

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (continued)

More specifically, these technical assistance resources provided through OVC TTAC and its consultants fall into three areas:

### *Planning*

- Partner with a qualified academic institution to implement an SVAA
- Identify victim assistance needs specific to the demographics of states' victim service providers and allied professionals
- Prepare for and conduct on-site planning with key stakeholders
- Develop or revise an SVAA curriculum based on standard curriculum development guidelines and adult learning theories

### *Implementation*

- Develop and strengthen relationships with key stakeholders and academic partners
- Support implementation of needs assessments
- Provide on-site technical assistance immediately before the delivery of an SVAA

### *Delivery*

- Conduct workshops or other types of presentations

### *Evaluation*

- Provide technical assistance to states with evaluating the effectiveness of their SVAAs

Resource materials developed through the pioneering efforts of Colorado, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Utah will soon be available online. Examples of resource materials that will be available include evaluation forms and reports, general forms, brochures, pamphlets and presentations developed by these SVAAs.

## REQUESTING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

To request technical assistance, complete the Training and Technical Assistance Request Form available online at [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/welcome.html](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/assist/welcome.html).

Send the completed Request Form to OVC TTAC by one of the following means:

Mail: OVC TTAC  
c/o Caliber Associates  
10530 Rosehaven Street  
Suite 400  
Fairfax, VA 22030-2840

E-mail: [ttac@ovcttac.org](mailto:ttac@ovcttac.org)

Fax: 703-279-4673

If you need assistance with the Request Form, you may contact a TA Coordinator at OVC TTAC by calling, toll free, 866-682-8822 (TTY: 866-682-8880) between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time.



## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR **STATE VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMIES**

## **THE STATE VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY CONCEPT**

To fulfill its long-term goal of encouraging victim assistance courses of study across the country, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) of the U.S. Department of Justice introduced the State Victim Assistance Academy (SVAA) Initiative in Fiscal Year 1998.

A State Victim Assistance Academy is a week-long, intensive foundation course of study in victimology and victims' rights and services. SVAAAs are operated in partnership with an academic institution and are designed to meet the entry-level training needs of a broad range of victim service providers and allied professionals.

## **CURRENT STATE VICTIM ASSISTANCE ACADEMY LOCATIONS**

The Office for Victims of Crime co-funded the first State Victim Assistance Academy in Michigan in Fiscal Year 1998. In addition to funding support, OVC provided Michigan with technical assistance and resources from OVC's National Victim Assistance Academy. Using the Michigan model as a foundation, OVC formalized the SVAA Initiative by soliciting applications from other states to create similar academies.

OVC selected and funded five more states (Colorado, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Utah) to develop academies in Fiscal Year 1999. In Fiscal Year 2002, OVC provided the third and final year of funding to these five states and awarded first-year funding to five additional state academies in Arizona, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, and Oregon. The five grantees are in the planning stage to hold their first academies in 2004.

## **STARTING AN SVAA IN YOUR STATE**

While the availability of discretionary funding for SVAAAs is dependent on OVC's annual program planning, OVC supports the development of state academies in two important ways:

First, OVC has encouraged state Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Administrators to help fund academies using their VOCA administrative funds. VOCA Administrators will play a key role in helping to develop academies in their states. To inquire about SVAA implementation in your state, contact your VOCA Administrator at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/help/links.htm>.

Second, OVC has begun a technical assistance initiative through its Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC) to assist states interested in developing their own academies. Through this initiative, states can access the resources and expertise of consultants who are experienced in National and State Victim Assistance Academy training planning, implementation, and delivery. However, funds to implement SVAAAs are not available through OVC TTAC.

## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Technical assistance resources provided through OVC TTAC are available to both prospective and established SVAAAs to support the full range of tasks involved in designing, developing, and delivering high-quality academy training. OVC TTAC's assistance ranges from expert instructional design assistance in support of the SVAA curriculum to providing consultants to present any portion of the curriculum that your state develops.

