



ANDVSA

Alaska Network on Domestic Violence
& Sexual Assault

Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault and the Systems that Address the Issues

ANDVSA Membership of Statewide Regional/Subregional Programs



24 Direct Service Providers for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault across the State of Alaska

19 are in Rural Alaska and 16 are not on a road system

Collectively they responded to over 10,000 instances of victimization in FY25

What issues are we addressing?

Still bad... but 28% decrease

Estimated number of adult women in Alaska who experienced:

Type of Violence	PAST 12 MONTHS		
	2010 (249,631)	2015 (264,204)	2020 (265,572)
Intimate partner violence (IPV composite)	23,240	16,909	18,314
Threats of physical violence	14,340	7,926	6,873
Physical violence	21,262	15,588	17,198
Sexual violence (SV composite)	10,631	7,662	8,791
Alcohol- or drug-involved sexual assault	8,901	5,284	5,596
Forcible sexual assault	6,181	4,227	5,712
IPV, SV, or both (composite)	29,174	21,401	21,217

Source: Alaska Victimization Survey (2010, 2015, 2020). University of Alaska Anchorage Justice Center. See: <https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/college-of-health/departments/justice-center/avs/avs-results/statewide-results.cs.html>, as well as: <https://scholarworks.alaska.edu/handle/11122/7782>



Slide #16

	Alaska	United States	Alaska vs. United States
Property (composite)	1,619.9	1,916.7	84.5%
Larceny theft	1,351.7	1,347.2	100.3%
Motor vehicle theft	268.2	318.7	84.2%
Burglary	249.4	250.7	99.7%
Violent (composite)	1,975.2	363.8	542.9%
Aggravated assault	1,770.4	264.1	670.2%
Rape*	119.8	38.0	315.3%
Robbery	77.4	66.5	116.4%
Criminal homicide	7.6	5.7	133.3%

In 2023, Alaska's violent crime rate was 5.4 times the national rate, at 1,975.2 per 100,000 residents.

Alaska aggravated assaults were 6.7 times higher than the national average, at 1,770.4 per 100,000 residents.

Reported rape was 3.1 times higher than the national rate, at 119.8 per 100,000 residents.

To save lives, we all have to work together!



Two presenters:

Rebecca Shields will talk about
the collaborative work in Kodiak's Criminal Justice System

Christine Pate will talk about
the collaborative work in Alaska's Civil Justice System



CCR/SART Collaborations

KODIAK WOMEN'S RESOURCE AND CRISIS CENTER
KODIAK ALASKA

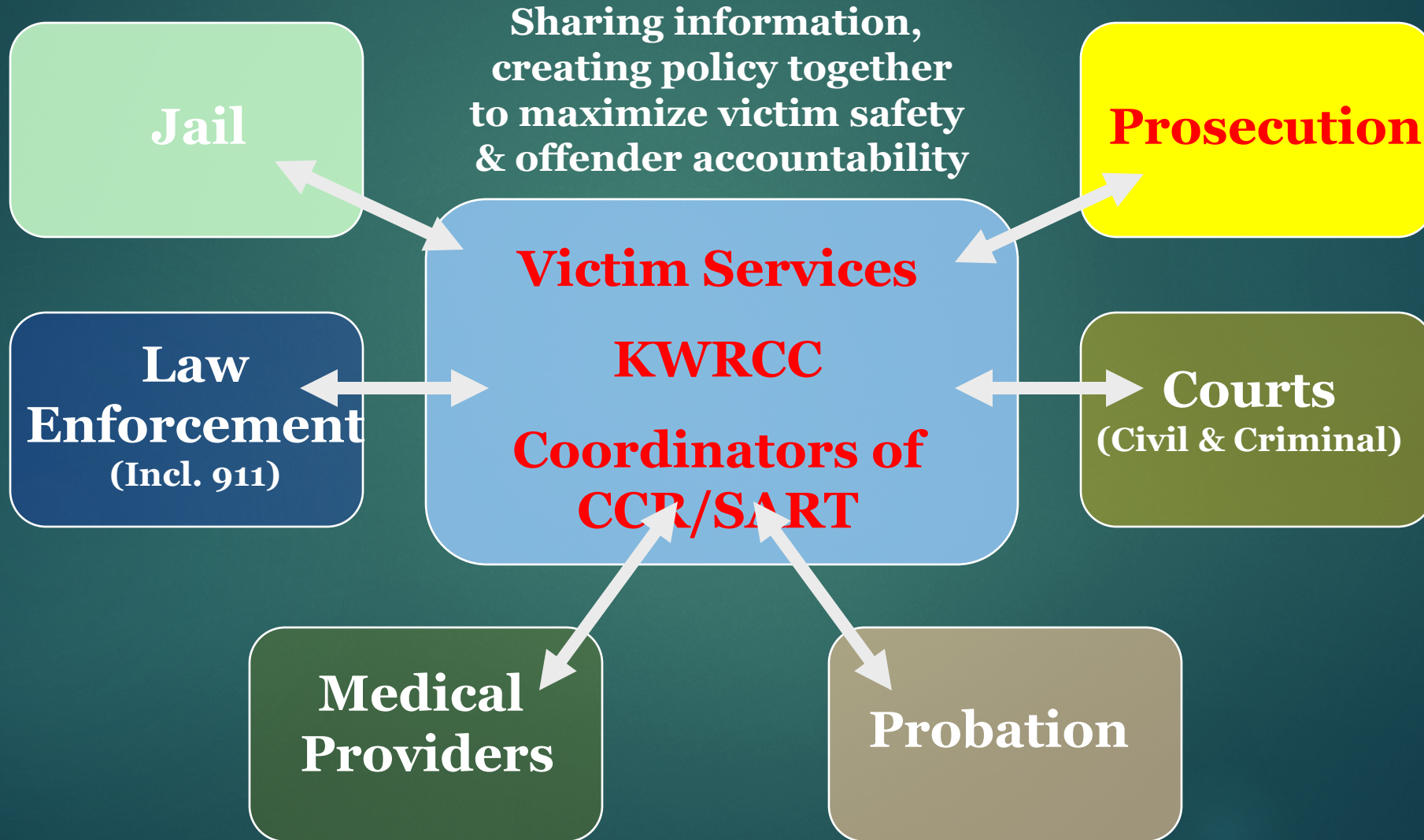
Kodiak CCR & SART Team

- Kodiak's CCR/SART Team is founded on the SART Multi Disciplinary Response.
- Consists of Law Enforcement, Advocates, Forensic Medical Providers are the immediate response team.
- Broader Scope Team members include, OCS, Probation Officer, District Attorney Office, Emergency Room Nurse.

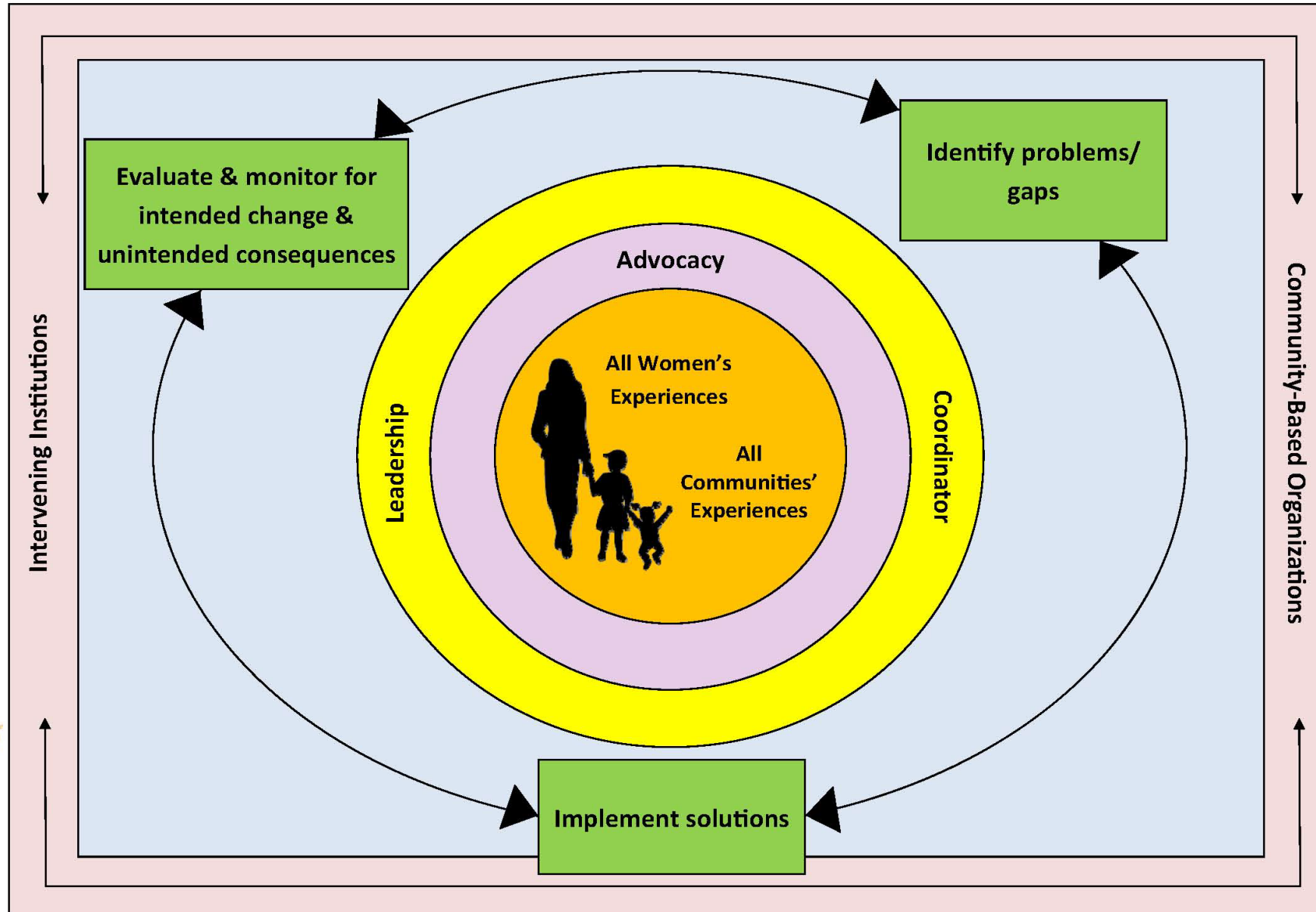
CCR/SART Team Immediate Response.

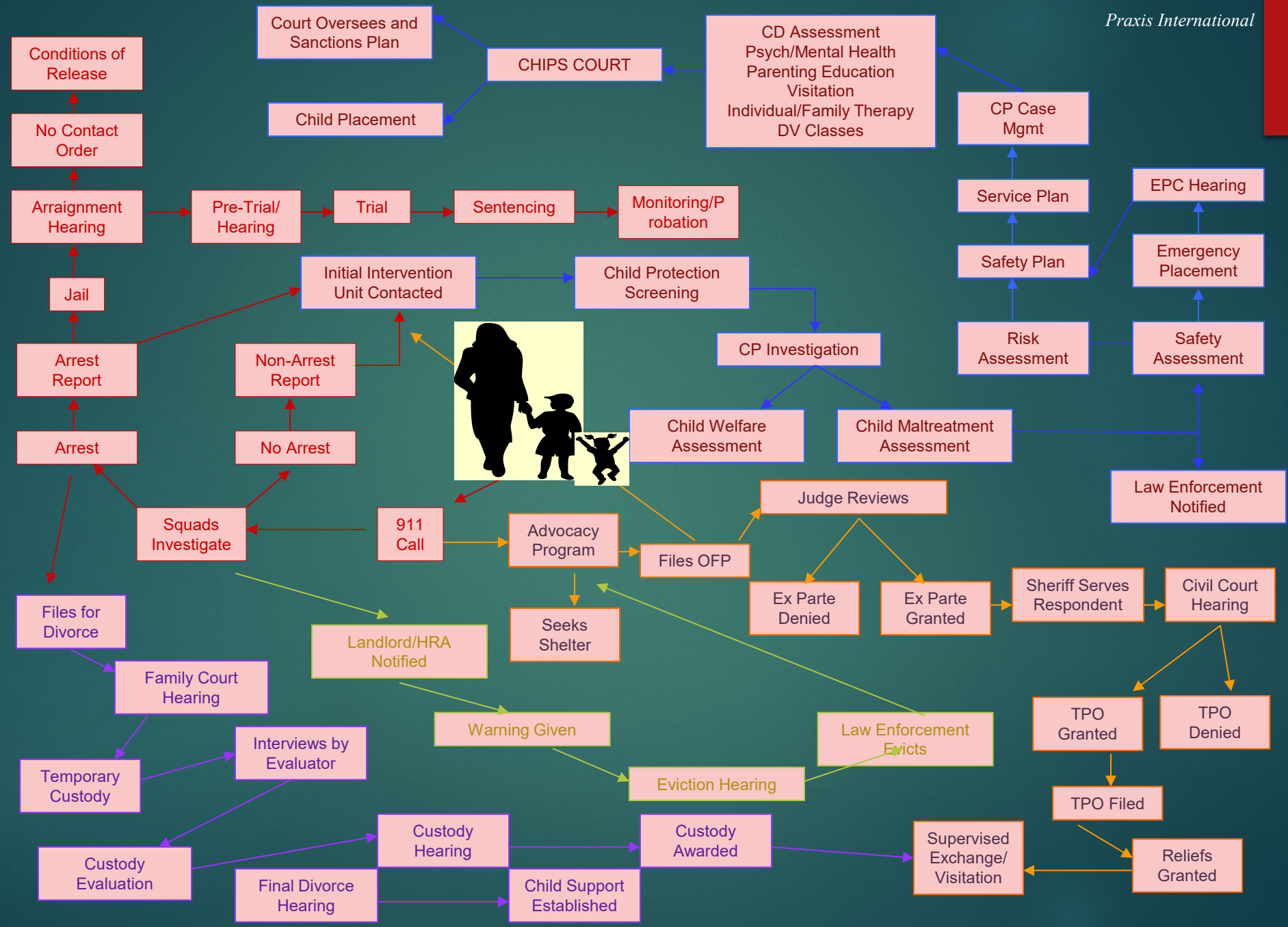
- When a Crime has been reported to Law Enforcement involving domestic violence and/or sexual assault, Law Enforcement notifies our SART/CCR Coordinator at KWRCC.
- Advocate makes contact with Victim ASAP to support victim and inform them of resources and educate them on what to expect from the Criminal Justice process that is occurring.
- If SART exam or medical forensic pictures are needed, Advocate will contact Medical examiner to schedule time ASAP.
- Advocate stays with victim as support for Law enforcement interview as well as for the forensic exam.
- Advocate remains with victim throughout Criminal Justice processes and beyond. As long as Client wants/needs ongoing support.

Coordinated Community Response (Criminal/Tribal/ Civil Justice System)



The Work of Coordinating Interagency Responses to Violence Against Women





Kodiak CCR/SART Monthly Meetings run in 2 parts

- ▶ 1. Case Management portion~ Consists of all the immediate responders to a case. If case is being adjudicated then the District Attorney will attend this portion of meeting. All parties are covered under ROI's as signed and consented by victim. Updates to case progress are made here with ongoing eye on safety needs of victim.
- ▶ 2. After Case Management meets, full Broader Team meets. Individual Cases are not discussed here. In this meeting we discuss infrastructure of Team response and build inter agency relationships and resource sharing.

KWRCC Collaborations

Kodiak Building and Enhancing
Coordinated Community
Responses
For Domestic Violence/Sexual
Assault Victims

An interdisciplinary Response

THANK YOU!
Any Questions?



Civil Legal Services for Survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence

CHRISTINE PATE

ANDVSA LEGAL PROGRAM DIRECTOR



Why do people stay in DV relationships?

- ▶ Danger
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Children
- ▶ Love
- ▶ Finances
- ▶ Beliefs
- ▶ Shame
- ▶ Community pressure

A study funded by the Department of Justice found that providing legal services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault is **one of the most effective means** of ending the violence in their lives.

Carolyn Copps Hartley & Lynette M. Renner, *The Longer-Term Influence of Civil Legal Services on Battered Women* (2016), <https://www.ojp.gov/pdffiles1/nij/grants/249879.pdf>.



SECURITY & SAFETY

Escaping Abuse,
Staying Safe



FAMILY STABILITY

Gaining Custody,
Securing Support



ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

Housing, Employment,
Financial Rights

80%

**OF PEOPLE IN ALASKA COURTS
WITH DOMESTIC RELATIONS
CASES ARE SELF-REPRESENTED.**

	Civil	Criminal
Who brings the case and is in charge?	A private party (e.g. a Survivor)	The state of Alaska or a municipality (prosecutor represents the government)
What's the case about?	Disputes between individuals (e.g., protection orders, custody, divorce, eviction)	Crimes committed against the state (e.g., assault, harassment, sexual assault)
Standard of Proof	Preponderance of the evidence (more likely than not)	Beyond a reasonable doubt (98% or more certainty)
Trial Type	Judge or jury trial	Jury trial
Evidence Sharing	Both sides share requested evidence	State must disclose all evidence
Role of Survivor	Often the petitioner/plaintiff -- who drives the case	The state leads the case, and the survivor acts a witness to the crime that occurred (aka the victim)
Outcomes	Protection orders, custody arrangements, financial damages	Jail/prison time, fines, probation, conditions or release
Legal Representation	Survivors may have an attorney or may represent themselves but there is no general right to counsel	The State is represented by a prosecutor, defendant has constitutional right to a defense attorney if they cannot afford one
Speed & Timing	Might move faster, especially for protective orders	May take longer due to investigations, charging, and trial



NO
RIGHT TO
COUNSEL

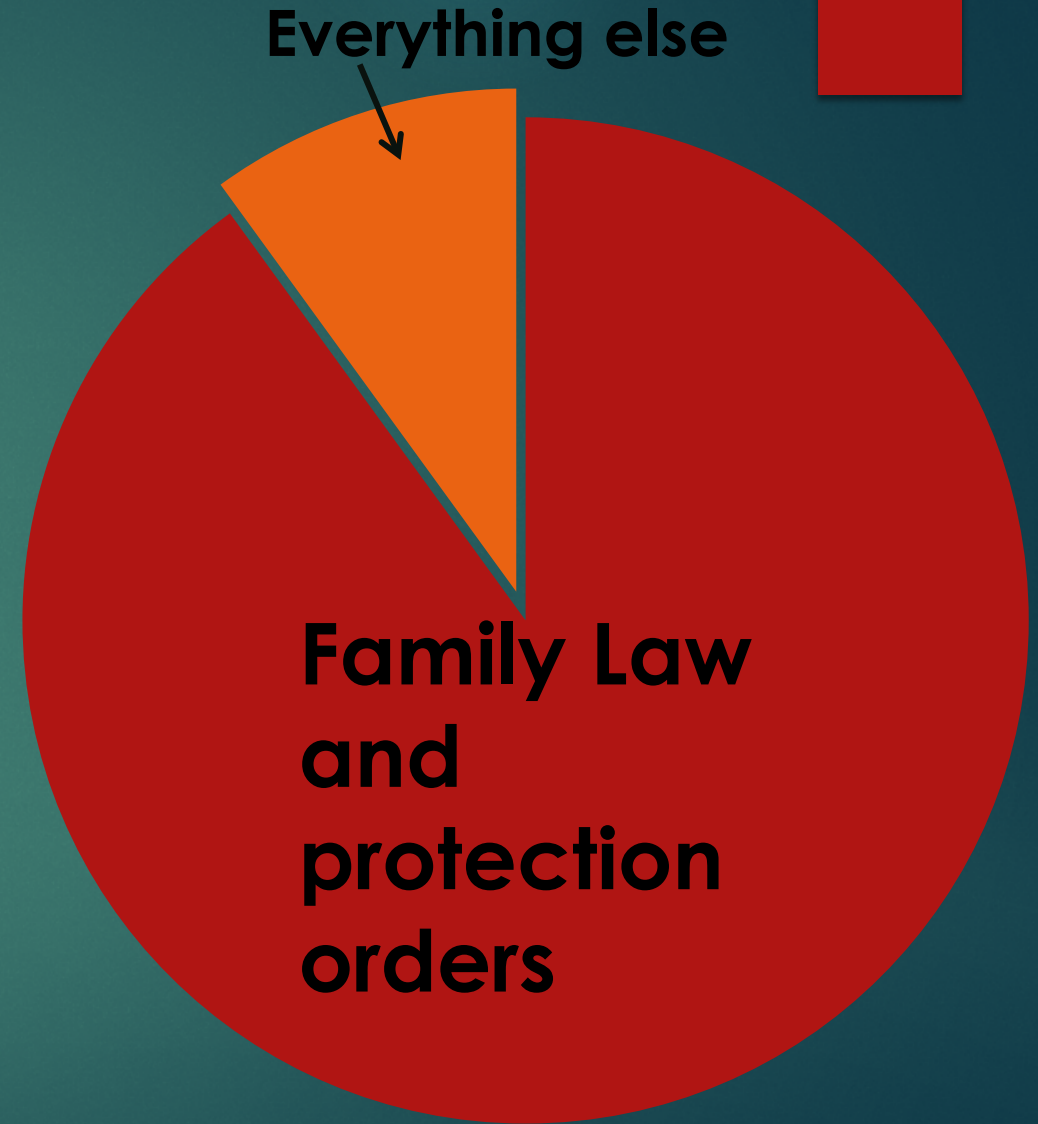


Who can apply to ANDVSA's Legal Program?

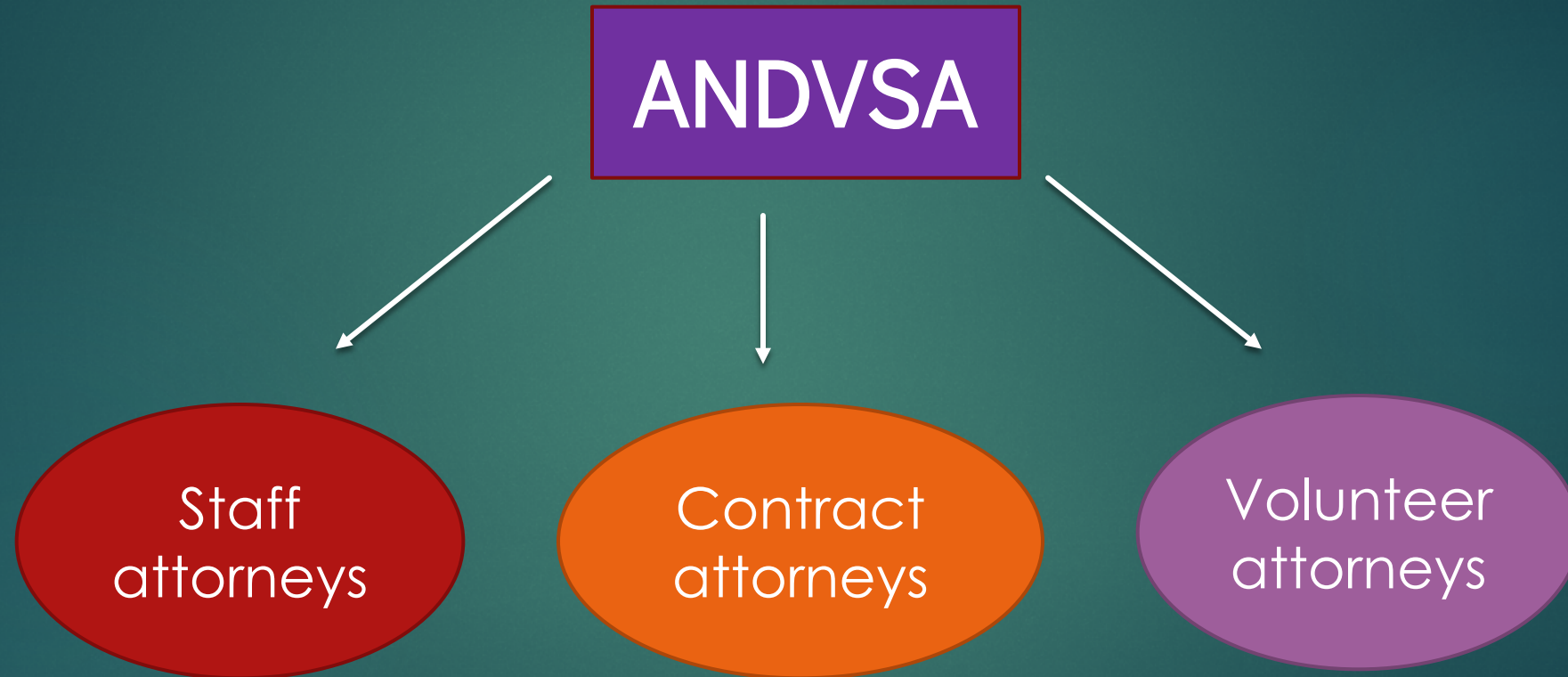
- ❑ Any Survivor of domestic, sexual violence or stalking
- ❑ Who financially qualifies = 200-250% of the federal poverty guidelines

What types of cases??

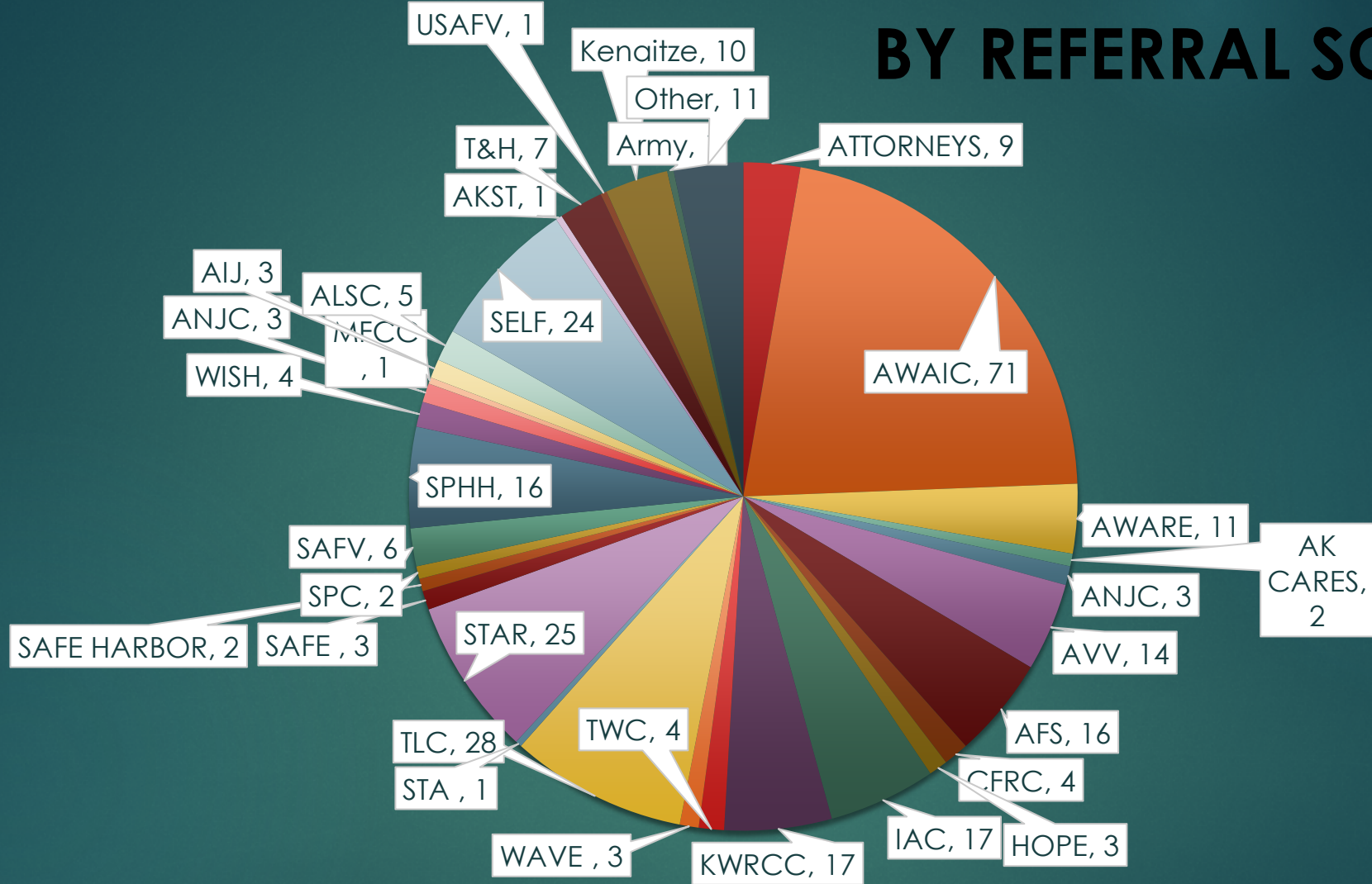
- Family law – divorce, child custody, paternity, domestic partnership, child support
- Consumer including bankruptcy
- Landlord/tenant or other housing
- Title IX issues for sexual assault survivors
- Wills/probate
- Real estate
- Victim's rights issues or compensation
- Employment



How does ANDVSA staff our cases?



BY REFERRAL SOURCE



FY25 TOTAL SERVED AND PARTIAL SERVED CLIENTS: 363
BY REFERRAL SOURCE

ANDVSA LEGAL PROGRAM

In Fiscal Year 2025,
ANDVSA pro bono
attorneys provided:

**1,438.4
Hours**

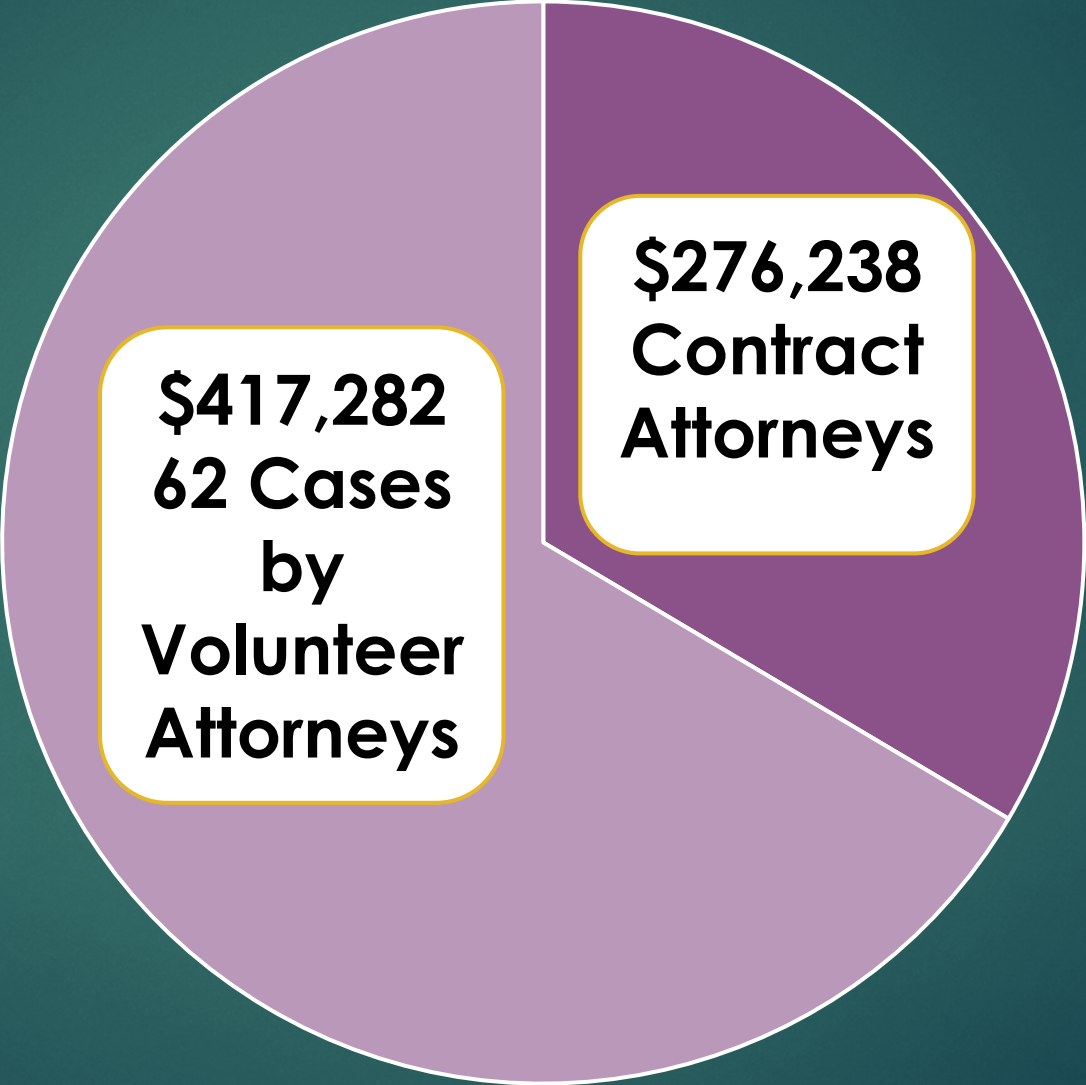
Of time spent on
casework to support
survivors

\$417,282

Of donated
services

ANDVSA Legal Program FY25 In Kind Donations

\$693,238:



Volunteer Appreciation

VOM JOE TOWSLEE



We truly value your efforts. Thank you for your commitment. The positive impact you make will be recognized and rewarded.

#octobervom



Volunteer of the Month

Sam Gottstein

MAY VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH



ANDREW
BOCANUMENTH



Thank you,
Stephanie Rhoades

ANDVSA'S
JANUARY
VOLUNTEER
OF THE
MONTH



Congratulations to ANDVSA's February
Volunteer Attorney of the Month!



BOBBIE
ALLEN

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH



JESSICA
FALKE



What our clients have to say:

“ I had lost direction and needed help in recovering from an abusive relationship. I am so thankful that pro bono services are available so that people in relationships can come out of such deep, dark places where you feel there is no hope. ”



ANDVSA Legal Client

What our clients have to say:

ANDVSA connected me with a volunteer attorney when I was going through my divorce and custody case. At the time, I felt overwhelmed and unsure of how I was going to navigate the legal system on my own. ANDVSA listened to my situation, explained my options, and helped guide me through the process step by step. Because of their support and advocacy, I was matched with an attorney who represented me during one of the most difficult times in my life and was able to get my full custody of my three children. Having legal representation made an enormous difference in my case and in my confidence moving forward.



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