Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Violent Crimes Compensation Board

Department of Public Safety

House Finance Subcommittee
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Executive Director

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

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Violent Crimes Compensation Board



Purpose: To empower Alaska communities to create a future free of domestic and sexual violence.

Mission: The Council promotes the prevention of domestic violence and sexual assault and provides safety for Alaskans victimized or impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault through a statewide system of crisis intervention and support, and by supporting perpetrator accountability and rehabilitation.



Alaska's Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

CDVSA was created through legislation in 1981 to build a sustainable structure to fund and support community-based services to address the needs of victims, survivors, and others impacted by the effects of domestic and sexual violence.

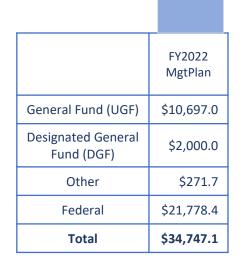
- Housed within the Department of Public Safety
- Eleven (11) member Board of Directors
- Eleven (11) full-time staff
- Fund 34 community-based agencies serving Alaskans impacted by DVSA from Utqiagvik to Unalaska
- Manage and monitor a total of 90 grant awards
- Support statewide efforts to reduce and end domestic and sexual violence in Alaska



Alaska's Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

SFY 2024 Proposed Budget Increments for CDVSA (All \$ in Thousands)

- \$3,000.0 (UGF) for DVSA Victim Services Grants Support (replace reduced federal VOCA funds
- \$1,200.0 (UGF) to increase and enhance communitybased prevention and abusive partner intervention program activities
- \$420.0 (PFD Crim) to align authority with the statutory distribution of the balance in the Restorative Justice Account



FY2023 MgtPln	
\$14,896.3	
\$2,004.6	
\$259.8	
\$16,739.9	
\$33,900.6	

■ Federal
■ Other
DGF
■ UGF

FY2024 Gov	Difference FY2023 to FY2024	% Difference FY2023 to FY2024
\$15,110.1	\$213.8	1.4%
\$2,004.6	\$0.0	0.0%
\$680.2	\$420.4	161.8%
\$13,892.7	-\$2,847.2	-17.0%
\$31,687.6	-\$2,213.0	-6.5%



Alaska's Council on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

CDVSA SFY21-24 Grant Funding - All Grant Types

Funding Source	SFY2021	SFY2022	SFY2023	Projected SFY2024
General Fund	\$8,902,662	\$8,842,500	\$8,987,387	\$8,900,000
Designated GF	\$1,411,628	\$1,426,330	\$1,469,593	\$1,480,000
I/A Receipts	\$173,583	\$173,583	\$173,583	\$173,583
Federal VOCA	\$9,944,303	\$3,434,839	\$929,476	\$2,000,000
Federal FVPSA	\$732,590	\$705,050	\$481,287	\$705,000
Federal SASP	\$378,049	\$406,054	\$400,000	\$400,000
Federal VAWA	\$266,924	\$241,522	\$234,648	\$234,648
Federal CSLFRF	\$0	\$5,153,283	\$2,771,434	\$75,283
OVC Discretionary	\$0	\$0	\$2,540,107	\$3,459,893
Relief GF (1-time)	\$0	\$0	\$3,499,927	
FVPSA ARPA	\$0		\$0	\$1,000,000
TOTAL	\$21,809,739	\$20,383,161	\$21,487,442	\$18,428,407



Budget issues, challenges, and concerns

- VOCA funding is currently not stable; recent information indicates that the Crime Victim Fund is at its lowest funding level—reducing available funds for state formula grants now and in the future.
- As each annual VOCA allocation is reduced, we also have fewer administrative funds to cover personnel, service contracts, data systems, & travel. Federal grants allow 5% administrative costs.
 CDVSA VOCA Administrative funds have been reduced by \$216,933 between FFY18 and FFY22.
- At this time, overall CDVSA grant funding is unstable and built on a significant amount of one-time funding. Since SFY2021, CDVSA has been fortunate to receive several short-term "gap funding" supplements to assist in our VOCA shortfall (see slide 5).
 - CSLFRF (FY22-24) = \$8.0 million
 - State GF 1-time funding (FY23) = \$3.5 million
 - FVPSA ARPA (FY24) = \$1.0 million
 - OVC Discretionary = \$5.0 million (FY23-23) and \$4.0 million (FY24-25)



Budget issues, challenges, and concerns (continued)

- Funding for Prevention initiatives and services to address the causes of violence perpetrated by abusive partners (Battering Intervention Programs) are critical components needed to reduce and eliminate domestic and sexual violence in Alaska. Currently, <u>Victim/Enhanced Services receives 90% of available grant funding</u>, <u>Prevention receives 8%</u>, and <u>BIP/PBP programs receive 2%</u>. For this reason, the new funding increments in the proposed FY24 budget, for Prevention and BIP/PBP programming are significant.
- Increased funding for Prevention and programming for abusive partners is critical to ending DVSA—we need a continuum of services and strategies.
- Community-based <u>DVSA Victim Service programs require consistent, stable, and sustainable funding</u>. Operating 24/7 emergency shelter programs is difficult emotionally and financially—the uncertainty of ongoing funding creates additional stress, agency and staff insecurity, and reduced services.

Violent Crimes Compensation Board

Mission

The Violent Crimes Compensation Board (VCCB) exists to alleviate some of the financial burden victims face following a violent crime.

Crimes Served

- Homicide
- Assault
- Arson
- Child Abuse
- Sexual Assault
- •DUI/DWI
- Robbery

Expense Type

- Funeral & Burial
- Lost Wages
- Medical & Mental Health
- Relocation
- Safety & Security
- Crime Scene Clean Up
- Travel

Violent Crimes Compensation Board

History: 1973 – Present Day

Federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) established fund to help support state programs.

Staff - 3 Volunteer Board - 3

Applications - 219

1984

VCCB is on track to process over 1,000 claims again this year.

Staff - 3

Volunteer Board - 3 Applications > 1,000

2023

1973

Alaska among first states in the nation to create a compensation program.

Staff - 3

Volunteer Board - 3

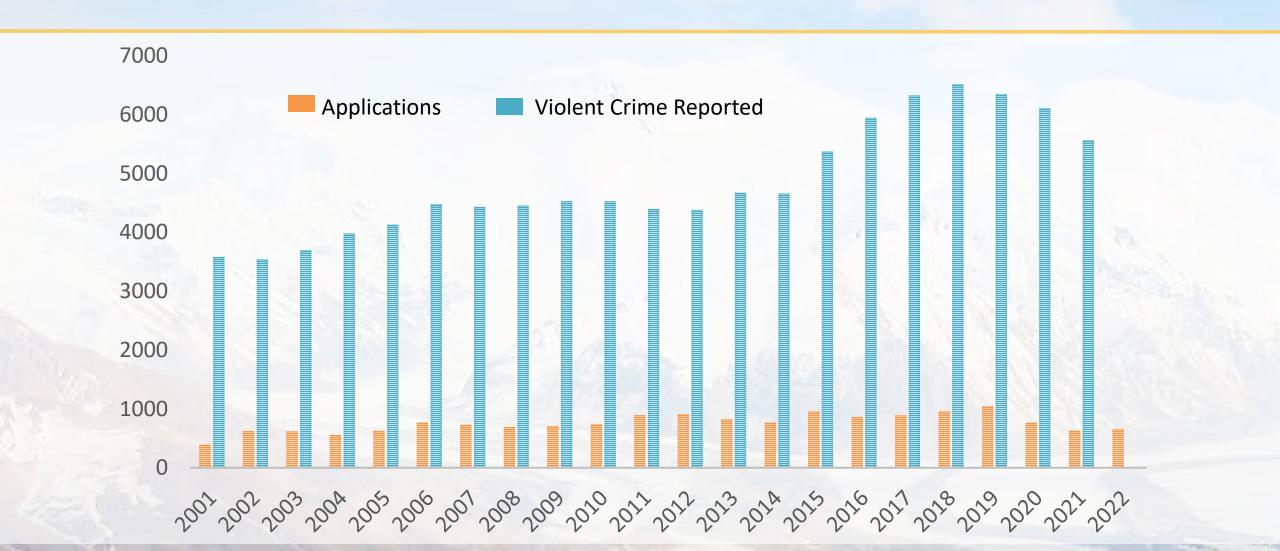
Applications - 15

2008

Amendment to AS 18.67 allows for donations and recoveries of reimbursements to be included in VCCB award.

Staff - 3 Volunteer Board - 3 Applications - 1,046

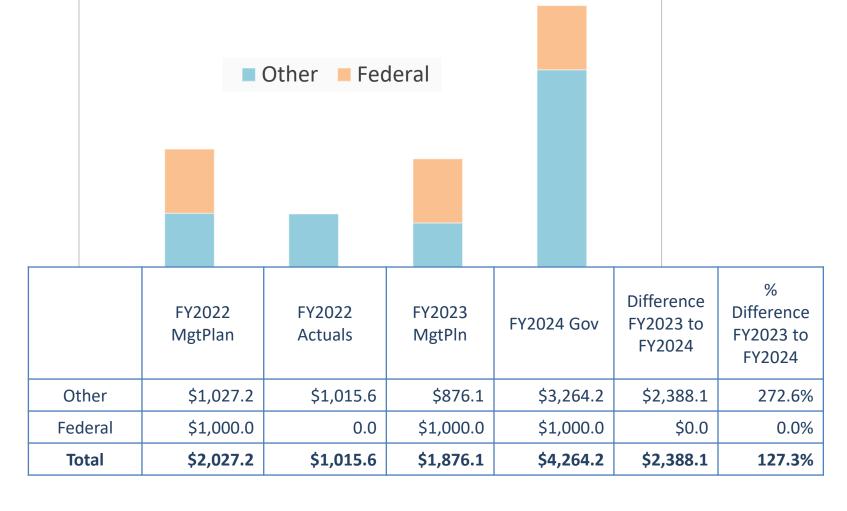
Violent Crimes Compensation Board Capacity Challenges



Violent Crimes Compensation Board

FY24 Significant Operating Budget Changes

- Add Paralegal and Administrative Officer to help meet the need and stabilize the VCCB (\$0.0)
- Align authority with statutory distribution of the balance in the Restorative Justice account (\$2,382.2 Crime VCF).





Thank You

For your attention and commitment to the needs, concerns, and outcomes for all Alaska victims and survivors of violent crime in Alaska.

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