sexual assault victims. Funds may also be used for salaries for victim service providers. No applications are solicited.

Due to the progress in this area, OVC will fund continuation grants for 19 states to make subgrant awards to support 36 tribal victim assistance programs funded in cycles since FY 1989. The program will provide continued support to Native American communities in remote sections of Indian Country where victim assistance services have previously been unavailable or scarce.

OVC will continue funding for all participating states in FY 1995 and for the four new states through FY 1997. OVC also is exploring alternative strategies for supporting the program and will seek information from VAIC programs and others.

Training and Technical Assistance for Native American Children's Justice Act Grantees (Continuation/Cooperative Agreement)—\$305,000

This program will continue support for a grant awarded to the National Indian Justice Center (NIJC) in 1994 to provide comprehensive, skills-building training and technical assistance to Indian tribes and organizations that were awarded grants as part of the Children's Justice Act Discretionary **Grant Program for Native Americans** (CJA). The purpose of the CJA program is to assist tribes to improve the handling of serious child abuse cases, especially child sexual abuse cases. This grant also will support the development and production of a ten minute video for tribal leaders that explains the importance of a coordinated effort among tribal agencies in implementing the CJA program.

The training provided has been individually tailored to each tribe's special circumstances and needs. As a result, tribes have established, expanded, and trained multidisciplinary teams; revised tribal codes; developed protocols and procedures for handling child sexual abuse cases; and developed procedures for managing child-centered interview rooms. OVC seeks to ensure that all tribal programs receiving CJA grants are provided the training and technical assistance necessary to successfully implement their programs. No additional applications are being solicited in FY 1995. For further information, please contact Cathy Sanders, (202) 616-3578.

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) in Indian Country (Continuation)—\$53,635

While currently there are 549 certified CASA programs in 50 states with 33,000

volunteers, only two such programs operate in the 170 court systems of Federally recognized tribal governments. This program will support the development of CASA programs in Indian Country so that tribal courts funded through this program will be able to assign advocates to represent the best interests of children. This program is especially important in Indian Country since a tribal court may serve as a Native American child's only recourse to protection and justice.

OVC will transfer funds to OJJDP to be awarded to the National CASA Association for the purpose of supporting child advocacy programs in Indian Country. Of the total amount, \$23,635 will go toward the organization of a tribal CASA symposium in conjunction with the National CASA Conference. The symposium will develop a plan to swiftly, effectively, and sensitively adapt the CASA concept to the needs of tribal courts. The remaining \$30,000 will be used to support the establishment of two tribal CASA programs.

Children's Justice Act Discretionary Grant Program for Native Americans (Continuation)—\$525,000

In 1988, the Victims of Crime Act was amended to make funding available annually to Indian tribes and organizations to improve the handling of child abuse cases. Since 1989, OVC has granted annual awards to Indian tribes to improve the systemic response to serious cases of child abuse in a way that increases support for and lessens trauma to child victims.

Since 1989, OVC has provided funding to 28 tribes for a range of activities including: Development of protocols and procedures for reporting, investigating, and prosecuting child sexual abuse cases; collaboration among professionals that minimizes the number of child interviews: establishment, expansion, and training of multidisciplinary teams; revision of tribal codes to address child sexual abuse; child advocacy services for children involved in court proceedings; enhanced case management and treatment services; specialized training for prosecutors, judges, criminal investigators, and other professionals who handle child sexual abuse cases; development of procedures for establishing and managing child interview rooms; and special prosecution units.

This program will extend the progress made during the award year and ensure that systemic improvements are fully developed, defined, effectively implemented, and operating so as to result in improved investigation, prosecution, and overall handling of serious child abuse and neglect and child sexual abuse cases. The projects (Ramah Navajo School Board, Inc., Salt River Indian Community, Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes, Chugachmuit, Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, South Puget Intertribal Planning Agency, and Shoshone Tribal Business Council) will be funded early in FY 1996.

Travel/Training and Technical Assistance for Native Americans (Noncompetitive)—\$53,665

This program will provide assistance to Indian tribes seeking a range of specialized training for tribal professionals. This program is designed to meet the training needs of individual tribal personnel who handle complex child abuse cases and who manage other child victim programs. Specifically, the program will: (1) Support trainers at various OVC sponsored training sessions that focus on assisting child victims in Indian Country, and send Native American participants to these events; (2) provide an array of assistance, training, and travel to the CJA grantees and other tribal organizations that may request assistance; and (3) develop a model CJA application that tribes can use in developing their own applications.

Tribal Judges Project (Non-competitive)—\$80,000

OVC will work with other DOJ components as well as the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts to identify a range of training and technical assistance strategies or projects that will assist tribes to improve the handling of child abuse and family violence. The funds will be used to support training and technical assistance for Federally-recognized tribes participating in DOJ projects or grant programs directed to improving tribal systems of justice and the handling of child and spouse abuse cases. Planning will continue throughout the year with DOJ entities such as BJA, the Office of Tribal Justice, the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, the Violence Against Women Office, and other offices that are funding projects in Indian Country. Example of activities that could be funded include:

- Support for tribal judges and clerks of court to attend multidisciplinary trainings scheduled to occur in Federal Districts throughout 1995;
- Assistance in developing tribal codes or protocols within and among tribal governments, and memoranda of understanding to coordinate the