

**Department:** District Attorney

**Program Contact:** Hope Hansmeyer

**Program Offer Type:** Operating

**Program Offer Stage:** Adopted

**Related Programs:**
**Program Characteristics:**
**Executive Summary**

The victim advocate is a champion for victims during various stages of the criminal justice process. The primary goal of the Victim Assistance Program is to make the criminal justice system more responsive to community members, particularly to victims of crime. MCDA strives to make every effort to provide victims a meaningful role throughout the process, involvement at every stage of a criminal case, and assure the rights of the crime victims.

**Program Description**

Victim advocates work directly with crime victims to explain the overall criminal justice system as well as how individual stages apply to their situation. Victim advocates act as a liaison between diverse stakeholders including law enforcement, attorneys, government and community agencies, and victims of crime. They translate highly complex and technical information about the criminal justice process in a trauma-informed manner to best help victims. This includes the rights afforded to them under the Oregon Constitution, safety planning, short-term crisis intervention, court accompaniment; coordinated advocacy and referrals to an array of services and resources and guiding victims through the process they may make informed decisions.

All named victims with defendants being prosecuted by the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office (MCDA) receive information about their rights as victims, an opportunity to submit information about their losses for restitution, and notification letters on the case status and disposition. The MCDA provides an average of 30,000 victim's rights notifications each year.

The program also provides a 24-hour on-call response to accompany victims and survivors of sexual assault to the hospital during law enforcement interviews and forensic medical examinations. The program carries out this effort with a team of paid staff and over 45 volunteers. This immediate crisis intervention service provides critical information and resources to survivors of sexual assault during the early stages of the investigation. This allows survivors to make the most informed choices throughout this difficult process. The immediate response is followed by ongoing support and advocacy through the investigation and prosecution of the case.

In addition to the above services, the program has also been involved in establishing several other programs: U Visa Certification, Sexual Assault Response Team, Multnomah County Justice Reinvestment Program, Justice Integrity Unit, Human Trafficking Team, and the Gateway Center for Domestic Violence Services.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY23 Actual	FY24 Budgeted	FY24 Estimate	FY25 Target
Output	Number of victims of crime assigned a victim advocate on cases	3,208	3,000	3,552	3,600
Outcome	Number of services contacts provided to victims of crime by Victims Assistance program	82,844	75,000	67,576	75,000

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

## Legal / Contractual Obligation

Article I Section 42 Oregon Constitution - Rights of Victims in criminal prosecutions and juvenile delinquency proceedings. ORS 147.405, ORS 147.417 - Victim to be notified of constitutional rights. ORS 147.22 - Disbursement of moneys to be used for comprehensive victim's assistance programs.

## Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2024	2024	2025	2025
Personnel	\$645,272	\$1,473,014	\$859,635	\$1,400,555
Contractual Services	\$9,000	\$4,500	\$9,000	\$3,500
Materials & Supplies	\$20,000	\$0	\$19,874	\$0
Internal Services	\$326,605	\$350,490	\$351,602	\$335,882
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$1,000,877</b>	<b>\$1,828,004</b>	<b>\$1,240,111</b>	<b>\$1,739,937</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$2,828,881</b>		<b>\$2,980,048</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	5.76	11.94	6.75	11.25

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$1,828,004	\$0	\$1,739,937
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,828,004</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,739,937</b>

## Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$335,882 in indirect revenues.

Fed through State Fund ~ Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Non-Competitive Grant = \$943,267

Fed through State Fund ~ Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Competitive Grant = \$129,678

State (Direct) Fund ~ Criminal Fine Account Non-Competitive Grant = \$624,443

Federal (Direct) Fund ~ DCJ with U.S. DOJ Office for Victims of Crimes Grant = \$42,549

## Significant Program Changes

**Last Year this program was:** FY 2024: 15401 Victims Assistance Program

This program offer moved from Investigations Division (Previously known as Division 4) to the Administrations Division to align with operations.

Added 1.00 FTE Program Specialist within MCDA's General Fund constraint.

Moved 1.00 FTE Victim Advocate position from PO 15207A (MAAP) to this program offer to align with operations.

Reduced 0.70 FTE Victim Advocate position due to reduction in grant funding.

Cut 1.00 FTE Victim Advocate position due to VOCA grant ending.