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Embracing a New Normal
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Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

CDVSA Board of Directors

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Blaze Bell, Vice Chair, Public Member
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Marjorie Hamburger, Program Coordinator 1
Marsha Layton, Administrative Officer 2
Catherine Mohn, Research Analyst 3
Ella Nierra, Grants Administrator 3
Ann Rausch, Program Coordinator 2
Meggie Stogner, Program Coordinator 2
Angela Wells, Administrative Assistant 2

Our Purpose

To empower Alaska communities to create a future free of domestic and sexual violence.
Before writing our annual leadership letter, we looked back at the last five years since Diane took on the role of executive director in May 2017 to identify things that were different and things that remained the same. During the last five years, CDVSA has grown and changed in ways both big and small. We experienced challenges that sometimes felt overwhelming but mostly we have experienced great progress despite those challenges.

Each year our annual theme has built on the previous year—from “Change, Progress, Commitment” (SFY17), “Building Momentum. Ideas into Action” (SFY18), to “Working Together for Change” (SFY19). With the pandemic in 2020, the themes became more focused on unexpected change—“Times Without Precedent” (SFY20-21) and this year, “Redefining Our Work: Embracing a New Normal Post COVID” (SFY22).

What we know about organizations is that change is constant. There is no destination, only a lifelong journey of defining, designing, evaluating, and changing to meet a new or revised reality.

As we said in last year’s letter, the pandemic taught us valuable lessons in flexibility, preparedness, and adjusting to our new environment to enable us to “get the job done.” Looking back over SFY2022, we recognize that we gave up some things, revised others, and realized we are not in control of everything that impacts us! By making these adjustments over the past few years, we recognized what was a priority and what could be eased, altered, or changed to help us accomplish the important work that is CDVSA. It allowed us to see what was possible.

State fiscal year 2022 was a year of significant achievements despite changes in the structure and appearance of the workforce and our adjustments to a new normal. Key projects included:

- Finalizing the statutorily required Sunset Audit, with the continuation of CDVSA for six more years as a necessary and viable council that is meeting its statutory responsibilities.
- Writing and receiving OVW approval for our STOP four-year State Implementation Plan, outlining our work to support the Violence Against Women Act.
- Progressing in our vision to make services accessible for all victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence regardless of English proficiency through translating service information into eight different languages to be made available on the CDVSA website in SFY23.
- Completing the first steps to expand, revise and envision a better approach to serving individuals who use violence in their relationships.

These are just a few examples of the important work achieved in SFY2022 despite the challenges we faced.

No doubt next year will bring new challenges that will continue to change how we do our work, but we will be ready. Together, staff, board members, sub-grantees, collaborators, and partners will adapt to preserve our organization’s history, as well as embrace the required changes to empower Alaska communities to create futures free of domestic and sexual violence.

Angela Garay
Board Chair

L. Diane Casto
Executive Director
SFY 2022
Key Initiatives, Successes, and Challenges
CDVSA Extended Until June 30, 2028

Sunset Audit Concluded

The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, as required by AS 44.66.050, receives a periodic Sunset Audit to determine if there is a demonstrated public need for its continued existence and if it is operating in an effective manner. In SFY2021, a required Sunset Audit was carried out in anticipation of CDVSA’s set termination date of June 30, 2022. The last Sunset Audit was conducted in SFY2013 and extended CDVSA for eight years.

The CDVSA Sunset Audit began February 23, 2021, and was finalized at the beginning of SFY2022. A final audit report was published on July 30, 2021, and submitted to members of the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee on September 17, 2021. In January 2022, Representative Geran Tarr introduced House Bill 291 (HB 291), “An Act extending the termination date of the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, and providing an effective date.” The bill received two House Committees of referral—House State Affairs and House Finance and the other from Senate Finance. In February 2022, a Committee Substitute for HB 291 was introduced to add two new positions to the Council Board membership—one public member who shall be a member of an Alaska Native Tribe or organization and one state member, the chief executive officer of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority or designee.

After much discussion, debate, and votes, HB 291 was passed by both the House and Senate and passed into law, with an effective date of September 27, 2022. CDVSA is now extended until June 30, 2028.

The final Sunset Audit report is posted at https://legaudit.akleg.gov/audits/sunset.
In SFY2022, the CDVSA initiated statewide efforts to plan for and draft the state’s VAWA STOP Implementation Plan (IP) for federal fiscal years 2022-2025. The plan serves to prioritize statewide training and service needs to better prevent and respond to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking under the federal VAWA STOP formula grants to states. In addition, the statewide planning process assists the CDVSA in the coordination of prevention programming, victim’s services, and programs for those that perpetrate violence, thus assisting the state to better leverage resources to address, reduce, and prevent these forms of violence across disciplines and funding streams.

As part of the planning process, CDVSA organized several opportunities to gather stakeholder input. These opportunities included the creation of a statewide survey of priority needs for services and training within the VAWA STOP allocation areas of victim services, law enforcement, prosecution, and courts. The survey was emailed to tribal leaders of all 229 federally recognized Alaska Native Tribes, the CDVSA Board of Directors; domestic violence and sexual assault victim service agencies; state and municipal law enforcement; mental health professionals, and those representing underserved populations including LGBTQIA2S+ and those with disabilities. In addition, CDVSA hosted three listening sessions, open to tribal representatives of the 229 federally recognized tribes, to ensure additional access and diverse opportunities to Alaska’s tribes wishing to participate in the planning process. CDVSA also organized and hosted a state planning committee with representation from Alaska’s dual domestic violence and sexual assault coalition (ANDVSA), state law enforcement, state prosecutors, state courts, tribal representatives, UAA Center for Human Development’s Disability Justice Initiative, the Identity Community Center for LGBTQ+, two community-based domestic violence and sexual assault programs, military sexual assault team coordinators, and the UAA Justice Center.

Programs and projects supported with VAWA STOP grant dollars are generally statewide in application with an emphasis on ensuring participation from rural isolated areas of the state. Alaska prioritizes STOP-funded training and service delivery that increases institutional responses that are trauma-informed, culturally relevant, and victim-centered.

VAWA STOP is a formula grant and funding is defined in federal regulations and distributed by allocation area. Recipients in Alaska include the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the Alaska State Troopers, Alaska Department of Law, and Alaska State Courts. Ten percent is set aside out of the victim service allocation to a non-compete tribal grant recipient with statewide reach.

CDVSA continues to make progress on the implementation of its Language Access Plan to improve access to services for Alaskans with limited or no English proficiency. Working in partnership with the Alaska Institute for Justice (AIJ), CDVSA identified the need for translated information regarding how to access services provided by our 35-funded service agencies. Information about direct services has been translated into the top 8 most-spoken languages currently in Alaska: Spanish, Tagalog, Korean, Russian, Hmong, Samoan, Yup’ik, and Chinese. In collaboration, AIJ and Department of Public Safety (DPS)’s IT are translating the information found on the CDVSA webpage. Additionally, a translation has been completed for a complaint form and request procedures for those in need of translated materials in other languages from CDVSA. This project is proving to be an extremely valuable resource, as partner agencies will be able to provide a link on their own websites to this database, reducing duplicate efforts for translating critical information and improving access to services regardless of their English proficiency.

Reshaping Services for Abusive Partners—Perpetrator Rehabilitation Workgroup

A Perpetrator Rehabilitation (PR) Workgroup, comprised of a diverse array of individuals, disciplines, and regions representing the Alaska Court System; Department of Corrections; Victim Service Programs; Battering Intervention Programs (BIP); Alaska Native Women’s Resource Center; Office of Children’s Services; Behavioral Health Providers; Division of Juvenile Justice; Department of Law; Office of Public Advocacy; and the Anchorage Police Department was created at the end of SFY2021 and continued throughout SFY2022. The PR Workgroup, facilitated by contractor Denali Daniels of Denali Daniels + Associates, met monthly for nearly 18 months. The first meeting of the PR Workgroup was on April 27, 2021, and the last meeting was on September 21, 2022.

The last event for the PR Workgroup was a stakeholder input meeting to present the concept paper that captured the overall effort of the workgroup and to solicit feedback and dialogue about the Workgroup considerations. The hybrid meeting was held on October 4, 2022, with 13 participants attending in-person and 26 attending virtually.

In a parallel project to the PR Workgroup, Dr. Rei Shimizu from UAA School of Social Work conducted a stakeholder interview project that identified key stakeholders representing victim advocates, BIP providers, probation officers, law enforcement, judges, and attorneys (prosecutor and defense), and the six Alaska regions (Southeast, Southcentral, Southwest, Western, Arctic, and Interior).

The final report, Stakeholder Interview Project: Examining the State’s Response to Domestic Violence is available at http://hdl.handle.net/11122/13056.

While the work of the PR Workgroup has come to an end, the hard work to revise and renew the state’s BIP programming is just beginning. In SFY2023, CDVSA will begin to implement the identified changes, work with the Alaska Department of Corrections to update related regulations and establish a new process for agencies to apply to become a state-approved perpetrator rehabilitation program. CDVSA will hire a new Program Coordinator 2, who will work to reestablish the application process based on the new program considerations. The new coordinator will create an effective and efficient program approach, including an ongoing plan for participant monitoring and regular review, and re-approval of programs. CDVSA and its partners are excited to have an effective, evidence-informed approach to changing abusive behaviors, creating accountability, and healing for everyone impacted by domestic violence in Alaska.

The final PR Workgroup Concept Paper is available at https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Resources/CDVSA-Publications under Misc. Reports.
In SFY2022, CDVSA worked with two UAA Social Work Practicum students. The graduate students, Karragh Arndt and Jennifer Anderson, provided over 450 hours of graduate-level work on two projects critical to CDVSA and the agency’s statutory obligations. Karragh Arndt worked with CDVSA Staff and VAWA Administrator Ann Rausch to draft the state’s VAWA STOP implementation plan. Karragh’s work was key in analyzing survey data of the general population and from tribal governments. Karragh was the principal author of the state’s demographic and tribal section of the state’s plan. Karragh worked as a true partner and her work made it possible for CDVSA to complete the state’s plan with meaningful input, providing a pathway forward to the state’s coordinated efforts to reduce these forms of violence throughout Alaska.

Jennifer Anderson, a student from Wasilla, provided great resources and insight for members of the Perpetrator Rehabilitation Workgroup. Jennifer’s practicum was a virtual experience and yet she engaged easily and often with staff, contractors, and our UAA Support Team with passion and interest to improve services for abusive partners. She worked with CDVSA Executive Director L. Diane Casto to help support, guide, and conduct research on relevant topics to expand the knowledge of the PR Workgroup. One major project was a comprehensive overview of perpetrator programming in 6 states—Washington, Idaho, Montana, Iowa, New Hampshire, and Georgia.

A big thank you to both Karragh and Jennifer. They brought a wealth of knowledge, curiosity, and tremendous energy to every project they worked on.
Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Reauthorization

In March 2022, President Biden signed into law the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2022, bipartisan legislation passed by Congress as part of the Omnibus appropriations package. Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska was a co-lead on the bill and worked tirelessly to ensure its passage.

“VAWA becoming law is a victory for all women everywhere – and we mark its passage in memory and honor of both those we have lost and those who have survived. This law will now help to protect women in Alaska and across the country.” — Senator Murkowski, following the bill being signed into law.

The reauthorization strengthens existing law by reauthorizing all current VAWA grant programs until 2027, and in many cases increases authorization levels. The reauthorization is critical to Alaska and expands special criminal jurisdiction of Tribal courts to cover non-Native perpetrators of sexual assault, child abuse, stalking, sex trafficking, and assaults on tribal law enforcement officers on tribal lands; and supports the development of a pilot project to enhance access to safety for survivors in Alaska Native villages. In addition, the reauthorization increases services and support for survivors from underserved and marginalized communities including LGBTQIA2S+ survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking; funding of survivor-centered, community-based restorative practice services; and increased support for culturally specific services and services in rural communities. In addition, this legislation includes provisions from the Ensuring Forensic Care for All Victims Act (EFCA) and provides much-needed education regarding trauma-informed care to healthcare professionals across the country. The EFCA was inspired by the Alaska Comprehensive Forensic Training Academy, created and funded through a partnership of the UAA College of Health and CDVSA, because all victims of violence deserve evaluation and care from forensically trained healthcare providers.

For a detailed description of the act reauthorization go to: https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/16/fact-sheet-reauthorization-of-the-violence-against-women-act-vawa.

Lisa Murkowski with Alaska advocates Tami Truett Jerue & Michelle Demmert at VAWA Signing Ceremony March 2022.
With the passage of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act in March 2021, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) program, within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, was appropriated $198M to administer to rape crisis centers, $49.5M to award to culturally specific domestic violence and sexual assault programs, and $550M to administer and help communities mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic through mobile health units, testing for those with isolation and barriers, and developing support and continuity of survivor services.

Beginning in late SFY2021, CDVSA became the recipient of three supplemental one-time grants from FVPSA, in addition to our FVPSA Formula Grant awarded to all states annually. The three awards to Alaska included $257,502 in American Rescue Plan Act Supplemental Funds (ARPA 1), $1,261,365 in American Rescue Plan Act Testing, Vaccine, and Mobile Health Units Access Supplemental Funding (ARPA 2), and $879,010 in American Rescue Plan Act funding for sexual assault services and rape crisis centers.

To spend these funds efficiently and get them to our community-based service programs quickly, CDVSA partnered with the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) and passed through the full amount of ARPA Supplemental Funds ($257,502) and a portion of the ARPA Testing, Vaccine and Mobile Health Access funding ($261,365) for them to distribute. This funding is allowing ANDVSA, our partner in this project, to receive requests for emergency funding for supplies and other costs related to COVID-19 mitigation. Domestic violence service providers are requesting reimbursement for cleaning supplies, home COVID-19 tests, hotel nights for COVID-positive program participants, and more. DV service providers across the state were notified of the availability of these funds, including CDVSA subgrantees, ANDVSA member programs, and Alaska Native culturally specific service providers. These funds are also available for transportation, childcare, equipment, and other PPE related to COVID-19 response and mitigation.

Additionally, these funds will partially support a Safety and Technology position at ANDVSA to assist DV service providers to access and utilize mobile health units and telehealth options, specifically related to COVID-19 response and mitigation.

The remaining $1 million from FVPSA ARPA 2 will be included in CDVSA’s FY24 Victim Services funding allocation. When submitting applications for FY24, programs will be able to write specifically how they would utilize those funds in their continued COVID-19 response and mitigation efforts.

The final FVPSA ARPA funding, identified to improve sexual assault services, provided CDVSA with the opportunity to supplement our statewide Sexual Assault Response Teams with much-needed specialized equipment and training necessary for adequate and trauma-informed response to sexual assault throughout the state, specifically remote locations that may lack reliable medical services. In partnership with Angela Ellis, Sexual Assault Forensic Nurse Specialist, and member of the Alaska Sexual Assault Response Leadership Team, CDVSA is purchasing multiple Cortexflo colposcope systems, as well as barcode scanners and tablets to track sexual assault kits. Implementation of the SAK Tracking System will be aided by the scanners and tablets and is anticipated to roll out early in 2023.

Angela Ellis will facilitate the community training and distribution of scanner and tablet sets along with Fernico, the software and technology company creating state-of-the-art digital forensic tools for Cortexflo Systems.
CDVSA’s executive director and a program coordinator are members of Alaska’s Sexual Assault Response Leadership Team (SARLT), which includes representatives of State departments as well as non-State agencies responsible for implementing the Violence Against Women Act STOP Formula Grant Program’s goals. The team’s mission is to provide leadership, support, and resources to empower Alaska communities to prevent and respond to sexual violence.

An ongoing project of the team is the production and regular delivery of training to Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) members. The basic, full training happens twice a year and consists of four full days of content. In response to the pandemic, training methodology was restructured and November 2021 and March 2022’s events took place online. In February 2022, the team added supplemental training opportunities via a winter and summer series for professionals who previously attended a SART training. Training topics include content not covered in depth during the basic training or topics that are not covered at all but are important information for responders. It is intended that these two series will also be offered yearly going forward.

Beginning in summer 2021, the Leadership Team made it a priority to address the lack of forensic medical examiners in many Alaska communities and the barriers faced by nurses in obtaining the necessary clinical component of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner training. As a result, Alaska Tele-Support Services was developed to provide training and mentorship via a telemedicine model. Activities of SFY2022 included establishing an online platform, developing branding for the service, writing overview material and a patient consent form, working with law to create a memorandum of
understanding to put in place with participating medical facilities, and setting up contracts with nurse trainers/mentors to staff the program. Alaska Tele-Support Services expects to pilot the project with several hospitals during SFY2023 and offer the service to any interested facility in Alaska once ready. The Leadership Team deliberately chose the name tele-support as they foresee an expansion of teleservices to victim advocates and law enforcement personnel in need of mentorship for their role on a SART.

Another major project of the Leadership Team in SFY2022 formed in response to the State Crime Lab’s discovery of irregularities in the submission of sexual assault kits that were supposed to be “anonymous” but, in fact, were not. State and federal law provide victims the option to receive a medical forensic exam without reporting to law enforcement, but it became clear that victims and many medical providers did not know or understand this.

The Team launched a multi-pronged response which included community training around the state for responders and the development of posters and brochures that are being distributed to communities to inform victims, allies, and professionals working with victims of sexual assault that there are resources for help and that the survivor has choices about what happens after their victimization. CDVSA added a webpage to our site called Sexual Assault Services, Resources & Information, with a subpage that provides information for adult victims of sexual assault and discusses their options and where to get help.

https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Services/Sexual-Assault/Sexual-Assault
Approximately two years ago, CDVSA started the process of procuring and developing GrantVantage, a new grants management system. This project was determined to be crucial for CDVSA due to the increased number of individual funding streams, sub-grantees, and sub-awards being administered by our office. Implementation of this system has been a multi-year project, requiring extensive staff time to build functions and establish new processes and operations related to grant management. Individual training sessions for each sub-grantee were conducted throughout SFY2022 to ensure each agency receiving our funds was able to understand the various functions and become comfortable with the new way of submitting fiscal information.

Though this has been a time-intensive endeavor, the benefits of this project are many. Having a centralized system drastically decreases the amount of manual entry, spreadsheets, email correspondence, and streamlines the efficiency of grant administration overall. Having a cloud-based platform allows our sub-grantees to enter fiscal reporting directly into GrantVantage and see at-a-glance records of their reported expenditures and payments made to them by CDVSA. All communication regarding fiscal reporting is also done through the system, which decreases the likelihood of emails being "lost" between staff members and sub-grantees.

Gradually, CDVSA plans to build more functions into the GrantVantage system, such as the ability for sub-grantees to submit award documentation, programmatic reporting, and applications for funding. The goal is to have a comprehensive portal for all documentation submissions by SFY2025 as staffing allows.

GrantVantage—Building an Efficient Grant Management System
While many incredibly important pieces of legislation were both introduced and passed during the 32nd Alaska State Legislature, one critically important bill that passed updated Alaska’s 40-year-old consent law. In the final days of the 2nd regular session, House Bill 325 (HB 325) became the vehicle for many important changes to our domestic violence and sexual assault laws, including the definition of consent.

Thank you to Representatives Sara Rasmussen and Geran Tarr who fought to keep these issues at the forefront of the legislative session.

In Alaska, where 57.7% of women 18 years and older report having experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both during their lifetime, the changes included in HB 325 will save women’s lives and improve outcomes for all victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

HB 325 addresses and modernizes Alaska’s current criminal statutes, which can hinder prosecutors from seeking charges in cases of domestic violence and sexual assault. HB 325 does five things:

1. Requires a sexual assault examination kit to be tested within six months of receipt.
2. Amends the definition of “crime involving domestic violence” to include harassment 2 (AS 11.61.120(a)(6)) where the defendant with the intent to annoy or harass publishes or distributes images that show the genitals, anus, or female breast of another person or show that person engaged in a sexual act.
House Bill 325—Improving Alaska’s Response to Domestic & Sexual Violence

3. Establishes notification requirements for persons involved in the criminal justice system when they want to change their name.
4. Requires a lifetime revocation of a person’s teaching certificate if they have been convicted of possession or distribution of child pornography.
5. Made changes to Alaska’s sexual assault statutes and the definition of “consent.”

These changes are significant and improve Alaska’s current domestic violence and sexual assault laws. The effort to change Alaska’s consent laws has been 5 years in the making. Rep. Tarr never wavered and never gave up her fight! CDVSA gives tremendous credit to Rep. Rasmussen and Rep. Tarr for their commitment, passion, and tenacity to make positive changes in Alaska.

The effective date for HB 325 is January 1, 2023.

A copy of the final bill is available at https://www.akleg.gov/PDF/32/Bills/HB0325B.PDF.

“Without consent” means that, under the totality of the circumstances surrounding the offense, there was not a freely given, reversible agreement specific to the conduct at issue; in this paragraph, “freely given” means an agreement to cooperate in the act was positively expressed by word or action.
Services Provided by Community-Based Prevention Grantees

Prevention Programming Making a Difference Community by Community

In SFY2022, 13 grantees funded by the State of Alaska’s Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) completed their first year in a three-year funding cycle to enhance primary prevention programming of domestic violence and sexual violence (DV/SV) across Alaska. Grantees included:

Abused Women’s Aid in Crisis (AWAIC) - Anchorage
Advocates for Victims of Violence (AVV) - Valdez
Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE) - Juneau
Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC) - Cordova
Safe and Fear Free Environment (SAFE) - Dillingham
Sitkans Against Family Violence (SAFV) - Sitka
Seward Prevention Coalition (SPC) - Seward
South Peninsula Haven House (SPHH) - Homer/Kenai Peninsula
The Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IAC) - Fairbanks
The LeeShore Center (LSC) - Kenai
Tundra Women’s Coalition (TWC) - Bethel
Women in Safe Homes (WISH) - Ketchikan
Working Against Violence for Everyone (WAVE) - Petersburg
Services Provided by Community-Based Prevention Grantees

Highlights reported by prevention grantees that have been key to improving program implementation and capacity include:

- Facilitation of 105 coalition/prevention team meetings
- Establishment of 37 new community agency partnerships, MOUs, or other informal or formal agreements for community-based primary prevention efforts
- Implementation of 63 primary prevention strategies and activities across communities; 43 were unique strategies including Girls on the Run, Green Dot, and Lead On!
- Provided information about DV/SV to 4,946 community members
- Facilitation of a bystander program with over 1,300 individuals, including 681 community members, 323 high school students, and 10 university students
- Welcomed 35 youth (under 18 years of age) as members of their local coalitions
- Recruited over 120 peer mentors and youth peer co-facilitators
- Provided prevention-focused presentations and one-time events to roughly 5,455 youth

CDVSA's evaluation of these first-year efforts indicates that grantees invested in community-level engagement, through coalitions, to build greater unity and buy-in for violence prevention strategies. Grantees, with community partners, adapted programming to best meet current community needs and grew their partnership's awareness and familiarity with equity and inclusion frameworks. During this first year, efforts focused on creating sustainable, meaningful organizational relationships while making purposeful actions to welcome marginalized or missing voices and strive for inclusivity.

Girls from Kake (top) and Homer (bottom) enjoying Girls on the Run activities.
Implemented Strategies

In SFY2022, grantees reported implementing a total of 63 strategies and activities, of which 43 were unique strategies (average per grantee: 4). Grantees reported that over 13,790 Alaskans were engaged with these prevention strategies, including more than 7,481 youth (please note, these values are cumulative and do not necessarily represent the number of unique individuals who were engaged).

Promising strategies and approaches to prevent domestic and sexual violence include teaching healthy and safe relationship skills, including social-emotional learning, engaging influential adults, improving school climate and safety, promoting safe physical environments, and reinforcing concepts through parenting materials and engagement. The two strategies implemented the most across funded communities are:

- **Girls on the Run** Implemented by 54%
- **Lead On!** Implemented by 46%

**Girls on the Run (GOTR)** is an empowerment program for 3rd – 8th grade girls. The program combines training for a 5k running event with healthy living and self-esteem-enhancing curricula. GOTR instills confidence.
Services Provided by Community-Based Prevention Grantees

and self-respect through physical training, health education, life skills development, and mentoring relationships. The 10-week afterschool program combines life lessons, discussions, and running games in a fun, encouraging, girl-positive environment where girls learn to identify and communicate feelings.

**LeadOn!** for Peace and Equality is a youth engagement strategy based on a model that identifies, trains, and enlists the help of key opinion leaders to change social norms and behaviors. The program is based on effective behavioral change theory. Youth who attend Lead On! return to their communities to complete a community-based project to improve the health status of Alaskans by increasing protective factors and minimizing risk factors for teen dating violence, sexual assault, teen pregnancy, and bullying.

**Other Programs** were implemented by grantees, such as parent programs, bystander programs, media campaigns, and primary prevention presentations. Programs like the Green Dot bystander programs, Sources of Strength suicide prevention, and social norms programs were also referenced by grantees. The table below shows the number of programs that grantees implemented over SFY2022, by type:

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</table>
Creating Safety for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence

SFY22 Victim Services Data – Total served: 7,366
There are 26 Victim Services community sub-grantees, and 18 Enhanced Services community sub-grantees.

**Race**
- Alaska Native/American Indian: 3,518
- White: 2,411
- Unknown: 1,255
- Multiple Races: 563
- Black: 273
- Hispanic: 230
- Asian: 207
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 124
- Other Race: 39

**Gender**
- Female: 6,000
- Male: 1,500
- Unknown: 500

**Age**
- 18-64: 79%
- 13-17: 11%
- 0-12: 5%
- 65+: 4%
- Unknown: 1%

**Special Classes: Avg. Per Quarter**
- Homeless: 308
- Disabilities: 148
- Limited English: 52
- Immigrants: 46
- LGBTQ: 13
- Veterans: 13
- Other: 9
- Deaf: 8

*This statistic is not a total for the whole year.*

**Victimization (5 most common categories)**
- Family Violence / Domestic Violence: 5,155
- Adult Sexual Assault: 1,202
- Adult Physical Assault: 876
- Stalking / Harassment: 543
- Bullying: 458

**Services (5 most common categories)**
- Shelter / Safe House: 6,5171
- Individual Advocacy: 5,5593
- Individual Counseling: 2,4903
- Emergency Financial: 1,4181
- Hotline Counseling: 1,2768
Creating Safety for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence

**SFY22 Enhanced Services – Child Advocacy Centers Data – Total served: 674**

**Race**
- White: 306
- Alaska Native/American Indian: 45
- Hispanic: 19
- Black: 15
- Multiple: 8
- Asian: 6
- Other: 2
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 2

**Gender**
- Female: 59%
- Male: 35%
- Unknown: 6%

**Age**
- 0-12: 41.6%
- 13-17: 28.8%
- 18-24: 14.9%
- 25-59: 10.7%
- 60+: 3.4%
- Other: 0.6%

**Special Classes**
- Disabilities: 73
- LGBTQ: 17
- Other: 5
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing: 3
- Veterans: 2
- Homeless: 1

**Victimization (5 most common categories)**
- Child Sexual Abuse: 400
- Child Physical Abuse / Neglect: 191
- Family Violence / Domestic Violence: 46
- Teen Dating: 14
- Child Pornography: 5

**Services (5 most common categories)**
- Information about the criminal justice process: 11537
- Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address-confidentiality programs, etc.): 338
- Individual advocacy (e.g., assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property or effects): 256
- Information about victim rights, how to obtain notifications, etc.: 249
- Performance or medical or nonmedical forensic exam or interview, or medical evidence collection: 240
Creating Safety for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence

SFY22 Enhanced Services – Legal Data – Total served: 268

Race

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alaska Native/American Indian</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Reported</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25-59</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-12</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-17</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60+</td>
<td>71.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Victimization (5 most common categories)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Violence / Domestic Violence</td>
<td>566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Physical Assault</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullying</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalking</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Sexual Assault</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Services (5 most common categories)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civil legal assistance with family law issues (e.g., custody, visitation, or support)</td>
<td>1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration assistance (e.g., special visas, continued presence application, and other immigration relief)</td>
<td>929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil legal assistance in obtaining protection or restraining order</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notification of criminal justice events (e.g, case status, arrest, court proceedings, case disposition, release, etc.)</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.)</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Creating Safety for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence

SFY'22 Enhanced Services – Mental Health Data – Total served: 453

### Race

- White: 151
- Not Reported: 120
- Alaska Native/American Indian: 108
- Black: 31
- Multiple: 18
- Multa Asian: 11
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 8
- Other: 6
- Hispanic: 3

### Gender

- Female: 59.2%
- Male: 41.7%
- Other: 0.7%

### Age

- 0-12: 52.9%
- 13-17: 12.6%
- 18-24: 20.2%
- 60+: 2.0%
- Unknown: 0.7%

### Special Classes

- LGBTQ: 109
- Disabilities: 53
- Other: 46
- Limited English: 6
- Homeless: 5
- Deaf/Hard of Hearing: 2
- Immigrant: 1

### Victimization (5 most common categories)

- Family Violence / Domestic Violence: 595
- Child Physical Abuse / Neglect: 434
- Bullying: 222
- Child Sexual Abuse: 197
- Hate Crime: 57

### Services (5 most common categories)

- Other therapy (traditional, cultural, or alternative healing; art, writing, or play therapy, etc.): 3014
- Individual Counseling: 2579
- Support groups (facilitated or peer) (Enter the number of times services were provided): 320
- Crisis Intervention (in-person, includes safety planning, etc.): 91
- Referral to other services, supports, and resources (includes legal, medical, faith-based organizations, address-confidentiality programs, etc.): 90
**Accountability and Healing for Perpetrators of Violence**

SFY'22 Battering Intervention Programs Data – Total served: 115

### Gender
- Male: 87.0%
- Female: 13.0%

### Age
- 20-29: 32.2%
- 30-39: 21.8%
- 40-49: 3.5%
- 50-59: 1.7%
- 60-69: 0.9%
- 70-79: Unknown

### Relationship to Victim
- Spouse: 34
- Romantic Partner/Dating: 28
- Ex-Romantic Partner: 16
- Ex-Spouse: 10
- Minor Child: 7
- Other Relative: 3
- Parent/Guardian: 2
- Sibling: 1
- Other: 8
- Left Blank: 13

### Violence Type
- Physical Force/Violence: 67
- Threats of Violence: 22
- Destruction Pets/Property: 18
- Weapons Used: 14
- No Prior Violence: 11
- Sex Abuse Minor: 1
- Sexual Assault Adult: 1
- Other: 16

### Substance Involvement
- Alcohol: 28
- Drugs: 8

### Trauma History
- No Past Abuse: 39
- Physically Abused as a Child: 28
- Parents in Abuse Relationship: 14
- Other Abuse: 7
- Sexually Abused as a Child: 7
- Past Abuse, Type Unknown: 3
Managing Public Funds Responsibly

While CDVSA has many statutory responsibilities, it is the fiduciary responsibility to "receive and dispense state and federal money and award grants and contracts from appropriations for the purpose to qualified local community entities for domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention programs." This is our most critical task. The oversight, monitoring, and commitment to this fiduciary responsibility are key to having quality and accessible domestic violence and sexual assault services for those who need safety, support, protection, and resources across the state.

Beginning in SFY2021, maintaining stable and consistent funding for community programs became a critical challenge as federal VOCA dollars were reduced, yet the needs in Alaska did not diminish. Over the past three years, CDVSA has been fortunate to receive "relief and supplemental" funding to fill this gap both from state and federal sources.

In addition to funding challenges, the current economic situation has created additional budget needs to cover rising costs for fuel, gas, and many consumable commodities. To assist with this need, at the end of SFY2022 CDVSA issued supplemental funds of $500,000, distributed based on Alaska’s geographic pay differential to a total of 35 community DV/SA programs. The amount of these one-time supplemental payments ranged from approximately $12,547 (zero differential) to $20,075 (60% differential). CDVSA’s goal was to reduce the growing burden on agencies providing 24/7 services to victims, survivors, and their families.
Managing Public Funds Responsibly

Operating Budget (Not Including Sub-Awards)

- Payroll: $1,240,000
- Travel: $58,700
- Services & Contracts: $2,548,097
- Commodities: $19,200

Percentage of Funds

Pass-Through Sub-Awards Budget by Program

- Victim Services (DV\SA): $16,185,667
- Enhanced Services - Legal Assistance: $712,500
- Enhanced Services - Mental Health: $710,632
- Enhanced Services - Child Advocacy Centers: $1,190,581
- Battering Intervention Programs (BIP): $262,790
- Prison Battering Programs (PBP): $113,180
- Primary Prevention: $1,503,643

Percentage of Funds

General Funds: $1,777,197
Designated General Funds: $573,000
PFD: $93,700
Inter-Agency: $4,200
Federal Funds: $1,417,900
Total: $3,865,997

General Funds: $8,902,500
Designated General Funds: $1,426,340
Inter-Agency: $173,583
Federal Funds: $10,159,267
Total: $20,661,690
Managing Public Funds Responsibly

**CDVSA Budget - Administrative vs Grants**

- **Admin**: $3,865,997 (16%)
- **Grants**: $20,661,690 (84%)
- **Total**: $24,527,687

**SFY2022 Expenditures**

- **Payroll**: $1,091,352.78
- **Travel**: $15,346.82
- **Services**: $2,215,266.47
- **Supplies & Equipment**: $101,623.28
- **Grants**: $20,998,225.54

- **Unrestricted General Fund (UGF)**: $10,589,278.60
- **Designated General Fund (DGF)**: $1,925,219.45
- **Restorative Justice Account (PFD)**: $66,436.10
- **Inter-Agency Receipts (I/A)**: $163,668.47
- **Federal Receipts (FED)**: $11,677,212.27

- **Total**: $24,421,814.89
Each year, CDVSA contracts with Walsh|Sheppard, a strategy and communications agency, to support social marketing campaigns that raise awareness among Alaska’s general population on topics related to domestic violence, dating violence, and sexual assault. These campaigns are intended to spread awareness of available resources for victims of these crimes, family members seeking to assist a loved one, and peers wishing to safely intervene. Collectively these campaign messages serve to strengthen state and local initiatives that are working to reduce these forms of violence.

CDVSA campaign materials include both free and paid media including Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, cable TV, and radio spots to reach diverse audiences across the state. Two campaigns, Help is Available and Consent is a Conversation, were well-received in SFY2022.

The first originated in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic and addressed the isolation often faced by victims of domestic violence which was compounded during the pandemic. This campaign was adapted for rural and urban settings and provided victims with resources available for assistance including online chat, text, and 24-hour phone line advocacy.

The Consent is a Conversation campaign aligns with prevention messaging on healthy relationships including healthy sexual relationships. This campaign also aligns with the changes made to the Alaska definition of consent, revised with the passage of HB 325.
Ketchikan Rural Outreach Meeting, June 15-16

Following a year without traveling for the annual CDVSA Rural Outreach Board Meeting, the Board traveled to Ketchikan in June 2022. In SFY2021, due to the pandemic, CDVSA pivoted to a virtual Rural Outreach meeting, “traveling” to Petersburg, Alaska via Microsoft Teams. Six board members and four staff traveled to Ketchikan on June 14 for the 2-day meeting on June 15-16. Because CDVSA funds two community-based sub-grantees in Ketchikan, our visit was co-hosted by Women in Safe Homes (WISH) and Ketchikan Indian Community (KIC). Day one of the Board Meeting agenda included presentations by Agnes Moran, executive director of WISH, Lynn Quan, social services director of KIC, and their respective staff. These presentations provided an opportunity for our Board Members and staff to meet agency staff and learn about the myriad of programs offered to the people of Ketchikan.

On the evening of June 15, CDVSA, WISH, and KIC hosted a Ketchikan Community Dialogue on domestic violence, sexual assault, teen dating violence, and other issues related to interpersonal violent crimes. The event was well attended, creating a lively dialogue, Q&A session, and discussion among attendees that stressed the commitment of the Ketchikan community to work together to bring an end to domestic and sexual violence.

Day two of the meeting provided a tour of the beautiful new WISH Shelter facility, as well as the former facility, which is now being used for prevention and community programming. The group also had the opportunity to meet with staff and WISH board members. Next, they traveled to the KIC facility to hear more about their programming and meet staff and community partners. It was a very educational and fun day—everyone left Ketchikan with a complete picture of the work WISH and KIC does every day and how CDVSA funding contributes to keeping victims, survivors, families, and community members safe and supported.

THANK YOU, Ketchikan, for a great Rural Outreach visit!
SFY2022 CDVSA
Grant Recipients

CDVSA provides funding to 34 community-based programs serving individuals, families, and communities impacted by domestic and sexual violence. Services include emergency and safe shelter, advocacy, legal services, temporary safe housing, support services for children and adults, programs for those who use violence in relationships, and community prevention programming.

Advocates for Victims of Violence (AVV) – Valdez
Abused Women’s Aid in Crisis (AWAIC) – Anchorage
Aiding Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE) – Juneau
Anchorage Community Mental Health Services (ACMHS) – Anchorage
Alaska Family Services (AFS) – Palmer
Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) – Juneau
Arctic Women in Crisis (AWIC) – Utqiagvik
Bering Sea Women’s Group (BSWG) – Nome
Bristol Bay Area Health Corp. (BBAHC) – Dillingham
Catholic Community Services SAFE (CCS) – Juneau
Copper River Basin CAC (CRB) – Gakona
Cordova Family Resource Center (CFRC) – Cordova
Emmonak Women’s Shelter (EWS) – Emmonak
Helping Ourselves Prevent Emergencies (HOPE) – Craig
Interior Alaska Center for Non-Violent Living (IAC) – Fairbanks
Kenaitze Indian Tribe (KIT) – Kenai
Ketchikan Indian Community (KIC) – Ketchikan
Kodiak Women’s Resource and Crisis Center (KWGCC) – Kodiak
The Lee Shore Center (LCS) – Kenai
Maniilaq Family Crisis Center (MFCC) – Kotzebue
Providence Alaska Medical Center (PAMC) – Anchorage
Resource Center for Parents and Children Stevie’s Place – Fairbanks
Safe and Fear-Free Environment (SAFE) – Dillingham
Sitkans Against Family Violence (SAFV) – Sitka
Seward Prevention Coalition (SPC) – Seward
South Peninsula Haven House (SPHH) – Homer
Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) – Anchorage
Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) – Fairbanks
The Children’s Place (TCP) – Wasilla
Tundra Women’s Coalition (TWC) – Bethel
Unalaskans Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence (USAFV) – Unalaska
Victims for Justice (VFJ) – Anchorage
Working Against Violence for Everyone (WAVE) – Petersburg
Women in Safe Homes (WISH) – Ketchikan
Volunteers of America Alaska (VOAA) – Anchorage

For more information on services, visit Services - CDVSA - Alaska Department of Public Safety, https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Services.
For more information contact CDVSA:
Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
P.O. Box 111200
Juneau, AK 99811-1200
907-465-4356
www.dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Home