

Overview of the PMT Data for VOCA Grantees: July–December 2017

Victims of Child Abuse (VOCA) is a grant program funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). VOCA grantees conduct a wide variety of services to enhance coordination among agencies and professionals that respond to child abuse through training and technical assistance (TTA) and information services. VOCA funding supports Regional Children’s Advocacy Centers (RCAC) that develop multidisciplinary teams, local children’s advocacy center programs, and state chapter organizations. These centers are accredited members of the National Children’s Alliance and support training opportunities for service providers and professionals responding to child abuse victims. The RCAC agencies provide TTA to these groups to assess community readiness, increase the number of communities using the children’s advocacy center model, and develop and strengthen state chapter organizations of children’s advocacy centers. VOCA grantees have been reporting in the Performance Measurement Tool (PMT) since the January–June 2008 reporting period. This report provides data for the July–December 2017 reporting period.

Report Highlights

This report is an overview of the PMT data for VOCA grantees. Performance measures help OJJDP determine whether the federal program has achieved its goals and objectives and may be used to improve program and policy decisions at the federal level. The report is divided into two sections:

1. An examination of program information for VOCA grantees.
2. An analysis of VOCA performance measures.

Key findings from the analysis for the July–December 2017 reporting period include:

- Eight federal awards completed data in the PMT for a reporting compliance rate of 80 percent.
- Washington, D.C. received the most funds (\$37,409,318).
- The National Children’s Alliance received the greatest number of awards (38 percent).
- 416 program materials were developed.
- Ninety-four percent of organizations reported improvements in operations based on the TTA received during the reporting period.
- Sixty-seven percent of those served by TTA reported implementing an evidence-based program and/or practice during or after the TTA.

- Thirty-two staff received formal training relevant to their program or position.
- Ninety-seven percent of training recipients reported an increase in knowledge of a program area.
- Staff received 1,202 technical assistance requests and 99.6 percent of technical assistance requests were delivered.

1. Examination of Program Information

1.1 Reporting Compliance

The VOCA program grantees began reporting in the PMT in 2008. Grantees are required to report semiannually for each active federal award. Table 1, below, presents the reporting compliance rate of active federal awards during the July–December 2017 reporting period;¹ Eight VOCA grantees were operational and completed reporting requirements, resulting in a compliance rate of 80 percent during the reporting period (a 16 percent improvement since the previous reporting period).²

Table 1: Status of Grantee Reporting (July–December 2017)³

Data Reporting Period	Status			
	Not Started	In Progress	Complete	Total
July–December 2017	2	0	8	10

1.2 Funding Information

In examining federal award amounts by state or district, Washington, D.C. received the most funds, followed by Alabama and California.⁴ Table 2 shows a comprehensive comparison of federal award amounts broken down by state or district.

Table 2: Federal Award Amount by State or District (Dollars) (July–December 2017)⁵

State	N	Total Amount
DC	3	\$37,409,318
AL	2	\$4,250,000
CA	1	\$2,450,000
MN	1	\$2,450,000
PA	1	\$2,450,000

¹ Grantees that were not operational, or who did not complete their performance report, are excluded from the analysis of the program information and performance measures.

² Reference [January–June 2017 VOCA Performance Report table 1. Status of Active VOCA Grantee Reporting by Period](#)

³ N=10.

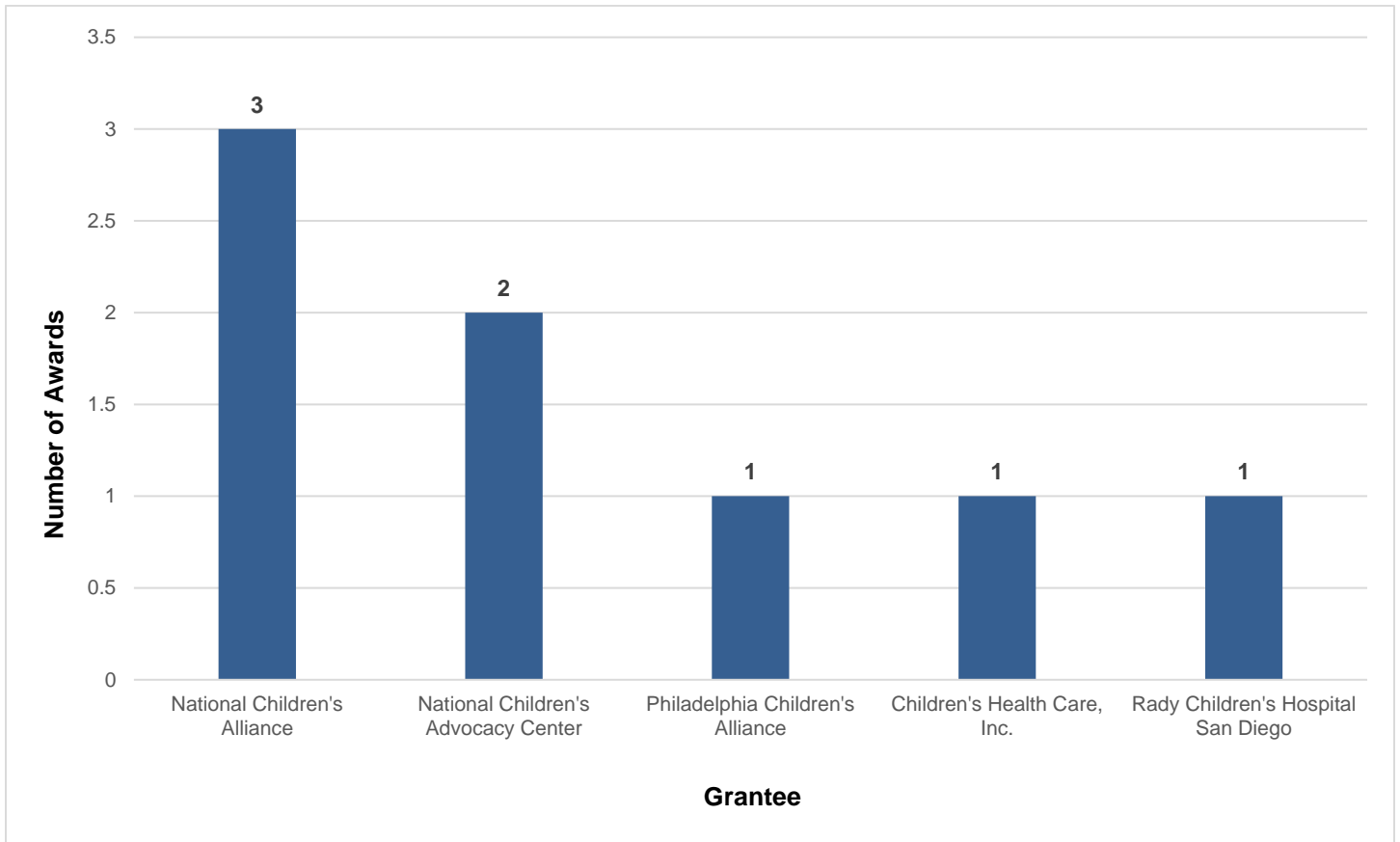
⁴ The federal award amounts represent the grant program for the life of the award, regardless of when it was awarded, and do not account for how much funding has been spent during the reporting period.

⁵ N=8.

1.3 Grantee Awards

Table 3, below, illustrates, the National Children’s Alliance received the greatest number of awards (38 percent; $n = 3$), followed by the National Children’s Advocacy Center (25 percent; $n = 2$) during the July–December 2017 reporting period.

Table 3: Awards by Grantee (July–December 2017)⁶



⁶ $N = 8$.

2. Analysis of Performance Measures

2.1 System-Planning Measures

Tables 4–6, below, present the performance measures VOCA grantees reported in the PMT. Grantees reported on a number of measures related to enhancing existing justice system approaches and services for victims of child abuse through system planning activities, policy changes, training, and TTA.

During the July–December 2017 reporting period, 416 program materials were developed—350 more than the previous reporting period (table 4).⁷ The large increase during the current reporting period is due to one grantee who reported 298 program materials developed. Program materials include: program overviews, client workbooks, and lists of local service providers. The number of program policies changed ($n = 31$) and program policies rescinded ($n = 4$) increased from 0 during the previous reporting period. Lastly, the number of system-planning activities conducted decreased 50 percent (from 198 to 99) from the previous reporting period. System planning activities include creation of task forces or interagency committees, meetings that were held, and needs assessments that were undertaken (table 4). The 50 percent decrease could possibly be attributed to grantees winding down on their planning activities since they are further along in the grant cycle.

Table 4: System-Planning Measures Data (July–December 2017)⁸

Performance Indicator	Total Number Reported
Program materials developed ⁹	416
Planning or training events held	172
Program materials disseminated	149
System-planning activities conducted	99
Other system-level improvement initiatives implemented	53
Program policies changed	31
Memoranda of understanding developed	10
Planning and coordination activities	9
Program policies rescinded	4
Publication resources developed	0

⁷ Reference [January–June 2017 VOCA Performance Report table 3. System-Planning Measures Data: January–June 2017](#)

⁸ Number of grantees reporting on this measure ranges from 0 grantees reporting on publication resources developed to 7 grantees reporting on program materials developed.

⁹ Number of program materials developed includes the total number of program materials developed ($n = 413$) and the number of program materials related to cultural or racial and ethnic diversity developed ($n = 3$).

2.2 Training Measures

Table 5 includes findings related to VOCA training measures. During the July–December 2017 reporting period, 32 staff and 5,041 other relevant youth-serving professionals or community members were trained for a total of 5,073 people trained. Since the previous reporting period, the number of other relevant youth-serving professionals or community members trained dropped 21 percent, while the total number of staff trained increased by 23 percent.¹⁰ A total of 2,398 training recipients completed surveys designed to understand if they demonstrated an increased knowledge of the program area post-training. Of those who completed surveys, 97 percent increased their knowledge post-training (a 2 percent drop since the previous reporting period). Lastly, the majority of staff (63 percent) were also trained on cultural or racial and ethnic diversity. This is important since VOCA serves children from a variety of cultural or racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Table 5: Training Measures Data (July–December 2017)¹²

Performance Indicator	Total Number/Percentage Reported
Number of training requests received	10,895
Number of other relevant youth-serving professionals or community members trained	5,041
Number and percent of training recipients with increased knowledge of program area ¹¹	
A. Number of people exhibiting an increase in knowledge post-training	2,335
B. Total number of people trained and returning surveys	2,398
C. Percent of training recipients with increased knowledge of program area	97%
Number of new training materials developed	100
Number and percent of staff trained on cultural or racial and ethnic diversity	
A. Number of staff trained on cultural or racial and ethnic diversity during the reporting period	20
B. Total number of staff trained during the reporting period	32
C. Percent of staff trained on cultural or racial and ethnic diversity	63%

¹⁰ Reference [January–June 2017 VOCA Performance Report table 4. Training Measures Data: January–June 2017](#)

¹¹ This number only includes training recipients who completed and returned surveys designed to assess their knowledge of the program area post-training.

¹² Number of grantees reporting on these measures vary from four grantees reporting on number of staff trained on cultural or racial and ethnic diversity to eight grantees reporting on number of other relevant youth-serving professionals or community members trained.

2.3 TTA Measures

Table 6 presents the VOCA TTA measures. During the July–December 2017 reporting period, 1,202 TTA requests were received (an increase of 33 percent since the previous reporting period) and 99.6 percent of TTA requests were delivered (which remains consistent with previous reporting period).¹³ Ninety-four percent of organizations reported improvements in operations based on TTA during the reporting period. Sixty-seven percent of those served by TTA reported implementing an evidence-based program and/or practice during or after the TTA, a 23 percent increase over the previous reporting period.¹⁴ OJJDP encourages grantees to use evidence-based practices in their programs. Evidence-based programs and practices include program models that have been shown, through rigorous evaluation and replication, to be effective at preventing or reducing juvenile delinquency or related risk factors.

Table 6: TTA Measures Data (July–December 2017)¹⁵

Performance Indicator	Total Number/Percentage Reported
Percentage of technical assistance requests delivered	99.6%
A. Number of technical assistance requests received	1,202
B. Number of technical assistance requests delivered	1,198
Percentage of organizations reporting improvements in operations based on TTA	94%
A. Number of organizations reporting improvements in operations based on TTA	1,324
B. Number of organizations served by TTA during the reporting period	1,407
Percentage of organizations served by TTA that reported implementing an evidence-based program and/or practice during or after the TTA	67%
A. Number of programs served by TTA that reported using an evidence-based program and/or practice	1,069
B. Number of programs served by TTA ¹⁶	1,596

¹³ Reference [January–June 2017 VOCA Performance Report table 5. TTA Measures Data: January–June 2017](#)

¹⁴ Reference [January–June 2017 VOCA Performance Report table 5. TTA Measures Data: January–June 2017](#)

¹⁵ Number of grantees reporting on these measures range from 6 grantees reporting on number of organizations reporting improvements in operations based on TTA and 7 grantees reporting on number of technical assistance requests received.

¹⁶ Due to the way the measures are set up in the PMT, numbers may or may not be consistent with those reported in similar measures (e.g., number of organizations served by TTA during the reporting period and number of programs served by TTA).

Summary

During the July–December 2017 reporting period, the VOCA program grantees were 80 percent compliant on the PMT reporting requirement, which is an increase of 16 percent since the previous reporting period. In examining federal award amounts by state or district, Washington, D.C. received the most funds, followed by Alabama and California. Analysis of the number of awards by grantee revealed that the National Children’s Alliance instituted the greatest number of awards (38 percent), followed by the National Children’s Advocacy Center at 25 percent. Looking at the information from the performance measure data, grantees reported on a number of measures related to enhancing existing justice system approaches and services for victims of child abuse through system planning activities and TTA. During the current reporting period, 99 system-planning activities were conducted (a 50 percent drop from the previous reporting period). The decrease could possibly be attributed to grantees winding down on their planning activities now that they are further along in the grant cycle. A total of 5,073 youth-serving professionals or community members, including 32 staff, received training relevant to their program or their position. Since the previous reporting period, the number of other relevant youth-serving professionals or community members trained in program areas dropped 21 percent; however, the total number of staff trained increased by 23 percent. A total of 2,398 training recipients completed surveys designed to understand if they demonstrated an increased knowledge of the program area post-training. Of the 2,398 participants who completed surveys, 97 percent increased their knowledge post-training (only a 2 percent drop since the previous reporting period). Finally, 1,202 TTA requests were received and 99.6 percent of technical assistance requests were delivered. A total of 5,073 people were trained during the reporting period, reflecting a 21 percent drop since the previous reporting period. Sixty-seven percent of those served by TTA reported implementing an evidence-based program and/or practice during or after the TTA, and 94 percent of organizations reported improvements in operations based on TTA.