

**Department:** Community Justice

**Program Contact:** Rosa Garcia

**Program Offer Type:** Support

**Program Offer Stage:** As Proposed

**Related Programs:**
**Program Characteristics:**

### Executive Summary

The Department of Community Justice (DCJ) Victim and Survivor Services (VSS) collaborates with public safety agencies and community partners as well as DCJ staff to develop a more coordinated system response to crime victims/survivors in Multnomah County. VSS provides survivor-centered consultation on policy and procedures; ensures crime victim's rights are upheld and integrated into supervision practices; educates DCJ staff and community partners around victim rights and best practices for supporting victims/survivors; collaborates with partners to engage in system change that is trauma informed, survivor-led and consistent with best practices; and provides advocacy and support to people who have experienced harm.

### Program Summary

In FY 2021 VSS updated their strategic plan to more closely align services with equity, trauma informed and survivor led approaches. Many of the goals and activities put forth in this plan came directly out of a department wide strength and needs assessment. This includes establishing two culturally specific caseloads to serve Black, African American and Latinx survivors. Services offered by VSS include:

**Notification:** Crime victims' legal rights are guaranteed by Oregon law, yet they are often unaware of these rights. Notification is the most important - if a victim is not given notice of the time and place of a sentencing hearing, there is little chance that they will ever have the opportunity to be heard. In cases of domestic violence and stalking, notification of a justice-involved individual's (JII) release is more than a matter of interest, it is sometimes a matter of life and death.

**Advocacy:** Advocates support survivors through safety planning; crisis response; emotional support; community referrals; system information and navigation; accessing emergency funds; and court accompaniment. Advocates serve as a critical piece of support to survivors as they navigate a confusing and often re-traumatizing criminal justice system that was not built with their needs in mind. DCJ Advocates are unique in that once a JII is on supervision they can support the survivor through the entire system. Survivor safety is often in jeopardy after a JII is sentenced. DCJ Advocates are the only system-based advocates that can help them access community resources, safety plan, and provide support to the healing process.

**Victim and Survivor Services Fund:** This fund helps ease financial burdens survivors often face due to the victimization they experience by JIIs and provide temporary emergency assistance that bridge the gap to self-sufficiency or longer term support from other agencies, or are related to an immediate safety concern.

**Training and Education:** VSS provides a wide variety of trainings and consultations to partners including: victim rights, working with survivors, trauma informed care, sex trafficking, and domestic violence.

### Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY21 Actual	FY22 Budgeted	FY22 Estimate	FY23 Offer
Output	Number of initial contacts with victims of probation cases	2,022	2,000	2,000	2,000
Outcome	Monthly average victims served through victim advocacy	187	70	150	150
Outcome	Number of crime victims registering for ongoing notifications	1014	500	600	600

### Performance Measures Descriptions

In FY 2021 monthly average victims/survivors served increased by 63%, from 70.5 per month to 187 per month. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated issues that survivors face in the aftermath of crime and violence. In the past two years the department has improved how information is shared to victims/survivors which has allowed them to be more aware of their rights. It is predicted the pandemic will have long-term ripple effects that will continue to impact service levels with VSS.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2022	2022	2023	2023
Personnel	\$817,534	\$0	\$858,449	\$47,179
Contractual Services	\$16,500	\$0	\$16,500	\$9,147
Materials & Supplies	\$7,851	\$0	\$8,360	\$342
Internal Services	\$100	\$0	\$325	\$7,252
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$841,985</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$883,634</b>	<b>\$63,920</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$841,985</b>		<b>\$947,554</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	7.00	0.00	6.70	0.30

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$63,920
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$63,920</b>

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$7,252 in indirect revenues.  
County General Fund plus

\$63,920 a portion of the award from US Dept. of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). County is awarded a total 3-year award of \$1M, award period 10/01/2021 - 09/30/2024 from OVC. Award is allocated between the County Dept. of Community Justice and the County District Attorney Office. Award funding will not only expand the functionality and usability of Multnomah County's Case Companion (<https://casecompanion.multco.us/>) which is a public website for victims of crime, but also to better supporting and reducing barriers for victims and survivors of crime as they navigate the complex criminal legal system. Funding also supports development of a plan for state implementation for the Case Companion. FY 2023 budget is per the grantor approved budget.

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2022: 50003 DCJ Victim Services Unit

Position #716079 - Program Specialist (0.20 FTE) and position #715426 - Community Justice Manager (0.10 FTE) was allocated from general fund to other funds due to the OVC grant.