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## **LEPC Opens Federal Crime Victim Services Grant Opportunity in U.S. Virgin Islands**

**The LEPC will begin accepting proposals March 18 for FY24 Victims of Crime Act Formula Grant funding, with nonprofit victim service providers and government agencies eligible to apply for support aimed at helping crime victims recover from victimization.**

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The Virgin Islands Law Enforcement Planning Commission has announced a new funding opportunity through the FY 2024 federal Victims of Crime Act Formula Grant program, opening the application period on Wednesday, March 18, 2026 and setting a submission deadline of Friday, May 8, 2026.

According to the March 16 announcement, LEPC is making the funding available through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Victims of Crime. The grants are being offered to nonprofit victim service entities and government agencies to provide direct services designed to help victims recover from victimization.

The range of services eligible for support includes crisis counselling, follow-up services, therapy, group treatment and support, shelter or safe house assistance, information and referral services, personal advocacy, help with filing for crime victim compensation, criminal justice support and advocacy, and emergency legal advocacy. LEPC noted that the list is not all inclusive.

The release explained that the VOCA funding was established by the Crime Victims Fund in 1984 and serves as a repository for federal criminal fines, penalty assessments and bond forfeitures collected by U.S. Attorney's Offices and U.S. courts from federal offenders. Under the program, those convicted federal offenders help fund critical services for victims of child abuse, child sexual abuse, including incest, drunken driving, domestic violence, adult sexual assault, fraud, financial exploitation, kidnapping and other violent crimes.

LEPC said all awards are subject to the availability of funds. The commission, acting as the State Administering Agency, said it reserves the right to award as many subgrants as it deems necessary and to determine appropriate funding levels.

The commission also laid out a list of required documents for nonprofit organizations seeking funding. Applicants must include a valid Unique Entity ID number, registration on SAM.gov, a Certificate of Incorporation, an IRS Determination Letter regarding 501(c)3 status, Articles of Incorporation, and a current Certificate of Good Standing from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

LEPC said failure to submit all required documents by the deadline will result in disqualification for funding.

Grant applications must be submitted electronically to [rfp.responses@lepc.vi.gov](mailto:rfp.responses@lepc.vi.gov) no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 8, 2026.

For an application or additional information, LEPC directed interested parties to contact Carmen Potter, executive assistant to the director, by email at [carmen.potter@lepc.vi.gov](mailto:carmen.potter@lepc.vi.gov).