

# Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council

Post Office Box 256  
Nixon, Nevada 89424  
Telephone: (775) 574-1000  
Fax (775) 574-1054

**RESOLUTION NO.: PL 064-23**

OVW FY23 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program Grant

## Resolution of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation Nixon, Nevada

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**WHEREAS,** the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, is organized pursuant to the provisions of Section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act, (25 U.S.C. 476) and is Federally recognized by the United States Government through the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate with federal, state and local governments; and

**WHEREAS,** the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women is accepting proposals for projects to assist victims of sexual assault and those collaterally affected under the FY 2023 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program; and

**WHEREAS,** the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe seeks to continue to provide services and activities to victims/survivors on the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation through its Victim Services Program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council hereby approves, supports, and authorizes the submittal of the application for the FY 2023 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program in the allocated amount of \$500,000 and that the Tribal Council is committed toward the services and programs for victims on the Reservation; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** the Pyramid Lake Tribal Council authorizes the Tribal Chairman or designee to negotiate and sign all grant awards and other future administrative documents necessary for project award and implementation.

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### C E R T I F I C A T I O N

It is hereby certified that the foregoing resolution of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council, the governing body of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, composed of ten members of whom seven (7) constituting a quorum, were contacted during a poll vote duly held on the 1-3 day of May 2023, and that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the affirmative vote of six (6) for; zero (0) against; zero (0) abstention; pursuant to the authority contained in the Constitution and By-Laws of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.



Brenda A. Henry, Tribal Council Secretary  
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council



# *Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe*

*Post Office Box 256  
Nixon, Nevada 89424  
Telephone: (775) 574-1000  
Fax (775) 574-1008*

May 1, 2023

Ms. Allison Randall, Director  
Office on Violence Against Women  
145 N Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Randall:

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe certifies that any funds received through the **OVW FY 2023 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program** will be used to supplement, not supplant, existing non-federal funds that otherwise would be available for activities under the award. The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe understands that supplanting violations can result in a range of penalties, including suspension of future funds under this program, suspension or debarment from federal grants, recoupment of monies provided under this grant, and civil and/or criminal penalties.

Sincerely,



James J. Phoenix, Tribal Chairman  
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe



# PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBAL COUNCIL

PO Box 256  
Nixon, NV 89424  
775.574.1000 | Fax 775.574.1054

## Certification Letter

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council approved the following poll vote request on May 3, 2023.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Brenda A. Henry, Tribal Council Secretary

*BA* The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal Council **APPROVED** the submission of the OVW FY23 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program Grant with Resolution in the amount of \$500,000. Votes were **6** for; 0 opposed with 0 abstentions. Poll vote is still open for all members to vote, majority vote allows for invoice to be processed.

**End of Line** \_\_\_\_\_





Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe •  
**GRANTS SUMMARY SHEET**

**General Grant/Contract Information**

Fund Code No. 401-5 CFDA No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Award No. O-OVW-2023-171513  
 Grant Name: OVW FY 2023 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program  
 Grantor Name: Office on Violence Against Women, Department of Justice  
 Tribal Dept.: Victim Services Program  
 START Date: 10/01/2023 END Date: 09/30/2026

**Grant & Match Funding Information**

Award Amount:	<u>\$500,000</u>		
Cash Match Amount:	<u>0</u>	Source of Cash Match	<u>0</u>
In-Kind Match Amount:	<u>0</u>	Total Match Amount	<u>0</u>
IDC Short Fall in \$	<u>0</u>	IDC Shortfall in \$:	<u>0</u>

**Total Cost to Tribe**

Tribal Cash Match 0  
 IDC Shortfall 0  
 Amount Needed From Tribal Funds: 0

**If >0.00 needs Council Approval**

ID source(s) of all Matches and IDC Shortfall: \_\_\_\_\_

(Identify applicable fund codes for cash matches; detail how In-Kind is matched/documented)

**Grant Restrictions (funding availability, IDC limitations, etc.)**

Brief Detail/Nature of the Restriction

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\*Attach additional Details if needed

**Funding Agency Key Contact List**

Project Officer/Manager Contact: Sydney West, Grants Management Specialist, (202)305-5447  
 Financial/Grants Official Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Team Reviewed

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**E-Team Review Needed prior to Presentation to Council**

Council Approval Required:

Yes   
 No

Council Approval Received:

Resolution #: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

**Signatures:**

[Signature]  
 Director  
[Signature]  
 Department Head  
[Signature]  
 Chairman

[Signature]  
 Contracts and Grants  
[Signature]  
 Comptroller





**Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Victim Services Program  
OVW Fiscal Year 2023 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program Grant Application  
O-OVW-2023-171514**

**ABSTRACT**

Through the **Enhancing Services for Victims of Sexual Assault Project**, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe through the Victim Services Program is proposing to improve outreach, services, and support for survivors of sexual assault for our underserved victims in our tribal communities, regardless of their sexual orientation.

The project will continue and enhance services for all victims of sexual assault (children and adults), their families and those who have been collaterally affected by the victimization (except the perpetrator). The project will provide direct and supportive services to the tribe's three communities (Sutcliffe, Nixon, and Wadsworth) and tribal members living off the reservation in the nearby communities. Other referrals may be received from the outlying cities and towns for non-tribal member victims.

Under this project, the tribe seeks to continue providing crisis intervention, culturally appropriate advocacy, accompaniment (court, medical, police, etc.) support services, individual counseling for victims of sexual assault, non-offending family and household members and those who are collaterally affected by the sexual victimization (except perpetrator) and other related assistance for the victims and survivors of sexual assault.

This project will provide assistance to a broad range of survivors of sexual assault perpetrated by a non-intimate partner (e.g., victims of sex trafficking, who have also experienced sexual assault, adults abused as children, male survivors, child and youth

survivors, and adults sexually assaulted by non-intimate partner, such as a stranger, neighbor, family member, or coworker).

The counselor and sexual assault advocate have connected with various Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribal departments and programs and local native and non-native agencies to build a comprehensive coordinated response for victims and survivors. The proposal's next step is to strengthen and enhance the coordinated response.

One full-time Sexual Assault Advocate will give 100% their time to provide direct services and to ensure that the goals and objectives of the grant are completed. The Counselor will be under this project 25% of her time (10 hours weekly) to oversee the advocate and ensure counseling is being offered to the victims and collaterally affected victims. The Assistant will be under this project 25% of her time (10 hours weekly) to provide assistance in creation of materials and organization of outreach events. This project would allow the tribe to continue to provide sexual assault services to meet the needs of the community.

There will be two brochures developed which will identify services that will be provided to victims and another that will identify services for those that have been collaterally affected. The brochures will also identify the impacts the crime of sexual assault has on its victims.

The progress and measuring of goals and objectives will be documented in monthly Tribal Council Reports as well as documentation in newsletters and the required Department of Justice Semi-Annual Progress Reports.

**OVW FY 2023 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program**

**A. Personnel**

<b>Crystal Keever, Sexual Assault Advocate</b>			
Rate	Hours	%	COLA
\$ 18.55	2080	100%	106%
\$ 19.48	2080	100%	106%
\$ 20.45	2080	100%	106%
			\$ 128,936.70
<b>Erin Dunagan, Counselor</b>			
Rate	Hours	%	COLA
\$ 24.78	2080	25%	106%
\$ 26.02	2080	25%	106%
\$ 27.32	2080	25%	106%
			\$ 43,059.74
<b>Administrative Assistant</b>			
Rate	Hours	%	COLA
\$ 17.70	2080	25%	106%
\$ 18.49	2080	25%	106%
\$ 19.52	2080	25%	106%
			\$ 30,707.35
			<b>A. Total \$ 202,704</b>
			Requested Budget

**Sexual Assault Advocate** will devote 100% of her time to the proposed project. The Advocate will continue to provide culturally appropriate direct services to those who have been sexually assaulted and offer support services to those who have collaterally affected (except the perpetrator).

**Counselor** will devote 25% of her time to oversee the Tribal Sexual Assault Program; ensure goals and objectives are completed within a

timely manner; collect data and submit required reports; provide individual counseling for victims of sexual assault; and when requested, the Counselor will provide individual and/or group counseling for those collaterally affected by the sexual assault victimization (except for the perpetrator).

**Administrative Assistant** will work 10 hours weekly (25%) providing clerical assistance to the project, including coordination of files, developing informational packets, and preparing correspondence. The position will coordinate with the Coordinator, Shelter Advocate, and Counselor to ensure completion of the project.

**B. Fringe**

Staff			
\$ 202,703.80	15.00%		\$ 30,405.57
		\$ 30,406	
		Requested	
		Budget	

**B. Fringe**

<b>Crystal Keever</b>			
Rate	Months	%	
\$ 993.66	36	100%	\$ 35,771.76
\$ 20.00	36	100%	\$ 720.00
\$ 128,936.70		3%	\$ 3,868.10

**Erin Dunagan**

Rate	Months	%	
\$ 993.66	36	25%	\$ 8,942.94
\$ 20.00	36	25%	\$ 180.00
\$ 43,059.74		3%	\$ 1,291.79

**Admin Assist**

Rate	Months	%	
\$ 993.66	36	25%	\$ 8,942.94
\$ 20.00	36	25%	\$ 180.00

\$ 30,707.35	3%	\$ 921.22
<b>\$ 60,819</b>		<b>\$ 91,224</b>
Requested		Budget

Fringe Benefits are calculated using two formulas. The first formula covers percentage-based costs 15% (FICA- Social Security, Medicare, Unemployment Insurance, and Workman’s Comp). The second formula includes monthly costs for Individual Health Insurance, Dental and Vision- \$993.66; Life Insurance, \$20. It is calculated by the percentage of time staff are under the project. The third formula covers retirement at 3% of wages.

**C. Travel**

Rate	# PPL	# Trips	Days/Nig	Miles
1 \$ 650.00	4	7		\$ 18,200.00
2 \$ 120.00	4	7	3	\$ 10,080.00
3 \$ 60.00	4	7	4	\$ 6,720.00
4 \$ 0.655	1	36	26.8	\$ 631.94

<b>\$ 35,632</b>	<b>\$ 35,632</b>
Requested	Budget

**\$35,000** has been allocated towards the OVW mandated technical assistance and training funds has been allocated to cover the staff of the tribe in accordance with program guidelines. The sites of the training sessions are unknown at this time. Line 1- Airfare; Line 2- Motel; 3- Meals.

**\$1,061** has been allocated to provide funding for mileage, when a program vehicle is unavailable. The funds will assist staff to carry-out business under the project. (Mileage roundtrip to Reno/Sparks area from our communities can range from 74 miles to 120 miles round-trip). The current approved GSA rate of \$.655 is being used.

**D. Equipment**

N/A

Projected:

\$	-	
\$	-	<b>D. Total</b>
Requested		\$ -
Budget		

**E. Supplies**

General Office Supplies			
Rate	Months	%	
\$ 100.00	36	100%	\$ 3,600.00
Postage			
Rate	Months	%	
\$ 25.00	36	100%	\$ 900.00
Desktop Computer			
Rate	Months	%	
\$ 2,500.00	1.5	100%	\$ 3,750.00
Cultural Supplies			
Rate	QTR	%	
\$ 200.00	12	100%	\$ 2,400.00
Outreach Supplies			
Rate	Events	%	
\$ 2,000.00	6	100%	\$ 12,000.00
<b>E. Total</b>			<b>\$ 22,650</b>
Requested			Budget

**General Office Supplies** for project personnel (Counselor, Shelter Advocate, Coordinator, and Administrative Assistant) are provided for consumable products including pens, paper, etc., needed to conduct basic office functions (correspondence, reporting, etc.) Costs are based on estimated needs and are provided by similar size/type of tribal department. When employees request supplies, the costs are expended directly from the project grant, when the item is specifically for one of the project staff. If the supply is a general office supply, the cost is split between funding projects.

**Postage Costs** are to send out notices for community meetings, educational trainings and workshops, project partner correspondence

(Counselor, Shelter Advocate, Coordinator, and Administrative Assistant) , submitting required grant reports, referrals to service agencies for victim services, counseling session notices, and for general program correspondence. Costs are based on amounts incurred by tribal programs of similar size/design. The costs are expended directly from the project grant, when the item is specifically for the project. The cost is split between funding projects.

**Cultural Supplies** are for the operation of the sweat lodge. Voluntary sessions will be held on a monthly basis (additional ceremonies are held, for victims and their families when requested). In addition, craft supplies will be purchased for group sessions, which will allow program participants a therapeutic activity.

**Outreach Supplies** are to provide funds for materials and outreach publications. We anticipate eight community events occurring every year: Stalking Awareness, Teen Dating Violence Awareness, Sexual Assault Awareness, Domestic Violence Awareness, Sacred Visions Pow-wow, Sumunumu Social Pow-wow, Health Fair, and Honoring Our Families. Costs are for the purchase of t-shirts with program information on them and water bottles that will be handed out during outreach activities.

**Desktop Computers** with programs will be purchased for the staff under this project's funds. The cost of \$2,500 was received from our IT Department.

**F. Construction**

N/A

\$	-		F. Total	\$	-
			Requested		
			Budget		

**G. Consultant/Contracts**

\$	650.00	4	2	\$	5,200.00
\$	500.00	1	2	\$	1,000.00
\$	135.00	3	2	\$	810.00
\$	64.00	4	1	\$	512.00

**G. Total** \$ 7,522

\$	7,522	Requested
		Budget

**Service Providers Training on Empowering Victims/Survivors** costs are for consultants to conduct two training events (2nd and 3rd year of the award) on the Reservation, during the project years. Each training event will be held for one full day and scheduled for two training days. Participants will be able to attend the session that will accommodate their schedule. The training will provide service providers information on the impacts of victimization and how to better serve victims in order to empower them. Rates are based on the approved GSA rates for Reno, NV, where the consultants would be staying. Airfare is based on an average estimate. The program will go through the Technical Assistance provider under this award for recommended trainers.

**H. Other**

Victim Assistance	Rate	#People	Quantity	
Deposit	\$ 1,400.00	1	10	\$ 14,000.00
Rent	\$ 1,400.00	1	10	\$ 14,000.00

Transportation Assistance	Rate	#People	Months	
	\$ 30.00	1	36	\$ 1,080.00

Emergency Food/Clothing	Rate	#People	Quantity	
	\$ 100.00	1	12	\$ 1,200.00

Total Assistance Money \$ 30,280.00

AT&T Rate	Months	%	
\$ 540	36	25%	\$ 4,860.00

Employee	Rate	Months	%
Counselor	\$ 60.00	36	25%
V Advocate	\$ 60.00	36	100%
			\$ 2,160.00

Utility	Rate	Months	%
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Garbage	\$	35.00	36	25%	\$	315.00
Ferrellgas	\$	400.00	36	25%	\$	3,600.00
NV Energy	\$	300.00	36	25%	\$	2,700.00
R&M Building			QTR			
	\$	250.00	12	25%	\$	750.00
Office Security	\$	125.00	12	25%	\$	375.00
R&M Vehicle	\$	1,500.00	3	25%	\$	1,125.00
Vehicle Fuel	\$	1,000.00	3		\$	3,000.00
Copier Costs	\$	150.00	36	25%	\$	1,350.00
Food	\$	30.00	36		4	\$ 4,320.00

**Office Phone** costs are associated with the phone lines in the Victim Services Program Office. The phone service allows the program and victims access to the services as well as to provide a number to access services on a 24-hour emergency basis. Costs are based on the total number of employees under this project that are housed in the program office (25% of the actual costs of the prior year's rates).

**Office Utilities** are for the Victim Services Program Office and are based on actual expenses incurred last year. The costs are for 15% of the actual annual expense. The Victim Services Office provides space for the Coordinator, Counselor, Shelter Advocate, and Administrative Assistant. The 25% is derived of the total percentage between all staff and staff's percentage of time under this project. **Office Building Maintenance** costs are for the upkeep of the Victim Services Program Office (heating, cooling, and yard maintenance). The 25% is derived of the total percentage between all staff and staff's percentage of time under this project. **Office Security** costs is based on actual costs and are for 15% of the actual cost.

**Copier Lease** is a cost to cover the copier lease costs. The copier is necessary to provide copies of documents, faxes, informational brochures/flyers, and scanning of documents. The 25% was derived from the total staff using the copier and the time staff are obligated to this project.

**Vehicle Fuel** is a cost associated with the purchase of fuel for the program vehicles, in order for staff under this proposed project to carry out the goals and objectives of this award. Victims who do not have access to transportation will be provided transportation to the

following: Court, medical appointments, on and off-Reservation resources, and to grocery outlets.

**Vehicle Maintenance** costs are to maintain the program vehicles.

**Food** costs are associated with the support groups that will be held for victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking, in order to provide refreshments for the attendees and their children.

**Emergency Gas Certificates** are costs associated with victims who have their own transportation and need fuel to attend the support groups. This assistance will allow access to the support groups.

**Emergency Food Vouchers** are costs associated with short-term emergency assistance to assist a victim in crisis and is based on the individual's situation (food stamps pending, financial abuse, etc). \$50 will be provided to assist a household of one and \$100 will be used in households greater than one to three people. \$150 for households of four or more.

**Emergency Motel Placements** are costs associated with emergency placements in motels, when the shelter is full, or the placement in the shelter would not be appropriate, due to safety.

Operational Costs: \$ 25,095.00      **H. Total \$ 55,375**

**Total Direct Costs \$ 415,107**

I. Indirect Cost

Total Costs	Less FTC			
\$ 415,107	\$ 30,280	\$ 384,827	22.06%	\$ 84,893
				<b>I. Total \$ 84,893</b>

In 2022, Indirect Costs are based on 22.06% of the eligible Direct Costs less Flow Thru Funds and is based on an approved negotiated agreement between the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, the U.S. Department of Interior, and the office of the Inspector General, approved on June 14, 2021.

**Total Costs: \$ 500,000**

**OVW FY 2023 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program**

**Budget Summary**

<u>Budget Category</u>	
A. Personnel	\$ 202,704
B. Fringe	\$ 91,224
C. Travel	\$ 35,632
D. Equipment	\$ -
E. Supplies	\$ 22,650
F. Construction	\$ -
G. Consultant/Contracts	\$ 7,522
H. Other	\$ 55,375
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$ 415,107</b>
I. Indirect Costs	\$ 84,893
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>
<hr/>	
<b>FEDERAL REQUEST:</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>



**Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Victim Services Program  
 OVW Fiscal Year 2023 Tribal Sexual Assault Services Program Grant Application  
 O-OVW-2023-171514**

**PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSAL**

**Need for the Project**

**Service Area**

Under the **Enhancing Services for Victims of Sexual Assault Project**, the communities which will be impacted are located on the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation. The following table reflects the on-reservation and off-reservation population of tribal members (Pyramid Lake Enrollment Office provided the numbers as of March 20, 2023):

<b>Community</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>
Nixon	436	211	225
Sutcliffe	115	58	57
Wadsworth	734	404	330
<b>Total On-Reservation</b>	<b>1,285</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>612</b>
Off Reservation	1,717	866	851
<b>Total Enrolled</b>	<b>3,002</b>	<b>1,539</b>	<b>1,463</b>

The Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation is located in Nevada and has three rural communities within its boundaries: Sutcliffe (30 miles north of Sparks, NV), Nixon (47 miles northeast of Sparks, NV), and Wadsworth (30 miles east of Sparks, NV).

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe (herein after known as "Tribe") proposes to provide increased access to OVW programming for specific underserved populations through this continuation project. The underserved population in our area is the Native Americans, individuals with disabilities, older adults, and LGBTQ+ two-spirit, with limited or no income available. The reasons this population remains underserved can be attributed to the

following: rural area, availability of safe affordable housing, transportation, employment, and education.

The proposed project will serve residents of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation. The Reservation is located thirty-five miles northeast of Reno, Nevada, encompassing 742 square miles in a rural desert area. According to 2016 US Census Bureau data, there are approximately 1,580 individuals living on the Reservation, with a reported Median Age of 33.9 years. The population is predominantly Native American (72%), with the remainder of the population being White (25%) and other ethnicities (3%). Intergenerational poverty permeates the Reservation. According to 2016 US Census Bureau data, 28% of residents live in economic poverty. More than 24% of households reported income levels of \$14,999 or less in 2016. Rural and isolated, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe maintains a 44% unemployment rate.

Spanning three counties, including Washoe, Storey, and Lyon, the vast majority of Limited English Proficient individuals in this region speak Spanish. According to the Limited English Proficient (LEP) Mapping Tool, Washoe County has 36,628 LEP residents, and 78% of those primarily speak Spanish. While Storey County has less than 1,000 LEP residents, neighboring Lyon County reports 2,258 non-English speakers, and 87% speak Spanish. On the Reservation itself, the LEP population represents less than 2% of residents.

### **Problem of Sexual Assault in Our Communities**

Many tribal members hold the belief that sexual contact is very personal and private. When a sexual violation occurs, it impacts the spirit. The self-blame and shame

can prevent the person from coming forward. In order for them to come forward, they need to feel safe and not judged on what they were or weren't doing at the time of the sexual assault. In addition to this, jurisdictional issues can arise depending on where the victimizations occur.

One example that the author of this application can provide is telling the story of a woman who has sexually assaulted. The victim of the assault was very withdrawn and was visibly avoiding eye contact from people. When the assault was divulged, she was taken to the County Sheriff's Office to file a report. When the deputies asked what we were there for, the victim hesitantly explained to them what had occurred. The moment that it was mentioned it happened at a bar, the deputies both rolled their eyes. The amount of regret she had in her eyes and the guilt I felt for putting her in this place of judgement was very overwhelming.

It turned out the location of where the assault had occurred was in the city's jurisdiction so the police department had been contacted and an officer came to conduct the interview for the report. As I waited in the lobby, our family member who worked at the Sheriff's Department as a Sheriff's Deputy walked in the front door. The deputies greeted him and when he saw me sitting there he said "Hey, what are you doing...here?" As I was telling him, I could see the deputies' facial expression change to that of shock.

When the interview concluded, the officer walked her out to the lobby. His concern for her was evident and he let her know a detective would be contacting her. As we were getting ready to leave, the deputies that initially greeted us with judgmental expressions

let her know that they hope everything works out for her. I believe it took them to see her as a relative of one of their own to make her human.

Personal beliefs could possibly not only impact a response of how a victim is treated but can also jeopardize their safety. With sexual violence being such a demeaning and dehumanizing act, if you are LGBTQ+ two-spirit it could deter the victim's desire to come forward for assistance. In a recent conversation, a service provider had stated that she felt if they (victims) were gay and sexually assaulted, it would be their own fault. The conversation ended up getting now where other than letting the provider know you treat the person as you would any sexual assault with compassion and respect.

Additional support of family and household members of sexual assault victims is needed. While VSP provides services such as peer support, we currently do not have support groups that have been established for those that have been sexually assaulted as well as those collaterally affected. Support for both the victim as well as the family is important. If there is no support for the people closest to the victim, responding to the victims needs can be overwhelming for the family, when they see their loved one suffering from depression due to the trauma. When a victim withdraws due to depression, the family feels helpless in their efforts to support the victim.

### **Local Data**

In 2022, the Victim Services Program provided services to 46 new cases of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking victims. Of the 46 new cases, there were a total of 16 cases that reported sexual assault being committed against them (10 of which also reported domestic violence and four reported stalking also



occurring). 14 were Native American, one (1) was Hispanic; and, one (1) was Caucasian. The age groups were as follows: 0-12 years old- one (1) person; 13-17 years old- three (3) people; 18-24 years old- one (1) person; and, 25-59 years old, 11. Perpetrators were under the following categories: Current/Former Spouse- seven (7); Acquaintance- two (2); Current/Former Dating Relationship- three (3); and, Family Household Member- four (4). 15 victims were from a rural area and 16 children and three (3) adults were collaterally affected by these assaults. Of the 16 cases that reported sexual assault, 10 of the victims (63%) initially reported domestic violence as their primary victimization. This number demonstrates how hesitant victims are about disclosing that they have been sexually abused. It is difficult for them to talk about their intimate partner being sexually abusive.

### **Culturally Specific Sexual Assault Training and TA Resources Needed**

Since this award is specifically addressing sexual assault, the Tribe and the Victim Services Program feels that training provided under this award and the technical assistance that would be provided would be very beneficial to our program and our communities. Maintaining a dedicated position in the program (Sexual Assault Advocate) who could respond to these delicate cases (whether the victim wants to report the case to law enforcement or not) would provide the support necessary for the victim.

During the 17<sup>th</sup> Indian Nations Conference, I had the opportunity to hear Lenny Hayes speak, I really appreciated hearing, *"It's very important that your staff. your people, get trained in what understanding what two spirit Native LGBTQ people are; who we are what we do. We're not bad people. It was colonization that took that identity away from us. We were looked up on as spiritual beings but today we are looked upon as sexual*

*beings.*” Ongoing training is necessary to gain an understanding that beliefs have changed through colonization.

### **Resources Currently Available**

Services currently available to the target populations that will be served by the project:

- **PLPT Victim Services** has provided direct services for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe since 1998, and currently provides emergency shelter, food, transportation, clothing, transitional housing, legal advocacy, court accompaniment, referrals to other resources, and peer counseling for victims of Abuse. Victim Services has also implemented a holistic approach by screening victims for eligibility into transitional housing, referrals for counseling services, and information on spiritual services such as sweat lodges and local churches. The program will continue to provide these services and collaborate with other service agencies and departments to ensure clients are receiving individualized services that best meet their needs. .
- **PLPT Tribal Court** provides a safe forum for survivors to apply for and receive temporary and permanent orders of protection and other court services. In accordance with a victim-centered approach, survivors are recognized as stakeholders within the criminal justice system. Court personnel will also provide referrals and assistance with self-help legal forms as needed, and lines of communication to probation officers who supervise the offenders. Court staff will complete trainings led by Victim Services Program.

- **PLPT Health Clinic** provides referrals and distribution of information to survivors of Abuse who may choose to be seen for their injuries and related health concerns but do not necessarily choose to contact the Police Department to report the Abuse. The PLPT Health Clinic also provides substance abuse and mental health services through the Sumunumu Program.
- **PLPT Human Services** provides referrals to Lead Agency as they encounter survivors of abuse. The program provides survivors of Abuse with information regarding resources that are currently available within the local community and Northern Nevada.
- **PLPT Police Department** is responsible for the investigation and detention of offenders, and is essential in ensuring that survivors feel safe while their offenders are held accountable for their actions. The Police Department officers will be proactive in assisting and referring Abuse survivors with referrals to Lead Agency and will help coordinate investigations and propose sanctions for prosecution wherever possible. The department will participate in case reviews and analysis which may lead to improved prosecutions, agency response and officer understanding of the Tribe's domestic violence issues.
- **Sexual Assault Forensic Exams** are not conducted in our health clinic. They are conducted in the Children's Advocacy Center or the Northern Nevada Hospital, in the Reno/Sparks, Nevada area.

### **What Will Be Done**

The Program will accomplish the following goals and objectives:

<b>Goal 1: Conduct on-site trainings to victim service providers to increase their knowledge regarding how the crime of sexual assault impacts the community and how to better serve victims/survivors.</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Related Activities</b>
<b>Objective 1.A Provide three trainings to providers</b>	Consultants will be brought to the reservation to provide training to our reservation victim service providers.
<i>Need(s) Activity Responds To: To effectively provide training in order for providers to provide appropriate responses and care for victims/survivors.</i>	
Timeline: Trainings will occur during first, second, and third year of the award.	
<b><i>Who is responsible: The Sexual Assault Advocate, Counselor and Assistant will work together in making the arrangements.</i></b>	
<b>Goal 2: Continue to provide enhanced services to victims of sexual assault.</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Related Activities</b>
<b>Objective 2.A: Provide accompaniment and advocacy through medical, criminal justice, and social support systems.</b>	The project staff will assist victims by assessing their needs through the initial response. Voluntary services will be provided which will support them throughout their healing journey.
<b>Objective 2.B: Provide transportation to on and off-reservation services.</b>	Transportation will be offered and the victim will have access to resources with the assistance from the project.
<b>Objective 2.C: Provide immediate financial assistance to alleviate safety issues based on the victim's needs.</b>	Emergency financial services will be through purchase orders, and payments made directly to the vendors.
<i>Need(s) Activity Responds To: To provide immediate and ongoing services to victims/survivors after the incident occurred.</i>	
Timeline: Within one week of the award notification and approval of the budget and throughout the award.	
<b><i>Who is responsible: The Sexual Assault Advocate and Counselor will make the determination on based on the victim/survivor's needs.</i></b>	
<b>Goal 3: Provide counseling and support groups.</b>	
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Related Activities</b>
<b>Objective 3.A: Provide counseling and support groups for victims/survivors of sexual assault.</b>	Voluntary counseling and support groups will occur on scheduled dates through the project for victims.

<p><b>Objective 3.B: Provide support for those collaterally affected by the victimization, including the victim's non-offending family or household members.</b></p>	<p>Separate groups will be developed for people who have been collaterally impacted.</p>
<p><i>Need(s) Activity Responds To: To provide ongoing support services to victims/survivors and those collaterally affected.</i></p>	
<p>Timeline: Within one week of the award notification and approval of the budget and throughout the award.</p>	
<p><b><i>Who is responsible: The Sexual Assault Advocate and Counselor provide the sessions and the Assistant will assist with the scheduling and materials.</i></b></p>	
<p><b>Goal 4: Conduct outreach activities that are designed to inform the community about sexual assault in each of our three communities.</b></p>	
<p><b>Objectives</b></p>	<p><b>Related Activities</b></p>
<p><b>Objective 4.A: Provide outreach to all three communities to inform them of the services of this project.</b></p> <p><b>Objective 4.B: Conduct public awareness events.</b></p> <p><b>Objective 4.C: Update brochures and program flyers</b></p>	<p>The project staff will work together to provide information to the communities regarding the services provided through outreach events and information that will be developed and distributed in the communities.</p> <p>It is anticipated that there will a minimum of 5 awareness events and four informational booths per year.</p> <p>Brochures will be created which will identify the services provided and who is eligible.</p>
<p><i>Need(s) Activity Responds To: Educating the public about sexual assault and what services are available.</i></p>	
<p>Timeline: Within one week of the award notification and approval of the budget and throughout the award.</p>	
<p><b><i>Who is responsible: The Sexual Assault Advocate and Counselor provide the outreach and the Assistant will assist with the scheduling and development of the materials.</i></b></p>	

**Meeting the unique cultural concerns.**

The project takes into consideration the healing/spiritual methods the sexual assault victim requests to utilize in order to aid in their healing. We currently have Churches, sweat lodges and the Native American Church in our area.

**Outreach and response to a broad range of survivors of sexual violence.**

In order to assist the broad range of survivors of sexual violence (e.g., sex trafficking who have also experienced sexual assault, adults abused as children, male survivors, child and youth survivors, and adults sexually assaulted by a person other than an intimate partner, such as a stranger, neighbor, family member, or coworker, community leader, clergy/spiritual leader), victim safety and autonomy must be addressed and are addressed in our current Confidentiality Policy Procedures. The Victim Services Program has strived to provide services that are not mandated. All services are voluntary through our program. Victims/survivors seeking our services are not required to have filed a police report or a Temporary Protection Order. It is our belief that victim/survivors know best what will keep them safe. Our role has been and will continue to be to provide the best services and options available to victims/survivors that will keep them safe.

Program participants, staff, and volunteers are required to sign Confidentiality Agreements, as to who they may encounter, during their roles in the program. Safety planning with victims occurs regularly and is documented in the Advocacy Contact Sheets as well as in their files.

**Sexual assault specific training and technical assistance.**

The project staff will be mandated to attend the sexual assault training and technical assistance provided under this grant. The Tribe realizes that the victimization of sexual assault is detrimental to our membership's wellbeing. The barriers victims face

in coming forward and the long-lasting impact only brings suffrage to our people and their loved ones.

**Addressing the unique underserved population.**

The Sexual Assault Advocate will continue to apply culturally appropriate guiding principles to help staff and community partners in appropriate service procedures, safety issues, confidentiality, and other related services to deliver a fully-developed comprehensive coordinated response. The acquired funding from the grant would ensure that a strategic plan will be implemented for effective collaboration to improve systems for sexual assault victims.

Cultural activities that occur on our reservation include language classes and social pow-wows. Transportation would also be provided to these types of activities. Support Groups will also include activities to prepare for the events. Some of the women in the community have offered to volunteer their time in teaching victims/survivors how to make sweat dresses, dance outfits, Gods Eyes, shawls, quilts, and beadwork. One community member has offered to teach the victims/survivors how to work on buckskin and make baskets. These types of activities not only provide therapy, they may also provide an additional financial resource for our victims/survivors, as they can supplement their personal income by producing goods for possible sale to the Tribal Museum. (No project income will be derived from any products made through these activities.)

**Accessibility for individuals with disabilities, individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing, and individuals with LEP.**

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe works hard to ensure our programs are accessible to individuals with disabilities. The Victim Services buildings, Tribal Court, Human Services, and Health Clinic, where services will be provided, are American Disability Act accessible. American Sign Language translators will be made available for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Victim Services Program also has a TTY machine available. For persons with limited literacy, information will be conveyed verbally. For LEP individuals the program will utilize Google Translator.

### **Input from survivors who contributed to the development of the proposal.**

In order to develop this proposal, the Coordinator and VSP staff consulted with program participants and other community members, during recent outreach activities, in which they voiced what they see is needed in the communities. Input will continue to be gathered from our participants throughout the project through surveys.

### **Capacity to Implement the Proposed Project Activities**

#### **Key individuals and organizations involved in the project.**

- **Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe:** The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe will be responsible for the administration and financial management of the project, including supervision and monitoring of the Victim Services Program, financial reporting, and grant administration. The Tribe has been conducting these services for a number of grant programs, including a number of grants from the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women for over 20 years. Involved staff: James Phoenix, Tribal Chairman; Pamela Wright, Interim Comptroller; and Brian Wadsworth, Executive Officer.



- **Pyramid Lake Victim Services Program:** The program will be responsible for overseeing the project, development of the program screening/intake and eligibility determinations, processing training/travel requests of appropriate staff, semi-annual progress reports to the funding agency, and compliance with established policies/procedures. The program will also inform victims of other services available through the program as well as outside resources. The program has been in operation and providing services since April 1998. The program currently provides peer counseling, emergency food vouchers, transit services, and transitional housing. The program staff will also be responsible for coordinating awareness activities in our rural communities and documenting the services provided to victims/survivors. Involved Staff: Mary Dodd, VSP Coordinator, has 25 years of experience, in the domestic violence field, and has received training through Mending the Sacred Hoop, TA Project, Sacred Circle, National Network to End Domestic Violence, Southwest Law & Policy Institute, and Nevada Network to End Domestic Violence; Erin Dunagan, VSP Counselor, has eight years in the victim services field; and Crystal Kever, Sexual Assault Advocate, has two years two years working in the domestic violence field and has received training from various technical assistance providers. There are currently seven staff members in the Victim Services Program. Six are Native American and six employees are decedents of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. (The job descriptions of key personnel funded under this project will be on a separate attachment, due to page limitations.)

### **Tribal Applicant**

The Tribe will assign the Victim Services Program, which is situated within the Tribe's governmental structure and is a dual domestic violence/sexual assault program, as being the program responsible for implementing the project. The program is supervised by Brian Wadsworth, Executive Officer.

The project will be located in Wadsworth, Nevada, where there is an office specifically dedicated for the Victim Services Program and a women's emergency shelter, "Tamme Pea Nobe-Our Mothers' House." The program will provide the following voluntary services: crisis intervention, advocacy and accompaniment, information and referral, counseling, support groups, and support for those collaterally affected by the victimization, including non-offending family and household members.