The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General (MPSSG) has established a **COVID-19 Victim Services and Violence Against Women Support Fund** to contribute towards incremental costs incurred by service providers as a result of the pandemic. The Support Fund is intended to provide service providers with financial assistance to offset some of the expenses related to additional staffing costs resulting from staff shortages and increased overtime and services demands. It will also cover expenses related to remote/virtual service delivery and for the delivery of direct, in-person services in a manner compliant with current guidelines supporting the safety of staff and clients. This includes remote service delivery technology such as laptops, online platform subscriptions such as Zoom, webcams, PPE, and a contribution towards the cost of cellphones. Requests for other items may be considered on a case by case basis.

Agencies currently contracted by MPSSG for the delivery of victim services and violence against women programs are eligible for funding under this program, including:

- Community-based victim service programs
- · Police-based victim service programs
- Outreach programs
- Multicultural outreach programs
- PEACE programs
- Stopping the Violence counselling programs

The funding is for the time period of March 16 to May 31, 2020. The funding will be provided via a one-time grant, and is not to be considered ongoing funding. Stipulations on the use of the funds are in place, and grant recipients will be required to report back on their use of the grant funding provided. The deadline for applications is **September 9th**, **2020**, and MPSSG anticipates the funds will be distributed in October.

For more information on the funding, please see the attached *Support Fund Application Guide*. The Guide and Parts 1 and 2 of the Application Forms are attached as Word docs, and can also be accessed online by clicking on the links below.

COVID-19 Support Fund Application Guide
COVID-19 Support Fund Application Form PART 1
COVID-19 Support Fund Application Form PART 2

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