

Board of County Commissioners

July 19, 2024

Janice A. Green
Senior Program Specialist
U.S Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women
145 N Street, NE, 10th floor
Washington, DC 20530

Re: Request for nine-month extension of project period for Abuse in Later Life Grant No. 2020-EW-AX-K007

Dear Ms. Green,

We request a nine-month extension of the project period related to the above-referenced grant. The original project period of 10/1/2020 to 9/30/2023 was previously extended to 9/30/2024. The proposed new end date would be June 30, 2025. As of 7/16/2024, the unobligated balance remaining in our grant budget is \$75,428; \$68,871 of that amount is designated for outreach/services.

Justification

- 1. Our grant funds designated for direct services were released in September 2023. Despite efforts to communicate with MOU partners and CCR members about the availability of the funds, we have had only modest levels of engagement until recently, as it took some time for these entities to integrate the availability of the funds and disseminate information about them within their respective organizations.
- 2. We do not anticipate that online resource development will be completed by 9/30/24, mainly because it took longer than we had anticipated to secure a videographer for the local resource videos we are creating. We began soliciting bids for a videographer in early January 2024, just as Boulder County was engaging in a county-wide revision of contracting procedures to make them more consistent across departments. Implementing the changes led to further work to finalize the agreement with our chosen videographer. While we are now working to complete the videos and related online resources, other related activities have not been completed:
 - originally, we planned to include a secure, confidential referral system as a component of online resources, and planned to use an existing coordination software platform. MOU partners' concerns about confidentiality and informationsharing on the platform necessitated a re-evaluation of this approach;

Commissioner Claire Levy • Commissioner Marta Loachamin • Commissioner Ashley Stolzmann

Boulder County Courthouse • 1325 Pearl Street • Boulder, Colorado 80302

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• we cannot initiate Spanish translation or rollout of online resources to staff involved in 24/7 reporting lines, call centers, and related functions until our online resources and referral system are fully in place.

What Will be Done

- 1. To expand the provision of direct services funds, we will:
 - continue to broaden our outreach and messaging about the availability of direct services funding, to reach entities beyond MOU partners and CCR members. We communicated with the directors of our county Senior Centers in May about the funding, and will present to our local elder care network as well; and
 - attend mountain and rural resource fairs and continue to work more closely with Area Agency on Aging resource specialists for our mountain and rural areas to identify older victims and areas of need.
- 2. To complete online resource development, we will:
 - Collaborate with CCR members to streamline narratives and imagery across all content. This will enable us to align our webpage seamlessly with information on local laws and resource videos;
 - Simplify our referral system by implementing secure forms and streamlined submission methods. Our approach will ensure victim confidentiality and follow VAWA information-sharing protocols, while maintaining ease of use;
 - Facilitate a timely translation process which will include review by MOU partner bilingual victim advocates for accuracy, cultural competence, and consistency; and
 - prioritize scheduling meetings with 24/7 staff at reporting lines, call centers, etc., to introduce the resources. We will promptly undertake scheduling and work diligently to ensure that all resources are completed prior to these rollout meetings.

Should you have any questions about our request for a nine-month extension, please do not hesitate to contact the Grant Project Coordinator Lizbeth Parker at (303) 441-1486, or lparker@bouldercounty.gov. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

| Ashley | Stolzmann | |
|------------|--|---|
| Ashley Sto | olzmann, Board of County Commissioners | _ |

July 25, 2024

Very truly yours,

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Ashley Stolzmann

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Elizabeth Parker eparker@bouldercounty.org

Boulder County

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