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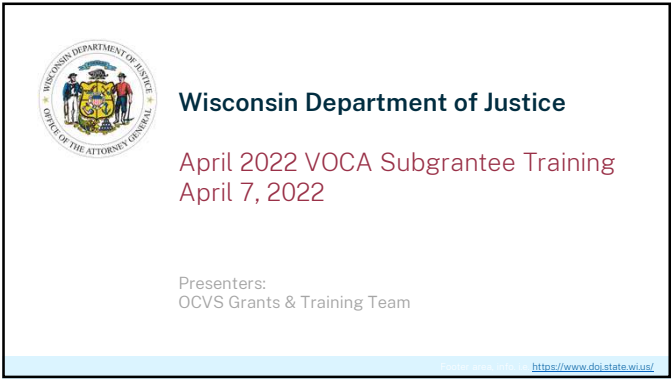
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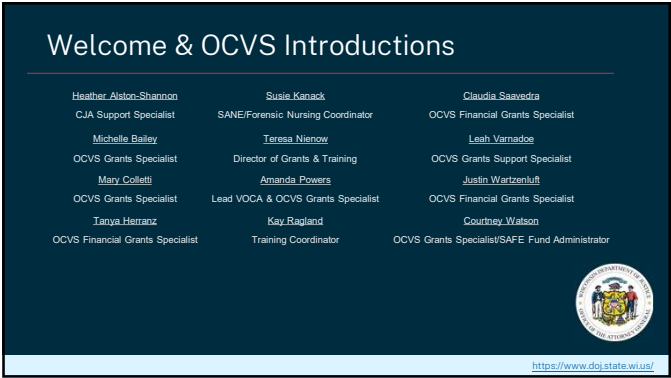
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### OCVS Grants & Training Team



Teresa is the **Director of Grants & Training** for OCVS and has been with the team since April 2019. Previous to her work with OCVS, she practiced as a social worker in both systems and community based social work programs and then went on to serve as executive director for PAVE, a community victim service provider. Teresa has been working with and for victims and survivors for nearly 15 years and brings a strong leadership and strategic vision to this work. In addition to her work, she enjoys spending time with her husband Rex, dogs Darwin & Lola, and cat Baxter. All five of them enjoy playing outside, going for walks, and sitting in the sun.



Heather Alston-Shannon is the **Support Specialist** for the CJA (Children's Justice Act) program within the Office of Crime Victim Services. Her primary responsibilities are to support CJA activities and projects including the facilitation of the Wisconsin Forensic Interview Guidelines Training (WIFIG) and grants awarded to agencies that assist in the investigation and prosecution of child maltreatment. Heather graduated from Pepperdine University in Malibu, California with a degree in Business Administration. She spent most of her career in senior living but transitioned into the child protection industry in 2010 when she and her husband became foster parents. Heather and her husband returned to her home state of Wisconsin in 2016 to be closer to family.

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### OCVS Grants & Training Team



Michelle is a new member of the OCVS Grants and Training team and was hired in February 2022 as a **Financial Grants Specialist**. Prior to coming to OCVS, she served victims in the Menominee community for 13 years in a variety of roles as the Family/Domestic Violence Program Manager and as an Administrative Planner. Michelle is excited about her new adventure with OCVS, because it allows her to support victim service agencies statewide.



Mary is a **Grant Specialist** for the Wisconsin Department of Justice (WI DOJ) Office of Crime Victim Services (OCVS). Mary joined the WI DOJ in 2014 as an LTE Paralegal in the Criminal Division at DOJ. Prior to coming to DOJ, Mary was a Paralegal at the Dane County District Attorney's Office for over 12 years. At Dane County, she drafted Criminal Complaints, and dealt with defense Attorney's and defendants to settle civil traffic cases. She graduated from UW-Whitewater in 1990 with a BS degree, double major, in Psychology and Political Science. She was a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) at Countryside Nursing Home in Jefferson County for over 30 years prior to, and during her employment at both Dane County, and DOJ. Mary's dream was to become a veterinarian, but says she wasn't good in math. However, she did have an opportunity to work with large animals while she was in college. She had the pleasure of working on a farm, milking cows, administering shots, helping to deliver calves, and baling hay. Mary says that cutting hay is one of her favorite jobs.

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### OCVS Grants & Training Team



Tanya is a **Financial Grants Specialist** of the Office of Crime Victim Services (OCVS) Grants & Training Team at Wisconsin Department of Justice (WI DOJ). Tanya has been with the team since February 2015 but has been working as a financial grants manager with the State of WI since 2007. Prior to grants, she was a bilingual loan officer and bilingual flight associate for United Express Airlines. Tanya graduated from Edgewood College in 2001 with a BS degree in Spanish and Psychology. Tanya is fluent in Spanish and wishes to travel more in Spain and return to Valladolid where she lived for 6 months back in 2001. Tanya enjoys staying busy when not working, traveling, playing golf, and swimming, with her husband Angel, 17-year-old son Spencer, cat Ariel, and ferret Stuart.



Susie is a **SANE/Forensic Nursing Training Coordinator** of the Office of Crime Victim Services (OCVS) grants and training team at Wisconsin Department of Justice. She received her BS in Nursing from Carroll University and is a board-certified Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) in Adult, Adolescents and Pediatrics. Susie is the statewide coordinator for forensic nursing and provides training and technical assistance across the state on medical forensic topics and best practice. She also continues to see patients in the Milwaukee area at Froedtert and the Medical College of Wisconsin. Susie and her husband Aaron have 16-year-old twins and enjoy traveling with them. Susie also is a caregiver to her Mom with Alzheimer's Disease and has become a fierce advocate for the elderly. She identifies herself as a "twin mom, wanderluster and justice-seeker."

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### OCVS Grants & Training Team



Teresa Nienow

Amanda is a **Grant Specialist and the VOCA Grant Administrator** for the Wisconsin Department of Justice Office of Crime Victim Services (OCVS). Initially joining the WI DOJ in 2011, she supported the VOCA grant administrator and assisted Spanish speaking applicants for Compensation. In 2013, Amanda became the VOCA Grant Specialist and Administrator. She is a member of the Budget Subcommittee of the Wisconsin Governor's Council on Domestic Abuse and the Co-Chair of Housing Workgroup for the OCVS Advisory Committee. Prior to joining OCVS, she graduated from Carthage College with a BA in History and Spanish. During her time at Carthage, she spent a semester in Buenos Aires, Argentina studying the Methodology of Genocide and interning at AMIA an Argentinean Jewish community organization.



Kay Ragland

Kay is the **Training Coordinator** of the Office of Crime Victim Services (OCVS) at the Wisconsin Department of Justice on the Grants & Training Team where she manages, and coordinates training related to enhancing and improving victim services. Kay worked in the field of social service for over a decade, leading and developing programs, created scores of training workshops, and developed customized training and is also a skilled facilitator valuing and engaging different styles of learning and processing that is grounded in best practices. Before working at OCVS, Kay was a Community Organizer with the Chicago Police Department. She previously worked as the Training and Education Director with the Salvation Army Bureau of Prisons. Kay is an extrovert in her mind because she loves people, but she is truly an introverted person.

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### OCVS Grants & Training Team



Claudia Saavedra

Claudia is a **Financial Grant Manager** with over 20 years of experience working with a variety of non-profit organizations and state government agencies. Early in her career, Claudia specialized in the implementation of new laws in the native country of Bolivia, where she worked with indigenous communities by training and facilitating access to federal funding to improve their living conditions. Claudia then worked with the World Wildlife Fund, where she found a passion for working on environmental issues and conservation projects throughout Central and South America. After moving to Wisconsin, she worked on fundraising and donor outreach for a Catholic Seminary, focusing on Hispanic donors and programs. Most recently, Claudia worked at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services as a Financial Specialist supporting Wisconsin's COVID-19 response. Claudia likes to garden, hike, and travel to visit her family in Bolivia in her free time.



Leah Varnadoe

Leah is the **Grants Support Specialist** at the Wisconsin Department of Justice Office of Crime Victim Services (WI DOJ OCVS). Initially joining the WI DOJ in 2016, she supported the VAWA Grant Administrator as the VAWA Grants Support Specialist and assisted callers on the OCVS Toll-Free line. In 2018, Leah became the OCVS Grants Support Specialist, supporting all the grants programs in OCVS. Prior to joining OCVS, she graduated UW Madison with a BA in Women's Studies, was a stay-at-home mom for several years, and volunteered exclusively at her children's Islamic elementary school.

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### OCVS Grants & Training Team



Justin Wartzeluft

Justin is a **Financial Grants Specialist** at the Office of Crime Victim Services in Wisconsin as a Financial Grants Specialist, he focuses on expense allowability, grant budgets, reviewing fiscal reports, and processing reimbursement requests. He joined the team shortly after graduating from UW-Platteville with a BA in English. He has been a part of the team for three years now. He enjoys hearing about the amazing things agencies are able to do for victims with the grant funds he helps provide. When he is not at work, he enjoys playing video games while his cat naps on his lap.



Courtney Watson

Courtney is a **Grants Specialist & SAFE Fund Administrator** on the OCVS Grants of the Office of Crime Victim Services at the Wisconsin Department of Justice. Courtney works directly with various victim service providers in the state as she manages VOCA, SAVS, and VAWA grants for these agencies. Courtney provides technical assistance and grant monitoring for agencies primarily serving sexual assault and domestic violence victims. She is the primary administrator for the SAVS grant which is administered out of OCVS. Courtney also administers the state Sexual Assault Forensic Exam Fund (SAFE Fund). This program works directly with medical facilities and personnel by ensuring victims do not have to pay for a forensic nurse exam and/or SANE exam. Courtney provides training and technical assistance statewide on the SAFE Fund. Prior to joining OCVS in 2016, Courtney worked at the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault in Springfield, IL.

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OCVS Team Roles Related to VOCA Grant Administration



Grants Specialist



Financial Grants Specialist

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OCVS & Future Competitive Funding Opportunities

- Sexual Assault Victim Services (SAVS)  
January 1, 2023
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA STOP)  
January 1, 2023
- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA SASP)  
January 1, 2023
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)  
October 1, 2024
- Children's Justice Act (CJA)  
Special Projects TBD



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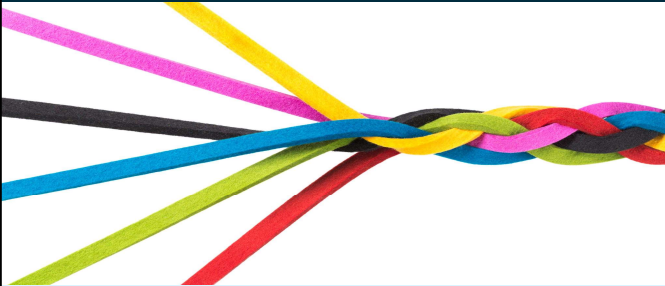
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OCVS & VOCA Subgrantee Communication



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