

WORKING WITH UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES AND ADDRESSING THE CULTURALLY SPECIFIC SET-ASIDE

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DEFINITION OF UNDERSERVED

- Defined in VAWA
- Umbrella term
- Conflating underserved and culturally specific
- Need for synchronicity across sections of the plan

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DEFINING “UNDERSERVED”

- Underserved populations who face barriers in accessing and using victim services
  - Geographic location
  - Religion
  - Sexual orientation
  - Gender identity
  - Race and ethnicity
  - Special needs (e.g., language, disabilities, alienage status, age)

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DEFINING "CULTURALLY SPECIFIC"

- Culturally specific: directed toward racial and ethnic minority groups
  - American Indians (including Alaska Natives, Eskimos, and Aleuts)
  - Asian Americans
  - Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders
  - Blacks
  - Hispanics

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CULTURALLY SPECIFIC SET-ASIDE

- Requirement
  - 10% is the *floor* and not the *ceiling*
  - Funding culturally specific organizations should not keep a state/territory from funding population specific organizations
  - Culturally specific organization, population specific, or mainstream?

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HOW TO DIVERSIFY THE POOL OF APPLICANTS

- Identification (data, OVW TA Providers)
- Outreach
- Takes time
- Coalitions are not the voice of underserved
- Goal is not always funding

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RFP

- How does the RFP address the culturally specific set-aside
- What is being done to increase the number of applications from culturally specific organizations?
- What is being done to increase confidence of these organizations?
- What is being done to increase the competitiveness of culturally specific organizations?

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