

Center for Crime Victim Services FY 2026 Budget

MANDATE:

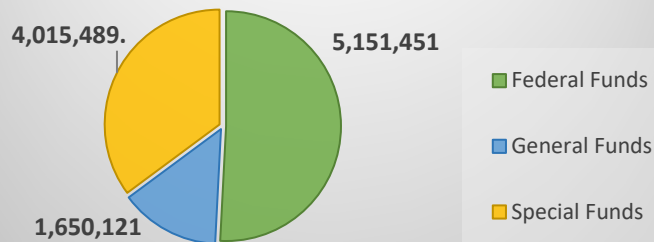
The Center for Crime Victim Services is mandated under 13 V.S.A. § 5361, §5359 (Comp) and §5362 (Restitution) to establish, strengthen and coordinate programs serving crime victims. In addition to its specific programmatic responsibilities, CCVS is required by statute to:

- Promote the rights and needs of crime victims statewide;
- Administer federal and state grant funds for crime victim services; and,
- Serve as a clearinghouse for information regarding crime victims.

The Center for Crime Victim Services received most of its State funding through three special funds.

1. Victim Compensation Fund
2. Domestic and Sexual Violence Fund
3. Crime Victims Restitution Fund

CCVS SFY 2026 Funding \$10,817,061



FY 2026 SUMMARY & HIGHLIGHTS

- The SFY2026 budget reflects the need for additional general funds to continue to support core services as well as ensure long-term stability for organizations and agencies that provide support to victims and survivors throughout Vermont.
- The CCVS budget is unlike other state of Vermont agencies, which receive a general fund appropriation with annual increases. Rather, the CCVS' budget is based on projections of averages and trends of a declining revenue source (traffic tickets and court fines and fees), and federal grants that fluctuate annually.
- The FY24 Federal Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funding for SFY26 had a decrease of 44% from \$3,041,379 to \$1,938,654. This will have an impact on countless direct service programs in our state.
- CCVS' General Fund appropriation is used as a straight pass-through to support Victim Service programs, including Child Advocacy Centers, STOP Prosecutors, and VT Network Anti-Violence grants; CCVS does not retain administrative funds.
- In SFY24, a change was enacted to the \$47 surcharge in 13 V.S.A §7282, allocating \$3.75 to the Victim Compensation Fund and \$3.50 to the Domestic and Sexual Violence Fund to increase revenues; in its 2022 report, the JFO projected that such a change would result in an additional \$300K-400K annually, to be shared. However, CCVS has only seen revenues closer to \$150-\$200K.
- The SFY26 budget shows a reduction in grants to support the Supervised Visitation Grants, a grant to the Vermont Network to support a part-time Supervised Visitation Coordinator position, and a part-time Domestic Violence Council Coordinator position that have been supported from the declining Compensation Special Fund.
- CCVS intends to use the 3% base increase to support the ever-increasing cost of database annual hosting and support for both the Victim Compensation and Grants Management systems necessary to support victim services.