more contracts with Cuyahoga County, the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, and other entities to implement the grants.

The VAWA grant is designed to provide specialized, collaborative action to combat and support individuals who are the victims of domestic violence and related crimes.

This collaboration known as the City of Cleveland Domestic Violence Unit consist of members from the City of Cleveland Prosecutor's Office, City of Cleveland Division of Police and Cuyahoga County Witness/Victim Service Center who work together to provide victims in the City of Cleveland one stop services. The City of Cleveland Prosecutor's Office provide prosecutors who focus on charging and prosecuting domestic violence and its related crimes (ie menacing by stalking, aggravated menacing and violation of protection orders) to provide specialized attention to this issue and the specific concerns that arise with handling such cases and working with individuals affected by violence and abuse.



Sexual Assault Advocate Component

The purpose of this component of the Violence Against Women Act Grant is to provide funding to enhance the investigation of sexual assault cases. The City of Cleveland will contract with the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center for one full-time victim advocate assigned to the Division of Police. The advocate was assigned to the Sex Crimes Unit beginning in January of 2015. This legislation will enable the Department of Public Safety to continue providing a critically needed service to the victims of violent crimes and to the public. The Grant Period is 01/01/20 thru 12/31/20.

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| Grant Award: | \$ 41,659.50 |
| Matching Funds: | <u>\$ 13,886.50</u> |
| Total Project Amount: | <u>\$ 55,546.00</u> |

Law Enforcement Component

The purpose of this component of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant is to provide funding to enhance the investigation and prosecution of domestic violence and stalking. The City of Cleveland will be reimbursed for costs associated with operating the Cleveland Domestic Violence Program. This is a partnership with Cleveland Police Detectives, Cleveland Prosecutors, Cleveland Municipal Court, and Victim Advocates from County Witness/Victim Services. The Grant Period is 01/01/20 thru 12/31/20.

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| Grant Award: | \$ 95,221.86 |
| Matching Funds: | <u>\$ 31,740.62</u> |
| Total Project Amount: | <u>\$ 126,962.48</u> |

Prosecution Component

The purpose of this component of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant is to provide funding to pay all or a portion of the salaries for Prosecutors in the Domestic Violence Unit to continue to assist in the prosecution of domestic violence offenders in the City of Cleveland through this specialized program. The Departments of Law and Public Safety in the City of Cleveland each receive their own VAWA grant funds, which allow the departments to work together as a team towards the goal of addressing the arrest and prosecution of domestic violence offenders and assist victims of abuse. The Grant Period is 01/01/20 thru 12/31/20.

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| Amount of Grant: | \$136,881.36 |
| Cash Match: | <u>45,627.12</u> (Fund 01-001) |
| Total: | <u>\$182,508.48</u> |