

**Department:** District Attorney      **Program Contact:** Jodi Erickson  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating Program      **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** Backfill State/Federal/Grant

**Executive Summary**

Restores 0.76 FTE of a Domestic Violence Victim Advocate position. This advocate position provides services to an average of 300 victims of crime each year that are associated with cases issued by the office. In addition to assigned cases, advocates serve a number of victims and survivors who do not have open cases with the office through in person or phone contact. This position serves as a point of contact for service providers throughout the county and assists with the VAWA project to increase access for domestic violence victims from groups and communities impacted by inequity. The Victim Assistance Program offers an array of service with bilingual and bicultural staff.

**Program Summary**

Victim advocates work directly with crime victims to explain the overall criminal justice system as well as how individual stages apply to their specific situation. Victim advocates increase access to vital services for victims of crime by acting as a liaison between diverse stakeholders including law enforcement, attorneys, government and community agencies. 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 prosecution process so that they can make informed decisions.

On average, each advocate in the program services just over 300 victims on issued cases each year. Additionally, there are a number of victims and survivors who are assisted with safety planning, restraining orders, and referrals to other services and resources who do not have cases that are charged. This position works directly with system-based and community-based partners to improve access to justice for domestic violence survivors.

The role of an advocate is relationship based and can require a great deal of time to build rapport, meaningfully connect with victims and establish trust in a system that they may face great barriers to access.

Victims from traditionally underserved populations or who face significant barriers need additional assistance to access services and support to cope with the impacts of being victimized. Advocates are often the first to learn about tampering, witness intimidation, new crimes that are being committed and necessary accommodations for equitable access. Victims of crime have an often times difficult and lengthy process as they seek justice. Advocates from the program work closely with other system and community based advocates and partners. This assists with providing In addition to the direct impacts of the crime that was committed against

**Performance Measures**

<b>Measure Type</b>	<b>Primary Measure</b>	<b>FY20 Actual</b>	<b>FY21 Budgeted</b>	<b>FY21 Estimate</b>	<b>FY22 Offer</b>
Output	Number of victims of crime assigned a victim advocate	N/A	N/A	N/A	245
Outcome	Number of services contacts provided to victims of crime by Victim Assistance Program	N/A	N/A	N/A	335

**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	2021	2021	2022	2022
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$76,838	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$15,488	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$92,326</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$92,326</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.76	0.00

Program Revenues				
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## Explanation of Revenues

## Significant Program Changes

### Last Year this program was:

Funding for this position restores 0.76 FTE of funding for a Victim Advocate lost due to a 10% reduction in Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding beginning October 1, 2021. In order to avoid a staffing reduction of 0.76 FTE of a Victim Advocate, General Funds are reallocated.