



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

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 our 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

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer
Output	Number of victims of crime assigned a victim advocate	241	234	245	245
Outcome	Number of services contacts provided to victims of crime by Victim Assistance Program	667	1,134	305	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	Requested General Fund	Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022
Personnel	\$0	\$0	\$76,838	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$0	\$15,488	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$92,326	\$0
Program Total:	\$0		\$92,326	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.76	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was:

Funding for this position restores 0.76 FTE of our domestic violence services for victims harmed by intimate partner violence and familial violence. Domestic violence cases are relationship based and oftentimes contain complex family and community relationships, historical abuse with frequent lethality indicators and are high risk for tampering and intimidation. Charges can include violations of protective orders, harassment, stalking, strangulation, sexual assault, burglary, menacing, assault and homicides.

This position requires a high level of collaboration and communication to best support victims of domestic violence. In addition to direct services provided to victims; advocates participate in trainings, meetings and co-advocacy with a variety of other city, county, regional and national partners to make our systems and services more responsive to the individual needs of victims. This position adds capacity for our program to participate in a host of these activities.