

Proposal Abstract

Name of Applicant: Boulder County

Names of Partners: Boulder County Area Agency on Aging, Boulder County District Attorney's Office, City of Longmont Department of Public Safety, Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence, Center for People With Disabilities, Rocky Mountain Equality

Project Title: Supporting Justice for Survivors of Abuse in Later Life

Purpose of the Project: The Boulder County Justice Coalition on Abuse in Later Life (JCALL) will support a comprehensive approach to addressing and responding to abuse in later life in Boulder County. JCALL will advance equity as an essential component of combatting domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, abuse, neglect, and exploitation in later life. We will respond to challenges raised by law enforcement and service providers during our previous grant, expand and improve outreach and services, support criminal justice responses, and increase assistance for victims and survivors age 50 and older ("older victims"). We will focus on continuing project activities aimed at improving awareness, supports, services, and outreach for Spanish-speaking survivors and those living in mountain and rural areas of Boulder County. Requested additional funding will create and enhance responses, support, and services for older victims with disabilities and LGBTQ+ older victims. Our application is intended to further support and enhance JCALL, Boulder County's Coordinated Community Response to abuse in later life (CCR), and to enact service enhancements for all older victims. The advocate position will meet our goal of effecting system change in Boulder County. It will be the one place dedicated to the needs of older victims who do not have access to criminal justice system advocates or to Adult Protective Services and a coordination hub for project partners, providers, and community organizations.

Primary activities for which funds are requested: We will leverage connections established with law enforcement, service providers, and community organizations during the previous grant to further outreach and support efforts, and with the requested additional funding, create and

build relationships with organizations serving older victims with disabilities and LGBTQ+ older victims. We will undertake a Critical Assessment of outreach and services provided during the previous grant and produce a Strategic Plan to guide our efforts, including sustainability. We will work with MOU partner organizations who provide services to adults with disabilities and LGBTQ+ older adults to actively listen to their communities' concerns and suggestions, offer educational workshops and awareness campaigns, and make resources available and accessible, including direct financial support for older victims in these populations. We will define and publicize the advocate position and create procedures to monitor and evaluate the advocate's work. JCALL (our CCR team) will continue to engage in self-assessment efforts, policy and procedure reviews, and education. Finally, we will sustain these efforts by developing a sustainability plan that includes integrating grant work into partners' organizations.

Who will benefit: All community members and organizations in Boulder County will benefit. Older victims not involved in a criminal case or APS matter, family members, and concerned others will be able to contact the county advocate for services and support. Organizations serving older adults will benefit: they can connect with the advocate to secure access to help and resources for older victims. Importantly, older victims with disabilities, LGBTQ+ and Spanish-speaking older victims, and those living in our mountain/rural areas will also benefit: our collaboration with prominent community organizations serving these groups will significantly increase awareness of abuse in later life in their communities and provide support, resources and grant funding to eligible older victims, anywhere in Boulder County.

Products and Deliverables: the Strategic Plan and associated budget revision; establishment of the advocate position and creation of an "Advocacy Toolkit" (procedures, screening rubrics, resources, templates, information on relevant Colorado laws, guidance to help shape strategies in a variety of situations, etc.); expansion of outreach, services, and funding to traditionally underserved populations listed above; outreach/materials designed to raise awareness of abuse in later life and improve older victims in these populations' access to services and funding.