

MISSION: The Center for Crime Victim Services offers support, advocacy and services for those impacted by crime, and works to hold those who have caused harm responsible.

In 1991, the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services was created under 13 VSA §5361 to:

- Promote the rights and needs of crime victims statewide;
- Develop, strengthen and coordinate programs serving victims;
- Administer federal and state grant funds for crime victim services;
- Oversee the State of Vermont's Victims Compensation Program and Restitution Unit; and,
- Serve as a clearinghouse for information regarding crime victims.

# Support for Victims of Crime in Vermont

The Center for Crime Victim Services is a multi-faceted agency that provides, sustains, and supports a collaborative system of direct services that provides for the Safety and Security of Vermonters.

# Compensation Program 13 VSA §5361

The program provides limited financial assistance to victims who have experienced an uninsured financial loss as a direct result of a crime.

### Compensation Claims SFY 2024:

Victims Compensation

- 457 claims = \$416,125.72 disbursed to eligible victims
- Each eligible claim has a \$10,000 maximum cap for payment of crime related losses. Crime related losses include, but are not limited to, medical and dental care, counseling, funeral sots, lost wages, relocation and travel expenses
- Top expenses were funeral, medical and counseling expenses.

Sexual Assault Program

219 claims = \$86,774.92 disbursed to eligible victims

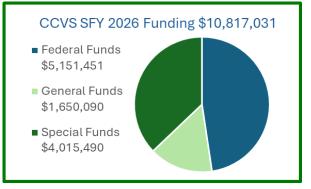
## Restitution Unit 13 VSA §5362

The Unit collects restitution owed to victims by criminal offenders, enforces restitution orders, and processes claims for Special Fund advancements of up to \$5,000 to eligible victims.

- In FY24, the Restitution Unit made 3,314 payments totaling \$1,004,076.43; of this \$241,351.85 was advanced to individual victims from the fund and
- \$762,724.58 was paid to victims as it was collected.

# **CCVS Grant Programming**

CCVS administers 240 discrete subgrants to 62 statewide programs that support victim services is reliant on federal and special funds. Victim Services are overly dependent on fluctuating and declining sources of funding.



## **General Funds:**

General Funds are used to support Child Advocacy Centers, Supervised Visitation Programs, DV/SV Prosecutor positions and the Vermont Network Anti-Violence Grants. These funds are a "straight pass-through", currently CCVS is tasked with administering these funds, requiring strict adherence to all federal and state rules, from creation of award documents to closeout, without any financial support to do so.

# State of Vermont Funded Grant Programs

### Child Advocacy Centers (CAC) - \$92,350

13 Child Advocacy Centers in Vermont house multidisciplinary teams to make decisions about the investigation, treatment, management and prosecution of cases of child physical and sexual abuse and neglect.

### Supervised Visitation Program (SVP) \$123,738

Supervised Visitation Programs (SVPs) provide a neutral and safe space in which a child may have contact with a non-custodial parent.

### Anti Violence Grant \$1,066,259

The 14 Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence programs individuals whose lives were impacted by domestic and sexual violence.

# Domestic Violence & Sexual Violence Special Fund (DVSV) \$806,195

\$806,195 supports Vermont Network Programs; \$17,640 supports the DV Council Coordinator



The mission of the Crime Victim Advisors is to join with the Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services to provide guidance on systemic changes that will benefit other crime victims, contribute to the prevention of crime and violence, and to advance in the healing journey of survivors.

They offer feedback to victim-centered programs, training events, public outreach, education, and legislative advocacy.

Survivors have a critical role to play in Vermont's response to violence and victimization. Their guidance, knowledge, and experience is at the center of our work.

## Federally Funded Grant Programs

**Services Training Officers and Prosecutors (STOP)** \$859,024, STOP supports communities in their efforts to develop and strengthen effective responses to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.

**Family Violence Prevention Services Act (FVPSA)** \$803,024, FVPSA funds in Vermont help programs to serve 550 women, 324 children and 40 men in shelter who were exposed to domestic violence.

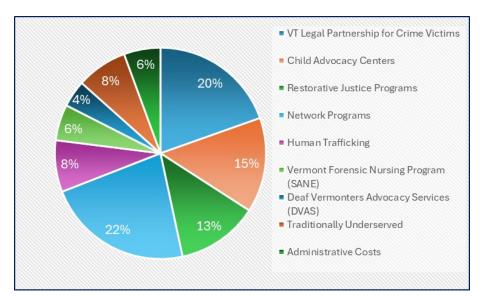
**Sexual Assault Services Program** (SASP) \$771,191 supports Vermont's two stand-alone rape crisis centers allowing them to serve 190 victims of sexual assault with legal advocacy, crisis intervention, hospital/clinic/other medical response, case management and 24/7 hot line.

**Rural Grant Program** \$316,667 Provides funding and support to children and families who live in isolation and whose lives have been impacted by violence.

**Family Violence Prevention Services Act: (ARPA Funds)** \$777K, were provided by the federal agency of Health and Human Services, due to the impact of the COVID pandemic on victim services programing. *This funding ends September 30, 2025*.

#### Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) \$1,938,654

In SFY26, federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant decreased from \$3M to \$1.9M. This is the largest victim services funding that CCVS receives, supporting 46 programs, to include the following:



### Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Allocations

# **CCVS Special Funds**

CCVS administers 3 Special Funds that are supported by a surcharge on civil violations and criminal convictions, per 13 VSA §7282. This has been a declining revenue source for over a decade.

### Victims Compensation Special Fund (Compensation) 13 VSA §5359

The Compensation Fund provides financial assistance to victims that have experienced a financial loss as a direct result of a crime, to include medical, loss of wages, funeral, counseling, housing and relocation, sexual assault mental and health services, crime scene clean up, and others.

The Fund has experienced a 50% decline in revenues over the past five years and is currently projected to have a deficit in SFY 25 in the amount of \$562K.

## Crime Victims Restitution Special Fund (Restitution) 13 VSA §5363

The Restitution Fund aims to address the financial loss and hardship caused to victims of crime. The Fund provides advancements to individuals for crime-related losses ordered by a court and supports the operation of the Unit. The Unit collects restitution from offenders on behalf of their victims and enforces outstanding orders.

The Fund has experienced a 33% decrease in revenues over the past five years and is currently projected to have a deficit in SFY 25 in the amount of \$324K.

## Domestic and Sexual Violence Special Fund (DV/SV) 13 VSA §5360

The DV/SV Fund provides funding for programs that address domestic and sexual violence and stalking. Funding is passed through CCVS to support the Network and its 14 member programs, the Domestic Violence Council Coordinator, and The Pride Center of Vermont. In addition to the surcharge, this Fund also relies on marriage license fees, as established under 32 VSA §1712(1).

The DV/SV Fund continues to fluctuate from year to year and is currently projected to have a deficit in SFY 25 in the amount of \$93K.

# The Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services is seeking an additional \$2,539,000 in General Funds for SFY26:

- \$1.5 M to support VOCA core victim services
- \$600K to address the projected deficit in the Victims Compensation Special Fund
- \$324K to address the projected deficit in the Restitution Special Fund
- \$115K = 5% of the \$2.3M of the General Funds and Domestic and Sexual Violence Special Funds to support administrative requirements

