

## CDGA DFSS Division on Domestic Violence FAQ

These are the responses to the questions received during the webinar held on April 20 and any other additional questions received prior to the release of the CDGA application on May 3, 2021.

**1. Did Domestic Violence funding within the Department remain the same, decrease, or increase when comparing this funding round with this past year?**

Funding for 2022 has not yet been proposed by the Mayor for approval to City Council. DFSS or Division on Domestic Violence cannot confirm whether funding will be decreased, level or increased at the time of this RFP. However, DFSS will make funding recommendations for the program models included in this RFP based on the submissions, scoring and ranking.

**2. The Chicago MDT Project is funded by another funder, and the partners have specific relationships with each other and the police departments. How does the DFSS RFP impact or recognize that?**

The Division on Domestic Violence is not a funded partner under the grant. However, DDV does participate on the MDT Subcommittee and allocates funding to delegates responsible for receiving referrals from CPD, conducting the risk assessment and attempting contact with victims to engage them into domestic violence services.

**3. How does the mandated reporter requirement for legal services take into account the professional responsibility/ethics rules that attorneys are required to follow? They are in conflict with each other.**

The Illinois Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act Section 4(g) states that the reporting requirements of this Act (Illinois Mandated Reporter requirements) shall not apply to the contents of a privileged communication between an attorney and his or her client or to confidential information within the meaning of Rule 1.6 of the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct relating to the legal representation of an individual client. An attorney representing a victim is therefore not required to report information contained in a privileged communication with a victim client unless that information is included in the exceptions found in Rule 1.6. This does not waive an attorney from completing the Illinois Mandated Reporter certification. If an applicant for any program model has program staff that is an attorney, DDV will allow that applicant to provide a statement in lieu of an Illinois Mandated Reporter certification stating cause for failure to certify that will be considered as part of the application.

- a) **The Illinois Mandated Reporter Manual may be found here:** [https://www2.illinois.gov/dcfs/safekids/reporting/Documents/cfs\\_1050-21\\_mandated\\_reporter\\_manual.pdf#search=mandated%20reporter](https://www2.illinois.gov/dcfs/safekids/reporting/Documents/cfs_1050-21_mandated_reporter_manual.pdf#search=mandated%20reporter)
- b) **Section 4(g) of the Illinois Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act may be found here:** <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1460&ChapterID=32>

- c) **Section 1.6 of the Article VIII. Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct may be found here:**

[http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/SupremeCourt/Rules/Art\\_VIII/ArtVIII\\_NEW.htm#1.6](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/SupremeCourt/Rules/Art_VIII/ArtVIII_NEW.htm#1.6)

**4. Please repeat the portion of IDVA and the definition of who we can serve. Is it everyone under IDVA or only intimate partner?**

The IDVA defines victims experiencing domestic violence as family members related by blood; people who are married or used to be married; people who share or used to share a home, apartment, or other common dwelling; people who have or allegedly have child in common or a blood relationship through a child in common; people who are dating or engaged or used to date, including same sex couples; and people with disabilities and their personal assistants. While the program models in this RFP are limited to intimate partner violence only, the Counseling and Advocacy Services program model allows all victims under the IDVA to be served and not turned away. Applicants for Counseling and Advocacy may choose to not serve non-intimate partner victims but must be able to refer the victim to appropriate services.

**5. Under the accepting victims program requirements, it mentions incoming crisis calls must be answered 24 hours/7days a week and during non-business hours must either be connected to the agency's own domestic violence hotline or referred to the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline. During non-regular hours we currently have this number forwarded to another DV crisis line, through a partnership with them. Will this suffice or need to be adjusted to the DV Hotline?**

DFSS requires that applicants provide access to 24/7 hotline services where a live person may answer their crisis call. The RFP does state that it must be your own agency or the Illinois DV Hotline; however, if an applicant does not have 24/7 hotline capacity, the application should describe how it will meet that requirement upon award or through a formal agreement with a qualified entity to provide that service.

**6. The RFP requires delegate agencies to utilize InfoNet for reporting services and outcomes. If we are currently not using InfoNet and do end up being funded through this program, will this be able to be implemented at the time of contract?**

Applicants awarded funding for existing or new projects that do not enter data into InfoNet will be required to do so as outlined in their scope of work. Such awarded projects will be provided an implementation plan to at the time of award or thereafter.