

SOUTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT
FUNDING REQUESTS**



SOUTH CAROLINA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE PROPOSAL

Total ask over 3 year period = **\$105,029,000**

- **\$76,160,000 for the Crime Victim Services Division**
 - **\$25.36 million per year**

- **\$1,405,000 for the Criminal Division**
 - **\$468,333 per year**

- **\$27,464,000 for the Human Trafficking Task Force**
 - **\$9,154,666 per year**



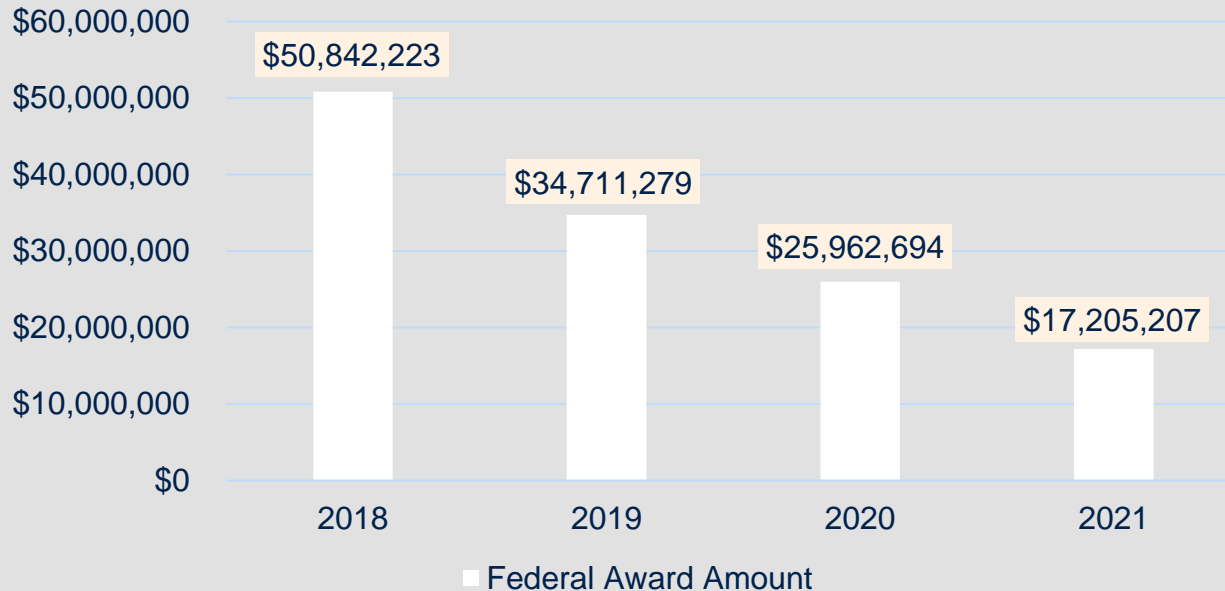
CRIME VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

- **Thousands of South Carolinians are harmed by violent crime each year, including domestic violence, sexual assault, murder and aggravated assault.**
- **Federal Victims Of Crime Act (VOCA) funding has been cut 66% (50.8m to 17.2m) since FFY2018 and is expected to decline further until late 2024.**
- **Due to the loss of revenue, the program has suffered a 30% reduction in critical full time positions (693 in 2018 v. 491 in 2021). Currently, the program funds 491 full time and 157 part time positions across the state.**



CRIME VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

VOCA AVAILABLE FUNDING AND AWARDS 2018-2021

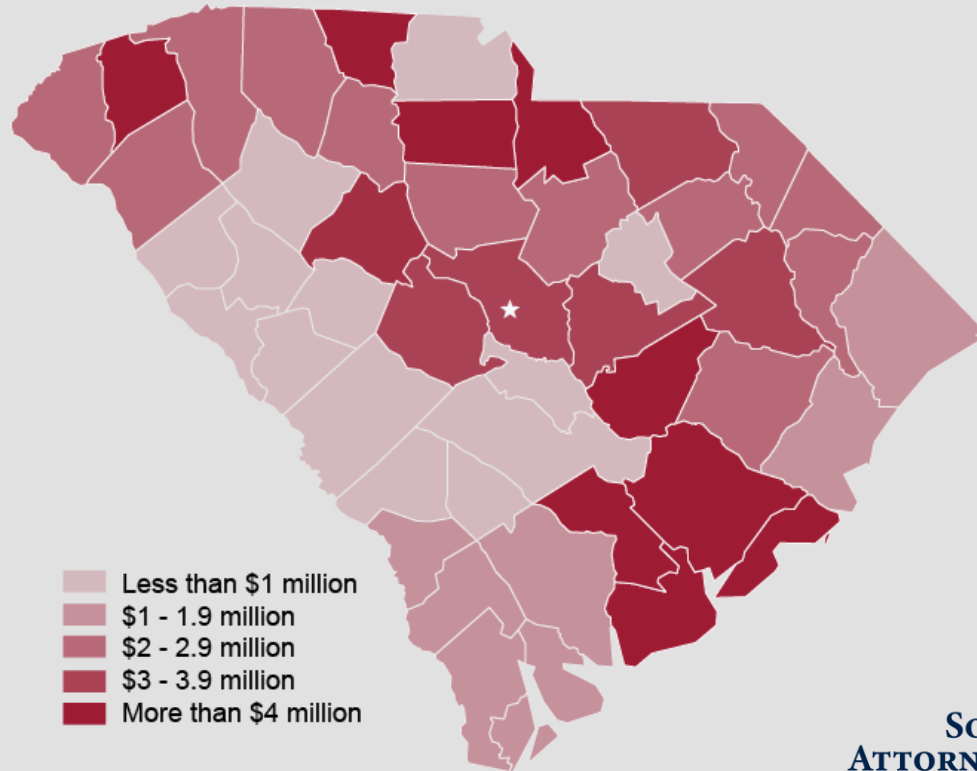


CRIME VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION

- This request seeks funding to maintain grants to local programs at FFY2018 levels for three years - \$25.36 million per year for three years for a total of \$76.1 million to provide critical services to crime victims.
- Hundreds of jobs will be saved and local programs will be maintained to help victims through the worst events of their lives. By the end of 2024, federal VOCA funding is expected to be restored through the Crime Victim Trust Fund.
- No duplication with requests from SCCADVASA and Children's Advocacy



VOCA FUNDS SERVING SOUTH CAROLINA COUNTIES



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CRIMINAL DIVISION

- **State Grand Jury (SGJ) continued to investigate and indict cases during COVID, however, a substantial number of those involved violent crimes from gangs and criminal narcotic conspiracies. To move this backlog of cases we need more prosecutors.**
- **COVID-19 hit the post-conviction relief (PCR) section hard. At least 20 terms of court were cancelled over nearly six months. Later social distancing and other pandemic-related guidelines made it difficult to resolve more complex cases. We need additional resources to resolve these cases and make up for the lost court time.**



CRIMINAL DIVISION

\$1,405,000 for the Criminal Division

- **\$720,000 (R) for 3 new Assistant Attorneys General in the State Grand Jury**
- **\$315,000 (R) for 2 new Assistant Attorneys General in Post Conviction Relief**
- **\$150,000 (R) for 1 new Legal Assistant/Paralegal in the State Grand Jury**
- **\$75,000 for technology based training**
- **\$60,000 for filing related expenses with capital cases at the U.S. Supreme Court**
- **\$60,000 for office infrastructure upgrades (cubicles, etc.)**
- **\$25,000 for technology upgrades in the State Grand Jury conference room to allow videoconferencing.**

HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

- Difficulty identifying victims due to isolation and seclusion
- Increased online recruitment of victims (mainly children)
- Increased vulnerability to trafficking due to financial instability and job security
- Too few beds for survivors and victims of Human Trafficking (10 total beds statewide for minor female victims only)
- Too few qualified providers to meet demand
- 40% increase nationally in HT cases in month after state's shelter-in-place closings.
 - Online sex trafficking saw an increase of 45% during the pandemic.



HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

\$27,464,000 total fund over a 3 year period

\$4,122,000 in SCAG assets (over 3 year period)

\$3,342,000 in Law Enforcement assets (over 3 year period)

\$20,000,000 for Acute Care and Resource Centers (over 3 year period)



HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

\$4,122,000 (over 3 years) for SCAG Office

- **\$2,532,000 (R) for 14 new staff for the task force, including an attorney, a paralegal, a victim advocate, program coordinator and research analyst**
- **\$90,000 (R) for staff training**
- **\$180,000 (R) for training coordinated by staff**
- **\$90,000 (R) for annual auto leases**
- **\$30,000 (R) for travel**
- **\$600,000 for office space**
- **\$450,000 for supplies and technology**
- **\$150,000 for Outreach/Prevention Education in Schools**

HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

\$3,342,000 for Law Enforcement Officers

Law Enforcement assets (over 3 year period)

- > \$1,440,000 for 4 Human Trafficking Investigators**
- > \$1,320,000 for 4 Law Enforcement Victim Advocate (LEVA) Agents**
- > \$240,000 Data Analyst**
- > \$150,000 Administrative Assistant**
- > \$150,000 Software/Technology**
- > \$42,000 Training and Awareness**

PROPOSED ACUTE CARE AND RESOURCE CENTER SERVICES

\$20,000,000 (over 3 year period)

ACUTE CARE

- **Immediate residential needs (boys and girls)**
- **Crisis stabilization**
- **Forensic interview and exam**
- **Psychological assessment**
- **Substance use screening**
- **Multidisciplinary Team Approach**
- **Adequate safety and security measures**

RESOURCE CENTER

- **Strategic Response Coordinator**
- **SLED Special Agent**
- **SLED Victim Advocate**
- **Fusion Center Analyst**
- **Social Workers and Case Managers**
- **Children's Advocacy Center Partnership(s)**
- **Offices, meeting/training space, and exam rooms**

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SC HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE

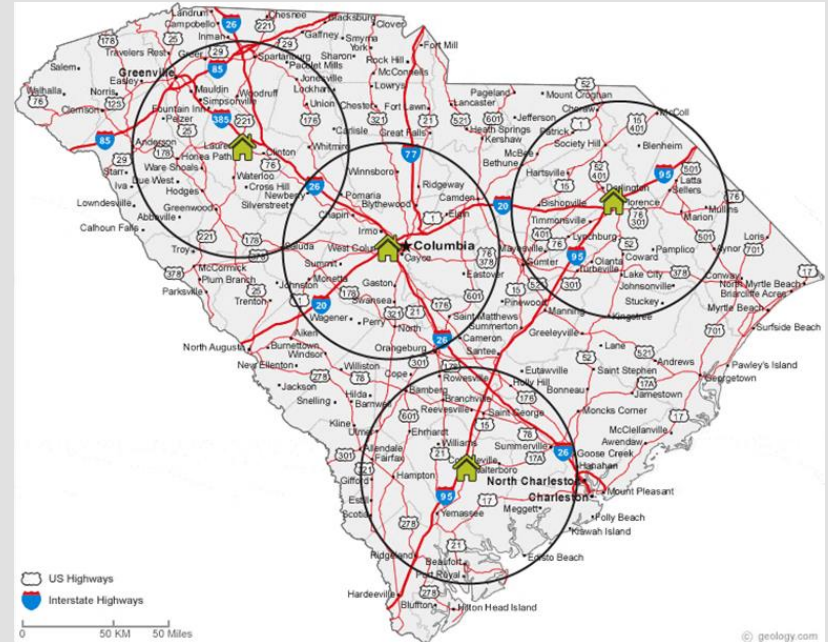
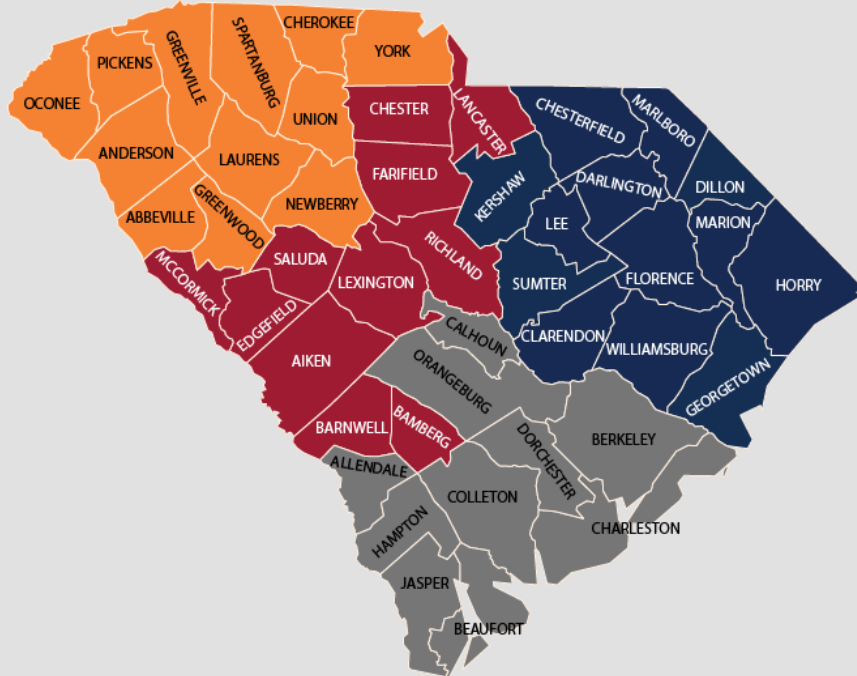


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HUMAN TRAFFICKING OF MINORS IN SC

- **138 children**
 - **128 Sex Trafficking (92.8%)**
 - **5 Labor Trafficking (3.6%)**
 - **5 Both Sex and Labor (3.6%)**
- **Female (118), Male (19) and Unknown (1)**
 - **12-15 (67 – 48.6%)**
 - **16-19 (52 – 37.7%)**
 - **8-11 (12 – 8.7%)**
 - **4-7 (5 – 3.6%)**
 - **Birth-3 (2 – 1.4%)**
- **Midlands**
 - **50 Child Victims**
- **Low Country**
 - **36 Children**
- **Upstate**
 - **37 Children**
- **Pee Dee**
 - **15 Children**

PROPOSAL FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACUTE CARE AND RESOURCE CENTER HUBS



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