ARP SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT FROM CULTURALLY SPECIFIC POPULATIONS GRANT PROGRAM (ARP SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS PROGRAM)

Invitation for Community-Based Organizations to Apply for Subgrants in Support of Culturally Specific, Community-Based Projects to Support Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault from Asian and Pacific Islander Communities in the United States and Territories.

**Amended December 5, 2022**

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<tr>
<th><strong>Online Application Opened</strong></th>
<th><strong>Information Sessions-Completed</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>November 4, 2022</td>
<td>November 9, 2022 at 2pm PST</td>
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<tr>
<td>User Account Registration Link (required to access online application)</td>
<td>November 16, 2022 at 9am PST</td>
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<td>REGISTER HERE</td>
<td>Recordings and slides available HERE</td>
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<td>Application Link: APPLY HERE</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Deadline to Submit Application</strong></th>
<th><strong>Project Period</strong></th>
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<td>January 13, 2023 at 11:59 pm Pacific Standard Time</td>
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www.api-gbv.org/arpsupport
arpsupport@api-gbv.org
About the ARP Support for Survivors Program

The Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence (API-GBV) was awarded $13.2 million through the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) under the 2021 American Rescue Plan (ARP) to distribute this funding to culturally specific organizations that serve domestic violence (DV) and sexual assault (SA) survivors.

Working in partnership with SA training and technical assistance provider, the National Organization of Asians and Pacific Islanders Ending Sexual Violence (NAPIESV), our collective goal is to support culturally specific community-based organizations in providing culturally specific activities that:

1) Address the emergent needs of survivors and the programs that serve them, resulting from the COVID-19 public health emergency; and
2) Promote strategic partnership development and collaboration in responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency on survivors of DV and SA.

The ARP Support for Survivors Program aims to prevent, prepare, and respond to the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency on survivors from Asian/Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander (AANHI), and Middle Eastern (ME) communities in the U.S. Subgrants under the ARP Support for Survivors Program will be equally distributed between DV and SA projects, and organizations may apply for DV funding, SA funding, or a combination of both.

Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Capacity Building Fund

Under the ARP Support for Survivors Program, API-GBV will distribute, monitor, and manage subgrants through the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Capacity Building Fund to assist culturally specific organizations providing DV and SA services in Asian/Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Middle Eastern communities in the United States and U.S. territories. Subgrants will be accompanied by programmatic training and technical assistance from API-GBV to DV grantees and NAPIESV to SA grantees, while the administration of the funding will be conducted by API-GBV.

Subaward Information

API-GBV and NAPIESV will review proposals via a committee structure as outlined below in “Selection Process” and select up to 40 community-based organizations to become “ARP Support for Survivors Program Subgrantees” or “ARP subgrantees”. Each ARP subgrantee will receive a subgrant, up to $300,000 in total costs, in support of the proposed community-based project. These funds are based on a reimbursement model; per federal funding regulations,
an organization expends funds based on an approved budget, submits their expenses monthly, and is then reimbursed by API-GBV for those expenses. ARP subgrantees can use funding to support, enhance, and/or expand existing projects. New projects may also be considered. All projects must **prevent, prepare, and respond** to the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency on survivors from Asian/Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander (AANHPI), and Middle Eastern (ME) communities in the U.S.

DV/SA Capacity Building Fund projects must begin by **March 1, 2023**. Funding ends **February 28, 2025**, inclusive of any no-cost extensions or other related modifications. ARP subgrantees have the option to conclude their projects earlier without penalty.

**Eligible Applicants**

API-GBV welcomes applications from all eligible community-based organizations, regardless of size and/or operating budget. Eligible community-based organizations include:

1. Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS or Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS but are fiscally sponsored by a nonprofit (culturally specific fiscal sponsors are preferred) who has 501(c)(3) status;
2. Whose primary purpose is providing culturally specific services to Asian/Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Middle Eastern communities residing in the continental United States, Hawai‘i, and U.S. territories;
   a. Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(7), “culturally specific services” means community-based services that include culturally relevant and linguistically specific services and resources to culturally specific communities;
   b. Pursuant to 34 U.S.C. § 12291(a)(6), “culturally specific” means primarily directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups (as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 300u-6(g)). This definition includes underserved populations/communities;
   c. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 10402(14) and 45 CFR part 1370.2, “Underserved communities” or “underserved populations” means populations who face barriers in accessing and using victim services, and includes populations underserved because of geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, underserved racial and ethnic populations, and populations underserved because of special needs including language barriers, disabilities, immigration status, and age. Individuals with criminal histories due to victimization and individuals with substance use disorders and mental health issues are also included in this definition; AND
3. Have demonstrated ability in providing supportive services (often referred to as “direct services”);
   a. “Supportive services” (often referred to as “direct services”) is defined as services for adult and youth victims of family violence, domestic violence, dating violence, and sexual assault and their dependents that are designed to
meet the needs of such victims and their dependents for short-term, transitional, or long-term safety and recovery;

b. Supportive services include, but are not limited to: direct and/or referral-based advocacy on behalf of victims and their dependents, counseling, case management, employment services, referrals, transportation services, legal advocacy or assistance, child care services, health, behavioral health and preventive health services, culturally and linguistically appropriate services, and other services that assist victims or their dependents in recovering from the effects of the violence (45 CFR § 1370.2). Supportive services can also include outreach to underserved populations to increase virtual access to DV and SA services and reduce the exposure to and risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus.

Eligible community-based organizations with projects that seek to collaborate with other organization(s) are encouraged to apply. In the case of partnership proposals, only one eligible community-based organization should apply as lead applicant.

ARP subgrantees are not permitted to further subgrant to other organizations. Additionally, direct payments to survivors are not permitted under this ARP program.

Scope of Proposed Projects

API-GBV and NAPIESV will select community-based programs that are responsive to the needs of Asian/Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander and Middle Eastern survivors of DV and SA and their dependents residing in the continental U.S., Hawai‘i, and the U.S. territories. API-GBV and NAPIESV invite proposals focused on:

1. Culturally specific supportive services for AANHPI and ME survivors;
2. Virtual services and data security that attend to the needs of AANHPI and ME survivors;
3. Meeting emergent and culturally specific services needs of AANHPI and ME survivors impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency;

1) Culturally Specific Supportive Services

- Enhance community-based AANHPI- and ME-specific DV and SA victim services;
- Enhance outreach strategies to reach AANHPI and ME survivors to ensure the continuity of services throughout the COVID-19 public health emergency;
- Build the capacity of community-based culturally specific DV and SA organizations to serve survivors from AANHPI and ME communities impacted by the COVID-19 virus;
• Build the capacity of culturally specific DV and SA service providers to adjust and enhance services that will prevent, respond, and mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus;
• Train and educate culturally specific community-based organizations, including health care providers, social service agencies, and youth service programs, on how to respond to the needs of DV and SA survivors from AANHPI and ME communities; and
• Develop culturally and linguistically appropriate materials for DV and SA survivors.

2) **Virtual Services and Data Security**

DV/SA Capacity Building Fund subgrants may be used to support culturally specific DV and SA programs as they transition to virtual services or as they plan to continue virtual services. Funding may be used to develop, implement, and assess innovative virtual services that:

• Increase access to culturally specific DV and SA services for survivors in your service area, as well as for underserved communities; and
• Can be adapted based on local community/service area needs, including more or less virtual services.

Subgrants can support all costs associated with culturally specific DV and SA programs systematically designing, implementing, and assessing ways to optimize the use of virtual services for AANHPI and ME survivors that have been impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

DV/SA Capacity Building Fund subgrants may be used for all costs associated with protecting the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of survivor services information, including safeguarding data from accidental and intentional disclosure. ARP subgrantees may use funds to support the safety of survivor data, including servers, firewall protection software, and training for personnel and survivors on topics such as proper use of devices and service portals, security of passwords, and available data safety features.

3) **Meeting Emergent Needs of Survivors Impacted by COVID-19**

**Prevent** – Activities that assist AANHPI and ME survivors by providing virtual services, supportive services, temporary housing assistance, mobile advocacy services, and supplies that will reduce the exposure to and risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus.

**Prepare** – Activities and technical assistance that include assessing needs of AANHPI and ME survivors during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Activities that provide training, information, and assistance necessary to ensure the continuity of culturally specific DV and SA services. Assessing the capacity of culturally specific DV and SA programs emergency operation plans and plans to address the needs of AANHPI and ME survivors and reduce the exposure to and risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus.
Respond – Activities and technical assistance for ensuring the continuity of culturally specific DV and SA services during the COVID-19 public health emergency, which includes responding to issues such as adapting to fluctuating needs and changing circumstances. Staffing enhancements, workforce supports, and workforce capacity building (as described below) are allowable activities.

4) Workforce Expansions and Capacity Building

- Planning for implementation of culturally specific DV and SA services: COVID-19 mitigation strategies; implementation of mobile advocacy services; language access planning, or virtual/remote services implementation;
- Training providers and staff on COVID-19 mitigation activities: implementation of mobile advocacy services; or virtual/remote services implementation;
- Hiring providers and staff to carry out culturally specific DV and SA services; COVID-19 mitigation strategies; implementation of mobile advocacy services; or virtual/remote services implementation;
- Reporting data to API-GBV on culturally specific DV and SA services, COVID-19 mitigation strategies; implementation of mobile advocacy services; or virtual/remote services implementation;
- Expenses to secure and maintain adequate personnel to carry out culturally specific DV and SA services; COVID-19 mitigation strategies; implementation of mobile advocacy services; or virtual/remote services implementation; if the activity generating the expense and/or the expenses were necessary to secure and maintain adequate personnel. Review HHS regulations 45 CFR § part 75 “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards,” Subpart E—Cost Principles. These requirements apply to ARP subgrantees. Such expenses may include:
  - Hiring bonuses and retention payments,
  - Childcare,
  - Transportation subsidies, and
  - Other fringe or personal benefits authorized by HHS regulations (45 CFR part 75).

When making hiring decisions, please consider the time period for this project and focus on sustainability from a budgetary and organizational capacity perspective. The DV/SA Capacity Building Fund Application FAQ provides more information on allowable costs and activities under these subgrants and is available on API-GBV’s Resource Page. The updated FAQ will be released in early December.

Requirements and Expectations

Data Collection and Reporting
ARP subgrantees are required to collect and maintain data that measures the performance and effectiveness of work under this subaward, which includes:

- Monthly financial reimbursement requests;
- Semi-annual performance progress reports (narrative and financial);
- Travel and conference requests;
- Other data as requested.

All reporting and requests must be submitted through Coalition Manager, the designated grants management platform for the ARP Support for Survivors Program. ARP subgrantees are required to use this platform throughout the project period and must participate in online training on its utilization within the first month of the project, including any staff responsible for reporting.

**Program Support and Information Sharing**

ARP subgrantees may be required to participate in:

- One in-person program support visit with API-GBV program staff;
  - Requests for virtual program support visits will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis;
- Participation in any surveys or interviews as part of API-GBV's overall program evaluation;
- Other visits, meetings, convenings, and trainings that may arise and provide beneficial tools and resources.

**Technical Assistance**

As national culturally specific resource centers on domestic violence and sexual assault, API-GBV and NAPIESV staff will be available to ARP subgrantees throughout the project period. ARP subgrantees will be provided:

- One-on-one, specialized technical assistance;
- Access to online training and educational resources;
- A virtual learning community and regular peer support meetings with ARP subgrantees in the program;
- Opportunity for all ARP subgrantees and ARP Support for Survivors Program staff to convene at least once in-person (if public health regulations permit) during the project period;
  - Please include $5,000 USD in your budget toward travel, lodging, meals and incidentals to attend the API-GBV national summit that we look forward to hosting in 2024, subject to approval;
- Guidance on reporting, evaluation, and special topics if needed.
API-GBV will also track and compile de-identified information (unless previously agreed upon by the ARP subgrantee) from select ARP subgrantee organizations about their experiences in implementing their community-based projects and use this information to inform a summary report of replicable strategies, approaches, and models that will be published and shared widely across API-GBV and NAPIESV networks.

**Informational Webinars**

API-GBV conducted two informational webinars on **Wednesday, November 9, 2022 at 2pm Pacific Standard Time** (PST) and **Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 9am PST** to share details about the application and selection process, eligibility, and deadlines. These recordings and slides are available to applicants on [API-GBV’s Resource Page](API-GBVs_Resource_Page). API-GBV also hosted a **Grant Writing 101** webinar on **Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 2pm PST** to provide potential applicants with information about the basics of grant writing as well as strategies in preparing the best proposal for subgrants under the DV/SA Capacity Building Fund. The recording and slides are available to applicants on [API-GBV’s Resource Page](API-GBVs_Resource_Page).

**Application Process**

Applicants must submit a proposal addressing the elements described below by **Friday, January 13, 2023 at 11:59pm Pacific Standard Time** through Coalition Manager.

To submit the proposal, applicants must:

1. Create a new **user account** through Coalition Manager [HERE](HERE)
2. Complete the required fields in the **online application** [HERE](HERE) (bookmark this link); and
3. Upload all attachments to Coalition Manager.

**Accommodations**

Please contact API-GBV at [arpsupport@api-gbv.org](arpsupport@api-gbv.org) if accommodations are needed to complete an application. For example, applicants may submit a proposal in the language of their choice. API-GBV staff will be available to assist applicants with submissions and will do our best to assist with your accommodation needs.

**Application Elements**

Please include the following information in the proposal:

*Section 1: Organizational Profile and Capacity (30 points)*

- Organization name, contact person, contact information;
• Whether the organization is DV, SA, or a dual program;
• Verification of nonprofit 501(c)(3) status or fiscal sponsorship;
  o Applicants must upload their 501(c)(3) determination letter or documentation
    confirming fiscal sponsor by a nonprofit with 501(c)(3) status with the IRS;
• Whether or not the organization has completed an audit in the past year (completion
  of an audit is not a requirement);
• The organizational annual budget;
• Number of current board members;
• Any association w/ API-GBV and/or NAPIESV as a board member, advisory committee
  member, or as a consultant;
• Subaward amount requested;
• Background of the community-based organization, which may include mission and
core values statements (if available), and the history of service and support rendered
to the organization’s community;
• History of working with survivors of DV and/or SA;
• Description of the AANHPI and/or ME community the applicant serves;
• Description of any past federal grant/subaward management experience if applicable
  (grant management experience is not a requirement)

Section 2: Need for the Project (10 points)

• Information about how DV/SA has impacted individuals and/or groups in the AANHPI
  and/or ME community;
• How has the COVID-19 public health emergency affected your program?
• Description of any history of collaboration with other organizations in the community,
  and the applicant’s relationship with the AANHPI and/or ME community and
  organizations generally;

Section 3: Project Proposal (40 points)

• Project Work Plan
  o Project goals and objectives;
  o Description of project activities;
  o List of key staff, including any potential partners if applicable, who will work on
    the project;
• Applicants may utilize a work plan template provided by API-GBV. View and download
  the template on API-GBV’s Resource Page;
• Please describe what your proposed project will do:
  o Please discuss the issues impacting DV/SA survivors in your community and
    what is your anticipated plan of action;
Please describe how your project will support survivors of DV/SA and their dependents and address the emergent needs of the COVID-19 public health emergency;

Please describe how your project will strengthen response efforts in the community;

Please describe the individuals and/or groups that the proposed project will focus on, such as a cultural/ethnic specific population, adults, youth, people with disabilities, or LGBTQ;

If there are any aspects of project innovation or creativity, please describe.

Section 4: Project Budget (20 points)

- Please submit a project budget and budget justification that demonstrates the total amount needed to accomplish the goals of the proposed project. The budget justification consists of a budget narrative and line-item budget detail that includes detailed calculation for categories provided in the budget template.
  - DV/SA Capacity Building Fund subawards will range between $100,000 - $300,000 in total costs. Applicants should feel free to determine the amount to be requested based on their proposed projects - we encourage applicants to apply for the full $300,000 if that is your preference;
  - This subaward does not require matching or cost sharing.
  - ARP subgrantees are allowed to charge indirect costs by using their approved negotiated indirect cost rate or the de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs.
- Applicants must use the budget template provided by API-GBV. Visit API-GBV’s Resource Page to view and download the budget template, which includes: Personnel, Fringe Benefits, Travel, Supplies, Contracts, and other line-item expenses.
- Applicants must complete the financial form provided by API-GBV. Visit API-GBV’s Resource Page to view and download the financial form.

Section 5: Letter of Support

- Applicants must submit at least one letter of support (maximum 3) from a community leader, other community-based organization, or community member who can speak to the applicant’s impact, reputation, and presence in the community they serve.

Section 6: Optional Video

- As a supplement to the written application, applicants may choose to also submit a video (maximum 10 minutes) providing information about their organization’s work, values, culture, and proposed project.

Attachments Checklist
Before submitting your application through Coalition Manager, you must upload the following attachments:

- 501(c)(3) determination letter or letter from fiscal sponsor with 501(c)(3) status
- Project work plan
- Job descriptions and resumes (if applicable) for each key staff
- Project budget and narrative
- Financial form
- Letter(s) of support (one required)
- Video file (i.e. .mp4, .mpg) or link (i.e., YouTube, Vimeo) (optional)

**Selection Process**

API-GBV and NAPIESV are committed to a fair, equitable and transparent review of applications using review committees composed internally of API-GBV staff and board members, NAPIESV staff, and externally with subject matter experts who have extensive experience working with AANHPI and ME communities in the U.S. The application review period will take place January 16-27, 2023.

Scoring will be based on Sections 1-4 of the application:

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<td>Section 2: Need for the Project</td>
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<td>Section 3: Project Proposal</td>
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<td>Section 4: Project Budget</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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The committee will review and assess applications for:

- Capacity to implement the project;
- Need for the project (i.e., how DV/SA and the COVID-19 public health emergency has impacted individuals, groups, and the community served by the applicant);
- Potential impact of the project (i.e., innovative approaches; targeting underserved and marginalized areas);
- Whether the proposed budget aligns with the proposed project activities;
- Qualifications and experiences of key individuals who will work on the project.

Applicants will be notified of the status of their application by February 3, 2023.
Federal Funding Requirements

ARP subgrantees are required to abide by the following federal funding requirements:

**Confidentiality**
Ensure that individual client identifiers (client records) are kept confidential. For more info about the required confidentiality requirements, view the links below:
U.S.C. Title 42 - THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE (govinfo.gov)

**Non-Discrimination**
Non-discrimination requirements based on race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, actual or perceived sex, gender identity, or actual or perceived sexual orientation. For more info about the non-discrimination requirements, view the link below:
eCFR: 45 CFR 1370.5 -- What additional non-discrimination requirements apply to these programs?

**Voluntary Services**
In accordance with FVPSA statute and regulations, services must be provided on a voluntary basis and no condition may be applied for the receipt of emergency shelter. For additional information about voluntary services, view the link below:
42 U.S. Code § 10408 - Subgrants and uses of funds | U.S. Code | US Law | LII / Legal Information Institute (cornell.edu)

**Eligibility Standards**
No income eligibility standard may be imposed upon individuals with respect to eligibility for assistance or services supported with FVPSA funds. No fees may be levied for assistance or services provided with FVPSA funds. For more info about eligibility standards, follow this link:
U.S.C. Title 42 - THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE (govinfo.gov)

Contact Information

For any questions or requests for assistance with the application, contact ARPsupport@api-gbv.org. For more information about the ARP Support for Survivors Program, visit www.api-gbv.org/arpsupport.

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