# **ALASKA LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION**



Providing FREE high-quality civil legal services to Alaskans since 1967

### FACT SHEET: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

#### **OVERVIEW**

Alaska Legal Services Corporation (ALSC) is Alaska's largest provider of free civil legal help for survivors of domestic violence and abuse.

ALSC provides civil legal aid to help individuals and families achieve safety and independence. Our staff attorneys receive regular training to offer victim-centered, holistic legal services. ALSC conducts outreach and delivers legal services across all of Alaska, including the most remote areas of the state.



57.7% of adult women in Alaska have endured intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both in their lifetime.<sup>1</sup>



Intimate partner violence is 4x more common among people earning below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) compared to those earning above 400%.<sup>2</sup>



**Recent survivors of domestic** violence did not receive any or enough legal help for 88% of their civil legal problems in the past year.



Access to legal assistance increases the likelihood that domestic violence survivors will obtain protective orders, reducing risk of further violence.

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS SERVED**

In FY24, ALSC provided direct support to 1,053 domestic violence survivors, impacting 2,805 individuals across 117 Alaskan communities. Of those households, 60% included children.

#### CLIENT SUCCESS STORY: A NEW START FOR A MOTHER AND SON

At 18, Megan (name changed for privacy) came to ALSC seeking help to escape escalating abuse from her boyfriend, who is also the father of her infant son. He had been assaulting her since she was 16, and the violence worsened when he attacked her twice in front of their baby, leaving her with bruises and a cut lip.

After securing a short-term protective order, Megan turned to ALSC for support. ALSC represented her in court, where she was granted a year-long protective order, full custody of her son, child support, and supervised visitation for the father. With ALSC's help, Megan and her baby now have safety and stability.



<sup>1.</sup> UAA Justice Center, 2020 Alaska Victimization Survey, https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/academics/college-of-health/departments/justice-center/avs/ 2. Supporting Survivors: The Economic Benefits of Providing Civil Legal Assistance to Survivors of Domestic Violence. Institute for Policy Integrity at New York University School of Law. July 2015 Available at http://policyintegrity.org/documents/SupportingSurvivors.pdf 3. Legal Services Corporation. Domestic Violence. See https://justicegap.lsc.gov/resource/domestic-violence/ 4. International, Household Poverty and Nonfatal Violent Victimization, 2008–2012, Table 2, Rate of violent victimization, by victim-offender relationship and poverty level, 2008–2012, see https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/hpnvv0812.pdf.