

THE FOLLOWING IS A BROADCAST EMAIL TO ALL OVS FUNDED VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Dear Colleague:

In these challenging financial times, VAPs may be exploring ways to increase capacity while managing smaller budgets. One potential way would be to increase the use of volunteers. The Office of Victim Services (OVS) recently became aware that VOCA subgrantees in other states have recruited AmeriCorp or VISTA volunteers for just this purpose.

There are fees associated with utilizing AmeriCorp volunteers. The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) recently clarified that while the use of VOCA assistance funds for the fee or cost-sharing portion for an AmeriCorps volunteer is permissible, the AmeriCorps grant or the volunteer's time, cannot be used as match for the VOCA subgrant because they involve the use of federal funds.

If anyone is interested in more information about AmeriCorp volunteers, please visit the New York Corporation for National and Community Service at <http://www.cns.gov/about/contact-us/state-service-commissions/New%20York> for details on local opportunities, funding priorities and requirements.

On behalf of the New York State Office of Victim Services, thank you for your commitment to providing the highest quality services to innocent victims of crime in New York State.

Sincerely,

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