



**Program #15401 - Victims Assistance Program** FY 2024 Proposed

**Department:** District Attorney **Program Contact:** Jamila Williams  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing **Program Offer Stage:** Proposed  
**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. It is the philosophy of the office that every effort is made 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 | Primary Measure  | FY22 Actual | FY23 Budgeted | FY23 Estimate | FY24 Offer |
|--------------|--|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Output       | Number of victims of crime assigned a victim advocate on cases                         | 3,687       | 2,841         | 2,866         | 3,000      |
| Outcome      | Number of services contacts provided to victims of crime by Victims Assistance program | 69,739      | 29,233        |               |            |
| Outcome      |  |             |               |               |            |

**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<br>General Fund | Adopted<br>Other Funds | Proposed<br>General Fund | Proposed<br>Other Funds |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Program Expenses</b> | <b>2023</b>             | <b>2023</b>            | <b>2024</b>              | <b>2024</b>             |
| Personnel               | \$499,880               | \$1,388,297            | \$519,072                | \$1,473,014             |
| Contractual Services    | \$9,000                 | \$0                    | \$9,000                  | \$4,500                 |
| Materials & Supplies    | \$20,000                | \$0                    | \$20,000                 | \$0                     |
| Internal Services       | \$382,471               | \$300,852              | \$326,605                | \$350,490               |
| <b>Total GF/non-GF</b>  | <b>\$911,351</b>        | <b>\$1,689,149</b>     | <b>\$874,677</b>         | <b>\$1,828,004</b>      |
| <b>Program Total:</b>   | <b>\$2,600,500</b>      |                        | <b>\$2,702,681</b>       |                         |
| <b>Program FTE</b>      | 4.61                    | 12.39                  | 4.76                     | 11.94                   |

| <b>Program Revenues</b> |            |                    |            |                    |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Intergovernmental       | \$0        | \$1,689,149        | \$0        | \$1,828,004        |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>    | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$1,689,149</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$1,828,004</b> |

## Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$350,490 in indirect revenues.

\$915,244 Estimated (Fed through State) + \$724,446 Estimated (Direct State) Agreement with DOJ Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division (CVSSD) Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) / Criminal Fine Account Non-Competitive Grant

\$147,220 Estimated (Fed through State) Federal Fund Agreement with DOJ CVSSD VOCA Funding Initiatives Competitive Grant. The estimated is based on the assumption that MCDA would be able to secure this competitive award when the existing one expires on 9/30/23.

\$41,094 (Direct Federal) Fund Agreement with U.S. DOJ - Crime Victim Tech Enhancement Case Companion

## Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 15401A Victims Assistance Program